

Oregon Sentinel

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE OREGON NATIONAL GUARD

Oregon National Guard Soldiers support Operation New Dawn

Approximately 600 Soldiers from 3-116 Cavalry to join Soldiers from Idaho, Montana head to Iraq



Right: Members of the Oregon Army National Guard's 3-116 Cavalry stand in formation during the unit's mobilization ceremony at Eastern Oregon University's Community Stadium in LaGrande, Ore., Sept. 21. More than 600 Soldiers from the unit will join their counterparts from Idaho and Montana for pre-mobilization training at Camp Shelby, Miss., before heading to Iraq in support of Operation New Dawn.

Above: Oregon Governor Theodore R. Kulongoski greets Oregon Soldiers following the mobilization ceremony in LaGrande, Ore. This is the outgoing Governor's last large deployment of Oregon Soldiers. "I will always look back with fond memories of my time as Commander-in-Chief of the Oregon National Guard," Kulongoski said.

See full story courtesy of the Oregonian Newspaper on page 4.



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

PRSR STD
US Postage
PAID
Permit #605
Salem, OR

OFFICE OF THE STATE ADJUTANT GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY AND AIR FORCE
NATIONAL GUARD OF OREGON
P.O. BOX 14350
SALEM, OREGON 97309-5047
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Oregon Blackhawk pilot saves lives, uplifts spirits

Anderson's magic show helps raise funds for Canby veterans' memorial

Story by Kimberly Lippert,
Oregon Military Department
Public Affairs

"It was the best show I've ever seen, and I've been to Vegas..."

"I thought he was fantastic; he was funny, personable, just fabulous..."

If the reaction of audience members is any indication, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Scott Anderson's magic show is destined for the stars.

More than 400 people packed the Canby High School auditorium for a magic show to benefit the Vietnam Era Veterans Memorial, on Sept. 11.

"It was awesome," said Mike Breshears, of Canby. "He had everyone spell bound for the entire performance."

Anderson's journey to the stage at Canby High School came after a chance meeting with Breshears, a fellow Canby resident and disabled Vietnam veteran.

Over the past decade, Bresehears has been working to complete the Vietnam Era Veterans Memorial in Canby. With contributions drying up due to a sour economy, Breshears was left with a shortfall of \$10,000 for the memorial.

"I decided to do a benefit show in my hometown and donate 100 percent of the proceeds to the memorial," Anderson said. "As a veteran myself, I wanted to do something to help."



Photo by Master Sgt. Thomas Hovie, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

Oregon Army National Guard Chief Warrant Officer 2 Scott Anderson narrates through a photo montage of injured Iraqi children he entertained with magic during his 2009 deployment. Anderson helped raise funds for a veterans memorial in Canby, Ore., during a local magic show held Sept. 11. His show helped raise more than \$5,000 with 100 percent of the proceeds going toward the Vietnam Era Veterans Memorial.

See OREGON on PAGE 6

The Oregon Military Department

State Commander in Chief
Governor Theodore R. Kulongoski

The Adjutant General
Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees

Deputy Director Oregon Military Dept.
Brig. Gen. Mike Caldwell, OSD

Acting Asst. Adjutant General, Army
Brig. Gen. Charles Yiarte

Asst. Adjutant General, Air
Brig. Gen. Steven D. Gregg

State Command Sergeant Major
Command Sgt. Maj. Brunk Conley

State Command Chief
Chief Master Sgt. Mark Russell

Oregon Sentinel Editorial Staff

State Public Affairs Officer
Capt. Stephen S. Bomar
stephen.s.bomar@mil.state.or.us

Editor & Social Media Manager
Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy
nick.r.choy@mil.state.or.us

Chief, Community Relations
Kay F. Fristad
kay.f.fristad@mil.state.or.us

Visual Information Manager
Master Sgt. Thomas L. Hovie
thomas.hovie@us.army.mil

Contributing Writer
Kim L. Lippert
kimberly.l.lippert@mil.state.or.us

Contributing Photographer/Writer
Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Hartman
Kevin.C.Hartman@mil.state.or.us

Information Manager/Photographer
Sgt. Jason van Mourik
jason.vanmourik@mil.state.or.us

Contributors
115th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment
142nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs
173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs
Unit Public Affairs Representatives

Editorial Offices
c/o Oregon Military Department
Attn: Editor, Oregon Sentinel
P.O. Box 14350
Salem, OR 97309
503-584-3917

The Oregon Sentinel is the official publication of the Oregon National Guard, authorized under the provisions of Army Regulation 360-1. It is designed and published by the Oregon Military Department's Public Affairs Office. The views and opinions expressed in the Oregon Sentinel are not necessarily those of the Departments of the Army and Air Force, or the Department of Defense.

The Oregon Sentinel is distributed to members of the Oregon Army and Air National Guard, and other interested persons by request, free of charge. Circulation: 12,500. The Oregon Sentinel is published by Eagle Web Press, a private firm in no way connected with the DoD, Departments of the Army or Air Force, or the State of Oregon, and is under exclusive written contract with the Oregon Military Department. The Oregon Sentinel is also distributed electronically, and can be found online at www.oregon.gov/OMD/AGPA/publications.shtml.

Paid advertising is strictly prohibited in the Oregon Sentinel. However, announcements which benefit Oregon Guardsmen and their families is allowed, at the discretion of the editorial staff.

Oregon National Guard members and their families are encouraged to submit articles and story ideas. Stories from any source, military or civilian, are accepted. Letters to the editor are also welcome. All submissions must include the author's name, mailing address and daytime phone number. Names may be withheld in print upon request. All submissions are subject to editing prior to publication. The Public Affairs staff reserves the right to print or reprint submissions at any time. For publication schedules, or for any other questions, please see your unit's Public Affairs Representative, or contact the State Public Affairs Office or any of the Oregon Sentinel staff members listed above.

The Oregon Sentinel adheres to guidance found in DoD Instruction 5120.4, "Department of Defense Newspapers and Civilian Enterprise Publications." The Oregon Sentinel utilizes Times New Roman, Garamond Pro and fonts, and is designed using Adobe InDesign CS. Graphics are produced using Adobe Illustrator and PhotoShop. Text files are edited using Microsoft Word.

Story files must be submitted in Microsoft Word format, with all formatting turned off. Photos must be high-resolution color JPEG files, and must be accompanied by caption information containing the following: full name, rank, and unit of person(s) depicted in the photo, along with a short description of what is happening in the photo. This caption can be a part of the overall story file. All hard-copy files submitted to the Oregon Sentinel become the property of the Oregon Military Department unless prior arrangements are made with the Public Affairs staff. Stories and photos appearing in the Oregon Sentinel may be reprinted with permission.

