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Oregon Sentinel

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE OREGON NATIONAL GUARD

Oregon CERFP trains to respond during emergencies



Photos by Sgt. 1st Class April Davis, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

Oregon National Guard Soldiers and Airmen of the CBRNE Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP) conducted a training exercise, April 8-9, 2017, at Camp Rilea in Warrenton, Oregon. The CERFP trains to respond to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive incidents. They provide search and extraction, medical triage, and decontamination. Role-players added realism to the two-day training exercise. **Inset Left:** The Decontamination Team prepares a simulated casualty for decontamination. **Inset Center:** The Search and Extraction Team rescues a simulated pregnant woman from the rubble. **Inset Right:** The Medical Team assesses and treats simulated injuries.

1186th Military Police mobilize for Afghanistan

Story by Spc. Michael Germundson,
115th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

SALEM, Oregon – The Oregon Army National Guard’s 1186th Military Police Company, based in Salem and Hood River, Oregon, was honored in a mobilization ceremony, May 25, 2017, in Salem, Oregon.

Approximately 30 Soldiers are scheduled to deploy to Afghanistan in support of Operation Freedom’s Sentinel (OFS). The Soldiers were selected for a special mission to provide a Personal Security Detail (PSD), protecting individuals for the International Security Assistance Force in support of the theater operational commander and other high profile personnel.

The Military Police (MP) Soldiers spent their three-week annual training in May 2017 at Camp Rilea, near Warrenton, Oregon, working on warrior tasks, battle drills, combat life-saver training, weapons qualification, and then focused on specific training for their PSD mission.

The Oregon Army National Guard’s Pre-Mobilization Training Assistance Element (PTAE), a team of eight Soldiers that have experience from prior deployments, conducted the training at Camp Rilea.

“We’ll work with units ahead of time to create a package of training suited to the unit’s specific mission,” said Sgt. Nick Wolchesky, an instructor with the PTAE.

The training is fresh on the mind of



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class April Davis, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

Oregon Army National Guard Spc. Nicholas Newson, of the 1186th Military Police Company, receives a hug from his father, Mark, following his mobilization ceremony, May 25, 2017, in Salem, Oregon. Newson is among 30 Citizen-Soldiers scheduled to deploy to Afghanistan where they will provide Personal Security Detail (PSD), protecting high-profile individuals for the International Security Assistance Force.

one Soldier who recently graduated from Military Police training and was completing her first annual training.

“I’m the newest add for the deployment,” said Pvt. Alex Broussard, an MP with the

1186th MP Co. “I look forward to going to a new country with my unit and look forward to the experience I’m going to

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Electronic submissions, story ideas or questions to: Sentinel-Editor@mil.state.or.us. **Hard copy submissions can be sent via U.S. Mail to:** Oregon Sentinel Editor, P.O. Box 14350, Salem, OR, 97309.

COMMAND

Every successful mission requires teamwork

As I travel throughout the state of Oregon, the nation, and even the world, I have the distinct honor of witnessing the teamwork and character of Oregon National Guardsmen. I interact with Guardsmen working at their home units and at state training facilities conducting annual training. In other states, I meet Oregon Guardsmen training and preparing for deployment. At home and abroad, I see Guardsmen helping our partner agencies and partner nations with disaster preparedness and relief.

Teamwork does not emerge naturally – it requires individuals with a high degree of moral character. Character is the foundation for all of our core values. It generates trust and leads to collaboration and a willingness to sacrifice personal interests for the good of the team. Teamwork overcomes adversity and obstacles that individuals cannot overcome on their own. The missions we perform in the Oregon National Guard cannot be accomplished by

any single person alone. They require a team of individuals with character and dedication to one another and the mission – whether it's a crew of Soldiers firing a Howitzer or a crew of Airmen launching an F-15.

Teamwork is necessary at every level within our organization: at the unit level, at the battalion/group level, at the brigade/wing level, and at the state level. It goes to the very heart of what it means to be a good "wingman" or "battle buddy." Together, we are one team in one fight. In order to be successful, we must engage each other, communicate, and work as an effective team.

We are all a part of multiple teams in our lives. From our friends and family, to our civilian occupations and individual Guard units, being a good teammate means putting the interests of the team above personal interests. As a team of professionals, we answer to a higher calling. It means



Major General Michael E. Stencel,
Adjutant General,
Oregon National Guard

suspending judgment and seeking first to understand another's perspective. It means choosing and supporting the best plan instead of your own.

A quote from former President Harry S. Truman sums up the true spirit of teamwork and character, "It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit."

