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See stories on pages 14 and 15



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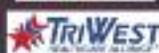
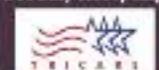
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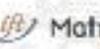
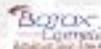
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Battle Born

Winter 2011

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ON THE COVER: Nevada National Guard Soldiers train in Carson City at Camp Clark in 1898 during the height of the Spanish-American War.

Photo: Courtesy of Nevada State Museum, Carson City

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FROM SENIOR LEADERSHIP

Col. Terrence Fornof

People issues prioritized at senior leadership conference

*By Col. Terrence Fornof
Commander, Nevada Air Guard*

When I learned the theme of this year's Air National Guard's senior leadership conference was "2025: Are We Ready?" it seemed generic enough, and I figured we would receive some briefs about new missions, the operations tempo, people programs and how the Guard Bureau was taking care of Guardsmen.

Boy, was I wrong!

The conference covered many issues critical to our nation, the National Guard and the Air Guard. After reviewing several pages of notes for a single Battle Born article, I realized I would have trouble fitting all of the pertinent information into my column. I've settled on covering the people issues addressed at the conference.

The National Guard is a unique organization because we are both a family business and a government-funded organization. Multiple family generations have served in the Guard side by side. Some of my lifelong friends are currently serving or have served in the Guard.

This close-knit aspect of the organization has tremendous advantages, but it can also be detrimental when it comes to performance reports, career development, diversity, mentoring a wingman and suicide prevention.

Suicide is a growing issue in the military as well as in the civilian population. Our current operations tempo affects everyone differently. It's easy to see the stress put on our Airmen and Soldiers who are in combat roles, but it's more difficult to see signs of depression in your family, friends and co-workers.

In the Nevada Air Guard, we have a suicide prevention program called the Wingman Project. All can visit the website at <http://nv.wingmanproject.org>. Soldiers with questions surrounding suicide prevention can call Staff Sgt. Tiffany McKimmy at (775) 384-5822.



Your role as a good wingman and Soldier is to be an ACE. The ACE program involves a three-step process one can use when meeting someone who is at risk. The three steps are:

- **Ask directly:** "Are you thinking of killing yourself?"
- **Care and Intervene:** Control the situation. Use active listening. Remove the means to do self-injury.
- **Escort:** Get the person to a primary care provider, chaplain or other health care professional.

Diversity focuses on creating a holistic work environment that maximizes employee potential by valuing both individuality and differences. It sounds similar to Equal Employment Opportunity, which is legally mandated to ensure all employees have equal access and opportunity, but the differences lie in the people.

If you respect your co-workers' life, don't force your views on others. Focus on integrity first, excellence in all you do and service before self. You will lead the way.

Fornof now piloting Air Guard

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

RENO – Col. Terrence Fornof was named the commander of the Nevada Air Guard by Adjutant General Brig. Gen. Bill Burks on Jan. 10. The formal change of command ceremony took place Feb. 12 in a ceremony at the fuel cell hangar here at the Nevada Air National Guard base.

Fornof now oversees and manages the duties and activities of the more than 1,100 Airmen in the Nevada Guard.

"Col. Fornof brings a wealth of experience into his position as the new leader of the Nevada Air Guard," Burks said. "I am charging him with the responsibility to continue to lead this organization to even higher readiness standards and prepare it to accomplish the future missions of the state and the nation."

Fornof most recently served as the acting director of the joint staff of the Nevada Guard. In that position, Fornof acted as the principle management liaison between the adjutant general and all assigned Nevada Army and Air components and units. He was also the joint task force's combatant commander.

Fornof has also served as the advisor to the U.S. Air Force Warfare Center commander at Nellis Air Force Base and as the deputy chairman for the governor's Blue Ribbon Panel.

Fornof succeeds Brig. Gen. Robert Fitch, now the assistant adjutant general for Air, Nevada National Guard. In addition, Fitch will lead the Nevada Guard's Diversity Council.

Burks was previously the assistant adjutant general. The position was vacant since Burks became adjutant general in June 2009. Fitch became the Air Guard's commander in spring 2007.

"During Fitch's tenure as commander, the Nevada Air Guard improved its strength and retention while simultaneously completing an unprecedented number of overseas deployments," Burks said. ■

Don't wait too long to seek chaplain's assistance

By Capt. Hal Woomer, Joint Force Headquarters,
Command Staff Army Chaplain

After agonizing with an odd pain in her chest for about a week, a parishioner of mine finally went to see her doctor. She was seated in the exam room and waited for what seemed like an eternity.

Her doctor came in and proceeded to ask her what brought her in for her visit. She explained her pain, the doctor asked questions and conducted an exam, and he subsequently sent her out for medical tests.

Everything pointed toward breast cancer. She went in for her biopsy and found she had breast cancer and needed to have a lumpectomy. But the lump was detected in time and she recovered.

Throughout her treatment, we often met to discuss how she was doing, and she often repeated to me the words of her doctor.

It was a statement that he said over and over again to her, often multiple times in a single visit: "If only others would be like you and not live in fear and shame, we could cure them. But they usually wait too long to get a checkup or don't get checked at all."

I've recounted that story to make this point: the chaplain's office is here to help.

While we don't "cure" anything per se, we certainly want to help you find the



service or resource you need to better respond to your needs in any situation.

The current economic situation in Nevada and the nation have made things difficult for many of us, no matter one's marital status or number of children. What is hard for us as caregivers is that, often by the time a person asks for help, it is that much harder to offer assistance.

Many times, if assistance had been sought and acquired sooner, the end results might have been better. We can't fix

everything, but we can help you find positive solutions in the midst of crisis.

What kinds of things can we help you with? We do not place limits on our potential assistance. If you have a need, come see us.

We are not in the business of "curing" every situation you may encounter, but we can refer you to the places that can help. Whatever your struggle may be, we will walk the road with you toward a resolution.

The chaplain and chaplain's assistant are one place within the military where you can receive completely confidential help no matter what your situation or need. We are sworn to keep confidentiality and can only reveal what you share with us by permission.

It is not healthy to live in fear or shame. It is not God's desire that you live that way either.

Please know that the chaplain's office doors are open to you and your family no matter your situation. Come see us or call us at (775) 887-7249 and allow us to be part of your support network. ■

When not ministering to Soldiers and Airmen, Woomer enjoys fly fishing on Rattlesnake Creek in Montana.

In an effort to broaden a Guard member's career development, the adjutants general asked Lt. Gen. Harry "Bud" Wyatt, the director of the Air National Guard, for an opportunity to send the top majors and/or master sergeants to work one- to three-year tours for the National Guard Bureau air staff.

Wyatt said each state will have at least one position to fill in the very near future. This opportunity promises to be a great chance to gain experience, grow as an individual as well as to contribute to the growth of the Nevada Guard. Contact your commander if you are interested.

Performance reports are the No. 1 tool used for building a successful career in the military. I'm not talking about the form that goes into your records – I am talking about the structured feedback a leader can use to let his or her subordinates know

how they are doing and what they need to work on.

(Note that the performance evaluations retained in your records are your official evaluations used for promotions, job selection and retention boards. It is your responsibility to make sure your evaluations represent your performance correctly.)

It is very easy for Airmen to use the AFI 36-2406 Officer and Enlisted Evaluation System. Chapter 2 discusses performance feedback reports; officers use AF Form 724, senior NCOs use AF Form 932, and technical sergeants and below use AF Form 931. These forms are straightforward and provide every supervisor with an effective tool for growth and improvement.

If you haven't received a feedback session from your supervisor, ask for one. If you feel your career isn't moving as you think it should, ask for feedback.

In accordance with AFI 36-2406, your supervisor should provide a feedback session within 30 days of your request. Supervisors, if your employees seem to be in a rut, use official or unofficial feedback to provide reinforcement of desired behavior. You can't expect someone to do a task if they don't know what you expect them to do.

While everything discussed at SLC 2010 was critical, there isn't space to do justice to all topics. Other topics discussed included: rank reduction across the board, direct entry into the Guard via university ROTC programs, fitness programs, professional military education, future missions, budget constraints, and base realignment and closure discussions.

I'll write more about those issues in a future edition of the magazine. ■



Can you hear me now?
Can you hear me now?

422nd NOW in AFGHANISTAN

By Sgt. Mike Getten
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

CARSON CITY — The largest deployment in the history of the Nevada Guard's 422nd Expeditionary Signal Corps began in January. More than 350 Nevada Soldiers combined with about 100 Soldiers from Arizona belonging to the battalion's A Company for the deployment that began Jan. 9 with a final ceremony in Reno.

This deployment marks the first time a National Guard signal battalion is using the Warrior Information Network – Tactical in Afghanistan. The 422nd is providing communications to dozens of forward operating bases and combat outposts throughout south and southwest Afghanistan. The new equipment provides voice, data, video teleconferencing and other data transmission capabilities, both secure and non-secure, to a wide swath in the battalion's area of operations.

"I have no worries about the job we're deployed to do," said Lt. Col. Jeff Hansen, the 442nd Signal Battalion commander. "The Soldiers in this unit have trained well and are prepared for this deployment."

The signal Soldiers from Nevada spent their pre-mobilization annual training at Camp Roberts, Calif. Simultaneously, A Company trained at Florence Military Reservation, Ariz. The far-flung companies within the battalion kept in continuous contact by using the WIN-T equipment and perfecting communication skills.

In late December, the Soldiers took a short break to spend time with family and friends. The Soldiers returned to work in January, and the unit held two mobilization ceremonies before departing – one in Las Vegas on Jan. 6 and the second in Reno on Jan. 9. The 422nd then went to Ft. Lewis, Wash., for final preparation before moving on to Southwest Asia.

The 422nd began receiving its new communication equipment early in 2009. Their proficiency with it was exemplified by the battalion's successful Mercury Rising exercise conducted in June 2010. The exercise was a historic first for signal troops in Nevada, both in terms of the large number of Soldiers participating and the distance separating the battalion companies.

Dozens of the signal Soldiers have previously deployed and will provide the battalion with an experienced core of leaders. Some went with the 321st Signal Company on its 2004 mission to Southwest Asia, and others have participated in multiple disaster relief missions with the 440th Signal Company.

"The noncommissioned officers and officers have done a great job of ensuring that their Soldiers got the best training possible," Hansen said. "The 422nd has some of the Signal Corps' best leaders, Army-wide, which leads to the creation of outstanding Soldiers." ■

(Above) Soldiers of the 422nd Signal Battalion advance toward the evaluator during warrior tasks training at Camp Roberts, Calif. The battalion spent three weeks at Camp Roberts during December before it deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Photo: Spc. Ryan Wendt, C Company, 422nd Signal Battalion

Dignified transfer solemn but requisite mission



Effective immediately, you are assigned to augment the dignified transfer mission at Dover Air Force Base, Del.

You will participate not in a ceremony, but rather in a solemn event that renders the final respects to a fallen service member as they return – for the last time – to American soil.

You will witness the dignity, honor and respect afforded to the remains of fallen Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors and Marines. You will present arms in a solemn manner, taking three seconds to raise your salute, and three seconds to retract it. You will work all hours of the day and night, in every imaginable weather condition.

Sometimes you will hear the cries of friends and family members. Sometimes your own tears will flow as you stand and salute the flag-draped transfer case, as fellow service members pass, carrying one of their own.

This will be only a part of your duties here at the Air Force Mortuary Affairs Operations Center. To help sustain you through your duties, you will be surrounded by a support network. Physical trainers, chaplains and mental health professionals are only part of the list.

You will bond with your co-workers. You will laugh and cry with them. You will create memories, and other memories will be created for you. Some of those memories will change you and the way you look at life.

You will do your duty to the best of your ability. You are given this chance to honor those who have made the supreme sacrifice. You will be tired, you will be on call every hour of every day, you will be stressed, and at times you will feel depressed.

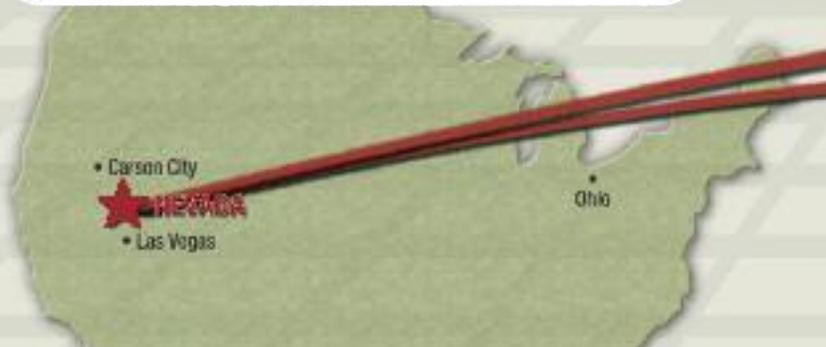
However, at the end of the day, you will feel satisfied. You will have honored those to whom all honor is due.