2010 Oregon Military Department
All Rights Reserved

COMMAND

The Oregon National Guard: A great deal for Oregon and America



Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees,
The Adjutant General,
Oregon

In the near future our organization looks to face significant budget cuts from state funds. Likewise, federal belt tightening is likely to continue.

Our force has already seen this with the reduction of temporary and indefinite technician employee positions. State employees and contractors will see additional decrease in staffing in the near future.

As the Oregon National Guard continues to meet both domestic support missions in addition to our overseas defense missions, we will have to operate with a reduced support force, while also maintaining the same quality of service as we have in the past.

We will have to meet this challenge and continue to operate at the same proficient manner that our state and nation demand.

The Army National Guard comprises nearly 40 percent of the Army's operating

force and the Air National Guard conducts 16 of the 18 Air Sovereignty Alert missions throughout the country.

Citizen-soldiers and airmen continue to prove we are the most cost effective means of defense for our nation and our states.

Here in Oregon we are charged with the Air Sovereignty Alert mission for the Pacific Northwest. We also operate the only F-15 fighter training facility in the nation, along with Army and Air combat and service support elements, which have mobilized in support of multiple operations to include Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom and now Operation New Dawn.

In addition, we respond not only to a governor-declared state of emergency, but also to support civil authorities throughout Oregon's counties, and when requested, we even provide regional support.

Our soldiers and airmen do this with an allocation of only five percent of the Department of Defense total base budget.

In July, the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, General Craig R. McKinley wrote what a great value the National Guard is to America.

He stated, "Efficiencies must be gained to achieve the delicate balance between national security and fiscal reality. Maintain a ready, accessible, and cost-effective National Guard is a solution to achieving the necessary balance."

Oregon continues to lead the way for our citizens and for our nation. As we move forward in the direction of additional cost savings with new green energy facilities and self-sustaining armories, we will be a further cost-effective asset. Each and every member of the Oregon National Guard, past, present, and future are the reason we have been able to operate so effectively.

Every soldier and airman needs to take pride that the Oregon National Guard is truly an amazing value for our state and nation.

We quickly respond to local and national call ups, at a fraction of the cost of a full-time response force for our citizens. We also contribute more than \$300 million annually to our local economies throughout the state.

This training year I ask you to continue to demonstrate that we are the solution to achieve the necessary "...balance between national security and fiscal reality."

Remain: Always Ready! Always There!

Raymond F. Rees

Ed: To read the entire text of Gen. Craig McKinley's paper, "The National Guard: A Great Value for America", visit http://www.ng.mil/Images1/docs/Value_of_the_National_Guard.pdf

New Warrant Officers the key to Oregon National Guard future

As we start the new fiscal year we are faced with some very difficult issues. The most pressing issue, or should I say "depressing," is the budget reductions we currently face.

As Warrant Officers we are not only the subject matter experts but also the middle-level supervisor of a great number of programs which have been affected by the reductions in funding and personnel.

This current financial situation involves ALL of us, regardless of where we work—OMS OMD, the Brigades or on the flight line at the Wing.

Taking a page from my civilian experience, I have dealt with budget and staff reductions too many times. It is painful for both the supervisors and Soldiers who were just laid off or had their orders not extended.

Experience has taught me there are two ways people usually respond. The first reaction is for people to take the "us versus them" attitude and fight over the table scraps. Those who have not been a part of the decision-making process begin placing blame on others. Comments like "they don't understand" and "without us the system will fail" or "I'll show them!" and others begin to surface.

The first time I had to lay off personnel I thought it would be a great idea to involve the entire staff. That was a mistake.

For example, Human Resources is not going to say they can do the work with fewer people. It is easier to say Maintenance has too many staff members, so we can cut them. The more professional way

to look at this is to take a step back, assess the situation and determine what you need to do as a member to make sure your team succeeds. This is tough to do no matter what your position or rank.

Within the Warrant Officer Corps it has to be "we instead of me." Now more than ever all 139 of us must pull together as one. Remember our actions will speak louder than our words.

I would like to say goodbye and best of luck to CW2 Lenora Landwehr, Warrant Officer Strength Manager as she prepares to deploy with the 1249 Engineer Battalion. Job well done! I would also like to welcome CW3 Rob Karnes our new Warrant Officer Strength Manager. I know he will do a great job and look forward to working with him.

We have had two senior warrant officer retirements; CW5 Barry Brown and CW5 Debbie Murphy. Their expertise was second to none. They will surely be missed.

For the Corps!



Chief Warrant Officer 5 Michael Zagya,
Command Chief Warrant Officer,
Oregon National Guard

Wearing a military uniform is both an honor and a privilege

Command Sgt. Maj. Brunk W. Conley,
State Command Sergeant Major,
Oregon National Guard



Putting on this uniform is an honor and a privilege.

We don't have a major active duty post in Oregon, so when I see a Soldier in uniform, it is almost always a guardsman or reservist. By the numbers, it is almost always a guardsman.

In today's world of dwindling resources we can't afford to have our National Guard "brand" be seen as anything but positive, supporting, and ready to be called on a moment's notice. When you wear this uniform, you represent the Oregon Army National Guard to our citizens that we are sworn to protect.

Since 9-11 we have become more visible than ever in our communities. From the floods of Vernonia, fighting fires across the state, the hurricane force storm in Clatsop

county, Katrina/Rita, Afghanistan, Iraq, and all the places in between, we are the most trusted and respected organization in Oregon and the Nation.

We must, at all costs, protect that image you have all worked so hard to attain and deserve through your service. We must stay visible to our public and we must do so in a matter that shows your professionalism and honor.

I feel compelled to point out a few things here, and it is my hope that you will re-examine how you are representing our organization. I am sure that most of you will find nothing that you would want to change, but some of you might.

When you speed disobey traffic rules, ride your motorcycle in an unsafe manner, while in UNIFORM, PEOPLE NOTICE!!!!!!!

When you have obscene or violent bumper stickers on your vehicle and then get out while wearing your UNIFORM, PEOPLE NOTICE!!!!!!!

When you say outrageous things, or use vulgar language while in UNIFORM, PEOPLE NOTICE!!!!!!!

When you wear the UNIFORM dirty, sloppily, incorrectly, or in an unserviceable condition, PEOPLE NOTICE!!!!!!!

I want to emphasize that most PEOPLE

notice the good that you do! I just want to place a gentle reminder for all of you about how you represent the organization.

I want to make sure that you "GET NOTICED" for all the right reasons.