A two-way street; reflections on respect and leadership

When I was a cadet, I had to memorize "Schofield's Definition of Discipline" which goes like this:

"The discipline which makes the soldiers of a free country reliable in battle is not to be gained by harsh or tyrannical treatment. On the contrary, such treatment is far more likely to destroy than to make an army. It is possible to impart instructions and to give commands in such a manner and in such a tone of voice as to inspire in the soldier no feeling but an intense desire to obey, while the opposite manner and tone of voice cannot fail to excite strong resentment and a desire to disobey. The one mode or other of dealing with subordinates springs from a corresponding spirit in the breast of the commander. He who feels the respect which is due others cannot fail to inspire in them regard for himself; while he who feels, and hence manifests, disrespect toward others, especially his inferiors, cannot fail to inspire hatred against himself." – Major General John M. Schofield in an address to the Corps of Cadets, U.S. Military Academy on August 11, 1879.

everyone needs to feel valued and treated with the respect that any other member of the unit gets. It equates to fair treatment. Being ignored or treated differently than others in the unit produces alienation and decreased desire to contribute.

Respect rests on the abilities each of us has to assess others and communicate that we understand and value their contribution. Sometimes this is something as simple as a nod, a wave, a glance in passing that tells the other person that you are aware of their presence and what they are engaged in. Most of us either joined or stayed with the military in part because of the teamwork or camaraderie we feel. To feel the camaraderie or feel like a part of the team, we need to ensure we are contributing and that our efforts are helping the overall success of the team, unit, staff, or other organization that we belong to. Most of us long to be fully engaged, to use every bit of capability we have, to know, in the end, that we did contribute to an effort larger than what one person could accomplish alone. We all hunger for engagement and success.

Leaders have a key role in the communication, setting the tone, and communicating expectations. Those of us in the military know that "what is inspected is what gets done" and the basis of all military inspections is to get close enough to observe and evaluate. Leaders need to take the time



Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Steven R. Beach
Former Assistant
Adjutant General - Army

to look and observe, to take the time to let subordinates know whether what they are doing meets expectations or not. Leaders need to feel strongly in the worth of each individual and each individual's contribution. Value those you lead highly and their loyalty and accomplishments will surprise you.

As human beings, we rely a lot on our ability to communicate with words. We often underestimate the body language or other communication that "springs from a corresponding spirit" inside each of us. It takes work to observe and highly value those around us, to allow the respect for their diverse talents and abilities to show, and most of us find it hard to put those observations into words. We needn't worry about the words. When you work hard to feel respect for others and yourself, it will show.

ORNG bids farewell to Command Sgt. Maj. Lake



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class April Davis, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

The Vice Chief of the National Guard Bureau Lt. Gen. Daniel Hokanson (left) presents Command Sgt. Maj. Shane Lake, former Oregon National Guard Command Senior Enlisted Leader (CSEL), with a certificate of retirement during a ceremony, June 4, 2017, at Camp Withycombe in Clackamas, Oregon. Lake served as CSEL when Hokanson was the Adjutant General, Oregon. He was also Hokanson's brigade command sergeant major during the 2009-10 deployment to Iraq with the 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class April Davis, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

Command Sgt. Maj. Shane Lake, alongside his family, renders his last salute to Soldiers and Airmen in attendance at his retirement ceremony, June 4, 2017, at Camp Withycombe in Clackamas, Oregon. Lake served in many enlisted assignments throughout his 27-year career, finishing his last four years as the Oregon National Guard's Command Senior Enlisted Leader in which he was responsible for the welfare, readiness, morale, development, and care concerning all enlisted personnel of the Oregon National Guard.

COMMAND

Oregon Army National Guard brigadier general retires in ceremony

Story and photo by
Sgt. 1st Class April Davis,

Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

CLACKAMAS, Oregon – Oregon Army National Guard Brig. Gen. Steven R. Beach retired after 33 years of military service in a ceremony, May 6, 2017, at the 41st Infantry Division Armed Forces Reserve Center at Camp Withycombe in Clackamas, Oregon.

Beach most recently served as the Assistant Adjutant General – Army. In this role, he was responsible for synchronizing, coordinating and directing the Oregon National Guard's Army and Joint enterprise functions in support of the strategic plan, vision and guidance of the governor and the adjutant general. He ensured that the organization fulfilled its assigned missions and priorities, while adhering to all statutory, regulatory and policy requirements. He made strategic contributions with his work on the Oregon National Guard's Strategic Direction, the State Partnership Program, as well as his passion to preserve organizational history with the Oregon Military Museum.

Beach was presented with a letter from Governor Kate Brown on the occasion of his retirement, "In your years of service you have brought proficiency and expertise to challenging assignments and have been a tremendous asset to the Guard," the letter read. "Your presence and skills will be missed by many. May you continue to find challenge and reward in the years ahead."

Maj. Gen. Michael Stencel, Adjutant General, Oregon, presented Beach with the Oregon Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit and his Certificate of Retirement during the ceremony. He was also presented with several gifts from Oregon National Guard units that he led and supported throughout his career.

"Brig. Gen. Beach has been a superior leader and mentor throughout his career and has emulated the definition of what a

senior leader should be," said Stencel. "His contributions have made a lasting impact on the organization and will continue to do so for many years to come."

Beach graduated from the United States Military Academy in May 1984 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics and Math, and he earned a Master's in Business Administration from George Fox University in 2002.