1st Lt. Jason Yuhasz of the 152nd Airlift Wing stands at parade rest during a dignified transfer of the remains of fallen American service members at Dover Air Force Base, Del., on Dec. 1. Photo courtesy Jason Minto

– 1st Lt. Jason Yuhasz of the 152nd Airlift Wing is currently serving with the dignified transfer mission's public affairs team at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware.

DROP ZONE



DAYTON, Ohio – Master Sgt. Angela Ash, first sergeant for the 152nd Operations Group, celebrates her completion of the Air Force Marathon on Sept. 18. Her finishing time of 4 hours, 30 minutes, gave her 36th place in her age division and qualified her for the Lincoln/National Guard Marathon in May. “This was my seventh marathon overall but my first full marathon in five years,” Ash said. “The race was great. My goal is to qualify for Boston next year.” Photo: Courtesy of Air Force Marathon



LAS VEGAS – From left, Scott Hunsaker, Nathan Pectol and Jared Pectol deliver 72 dozen cookies to the post office Oct. 16 for the Nevada Guard’s Agribusiness Development Team. Hunsaker, 14, baked and packed the cookies as part of his Eagle Scout project. The name of the project was “Home-baked cookies for Soldiers and Airmen.” Hunsaker emphasized that the ADT needed home-baked cookies, not pre-packaged ones. “If somebody spends time baking cookies for you, it means that they care about you,” Hunsaker said. Las Vegas American Legion Post 149 donated postage for the majority of the boxes. Scott Hunsaker is the son of Capt. Brian Hunsaker, the Nevada Guard’s facility and plans program manager. Nathan and Jared Pectol are the sons of Master Sgt. David Pectol, who is currently deployed with the ADT. Photo: Courtesy of Kari Pectol



RENO – Staff Sgt. Brandon Sheffield of the 152nd Security Forces Squadron hugs his goddaughter, 2-year-old Madalyn Chaney, on Nov. 10 as the unit returned from more than six months deployed to south-west Asia in support of operations Iraqi Freedom and New Dawn. About two dozen Airmen from the Reno unit were welcomed home on the eve of Veterans Day by a crowd of nearly 100 at the Reno-Tahoe International Airport. Photo: Master Sgt. Suzanne Connell, 152nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs



WASHINGTON – From left, Nevada Army Guard commander Brig. Gen. Frank Gonzales, Newmont Mining vice president Tom Kerr, Staff Sgt. Curt Prokasky, Nevada adjutant general Brig. Gen. Bill Burks and Command Sgt. Maj. Daryl Keithley were present in Washington, D.C., on Sept. 23 to represent Nevada as Newmont Mining received its 2010 Freedom Award from the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve organization. Newmont Mining Corporation of Elko and Legacy Sports International of Reno were two of only 15 businesses in the nation to receive the award. The award is the U.S. government’s highest recognition given to employers for exceptional support of their employees serving in the Guard and Reserve. Newmont Mining Corporation was nominated by Winnemucca resident Prokasky, a senior mine maintenance planner. Legacy Sports International was nominated by an Army reservist. More than 2,500 nominations were submitted for the award. Photo: Courtesy of Nevada ESGR Office



TAJI BASE, Iraq – On exactly the same day (Nov. 26), the University of Nevada, Reno, football team defeated Boise State, Air Guard Maj. Kyle Cerfoglio came across the graffiti at right in Iraq.

“It was a good omen,” he said. Cerfoglio is on a deployment as an operations officer for two medium truck detachments. He organizes combat convoys in and out of Iraq in conjunction with the Army. “I never once thought in my life I would be driving a semi-truck with a 40-foot trailer through the streets of Baghdad with a loaded weapon,” Cerfoglio said.

Photo: Courtesy of 70th Medium Truck Detachment



KABUL, Afghanistan – Col. Cori Powers helps a child draw water in downtown Kabul in early December while deployed to Afghanistan. Powers and Col. Terry Sullivan were in Afghanistan nearly a year serving on the Afghan National Security Forces Development Assistance Bureau, a special staff section of the International Security Assistance Force Joint Command. That command is the three-star NATO Headquarters charged with the operational command of all combat units in Afghanistan. Powers spent the majority of her time as a liaison officer and often worked at Camp Eggers in the downtown Kabul area. “I can certainly say this year has been the most interesting year of my military career,” Powers said. The deployment concluded in December. For more on the colonels’ deployment, see page 24.

Photo: Courtesy of Col. Cori Powers

IESHRAF QALA, Afghanistan – Sgt. Ronald Gogan from the Nevada Army Guard’s 137th Military Police Detachment, part of the NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan stationed at Camp Mike Spann and Camp Marmal in northern Afghanistan, jumps a ravine while leading an Afghan National Civil Order Police patrol here on Dec. 2. The patrol was the culmination of several weeks of joint training by the 137th and the ANCOF. The patrol found unexploded ordnance in the form of a mortar round that day. For more on the 137th Military Police Company, see page 23.

Photo: Tech. Sgt. Casey Martin via Defense Video and Image Distribution System



Top Soldier, NCO, 1st Sgt. emerge from competition

By Spc. Craig Kenison
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

LAS VEGAS – Spc. Jacob Costello of Las Vegas, Sgt. Phillip Roen of Reno and 1st Sgt. Stephen Lawrence of Fallon were named the Nevada Army Guard's top Soldier, noncommissioned officer and first sergeant respectively after the state Soldier of the Year competition ended here Sept. 26.

Competitors from every battalion across the state converged on the Clark County Armory for garrison events and Mount Charleston for field events from Sept. 24-26 to compete for the titles. The event tested the contestants' skills in numerous soldiering tasks over three rigorous days in scorching heat.

Early morning starts and late nights were common. Contestants were evaluated in several events including an appearance board, an Army physical fitness test, weapons qualification, and a timed march in combat gear.

Costello is a Soldier in the 72nd Military Police Company headquartered in Henderson. Roen drills with C Company, 1/168th Aviation in Reno. Lawrence is the first sergeant for the 485th Military Police Company in Reno.

Costello won four of the seven events he contested, while Roen had the top physical fitness score in his division and was first in land navigation.

Spc. Aaron Wiggins was second in the Soldier of the Year scoring, and Staff Sgt. Michael Clark, despite winning four events, was the runner-up in the noncommissioned officer of the year contest.

The three winners and the runners-up will travel to Guam this spring to compete with the other Western states in Region 7. Regional winners will advance to the national competition. ■



Sen. John Ensign awards Sgt. Phillip Roen a certificate of achievement noting Roen's accomplishments during the annual Soldier of the Year contest. The senator presented the award following an open forum discussion hosted by Ensign at the Nevada Air National Guard base in Reno in October. Roen, a Reno resident, drills with C Company, 1/168th Aviation, and was named the top noncommissioned officer in the state for 2010. Photo: Senior Master Sgt. Brad Kenealy, 152nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs



Spc. Jacob Costello



1st Sgt. Stephen Lawrence

Individual event winners

ARMY PHYSICAL FITNESS TESTING:

Soldier: Wiggins
NCO: Roen

LAND NAVIGATION:

Soldier: Spc. Michael DesRoches,
1/168th Aviation
NCO: Roen

ARMY WARRIOR TASKS:

Soldier: DesRoches
NCO: Clark

WRITTEN EXAM:

Soldier: Costello
NCO: Clark

WEAPONS QUALIFICATION:

Soldier: Costello
NCO: Cpl. Chris Gonzales,
1/221st Cavalry

COMBAT MARCH:

Soldier: Costello
NCO: Clark

APPEARANCE BOARD:

Soldier: Costello
NCO: Clark



High Rollers announce Airmen of the Year

By Master Sgt. Victoria Windsor
152nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

RENO – The Nevada Air National Guard celebrated its high-achieving Airmen and announced the winners of the Airman of the Year competition at its annual awards banquet Nov. 6 at the Air National Guard Base here. More than 200 people attended this year's banquet.

The Airman of the Year award went to Airman 1st Class Chandra Kurkowski of the 152nd Security Forces Squadron, who was deployed to Saudi Arabia at the time of the awards banquet. Lt. Col. Mark Hall, the security forces commander, accepted the award on her behalf.

Tech. Sgt. Paula Clark of the 152nd Communications Flight received the Noncommissioned Officer of the Year award. The Senior NCO of the Year award went to Master Sgt. Brandon Trehal of the 152nd Intelligence Squadron. The First Sergeant of the Year award went to Master Sgt. Michelle Anderson of the 152nd Intelligence Squadron.

Staff Sgt. Jose Escobar of the 152nd Logistics Squadron, who was also deployed to southwest Asia and participated by phone, received the Honor Guard Member of the Year award.

Clark, a Reno resident, said she was taken aback by the award. "Honestly, I knew who the competitors were, and I was pretty excited to even be selected to compete with the other three NCOs," she said.

The finalists for the 2010 awards qualified throughout the year by excelling in quarterly competitions based on general military knowledge and professional appearance. The winners will represent the Nevada Air National Guard at events throughout 2011 and will also compete in the national Airman of the Year contests against the other 49 states, three territories and the District of Columbia.

A sixth award for Program Manager of the Year went to Master Sgt. David Hill, who was recognized for leading the base's Honor Guard team.

Nevada National Guard Adjutant General Brig. Gen. William Burks said he is expecting a national champ this year or next.

"Everyone in this room is a hero in my eyes," he said. ■



Master Sgt. Michelle Anderson of the 152nd Intelligence Squadron receives the First Sergeant of the Year award from Brig. Gen. Robert Fitch, commander of the Nevada Air Guard.



Tech. Sgt. Paula Clark of the 152nd Communications Flight receives the 2010 Noncommissioned Officer of the Year award from Brig. Gen. Robert Fitch, commander of the Nevada Air Guard.

Photos: Senior Master Sgt. Brad Kenealy,
152nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs



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Air Guard base replaces 55-year-old firehouse

By Rob Sabo, Special to Battle Born

RENO — A new 18,200-square-foot, two-story firehouse project broke ground in late November here at the Nevada Air National Guard base. It will replace a much smaller structure that was part of the original base construction in 1955.

The facility will become the new home for the firefighters in the 152nd Civil Engineer Squadron.

“The Airmen were shoehorned in so tightly in the old facility that they had a difficult time keeping their equipment under cover,” said Lt. Col. Robert Nicholas, a deputy base civil engineer. “This is going to allow the firefighters to train to a high standard.”

The project is estimated to cost about \$9.8 million.

Several local area contractors are involved from the design through the building phase of the project. The building will utilize solar energy and radiant heat systems in compliance with the Nevada Guard’s ongoing effort to “go green.”

Construction on the facility is complicated because the building is just a short distance from the C-130 flight line.

Before work could begin, Gilbane Building Company was required to provide the base’s security forces squadron with a list of

subcontractors and employees expected to work on the project, Nicholas said. The workers who received security approval are also required to have a federally issued identification card for entry onto the base.

In addition to the strict security challenges, designers had to overcome the shallow water table. And the 55-year-old original plans for the site don’t detail where existing underground infrastructure may lie, thus testing construction workers’ vigilance.

“We have maps, but nothing is where you think it is going to be until you start digging,” Nicholas said. “It’s a guarantee we will find water and power lines. The water table can be 2-7 feet down. Two of the toughest aspects of the job are detecting and getting around what’s hidden.”

The firehouse is expected to be completed in September 2011. ■



From left to right, Master Sgt. Patrick Speth, deputy fire chief Ward Lacy, assistant chiefs Joe Martini, Jeffrey Mello, Kevin Bandoni, David Curtis and Staff Sgt. Billy Duggins participate in the groundbreaking ceremony on Nov. 30 marking the beginning of the construction of the 152nd Civil Engineering Squadron’s firehouse on the Nevada Air National Guard base in Reno.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Wendy Yada, 152nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs



Hands-on civilian training gives Soldiers military edge

By Sgt. Mike Getten
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

CARSON CITY – Aiming to broaden Soldiers’ skills beyond the usual training, the Nevada Army Guard’s 150th Maintenance Company teamed with Carson City’s Auto Marine Machine Shop this past year in a unique working relationship.

1st Sgt. Doug Ramey of the 150th developed a plan with Ernie Cross, the owner of the shop, to allow the unit’s Soldiers to experience advanced machining and work with experienced journeymen during drill weekends at the civilian shop.