Retiree Service Office

Office:
Anderson Readiness Center
3225 State Street
Salem, OR 97309

Phone:
503-584-2891, or
1-800-452-7500, ext. 2891

Hours:
Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

E-mail:
ORRSO@or.ngb.army.mil
Web: www.orngretirees.info

Mail: Retiree Service Office
PO Box 14350
Salem, OR 97309

NEWS

162 Engineers participate in international training competition

Story and photo courtesy of Capt. Bob Baca,
Commander, 162 Engineer Company

HELMAND PROVINCE, AFGHANISTAN—Under a bright Afghanistan sun in August, the 4th Platoon of the Oregon Army National Guard's 162 Engineer Company met with British Royal Engineer Soldiers to spend a day comparing and learning about each other's tactics, techniques, and procedures for clearing routes of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs).

The meeting happened at the IED lanes on Camp Bastion, in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan. The British Engineers began the day by demonstrating how they operate when clearing a route that is suspected to have IEDs hidden in and along the road.

The Oregon Soldiers watched as the British Engineers located, marked, and destroyed the emplaced training IEDs. One of the British NCOs briefed 4th Platoon on exactly how, and what the British Engineers were doing during the demonstration.

Staff Sgt. Seeger and 1st Lt. Selander asked questions and listened, as they were told of past encounters and challenges that came with operating in this region of Afghanistan.

Once all the questions had been answered, it was time for the Oregon Soldiers of 4th Platoon's dismounted route clearance sweep team to show and explain to the British Engineers how the Oregonians have been operating for the past eight months in Helmand.

Seeger explained to the British Engineers how the

Inverted-V sweep worked, and how to use the hand held IED detection technology, while 4th Platoon Soldiers showed off their expertise during a practical exercise.

The Oregon Engineers ended the demonstration with the use of the air digger, mounted on the Buffalo.

The British Soldiers responded with looks of approval and amusement. They stepped closer to see the effect of the pressure exerted by the apparatus on the Afghanistan soil.

The two different nations completed the day at the IED lanes with a Tallon robot race. These robots assist the Engineers of both countries to help find, mark, and destroy the IEDs while keeping Soldiers at a relatively safe distance.

The race consisted of the robots carrying a bottle of water in their claws from the starting line, around a course, and back to the start/finish line.

The Tallon rolled through an obstacle course containing a three-foot deep ditch, and stacked wood pallets. The operator of the robot had to drop the water bottle into a wheel barrow at the other end of the course and pick up a second bottle of water, which was placed on a 50 gallon drum.

The robots returned to the finish line with the new bottle still in its claw. The Soldiers lined up on each side of the ditch, with the Oregon Citizen-Soldiers on the left side, and the British Soldiers on the right.

The British Engineers gave the Oregon Guard Soldiers a run for their money, and while the race was close, it was the 162 Engineer Company who won the event. After the



Soldiers with the Oregon Army National Guard's 162 Engineer Company and the British Royal Engineers pose for a group photo following an international demonstration competition for clearing IEDs, near Helmand Province, Afghanistan, Aug. 27.

race both groups congratulated one another, exchanged tokens of appreciation, and took part in a group photo.

This gathering of Engineers allowed all the Soldiers to collect and compare technical notes, but more importantly, to help write a multinational "how-to" handbook on route clearance, which will help future engineers in the Helmand Province as well as a training guide for colleagues back in the U.S.

Oregon's 162 Engineers recognized for their hard work, sacrifice

Story by Kimberly Lippert,
Oregon Military Department Public Affairs



Photo by Reuters

A military convoy makes a day-long drive while delivering supplies to the remote U.S. Marine base in Helmand province, southern Afghanistan, March 6, 2010. Oregon Soldiers are assisting with route clearance as part of the U.S. Marine Corp 2nd Combat Engineers.

The Soldiers of the 162 Engineer Company arrived in Afghanistan November 2009 for a dangerous, yet important mission—clearing improvised explosive devices from routes in Afghanistan.

"The number of Improvised Explosive Device (IED) events have challenged the Soldiers mentally and physically," said Capt. Bob Baca, Commander of the 162 Engineer Company.

Attached to the U.S. Marine Corp 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion, Oregon's Soldiers have assisted in clearing 25,000 km of route, during over 6,000 hours of active missions. The Soldiers encountered nearly 200 IED events during their deployment.

"The shortest mission we have done for the entire deployment has been eight hours one way," Baca said. "Almost entirely, missions stretch for days and have been on occasion 70 hours one way, continually

addressing the counter IED threat."

Baca also said he has kept his Soldiers focused by training and consistently refocusing on the mission at hand.

"Soldiers understand the daily risk involved and it leaves very little room for complacency," he added.

Baca said the vehicles have required tremendous maintenance since they are the unit's main weapons.

Of the 100 Soldiers deployed with the 162 Engineers, 82 remain in country. They will return to the state in November 2010 as a highly decorated unit—more than 13 Bronze Star Medals, 78 Combat Action Badges, 60 Army Commendation Medals and five Purple Hearts have been awarded to Oregon's citizen-Soldiers.

"Our Soldiers have literally set the standard for performance and have helped develop and evolve the IED," Baca said.

Baca said Soldiers are proud of what they have accomplished and are ready to return to their state and families.

Oregon CST commander graduates from Homeland Security School

Story by Sentinel Staff

MONTEREY, Calif. - The commander of the Oregon Army National Guard's 102nd Civil Support Team recently graduated with a Master of Arts Degree in Security Studies from attend the Center for Homeland Defense and Security (CHDS) course offered by the Naval Post-Graduate School.

Oregon Army National Guard Lt. Col. Lance Englet attended the 18-month online and in-residence program. The course is offered to individuals from both government and non-government agencies including members of the National Guard.

He said this course is important to National Guard members because of the increasing role of citizen-Soldiers and citizen-Airmen in homeland security and domestic operations.

"The National Guard is key because of the role it plays historically with state and local agencies," Englet said. "(This class) is about bringing future change makers and leaders together in an environment where they can deal with complex problems and learn from one another."

Englet said as the National Guard becomes more involved in domestic operations, Soldiers and Airmen will work closer with state and local first responders. The course brings experts throughout domestic operations and emergency response together with the people working in the field on a daily basis.

"I think the CST is at the front end of working with civilian first responders," Englet said. "When we have an event, we will be working with law enforcement, fire response, and non-government volunteer groups."

During his coursework, Englet collaborated with homeland security officials from across the nation on current policy, strategy, and organizational design challenges. His thesis made recommendations enhancing the current force structure of CSTs to assist local, state, and federal first-responders.