His military education includes Field Artillery Officer Basic Course at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, in February 1985; U.S. Army Ranger school in April 1985; Nuclear Biological Chemical and Small Arms Courses in 1986; Public Affairs Officer Course in 1990; Infantry Officer Advanced Course in 1992/93; Combined Arms and Services Staff School in 1996; Information Operations Course in 1999; and Command and General Staff College in 2002. He completed U.S. Army War College through a National Security Fellowship at Harvard in August 2008 to May 2009.

His first military assignments were in the active duty U.S. Army as the fire support team chief and the fire direction officer (1985-87) with 2nd Battalion, 3rd Field Artillery, at Kirch-Goen, Germany. He then became executive officer for the 42nd Field Artillery Brigade at Giessen Army Depot (1987-88).

Beach joined the Oregon Army National Guard in 1989. He served as the brigade public affairs officer for the 41st Infantry Brigade from 1989 to 1992. He commanded Company B, 1st Battalion, 162nd Infantry Regiment (1992-95). He led B Company to Panama as the opposing force in a training exercise against an 82nd Airborne Division battalion (1993). He also took the company to Operation Northwind in Hokkaido, Japan (March 1994).

He served full-time from 1989 to 1994 in the Counter-Drug Support Program. In 1998, he served for five months at U.S. Army Europe headquarters to plan



Maj. Gen. Michael Stencel (left), Adjutant General, Oregon, presents Brig. Gen. Steven R. Beach, Assistant Adjutant General – Army, with a Certificate of Retirement after 33 years of military service during his retirement ceremony, May 6, 2017, at Camp Withycombe in Clackamas, Oregon.

operations for National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve troops in Bosnia. In 1999, he was selected as the first information operations officer for the 41st Infantry Brigade. He transferred to the Military Department in 2003 as a point of contact for the Strategic Management System and assisted in the train-up of the 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team for deployment to Afghanistan. He served as Chief of Staff of the Oregon Army National Guard (2004-2006). He was then assigned to Camp Rilea in July 2006 as operations branch chief and subsequently became the post commander.

Following War College, he deployed as the brigade executive officer with the 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team from May 2009 to April 2010. He served as the deputy brigade commander of the 82nd Brigade Troop Command (2010-2011) and

later assumed command of the brigade in 2013. He has been serving as the assistant adjutant general since June 2014.

His awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal with four Oak Leaf clusters, Army Achievement Medal with Oak Leaf cluster, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal with five Oak Leaf clusters, National Defense Service Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with M and 20 devices, Overseas Service Ribbon, Combat Infantryman Badge, Parachutist Badge, and Ranger Tab.

General Beach and his wife, Diane, were married in 1992 and live in Newberg, Oregon. In his civilian employment, he has worked for Intel Corporation in Hillsboro, Oregon, since 1994.

State JAG promoted to brigadier general position with NGB

Story courtesy State Judge Advocate,
Oregon National Guard

CLACKAMAS, Oregon – Oregon Army National Guard Col. Daniel "Dan" J. Hill, the Oregon National Guard State Judge Advocate, is scheduled to be promoted to the rank of brigadier general in a ceremony, June 4, 2017, at the 41st Infantry Division Armed Forces Reserve Center Camp Withycombe in Clackamas, Oregon.

Hill has been selected to serve as the Assistant to the Chief Counsel, U.S. Army National Guard, National Guard Bureau, The Pentagon, Washington D.C., effective June 1, 2017. This position is one of two general officer Judge Advocate positions in the Army National Guard, the other being the Chief Counsel. Hill will be the traditional (part-time) National Guard Judge Advocate advisor to The Judge Advocate General of the Army concerning the technical supervision and rating of National Guard military judges (at state request), as well as Army National Guard legal personnel training, readiness and related military law matters, and perform such duties as are requested by the Chief Counsel.

In his civilian career, Hill is an elected State Court Circuit Judge in Umatilla and Morrow Counties, 6th Judicial District, Oregon, exercising general jurisdiction over criminal and civil matters. He was originally elected in 2004 and re-elected in 2010 and again in 2016. The military promotion and new position will not change his judicial duties with the 6th Judicial District, or his residency in Umatilla County. He is a member of the Oregon Bar Association, the U.S. District Court for Oregon, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Services.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class April Davis, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

Newly promoted Brig. Gen. Daniel J. Hill receives his one-star general officer flag during a promotion ceremony, June 4, 2017, at Camp Withycombe in Clackamas, Oregon. Hill, the Oregon National Guard State Judge Advocate, was selected to serve as the Assistant to the Chief Counsel, U.S. Army National Guard, National Guard Bureau.

"A true Citizen-Soldier, Col. Hill's selection is a testament not only to his performance in the Oregon National Guard, but also to his proven abilities and years of service as a circuit court judge in Umatilla County," said Maj. Gen. Michael E. Stencel, Adjutant General, Oregon.

