

# Battle Born

Quarterly Magazine of the Nevada National Guard – Spring 2010



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Spring 2010

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**ON THE COVER:** Abrura Mariona, left, is in no hurry to leave the flight line at the Nevada Air National Guard base in Reno as her father, Spc. Will Mariona, of the 1/221st Cavalry Squadron, returns home to northern Nevada on April 1. Photo by Staff Sgt. Eric Ritter

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# FROM THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

*Brigadier General Bill Burks*

## Key attributes for the future: **cultural adaptability, resiliency and mentoring**

*By Brig. Gen. Bill Burks  
The Adjutant General*

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe once said "if you treat an individual ... as if he were what he ought to be and could be, he will become what he ought to be and could be." That quote is more important today than when I joined the military because the world we live in requires a different Soldier or Airmen than when many of us joined the Nevada National Guard.

In 10 years, it will be even more important to have a different skill set to remain viable or relevant in a shrinking world where historical and geographical differences are becoming increasingly irrelevant. The future will be secure for those most adaptable to change and the skill sets required will be based upon cultural adaptability, resiliency and mentoring.

Cultural adaptability requires a new kind of flexibility for handling differences and change. It will allow today's and tomorrow's warrior to build and maintain relationships that allow them to work effectively with others.

Today, we have more chances to interact abroad than ever before in our history and we should take advantage and embrace the opportunities to become more culturally adaptable by expecting and looking for cultural differences.

We need to take this skill set and look for the same differences in the workplace. Looking for the differences that can or do cause confusion or conflict in the workplace is a great place to start toward developing a more flexible basis for a relationship with

those you work with who may be different than yourself.

So what do you think of when someone is described as being resilient? For me, one of the definitions of resiliency is the ability to recover from trauma or crisis. There is a great deal of science based on what makes people more resilient and research psychologists have developed programs to help people cope with traumatic events. The whole study of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder is based upon how to make people more resilient.

The single simple tool set that helps people become more resilient involves questions: Do you believe you are a positive thinker? Are you an optimist? Do you have more positive thoughts than negative ones? Do you focus and use your strengths instead of focusing on your weaknesses? Lastly, do other people matter to you?

If you answered yes to most of these questions, likely you are a positive thinker and will be resilient. Other important resiliency elements include a strong support system and belief in a divine being

Both the Army and Air Force require mentoring within their services. In the past, mentoring may have appeared as an apprenticeship or the development of a protégé, but its basis remains having a more experienced or knowledgeable person help develop the experience and knowledge of another.

There are two types of mentoring, formal and informal, and both require communication and are always relationship based.

Speaking from my past experience, the mentoring that seems to work best for me



is the informal type. I was blessed because there was always an abundance of mentors available in the Pentagon.

So how did I pick an informal mentor? I looked at my personal and professional needs and analyzed what I needed to do to achieve those needs. I would then look at the traits of the leaders accessible to me and those who matched up well with my personal and professional needs. I would then ask those leaders questions and observe them in stressful or difficult situations to see how they reacted.

There have been hundreds of books written on each of the subjects of cultural adaptability, resiliency and mentoring. I encourage everyone to expand your knowledge and understanding of these subject matters, and more importantly, include them in your daily routines.

If you do, I know the Nevada National Guard will remain a diverse and viable military force well into the future. You will also grow as a person and leave behind a lasting legacy for those who follow in your footsteps.

Lastly, I want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for making the Nevada National Guard what it is today – the best National Guard in the United States of America! ■

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# FROM ENLISTED LEADERSHIP

Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen Sitton

## Leadership basics remain SEL's top priorities

By Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen Sitton  
Nevada Guard Senior Enlisted Leader

Since my selection as the state's Senior Enlisted Leader eight months ago, I have had the pleasure of meeting many Air Guard senior leaders. I have learned, and will continue to learn, more about processes, procedures, missions and enlisted matters on the Air Guard side. That in turn will help me better serve you as your SEL.

I would like to address my goals as your SEL and also address the importance of diversity. My goals as the SEL are:

**COMMUNICATION:** We need to ensure that we are communicating to all our Soldiers and Airmen all of the time. Top to bottom, bottom to top. Communication is the foundation of good leadership.

**DISCIPLINE:** Discipline is the cornerstone of the armed force. Do what's right all the time, even when no one is watching. Have the discipline to do the hard "rights" over the easy "wrongs." Never walk past a deficiency. Make on-the-spot corrections. Do not take short cuts when it comes to standards, training, safety, uniforms, and other military basics.

**GREAT LEADERSHIP:** Our young Soldiers and Airmen deserve nothing less, and it is incumbent upon senior Soldiers and Airmen to provide that leadership. The attitude of a Soldier or Airman is affected each day by leaders, and it is reflected in how they wear their uniforms, how they respect and treat others, and how they act while on and off duty.

If you are a leader for the pay only, we do not need you. Be that leader that our Soldiers and Airmen so badly need.

**JOINT SERVICE COOPERATION:** The Army and Air Force are both committed to the same cause: maintaining the freedom of our country. We are elements of the best armed forces in the world and need to stay committed to that status. Remember, wars are not won by one service; it is a joint effort.

**DIVERSITY:** Diversity is defined as the different characteristics and attributes of individuals.

We have discussed diversity as an organization and sent our Soldiers and Airmen to Diversity Champions classes and



conferences, but I believe we still haven't stressed the importance of diversity throughout our ranks.

Diversity is critical to the success of our organizations. We must, as leaders, start enlisting diverse backgrounds. Some of the keys to enlisting diversity are:

**Retention** – Encourages the positive promotion of our organizations.

**Social Networks** – We must create and build social networks outside of our military organizations (i.e., local centers of influence within our communities; go where minorities are; establish mentoring opportunities with members of each major demographic group.)

**Recruiting the Best Metrics/Practices** – We have already started working with the Arizona National Guard in this area. They have established one of the best diversity programs in the nation.

The bottom line is we need all involved. For information on diversity, contact your leadership or plan to attend a Diversity Champions event.

Thank you and your families for what you do each and every day for our organization. Your dedication and commitment is the bedrock to our continued success now and into the future. ■

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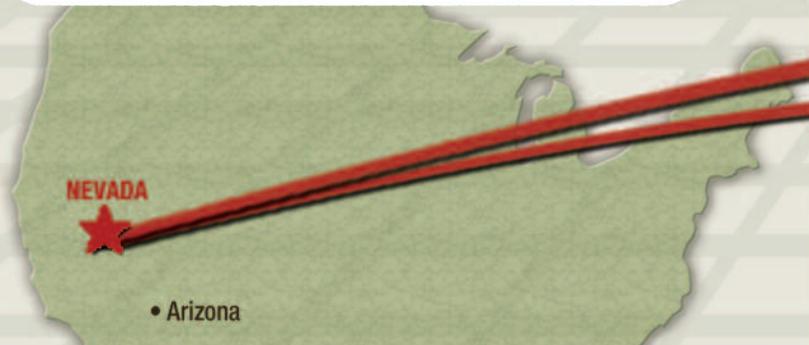
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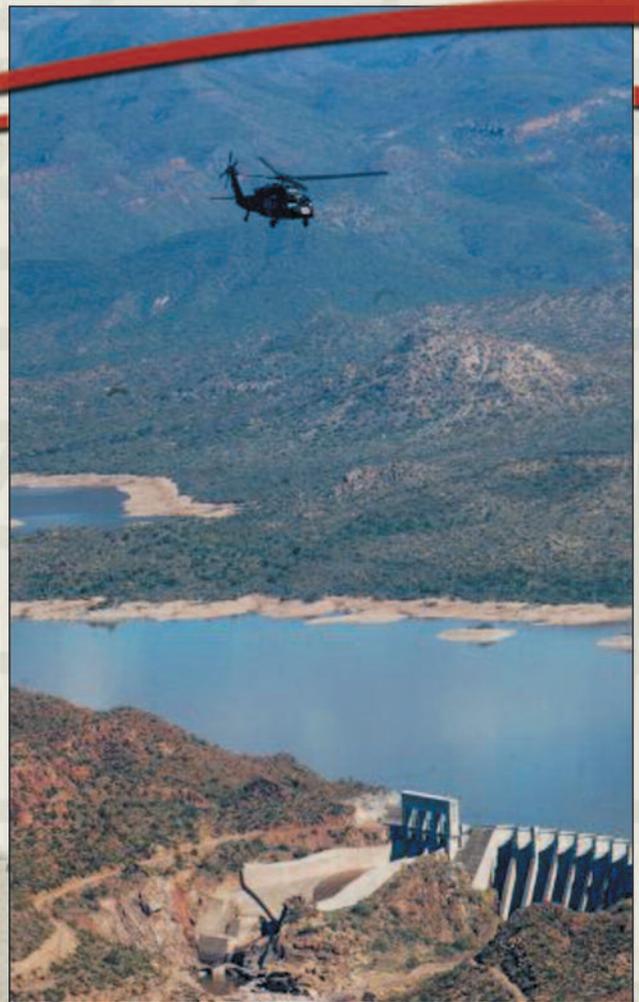
# DROP ZONE



**RENO** – Master Sgt. Marcia Lopez and Tech Sgt. Jason Nole distribute lunches to homeless people in Reno's tent city during the Air Guard's Feb. 22 drill. Many Reno residents call the tent city their permanent residence. Feeling the need to give back to the community, Airmen in the 152nd Logistics Readiness Squadron prepared enough sandwiches, fruit and drinks to feed more than 100 people. Photo: Staff Sgt. Eric Ritter



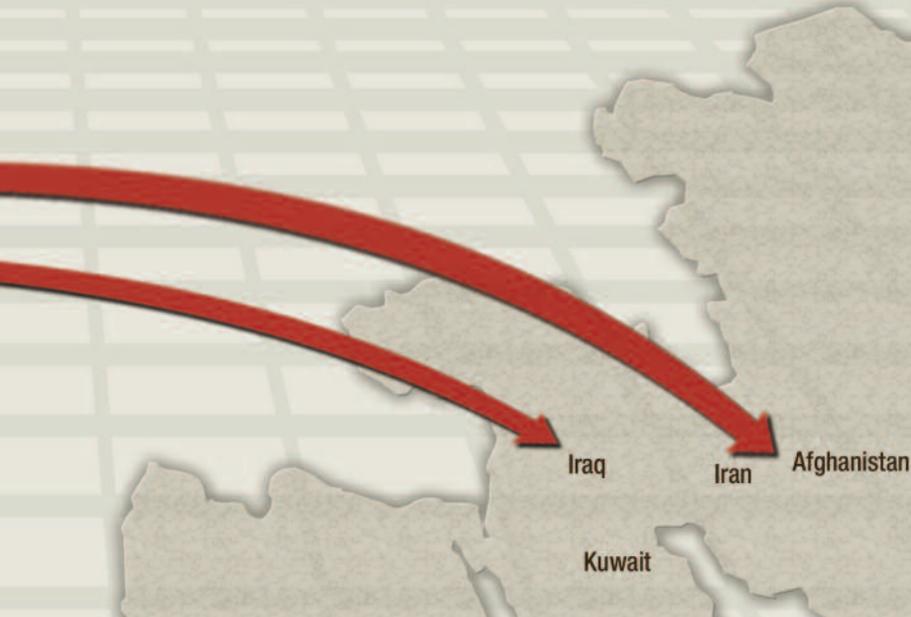
**LAS VEGAS** – Tech. Sgt. Jordon Clark, left, of the 92nd Civil Support Team, assists the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department during a NASCAR race at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway in February. Clark carries special equipment that can detect many radiological, chemical and biological threats that a terrorist could use at large public venues. The GST works closely with local, state and federal agencies to maintain public safety. Photo: Staff Sgt. Eric Ritter



**BARTLETT LAKE, Ariz.** – A 1/168th Aviation Company UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter flies over Bartlett Lake, Ariz., Jan. 25 en route to the Navajo and Hopi Native American nation area of Arizona to provide supplies to residents left stranded by a massive snowstorm in the Southwest.

Within one week, two Black Hawks from the 1/168th and one 1/189th Aviation Company Chinook helicopter made 39 deliveries to the Navajo and Hopi Native American citizens and distributed 105 cases of meals ready-to-eat and 103 cases of water to rural residents.