Cross was a wheeled-vehicle mechanic in the Nevada Army Guard from 1968-1974 and has known Ramey for many years. He said he was glad to open up his shop to Soldiers.

“When Doug asked about the possibility of training on the specialized equipment, it was a no-brainer for me. I wanted to get involved in this and help out any way I could,” Cross said.

Cross donated about \$5,000 worth of shop time and part of the cost of his employees’ labor to the National Guard over the course of three drill weekends.

“The cooperative effort worked out for all of us,” Cross said. “My guys and I receive the satisfaction of helping these Soldiers, and they receive top-notch training.”



The 150th is a component repair company, and each Soldier is expected to know more than minimal remove-and-replace repair methods. The unit’s military shop in Carson City has basic tools, but it doesn’t compare to the specialized equipment available at the Auto Marine Machine Shop.

“Stepping up our training at the machine shop gives our Soldiers some important real hands-on experience,” Ramey said. “Training with civilian experts helps put some excitement back into our training.”

The machine shop staff organized the training so Soldiers could follow an engine from its initial machining all the way to a finished product.

“After Soldiers have trained here, they will have more than just a basic understanding of the motor machine shop,” said foreman Dion Machell. “The training they received here will improve their understanding of engines and help them troubleshoot future problems.”

Mainly composed of highly skilled, self-described motor heads, Auto Marine Machine Shop specializes in automobile and marine engines and also does custom work on motorcycles.

During training, each civilian machinist was matched with two Soldiers who were given the real-world task of machining a part.

The atmosphere of a civilian machine shop was new to some of the Soldiers.

“You can’t get this from a book or a video. This is the first time I’ve been inside a machine shop and been allowed to work on the machines,” said Pfc. Jeremy Hershaw, a wheeled-vehicle mechanic for the 150th. “I think this kind of training is excellent. We are gaining some hands-on experience along with the instruction.”

Thanks in large part to the Auto Marine Machine Shop, the unit’s 2010 annual training was so outstanding, the National Maintenance Training Center at Camp Dodge, Iowa, sent eight 6.5-liter engines and one 8.3-liter engine to Nevada to be rebuilt in the 150th shop.

Some of those engines have been rebuilt and installed into Nevada Guard Humvees and trucks, giving several vehicles a longer lease on life.

The high-quality training coupled with its highly successful AT led to the unit’s acquisition of a vacant bay at the Combined Support Maintenance Shop in Carson City. The bay now houses an engine rebuilding shop.

Work on rebuilding the nine engines began in November and is set to conclude by mid-2012.

According to Sgt. 1st Class Doug Patterson, a platoon leader for the 150th, the joint effort has increased Soldiers’ knowledge while simultaneously improving the esprit de corps of the unit.

“Our Soldiers are developing a swagger resulting from their successful training experiences inside the machine shop,” Patterson said. ■

Pfc. Nick Cargill, a wheeled-vehicle mechanic from the 150th Maintenance Company, checks the measurements of a valve seat. Cargill is one of dozens of Soldiers in the 150th who received training at Auto/Marine Machine Shop in Carson City.

Photo: Sgt. Mike Getten, Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs



Canadian Air Force Capt. Cameron Fisher, next to rotors, and Sgt. Tommy Rogers, from the Nevada Guard's 1st Battalion, 1/189th Aviation, complete flight checks on a Chinook helicopter prior to flying a joint mission Oct. 20, 2010. Soldiers from the 189th trained with the Canadian CH-47 crews to prepare them for an upcoming deployment to Afghanistan. Photo: Sgt. 1st Class Jon Soucy

Nevada aviators add **spice** to Canadian deployment training

By Sgt. 1st Class Jon Soucy, National Guard Bureau

RENO – Soldiers from the Nevada Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 189th Aviation Regiment trained here this week with pilots and air crews from the Canadian Air Force to prepare them for an upcoming deployment to Afghanistan.

Called the Canadian Seasoning Program, the goal was to give the Canadian CH-47 Chinook helicopter pilots added time in the cockpit and experience flying mission sets they may encounter overseas.

"They're here for two weeks, and the goal is to get 12 hours of flying time per pilot," said Chief Warrant Officer Sean Laycox, aviation standardization officer for the Nevada Army National Guard, who organized and planned much of the training.

Training with the Nevada Soldiers was a necessity for the Canadian aviators because all of their Chinooks are currently deployed to Afghanistan.

"We don't have any in Canada, so we come down a couple of times each year for pre-deployment training on the American Chinook and to gain from the expertise of the American Army as well," said Capt. Jon Sarawanski of Canada's 408th Tactical Helicopter Squadron.

Training in Reno has many benefits for the aviators.

"Being here in Reno is advantageous, because it's more of a desert environment similar to Afghanistan," said Sarawanski, who previously deployed to Afghanistan. "Afghanistan is really dusty, so it's really good training for us, because up in Canada we don't have a training area like this."

Much of the training was geared specifically to the terrain and flying done in Afghanistan.

"Training on dust landings is something they wanted," Laycox said. "Basically what we've done with them is just a lot of high-altitude training, dust landings both with loads and without loads, and a lot of flying in confined areas and along pinnacles and ridgelines and stuff they're going to need for Afghanistan."

The training also included participation in a real-world mission recovering wreckage of a U.S. Navy F/A-18 Super Hornet from a previous crash at Naval Air Station Fallon.

"We took two Chinooks out," Laycox said. "It was two different sites, and I think we ended up with 16 or 17 external loads. We did what we could to help clean up the site."

Recovering the wreckage gave the aviators some real-world training.

"It's interesting, because we don't really know what to expect," Sarawanski said. "All we had was basically the location of the crash site and the different parts and pieces we were going to be lifting. A lot of the loads are actually not very heavy so for the Chinook it was an easy job to do."

And while the recovery mission added to the experience, just flying the aircraft was the best part of the training, said Sarawanski.

"I wouldn't have switched over to flying the Chinook if I didn't love the aircraft," he said. "You have to look at it from a pilot's perspective. You want to fly the biggest, baddest thing out there, and the Chinook definitely is. It's loud. It's abrupt. A lot of guys will joke that a helicopter doesn't actually fly, but it beats the Earth into submission, and the Chinook does it better than any other aircraft."

Laycox said the joint training benefited the state's Soldiers as well as the Canadians.

"It's a good training program for Nevada," Laycox said. "It allows us to show what kind of training area we have here, which I think is second to none, and what quality people we have." ■



Military police unit made history during 1st Gulf War

By Retired Col. Michael Carlson
Special to Battle Born



The initial message mentioning the potential unit mobilization of the 72nd Military Police Company came late in the afternoon on Nov. 15, 1990. The unit suddenly found itself part of the presidential call-up of 200,000 Guardsmen and reservists and made the Nevada unit a key player in the late fall surge into the troubled Gulf region.

The message also said the unit would provide security for an enemy prisoner of war camp located somewhere in the vast desert of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Before the Gulf War, the Army's doctrine for enemy prisoner of war operations had only been scrutinized by tabletop exercises and the occasional field exercise. It had never been tested in high-intensity warfare or as a support asset in a combat environment.

At the time, enemy POW operations consisted of several elements that ultimately combined as a self-sufficient military police facility.

The 72nd Military Police Company arrived in Saudi Arabia ahead of the units it was set to support. Consequently, the Nevada unit found itself involved in a variety of other military police missions and operations early in the war.

On Jan. 1, 1992, the 72nd was assigned to the 403rd Military Police Camp, 800th Military Police Brigade, near the small village of Sarrar, Saudi Arabia. As the first military police unit in the region, it provided security for the construction units that built the four-square-mile enemy POW complex. The facility included two compounds for prisoner housing, the infrastructure to establish two additional compounds, the housing and support facilities for more than 3,000 American military personnel

and contractors, an air strip and the 5th Mobile Surgical Hospital.

When the complex was fully operational, the 72nd's focus narrowed to its original mission – enemy POW security. Many of the unit's Soldiers performed perimeter security that required around-the-clock roving patrols, static guard positions and perimeter-tower staffing.

To a lesser degree, other daily duty requirements included escorting enemy POWs and oversight of prisoner work details. A small team was permanently assigned to secure the camp's tactical operations center and serve as the security detail for visiting VIPs.

By the time the Nevada Soldiers returned home in late May 1992, they had accumulated an impressive combat résumé.

Although the unit's primary mission throughout the war was enemy POW security, the unit's additional efforts included equipment security, enemy POW security operations training, area security, escorts for enemy POW work teams, movement escorts for enemy POW transfers and special reaction forces.

The unit also made history, as it was credited with the receiving and processing of the war's first Iraqi POWs. ■

Twenty years ago, Capt. Michael Carlson was the commander of the Nevada Army Guard's 72nd Military Police Company when it mobilized for operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. He continued his career and obtained the position of chief of staff before his retirement in 2010.



It was a stark, barren duty location for the Soldiers in the 72nd Military Police Company in 1991. This view shows the encampments where the prisoners of war were housed. A close look reveals two CH-47 helicopters delivering Republican Guard prisoners. The site was located near the small village of Sarrar, Saudi Arabia. Photo: Retired Col. Michael Carlson

Gibbons remembers operations Desert Storm, Desert Shield

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

RENO – Already solemn and stoic with the backdrop of Pearl Harbor Day on their minds, the threat of combat became reality for 150 Nevada Airmen on Dec. 7, 1990, when the Nevada Air National Guard was called upon to serve in operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield.

The Nevada Airmen were deployed to Shaikh Isa Air Base in Bahrain, where they flew their RF-4C Phantoms in extreme heat on demanding missions and often encountered enemy fire.

One of the Airmen called to duty in 1990 was a young lieutenant colonel and Nevada state legislator who was eventually awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his extraordinary achievements as a flight leader during the conflict.

Today, he would be recognized across the Silver State and much of the nation as Jim Gibbons, Nevada's governor from 2007-2010.

Twenty years after the conflict, Gibbons recounted his experiences, including his time served with Generals Norman Schwarzkopf and Colin Powell and the young officer who would eventually become the current Nevada adjutant general, Bill Burks.

Gibbons said the leadership of retired Maj. Gen. Ron Bath, now the vice chairman of the Nevada Military Support Alliance, stood out in his memory.

"Ron took charge when things weren't going well or if someone had a problem," Gibbons said. "Ron was the individual whom everybody turned toward to help solve critical problems. So I would say my most memorable person during the operations for me was Ron Bath – a guy I grew up with, went to war with, a great friend and someone I admire tremendously."

Gibbons said he applied many of his military lessons learned to his civilian career. Gibbons served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1997-2006 before becoming the Silver State's governor.

"Military experience allows you to create great friendships in addition to learning many things you would never get to learn as a civilian, including leadership skills and teamwork," Gibbons said. "Most importantly, the military challenges you as an individual



Lt. Col. Jim Gibbons holds his son Jimmy on the flight line prior to the Nevada Air Guard's 1990 deployment in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Gibbons was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his extraordinary achievements as a flight leader during the conflict. He was governor of Nevada 2007-2010.

Photo: Courtesy of 152nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

to discover your greatest abilities, especially in trying times."

Gibbons began his Air Force career with an active-duty stint from 1967-1971. He graduated from the Air Command and Staff College and the Air War College and eventually attained the rank of colonel before retiring as the Nevada Air Guard's vice commander in 1996.

"As governor, there are times I looked back on my years in the Air Force and appreciated the ability I gained to forge ahead during challenging times when situations seemed impossible," Gibbons said.

Gibbons said the intangible value of friendships established during combat are some of the most valuable and longest lasting relationships of his life.

"Those individuals you see regularly, you train with, you trust implicitly – those are the greatest friends you can ever have," Gibbons said. "Those friends you make while in the military are probably the most valuable, enduring relationships you will ever have." ■

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NEVADA GUARD ORIGINS: Territory born militia, Battle Born state

With one fell swoop of his ink pen across the engrossed parchment in Carson City on Nov. 28, 1861, territorial Gov. James Nye signed off on “An Act in relation to the Militia of the Territory of Nevada” and established the Nevada National Guard. It was a full three years before the region acquired statehood in 1864 in the midst of the Civil War.

Now, 150 years later, the Nevada National Guard is celebrating its Sesquicentennial in 2011.

During the course of 15 decades, the Nevada National Guard has grown from a few dozen Soldiers in Virginia City, Gold Hill and Silver City into an organization comprising more than 4,200 Soldiers and Airmen working around the globe in support of the nation and the state.

Throughout 2011, Battle Born will review the history, highlights (some lowlights, too) and accomplishments of the Nevada National Guard since its inception 150 years ago.

By Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka, Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs (Jeff Kintop, Nevada state archivist, Dr. Michael Brodhead, University of Nevada, Reno, history professor, and Master Sgt. Sam Macaluso, Nevada Air Guard historian, contributed to this report.)

CARSON CITY – If the state of Nevada’s nickname is *Battle Born*, then its National Guard’s motto could easily be *Territory Born*.

When Gov. James Nye signed off on the November 1861 act to create the “militia of the territory of Nevada,” statehood for the brand-new U.S. territory was some three years in the future. In fact, the territory of Nevada had only been in existence for six months, as Nevada had been part of Utah Territory through March 1861.

Although the Paiute Indian War had just concluded in 1860, Nye’s primary reason for establishing the Nevada National Guard was not based on any need for protection of settlers – federal Soldiers like those at Fort Churchill were available for that job. Instead, the underlying reason for the creation of the militia was to provide a means of protection for the region’s key resource that made it so

attractive as a U.S. territory and eventually a state – the mother lode of silver that existed under Mount Davidson near Virginia City.

With the Civil War ongoing and Nevada a Union territory, Nye needed a local presence to secure the Comstock Lode and prevent it from becoming a Confederate asset. So it was no coincidence that the first Nevada Guard units in the state were located in Virginia City, Gold Hill and Silver City.

The first officially recognized local militia unit in the territory was Company A, Nevada Volunteers (Union Blues), organized at Virginia City.

Although the Union Blues have been out of existence for more than a century, the unit arguably holds the most colorful history of any organization in the Nevada Guard. Certainly no other Nevada unit has been publicly linked to coercion-like payments or

its collective appearance at the funeral of an infamous madam.

In 1867, the Union Blues came into prominence during labor union negotiations between Virginia City miners and business officials. The Blues offered their backing to the corporations – for a price.

“In negotiating a minimum wage for the underground miners in February 1867, a Gold Hill union official none too subtly assured the president of the Imperial Mine that ‘the Military Company’s and Fire Company’s (sic) of Gold Hill and vicinity were ever ready to protect the property and officials of the mines paying \$4 per day,’” wrote Nevada archivist Guy Rocha in 1996. The mine officials wanted to pay the miners \$3.50 per day.

The same Virginia City unit provided security during the spectacle surrounding

Nevada National Guard Soldiers train in Carson City at Camp Clark in 1898 during the height of the Spanish-American War. The camp was near what is now the intersection of Fleischmann and Mountain Streets in Carson City.

Photo: Courtesy of Nevada State Museum, Carson City





Nevada National Guardsmen from Battery A participate in a parade in Virginia City on May 30, 1891. Photo: Courtesy of Daun Bohall collection, Nevada State Museum, Carson City

the hanging of John Millain, who had been found guilty of the murdering of Julia Bulette.

Bulette was a “soiled dove” of Virginia City, a successful prostitute and probably the best known businesswoman of the Comstock era. An exceptionally kindhearted and popular resident of Virginia City, she was an honorary member of The Virginia City Engine Company No. 1.

As recorded by Territorial Enterprise reporter Alfred Doten in 1867 on the day Millain was hanged: “On each side of the cortege marched the Sheriff’s posse and the National Guard, numbered about 60. An immense number of people followed on foot, on horseback, and in carriages, and a moving throng crowded the sidewalks.”

So although there is no actual proof Nevada Guardsmen ever visited Bulette’s brothel, it is true that the Nevada Guard was the bedfellow of the sheriff’s posse and fire department in providing security during the execution of her murderer.

The National Guard also had a close tie with another Territorial Enterprise reporter, the irascible Samuel Clemens, also known as Mark Twain. Samuel Clemens, the younger brother of Nye’s territorial secretary, Orion Clemens, often reported on the activities of the Virginia City militiamen.

Although the state was “Battle Born” in 1864, there were few calls to duty for the Nevada Guard in the 1800s. The organization ostensibly established to maintain peace in the Comstock was, in reality, most often used to support local rifle clubs during competitions and appear in parades and ceremonies, according to an article in the Nevada State Defense Journal in 1996.

The first urgent call for Nevada National Guard assistance finally came in 1898 at the start of the Spanish-American War. Nevada Guard Soldiers formed two troops of volunteer cavalry and saw action against the Spanish Army in the Philippine Islands.

Troop M of the Second U.S. Volunteer Cavalry, a band of 81 Soldiers nicknamed Torrey’s Rough Riders in honor of commander Col. Jay Torrey, also mustered in Carson City and spent about six months in Florida and Cuba during the war.

The Soldiers from Troop M avoided bullets during the conflict, but they couldn’t avoid the austere living conditions – about 75 percent contracted typhoid fever during the deployment and one Soldier from Winnemucca eventually died from the illness.

The Nevada Guardsmen’s commendable duty during the Spanish-American War couldn’t save the Nevada Guard from being disbanded less than a decade later.

In 1903, Congress passed the Dick Act, which imposed tough federal standards for the National Guards of the respective states. The military units of Nevada fell far short of the act’s requirements at the time. Many of the requirements could not be met because of the state’s huge area and small population of less than 50,000.

Without federal recognition and funding, Gov. John Sparks had no choice but to order the disbandment of the organized militia in 1906. For many years, Nevada was the only state lacking a federally recognized National Guard organization. ■

Nevada National Guard 1800s Roll Call

1865 Churchill County Militia
22 Soldiers

1869 Elko County Militia
23 Soldiers

**1888 Tuscarora Guards, Company
“E”, First Brigade**
24 Soldiers

1865 Esmeralda County Guards
25 Soldiers

**1886 Eureka County Guards,
2nd Brigade Staff Headquarters**
32 Soldiers

**1865 Humboldt County Guards
Winnemucca, Company “D”,
2nd Brigade**
10 Soldiers

**1864 Lander County Guards
Austin, Company “A”, 3rd Brigade**
13 Soldiers

**1875 Lincoln County Guards
Pioche, Lexington Guard**
16 Soldiers

**1862 Lyon County Guards
Silver City, Sheridan Flying
Artillery Company**
20 Soldiers

**1865 Ormsby County Guards,
Company “F”, 1st Brigade**
39 Soldiers

**1898 Virginia City Guards,
Company “A”, Infantry**
12 Soldiers

List compiled by Nevada state archivist Jeff Kintop from Office of the Adjutant General reports. Lists are not inclusive of all units in the state in the 1800s

New fleet of imagery vehicles unveiled

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

RENO – A glimpse into how officials can see the effects of a disaster in real time was in full view here on Oct. 2 as the Nevada National Guard's latest generation of imagery management vehicles was unveiled to the public during the annual Washoe County Public Safety Preparedness Day.

With a combined value of \$5.8 million, eight imagery vehicles and three trailers constituting the Nevada Integrated Imagery Network were displayed by the Nevada Guard's imagery section throughout the preparedness day. The day marked the first time Nevada citizens could examine and receive briefings on the fleet of vehicles that promise to be invaluable should a catastrophe strike Nevada. Funds for the vehicles were acquired from a congressional appropriation.

"When a disaster such as a flood or earthquake occurs, these vehicles can respond and give the decision makers a remote look at the situation from a number of imagery platforms," said imagery section Chief Warrant Officer Robert Bagnato. "Incident commanders and first responders then can base their decisions on real time video downlink imagery received by these communication vehicles."

According to Bagnato, the Nevada Guard is the first state to receive an integrated imagery network.

"The Nevada Guard is one of the leading states in the field of imagery systems," Bagnato said. "We are at the tip of the spear in video downlink capability."

The network includes two support trucks, two imagery reception vehicles, one remote base station, one mobile command post and two Tomcars. All of the vehicles, except the mobile command post, can be transported via a C-130 and are configured to support imagery management, including the processing, exploitation and dissemination of information, and have the ability to transport voice and data



Chief Warrant Officer Robert Bagnato of the Nevada Guard's counterdrug imagery section examines the interior of a brand-new National Guard Tomcar on display during Washoe County's Public Safety Preparedness Day in Reno on Oct. 2. The Tomcar, a durable off-road vehicle used in rough terrain, is one of eight new vehicles that comprises the Nevada Integrated Imagery Network's fleet.

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

communications, even across dissimilar radios and frequencies.

The imagery reception vehicles and the remote base station are capable of receiving multiple over-the-air video streams including both analog and digital media. The systems can receive and decrypt video from airborne military platforms including the Raven, Predator, observational helicopters, C-130 Scathe View aircraft and any Lightning Pod equipped aircraft.

The network can also process multiple imagery streams for distribution through any of the vehicles and then, via a wireless radio system, re-transmit the video streams directly up to 80 miles away.

"It may sound technical, but essentially these vehicles will allow first responders from all of the various agencies to stay on the same page in terms of communication," Bagnato said.

With its eight-seat conference table, four computer workstations and 50-foot, self-erecting communications antenna, the 40-foot mobile command post vehicle was perhaps the most impressive van in the fleet. The vehicle has the capability to receive, record, archive and index video for officials during a crisis. The command vehicle features two 46-inch flat screens with

"John Madden" video stream annotation features that allow first responders to draw diagrams and plans over retrieved video.

The fleet also features two Tomcars, durable, speedy, off-road vehicles able to cover just about any type of terrain. They will be used should the NIIN need to establish a communications link in a remote area with rugged terrain.

In addition to Bagnato, nine enlisted Soldiers and Airmen are trained in the operation of the NIIN fleet. The vehicles are stored at the Nevada Air Guard base in Reno.

Imagery Soldiers and Airmen received their initial training under the auspices of the Counterdrug Task Force. Due to budget constraints, the Counterdrug Task Force is on furlough pending additional funding.

The imagery vehicles remain available and will be staffed in the case of a domestic response situation. While the task force remains on furlough, the imagery vehicles will not be available for counternarcotic missions.

Bagnato said, although the NIIN hasn't been called to a real-world mission yet, the imagery staff is fully prepared to respond whenever the next crisis situation occurs.

"When the next event like a Hurricane Katrina hits, we expect to be the first ones going," Bagnato said. ■



Sea cadets become Army allies during weekend drill

By Sgt. Mike Getten
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

CARSON CITY – At first glance on a recent drill weekend, one might have concluded that the Nevada Army Guard had issued outdated battle dress uniforms to some of its young troops in the Recruit Sustainment Company.

A closer look, however, revealed the differently dressed Soldiers to be a flotilla of 20 sea cadets who were guests of the RSC during its October drill.

The U.S. Naval Sea Cadets Corps is an organization open to youth ages 10-17 years old who have a desire to learn about the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and merchant marine.

The USNSCC program's objective is to provide a drug- and gang-free environment where youth are introduced to naval life and are encouraged to foster pride, patriotism and self-reliance. The organization was established in 1958.

Two leaders of the Carson City unit, Ensign Anthony Sainz and Instructor David Harrison, came up with the idea for the cadets to train with the unit to expose the teens to Army training practices. Because the RSC trains and instructs the Nevada Guard's newest recruits and prepares them for basic training, it was a natural fit for the cadets to train with the company.

We have some Soldiers who are still in high school," said Sgt. Amber Metz, a team leader with the RSC. "The sea cadets are not much younger and they fit right in."

The sea cadets promptly arrived for the company's first formation at 7 a.m. The cadets then joined a squad of brand-new Soldiers. The combined squad trained and worked together the entire weekend.

"The more Soldiers and sea cadets to train, the better," said Sgt. Richard Sapida, a team leader for the RSC. "The bolstered numbers provide us more participants for the battle drills, a situation which helps both our unit and the cadets."

The cadets were issued simulated M-16s and were taught muzzle awareness and control. They were also instructed in marksmanship and room clearing.

Some of the sea cadets looked like seasoned military veterans after a day of room clearing exercises.

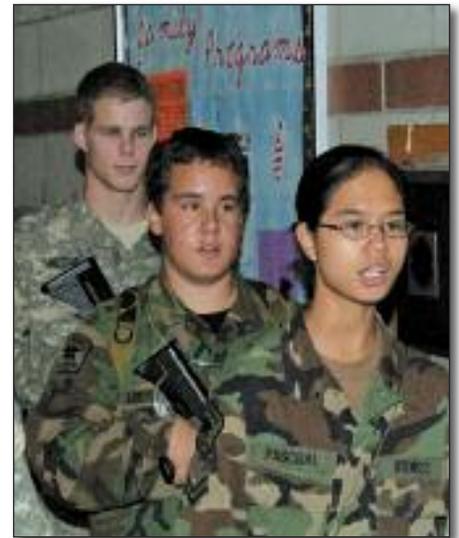
The sea cadets truly received a taste of what it's like to be a Soldier in training, including the standard lunch fare of a meal ready-to-eat.