Hill was born in Pendleton, Oregon, and resided in and attended school in Hermiston, Oregon. He received his Juris Doctorate from Willamette University College of Law in 1986, his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Oregon State University in 1983, and his Associate of Arts degree from Blue Mountain Community College in 1981.

Following graduation from law school, Hill was the Legislative Aide to Charles "Chuck" Norris, State Representative, District 57, and Colonel, U.S. Army (retired). Following the end of the 1987 legislative session, Hill was commissioned directly into the Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAGC) in September 1987. In 1990, following his active duty tour, Hill returned home to Hermiston, Oregon, where he engaged in the practice of law and in 1991 joined the Oregon Army National Guard. Hill's solo private practice consisted largely of business law, real property law, estate planning and probate, and domestic relations. During that period, Hill was at different times concurrently the elected Municipal Judge for the City of Hermiston, the City Prosecutor for the City of Hermiston, and an appointed half-time Circuit Judge pro-tem.

Hill mobilized twice with the 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Oregon Army National Guard. He was the Task Force Staff Judge Advocate (SJA) in 2005 during domestic support operations following Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans. He then deployed as the SJA for Joint Combined Task Force Phoenix V in Kabul, Afghanistan, in 2006.

Hill has held a variety of military

positions, most recently appointed by Governor Kate Brown as the State Judge Advocate, Oregon National Guard, in 2015. His other assignments include: Deputy State Judge Advocate, the first Regional Defense Counsel, 4133 Regional Trial Defense Team (West), ARNG Trial Defense Service; Brigade Judge Advocate (BJA), 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT); Staff Judge Advocate (SJA), Combined Joint Task Force Phoenix V, Afghanistan; SJA, 41st IBCT, Task Force Pontchartrain (Operation Southern Relief, Hurricanes Katrina and Rita); SJA 82nd Brigade (Troop Command); Assistant SJA, 82nd Brigade; Trial Counsel, USA Air Defense Center and Fort Bliss, Brigade Judge Advocate, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment; Legal Assistance Attorney.

As Trial Counsel, Hill tried cases before General and Special Courts-Martial and the US Magistrates Court as a Special Assistant US Attorney. In 1997, Hill accompanied the 116th Cavalry Brigade Combat Team, Idaho Army National Guard, to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., for annual training. In March 2007, Hill co-authored "Mentoring Afghan National Army Judge Advocates: An Operational Law Mission in Afghanistan and Beyond" published in the Army Lawyer, Department of Army Pamphlet 27-50-406.

Hill's awards include the Bronze Star Medal; Meritorious Service Medal with three Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters; the Army Commendation Medal, and numerous other awards. His military education includes the U.S. Army War College (Masters in Strategic Studies 2014), the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, the Judge Advocate Advanced course, the Judge Advocate Officers Basic Course, and numerous specialized courses.

NEWS

Oregon Soldiers prepare for security mission overseas

Continued from Front Page

gain.” More than half of the Soldiers deploying on this mission have previously deployed. The 1186 MP Company deployed to Afghanistan in 2011 and to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, in 2004. The unit also provided domestic operations support in Louisiana following Hurricane Katrina in 2005. For Sgt. Robert Frey, a team leader with the 1186th MP Co., this will be a return trip to Afghanistan and a chance to build on his past deployment experiences. “I’ve been doing this for 11 years and look forward to going back to Kabul,” said



Photo by Spc. Michael Germundson, 115th MPAD

Oregon Army National Guard Sgt. Samuel Tapia, with the 1186th Military Police Company, stands guard during Personal Security Detail (PSD) training in preparation for deployment to Afghanistan, May 18, 2017, at Camp Rilea in Warrenton, Oregon.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class April Davis, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

Oregon Army National Guard Soldiers with the 1186th Military Police Company stand in formation during a mobilization ceremony honoring their upcoming overseas deployment, May 25, 2017, in Salem, Oregon. Approximately 30 Citizen-Soldiers scheduled to deploy to Afghanistan where they will provide Personal Security Detail (PSD), protecting high-profile individuals for the International Security Assistance Force.

Frey. “It’s a NATO environment and you work beside military units from around the world.” The veteran Soldiers have deployed as base security as well as jail security elements, but PSD is a new type of mission for them. “As a small platoon we have to cross-train and adapt to each job,” said Capt. Richard Smith, who will command the 1186th platoon while deployed. “This job is 100 percent paranoia; watching your sector and your buddies, keeping your situational awareness up at all times.” Several Soldiers received PSD training prior to the annual training at Camp

Rilea and were able to help mentor the other Soldiers. The annual training was a chance for the deploying platoon to work through real world situations based on current tactics and in-country social norms. The platoon of Soldiers was able to work through many situations in a training environment that included the surrounding towns near Camp Rilea. “If we didn’t have this training prior to mobilizing, we wouldn’t be as bonded,” said Spc. Jacob Labato, a driver with the 1186th MP Co. “PSD is brand new to me and this has been a crash course on PSD.” The 1186th MP’s are no strangers to tough training scenarios. In August 2015,



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class April Davis, OMD Public Affairs

Oregon Governor Kate Brown greets Oregon Army National Guard Soldiers of the 1186th Military Police Company to wish them well on their overseas deployment during a mobilization ceremony, May 25, 2017, in Salem, Oregon.

the 1186th MPs spent 12 days conducting live-fire exercises and simulated battle scenarios at the National Training Center (NTC), in the Mojave Desert at Fort Irwin, Calif. The unit also partners with local law enforcement agencies for training. They recently partnered with district and federal agencies to provide security, crowd management and traffic control during the 58th Presidential Inauguration, January 18-22, 2017, in Washington, D.C. The unit is scheduled to complete additional pre-deployment training at Fort Bliss, Texas, before deploying overseas.