Photo courtesy of CHDS

Lt. Col. Lance Englet, Oregon National Guard 102 Civil Support Team Commander, accepts his diploma from Gen. Keith B. Alexander, Commander of USCYBERCOM, at the Center For Homeland Defense and Security (CHDS) at the Naval Post-Graduate School in Monterey, Calif., Sept. 24. Alexander is a graduate of NPS with a MS in physics.

Each student of the rigorous course completes a thesis on a current issue facing his/her jurisdiction. These theses often translate into policy and practice.

The CHDS has developed a cadre of education programs and resources which are shared with other academic institutions around the country as part of its University and Agency Partnership Initiative (UAPI). The CHDS is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), National Preparedness Directorate, within the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Englet was among twenty-six students who received degrees from CHDS as part of ceremonies at the Naval

Postgraduate School on Sept. 24. He said he believes the coursework is valuable to all National Guard members because of the new emphasis being placed on the Guard by federal and state agencies to oversee domestic security incident response.

Englet pointed to a recent paper by the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, Gen. Craig McKinley, in which the general said the National Guard brings to the United States the best value for the investment. McKinley said the strength of the U.S. is based on the militia concept of National Guard members tied to the communities they serve.

"I think the National Guard is very much the value-added force, and if they want to retain legitimacy with other agencies, we have to support programs such as the CHDS," Englet said.

CHDS Director, Glen Woodbury said members of the National Guard are critical in disaster response, homeland defense and home land security. CHDS provides an opportunity for National Guard members to interact with representatives of agencies with whom they may have to partner with before and after manmade or natural disasters, he said.

"Fostering these relationships, building critical thinking skills, and encouraging leaders to explore and consider multiple perspectives ultimately serves the National Guard as a whole and the country at large," Woodbury said.

Englet said he doesn't see the next domestic emergency as a matter of 'if' but a matter of 'when'.

"We don't know where the next domestic incident is going to happen," Englet said. "But wherever that incident is, there are 460,000 National Guardsmen who are going to be a part of that response—weather it's a little one, or a Hurricane Katrina-type event."

The program was established in 2002, and is located at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif. It is the nation's premier homeland security graduate program. For information, visit www.chds.us.

NEWS

Kulongoski caps role as Governor with 3-116 CAV mobilization ceremony

Governor Ted Kulongoski glances out of the Army cargo plane at a rugged Oregon.

Beneath him, state government teeters like a beach house on an eroding cliff.

Unemployment is stuck at 10.6 percent. School teachers, prison wardens and people with disabilities wait with increased sense of desperation: what can be done, where is the governor.

But when the plane lands, Kulongoski steps out into cheers.



LA GRANDE, Ore. - Just weeks after President Obama declared an end to combat, the 3rd Battalion, 116th Cavalry headquartered in La Grande mobilized for Iraq on Sept. 21.

Their mission has a new name: Operation New Dawn, but an old and dangerous undertaking: guarding convoys and U.S. bases, supporting the Iraqi army and police.

More than 500 Oregon Army National Guard Soldiers heading to Iraq have a clear mission, so does the governor.

He steps onto the tarmac and for the next three hours, will shake Soldiers' hands. Already, the former Marine is the longest serving governor during wartime. He has sent more Oregon Guard troops to war in units than any other (12,000 Soldiers and Airmen).

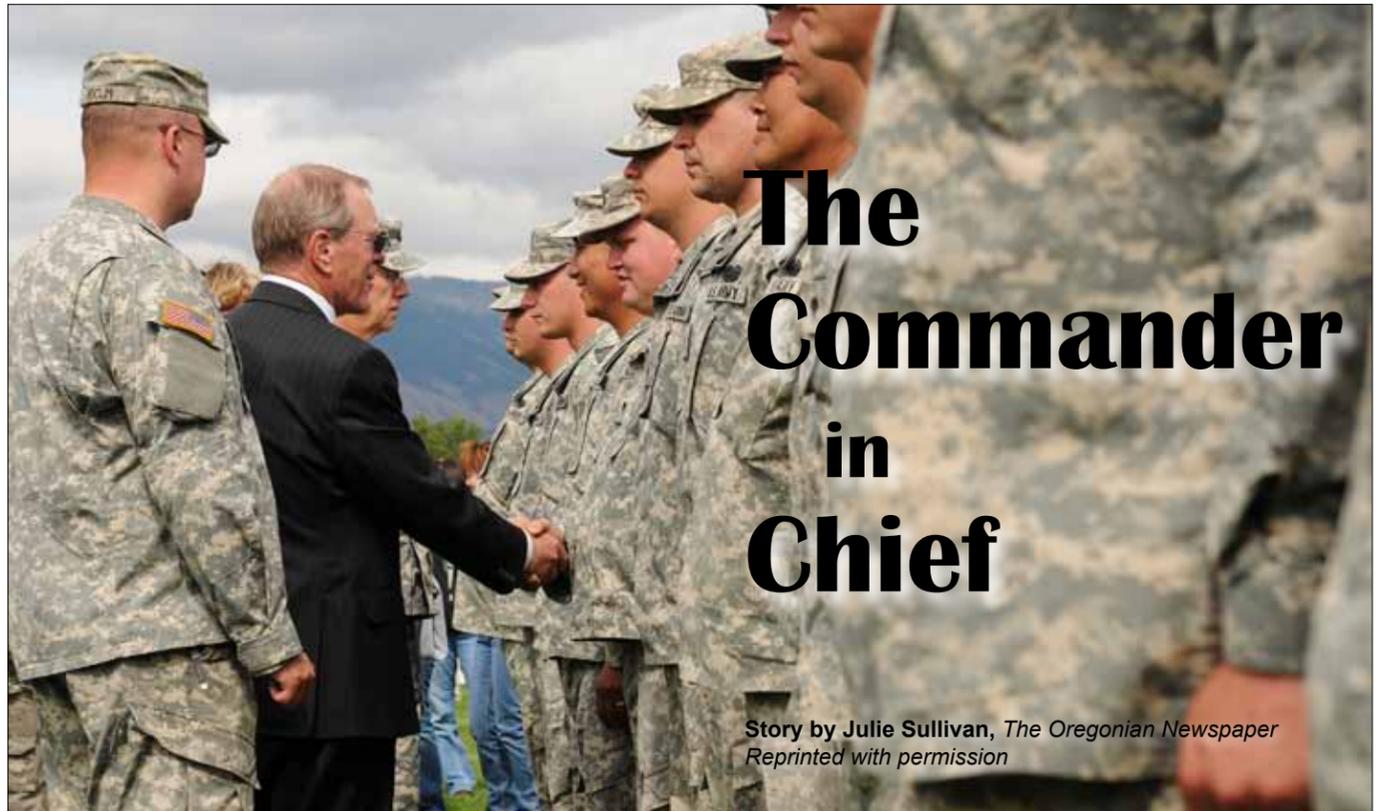
He has traveled to Iraq three times and Afghanistan twice. He has spoken at nearly every deployment and demobilization -- 17 last year, 11 so far this. He has attended and given eulogies at the funerals and memorials of more than 120 service members killed in action.