Photo: Courtesy of Arizona Guard Public Affairs Office



**KUWAIT** – All of the 1864th Transportation Company's heavy equipment transportation trucks were neatly lined up and ready for the company's replacement unit in mid-March as the sun set on the 1864th's nearly one-year deployment in Southwest Asia. During the deployment, the unit transported thousands of tons of goods from Kuwait into Iraq across the entire country from its eastern border at Syria to its western border at Iran. For information on the 1864th's homecoming, see page 16. Photo: Courtesy of Sgt. 1st Class Erick Willrich



**JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq** – An MC-12 Liberty prepares for takeoff at Joint Base Balad March 11. The Nevada Air Guard provides intelligence analyst training on the Liberty project. Since acquiring its first combat mission last fall, the program has completed more than 2,000 combat sorties. Photo: Senior Airman Brittany Bateman

**UTAPAO, Thailand** – Spc. Victor Joecks, broadcast chief for the 106th Public Affairs Detachment, takes video during the Feb. 1 opening ceremony of the Cobra Gold exercise in Utapao, Thailand, during the unit's annual training. Other 106th Soldiers will travel to Indonesia this spring. For information about the Nevada National Guard's growing number of international annual training sessions, see page 15. Photo: Spc. Ashley Baum



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# Nevada Guard delivers relief to earthquake-ravaged

# HAITI



*By Staff Sgt Eric Ritter, Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs*

**PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti** – The 7.0 earthquake that struck the tiny, impoverished country of Haiti Jan. 12 was a catastrophe of historic proportions. When the massive quake struck this Caribbean nation, the lives of its 250,000 citizens and its entire infrastructure crumbled.

The United States, a geographical neighbor of Haiti, began emergency deliveries as soon as the first pallets of supplies could be loaded on board military aircraft.

The Nevada Guard was ready to answer the call for immediate assistance. Within a few days, three Nevada Guardsmen were mobilized – two for personnel support and one for a public affairs mission.

Master Sgt. Debbie Graham, a personnel support specialist with the 152nd Force Support Squadron, was one of the deployed Airmen.

“I’m glad I was there,” said Graham, who has since returned to Reno. “It made me feel good that we helped the Haitian people rebuild and get back on their feet. In addition to doing my Air Force job, I wanted to help the Haitian people.”

Graham had the job of in-processing military men and women assisting in Haiti.

In mid-February, the Nevada Air Guard’s biggest transportation muscle was finally requested. A C-130 and its crew of eight took the cross-country trip to Pope Air Force Base in North Carolina to pick up pallets of relief supplies such as food, water, blankets and other items to deliver to the devastated country.

“We didn’t know what to expect when we got there,” said mission commander and C-130 pilot Capt. Brian Moynihan. “We didn’t know if we were going to be air dropping supplies or anything like that. We just knew we were ready to help out any way we could.”

Fortunately, the runway at Haiti’s major international airport in the nation’s capital, Port-au-Prince, was fixed enough to land aircraft and deliver the goods conventionally. In addition to pallets of supplies,

*Passengers wait Feb. 16 at Haiti’s international airport to get on board a Nevada Air Guard C-130 to be evacuated to the United States from the island after January’s devastating 7.0 earthquake.*

*Photo: Staff Sgt Eric Ritter*

the crew delivered several members of the Army’s 82nd Airborne Division to perform security missions throughout the country.

It was immediately clear that the C-130 would be leaving Port-au-Prince with a full cargo area.

As far as the eye could see down the darkened airport tarmac, a line of people formed carrying luggage and infants. They were a mix of people, including U.S. citizens, wounded locals who needed to be evacuated, infants and elderly, and returning U.S. military.

There was no time for the crew to explore the devastated area away from the airport. There were still thousands of people who needed aid and transportation. The Nevada crew unloaded the pallets and loaded up the passengers as quickly as possible.

Checking passenger paperwork had to be thorough, since any error could lead to a potential international incident if an unauthorized person was on board.

After everything was loaded, the full C-130 and its crew lifted off for Miami International Airport, one of the main ports of entry to the United States.

It was a very long mission day. Forty-eight hours later, it was time to do it all over again.

In all, the crew completed two relief missions and delivered 10 tons of relief supplies and transported 200 passengers.

The Haiti mission marked another example in Nevada Guard history where the High Rollers had quickly answered a call for assistance.

“This is what we do,” said Master Sgt. Tom Glover, a loadmaster for the C-130. “This is our job. This is what we train for. We’re basically just really glad we were able to help out any way we could.” ■

# Counterdrug Task Force loses one of its own

By Sgt. Mike Getten  
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

**RENO** – Although not a full-fledged Soldier or Airman, the Nevada National Guard Counterdrug Task Force felt as if it had lost one of its own when canine officer Kety succumbed to an unknown illness and passed away in December.

Kety, badge No. P5215, was a Belgian Malinois who worked on the task force as a narcotic detection dog for more than nine years. In the end, she spent her last moments in the arms of her task force partner, handler and friend, Dave.

During her career, Kety assisted Dave in more than 2,000 searches that led to the confiscation of narcotics and cash worth more than \$10 million. Her work led to hundreds of arrests and convictions.

Kety was one year old when she began her working career in the Czech Republic in 1999. She successfully passed narcotic odor training and had moved on to the bite work portion of the training when Czech police realized she didn't have the aggression to continue as a dual purpose dog. They subsequently sold her to a private canine training company in Napa, Calif.

It was in Napa where Kety first met Dave. He was attending initial narcotic detection training when she arrived at the center. They immediately responded well to each other, so Dave asked to test her the following day.

That day she performed all of her detection tasks perfectly. The next two months of training resulted in a team certification for Dave and Kety. The team was then assigned to the Tri-Net Narcotic Task Force in Carson City.



*"It was right after that first [narcotics] find that I thought to myself, 'There is nothing else I would rather do with my career than work with Kety.'"*

– Dave, Kety's handler



The team's first official search came Dec. 6, 2000, when Kety located several different caches and alerted her partner to 2.5 pounds of methamphetamine. From then on, the team worked together regularly and were rarely seen apart.

"It was right after that first find that I thought to myself, 'There is nothing else I would rather do with my career than work with Kety,'" Dave said.

During the next nine years, Dave and Kety performed searches for multiple law enforcement agencies in northern Nevada, including the sheriffs' offices from Carson City, Douglas, Lyon and Storey counties. They also worked with the Nevada Highway Patrol, Nevada Department of Corrections, the FBI, the Drug Enforcement Administration and the California Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement.

Dave and Kety rapidly became best friends and subsequently better partners. When not in the field, they were often seen volunteering their time. The team regularly visited schools in northern Nevada to educate kids about the harmful effects of



*Canine Officer Kety, badge No. P5215, was a Belgian Malinois who began training for her life-long career in the Czech Republic in 1999. Nevada obtained her for drug detection work, and she spent her career in northern Nevada working at the Counterdrug Task Force until she passed away in her handler's arms Dec. 23, 2009.*

*Photo: Courtesy of Nevada Counterdrug Task Force*

illegal drugs. They also attended events such as Carson City's National Night Out.

Dave said Kety always welcomed attention from children.

"The first time we went to a school, I was impressed by Kety's reaction to the attention from the kids," Dave said. "After I had given most of the talk, I informed the kids that I had a police dog with me and brought her into the room. I watched Kety closely while continuing with the program.

"Suddenly, about 15 kids were all around her touching and petting her. I can remember thinking, 'If anything will overwhelm a dog, this is it.' I soon realized Kety was enjoying the attention. Watching her that day, we grasped the value of the in-classroom potential with Kety. From then on we went to more schools than I can count."

The majority of working dogs live with their handlers and the dogs become a part of the family. Seeing to a dog's day-to-day needs is part of a handler's job.

Usually the team's organization will pick up the costs associated with the care of the dog, including food and visits to the veterinarian.

"Kety was totally integrated into our family," Dave said. "I have a Labrador retriever at home, and Kety and she were absolute buds at home."

Future budgets will determine if the Counterdrug Task Force will receive a replacement for Kety. Dave said he is ready and willing to continue the program if a suitable replacement is found.

A trained drug detecting dog can cost as much as \$15,000. But having a successful dog like Kety who removed more than \$10 million in narcotics from Nevada could be considered invaluable. ■

*Editor's note: Due to Counterdrug operational security, only the dog handler's first name is used.*



*Sgt. Jason Stevens, a horticulturist with the California Army Guard's 40th Agribusiness Development Team, gathers a soil sample from a field alongside the main road in Marawara, Afghanistan. The Nevada ADT will perform similar duties as well as meet with local farmers to learn how crop production might be increased. Photo: Tech. Sgt. Brian Boisvert, Kunar Provincial Reconstruction Team*

# Nevada Guard

*planting seeds  
of optimism*

## for Afghan future

*By Staff Sgt. Eric Ritter  
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs*

**CARSON CITY** – For the past six decades, entire generations of Afghans have known nothing but war. With internal conflict, the devastating invasion of the Soviet Union and the ongoing war on terrorism, the agricultural output of Afghanistan has been severely compromised.

Afghanistan once held fertile lands capable of supplying produce famous around the world. Now, because of poor water management, average agricultural acreage per family is far less than it was decades ago, according to the Illinois Institute of Technology. Families often struggle to produce enough to feed their own families, much less cultivate enough for income at the local market.

Many military officials currently believe the only way to stabilize the upcoming decades in Afghanistan is to help them cultivate a promising future.

That's where the Nevada National Guard is set to step in this spring when it deploys its Agricultural Development Team to Afghanistan. The Nevada Guard promises to share its agricultural knowledge and expertise with the Afghans extol the virtues

of agriculture and farming in contrast to a culture of war.

About 60 Airmen and Soldiers from the Nevada Guard with backgrounds in farming, forestry, animal husbandry, butchery and other fields have quickly been assembled to form the team.

"No one can do this better than the National Guard," said ADT commander Col. Johnny Isaak. "This is what makes the National Guard so unique. In contrast to active-duty Soldiers and Airmen who do their one military job well, the Guard has numerous individuals with a variety of relevant civilian backgrounds that will prove invaluable on this mission."

The National Guard's ADT mission has been ongoing since late 2007. Several other states including California, Missouri and Indiana have already participated in ADT missions in Afghanistan. Nevada will replace the South Carolina team when it deploys in June.

"We're getting news from other ADTs that they are having great success with their missions," Isaak said. "The locals are welcoming the expertise our teams are bringing to help them develop their lands. The teams are also getting in there and

establishing trust with the locals, which is what we need if they're going to feel safe to stand up to the Taliban and break that cycle of warfare."

It's no wonder the Pentagon chose a Nevada team to serve in Afghanistan. As anyone who has been to both the Silver State and Afghanistan will attest, there are some incredible similarities in geology and topography between the two regions. Nevada has been famous for cultivating and producing agriculture in what some farmers would call difficult farming conditions for almost two hundred years.

Isaak said the ADT this may be the biggest joint mission (involving Soldiers and Airmen) in the history of the Nevada Guard.

"This is going to be really big for us," he said. "We're going to help to win the hearts and minds of these people and that's one of the most important elements to winning the war."

The Nevada ADT mission is set to last about 12 months with an expected return date of June 2011.

The Nevada National Guard will only be there a brief time, but the team hopes its short time in Afghanistan will be enough to cultivate the country's new-found future. ■

# DEPLOYMENT ROUNDUP

## 137th, security forces begin tour, Delger returns

Compiled by Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka, Battle Born editor

**CARSON CITY** – For one all-too-brief week in the first part of April, nearly all of the Nevada Guard's 4,000 Soldiers and Airmen were home. Even many individual deployments came to a conclusion.

But the inevitable next round of foreign deployments began in early April with the Nevada Air Guard's 152nd Security Forces Squadron departing for Southwest Asia and the Nevada Army Guard's 137th Law and Order Detachment traveling to Afghanistan.

Several dozen security forces Airmen left Reno for a security mission on April 7. Because of security issues, the specifics of their mission remain undisclosed. But they are set to remain in Southwest Asia for a six-month deployment to perform force protection, anti-terrorism and law enforcement duties. The security forces squadron has had Airmen deployed domestically and internationally constantly since Sept. 11, 2001.



*The Nevada Guard honor detail retires the colors at the conclusion of the 137th Law and Order Detachment deployment ceremony April 11 in Las Vegas. The unit's Soldiers will serve as policemen in Afghanistan for about one year after concluding their pre-deployment training in New Mexico. Photo: Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka*

On April 11, the Soldiers in the 137th Law and Order Detachment held their official deployment ceremony in Las Vegas. After several weeks of pre-deployment training at a facility in New Mexico, the Soldiers will depart for Afghanistan for one year to perform basic law enforcement duties in a NATO-controlled region. The

Henderson unit has about 50 Soldiers set to participate in the deployment. The final destination of the unit is unknown.

"We will essentially be policemen in Afghanistan," said Sgt 1st Class Colin Care, the unit's detachment sergeant. "Our specialty is to run a provost marshal's office. In the civilian world, it would be very similar to running a police department or a sheriff's department."

Established in November 2007, the unit is one of Nevada's newest military police organizations. It was established with the primary mission to conduct police investigative operations and perform law and order tasks anywhere in the world. In August 2008, the unit served as the real-world police force on Nellis Air Force Base and the unit also spent 50 drill weekend days since its inception preparing for this deployment.

A noteworthy individual Air Guard deployment came to an end on March 30 when Senior Master Sgt. Konrad Delger from the 152nd Logistics Squadron returned to Reno.

Delger was deployed for six months in Iraq where he worked and lived with a special operations organization. He was an advisor on a wide variety of logistics issues and procedures.