Kingsley Airmen return from deployments around the globe



Master Sgt. Osten Coaty embraces his sons after returning from a six-month deployment to the United Arab Emirates, May 2, 2017.

Story and photo by Senior Airman Riley Johnson, 173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KLAMATH FALLS, Oregon – The 173rd Fighter Wing welcomed home Airmen deployed with the wing’s first ever large-scale deployment throughout the spring of 2017. The group of Kingsley Field Airmen deployed under a new process called Reserve Component Periods (RCP) in which they support the active component with operations throughout the world. “This is the first time we have conducted a deployment of this scale,” said Tech. Sgt. Kalani Kolii, the program manager for the deployments. This RCP sent Airmen to countries around the world including United Arab Emirates, Djibouti, Qatar, and Kuwait among others. “Being our first RCP deployment, it was a learning experience,” said Kolii. “There were a lot of lessons learned and it sets us up for success with future deployments.” The deployed Airmen were from many

career fields and represented nearly every organization at Kingsley Field. “I have been in contact with the deployed members of the command section and I am proud of the job that they have done,” said Tech. Sgt. Jefferson Thompson, 173rd FW command section deployment manager. “They have really worked hard and served in a way that represents our wing very, very well.” The first 173rd FW Airmen departed in October of 2016; and six have returned as of May 5, 2017. Klamath Falls community members and Kingsley Field Airmen gathered at the Crater Lake – Klamath Regional Airport on May 2 to welcome home Master Sgts. Osten Coaty and Monika Wilder, who are both 173rd FW Airmen. “I couldn’t imagine what transpired at the airport,” Coaty said of the more than 60 people from the local community gathered to welcome him and Wilder home when they stepped off an aircraft. “Our community goes above and beyond to make us feel welcome.” Coaty, a chaplain assistant with the

wing, deployed to Al Dhafra Air Base, United Arab Emirates. “Coming home brings a huge sense of relief and accomplishment,” Coaty said. “I wanted to do as much as possible over there for the 4,000 Airmen stationed there.” Strings of 12-hour days and few days off over his six-month deployment left him tired upon his return but also satisfied with the accolades earned, including the first Inspector General (IG) inspection in 25 years, which netted his section an “outstanding” rating and several best practices. “I received nothing but support throughout this deployment and it is a great feeling to be home,” Coaty said. Deployed Airmen will continue to return throughout 2017 and even into 2018. For many, these deployments are part of military service, something the Oregon National Guard emphasizes in the mission statement, which reads; “A ready force equipped and trained to respond to any contingency. When we are needed, we are there.”

A Company, 641st Aviation deploys Soldiers to Middle East



Photos by Sgt. 1st Class April Davis, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

Ten Soldiers with Company A (-), 641st Aviation Regiment are scheduled to deploy to the Middle East to perform transportation missions utilizing the C-12 fixed-wing aircraft.

Left: Oregon Army National Guard Soldiers with Company A (-), 641st Aviation Regiment, were honored in a mobilization ceremony, June 28, 2017, at Camp Withycombe in Clackamas, Oregon.

Right: Oregon Army National Guard Maj. William Townsend holds his son, Thomas, following a mobilization ceremony, June 28, 2017, at Camp Withycombe in Clackamas, Oregon. Townsend will command Company A (-), 641st Aviation Regiment, while deployed to the Middle East.



NEWS

102nd Civil Support Team helps secure Boston Marathon

Story and photos by
Capt. Leslie Reed, Oregon Military
Department Public Affairs

BOSTON, Mass. – Members of the Oregon National Guard’s 102nd Civil Support Team (CST) added another elite event to their ever-growing resume; supporting the 121st annual Boston Marathon on April 17, 2017.

“It’s a pretty high-profile mission, all of us here are happy to be a part of it,” said Oregon National Guard Staff Sgt. Jamel Mercado, a survey team chief with the 102nd CST.

Oregon National Guard Cpl. Jeffrey Mayes, a survey team member with the 102nd CST, said he was the first to volunteer for this mission, “I got the email and I was the first one to respond, ‘Let’s go to Boston!’ I’m super stoked and ready. Maybe one day I will run in the Boston Marathon.”