And in the waning months of his administration, his role as commander in chief of the Oregon Guard has become a major enduring accomplishment of his administration.

In the moments after an emotional ceremony at Eastern Oregon University, he said, "I truly believe when I get ready to cross to the other side of the river, the last thoughts I'm going to have are the men and women of the Guard. They are the ones that I have taken such great pride in, I identify with them."



Oregon Army National Guard Lt. Col. Phillip Appleton, 3-116 CAV commander, comforts his daughter following his unit's mobilization ceremony.



The Commander in Chief

Story by Julie Sullivan, *The Oregonian Newspaper*
Reprinted with permission

Photos by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

Above: Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski shakes hands with members of the Oregon Army National Guard's 3rd Battalion, 116th Cavalry, following the unit's mobilization ceremony at the Eastern Oregon University Community Stadium in LaGrande, Ore., Sept. 21. Left: The man who stood beside Kulongoski through most of his tenure as Governor of Oregon; Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, The Adjutant General, Oregon.

"So if you're asking me what will tell me I lived a good life, it's that I stood up for these people."

At the ceremony, men and women from Ontario, Baker City, La Grande, Pendleton, The Dalles, Hermiston, Hood River and Woodburn stand in the sun, the last day summer.

"I truly believe when I get ready to cross to the other side of the river, the last thoughts I'm going to have are the men and women of the Oregon Guard."

— Ted Kulongoski, Governor of Oregon

More than 500 Oregonians will serve with 1,500 members of the Idaho National Guard. The Idaho mobilization was a picnic the week before the ceremony.

Oregon ceremonies, though, are steeped in military protocol that begin and end with the governor. After speeches and the presentation of flags, Kulongoski always walks to the lines of Soldiers and one-by-one shakes their hands.

He asks: Where are from? How long have you been in the Guard? How many have you deployed?

And the answers. "More than 20 years," says Staff Sgt. Matthew Mintz of Garibaldi.

"Three times to Iraq, five times total, including to Guantanamo Bay and Hurricane Katrina."

Kulongoski grips Mintz' hand listening and murmurs his thanks and encouragement. As he moves to the next Soldier, Mintz says, "It's nice he's here, but there is no way to make this easier."

But the governor has worked to make their return much easier. His task force on veterans' affairs put service officers on college and university campuses, created new state rules to protect veterans' jobs, and required all public agencies to help identify veterans and connect them to benefits.

The task force also spun off cutting-edge pilot programs on suicide, military sexual trauma, traumatic brain injury and housing help. Education has been a focal point. Kulongoski, a former Marine who went to college and law school on the GI Bill, pushed through tuition and housing assistance for student veterans.

He's also made the Oregon Guard

more essential. After the Kim family was lost in southern Oregon two years ago, he placed all emergency management and homeland security under the Oregon Military Department.

"I decided there would be one person the governor turns to who could get people where they were needed to help."

people."

He doesn't want citizens to forget the price parents have paid.

"I don't think anyone can comprehend what it means to a parent to make the investment in a son or a daughter and then have them die -- and have to ask 'Does anyone care?'"

"What I try to do is fill the vacuum and say, 'I care.'"

Karl Johnson, a chief medic from Scappoose, was the last man standing on the field, waiting for the governor's handshake.

Married just six weeks ago, his wife Helen and children Dezaray, 12, and Jessy, 9, waited as the governor shook hands with the hundreds of Soldiers standing in front of him.

The kids laid on the grass; Helen fought back tears.

He'd been serving in the California Guard when he noticed how much support and attention Oregon Guard received from their state leaders. He transferred to Oregon where he was happy to wait for Kulongoski.

The governor finally reached him. "We've met," Johnson said with a big smile.

"Oh yes," Kulongoski breaks into a smile. "Oh yes, oh yes."

They stood like old friends, shaking hands. It's his third deployment, he told the governor.

"Thank you, thank you. Be safe."

The Soldiers had an hour between the speeches and boarding buses for Boise and final training in Mississippi. They expect to reach Iraq in December.



Throngs of well-wishers and family wait for Soldiers in formation as the governor personally greets them one by one. Kulongoski has made this ritual a tradition at each ceremony.

NEWS

Going Green

Oregon National Guard opens environmentally-sustainable facilities throughout the state

Story by Kimberly Lippert, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

The Oregon National Guard has become a national model for its focus on using green technology.

This year alone, the Oregon Military Department dedicated four major facilities using green technology, like solar panels, energy efficient mechanical systems, and environmentally safe finishing projects.

In August, military and civilian leaders dedicated the Captain John W. Brown Armory in Ontario, Ore.

The 36,000 square foot facility is powered by a hydrothermal-based heating system, making it one of the largest solar power arrays on the Idaho Power Company's electrical grid.

The Armory's green design meets the leadership in energy and environmental design (LEED) standards and is currently being considered for silver certification from the U.S Green building association.



A view of the solar array outside the Captain John W. Brown Armory in Ontario, Ore.

"We are living in a world where energy prices are driving the need toward sustainability..."

— Roy Swafford, Oregon Military Department Installations Manager

"We are living in a world where energy prices are driving the need toward sustainability, and that means finding a way to operate buildings more efficiently and at a lower cost," said Roy Swafford, Oregon Military Department Installations Manager.

Builders are currently working on a follow-up project at the Ontario Readiness Center called the Ontario Solar Installation center.

Swafford said there are three types of solar installations within the project; a tracking mechanism allowing the solar panels to track with the sun, a fixed system, and one which will be used to monitor meters and display the energy output.

"Our goal is to stay ahead of the power curve...particularly with solar," said Jim Willeford, Facilities Director for the Oregon Military Department.

Under Oregon law if a department does a million dollars or more in a construction project it has to spend one percent or more toward solar power Willeford said.

In addition to providing training for Soldiers, the new facility will also provide much-needed space for college classes.

Students from nearby Treasure Valley Community College will utilize the classrooms, and athletic teams will be able to use the Readiness Center's gymnasium for additional practices throughout the year.

In addition, the solar panels used at the Ontario Readiness Center will also serve a dual use as a training tool for students.

"I'm excited to be a part of implementing the college's use of this new center, and to continue strengthening the partnership we have (with) the Oregon National Guard," said Dana Young, President of Treasure Valley Community College.