As the senior Air Force enlisted Airman in the organization, he oversaw the establishment of its medical supply warehouse and storage for a brigade hospital and numerous battalion aid stations. Delger received an Army Commendation Medal for his service. ■



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# Packing party hits full stride in Iraq

By Maj. April Conway  
332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

The last time my family and I moved from one house to another, I was shocked how much stuff we'd accumulated. After all, we'd been in the old place less than three years.

Trash bins on the curb overflowed, there was a giant pile of "keep" boxes, a good-sized "sell" pile awaiting a garage sale or trip to Goodwill, and an ubiquitous pile of stuff that, while still usable, was not really something my neighbors or even a charity would want.

I've moved a sturdy but extraneous broom from house to house four times. No one I know wants it, but it's too functional to throw out. Multiply those thoughts a thousand-fold and you've got a good idea of the daunting task it is to pull out of Iraq.

There are dozens of forward operating bases, main operating bases and contingency operating bases strewn about the country. Even a working journalist who knows whom to ask has a difficult time figuring out what's at each location.

Conexes? Tens of thousands. Large, tractor trailer-sized shipping containers? Thousands. Closed up buildings behind fences and cipher-locked doors? Too many of those to count.

And they're all full of stuff.

Planners are working hard on spreadsheets, inspections and logistics to make sure what needs to be sent to Afghanistan is done so expeditiously. They're making sure that what needs to be shipped home is also properly routed and forwarded to a new site somewhere in the States.

And they're also evaluating what is best left behind for the Iraqis to retain. Even I know it's foolish to box up and move a perfectly good garden hose when there're already a few at the new place.

What's allowing us to move into this final phase of the war is relative safety – ours and the locals'.

Joint Base Balad, formerly known as Logistics Support Area Anaconda and Balad Air Base, is as safe as it's been since we took up residence. It's been days since we've been mortared as I write this in March. It's been years since we've gone that long of a span untouched, say the intel folks.

What was once known as Mortaritaville – sadly not for its delightful blend of tequila, triple sec and lime juice, but for the plethora of mortars lobbed over its fence several times a day – has been very quiet these past few weeks. Slowly but surely the country is standing on its own two feet.

Mom and Dad are still keeping an eye on the kids, but are packing the car.

The decline in attacks is attributed to a few things, primarily recent Iraqi police arrests of local thugs and an upturn in employment in agrarian, central Iraq. People busy with jobs, families and crops to sell seem to have less impetus to take cash in exchange for using their land as a rocket launch pad.

Officials at JBB also attribute the downturn in attacks to the recent elections.

Iraqi parliamentary elections were held here March 7 and, despite the fact dozens of Iraqis were killed in violent attacks across the nation, the collective opinion seems to be that Iraqi security agencies held their own.



U.S. military involvement in the process was nil. A reporter from a prestigious Beltway magazine who happened to pass through my office just after Election Day said he was pleasantly surprised by how well the election went from his Baghdad vantage point.

Iraqi police aren't perfect yet, but they look good, he said.

It's odd to be on the tail end of a war. Servicemembers of all colors – blue, green, red and, um, whatever color we've assigned to the U.S. Navy – still don body armor and arm themselves before leaving Balad's gates. Some individuals in the countryside still aren't pleased with our presence here and demonstrate in violent ways, but the Iraq of 2010 is a far cry from the Iraq of 2004 or 2007 when a troop dying at the base hospital didn't elicit whispers or, frankly, news. There were simply too many.

Today, roadside improvised explosive devices still injure, patients still are admitted to the hospital with shrapnel wounds and Klaxon alarms still cause people to drop to the ground, hands covering their head. We're still vigilant.

But conversations at the dining facility are more likely to cover topics like which movie is playing at the theater this weekend than what happened to a convoy on Main Supply Route Tampa.

Necessary items like food and fuel still get trucked into the base, but every day more items depart than arrive. Aircraft take off at all hours, filled to the brim with people and pallets destined for another locale.

I'd better get used to it because it will continue for the remainder of my time here. I just hope they find a good home for all the brooms. ■

*Conway is concluding a sixth-month deployment in Iraq. She said she found it strange to be on the receiving end of an editor asking for a Battle Born magazine submission and labeled his deadline as ridiculous.*



*Airmen of the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Red Horse squadron at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, prepare the ground for a foundation for an expanded passenger terminal. The largest U.S. base in the country, Balad expects increased traffic as U.S. forces draw down and depart Iraq. The New Dawn campaign calls for the vast majority of troops to leave Iraq by Dec. 31, 2011. Photo: Senior Airman Brittany Bateman*

# WOUNDED WARRIORS

— often overlooked, but not forgotten  
members of the Guard family



*Soldiers in the 1/221st Cavalry Squadron patrol a busy market in Methar Lam, Afghanistan. Many of the Nevada Guard's injured Soldiers recovering in military hospitals around the world were wounded while deployed with the Cav squadron. Photo: Command Sgt. Maj. Daryl Keithley*

By Lt. Col. Terry Conder  
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

**LAS VEGAS** — This is a story about the Soldiers one rarely hears about.

Jubilant celebrations and throngs of well-wishers welcome home the majority of troops from Afghanistan and Iraq. Sadly, thousands of others have come home to solemn military funerals filled with dignity and respect.

Many Soldiers return home from deployment without fanfare or attention. They are the Soldiers who return home wounded separate from their respective units.

Currently, the Nevada Army Guard has more than 30 injured Soldiers in military hospitals across the country.

They may be invisible to the media and

the public, but these wounded warriors are far from invisible. Keeping tabs on their welfare is an especially high priority for State Command Sgt. Maj. Daryl Keithley.

Keithley put in four years of active duty before joining the Nevada Guard in 1992. He knows what it's like to be in a combat zone and he knows about wounded Soldiers. Keithley deployed with the 72nd Military Police Company in 2003 and spent a harrowing year in Iraq. The 72nd opened and operated Abu Ghraib prison and the unit's Soldiers received a number of Purple Heart Medals during the mission.

"One of my most important jobs now is showing Soldiers that the Nevada Guard cares about them," Keithley said.

During the past year, Keithley has visited wounded Nevada Soldiers across

the nation at Fort Sam Houston, Fort Hood, Fort Bliss, Fort Irwin, Fort Lewis and Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

"Everywhere I've gone, the morale's been high," Keithley said. "Universally, the biggest cause for anxiety I've seen is that the Soldier wishes they were back with his or her unit. But I tell them their primary mission now is to get well."

Keithley, who became the state sergeant major in August 2009, said he believes his visits are meaningful on many levels.

"I believe a visit is crucial," Keithley said. "I think it helps a Soldier feel they're part of a family in the Nevada Guard. No matter where you are, you're important to us."

Wounded warriors may miss the pageantry of a unit returning home, but they have the full attention of Nevada's leaders.

"Our guys told me that other patients are envious of the Nevada troops because they are about the only ones who get visits from their senior leaders," Keithley said.

One of Keithley's most memorable visits was with Pfc. Sean Kay at Fort Sam Houston.

"I asked him, 'So when are you going to be promoted to specialist?'" Keithley said.

Kay responded, "Well, Sergeant Major, I was supposed to take my PT [physical training] test, but I got blown up on a mission the day before the test!"

Kay was soon promoted.

Many of the wounded warriors Keithley visited belong to the 1/221st Cavalry, which spent the past year in Afghanistan.

"They're responsible for an entire region of the country," Keithley said. "They've got eight forward operating base locations and constantly perform security and operations missions in their region."

Keithley recently traveled to Afghanistan to check up on how the cavalry Soldiers were doing. He met with the squadron's commander and top enlisted Soldier, but the Soldier he was most anxious to see was his son, Spc. Anthony Keithley.

After visiting wounded warriors across the U.S. and seeing his son in Afghanistan, Keithley reflected on how his perspective has changed over the past year.

"Honestly, it never bothered me to deploy. I never had any second thoughts or fears about going, but it's a lot harder to see your son go into harm's way," he said. "I now have a much broader understanding of how people feel when their loved ones leave." ■

# Overseas annual training, short-term deployments increasingly common



By Sgt. Mike Getten

Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

**CARSON CITY** – In comparison to Thailand, Korea and Germany, the traditional annual training locations such as Camp Dodge, Iowa, Volk Field Air National Guard Base, Wis., and Camp Navajo, Ariz., seem almost downright mundane.

Nevada Soldiers and Airmen are traveling to overseas exercises for annual training and short-term deployments in increasing numbers, and their commanders are finding the experiences indispensable.

Economically, international annual training and short-term deployment often equates to a bargain, as the gaining combatant commander (i.e., Pacific Command or European Command) will pick up travel and per diem costs for Soldiers and Airmen.

In 2009, four Nevada Army Guard units sent units abroad for annual training. This year, Nevada will participate in five international exercises. Next year, the number is slated to increase even more.

Because of the ongoing high operational tempo of the Nevada Air Guard, many Airmen will exchange annual training time for real-world deployment time this year. Some of these short-term deployments will occur in Puerto Rico and central America.

More than 200 Airmen participated in short deployments in support of the Coronet Oak mission through May in Puerto Rico. Coronet Oak is the name for the continuing operation where C-130 aircraft aircrews and related support personnel deploy to Muniz Air National Guard Base to provide theater airlift support for U.S. Southern Command.

The short deployments are not considered training. The mission entails Airmen doing their precise military occupation with no room for error. Air, medical and maintenance crews along with firefighters participated in the mission.

Another short-term deployment set this spring for Airmen is the Shadow Harvest mission. Details about this mission in Asia remain classified.

The Army Guard's Medical Detachment sent 16 Soldiers to Chitose, Japan, for its annual training in December. The Soldiers staffed and maintained operating a first aid station and sick call for a U.S. military and Japanese joint exercise.



*Spc. Kayla Chandless, a medic in the Medical Detachment, stitches a Soldier's wounded forehead under the supervision of physician assistant Capt. Omar Nava. The Soldiers were in Chitose, Japan, supporting a joint training exercise including the Japanese self-defense forces and the U.S. military. Photo courtesy Medical Detachment*

"During traditional duty status, our medics are not allowed to treat non-life or -limb threatening injuries," said Capt. Dan Thielen, the commander of the Medical Detachment. "The overseas AT puts the Soldiers into an active-duty status and allows our medics to perform real-world first aid."

During the exercise, the combat medics treated the injuries under the supervision of a physician.

"The hands-on treatment sharpens our medics' skills and builds their confidence," Thielen said. "It is training that is unattainable in most situations here in the United States."

Medical Detachment Soldiers who did not travel to Japan will spend their annual training in the state performing birth month reviews and assisting with deployments and re-deployments.

The 106th Public Affairs Detachment sent three soldiers to the Cobra Gold exercise in Thailand in February. Cobra Gold was a joint military exercise that also featured

humanitarian missions.

Thailand led the exercise and Indonesia, Korea, Japan, Singapore and the United States all assumed major roles. Ten observer nations were also there.

The Nevada Soldiers augmented a joint information branch under the direction of Pacific Command Public Affairs. The JIB was staffed with public affairs counterparts from each of the participating nations, necessitating the use of interpreters.

During the exercise, Sgt. Mike Getten was a media escort, Spc. Victor Joecks worked with an active-duty Soldier in social media, and Capt. Paul Dotto conducted VIP and media escorts.

"We worked in a truly multi-cultural and multi-lingual environment," Dotto said. "We also saw great training including an amphibious assault landing with air support, air drops with cargo planes, and a number of humanitarian assistance missions that featured building schools and medical centers.

"This experience was indispensable for our professional development as a public affairs organization."

Whether domestic or international, annual training requires considerable planning. When a unit decides to conduct training overseas, the planning process becomes considerably more complicated.

Depending upon the unit's destination, there could be any number of additional requirements which need to be met before Soldiers leave for their training.

Each PAD Soldier required a valid U.S. passport, a complete, current shot record, some specific vaccinations, and Malaria pills.

"These overseas exercises are an opportunity for the unit staff to work out operations, logistics and personnel issues for deploying to different locations," said Maj. Kyle Mistlebauer, an exercise planner from Pacific Command.

Overseas AT can also be a recruiting and retention tool.

Nevada Guard Soldiers are set to participate in three more overseas training exercises this year. In March, the 72nd Military Police Company sent the first of five rotations into Germany and Italy. The 106th Public Affairs Detachment has a team of two soldiers set to travel to Indonesia to take part in the Garuda Shield exercise for 23 days in June. ■



## Cav, 1864th Soldiers return home, close deployment chapters

By Sgt. Mike Getten, Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

**LAS VEGAS** – Nevada Army Guard Soldiers from the 1/221st Cavalry and 1864th Transportation Company made the 2010 spring season unforgettable as they returned home to their family and friends and marked the final chapter in yearlong deployments.

The main body of cavalry Soldiers returned to Las Vegas on March 27 following their combat tour supporting Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

“It was a very challenging mission and we are glad that we had the success we did, but most importantly, we were able to bring all these Soldiers home,” said squadron commander Lt. Col. Scott Cunningham.

During the deployment, the squadron’s Soldiers received 47 Purple Heart Medals and 45 Bronze Star Medals.

On the long-anticipated day, hundreds waited for the Soldiers at the reunion site at the Mandalay Bay Hotel. All were ecstatic when the Soldiers finally arrived about two hours later.