Last year, the 102nd CST supported

the U.S. Olympic Trials (track and field) at the University of Oregon in Eugene, and the 2016 International Association of Athletics Federation (IAAF) World Indoor Championships (track and field) in Portland, Oregon. Many of the unit’s previous experiences were supporting stadium-style events, but the Boston Marathon was entirely different.

Oregon National Guard Maj. Adam Lulay, 102nd CST operations officer, said two factors set this particular mission in Boston apart from previous experiences.

“The number of people is something we aren’t accustomed to, along with the distance, 26.2 miles,” said Lulay.

Capt. Douglas Patterson, operations officer with the 1st CST, Massachusetts National Guard, agreed that the size of the event influences the mission.

“The last number I heard was 39,000 runners. It’s going to be a beautiful day, 60-degrees, sun, and one million spectators. And on top of that there’s going to be a baseball game, so it’s going to be jam-packed with people,” said Patterson. “If we’re not where we are supposed to be, we’re no good to the commonwealth.”

Every state and territory in the U.S. has a Civil Support Team, but the magnitude of the Boston Marathon called for a larger response.

“We can’t do it with just our 22 people, we rely on our outside agencies and we brought in more than 20 CSTs to help out,” said Lt. Col. Jeffrey Winn, commander of the 1st CST and Task Force CBRNE, Massachusetts National Guard.

The task force members said they were taking their jobs very seriously due to the events that occurred at the marathon four years ago. That history certainly raised the stakes as a reality of why they are there to provide support.

“It’s really a testament to what the Civil Support Team does and what the National Guard does in general,” said Massachusetts National Guard Lt. Col. Ryan Floyd, Joint Task Force Patriot commander, 79th Troop Command commander and director of security cooperation. “We are there to support one another. We are one team and it means a lot to everyone who had witnessed the attack, or any other attack in the United



Staff Sgt. James Kivlehan and Sgt. Marvin Lamarre, both of the Massachusetts National Guard’s 1st Civil Support Team (CST), prepare and test their radios near the start of the Boston Marathon, April 16, 2017, in Hopkinton, Mass. The Massachusetts National Guard hosted CST units from more than 20 other states who responded to their call for assistance to provide a safe and secure experience for race participants and spectators.

States. When we are in need, our Citizen-Soldiers come together.”

Oregon’s 102nd CST members were assigned as members of Joint Hazard Assessment Teams (JHAT) during the marathon. Both Mayes and Mercado were paired up with Army Explosive Ordnance technicians and first responders (either police or firefighters) to form teams of three. The teams then roamed around their respective sectors keeping both the general public safe and relaying pertinent information to the task force as necessary.

Floyd said the opportunity to work together created a learning environment.

“The benefit is the multitude of different experiences, different perspectives,” said Floyd. “There are standing operating procedures and standards, but we all know that a lot of times it’s ingenuity that gets things done. And when you have many diverse people come together, it just shows what you can accomplish.”

Mayes echoed the sentiment, saying he gained new insight on tactics and integration.

“We have the same job title, but we all do things a little bit differently,” said Mayes. “I can learn things here that we can take back to our team.”

Even though the 1st CST and the 102nd CST are located on opposite coasts, the CST brotherhood is a small community and many of the Soldiers and Airmen working the marathon have either worked missions together or attended training together.

“It’s almost like a family reunion,” said Lulay. “I’ve seen about five folks that I went to my initial training with.”

Lulay said the experience has been nothing but positive, “It’s been nice here, they’ve taken great care of us, they prepared us well, and the training here has been professional and hopefully maybe we can have them come and help us sometime.”

Mercado believes the best thing about the CST is truly serving his community, “I’ve been overseas to Iraq twice and Afghanistan once, and now I can truly say when I put on a uniform, I’m doing something that’s going to better my neighbors potentially, keep my community safe.”



Oregon National Guard Cpl. Jeffrey Mayes, a survey team member with the 102nd Civil Support Team (CST), and Staff Sgt. Christopher Kubas, with the North Carolina 42nd Civil Support Team, conduct a security sweep in preparation for the start of the Boston Marathon, April 17, 2017, in Boston, Mass.

Oregon Military Department breaks ground for new headquarters

Story by
Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

SALEM, Oregon – The Oregon Military Department held a ground breaking ceremony for the new headquarters building in Salem, Oregon, June 16, 2017.

Dignitaries in attendance at the ground breaking ceremony included Heidi Moawad, Public Safety Advisor to the Governor; Maj. Gen. Michael E. Stencel, The Adjutant General, Oregon, City of Salem Mayor Chuck Bennett; Oregon Representatives Paul Evans, John Huffman and Rick Lewis; Charles “Larry” Deibert, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army, Oregon; as well as other community and military leaders.

The Oregon Military Department’s purpose is to administer, house, equip and train the Oregon National Guard - a ready force to support the governor and a reserve force to the U.S. Air Force and the U.S. Army.

The Oregon National Guard has a long tradition and history dating back to 1843. The National Guard is found in both the U.S. Constitution and the Oregon Constitution. The tradition and history of the Oregon National Guard was grounded on the basis of its motto, “When we are needed, we are there.” Nearly 8,000 Soldiers and Airmen currently serve in the Oregon National

Guard throughout the state, ready to respond to any contingency, natural or man-made, at home or abroad.