"The Readiness Center also boasts an array of solar panels that not only provide power for the site, but will also serve as a training facility for TVCC's emerging solar power program," Young added.

In Springfield, Ore., officials dedicated the 162 Infantry Regiment Readiness Center



A view of the interior lobby of the Maj. Charles L. Deibert Operations Facility.

in September. The facility runs on green energy with a minimal amount of solar panels and a highly-efficient mechanical system.

"It's a win win for us and the community," Swafford said.

The Major Charles L. Diebert Operations Facility in Salem, dedicated in August, also boasts a variety of green innovations. The 39,000 square foot facility will house the 2-641 Aviation and the 102 Civil Support Team. Builders used environmentally friendly products, and a highly-efficient heating and cooling system.

The paints used in the facility are made with low volatile organic compounds (VOC).

According to the EPA, indoor air is one of the top five hazards to human health with paints as the leading causes of indoor pollution.

Low VOC paints reduce toxins in the air, because they release very minimal toxins into the air, reducing breathing hazards.

Swafford said the Oregon Military Department is in the midst of upgrading existing armories with back up power generators – about 25 percent of the armories now have them.

"The armories are a community center and part of the emergency infrastructure – if the community needs a collection point then we are set for those operations as well," he said.

With the help of federal and state stimulus funding in 2009, the Hood River, Coos Bay, and Prineville armories received \$1 million or more of restoration.

The funding also helped make a significant amount of improvements at Biak training center in Bend, Ore., which includes a new restroom shower facility, updated classrooms, and paving projects.

"In today's world with diminishing resources finding a way to operate with less cost helps us live within our budget," said Swafford.

All of these green building projects are bringing the Oregon National Guard into a new future, Swafford said.

"For us the need to reduce expenditures and find ways to operate buildings more efficiently is pushing the need to make these changes," he added.

New Armed Forces Readiness Center dedicated in Springfield

Story by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy,
Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

The Oregon National Guard held a dedication ceremony for the Lane County Armed Forces Reserve Center in Springfield, Ore., Sept. 27.

The 156,000 square foot facility, which will serve as the new headquarters for 2 Battalion 162 Infantry, includes a full service kitchen, a 7,400 square foot assembly hall, and six classrooms totaling almost 6,000 square feet.

The classrooms and facilities can be utilized by community partners and organizations, such as local Scout Troops, Drivers Education and Canine Obedience Training groups.

"The project has exceeded our expectations by integrating and becoming a foundational part of the community," said Doug MacDonald, facilities community liaison.

Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski, U.S. Congressman Peter DeFazio, Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, The Adjutant General, Oregon, and Springfield Mayor Sid Leiken attended the ceremony.

The facility is located at 3110 Pierce Parkway in Springfield. In addition to the Oregon Army National Guard, the new facility will house offices for the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, the United States Navy, and U.S. Marine Corps.

Joseph Calcara, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations and Housing also attended the ceremony. Calcara oversees all physical installations throughout the United States Army.

Following the Lane County dedication, Calcara spent the day touring other Oregon National Guard facilities including the Maj. Charles L. Deibert Operations Facility in Salem, Ore., and



Photo by Sgt. Jason VanMourik, Oregon Military Dept. Public Affairs

Members of the official party participate in the ribbon cutting portion of the Oregon National Guard's Lane County Armory dedication ceremony, in Springfield, Ore., Sept. 27. From left to right are: Joseph F. Calcara, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations and Housing; U.S. Congressman Peter DeFazio, Fourth District, Oregon; Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, The Adjutant General, Oregon; Oregon Governor Theodore R. Kulongoski; and Springfield Mayor Sid Leiken.

the new Armed Forces Readiness Center at Camp Withycombe.

The building's contractor is Wildish Building Company, and architects are Barrentine Bates Lee. The building was completed in 2009 at a cost \$34 million.

NEWS

The Oregon National Guard: 100 years of fighting forest fires

Story by Warren Aney,
Special to the Oregon Sentinel

The Oregon National Guard's first forest fire-fighting duty took place 100 years ago this August.

A particularly bad forest fire season prompted requests for Oregon National Guard assistance in August 1910. Five units were sent to fight fires threatening the Portland City watershed, private property east of Portland, a local sawmill, and settlers and private forest in Linn County southeast of Brownsville.

Oregon National Guard units in Portland received fire fighting orders on Aug. 24, 1910. Battery A and Company K were sent to a fire southeast of Gresham, where they engaged a conflagration along the Multnomah-Clackamas county line, where strong east winds had created a firestorm.

Three other rifle companies proceeded to the vicinity of Marmot, east of the town of Sandy, where five fires were burning in that area. Their marching orders had come from the U. S. Forest Service.

The Oregon Citizen-Soldiers fought a fire threatening the pipeline for Portland's water

system and a lumber mill on private forest land near Boring. Their efforts saved a fish hatchery on the Salmon River, and large tracts of forest on Zig Zag Mountain.

On Aug. 26, 1910, The Oregon National Guard unit based in Albany received orders to proceed to Brownsville, where they saved a sawmill twenty miles south of the town.

Although not trained for this particular duty, the Oregon units came equipped with axes and shovels, bedrolls and camping gear, and their own command and support structure. The Portland units even experimented unsuccessfully, at the time, with wireless communications.

These Oregon National Guard Soldiers were used to living under simple and primitive conditions, so the austere environment they encountered in the forests came as no surprise.

Their combination of organization and discipline was cited as an important reason for successfully controlling several fires over a wide area, where they dug fire lines and set backfires.

T. H. Sherrard, Supervisor of the Oregon National Forest, said, "The success with which these fires were handled was largely



Photo courtesy of the Oregon Military Museum

Members of the Oregon Army National Guard's Battery A fighting fires near Gresham.