“I am really happy to be home. My son was born in December, and I just held him for the first time 10 minutes ago,” said

Spc. Franklin Vilaseco while smiling and admiring his infant son. “We finished our mission. Now we get to spend some time getting reacquainted with our families. I couldn’t be happier.

“If it wasn’t for the support my family gave me during the deployment, it would have been a lot tougher than it was.”

Every Soldier echoed Vilaseco’s sentiment.

“It’s just good to be home and hold my family close,” said Spc. Kevin Egbert as he held his 16-month-old daughter with tears of joy in his eyes.

The squadron’s final formation took only minutes before Cunningham released the Soldiers for the long-anticipated reunion with their families.

The excitement continued two days later when the cavalry Soldiers held the squadron’s official demobilization ceremony in front of several thousand spectators.

“Before you stands the 1/221st Cavalry, and I couldn’t be more proud of each and every Soldier,” Adjutant General Brig. Gen. Bill Burks said. “This is our greatest generation that is standing before you here today.”



*Olivia Underhill, left, 5, greets her father, Sgt. Gary Underhill of the 1864th Transportation Company April 3 at the Nevada Air National Guard base upon his return to northern Nevada. Wearing Underhill's cap is Alyssa Underhill, 8. While deployed, Underhill, a Carson City sheriff's deputy, wrote a guest column for the Carson City Nevada Appeal newspaper. Photo: Sgt. Mike Getten*



*Spc. Kevin Egbert of the 1/221st Cavalry reunites with his 16-month-old daughter in Las Vegas on March 29. "It's good to be home and hold my family close," he said following his yearlong stint in Afghanistan. Photo by Sgt. Mike Getten*

The unit had a dual mission in Afghanistan. About 450 Soldiers formed into platoons to provide security for provincial reconstruction teams in 11 different provinces. The balance of the squadron was the coalition force in Laghman Province, where it provided security for the entire province.

Nevada Army Guard commander Brig. Gen. Frank Gonzales recognized 19 wounded Warriors seated next to the speaker's podium. They received a standing ovation.

One day after the Cav ceremony, the 1864th Soldiers began rolling back into town from their deployment in Iraq. The Clark County Armory was abuzz with excitement as hundreds of people waited for their incoming Soldiers.

Finally, three buses arrived at the armory, accompanied by blaring horns from two M913 trucks to signify their arrival.

The Moms Love Quilts organization presented each Soldier with a quilt designed by children across the country and sewn by volunteers.

The 150 Soldiers of the 1864th poured into the armory and received a welcome from Gonzales. During his speech, a boisterous

cheer arose when Gonzales stated he was ecstatic and asked, "Does everyone feel happy?"

Gonzales thanked Capt. Derek Imig, the 1864th commander, for bringing all of the Soldiers in the unit home safely.

"Nobody would have been successful without the team of Soldiers and leaders we assembled to carry out this mission," Imig said.

In his final remarks, Gonzales spoke directly to the families.

"These Soldiers are going back to their civilian lives, back to their jobs, their homes and their families," he said. "Care for them and help them out as they resume their normal lives."

During their deployment in Iraq, the unit conducted heavy transportation of equipment and supplies. They also provided security escorts to their own convoys as well as other convoys.

Twenty female Guardsmen deployed with the 1864th into the combat zone.

"People don't expect females being mechanics, drivers and gunners," said Pfc. Cristina Borlongan, who was on her first deployment.

Gov. Jim Gibbons was at both demobilization ceremonies. He thanked each Soldier for their sacrifices and service.

"The 36th star on the flag shines a little brighter today because of your sacrifice," Gibbons said. "The men and women who come home from battle today are loved by the community and the nation because every one of them has contributed to the freedoms we continue to enjoy."

Northern Nevada Cav Soldiers returned home to Reno just as the 1864th arrived in Las Vegas. The northern Nevada 1864th Soldiers finally made it home April 3 to conclude one of the most celebratory weeks in Nevada Guard history. Both groups had been flown home on Nevada Air Guard C-130s and were welcomed home enthusiastically.

"This is just truly incredible, I can't describe the emotion," said 1864th Sgt. Gary Underhill as he hugged and kissed his two little girls. "I am not going to let these two go, I am going to spend every minute with them for as long as I can." ■



*Capt. Cathrin Fraker takes the guidon as the new company commander of the 150th Component Repair Company Feb. 20 in Carson City. She began her Army career as a clarinet player for the Wyoming Guard's 67th Army Band. Photo: Pfc. Emerson Marcus, 106th Public Affairs Detachment*

## Fraker in tune as she becomes 150th company commander

*By Spc. Emerson Marcus  
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs*

**CARSON CITY** – Capt. Cathrin Fraker has come a long way from the self-proclaimed band geek she was before joining the Wyoming National Guard in 1994.

“I originally joined the Army Guard to pay for college and to continue to play music,” Fraker said. “I was sort of a band geek.”

Playing the clarinet for Wyoming's 67th Army Band was Fraker's passion when she was younger. Now her passion is leading the Soldiers of the 150th Component Repair Company.

Fraker assumed her role as the company's commanding officer Feb. 20 in a ceremony at the office of the Adjutant General in Carson City.

“We will continue to instill the mindset that this is one Army with one set of standards,” said Fraker. “We must live the Army values throughout our lives, both in and out of uniform.”

The 150th, headquartered in Carson City, has a detachment of Soldiers in Las Vegas. The 150th provides support maintenance for the Nevada Guard and is trained to rebuild components such as engines and transmissions for military vehicles.

Fraker said she received plenty of help from former company commander, Capt. Beau Vinatieri, to prepare for the new role.

Vinatieri had served as the company's commanding officer since February 2008. Vinatieri will transfer to the 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion, where he will serve as the battalion logistics officer.

“I think she has a good vision with a lot of ideas that stem from her experience from different assignments,” said 150th 1st Sgt. Douglas Ramey.

Fraker transferred to the Nevada National Guard in July 2008 when she became the executive officer for the chief of staff.

Fraker has participated in many missions including the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, Ga., and hurricane relief in New Orleans, La. After becoming an officer, Fraker also served a tour of duty in Afghanistan with the 41st Brigade Combat Team for the Task Force Phoenix mission in 2006.

Born and raised in Wyoming, Fraker served seven years as a traditional National Guard Soldier before she received an ROTC scholarship to attend the University of Wyoming. Fraker earned her bachelor's degree in finance and was commissioned in 2003.

“I feel excited to take on this new role,” Fraker said. “I know I'm prepared, and now the only thing left is to get the job done.” ■

## Caddel new commander of S&S unit

1st Lt. George Caddel became the commander of Detachment 1, B Company, 3/140th Aviation Security and Support, in a March 6 ceremony at the Army Aviation Support Facility.

Caddel previously served in the 140th as a chief warrant officer before becoming an officer. He then deployed with the medical evacuation unit. When he came home from Afghanistan, he returned to the 140th.

Caddel assumed command from Capt. Matthew Jonkey, who had commanded the unit since November 2006. ■

## 593rd drives on with Kolvet at wheel

Capt. Curtis Kolvet is the new commander of the 593rd Medium Transportation Company. Kolvet assumed command from Capt. Christy Hales in an April 10 ceremony at the Harry Reid Readiness Center in Washoe County. Hales had been the commander of the company since January 2008.

A native of Nevada, Kolvet graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno, on an ROTC scholarship in May 2001. After graduation, he entered active duty and was an ordnance officer through 2005. In 2009, Kolvet joined the Nevada National Guard. ■

## Wagner assumes command of MEDEVAC Company

Capt. Andrew Wagner assumed command of Detachment 1, C Company, 1/168th General Support Aviation Battalion, commonly referred to as the MEDEVAC unit, during a ceremony held Feb. 7 at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Stead.

Wagner enlisted in the Ohio National Guard in 1994 and advanced to sergeant before becoming an armor officer in 2001. He deployed to Kosovo in 2003 with the Ohio Guard.

In the fall of 2005, Wagner moved his family to Reno and joined the 1/168th. In 2006, he attended flight school in Alabama and then deployed with the unit to Afghanistan.

Wagner assumed command from Capt. Darren Chrisman, who was the company commander for more than three years. ■

## Williams steps into role as vice commander

**RENO** – After returning from a deployment in January, Col. Michael Williams became the vice commander for the 152nd Airlift Wing here in February.

Williams first entered the Nevada Air Guard in 1982 and was an inertial navigation technician working on the Phantom RF-4C aircraft. While a traditional Airman, he attended the University of Nevada, Reno, and graduated in 1987 with a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering. Williams was also a distinguished graduate from Air Force inertial navigation training and pilot training.

Williams' experience includes various deployments supporting many operations, including combat missions in Bosnia, Iraq and Afghanistan. During his most recent tour, he was the deputy operations group commander at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, from Sept. 1, 2009, until Jan. 1, 2010.

Williams replaced Col. Frank Landes, who had served as vice commander for four years.

Also, Williams was announced as the interim, full-time Nevada Guard Director of Operations by Brig. Gen. Bill Burks on April 13. Prior to his tour in Afghanistan, Williams was the Operations Group Commander of the 152nd Airlift Wing in Reno.



## 609th Sappers – Nevada's newest unit

**STEAD** – It's official: the 609th Engineer Company is now the Nevada Army Guard's newest unit.

The Soldiers of the 609th Engineer Company, 17th Special Troops Battalion, paid homage to long-time military tradition Feb. 6 as the unit was officially activated during a ceremony at the Washoe County Armory.

The unit, located in Fallon, will provide personnel and equipment for engineering missions including hasty route clearances and dismantled breaches.

"The 609th Soldiers, nicknamed the Sappers, will be an asset in achieving the overall mission of both the state and the federal government," said Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Dan Waters. "We now have a great asset in the case of a state emergency to make sure things get repaired and built."

"Sappers have such a breadth of knowledge. They're the guys who have to destroy things, take things down safely and build things back up," Waters said.

The term Sapper is traced back to the 16th century during the French wars at the siege of Rouen. Sappers continued to build, repair, fortify and reform the countryside for centuries. The U.S. Congress formed the first American Sapper unit in 1778 to receive instruction in repairing and erecting field works during the Revolutionary War.

For information on the Sapper unit, call 1st Sgt. Shane Jensen at (775) 848-0219. ■

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## Wroblewski tabbed as chief of staff

Col. Craig Wroblewski was selected to become the next Nevada Army Guard chief of staff by Brig. Gen. Frank Gonzales on April 8. Wroblewski, a military police officer, will replace Col. Michael Carlson when he retires in late May.

Wroblewski was previously the director of training and doctrine.

"The adjutant general and I selected Col. Wroblewski to head the leadership of the Army staff during the highest operational tempo period in Nevada Guard history," Gonzales said.

## EO Leaders course upcoming in June

The Equal Opportunity Leaders course is set for June 7-12 at the Las Vegas Readiness Center. EO leaders are Soldiers in the grades E-5 and higher trained to assist commanders in the execution of the EO program within their respective units. This course will prepare individuals to perform the duties as an EO leader. Attendees are placed on orders and will wear military uniforms. For information, call Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Brooks at (775) 677-5242.

## Dept. of Defense releases new Internet policy

A new Defense Department policy authorizes DoD members to access social networking Web sites and other Web 2.0 platforms from nonclassified government computers as long as it doesn't compromise operational security or involve prohibited activities or Web sites.

Defense Department officials issued the long-awaited policy Feb. 26, establishing consistent rules for all military members and employers.

While authorizing access to these tools, the new policy also recognizes the importance of protecting military networks and operations, said David Wennergren, deputy assistant secretary of Defense for information management and technology.

For example, the new policy allows commanders to temporarily limit access as required to maintain operations security or address bandwidth constraints. It also

prohibits malicious activity on military information networks and denies access to sites promoting prohibited activity such as gambling, pornography and hate crimes.

## Junior Enlisted Council suggestion boxes now in armories

Junior Enlisted Council suggestion boxes are now throughout southern Nevada.

The suggestion boxes were installed to allow Soldiers another way to submit their ideas and thoughts about the Nevada Guard. Each box has a dispenser of questionnaire cards included for the convenience of the service member.

The locked boxes are monitored monthly for content by a local member of the JEC. The cards are reviewed by council members, and the information is logged into a database for consideration by the JEC.

"Not everyone has a chance to correspond with their Junior Enlisted representative," said Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen Sitton, the state's senior enlisted advisor. "This will provide Soldiers an opportunity to ask questions and make recommendations outside the public forum."

Airmen with suggestions can call Senior Airman Jose Escobar at (775) 788-9332.

## Air Guard's last Vietnam vet retires

Master Sgt. William Topken, the Nevada Air Guard's last remaining veteran of the Vietnam conflict, retired in March.

He said he attributed his lengthy dedication to the Air Force to the fellowship and camaraderie he developed with his fellow Airmen. But now he's looking forward to spending more time with his family.

Topken was the cover subject of the Nevada Guard's Fall 2009 issue of *Battle Born* magazine.