The new 55,078 square-foot facility is scheduled to be completed in June 2018. Total cost of the project is estimated at approximately \$25.48 million. The facility is designed to ensure operational flexibility, reduce operations and maintenance costs, and minimize the need for future remodels.

“The overall project is funded by both federal and state matching, and provides a positive impact for our Oregon economy,” said Stephen Bomar, director of public affairs for the Oregon Military Department.

Facility construction will address Green Energy requirements that will total 1.5 percent of the construction budget, and will meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold and State Energy Efficient Design (SEED) requirements.

In addition, the building will meet seismic Essential Facility requirements for immediate use following a seismic event, and will be co-located near the Oregon Office of Emergency Management to help streamline civil-military emergency response coordination.

The project is contracted by Fortis Construction Company and SERA Architects.



Photo by Christopher Ingersoll, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

Above: Dignitaries from the State Legislature, the Governor’s Office, Oregon Military Department and the design and construction teams break ground at the new Joint Forces Headquarters building in Salem, Oregon, June 16, 2017. The new 55,000 square-foot building will be Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certified and is being built near the Oregon Office of Emergency Management.

Below: Architectural rendering of the new Oregon Military Department headquarters.



NEWS

Oregon Army National Guard assists search and rescuers



Photos by Timothy Ozerkov, Portland Mountain Rescue, Team 1

Above: An Oregon Army National Guard Blackhawk (HH-60M) helicopter, with G Company, 1st Battalion, 189th Aviation Regiment, arrives to assist with evacuating an injured hiker who fell while climbing near Devil's Kitchen on Mount Hood, May 7, 2017. **Inset:** A Soldier guides the rope from the ground while a patient is hoisted into the aircraft, as rescue hikers observe. "The sound of chopper blades is always accompanied by a sigh of relief," said Timothy Ozerkov, with Portland Mountain Rescue, who was on the scene responding to the incident. "It would have been a lot more difficult for us to take the patient down the mountain by hand, especially with how fast he was deteriorating. We appreciate your help so much."



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Jason van Mourik, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

Oregon Army National Guard UH-72 Lakota helicopter crews conducted training with members of the Corvallis Mountain Rescue Unit, June 23, 2017, near Salem Oregon. The training is designed to familiarize civilian rescue personnel with helicopter rescue operations, enhancing their ability to work together to save lives in the event of an emergency. **Above:** Tyler Deboodt, a member of the Corvallis Mountain Rescue Unit, is hoisted up into an Oregon Army National Guard UH-72 Lakota helicopter. **Right:** A member of Corvallis Mountain Rescue Unit practices anchoring a rescue basket being hoisted by an Oregon Army National Guard UH-72 Lakota helicopter.



Photos by Timothy Ozerkov, Portland Mountain Rescue, Team 1

Left and Above: Oregon Army National Guard Soldiers in an HH-60M Blackhawk helicopter assisted Clackamas County Sheriff's Office with a Search and Rescue (SAR) in the Salmon River area, August 6, 2017. The SAR was a coordinated effort between Portland Mountain Rescue, Mountain Wave, Pacific Northwest Search and Rescue, Inc., AMR RAT team, and more than 30 volunteers that pulled an all-nighter to rescue an injured hiker. The ground crews located the hiker and provided first aid until the Blackhawk helicopter arrived and transported the patient to the hospital.

NEWS

741st BEB breaks down barriers



Oregon Army National Guard Soldiers with the 741st Brigade Engineer Battalion, 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team, practice breaching doors with explosives during training exercises at Camp Rilea in Warrenton, Oregon, March 4, 2017.

Story and photos by Sgt. Cory Grogan,
41st Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

Combat engineers from the 741st Brigade Engineer Battalion (BEB), 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT), conducted training at Camp Rilea, March 4, 2017, where they practiced building and breaching obstacles. Part of that training included using explosives to clear obstacles.

Alpha Company commander, 1st Lt. Eric Krause, said the 741st is a new unit in the 41st IBCT, and that the Army is moving toward utilizing more BEBs.

“If there is something in the way, we clear it for the infantry to get through - like breach a mine field or open up a door, or whatever else is out there,” Krause said.



1-186th Infantry trains at Biak



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Jason van Mourik,
Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

The 1st Battalion, 186th Infantry Regiment, 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team, conducted a three-day training exercise consisting of multiple elements including movement-to-contact, medical evacuation, and other infantry tasks, as well as incorporating multiple support elements. These exercises help Soldiers at all levels in the unit learn to work together more effectively, enhancing their capabilities to respond to any mission they may receive. **Below:** An Oregon Army National Guard infantryman, with 1-186th Infantry Battalion, pulls security during a battalion-level field training exercise (FTX) at Biak Training Center, near Redmond, Oregon, April 20, 2017.