Another highlight for the sea cadets was the pugilistic training. Everyone participated, including Soldiers, sea cadets and the company's cadre.

Lt. Junior Grade Robert Bledsaw, the commander of the Carson City sea cadet unit, left with the opinion that his sea cadets had dominated the Army Soldiers.

"It was a good competition that developed a lot of camaraderie among both units," he said.

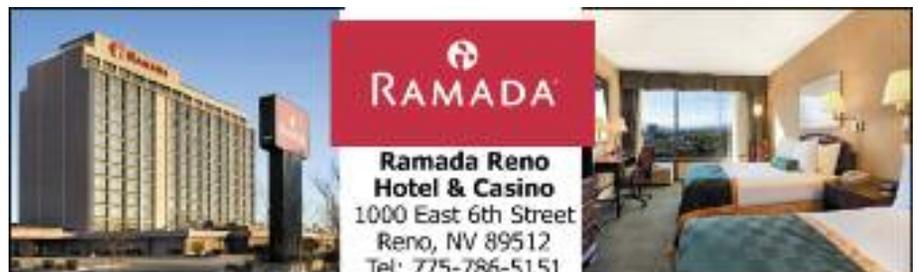
"This joint training was excellent, teaming our Soldiers with teens in the local community," said RSC 1st Sgt. Harry House. "Every sea cadet fell into formation, followed directions and did everything we asked of them. We gained from the experience and would welcome them back anytime." ■



Seaman Apprentice Tasha Pascual sounds off with her identification number prior to receiving her meal ready-to-eat during October's joint sea cadet drill with the Nevada Army Guard's Recruit Sustainment Company. Photo: Sgt. Mike Getten, Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

For information on the sea cadets call (775) 720-1156

Editor's note: The Recruit Sustainment Program became the Recruit Sustainment Company in October 2010.



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Blue Ribbon Panel:

Potential crystal ball into Nevada Guard future

By Lt. Col. Dave Yao, Joint Force Headquarters
Strategic Plans Deputy Director

CARSON CITY – There's been a lot of internal conversation recently within the Nevada National Guard surrounding the results of the blue ribbon panels commissioned by Gov. Jim Gibbons in early 2008.

Contrary to some speculation, the Army Guard did not participate in the Lyon County Fair nor did someone in the Air Guard take first place in a 4-H competition. The panel had nothing to do with the board that oversees the air races at Stead.

Instead, the bottom line concerning the blue ribbon panels is that their work is completed,* and the proposed future for the Battle Born Guard is dynamic and exciting.

A blue ribbon panel is usually defined as a group of people appointed to investigate or study a given question. In the Nevada Guard's case, Gibbons made an executive order to develop a vision for each respective service, Army and Air, from the present through 2025.

The adjutant general said the BRP would prioritize recommendations linked to the vision of the Department of Defense and the National Guard.

Simply put, the BRPs offer a view of the potential state of the Nevada Army and Air National Guard in 2025 and beyond. The results are based on the best available demographic and strategic data the BRP team could acquire.

Implementation of the teams' initiatives and recommendations are complicated and far-reaching and some may not happen for years or even decades.

The primary recommendations included:

Air National Guard

The primary mission initiatives for the Air Guard include the expansion of the intelligence mission, the recapitalization of the tactical airlift fleet, the establishment of a joint

test and training center, and the integration of fourth- and fifth-generation fighters into the organization.

Expanded intelligence mission

With its long history of intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions and with the Air Force's ever increasing reliance on the National Guard, positioning the Nevada Air Guard to expand intelligence operations is a natural fit.

Recapitalization of the airlift fleet

It's a fact that the Air Force is retiring aircraft faster than new platforms can roll off the assembly lines. And it's also a fact that, no matter what the maintenance Airmen do, the C-130s on the Reno flightline will be retired in about 15 years.

Recapitalizing Nevada's tactical airlift fleet simply means we will look for new aircraft that complements our unit's strengths and our state mission. The BRP is investigating how to acquire several tactical airlift types including the C-130J model, the smaller C-27 Spartan and the brand new light mobility aircraft.

As one of only two C-130 units west of the Rockies, finding a long-term replacement aircraft is paramount to our state.

Joint test and training center

The BRP recognized the need to develop a plan on how and where the Army and Air Force could refine remotely piloted aircraft tactics, techniques and procedure to ensure interoperability among Soldiers and Airmen. Creech Air Force Base and the 232nd Operations Squadron are keen on finding a way to test and train Army and Air Force remotely piloted aircraft.

Remotely piloted aircraft training

The launch and recovery of RPAs is currently handled by active duty Airmen at Creech. They also handle the RPA test and training mission that includes future operational capabilities, weapons and sensors evaluation, and the development of tactics, techniques and procedures.

Regardless of the high-quality maintenance Nevada Airmen perform, the C-130s on the Reno flightline will be retired in about 15 years. The blue ribbon panel said the Nevada Air Guard must recapitalize its tactical airlift fleet within the next decades. Photo: Master Sgt. Tony Midmore, 152nd Maintenance Group



Drivers in the 593rd Transportation Company practice avoiding simulated improvised explosive devices at the Hawthorne Army Depot in 2006 before deploying to Iraq. The blue ribbon panel recommended that in the future the Nevada Army Guard should attempt to create new training areas in cooperation with the depot. Photo: Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka, Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

The goal of the BRP is to give the Nevada Guard a toehold in that mission. Eventually, all RPAs launched in support of test and training missions and exercises will be done by a Nevada Guard Airman.

Ideally, a training component will also exist so other active duty and Guard Airmen could file through Creech and receive proper RPA training. This training mission would likely bring new positions to the 232nd.

Fourth- and fifth-generation fighter integration

Fourth-generation fighter jets are those the Air Force has used for the past 25-30 years and include the F-15 Eagles and F-16 Falcons. The F-22 Raptor and the F-35 Lightning II are the only fifth-generation fighters in the Air Force inventory.

Right now, the Nevada Guard contributes on a small scale to the maintenance and operation of the 15s and 16s at Nellis Air Force Base. The recommendation of the BRP was to continue or even increase those operations with a special focus on maintenance.

When Nellis fields its F-35s soon, likely within two years, Nevada Airmen will be ready to fill the Air Force's anticipated need for maintenance personnel.

Army National Guard

On the Army side of the house, the BRP list of 12 recommendations is topped with the goal of creating new training areas in cooperation with the Hawthorne Army Depot, the Fallon Naval Air Station and the Nevada Air Guard, pursuing missions suitable for the University of Nevada Fire Science Academy in Carlin, and obtaining additional force structure.

Centers of excellence

With encroachment issues marring many other states' plans, it makes sense to use the favorable environments surrounding Hawthorne, Fallon and Indian Springs for several types of training centers. The BRP believes existing military resources in those communities near vast swaths of federally owned land will form ideal

training areas for maneuver brigades, tactical unmanned aerial systems and improvised explosive device avoidance and mitigation.

Fire science academy

The Nevada Guard is in the midst of obtaining the University of Nevada, Reno's, Fire Science Academy in Carlin. Relocating the Elko Armory to Carlin is one option for the facility. Another is to use it as a site for an expanded Regional Training Institute or even as a home for the Project Challenge youth program.

Force structure

With population growth forecast in the Silver State, the Army Guard is likely to crusade for more force structure. Future new units will align with the Nevada Army Guard's core competencies and also reinforce the domestic mission required by the governor.

Some proposed unit acquisitions include a maneuver enhancement brigade headquarters, an additional combat arms battalion, and more military police, engineer, transportation and aviation units.

Members of the BRP groups were handpicked to represent a wide variety of backgrounds and diverse expertise. Of course, no one can predict with certainty what might occur in 15-20 years, but the BRP did its best to consider all possibilities and consider everything with an open mind.

The BRP will evaluate its plans annually and adjust them as required to take advantage of political and resource opportunities as part of its overall strategic planning policy.

The BRP is a process. It's about continually self-assessing the Nevada Guard's position and its opportunities.

Every Soldier and Airmen is invited to participate in the process. If you have an idea on how the Nevada Guard can improve in the future, call Lt. Col. David Yao at (775) 887-7205.

You may have thought the asterisk in the third paragraph on page 20 was a typo. It's not. It's there to remind that, although the initial BRP results are complete, the BRP process is never really done. ■

DEPLOYMENT ROUNDUP

ADT prioritizing women's initiative programs in Afghanistan

By Staff Sgt. Eric Ritter, Agribusiness Development Team; Capt. Laura Boldry, 137th Military Police Detachment; Chief Warrant Officer Stephen Karrick, Det. 45, Operational Support Airlift

LOGHAR PROVINCE, Afghanistan – With its deployment more than halfway over, the Nevada Guard's Agribusiness Development Team has begun focusing on projects assisting women's initiative programs here in addition to the team's primary mission of working with local farmers on soil sciences, veterinary techniques and irrigation projects.

In cooperation with Afghan officials and American organizations such as the U.S. Agency for International Development, the NVADT is visiting local villages to learn about women's concerns and how the team can improve the lives of Afghan women.

The NVADT recently hosted a Women's Initiative Cultural Education seminar in conjunction with local Afghan experts that included interpreters and contractors who have a deeper understanding of Afghan culture. The seminar was designed to inform the NVADT about Afghan history and culture to improve the NVADT's communications with local female residents.

The course was the first of its kind, and it could lead to similar courses across the country.

The perception that agribusiness is limited to males exists in many of the Afghan villages, but NVADT commander Col. Johnny Isaak said that there are many types of agricultural projects women can contribute toward in Afghan society.

"There are so many forms of agriculture and agribusiness," Isaak said. "Every contribution adds toward the economic expansion for the future of the country. We believe some of the smaller projects like beekeeping and small-area gardening are perfect women's initiatives we want to encourage."

The NVADT is likely to return to Nevada in early summer 2011.

137th: Nevada's military police ambassadors

REGIONAL COMMAND NORTH, Afghanistan – The 137th Military Police Detachment's deployment is nearing conclusion, but its Soldiers continue to contribute to law and order operations in the combat zone at four disparate locations across the region.

"All of the Soldiers are doing well and it has been a great experience for everyone," said unit commander Capt. Laura Boldry. "The unit made a name for itself here within the regional command, so the unit that replaces us will have some big shoes to fill."

At Camp Marmal, 20 Soldiers are conducting law and order missions and they have closed more than 55 cases. The Soldiers participate in joint missions with German and Croatian military police.

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The 12 Soldiers stationed at Camp Spann often travel to Chental, Afghanistan, to work with and train the Afghanistan National Police. They also conduct law and order missions.

The Soldiers attached to the provincial reconstruction team in Meymanah work joint missions with Norwegian and Latvian military police training the Afghanistan National Police and Afghanistan National Army. These Soldiers are also responsible for the law and order of the growing population of American Soldiers.

The 11 Nevada Soldiers in Kunduz live and work with an element of the German Army, and they conduct joint daily missions training ANP security details.

The unit has received a total of 12 Combat Action badges.

All of the Soldiers in the 137th spent Thanksgiving together and the unit is set to return home in the spring of 2011.

OSA flying high over Asia, U.S.

RENO – Detachment 45, Operational Support Airlift, has been deployed since August 2010, and it's maintaining operations in southwest Asia and the United States.

It is maintaining two C-12V model aircraft in southwest Asia while also supporting the Joint Operational Support Airlift Center by transporting senior defense officials within the United States.

The Asian-based Soldiers arrived during Operation Iraqi Freedom and they were on the ground during the changeover to Operation New Dawn.

Deployed Soldiers in the unit have been glad to get reacquainted with old friends and acquaintances they met during previous deployments and assignments in other countries.

"It is a very small world, and you never know who you are going to be working with or see in the future," said detachment commander Chief Warrant Officer Stephen Karrick. "Our team is proud to have this opportunity."

The unit recently learned it was named the No. 1 flight detachment in the nation by the Operational Support Airlift Agency for fiscal year 2010.

The unit's international deployment is likely to conclude in early spring 2011.



Horse collar maintenance tackled

Tech. Sgt. Jennifer Harrell, a crew chief with the 152nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, inspects the C-130 "horse collar," an area that houses electrical and hydraulic connections, for corrosion. About 125 Airmen from four squadrons and a flight are currently deployed to Afghanistan with five C-130s, the largest contingent of Nevada Air Guard aircraft ever deployed during Overseas Contingency Operations. The Airmen mostly perform tactical airlift and air drop missions. The deployment is set to last about two and a half months.