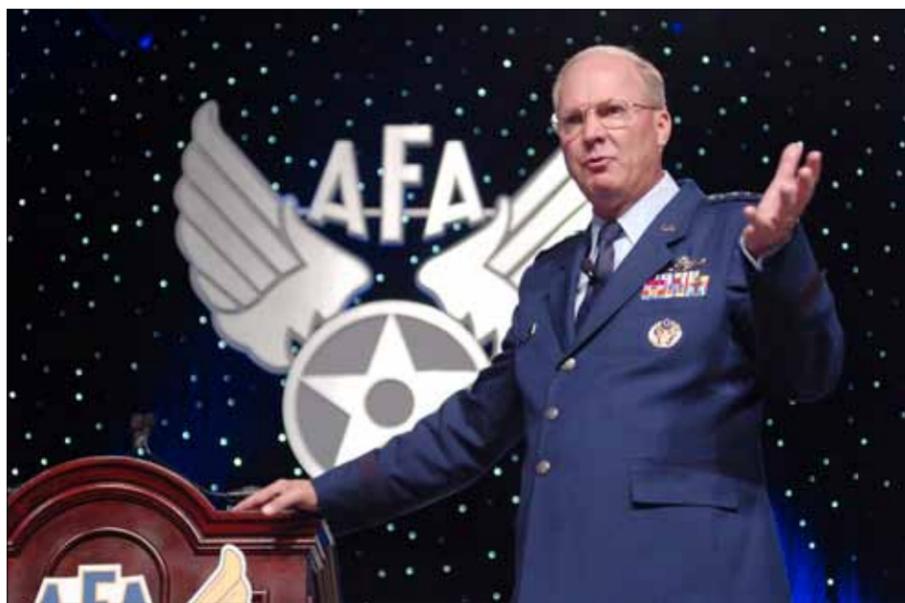
due to the effective service of the troops."

On Aug. 28 the individuals fighting the fires were relieved to see rain clouds. With the shifting winds and coming rains, the fires

were largely brought under control.

The Albany unit went home on Aug. 29, and the Portland units were sent home the next day.

National Guard is a national treasure, says NGB Chief



Air Force Gen. Craig McKinley, chief of the National Guard Bureau, speaks to a room of Air Force leaders during the 2010 Air Force Association Air and Space Conference, in Oxon Hill, Md., Sept. 14, 2010.

Story and photo by Sgt. Darron Salzer,
National Guard Bureau Public Affairs

OXON HILL, Md. —The National Guard is a national treasure that we need to preserve and protect, said National Guard Bureau Chief at the 2010 Air Force Association Air and Space Conference in Oxon Hill, Md., Sept. 14.

"The dual mission of the National Guard, and its ability to combine and work with local, state and federal governments, makes us a force that I think is arguably a force that this nation cannot do without," said Gen. Craig McKinley.

The National Guard has always had a dual mission at home and abroad, but it is now also considered an operational reserve providing forces for missions in Iraq, Afghanistan, the Sinai, Haiti, the Horn of Africa and Kosovo.

"The citizens of the United States expect the full might of the armed forces to come to their aid in the event of a natural disaster, and the National Guard has been there every

time," McKinley said.

Since Hurricane Andrew in 1992 and then Katrina in 2005, the Guard has made rapid improvements to its response with local, state and federal governments.

"Our domestic mission is a piece of our fabric, it's a piece of our culture," he said.

McKinley also described the overseas missions the Guard has been a part of since the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

"The Army Guard has been involved in operations for the last nine years, while the Air Guard is going on nearly two decades," he said.

"The Air Guard has been supporting the Air Force, and has been fully integrated into operations, such as Northern Watch and Southern Watch.

"Under great leadership, the Air Guard has been able to achieve this full integration with the active force and perform its missions in a very professional manner."

Currently, about 44,000 Soldiers and 10,000 Airmen are deployed in support of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Former America's Got Talent contestant help local community with magic

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

The Sept. 11 show raised \$5,000 for the memorial.

The military-themed performance brought the audience back through some of the experiences Anderson went through as an Oregon Army National Guard flight medic in Afghanistan and a pilot in Iraq where he connected with injured children by utilizing his skills as a magician.

"The greatest medicine I could administer was magic," said Anderson.

During the show, Anderson weaved pictures of the kids from Iraq in with magic tricks he did overseas including making snow—a trick he devised after he received a special request from an injured Iraqi girl.

"Magic broke down language barriers and allowed us to communicate and brought smiles to their faces," Anderson said.

Anderson deployed to Afghanistan with the Oregon Army National Guard's 1042nd Medical Company as a flight medic, and to Iraq in 2009 with Charlie Company 7-158 Aviation as a pilot.

He started doing magic when he first entered the military and continued through his most recent deployments. Anderson said when he wasn't on a mission he would volunteer in the hospitals doing magic tricks for those recovering from injuries.

He remembers a particular incident where he did a magic trick for a severely burned Iraqi boy who would never cry or laugh.

"When I did tricks for him he would smile and the nurse said it was the only time he would ever show any emotion," said Anderson. "It makes you feel really good."

During the Sept. 11 fundraiser show, Anderson brought audience members on stage to include them in his tricks. He said every part of his show is based on a real life event.

"My goal is to take the audience and not only give them a first-rate show but transport them into the areas when that (situation) happened," he said.

Anderson's journey to the stage at Canby High School came after a chance meeting with Mike Breshears, a fellow Canby resident and disabled Vietnam veteran.

For the past ten years Breshears has been working hard to complete the Vietnam Era Veterans Memorial at 991 SW First Ave, in Canby. A sour economy left him \$10,000 short of completion.

"I decided to do a benefit show in my hometown and donate 100 percent of the proceeds to the memorial," said Anderson. "As a veteran myself, I wanted to do something to help."

The Sept. 11 show raised \$5,000 for the memorial.

"I was wounded in Vietnam and I was never able to thank the medevac pilot that saved my life," said Breshears. "I'll always thank Scott for what he has done."

Since returning from Iraq in January, Anderson's has performed magic on stages



Photo by Master Sgt. Thomas Hovie, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

Oregon Army National Guard Chief Warrant Officer 2 Scott Anderson goes through a magic trick during a show held in Canby, Ore., Sept. 11, 2010. Anderson helped raise over \$5,000 for a veterans memorial during the show.

across the country with a stint on NBC Nightly News, and the hit NBC show America's Got Talent, where he made it to the top 50 before being voted off. But it's

often the smallest shows that mean the most.

"It feels really good to know we raised a lot of money for the memorial," said Anderson. "I'm glad I was able to help out."

NEWS

AZUWUR

OREGON NATIONAL GUARD

TRICARE available for gray-area retirees

Story by Kimberly Lippert, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

On Sept. 1, 2010, TRICARE launched TRICARE Retired Reserve or TRR, which allows members who are not yet age 60, also known as “gray area” retirees, to purchase TRICARE health coverage for themselves and their eligible family members.

“This new program offers a health coverage opportunity for “gray area” Guardsmen and Reservists who served America Honorably,” said Navy Rear Adm. Christine Hunter, deputy director of the TRICARE Management Activity.

The TRICARE Reserve Retiree Program will cost \$388.31 per month for single coverage and \$976.41 per month for family coverage through the end of the calendar year. On Jan. 1, monthly premiums will increase to \$408.01 for single coverage and \$1,020.50 for family coverage.