## Reno business offers free pet boarding for those deploying

Sugarland Ranch in Reno is offering free pet boarding to all deploying service members through its Sugarland Ranch Military Deployment Program. The program is open to anyone in uniform anywhere in the country.

The owners of the ranch promise daily exercise, specialized meal service, comfortable sleeping areas and plenty of love and attention for the animals.

They also have the computer program Skype, so owners can keep tabs on their pets via the Internet.

Sugarland Ranch is a no-kill sanctuary and operates purely on donations.

For information, call (775) 970-5350 or (800) 713-7177.

## Battle Born staffers and contributors earn media awards

Nevada Guardsmen brought home three media awards from the National Guard's public affairs media contest for 2009.

Lt. Col. Scott Cunningham from the 1/221st Cavalry had a first-place submission in the category of contribution by a stringer photographer. He won with his photo "Mortar Fire" that appeared on the cover of the Summer 2009 *Battle Born*.

The article "Female Recruit" earned Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka a third place finish in the news article category. That article was published in the Spring 2009 issue of *Battle Born* and profiled Pvt. Rhonda Simmons.

Sgt. Mike Getten also won third place in the category of stand-alone photo for his "S&S Load Out" image of Black Hawk helicopters being unloaded at the Army Aviation Support Center that appeared in the Fall 2009 issue.

There were more than 700 print stories and 140 broadcast packages entered in the contest.

Also, the entire Nevada National Guard public affairs staff recently earned a Public Relations Society of America Sierra Nevada Chapter Award of Excellence for the *Battle Born* magazine during the past year.

## Lowe's military discount now every day

The home improvement retailer Lowe's has expanded its 10 percent military discount to include every day of the year for active-duty, National Guard and reserve, retired and disabled service members as well as their families.



*Soldiers in the 485th Military Police Company, a subordinate unit of the 17th Special Troops Battalion, conduct military operations on urbanized terrain in Hawthorne annual training. Combat commanders benefit by having a special troops battalion to rely upon to provide command and control for troops while supporting combat missions. Photo: Courtesy of 485th Military Police Company*

# SPOTLIGHT

## 17th Special Troops Battalion: select Soldiers for extraordinary missions

*By Maj. Jeff Johnson, Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs*

**RENO** – Based at the Washoe County Armory, the Nevada Army Guard's new special troops battalion increases the capability of both the nation and state to fulfill future mission requirements.

The 17th Special Troops Battalion officially unfurled its flag in October 2009 and now provides command and control of a number of northern Nevada units that were once part of the 991st and 992nd Troop Commands.

The 17th STB is a result of Army Guard force restructuring, and it's a sister organization to the Las Vegas-based 757th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion. Both are subordinate battalions of the 17th Sustainment Brigade headquartered in Las Vegas.

The mission of the 17th Special Troops Battalion is to support the sustainment brigade with any special needs it identifies to support its division or maneuver brigade. Potential needs are infinite, so the battalion must remain flexible and versatile.

"The special troops battalion has to be ready for almost anything," said Lt. Col. Dan Waters, who has served in Kosovo and Afghanistan. "It needs to be ready to meet a variety of state missions while simultaneously preparing for federal deployments worldwide.

"The sustainment brigade is the perfect organization to support wartime and state missions with its ability move people and supplies and provide water purification, engineering and civil support."

Waters said the Army recognized that traditional combat forces have a number of specific support needs dependent on their mission. He said combat commanders benefit by having an STB to provide command and control for the troops while supporting the combat mission.

The state mission of the 17th STB is similar to the 991st Troop Command state mission. The difference is that the 991st Troop Command will continue supporting the aviation mission and the 17th STB will focus on the ground support plan, ready to provide military support to civilian authorities.

The new organization of battalions also makes geographic sense. "In the past, the battalion headquarters of a company could be as far-flung as the distance between Reno and Las Vegas," said Maj. Wilson Dasilva, the 17th STB operations and administrative officer.

Dasilva added that there is now a balanced distribution of mission capabilities between northern and southern Army Guard units.

The 17th STB's current units include the 17th STB Headquarters Company, the 593rd Medium Truck Company, the 106th Public Affairs Detachment, the 150th Maintenance Company, and the 485th Military Police Company. The newest unit within the battalion is also the newest unit in the state: the 609th Engineer Company in Fallon.

There are no additional companies set to join the 17th STB at this time. ■

# Duckworth speech marks peak of Veterans Summit



*Retired Maj. Tammy Duckworth, one of the National Guard's most famous veterans, was the keynote speaker at the Third annual Nevada Women Veterans Summit in Las Vegas in March. She was injured during an attack on her helicopter in 2004 and has gone on to become a well-known advocate for veterans. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Wendy Yada*

*By Tech. Sgt. Wendy Yada  
152nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs*

**LAS VEGAS** – Retired Maj. Tammy Duckworth, one of the National Guard's most famous veterans, was in the spotlight here March 27 as she shared a powerful message about her personal quest for success as a veteran's advocate at the Third annual Nevada Women Veterans Summit.

Duckworth, now an assistant secretary for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, was the first keynote speaker of the event. The summit was open to all female National Guard Soldiers and Airmen, active duty service members, reservists and veterans.

Duckworth served in the Illinois Army Guard in Iraq and flew combat missions as a Black Hawk helicopter pilot. During a mission north of Baghdad in 2004, her aircraft was ambushed and a rocket-propelled grenade struck the helicopter she was

co-piloting. She continued to pilot the aircraft until she passed out from blood loss.

Duckworth woke up in the hospital with severe pain. Even the gentlest touch shot waves of pain throughout her body. In order for Duckworth to survive, she said had to live "not one day at a time, but one minute at a time." As a result of the attack, Duckworth lost both of her legs and partial use of one arm.

"An American Soldier stood by my side and helped me get through it," Duckworth said. "I don't know how any of us served without our family and friends."

Duckworth said she works with Congress now to assure adequate funding for the Veterans Administration.

"The VA is transforming and responding to our veterans," Duckworth said. "We are fighting for the people who have the strength to serve."

Attendance at the summit was tremendous and included numerous women with extraordinary backgrounds and experiences. A panel of speakers was on hand to provide important information for about post-traumatic stress disorder, social security matters, career transition, self-care, self-advocacy, and how to access state and federal benefits.

"Women feel connected when they come to these events," said Nancy Faye, a program manager in the VA healthcare system. "They receive important information so they can keep moving forward, take action, and advocate benefits that they deserve."

Retired Senior Master Sgt. Bobi Oates was at her third summit.

"The conference was good. It was more structured and organized than it had been in the past," Oates said.

The summit was sponsored by the Nevada Office of Veterans Services and the Veterans Administration Southern Nevada Healthcare System.

The NOVS was created in 1943 to provide assistance and services to Nevada veterans, their family members and residents of Nevada serving in the military. There are currently about 339,000 veterans residing in Nevada who are eligible for veteran services.

More information is available online at [www.veterans.nv.gov](http://www.veterans.nv.gov). ■

## Services Support Center opens for business in Reno

*By Sgt. Mike Getten  
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs*

**RENO** – The Nevada National Guard Services Support Center officially opened for business March 1 at the Plumb Lane Armory, 685 E. Plumb Lane, Reno. The center combines multiple services and resources under one roof for Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, their families and military retirees.

During the ribbon cutting ceremony marking the opening of the center, Nevada Gov. Jim Gibbons said the center was for all service members, military veterans and their families.

"Our military sacrifices a great deal for the citizens of this country and our state," Gibbons said. "It is our turn to show you what you mean to us and to say thank you for your efforts. This facility will help to make your lives a little easier."

The center brings together representatives from numerous support organizations including the Nevada National Guard Family Readiness Office, the Yellow Ribbon Program, the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Program and the Tri-West Insurance Office.

Other services and officials residing in the center include a military identification office, a Veterans Administration transition representative, a finance advisor, Military OneSource, a military life consultant, the Nevada Guard's director of children and youth services, a Red Cross official, a behavioral health specialist, the Nevada Guard's sexual assault response coordinator and Equal Employment Opportunity officials.

Prior to the consolidation, officials and offices were scattered across northern Nevada in a variety of locations in Reno and Carson City.

"I realized if I couldn't find some of these offices, the service members who

needed them the most might not be able to locate them either," Nevada Adjutant General Brig. Gen. William Burks said. "I met with my staff, and we conceived the idea for this support center to help build a one-stop shop for these programs."

Maj. Trish Svare emphasized that the center supports every branch of service, their families and all military retirees, not just Nevada Guard-associated individuals. She said she expects another similar office in Las Vegas soon to give southern Nevada residents the same convenience.

For information, call (775) 384-5800. ■

*Nevada Gov. Jim Gibbons, left, and Adjutant General Brig. Gen. William Burks mark the opening of the Nevada National Guard Services Support Center with a ribbon-cutting ceremony March 1 in Reno. The center combines under one roof multiple services and resources for Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, their families and military retirees. Photo: Sgt. Mike Getten*



## Military Services Support Center — DIRECTORY —

685 E. Plumb Lane Reno, Nevada 89502

### Family Programs North

Maj. Trish Svare . . . . . (775) 384-5800  
 Cell . . . . . (775) 720-8940  
 Roberta Woomer . . . . . (775) 384-5804  
 Cell . . . . . (775) 291-7853  
 Heather Bryan . . . . . (775) 384-5801  
 Sarah Demuth . . . . . (775) 384-5805  
 Helen Frank . . . . . (775) 384-5803  
 Amber Patterson . . . . . (775) 384-5806  
 24-Hour Cell, North . . . . . (775) 230-1006

### Family Programs Air Guard

Larry Miller . . . . . (775) 384-5807

### Family Readiness

Ron Emerich . . . . . (775) 384-5808  
 Cell . . . . . (775) 297-1801

### Identification Section

Spc. Jenny Luong . . . . . (775) 348-1043

### Yellow Ribbon North

2nd Lt. Marissa Sissney . . . . . (775) 384-5820  
 Staff Sgt. Tiffany McKimmy . . . . . (775) 384-5822  
 Sgt. Chris Schulte . . . . . (775) 384-5823  
 Karen O'Connell . . . . . (775) 384-5824  
 John Ternau . . . . . (775) 384-5821

### Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve

John Runner . . . . . (775) 384-5835  
 Cell . . . . . (805) 704-4861  
 Jenetah Avant . . . . . (775) 384-5836

### Transition Assistance Advisor

Carmen Rank . . . . . (775) 384-5837  
 Cell . . . . . (775) 312-0088

### Military Family Life Consultant

Charlotte Cage . . . . . (775) 384-5848  
 Cell . . . . . (775) 434-4881

### Military OneSource

For information, call (775) 384-5800.

### Personal Finance

For information, call (775) 384-5800.

### Psychological Health Program

Dave Kaul . . . . . (775) 384-5849  
 Cell . . . . . (775) 224-4991

### State Equal Employment Manager

Alicia Nyland . . . . . (775) 384-5845  
 Cell . . . . . (775) 230-1274

### Sexual Assault Response Coordinator

Maj. John Strahan . . . . . (775) 384-5840  
 24-Hour Cell . . . . . (775) 291-7820

### TriWest

Venita Johnson . . . (775) 827-4114, Ext. 62002

### Military Services Support Center Satellite Offices

### Family Programs South

Monica Brown . . . . . (702) 632-0511  
 Cell . . . . . (702) 235-8803  
 Yvette Weigold . . . . . (702) 632-0513  
 24-Hour Cell, South . . . . . (702) 230-0685

### Family Programs Winnemucca

Barbara Stanton . . . . . (775) 625-8285  
 Cell . . . . . (775) 297-1811

### Yellow Ribbon South

Joseph Vanbaaren . . . . . (702) 632-0515  
 Cell . . . . . (702) 219-4287

### Survivor Outreach Services

*(Office Located in Las Vegas – Statewide Coverage)*  
 Vito Valdez . . . . . (702) 632-9957  
 Cell . . . . . (775) 315-9957

## Expanding program helps Airmen, Soldiers combat psychological health challenges

I would like to introduce myself and an important health program for all Nevada Guard Soldiers, Airmen and their families. I am retired 1st Sgt. Dave Kaul, the state's director of psychological health, and I am available at all times to assist in matters pertaining to psychological health.

The Guard's Psychological Health Program goes back to 2007, when almost half of National Guard members reported psychological health concerns on surveys conducted three months after deployment.

In response, the National Guard Bureau, in collaboration with Ceridian Corporation, created the Psychological Health Program, providing a director of psychological health for each of the states and territories of the U.S.

The mission of the National Guard Psychological Health Program is to advocate, promote, and assist Soldiers and Airmen and their families by supporting psychological fitness for operational readiness.

It is the program's vision to honor the commitment our nation has made to protect the American people by ensuring that National Guard's Soldiers and Airmen have the resources and ability to master psychological health challenges in their lives.

What does all of this mean to you?

Have you, or anyone you know, ever experienced any of these situations?

- No one knows how I feel.
- I can't stop thinking about what I did.
- My spouse says I'm drinking too much.