Photo: Maj. April Conway

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Nevada Army Guard Retirees Honored

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Col. Robert Harington
Lt. Col. Jeffrey Mark
Maj. Dennis Fivecoat
Maj. John Woosnam
Chief Warrant Officer 5 Thomas Delaney
(deceased)
Command Sgt. Major Glenn Guy
Sgt. Major Scott Baker
Sgt. Major Darrell Stokke
1st Sgt. Emerson Chatten
Master Sgt. Brenda Henry
Master Sgt. Robert Planeta
Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Baugh
Sgt. 1st Class William Bloomfield
Sgt. 1st Class Alexander Hernandez
Sgt. 1st Class Leland Jones
Sgt. 1st Class Lyle Sam
Sgt. 1st Class Paul Tiensvold
Sgt. 1st Class Jeffrey Ward
Sgt. 1st Class Jerry Weaver
Sgt. 1st Class Ronald Zarate (deceased)
Staff Sgt. Robert Cole III
Staff Sgt. Alan Cranford
Staff Sgt. John Easter
Staff Sgt. Michael Gonzales
Staff Sgt. Michael Harris
Staff Sgt. Daniel Lind
Staff Sgt. Michael Miller
Staff Sgt. Steven Milovich (deceased)
Staff Sgt. James B. Phillips
Staff Sgt. James Reynolds
Staff Sgt. Arland Stalker
Staff Sgt. Donald Thorpe
Staff Sgt. Anthony Uedis
Staff Sgt. Timothy Wilson
Sgt. Roy Adair
Sgt. Gary Ahnefeld
Sgt. Jeffrey Barlow
Sgt. Micky Clayberger
Sgt. Jerry Cochran
Sgt. Gene Garcia
Sgt. Jerry Hilke
Sgt. Richard Sprague

NEWS BRIEFS

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

Transportation unit seeks Soldiers for 2012 deployment

RENO – The 593rd Medium Transportation Company is likely to be deployed to Afghanistan in 2012. Opportunities to deploy with the unit are currently available.

The unit currently has a shortage of motor transport operators (military occupation specialty 88M) in the ranks of staff sergeant and below.

For more information, call the 17th Troops Battalion at (775) 674-5020.

Carson ceremony recognizes 2010 retired Soldiers; Two inducted into Hall of Fame

CARSON CITY – Adjutant General Brig. Gen. William Burks and other Army Guard officials recognized more than 40 Nevada National Guard Soldiers who retired during the past year in a ceremony Nov. 7 at the Office of the Adjutant General. A ceremony for southern Nevada Soldiers was held Dec. 5 in Las Vegas.

The retirees listed represent more than 1,000 years of combined military service.

In addition to those retiring, the Nevada Army National Guard inducted two previously retired Soldiers into the Hall of Fame for contributions made to the organization.

One inductee was Col. Joe Rooney, who retired from the Nevada Army National Guard in 2001 and continues to support programs for retired Soldiers.

The other inductee was Command Sgt. Major John Hefner, who retired in March 2009 after 30 years of service. He continues to support multiple veterans' organizations.

Both men also received the Armed Forces Retired Commemorative award that is presented for exceptionally meritorious service to the Nevada Army National Guard and the community.

Two Nevada officers contribute to 10-state mission

KABUL, Afghanistan – Cols. Cori Powers and Terry Sullivan concluded a unique one-year deployment here in December after participating in a mission that featured Soldiers from 10 states. They were part of the team assigned to NATO's joint command headquarters at the Kabul International Airport.

The 46-member team was originally scheduled to mobilize in support of training operations across Afghanistan, but before mobilization they were told they would establish the new NATO operational headquarters in Kabul.

The new organization, the Afghan National Security Forces Development Assistance Bureau, had the mission of planning, coordinating and assessing the growth and development of fielded Afghan National Army and Afghan National Police units.



“It was a very challenging deployment, both professionally and personally” said Sullivan, who returned to Nevada on Dec. 19. “We were responsible for developing the plan to increase the Afghan National Army and Afghan National Police from a force of about 195,000 to more than 305,000 this past year.”

Sullivan worked with officers from Australia, the Netherlands and Singapore. He also had the opportunity to travel to the Supreme Headquarters Allied Forces Europe in Belgium where he presented a briefing at the NATO Force Requirements conference.

Powers spent her time as the liaison officer between the ADAB and NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan/Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan, primarily working at Camp Eggers in the downtown Kabul area.

Toward the middle of her deployment, Powers also worked on resolving some of the logistical challenges faced by the Afghan National Security Forces and the Afghan National Police. Powers often traveled to the combat zones in five of the six main regions in Afghanistan in order to evaluate logistics systems.

“Being able to get out and around Afghanistan was the highlight of my tour,” Powers said. “It is critical for the people that work in Kabul to go out to the various regions and see what is really going on.”

Both officers were awarded the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the NATO Medal, the Afghan Campaign Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal and the Army Overseas Service Ribbon.

Sullivan is the director of training for Joint Force Headquarters and Powers is the director of logistics for the Nevada Army National Guard.

Kocijanski receives Jefferson award

RENO – Because of his determination to improve the safety and quality of life for the citizens of Nevada, Master Sgt. Jim Kocijanski of the Nevada Air Guard received the KNTV Channel 4’s Jefferson Award for Community Service for December.

Kocijanski contributed many hours working on a number of different projects in the Washoe County Sheriff’s office during the month. He helped out with search and rescue missions and was instrumental in developing a gun safety program to protect children from firearms.

Kocijanski also spearheaded the effort to start a neighborhood watch program focused on community-oriented policing.

Kocijanski has recorded deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Honor guard squad third in nation

FORT SNELLING, Minn. – At the conclusion of the 4th annual National Guard Honor Guard national competition here on Sept. 26, the Nevada Army Guard’s team was called upon to do one final act with perfect synchronization – accept its third place bronze medal.

The award marked the first time in history the Nevada Guard collected a top-three finish at the national event. Nevada was fourth in the nation in 2009.

Eight Soldiers constituted the team: 1st Lt. Howard Hoover, Staff Sgt. Curtis Terry, Sgt. Jose Ramirez, Sgt. Christopher Rosales, Spc. Mario Gonzales, Spc. Joseph Van Dyne, Pfc. William Weston, and Pvt. Jorge Gutierrez.

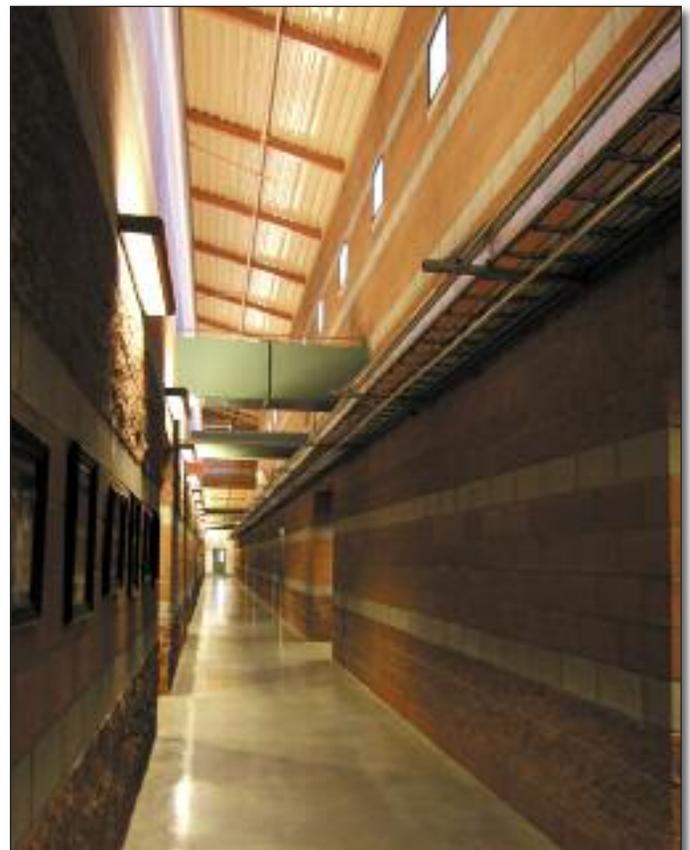
Las Vegas Readiness Center earns LEED designation

LAS VEGAS – The Nevada National Guard’s Las Vegas Readiness Center received its Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification in December. It is the first Nevada Army Guard building to receive that designation.

LEED is an internationally recognized green building certification system and verifies through a third party that a building or community was designed and built using strategies aimed at improving performance across all metrics including energy savings, water efficiency, environmental quality and stewardship of resources.

Developed by the U.S. Green Building Council, LEED provides building owners the ability to implement practical, environmentally friendly building designs and construction, operations and maintenance practices.

An integrated project team led by Ganthner Melby Architects and Planner helped secure the certification for the 79,000-square-foot building at 9501 Arville St., Las Vegas.



The interior design of the Nevada Guard’s Las Vegas Readiness Center helped the building earn a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification in December. Photo: Courtesy of Denise Italiano



Enhanced GI Bill covers more fees, expenses

By Maj. Jeff Johnson, Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

CARSON CITY – One of the top reasons many people choose to join the military is to take advantage of the educational benefits of the armed forces and obtain a college degree without the burden of an educational debt after graduation.

Educational benefits aimed at reducing incurred debt have been available through the Montgomery GI Bill since 1985, but some service members continued to have debts associated with living expenses while they attended school on the Montgomery bill.

Congress made a commitment to help remedy that when they signed into law the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008. The bill provides service members another option for achieving their educational goals or in some cases helping dependents acquire a higher education.

“The new law gives veterans with active duty service since Sept. 11, 2001, enhanced educational benefits that cover more tuition and fees, provides a living allowance, money for books, and the ability to transfer unused educational benefits to a spouse or children,” said Steve Westerfeld, a spokesman for the Veterans Benefits Administration via e-mail. “The Post-9/11 GI Bill entitlement is for 36 months. Once the entire 36 months are expended, there are currently no other educational benefits.”

The Post-9/11 GI Bill has a number of additional benefits that the Montgomery GI Bill does not, but there are several considerations National Guardsmen should be aware of before converting to the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

Guardsmen need to have served for an aggregate period of at least 90 days on active duty since Sept. 10, 2001. Payments are based upon the service member’s active-duty time.

Thirty-six months is the maximum entitlement time in the program. Once a benefit is transferred to a dependent and it is utilized, it is expended.

Maj. John Strahan of Joint Force Headquarters recently completed the application and said the process was painless.

“I filled it all out online while I was deployed,” said Strahan, a public affairs officer who deployed to Iraq. “Once I received the benefit confirmation, my daughter was able to fill out some paperwork at her school and start receiving the benefit.

“It was that easy,” he said.

Westerfeld recommends that service members review the side-by-side comparison sheet and explore the “Roadmap to Success” on the website www.gibill.va.gov. The website is set up to help eligible Soldiers and Airmen determine the right education program based on their individual needs and entitlements.

Another provision of the Post-9/11 GI Bill is the Yellow Ribbon GI Education Enhancement program. Only the service members who are eligible for the 100 percent rate can receive the program.

In the program, degree-granting institutions can enter into an agreement with the VA to fund tuition expenses greater than the highest in-state undergraduate public tuition rate. The program allows the

institution to contribute up to 50 percent of the tuition and the VA matches the amount.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill received some criticism for not paying service members and veteran students in a timely fashion, but Westerfeld said those problems have been resolved.

“Veterans Affairs did not have a payment system capable of supporting the new benefits in 2009,” Westerfeld said. “Since then, with enhanced technology, streamlined procedures and a lot of overtime by our dedicated employees, we have resolved the delays in payment.”

Westerfeld said some service members who completely used up their Montgomery GI Bill entitlements, but have a qualifying deployment since 2001, may be eligible for up to 12 months of entitlements under the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

Deciding which educational program is best for a certain Soldier or Airman depends on a number of factors. Soldiers and Airmen are advised to speak to their respective battalion, unit or squadron career or education officer to assist with their decisions. ■

For information, call:

Nevada Army National Guard
Education/GI Bill Officer
(775) 887-7279
nv.nveso@ng.army.mil

Nevada Air National Guard
Education/GI Bill Officer
Master Sgt. Jon Baker
(775) 788-4543
jonathan.baker.2@ang.af.mil

Veterans Affairs Educational
Benefits
(800) 442-4551
www.gibill.va.gov

The side-by-side comparison sheet and the “Roadmap to Success” can be found at: www.gibill.va.gov

The basic benefits offered with the Post-9/11 GI Bill are listed below.