The cost of TRICARE Retired Reserve is substantially higher than TRICARE Prime, which is available for active duty Soldiers and their families. TRICARE Prime active duty Soldiers pay no enrollment fees or annual out of pocket expenses. Beneficiaries pay annual enrollment fees of \$230 per year for individuals or \$460 per year for families.

Gray area retirees number about 180,000 throughout the National Guard and Reserve. The group is defined as those whose service has ended but their retirement benefits have not started.

In addition to the monthly premiums, those enrolled in the new program must meet an annual deductible before health costs are covered. The current annual deductible is \$150 for individual coverage and \$300 for family coverage.

For more information on TRICARE Retired Reserve please call Triwest Healthcare Alliance 1-88-874-9378.

Measure 70 to benefit veterans, families

There is a measure on the ballot this November which would expand availability of home loans to veterans of the National Guard, non-combat veterans and those serving after Sept. 11, 2001.

Under existing law nearly two-thirds of Oregon veterans—including most from Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan—do not qualify for the loan program today.

Measure 70 allows for an amendment to the Oregon Constitution making loans available to more veterans, low interest home loans be a lifetime benefit, and an increase in the number of honorably discharged veterans and surviving spouses who are eligible for the low-interest loan program.

Army Guard names top recruiter



Photo by Guy Britnell, Recruiting and Retention Battalion Marketing Director

Oregon Army National Guard Brig. Gen. Charles Yriarte, Assistant Adjutant General, presents the Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees Recruiter of the Year Trophy to Sgt. 1st Class Glenn Fisher at the Recruiting and Retention Battalion's Annual Conference, held in Bend, Ore., Sept. 9. Fisher achieved 363 percent of his assigned recruiting mission in fiscal year 2010.

Pons takes over as 1-186 commander



Story and photo by Cadet Troy Goossen, 1st Battalion, 186 Infantry Regiment

ASHLAND, Ore. – Officers and Soldiers from across Oregon gathered at Raider Stadium on the campus of Southern Oregon University for the change of command ceremony for the Oregon Army National Guard's 1st Battalion of the 186th Infantry Regiment, Sept. 12.

Lt. Col. Gregory Day of Grants Pass, Ore., relinquished command to Lt. Col. Kenneth Pons of Roseburg, Ore.

The Mayor of Ashland, Dr. John Stromberg, and SOU President, Dr. Mary Cullinan attended the ceremony, as well as Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, The Adjutant General, Oregon, Col. Eric Bush, commander of 41 Infantry Brigade Combat Team.

Rees awarded Day the Meritorious Service Medal for his superior performance and dedication after more than two years as battalion commander. Day returned from Iraq with the 1st Battalion in early 2010.

“Lieutenant Colonel Pons brings with him a unique host of experiences,” Bush said. “He is the right man for the right job.”

OREGON NATIONAL GUARD ULTRA RUNNING CLUB

ul·tra [uhl-truh]: Any organized footrace extending beyond the standard marathon running distance. Ultra races typically begin at 50 kilometers and can extend to enormous distances. Ultras can be run on roads, trails or tracks.



If you're interested in learning more or becoming a member of the Oregon National Guard Ultra Running Club, please contact Lt. Col. Cary Miller at Runner_trail@yahoo.com

OREGON NATIONAL GUARD POST DEPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE (Reintegration Program)

The Oregon National Guard wants to see you succeed, and is ready to help with employment, health care, college, or other matters.

Call toll-free: 1-888-688-2264, 24-hours, 7-days per week

visit our website at: www.orng-vet.org

OTHER CONTACTS FOR ASSISTANCE

- Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)

- Oregon Military Department: 1-800-452-7500

- VA Hospital, Portland, Ore.: 1-800-949-1004

- VA Hospital, Walla Walla, WA: 1-888-687-8863

- VA Hospital, Boise, ID: 208-422-1000

- VA Hospital, Roseburg, Ore.: 541-440-1000

- Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs: 1-800-828-8801

- Veterans Administration: www.va.gov

- Military One Source: www.militaryonesource.com

or: 1-800-342-9647



NEWS

Oregon Air Guard sends F-15 package to United Arab Emirates

Oregon Airmen to take part in month-long overseas training tour



Right: An Oregon Air National Guard F-15 Eagle from the 142nd Fighter Wing in Portland, Ore., takes flight with full afterburner, on its way to an overseas training tour in the United Arab Emirates, Oct. 2. Above: Oregon Air National Guard Maj. Adam Stiler goes through the pre-flight check of his F-15-C Eagle prior to take-off from the Portland Air National Guard Base, Portland, Ore., Oct. 2. The Oregon Air National Guard sent a package of six jets and support personnel for an overseas training tour in the United Arab Emirates. The group will return to Oregon in November 2010. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. John Hughel, 142nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs).



Ducks visit Oregon Guard's newest building

University of Oregon cheerleaders tour Maj. Charles L. Deibert Operations facility



Above: The University of Oregon cheerleading squad visited the Oregon Army National Guard's Maj. Charles L. Deibert Operations Facility in Salem, Ore., Sept. 22 for a facilities tour. The group took advantage of a parked UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter for an impromptu photo opportunity.

Left: Oregon Army National Guard Soldiers give the University of Oregon "Duck" a boost. From left to right are; Staff Sgt. Justin Thomas of Delta Co., 7-158 Aviation, and Staff Sgts. James Tournay and Mark Carter, both of Charlie Co., 7-158 Aviation.

Photos by Spc. John T. Dowd, 115th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Oregon Airmen assist with Corbett memorial stadium



Photo courtesy of 142FW Civil Engineers

The community of Corbett turns out for the dedication ceremony of the Jeff Lucas Memorial Veterans Stadium on Sept. 4. Oregon Airmen helped with the construction of the project.

Story by Sentinel Staff

PORTLAND, Ore. – The Oregon Air National Guard's 142nd Fighter Wing's Civil Engineering Squadron assisted with construction on a high school stadium in Corbett, Ore.

The Airmen worked alongside Corbett community members to erect a new 400-seat Corbett High School stadium grandstand and football sports complex in honor of local hero, Jeff Lucas.

During a period of two weeks, masons, carpenters, steel workers, electricians and other Air National Guard civil engineers poured concrete, weaved electrical wires together and installed steel pillars as the new stadium and complex took shape.

The program is part of the Innovative Readiness Training Program (IRT), which improves military readiness while providing quality construction services to local communities throughout Oregon.

The stadium grandstand and football sports complex was dedicated as the Jeff Lucas Memorial Veterans Stadium in time for Corbett High School's first football game of the season on Sept. 4.

Jeff Lucas was a Corbett High School graduate who joined the U.S. Navy, becoming a Navy Seal. He was killed in action in 2005.