- I can't sleep.
- People tell me I'm not the same person I used to be.
- I'm constantly fighting at home.

If these situations sound familiar, the psychological health program can help. I am available at all times to provide the following services:

- Assessments
- Behavioral health resources identification and support
- Communication of applicable benefits and other counseling services within state/territory and military framework

- Referral services
- Case management services
- Follow-up services
- Commander consultation services
- Guard member orientation
- Leadership training
- Wellness education
- Critical incident management services

All Guard service members and their families are eligible for the Psychological Health Program, regardless of branch and duty/deployment status.

On a personal level, I am a Nevada-licensed marriage and family therapist with 15 years of local experience at all levels of mental health services. Additionally, I was formerly licensed as an alcohol and drug counselor.

I am a Nevada native who entered the Army in 1972 and served 20 years as a combat engineer before retiring as a first sergeant in 1992.

My assignments included supporting four infantry divisions, a tour as a basic training drill sergeant, and as a combat engineer first sergeant at Fort Irwin, Calif.

Upon my retirement, I used my GI Bill to return to school and eventually earned a master's degree in counseling and educational psychology from the University of Nevada, Reno.

My son is in the Air Force, and he is currently stationed at Nellis Air Force Base.

Contact me if you have any questions regarding the program, or if you believe you or someone you know might need some help, or just to talk.

I look forward to meeting each and every one of you. All conversations with me are strictly confidential; your privacy is protected. I am also available to speak on a variety of subjects at any gathering of Guard members and/or their families.

Look for me at your armory, your Soldier Readiness Program event or your next Yellow Ribbon event.

If you would like to reach me, call Dave Kaul at (775) 224-4991 or e-mail me at [dave.kaul@ceridian.com](mailto:dave.kaul@ceridian.com). My office is located at the new Services Support Center at 685 E. Plumb Lane in Reno. ■

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# New outreach program supports survivors of deceased Guardsmen

Story and photo by Sgt. Mike Getten  
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

**CARSON CITY** – When the work of a casualty assistance officer concludes, Vito Valdez' job is just beginning.

Valdez, a retired sergeant first class, is the new Nevada National Guard coordinator of the Survivor Outreach Services program. It's an organization that promises to build and provide a unified support system to embrace the survivors of deceased Soldiers and Airmen and reassure them they will always be a member of the military family.

"The program assists survivors in locating and receiving their due benefits," Valdez said. "It's my duty to pick up right where the casualty assistance officer left off when he returns to regular duty."

Potential benefits due a survivor include financial compensation, health and education benefits.

If Valdez, who works out of the Edsall Armory (aka Clark County Armory) doesn't have a precise answer for a survivor, he will track it down.

"I research unresolved questions and issues and direct the survivor to the organization or individual who can provide timely answers and resolve issues," Valdez said.

Established in late 2009, the SOS office is still in its infancy in Nevada, and Valdez continues to streamline the service procedures provided by the program. He requests that each casualty assistance officer introduce each respective family to the SOS program.

"Each family is unique, and each has its own needs," Valdez said. "When I have the complete information about a family, I can easily match them with the services or benefits that will improve their situation."

The program was initially established by the active-duty Army in 2006. Donna Engeman, the widow of a Soldier, had a



*Vito Valdez is the coordinator of the Survivor Outreach Services program in Nevada. The program is designed to assist survivors in obtaining their due benefits.*

chance encounter with Army chief of staff Gen. George Casey in a hallway at the Pentagon. She said she decided to seize the opportunity and let him know how disappointed she was with the Army after her husband's death.

Engeman's husband, Chief Warrant Officer John Engeman, was killed during combat operations in Baghdad May 14, 2006.

Casey listened and Engeman was placed on an advisory board organized to study the issue. The new outreach program was born out of those meetings.

With Engeman's help, the Army created the Survivor Outreach Service, and the National Guard Bureau adopted the program in April 2009.

The Nevada Army Guard has suffered three combat-related fatalities since the Global War on Terrorism began nearly a decade ago. The Nevada Air Guard has recorded zero. ■

## Air Guard set to host Hometown Heroes Salute



By Tech. Sgt. Wendy Yada  
152nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

**RENO** – The Nevada Air Guard is set to host its first Hometown Heroes Salute award ceremony June 12 at 9 a.m.

During the ceremony at the Nevada Air National Guard base in Reno, 152nd Airlift wing commander Col. David Snyder will pay special tribute to about 600 Airmen and their friends and families.

The Hometown Heroes ceremony is a celebration of Airmen, their families and the communities who have significantly contributed to Air Guard and Airmen support.

Airmen will be recognized for their contributions to operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, Noble Eagle and other peacekeeping operations across the globe from Sept. 11, 2001, through Dec. 31, 2008. Those who began service after Dec. 31, 2008, will be recognized in future ceremonies.

"We are taking the opportunity to say 'thank you' to the Airmen who deployed at home and abroad for contingency operations of more than 30 days," said Nevada Air Guard Command Chief Master Sgt. Rick Scurry. "Additionally, it's an opportunity to say thank you to all the significant others, civilian employers, the communities that support military families, and the family members who take on additional roles and responsibilities.

"It's for everyone who contributes to our Airmen performing the Air Guard mission."

A special personalized letter of appreciation with a Hometown Heroes Salute coin mounted on the frame will be given out to each recipient during the ceremony.

The letter is signed by the director of the Air National Guard and the Air Guard's top command chief master sergeant. Gifts will also be given to individuals who went above-and-beyond to support Airmen when they answered the call to duty. ■

For information or assistance from the SOS office, call Valdez at

**(702) 632-0556 or (775) 315-9957**

or write to

**vito.valdez@us.army.mil.**



# SPORTS NEWS

## More than 300 runners, walkers complete Family Program's fun run

By Staff Sgt. Eric Ritter  
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

**SPARKS** – The first-ever Nevada National Guard Family Program's Leprechaun Fun Run took place March 14 on the chilly shores of the Sparks Marina. The run had been previously known throughout northern Nevada as the Sparks 'Top O' the Mornin' Fun Run, but financial constraints in Sparks prevented the city from sponsoring the race this year.

The Nevada National Guard Family Program office saw the opportunity to continue the run tradition and back the National Guard's pledge to assist its home community.

"This is one way we can show the National Guard is about community," said Family Programs coordinator Maj. Trish Svare. "The Nevada Guard is not just about going to war. We're here to help out our community any way we can, too."

Three hundred runners and walkers participated in the 10-kilometer and 2-mile events. The course was flat and fast. The winner of the 10K race, Matthew Herald, finished in 32 minutes, 12 seconds; and the 2-mile winner, Ryan Ress, completed the course in 12:21.

Svare hopes the Nevada National Guard will sponsor the run again next year. ■



Matthew Herald crosses the finish line to win the 10-kilometer event of the inaugural National Guard Family Programs Leprechaun Fun Run at the Sparks Marina March 14. Photo: Staff Sgt. Eric Ritter

### Nevada Guard • Leprechaun Fun Run • Sparks, Nev. • March 14

#### 2-Mile Top 25:

- 1: Ryan Ress, 35, Reno, 12:21
- 2: Zachary Hawthorne, 15, Sparks, 15:31
- 3: Jose Miroles, 11, Reno, 16:01
- 4: Clifta Perez, 42, Reno, 19:09
- 5: Kevin Salguero, Reno, 12, 19:25
- 6: Christy Barrineau, 42, Sparks, 19:27
- 7: Bret Allen, 30, Carson City, 19:53
- 8: Andrew Johnson, 8, Reno, 20:20
- 9: Albert Torres, 40, Fernley, 20:23
- 10: Patricia Ferris, 37, Reno, 20:32
- 11: Sharlee Smith, 57, Reno, 20:54
- 12: Michelle Roper, 35, Sparks, 21:10
- 13: Justin Roper, 33, Sparks, 21:10
- 14: Tom Olivero, 56, Sparks, 21:53
- 15: Cheryl Raybourn, 46, Reno, 21:56
- 16: Marisa Hawthorn, 12, Sparks, 21:56
- 17: Samantha Johnson, 8, Reno, 22:11

- 18: Monica Campbell, 24, Reno, 22:15
- 19: Juli Telles, 41, Reno, 22:18
- 20: Nico Telles, 15, Reno, 22:18
- 21: Franusco Sandoval, 11, Reno, 22:45
- 22: Fernando Quintero, 10, Reno, 23:11
- 23: Ellie Van Winkle, 59, Reno, 23:37
- 24: Timothy Powers, 39, Sparks, 23:40
- 25: Keri Powers, 34, Sparks, 23:43

#### 10K Top 25:

- 1: Matthew Herald, 27, Sparks, 32:12
- 2: Kirk Ferris, 29, Reno, 32:23
- 3: Jim Hemig, 43, Reno, 39:37
- 4: Sean McVickers, 28, Reno, 40:07
- 5: Dave McCombs, 43, Reno, 40:28
- 6: Charlie Moberly, 44, Reno, 40:30
- 7: Greg Sanders, 46, Sparks, 40:31
- 8: Tim Ross, 42, Reno, 40:32

- 9: Christopher Peterson, 33, Reno, 40:33
- 10: Josh Upton, 31, Winnemucca, 40:59
- 11: Francine Dillon, 63, Reno, 41:16
- 12: Michael Dillon, 66, Reno, 41:17
- 13: James Ripsom, 21, Reno, 41:24
- 14: Carol Woods, 39, Sparks, 41:46
- 15: Oliver Miller III, 37, Sparks, 41:51
- 16: Luis Godoy, 33, Reno, 41:55
- 17: Dario Carrillo, 32, Sparks, 41:57
- 18: Jonathan Boston, 42, Reno, 42:06
- 19: Josh Thomson, 33, Reno, 42:09
- 20: Nicholas Fernandez, 31, Reno, 42:10
- 21: Scott Malin, 47, Reno, 42:16
- 22: Tina Ross, 20, Reno, 42:21
- 23: Myron Hallauer, 55, Reno, 42:32
- 24: Jason Peak, 38, Reno, 42:35
- 25: Chris Walker, 27, Reno, 42:45

For complete race results, go to [active.com](http://active.com).

# Scrappy biathlon team scores two medals



*Pfc. Craig Kenison of the 609th Sappers in Fallon trains for biathlon at the Spooner Lake Cross Country Center near Carson City. Kenison came back from the National Guard biathlon championships with two bronze medals. At 24, he is the first Nevada Soldier with a legitimate chance of making the Army's World Class Athlete Program in biathlon. Photo: Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka*

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

**CAMP RIPLEY, Minn.** – The U.S. Winter Olympic squad wasn't the only sports team to record its best-ever medal haul this season.

The Nevada National Guard biathlon team also finished with its best overall result at the Chief, National Guard Bureau, championship held here Feb. 27-March 7. The upstart Nevada team came home with two individual bronze medals and a shocking fifth place finish in the 15-kilometer military patrol relay.

The two bronze medals were won by Pfc. Craig Kenison from the 609th Sapper unit located in Fallon. Kenison's medals were for third place in the 10- and 20-kilometer individual races respectively in the first-year competitor category.

The scrappy military patrol team's fifth-place finish was the best in Nevada Guard biathlon history. The team, comprising Pfc. Kenison, Sgt. Ryan Wendt, Spc. Bill Raitter and Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka, hit each

of its targets and covered the 9.3-mile course in 1 hour, 19 minutes, 20 seconds.

Kenison, 24, was previously an alpine skier who transitioned to biathlon this winter. His results may potentially lead to a berth in the Army's World Class Athlete Program. No Nevada Guardsman has ever been chosen for the WCAP, an Olympic developmental system that allows an athlete to train full time on military orders.

"This season was definitely a lot more fun than I could have imagined," said Kenison, who lives in Carson City. "My goal now is to make the All-Guard team next year. All it will take is a lot more time on skis and time at the range."

Kenison was the top individual in the 10-kilometer sprint, recording a time of 47:13 for 22nd place. Studenicka was Nevada's top finisher at 20 kilometers in 23rd place, covering the course in 1:40:10.

The biathlon season will resume in December when the team travels to Montana for the NGB Western Regional race. The team is open to all Guard Soldiers and Airmen. For information, call (775) 887-7250. ■

## **CNGB Biathlon Championship • 15-Kilometer Military Patrol • March 5, Camp Ripley, Minn.**

**Top 10:** 1: North Dakota, 56:12 – 2: Minnesota, 1:11:14 – 3: Ohio, 1:14:00 – 4: Montana, 1:14:25 – **5: Nevada, 1:19:20** – 6: Oregon, 1:20:04 – 7: Ohio B, 1:27:03 – 8: Wyoming, 1:46:02 – 9: Indiana, 2:01:04. Also: Utah, Incomplete. Alaska, Incomplete.



# Marksmanship team back on target

*By Sgt. Mike Getten  
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs*

**CARSON CITY** – After a 15-year hiatus, the Nevada National Guard marksmanship team is back on target.

For the first time since 1995, the top marksmen in the Nevada Army and Air Guard were set to converge at the Stead Training Center in May to determine who would represent the state at the regional marksmanship competition at Camp Williams, Utah, in June. The top finishers in the region will advance to the Winston Wilson National competition in October at Camp Robinson, Ark.