- Tuition and fees paid directly to the school, not to exceed the maximum in-state tuition and fees at a public college or university
- For more expensive tuition, the Yellow Ribbon Program may help to reimburse the difference
- A monthly housing allowance, equivalent to the DOD’s Basic Allowance for Housing for an E-5 with dependents based on the location of the school, is sent to the beneficiary
- An annual books and supplies stipend of \$1,000, paid proportionately based on enrollment, is paid to the beneficiary
- A one-time rural benefit payment is made for eligible individuals

UNR, Nevada Guard meet Ranger Challenge

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

STEAD TRAINING SITE – Unlike the football team, the University of Nevada, Reno's Ranger Challenge team didn't have to rely upon a hapless placekicker to prove it had the best team in the West. The Wolf Pack Battalion dominated the field in the regional competition hosted by the Nevada National Guard here on Nov. 6.

With a first-place time of 4 hours and 39 minutes, the UNR team proved to be the only squad to complete the 6.2-mile course, including multiple stops for military skills testing, in less than five hours. The University of San Francisco was a distant second at 5:10. Other runners-up included Cal, Santa Clara, UC-Davis and Sacramento State.

Though not quite matching the mainstream popularity of football and basketball, Ranger Challenge is a collegiate club competitive sport for Reserve Officer Training Corps students. To record a time, squads of nine Soldiers (including at least one female Soldier) in combat gear must complete a course that includes stops for testing in first aid skills, land navigation, rope-bridge building and grenade assault. For good measure, a physical fitness test is also included. Teams receive a time penalty for errors such as touching the ground when crossing their rope bridge or failing to hit key targets in a timely manner with their grenades.

"As a sport, Ranger Challenge is both mentally and physically demanding," said Pfc. Michael Colyer, a UNR team member as well as a traditional Nevada Guard Soldier who drills with Lima Troop, 1/221st Cavalry in Yerington. "It is a satisfying feeling to do well because we have been training five days a week since August all in preparation for this one day."

In addition to the venue, the Nevada Guard provided about a dozen Soldiers to assist with coordination, logistics, evaluation and event safety.

Sgt. Maj. Mark Rogers from the training and exercises section said that the National



Pfc. Michael Colyer, 21, a Nevada Guard Soldier who drills with the 1/221st Cavalry in Yerington while also enrolled in the University of Nevada, Reno, crosses the rope bridge obstacle during the Ranger Challenge competition Nov. 6 in Stead. Photos: Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka, Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs



Pfc. Michael Colyer nears the finish line of the 6.2-mile Ranger Challenge course on Nov. 6. Colyer was a member of the winning Wolf Pack Battalion team.

Guard assistance in ROTC events made perfect sense.

"Events like this are mutually beneficial for the ROTC and the National Guard," Rogers said. "These cadets are future National Guard officers, and we want to help produce the best officers we can. The priority of our evaluators is to provide guidance and tips in basic military skills that will help these cadets in the future."

The UNR team was solid throughout the day, recording the top scores at the grenade assault course, the map reading site, and the land navigation course.

The rope bridge course drew the most spectators, including adjutant general Brig. Gen. Bill Burks and Army Guard chief of staff Col. Craig Wroblewski. Once again, the Wolf Pack Battalion recorded the best time of the day in an individual event, as all nine Soldiers and their gear crossed an imaginary 30-yard wide river in 10 minutes using only a rope.

"Nothing tests your teamwork like the rope bridge event," Colyer said.

Colyer, 21, a 2008 graduate of Douglas High in Gardnerville, is an example of a simultaneous membership program Soldier.

Soldiers in the program take ROTC classes and work toward becoming a reserve officer while simultaneously drilling with a National Guard unit.

"The simultaneous membership program is definitely worth considering, especially if a student is concerned about the high cost of attending college," said UNR military science instruction Maj. Jerome Guerrero. "Students in the program are potentially eligible for ROTC stipends and scholarships in addition to their regular drill pay." ■

For information on ROTC programs within Nevada or the simultaneous membership program, call Guerrero at (775) 721-4147.



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AWARDS

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CSM Glenn Guy HHT, 1/221st Cav

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MSgt Becky Hall 192nd Airlift Sqdn
CMSgt Nereo Pecson 152nd Airlift Wing
SMSgt David Gonzales 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
TSgt David McNeely 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
MSgt Thomas Quaranta 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SSG Steven Milovich 1/168th MEDEVAC
CW3 Stephen Nielsen 1/189th Aviation
SFC Ronald Zarate 1/189th Aviation
SFC Alexander Hernandez 100th Quartermaster Co
1SG Emerson Chattin 140th MP Det
1SG Juan Rangel 1864th Trans Co
SGT Richard Sprague 1864th Trans Co
CPT Shawn Murphy C Co, 422 Signal Bn
CPT Steven Golladay 92nd CST
MAJ Amy Newman 421st RTI
CPL Taerik Berry HHT, 1/221st Cav

LTC John Cunningham HHT, 1/221st Cav
CPT Fernando Gomez 421st RTI
CPT Cathrin Fraker JFHQ
SSG Timothy Wilson NVARNG R & R Det
CPT Gene Dieters K Trp, 1/221st Cav
CPT Gerald Morris K Trp, 1/221st Cav

Air Force Commendation Medal



SSgt Brenda Staples 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
MSgt Albert Sanches 152nd Maint Sqdn
Capt John Brownell 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
MSgt Charles Atkinson 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
SSgt Milbert Bourgios 152d Security Forces Sqdn
TSgt Jessica Bean 152nd Medical Grp

Army Commendation Medal



1LT David Connolly 1/168th MEDEVAC
SFC Kenneth Hodes HHC, 422nd Signal Bn
SGT Frank Nash 609th Engineer Co
SGT Anthony Rigano 92nd CST

SSG Katie Lindstrom 991st Aviation Trp Cmd
SSG Tim Wise 421st RTI
SGT Jeffrey Barlow HHT, 1/221st Cav
CW3 Shirley Conroy JFHQ
SSG Ronald Ayers K Trp, 1/221st Cav
SGT Lianna Roberts NVARNG Medical Det
MSgt Brent Breese 152nd Maint Grp

Air Force Achievement Medal



SMSgt William Schy JFHQ
TSgt Rachel Larson 152nd Medical Grp
MSgt David Hill 152nd Force Support Sqdn
MSgt Rafael Chelli 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
TSgt Gurpreet Bhambra 152nd Force Support Sqdn
SSgt Jose Escobar 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SSgt Jauies Sosa 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
MSgt Douglas Larson 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
MSgt Charles Atkinson 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
SSgt Joseph McKee 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
2Lt Masten Bethel 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
2Lt Aaron Washington 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
2Lt Oliver Miller 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
2Lt Barron Brooks 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
1Lt Dana Grigg 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
Capt Joseph Deese 152nd Airlift Wing
1Lt Renee Popoff 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
TSgt Lancer Maciel 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
Capt Michael Engfer 152nd Airlift Wing
SMSgt James Morgan 152nd Medical Group

Army Achievement Medal



SGT Gregory Krizmanich NVARNG R & R Det
SrA Cassandra Kenyon 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn

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SSG Robert Jester 421st RTI

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SSG Richard Rohweder 991st Aviation Trp Cmd
SSG Christina Espada 421st RTI
SSG Robert Jester 421st RTI
SSG Rachael Ramirez 421st RTI

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TSgt Robert Boody 152nd Maint Sqdn
MSgt Aaron Borek 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
SMSgt Steven Bourquin 192nd Airlift Sqdn
SMSgt Paul Bright 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
1stLt Erik Brown 192nd Airlift Sqdn
MSgt Philip Brown 192nd Airlift Sqdn
MSgt Dennis Chanez 152nd Maint Sqdn
MSgt William Cranston 152nd Maint Sqdn
1stLt Thomas Dorsett 192nd Airlift Sqdn
CMSgt Steven Gilbert 152nd Maint Sqdn
MSgt Randall Grooms 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
Capt Brian Gunderson 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
A1C Linda Gutierrez 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
SrA Ronald Hanselman 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
TSgt Thomas Hansen 152nd Maint Sqdn
Maj Koby Harding 192nd Airlift Sqdn
MSgt William Hartzler 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
MSgt Joseph Henle 192nd Airlift Sqdn
SSgt Mike Ingenluyff 152nd Maint Sqdn
SSgt Sean Ingenluyff 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
SSgt Nicholas Jones 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
A1C Christopher Lamott 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
A1C William Marler 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
MSgt Jeffrey Mccusker 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
A1C Eric McKenzie 152nd Maint Sqdn
MSgt William Randall 152nd Maint Sqdn
LtCol Kyle Reid 192nd Airlift Sqdn
SSgt Frank Schlottmann 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
TSgt Ernest Spandau 192nd Airlift Sqdn
Capt Charles Steffens 192nd Airlift Sqdn
TSgt Nathaniel Steiner 192nd Airlift Sqdn
TSgt Frank Stroik 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
Capt Kyle Swanson 192nd Airlift Sqdn
Maj Hans Lienke 192nd Airlift Sqdn
MSgt Joshua Matheus 192nd Airlift Sqdn
SSgt Shamika Webb 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SMSgt Bruce Ladd 152nd Maint Ops Fit
LtCol Steven Wright 232nd Ops Sqdn

SSgt Travis Backland 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Jordan Bean 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SSgt Katherine Bunt 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
MSgt Daphine Dominguez 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
MSgt Erik Eigenman 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Jason Fritz 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Colleen Glynn 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Victor Hicks, Jr 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SSgt Eugene Houston 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
MSgt Jesse Jennings 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Terry Kots 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Michael Landsberry 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SMSgt Marcia Lopez 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SrA Geane Mara 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SSgt Michael Mathews 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SSgt Gary Mireles 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Larry Moen 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Jason Nole 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SrA Brandon Reinier 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SSgt Mark Salinas 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SrA Jaret Sukraw 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SSgt Michael Yahne 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SSgt April Apo 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
A1C Christopher Brown 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
A1C Robert Brown 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
SrA Brandy Carnell 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
CMSgt Dwight Ceresola 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
SSgt Elizabeth Domenzainfinch 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
SrA Raenell Dubroc 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
SSgt Matthew Farley 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
TSgt Terry Fitzgerald 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
SrA Steven Gaddis 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
SrA Patrick Hall 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
MSgt Jason Huth 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
SSgt Emmitt Jordan 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
A1C Chandra Kurkowski 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
SSgt Jacqueline Miles 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
SSgt Michael Moore, Jr 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
TSgt John Resseguie, Jr 152nd Security Forces Sqdn

SSgt Brandon Sheffield . . . 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
SSgt Raymond Sherwood . . 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
SSgt Craig Toole 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
SSgt Nathan Trapp 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
TSgt Lisa Maciel 152nd Medical Grp
TSgt Jarrett Miner 232nd Ops Sqdn
MSgt Randolph Moorhous . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Shay Gilliam 152nd Airlift Wing
MSgt John Mitchell 152nd Airlift Wing
SSgt Jose Escobar Jr 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
MSgt Harry Wheeler 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
MSgt Jason Garlington 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Christopher Leblanc . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Joseph Puertos 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SSgt Edward Garcia 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SSgt Brenda Staples 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Christopher Henrich 192nd Airlift Sqdn
TSgt Lyle Smith 192nd Airlift Sqdn

Nevada Honor Guard Ribbon



MSG David Hill 152nd Force Support Sqdn
MSgt Douglas Larson 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
MSgt Gurpreet Bhambra 152nd Force Support Sqdn
TSgt David Price 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
SSgt Joseph Escobar Jr 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SSgt Jauiés Sosa 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn

Nevada Recruiting Ribbon



TSgt Roy Lee 152nd Maint Ops Fit
MSgt Paul Ochs 152nd Mission Support Grp

PROMOTIONS

COL/Col

Kim Labrie 991st Aviation Troop Cmd

LTC/Lt Col

Michael Peyerl HHC, 422nd Signal Bn
Glen Martel NVANG HQ

MAJ/Maj

Karen Hansen NVARNG Med Det

CPT/Capt

Tammy Sparkes 150th Maint Co
Richard Jordan HHT, 1/221st Cav
Richard Owens HHT, 1/221st Cav

1LT/1st Lt

Wesley Leedy 3/140th Aviation S&S
David Freeland B Co, 422 Signal Bn
Benjamin Delapaz I Trp, 1/221st Cav
Matthew DeMattei JFHQ
Jeremy Manuele JFHQ
Todd Brown JFHQ

Geraldine Reyes NVARNG Med Det
Matthew DeMattei JFHQ
Leslie Drew 152nd Medical Grp
Jenelle Kimsey 152nd Force Support Sqdn
Timothy Mitchell 152nd Medical Grp
Shawn Trylick 232 Ops Sqdn

2LT/2nd Lt

Barron Brooks 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
Jonathan Buescher 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
Jennifer James 152nd Medical Grp
Aaron Christensen 192nd Airlift Sqdn