The Nevada competition tested participants in several shooting positions and styles using both the M-16 rifle and M-9 pistol.

The first competition was in combat rifle excellence. The competitors fired the M-16 rifle using various positions with targets ranging from 50-300 yards.

On the second day, the marksmen participated in three more events, including M-16 reflexive-fire competition. During that event, the shooters fired 36 rounds using close-quarter battle techniques at targets 25 yards away.

The competitors then moved onto the M-9 pistol and competed in the combat pistol event and fired 36 rounds at a target placed at 15 yards. The final event was the Gen. George Patton combat pistol event. This four-person team event requires shooters to engage six targets set at various distances.

The top marksmen received National Guard distinguished shooter recognition and received credit points toward excellence in competition badges.

The Governors Twenty Tab badge will be awarded to those who scored in the top 20 from the combined events.

The addition of the marksmanship team now gives the Nevada Guard three officially-sponsored competitive teams. The other two sanctioned squads are the marathon and biathlon teams.

For marksmanship squad information, call Staff Sgt. Phil Risi at (775) 348-1046. ■

*Editor's note: Results were unavailable at deadline. State and regional competition results will run in the summer issue of Battle Born.*



# AWARDS • PROMOTIONS • RETIREMENTS

*Moving Up and Moving On • December 2009 & January, February 2010*

## AWARDS

### Legion of Merit



CW5 Nancy Roza . . . . . JFHQ

### Meritorious Service Medal



CMSgt Charles Davis . . . . . 152nd Maint Operations Flt  
LtCol Roy Garcia . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
LtCol Christopher Anastassatos . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
LtCol Theron Gough . . . . . 152nd Operations Support Flt  
MSgt William Topken . . . . . 152nd Maint Operations Flt  
MSgt Brian McBeth . . . . . 152nd Medical Grp  
MSgt William Packer . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
SFC Stanley Alvarez . . . . . 593rd Transp Co  
CPT Darren Chrisman . . . . . 150th Maint Co  
MAJ Dennis Fivecoat . . . . . 150th Maint Co  
SGT Elissa Krizmanich . . . . . 593rd Transp Co  
CSM Gregory Cook . . . . . 757th Combat Sust Spt Bn  
SSG Tracy Castro . . . . . 92nd Civil Support Team  
SPC Mario Gonzalez . . . . . 92nd Civil Support Team  
SGT Trevor Kinney . . . . . JFHQ

### Air Force Commendation Medal



LTC Robert McNamara . . . . . JFHQ

### Army Commendation Medal



CW3 Paul Pishnak . . . . . B Co, 422 Sig Bn  
LTC Mary Devine . . . . . 485th MP Co  
SSG Donald Thorpe . . . . . 485th MP Co  
1SG Jason Miller . . . . . 593rd Transp Co  
SSG Michelle Tucay . . . . . 72nd MP Co  
SPC Kenneth Wing . . . . . 72nd MP Co  
SSG Anthony Ash . . . . . 72nd MP Co  
SSG David Micciche . . . . . JFHQ  
SFC Jason Shipp . . . . . NVARNG Med Det  
SPC Trevor Solano . . . . . NVARNG Med Det  
SPC Joseph Vandyne . . . . . NVARNG Rec/Ret  
PV2 Christopher McClung . . . . . 485th MP Co

### Air Force Achievement Medal



A1C Anthony Hinen . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
CW3 Sherilyn Aboumrad . . . . . JFHQ

### Nevada State Commendation Medal



CPT Kirk Anderson . . . . . 1/189th Aviation  
1SG Manuel Gurule . . . . . 240th Engineer Co  
CPT Vanessa Marrero . . . . . 3/140th S & S  
CPT Beau Vinatieri . . . . . HHC, 422nd Sig Bn  
PFC Thomas Green . . . . . 992nd Troop Cmd  
SSG Russell Earnest . . . . . 485th MP Co  
SSG Sandra Flores . . . . . 485th MP Co

SPC Anthony Hardy . . . . . 485th MP Co  
SSG Luther Thompson . . . . . 593rd Transp Co  
SGT Ryan Wendt . . . . . NVARNG Training Site Det  
SSG Ilda Cruz . . . . . NVARNG Training Site Det

### Adjutant General's Outstanding Graduate Award



SPC Jose Ramirez . . . . . JFHQ  
SPC Brian Sabiniano . . . . . JFHQ

### Nevada Humanitarian Service Ribbon



CMSgt Kenneth Gray . . . . . 152nd Medical Grp  
LtCol Jeffery Zupon . . . . . JFHQ  
Maj Brian Thayer . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
Maj David Manson . . . . . JFHQ  
MSgt Brian McBeth . . . . . 152nd Medical Grp  
MSgt Long Dean . . . . . 152nd Mission Support Grp  
MSgt William Schy . . . . . JFHQ  
MSgt Maureen Rutherford . . . . . JFHQ  
SSgt Eric Dahlgren . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
SSgt William Boekenoogen . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
TSgt Brian Guettler . . . . . 152nd Communications Flt  
TSgt Brent Breese . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn

### Nevada Overseas Deployment Ribbon



1stLt Joseph Jaquish . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
A1C Justen Hanselman . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
A1C Anthony Masten . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
A1C Jana Morales . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
Capt Catherine Grush . . . . . 152nd Maint Operations Flt  
Capt Kristopher Pfalmer . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
Capt Spencer Trehal . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
Capt Jeffrey Bellato . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
Capt Kevin Eikleberry . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
Capt Shannon Manning . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
Capt Christopher Rosati . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
Capt Michael Steward . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
Capt Brook Thomas . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
CMSgt Robert Benton . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
CMSgt Todd Shipley . . . . . 152nd Security Forces Sqdn  
CMSgt Robin Mocabee . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
Col Michael Williams . . . . . 152nd Operations Grp  
LtCol Kevin Knuf . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
LtCol Gregory Baker . . . . . 152nd Force Support Sqdn  
LtCol Caesar Garduno . . . . . 152nd Operations Grp  
LtCol Matthew Speth . . . . . 152nd Operations Support Flt  
LtCol William Cameron . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
LtCol Curtis Campi . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
LtCol Donald Harvey . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
LtCol Jon Schulstad . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
LtCol Jeffery Zupon . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
Maj Bryan Ricks . . . . . 152nd Medical Grp  
Maj David Chauvin . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
Maj Julie Dietrich . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
Maj Robert Hoadley . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn

Maj Derek Gardner . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
MSgt Wyatt Hedrick . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
MSgt Dean Long . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
MSgt Keith Maslowski . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
MSgt Christopher Barber . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
MSgt Robert Montgomery . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
MSgt Timothy Ng . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
MSgt Ronald Owen . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
MSgt John Sekora . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
MSgt Kevin Bandoni . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
MSgt Steven Hickey . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
MSgt Holm Billie . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
MSgt James Lindsay . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
MSgt Gabriel Sanders . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
MSgt James Speth . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
MSgt Christopher Crawford . . . . . 152nd Force Support Sqdn  
MSgt Susan Deese . . . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn  
MSgt Tony Shuster . . . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn  
MSgt Gerald Dwyer . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
MSgt Douglas Barron . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
MSgt James Kocijanski . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
MSgt Erin Fierro . . . . . 152nd Mission Support Grp  
MSgt William Seifert . . . . . 152nd Operations Support Flt  
MSgt Steven Snyder . . . . . 152nd Operations Support Flt  
MSgt Kevin Bennett . . . . . 152nd Security Forces Sqdn  
MSgt Robert Vance . . . . . 152nd Security Forces Sqdn  
MSgt Paul Banish . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
MSgt Thomas Glover . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
MSgt Cameron Pieters . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
MSgt Michael Wilcox . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
MSgt Russell Stewart . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
MSgt Michael Nelan . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
SMSgt Jeffrey Goldsworthy . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
SMSgt Larry Balko . . . . . 152nd Force Support Sqdn  
SMSgt Robert Martinez . . . . . 152nd Operations Grp  
SMSgt Kelly Cavins . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
SMSgt Bourquin Steven . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
SrA Eliroy Defiesta . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
SrA Gregory Hovore . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
SrA Joshua Mutua . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
SrA Amanda Puente . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
SrA Calvin Hobson . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
SrA Andrew Peterson . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
SrA Edik Dominguez . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
SrA Otis Hawkins . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
SrA Thomas Kurkowski . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
SrA Eric Archibald . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
SrA Melissa Ballard . . . . . 152nd Force Support Sqdn  
SrA Jonathon Rogers . . . . . 152nd Force Support Sqdn  
SrA Belinda Fountain . . . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn  
SrA Marcus Eisemann . . . . . 152nd Maintenance Sqdn  
SrA Jennifer Hartzler . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
SrA Tyler Richards . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
SrA Neil Robertson . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
SrA Jeremy Cheatam . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
SrA Raphael Gray . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
SrA Ronald Hanselman . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
SrA Lera Masini . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
SrA Malakai Niko . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
SrA John Shorrock . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
SSgt Carlos Riano . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
SSgt Joseph Hodges . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn

SSgt Randall Lemas . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 SSgt William Young . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 SSgt Troy Jorgenson . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 SSgt Robert Downs . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 SSgt Hill Timothy . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 SSgt Kevin Knight . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 SSgt Kirk Santiago . . . . . 152nd Force Support Sqdn  
 SSgt Nadine Edwards . . . . . 152nd Force Support Sqdn  
 SSgt Michael Ente . . . . . 152nd Force Support Sqdn  
 SSgt Christopher Leblanc . . . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn  
 SSgt Eric Dahlgren . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
 SSgt Sean Mathis . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
 SSgt Christopher Schmitt . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
 SSgt John Magee . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
 SSgt April Apo . . . . . 152nd Security Forces Sqdn  
 SSgt William Boekenoogen . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
 SSgt Christopher Henrich . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
 SSgt Chestin Aadaog . . . . . 232nd Operations Sqdn  
 SSgt Daniel Bengivengo . . . . . 232nd Operations Sqdn  
 SSgt Mark Samamiego . . . . . 232nd Operations Sqdn  
 SSgt Kenneth Fitzgerald . . . . . 232nd Operations Sqdn  
 TSgt Aaron Dawson . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
 TSgt Jesse MacDonald . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
 TSgt Michael Smith . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
 TSgt Clayton Brown . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
 TSgt Elliott Morris . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
 TSgt Ian O'Grady . . . . . 152nd Airlift Wing  
 TSgt Stephen Bracher . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 TSgt Christopher Geraci . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 TSgt Brian Green . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 TSgt Jared Hiles . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 TSgt Steven Irwin . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 TSgt Cecil Levy . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 TSgt Sean O'Brien . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 TSgt Dominic Tanzi . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 TSgt Nemiah Rutledge . . . . . 152nd Force Support Sqdn

TSgt Megan Winkel . . . . . 152nd Force Support Sqdn  
 TSgt Patrick Meadows . . . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn  
 TSgt Christopher Jensen . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
 TSgt Kevin Horsch . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
 TSgt Paul Izzo . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
 TSgt Linden Maples . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
 TSgt Leonard Martinez . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
 TSgt Alexander Muniz . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
 TSgt Tugba Giles . . . . . 152nd Medical Grp  
 TSgt Shaun Rahmeyer . . . . . 152nd Operations Support Flt  
 TSgt Christopher Caminiti . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
 TSgt David Dwyer . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
 TSgt Roberto Fabela . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
 TSgt Robert Winder . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
 TSgt Roberto Fabela . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
 TSgt John Fairbanks . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
 TSgt Joshua Matheus . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
 TSgt Christa Morter . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
 TSgt Luzmarina Scheider . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
 TSgt Lyle Smith . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
 TSgt Nathaniel Steiner . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
 TSgt Frank Tolete . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn

**Nevada Recruiting Ribbon**



BrigGen Robert Fitch . . . . . 152nd Operations Grp  
 LtCol William Vanlueven . . . . . JFHQ  
 Maj Todd Hudson . . . . . 152nd Operations Grp  
 MSgt Paul Hinen . . . . . 152nd Security Forces Sqdn  
 SrA David Hyatt . . . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn  
 SSgt Christopher Schmitt . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
 TSgt Joshua Leggett . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
 TSgt Edward Richer . . . . . 152nd Airlift Wing  
 TSgt Michelle Cochran . . . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn

**PROMOTIONS**

**MAJ/Maj**

David Evans . . . . . JFHQ

**CPT/Capt**

Christopher Solberg . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 Lawrence Chappell . . . . . 152nd Medical Grp  
 Michael Steward . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn

**CSM/SGM/CMSgt**

Billie Sexton . . . . . 152nd Intelligence Sqdn  
 Patrick Moore . . . . . 992nd Troop Cmd

**1SG/MSG/SMSgt**

Jason Miller . . . . . 1/168th MEDEVAC  
 John Sekora . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 Larry Balko . . . . . 152nd Force Support Sqdn  
 Gregory Bartlett . . . . . 152nd Intelligence Sqdn  
 Heidi Merrill-Hernandez . . . . . 17th Sustainment Bde  
 David Clarke . . . . . 232nd Operations Sqdn  
 Luis Loe . . . . . JFHQ  
 Edward Rael . . . . . JFHQ

**SFC/MSgt**

Todd Simmons . . . . . 137th MP Detachment  
 Christopher Crawford . . . . . 152nd Force Support Sqdn  
 Dwayne Lee . . . . . 1864th Transp Co  
 Joseph Henle . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
 Oscar Lewis . . . . . 421st RTI  
 Fredrick Ammons . . . . . 72nd MP Co  
 Michael Roe . . . . . 72nd MP Co  
 Daniel Slimer . . . . . 72nd MP Co

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Charissa Sheppard . . . . . 991st Troop Cmd  
 Baha Ishtawi . . . . . B Co, 422nd Sig Bn  
 Gilbert Lenz . . . . . L Trp, 1/221st Cavalry

### SSG/TSgt

Scott Taylor . . . . . 1/168th MEDEVAC  
 Eric Mangino . . . . . 1/221st Cavalry  
 Brent Major . . . . . 100th Quartermaster Co  
 Brian Mutas . . . . . 100th Quartermaster Co  
 Tyler Rodil . . . . . 100th Quartermaster Co  
 Yelena Yatskikh . . . . . 100th Quartermaster Co  
 Larry Harlan, Jr. . . . . 140th MP Detachment  
 Christopher Souza . . . . . 150th Maint Co  
 Lee Wilson . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
 Justin Chapel . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
 Jesse MacDonald . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
 Sara Coney . . . . . 152nd Airlift Wing  
 Kelly Gannon . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 Cecil Levy . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 Gabriel Sanders . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 Joel Derouchey . . . . . 152nd Communications Flt  
 Christopher Nolen . . . . . 152nd Intelligence Sqdn  
 Joushua Garcia . . . . . 152nd Intelligence Sqdn  
 Adam Koehler . . . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn  
 David Smith . . . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn  
 Randolph Isgriggs . . . . . 152nd Medical Grp  
 Mark Creger . . . . . 152nd Medical Grp  
 Terry Fitzgerald . . . . . 152nd Security Forces Sqdn  
 David Ryder . . . . . 1864th Transp Co  
 Joshua Zumsteg . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
 Joshua Matheus . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
 Lewis Roberts . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn

Norman Jennings, Jr. . . . . 232nd Operations Sqdn  
 Vincent Girolami . . . . . 232nd Operations Sqdn  
 Brian Toward . . . . . 232nd Operations Sqdn  
 Jawann Wilson . . . . . 232nd Operations Sqdn  
 Leah Hansen . . . . . 240th Engineer Co  
 Elmo Rayner . . . . . 240th Engineer Co  
 Jorge Granados . . . . . 421st RTI  
 Jose Ramos . . . . . B Co, 422nd Sig Bn  
 Shane Hunt . . . . . C Co, 422nd Sig Bn  
 Jason Carter . . . . . C Co, 422nd Sig Bn  
 Travis Nielsen . . . . . HHC, 422nd Sig Bn  
 Tommy Rodriguez . . . . . HHC, 422nd Sig Bn  
 Lisa Mitchell . . . . . JFHQ  
 Zandra Smith . . . . . JFHQ  
 Waylon Layton . . . . . K Trp, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Eric Hintermeyer . . . . . NVARNG Rec/Ret

### SGT/SSgt

Romar Naira . . . . . 137th MP Detachment  
 Cody West . . . . . 150th Maint Co  
 Kristin Spengler . . . . . 150th Maint Co  
 David Wilcox . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
 Ryan Carile . . . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn  
 Keith Trimble . . . . . 152nd Airlift Wing  
 Teresa Thurtle . . . . . 152nd Airlift Wing  
 Nidia Ituarte-Olivas . . . . . 152nd Airlift Wing  
 Aaron Carl . . . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 Lea Pope . . . . . 152nd Force Support Sqdn  
 Christopher Pope . . . . . 152nd Force Support Sqdn  
 Sean Ingenluyff . . . . . 152nd Intelligence Sqdn  
 Tara Richards . . . . . 152nd Intelligence Sqdn  
 Christopher Lyons . . . . . 152nd Intelligence Sqdn

Kristine Schwind . . . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn  
 Catherine Ostermeyer . . . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn  
 Michael Schwind . . . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn  
 Shamika Webb . . . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn  
 Kristy Lazaro . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
 Marcus Eisemann . . . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn  
 Matthew Zierenberg . . . . . 152nd Maintenance Sqdn  
 Emily Fox . . . . . 152nd Medical Grp  
 Anthony Haley . . . . . 152nd Security Forces Sqdn  
 Joshua Chaney . . . . . 152nd Security Forces Sqdn  
 Timothy Cruz . . . . . 232nd Operations Sqdn  
 Rodolfo Escalera . . . . . 232nd Operations Sqdn  
 Robert Hoffman . . . . . 240th Engineer Co  
 Jaykelee Grant . . . . . 3/140th S & S Det  
 Craig Tanaka . . . . . 485th MP Co  
 Ryan Wendt . . . . . C Co, 422nd Sig Bn  
 Daniel Jones . . . . . D Trp, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Robert May . . . . . D Trp, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Jeffrey Palmateer . . . . . D Trp, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Nickolas Huttinga . . . . . HHT, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Walter Lowell . . . . . HHT, 1/221st Cavalry  
 William Lowell . . . . . HHT, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Matthew Peterson . . . . . HHT, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Al Roberts . . . . . HHT, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Richard Warner . . . . . HHT, 1/221st Cavalry  
 David Ellis . . . . . I Trp, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Juan Gallo . . . . . I Trp, 1/221st Cavalry  
 David Wilson . . . . . I Trp, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Pamela Commins . . . . . JFHQ  
 Gary Cooper, Jr. . . . . K Trp, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Domenic Veneziano . . . . . L Trp, 1/221st Cavalry

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Laura Mayer  
Mathew Chanez  
Joseph Patchen  
Jennifer Turnball  
Carson Fisher  
Alyse Snyder  
Chad Patterson  
William Barclay  
John Petit

## 152nd Maintenance Grp

Ladd Crooker  
Victor Cazun

## 152nd Airlift Wing

Brandon Encallado  
Stefani Washington  
Roseann Hill

## 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn

Charles Neill  
Brendan Edgington  
Joshua French  
Kathryn Freeze  
Joe Stanford

## 152nd

### Communications Flt

Jacob Ellis

## 152nd Intelligence Sqdn

Caleb Bogdanowicz

## 152nd

### Log Readiness Sqdn

Rhea Olson  
Jacob Eldred  
Mitchell Whalen  
Shirley Noski

## 152nd Medical Grp

Rebecca Kuhl  
Joseph Cacciatore

## 152nd

### Mission Support Grp

Christopher Goolsbee

## 152nd

### Operations Support Grp

Kayla Hudson

## 152nd

### Security Forces Sqdn

Scott Danielson  
Gary Smith  
Devan Hedgcorth

## 1864th Transportation Co

Kelly Arellano  
Michael Gutierrez  
Charles Lopez  
Roberto Mendiola  
David Newman

## 192nd Airlift Sqdn

Christopher Des Roches  
Hugh Weldon  
Stephen Griffiths  
Jared Fitts

## 240th Engineer Co

Robert Bahr  
Dare Crusade  
Andy Diaz  
Dana Eineichner  
Mark Magat  
Nicolette Rivera  
Victor Roque  
Michael Vo

## 1/189th Aviation

Cassidy Hollowell  
Charles Sheehan  
Anthony Zamyslicky  
Wu Wei

## 1/221st Cavalry

Richard Avila  
Jesse Camacho  
Frederick Carney  
Matthew Centeno  
James Chandler  
Dior Daniels  
Jerome Dorsey  
Joseph Edens  
Joseph Egan  
Erick Fabela  
Edwin Fabela  
Sean Gilmartin  
Tyler Jones  
Saxton Lee  
Joshua Marrujo  
Carlos Moran  
Kyle Morse  
Brian O'Callaghan  
Jacob Pestana  
Enrique Ponce  
Curtis Rossiger  
Dustin Scott  
Elliot Souza  
Visith Tang  
Samuel Wulff  
Joseph Yniguez  
Colby Young

## 100th Quartermaster Co

Bobbi Breaux  
Christopher Courtney  
Nilda Diaz  
Edward Porcayo  
Andrew Sakay  
Lindsey Stapleton

## 137th MP Detachment

William Dixon

## 150th

### Maintenance Co

Anthony Brass  
Jonathan Gonzales

Jeremy Harshaw  
Duncan Mayfield  
Eliseo Barreras  
Anthony Botsford  
Francisco Landeros  
Brian Lopez  
Liberty Reyes  
Reynaldo Sanjuan  
Ryan Seegmiller

## 485th MP Co

Jacqueline Cummins  
Madison Current  
Justin Garcia  
Francisco Gonzalez  
Christopher Hodge

## 593rd

### Transportation Co

Shay Larson  
Angela Palmer  
Bobby Riley  
Erica Hansen  
Sarah Bradley  
Humberto Hood

## 609th Engineer Co

Alexander Angelo  
Jason Bushey  
Jeffery Churchill  
Robert Diaz  
Tyson Hawkins  
Tristan Hedgcorth  
Marcus Hubred  
Jason Kilgore  
Nathan Mckinney  
Brett Rowan  
Nathan Schertel

## 72nd MP Co

John Bantigue  
Adam Barber  
Richard Bateman  
Jeffery Castle  
Robert Damora  
Anthony Daniels  
Daniel Debrum  
Erika Dorsey  
Francisco Espinoza  
Nickolas Ferriolo  
Alekszandre Hardin  
Austin Holman  
Sarah Lefebvre  
Paul Mchugh  
Justin Nacua  
Sergio Rangel  
Chrystal Rupert  
Shanda Thompson  
Nicole Xavier  
Walter Batarina  
Corey Hogan  
Christopher Sherman  
Adam Thompson  
Diamond Williams  
Devon Williams

## 777th Forward

### Support Co

Joseph Averman  
Morissa Baker  
Raymundo Cardenas  
Joshua Dresser  
Letecia King  
Kenneth Lourenco  
Daniel Ransom  
Jim Saldivar

## B Co, 422nd Sig Bn

Sarah Green  
Donald Wallace  
Timothy Anderson  
Jonathan Appling  
Marc Bond  
Reginald Calilung  
William Donahue  
David Freeland  
Richard Jones  
Joseph Stehle  
Scott Vittorio  
Brandi Wright  
Robert Diehl  
Anthony Gomez  
Nicole Shepherd

## C Co, 422nd Sig Bn

Joseph Colligas

Daniel Williams

Andy Barrios  
Jeffrey Dodge  
Jason Dukeman  
Joshua Sweet  
Israel Vazquezsolis

## HHC, 422nd Sig Bn

Arthur Martinez  
Samantha Reed  
Sarah Swanson

## 17th Sustainment Bde STB

David Dawson  
Danielle Meadows  
Jonathan Barton  
Scott Cline  
Dennis Hall  
Martha Rendon  
Michael Russell  
Michael Sprague  
Jacklyn Waskiewicz

## 757th Combat

### Sust Spt Bn

Alvaro Cuevas  
Eric Lee  
Hazelmae Pascua  
Daisy Sanchez

Kaitlyn Siple  
Raychell Suter  
Rafael Velasco  
William Webster  
Kristina Ziurinskaite

## 92nd

### Civil Support Team

Ryan Campbell

## JFHQ

Richard Howes  
Steven Loescher

## L Troop

### 1/221st Cavalry

Jesus Alacorn

## NVARNG Medical Det

Jeremy Fenstra  
Alexander Messinger

## NVARNG Rec/Ret

Stephanie Davis  
Bridget Perkins  
Jeffrey Smith

# RETIREMENTS

SGT Gary Ahnefeld Jr. . . . . 593rd Transportation Co  
SFC Stanley Alvarez . . . . . 593rd Transportation Co  
SGT Howard Burchfield . . . . . HHT, 1/221st Cavalry  
SSG Alan Cranford . . . . . C Co, 422nd Sig Bn  
CMS Charles P. Davis . . . . . 152nd Maintenance Operations Flt  
TSgt Mark E. Fairchild . . . . . 232nd Operations Sqdn  
COL Robert Harington . . . . . JFHQ  
SFC Leland Jones Jr . . . . . HC, 422nd Signal Bn  
MSgt William N. Packer . . . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn  
SSG James Phillips II . . . . . 757th Combat Sustainment Spt Bn  
Col Jack A. Schnurr . . . . . JFHQ  
SSG Arland Stalker . . . . . 1864th Transportation Co  
SGM Darrell Stokke . . . . . JFHQ  
MSgt William F. Topken . . . . . 152nd Maintenance Operations Flt  
Col Christopher Ultsch . . . . . 152nd Airlift Wing

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• Bluetooth • Trailer Brake  
• Spray In Bed Liner  
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