CW4

Loyd Crathers JFHQ

CW3

Ben Valdez 150th Maint Co
Earvin Chalmers HHC, 422nd Signal Bn

CW2

Jonathan Wesley 150th Maint Co

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PROMOTIONS (continued)

ACCESSIONS

CW2 (continued)

John Baldari JFHQ

SMS/CSM/CMSgt

Michelle Sykes JFHQ
Mark Bailey 152nd Medical Grp
Kelly Cavins 192nd Airlift Sqdn

1SG/MSG/SMSGt

Douglas Patterson 17th Sustainment Bde
Robert Hahn 757th Combat Sustainment Spt Bn
Joseph Delgado JFHQ
Harry House NVARNG R & R Det
Bruce Ladd 152nd Maint Ops Fit

SFC/MSgt

Sargent Kolteryahn 17th Sustainment Bde
Marco Reyes 17th Sustainment Bde
Zell Johnson I Trp, 1/221st Cav
Nancy Sanchez NVARNG Med Det
Scott Grimmett NVARNG Med Det
Michael Hignite 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
Michael Smith 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
Megan Winkel 152nd Force Support Sqdn

SSG/TSgt

Norberto Romero 17th Sustainment Bde
Alejandro Delpozo 1864th Trans Co
Trevor Kinney 3/140th Aviation S&S
Jeremy Michael 421st RTI
Paul Rivera 609th Engineer Co
Joshua Soriano 72nd MP Co
Mike Pulmones 72nd MP Co
Aric Garza 757th Combat Sustainment Spt Bn
James Strange C Co, 422nd Signal Bn
Stanley Harvey HHT, 1/221st Cav
Joshua Zamzow I Trp, 1/221st Cav
Karim Khaldy I Trp, 1/221st Cav
Patrick Johnson I Trp, 1/221st Cav
Steven Grossman I Trp, 1/221st Cav
Justin Banfield JFHQ
Chris Gayle JFHQ (ADT)
Jonathon Rudd K Trp, 1/221st Cav
Thomas Hardesty K Trp, 1/221st Cav
James Chandler K Trp, 1/221st Cav
Amy Baker 152nd Mission Support Grp
Grupreet Bhambra 152nd Force Support Sqdn
William Boekenooogen 192nd Airlift Sqdn
Jeffery Dalling 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
Nadine Edwards 152nd Force Support Sqdn
Edward Garcia 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
Thomas Henson 152nd Maint Sqdn
Rachel Larson 152nd Medical Grp
Angie Rincon 152nd Medical Grp
Joseph Stewart 192nd Airlift Sqdn

SGT/SSgt

Stephen Mitchell 100th Quartermaster Co
Rusty Wainwright 100th Quartermaster Co

Ryan Ketzbeau 137th MP Det
Daniel Varty 150th Maint Co
Alfredo Fraga 17th Sustainment Bde
Hakeem Shinaba 17th Sustainment Bde
Jason Nelson 17th Sustainment Bde
David Bravo 1864th Trans Co
Jose Torres-Gonzalez 1864th Trans Co
Matthew Lambert 1864th Trans Co
Melville Fabella 1864th Trans Co
Juan Villicana 240th Engineer Co
Gabriel Haime 240th Engineer Co
Christopher Larson 240th Engineer Co
Michael Swaney 3/140th Aviation S&S
Joy Tecson 3/140th Aviation S&S
Monique Peden 485th MP Co
Aaron Wiggins 485th MP Co
Joseph Keith 485th MP Co
Kevin Gerow 485th MP Co
Joshua Keltner 485th MP Co
Amanda Willis 593rd Trans Co
Arthur Ordaz 593rd Trans Co
James Montez 609th Engineer Co
Austin Rhees 609th Engineer Co
Frank Nash 609th Engineer Co
Anthony Reddick 609th Engineer Co
Roy Randall 609th Engineer Co
Shewangizaw Andarge 72nd MP Co
Christy Harris 72nd MP Co
Brett Knudson 72nd MP Co
William Webster 757th Combat Sustainment Spt Bn
Bryan Jovel B Co, 422 Signal Bn
Glenda Gutierrez B Co, 422 Signal Bn
Erik Mattes B Co, 422 Signal Bn
Marc Suarez B Co, 422 Signal Bn
Stephen Belcher B Co, 422 Signal Bn
Jazz Sadiq B Co, 422 Signal Bn
Ralph Brauwn C Co, 422nd Signal Bn
Brian Maehler C Co, 422nd Signal Bn
Gregory Zemp HHC, 422nd Signal Bn
Christopher Tapia HHT, 1/221st Cav
Marisa Aceves JFHQ (ADT)
Christopher Owens JFHQ (ADT)
James Adams K Trp, 1/221st Cav
Jacob Pestana K Trp, 1/221st Cav
Eric Cawthern NVARNG Med Det
Benjamin Pagni NVARNG R & R Det
Travis Backlund 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
Brandy Carnell 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
Steven Gaddis 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
Patrick Hall 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
Jennifer Hartzler 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
Peter Johnson 152nd Maint Sqdn
Dustin Mayhew 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
Bryce Miller 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
Emory Simons 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn

CPL

Joseph Isocho 100th Quartermaster Co
Alexander Lopez 100th Quartermaster Co

192nd Airlift Sqdn

Aaron Christensen
Reed Kobernik

152nd Intelligence Sqdn

Barron Brooks
Cole Bates
Alex Miller

152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn

Jonathan Buescher
Kenneth Bennett Jr.
Darren Atabay
Sean Henson

152nd Log Readiness Sqdn

Dana Grigg
Kelly Elloyen
Travis Gonsalves
Keith Kieliszewski
Rodney Hollis

152nd Medical Grp

Timothy Mitchell

152nd Maint Sqdn

Lee Phillip
Larry Morante
Garrik Hollingshead
James Heatt
Gabriel Donat

Robert Pembroke
Brian Henning

152nd Force Support Sqdn

Spencer Kowis

152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn

John Lopez
Steven Boles

152nd Security Forces Sqdn

Joseph Pratt
Richard Brown

152nd Maint Grp

Beau Askins

152nd Ops Support Fit

Kimberley Landeros

232nd Ops Sqdn

Christopher Sipes

1/168th MEDEVAC

Eric Dahlgren
Jeremiah Rozario

1/189th Aviation

Jeffery Fiske
Nels Hansen
James Lariviere

RETIREMENTS

SSG Ronald Ayers K Trp, 1/221st Cavalry
SGT Jeffrey Barlow HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
SSgt Hayden Bartholomew 152nd Maint Sqdn
CPL Taerik Berry HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
SGT James Brown 3/140th Aviation S&S
MSgt Andree Burdette-Newman 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
COL John Cameron NVARNG Med Det
Lt Col Curtis Campi 192nd Airlift Sqdn
COL Michael Carlson NVARNG
MSgt Becky Hall 192nd Airlift Sqdn
TSgt Chris Hall 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
MSgt Edward Hartman 152nd Medical Grp
MSgt Billie Holm 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
Lt Col Matthew Leonard 192nd Airlift Sqdn
TSgt Ricardo Marin 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
LTC Jeffrey Mark 17th Sustainment Brigade
CW4 James Miner 3/140th Aviation S&S
CW4 Robert Pickett 150th Maint Co
CW4 Stephen Schuler 3/140th Aviation S&S

**100th
Quartermaster Co**

Robert Blackwell
Aerosmith Cruz
William Cummings
Drew Erickson
Steven Evans
Joel Fitzpatrick
Kenneth Gilliam
Alfredo Gonzalez
Dane Johnson
Trevor Johnson
Zachary Mullins
Eric Ohran
Alexis Oltean
Jeremy Peterman
Elizabeth Polk
Abdiel Roman
Shane Rothwell
Jake Whitney

**106th
Public Affairs Det**
Michael Orton

137th MP Det
Jesse Longstreth

150th Maint Co
Elijah Hodge
Samuel Rhodes

Alexander Stanley
Jacqueline Turner

**17th
Sustainment Bde**

Steven Creson
Shawn Fidler
Vincent George
Brett Loeber
Joseph Morgan
Alexander Quagge
Phillip Rivera
Jennifer Walton

1864th Trans Co

Cody Busack
Christopher Griffith
Kendra Johnson
Lucas Marshall
Kevin Martinez
Justin Taylor
Monty Torres

240th Engineer Co

Derek Clawson
Spencer Dunbar
Brandon Krowicki
Kyle Marrott
Melvin Mitchell
Diana Rodriguez
Reed Toone
Andrew Underhill

277th Engineer Plt

Daniel Hardin
Christopher Lauko

**3/140th
Aviation S&S**

Matthew Mahaffey

B Co, 422 Signal Bn

Shakur Beavers
Jerrica Byrd
Gino Cristobal
Benjamin Hart
Howard Kemple
Jordan King
Jordan Lopez
Marc Wager
Nick Lighthouse
Michael Rossi
Ashley Christopher

485th MP Co

Amy Canett
Martin Garcia
Jennifer Hill
James Jackson
Joshua Killinger
Anastasia Mazhnikova
Christopher Moll
Najeeb Peavy
Alexa Savoie

Cole Sonnemann
Josue Vera

609th Engineer Co

Scott Davis
Robert Gilder
Joshua Kipling
Peter Motell
Ryan Pearce
Jonathan Ramirez-Guerra

72nd MP Co

Ryan Cooper
Raphael Gil
Jaclyn Harrell
Paul Mares
Manuel Gonzalez-Herrera

**757th Combat
Sustainment Spt Bn**

Rome Flores
Aaron Kalas
Tiffany Patridge
Christopher Staggs

777th Engineer Det

Katrina Quiambao
Patrick Walton

**777th Forward
Support Co**

Devin Batista

Andre Brown
Lisa Davis
Kimberly Deluane
Alfonso Estrada
Alberto Gonzalez
Wesley Kent
Rocky Kutsunai
Matthew Marquez
David Steyer

**92nd Civil
Support Team**

Michael Noyes

593rd Trans Co

Jasmin Herrera
Emeka Rouse

HHT, 1/221st Cav

Joseph Dangelo
Christopher Fine
Matthew Ibarra
Jared Lebaron
Mark Maure
Esteban Polito
Keith Riley
Brian Segalla
Markece Thomas

421st RTI

Joel Nelson

**K Trp,
1/221st Cav**
Kenneth Line

**L Trp,
1/221st Cav**

Michael Colyer
Anderson Floyd
Eugenio Franco
Michael Tilton

NVARNG Med Det

David Davis
Kyle Martineau
Jessica Miller
Skyler Wroblewski

NVARNG R & R Det

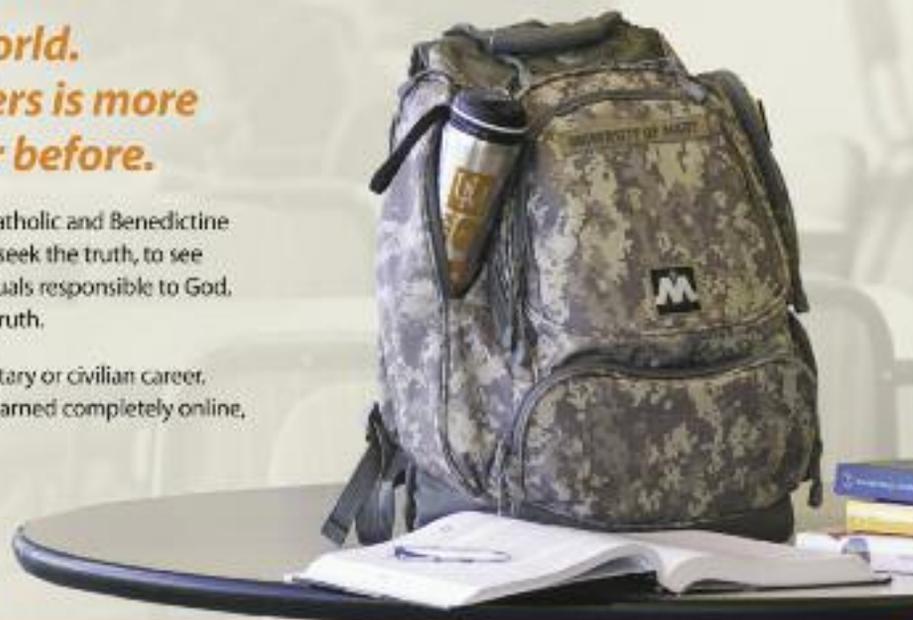
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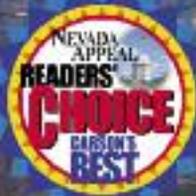
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