141st BSB medics learn medevac



Photos by Sgt. 1st Class April Davis,
Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

Oregon Army National Guard Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Skidmore (left), crew chief with Golf Company, 1st Battalion, 189th Aviation Regiment, gives an aircraft safety briefing to medics with Charlie Company, 141st Brigade Support Battalion, 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team, during medical evacuation training, April 8, 2017, at Camp Rilea in Warrenton, Oregon. Medics learned the proper procedure for safely loading and unloading patients onto an HH-60M Blackhawk helicopter.



Soldiers hone infantry skills at RTI



Photos by Maj. W. Chris Clyne,
249th Regional Training Institute

Above: Soldiers provide support-by-fire during a night mission at the Advanced Leader Course conducted by the Oregon Army National Guard's 249th Regional Training Institute in Umatilla, Oregon, May 9, 2017. **Below:** Sgt. Andres Yambo, with 1st Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, gives a sector of fire to Sgt. Richard Isom, with 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, during a react-to-sniper simulation lane at the Advanced Leader Course conducted by the 249th RTI in Umatilla, Oregon, April 10, 2017.



FEATURES

Oregon National Guard hosts elite Air Assault and Pathfinder courses

Story and photos by
Staff Sgt. Anita VanderMolen,
115th Mobile Public Affairs
Detachment



Air Assault

“Line one on rappel,” is the call of Soldiers and Airmen as they prepare to lower themselves down a vertical wall. “Line one on belay,” is the response from below, acknowledging readiness for the descent. More than 200 Soldiers and Airmen from across the U.S. participated in the annual Air Assault course held at Camp Rilea in Warrenton, Oregon, May 26-June 9, 2017. Air Assault-qualified Service Members are inserted into hard-to-reach areas where a small contingent is needed to conduct air-mobile operations. A Mobile Training Team (MTT) of instructors, from the Warrior Training Center at Fort Benning, Georgia, traveled to Oregon to facilitate the training. The two-week course consists of three phases in a crawl, walk, run process. Phase One includes physical training and classroom instruction to familiarize trainees on aircraft, medical evacuation, combat assault, and Pathfinder operations. “In the classroom, Soldiers learn aircraft operations including familiarization with different aircrafts, their assets and their capabilities,” said 1st Lt. James Sturges, executive officer assigned to the MTT for the Air Assault, Pathfinder and Rappel Master



A Soldier rappels from a 70-foot tower during the Air Assault course held at Camp Rilea in Warrenton, Oregon, June 7, 2017. Students practiced rappelling from a tower in preparation to rappel from a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter in order to be awarded the Air Assault badge.

courses. Out of the classroom, the Soldiers are pushed to their physical limits. The “Day Zero” obstacle course is the first physical test Service Members must pass to stay in the course and continue with the training. “We began with 266 Soldiers and had 60 drops the first day,” Sturges said. “It’s not about strength; they don’t know techniques to negotiate the obstacle course.” Each obstacle must be completed according to the instructions given. Some obstacles have a no-fail requirement, meaning it must be completed in order to stay in the course. “I prepared for this course for two months. I did a lot of running but not enough upper body strength training. Most of the people failed the rope climbing drill on the first day,” said Oregon Army National Guard Cadet Sacha Tudela, a human resource specialist with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 821st Troop Command Battalion, 82nd Brigade (Troop Command).

Physical challenges are only one part of the obstacles the students must overcome. Instructors say a positive mindset and determination to persevere are necessary to succeed in the course. “During Phase Two Soldiers must complete a timed 6-mile march while carrying a 35-pound ruck,” Sturges said. “They also learn about sling loads and rigging inspection of loads suspended from the aircraft.”



Soldiers and Airmen rappel out of a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter during the Air Assault course held at Camp Rilea in Warrenton, Oregon, June 8, 2017. Rappelling is one of the tests Service Members must complete to be awarded the Air Assault badge. The course consists of physical training, ruck marches, classroom instruction, and hands-on practical exercises.



Soldiers signal UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter pilots that it is clear and safe for them to take their sling load, a small military trailer, and depart for its new destination. Nearly 40 Soldiers and Airmen were instructed in aircraft orientation, fixed and rotary wing aircraft, and ground-to-air communication at the Pathfinder course held at Camp Rilea in Warrenton, Oregon, June 7, 2017.

Wyoming Army National Guard Chief Warrant Officer-2 Jason Hartley, a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter pilot assigned to C Company, 5th Battalion, 159th General Aviation Support Brigade, considered the short time frames to study for tests as the most difficult part of the course.

“Learning new skills and being pushed to the limits is the best part of the course,” said Hartley. In Phase Three, Soldiers begin rappel training from a 70-foot tower to prepare for the culminating and final tests. Utah Army National Guard Sgt. Christy Layne, a crew chief assigned to 1st Battalion, 211th Aviation Regiment, in West Jordan, Utah, and one of the eleven women left in the course, felt that even though it is physically challenging, the course mentally tests your limits. Overcoming her fear of heights, she said, was the most challenging part of the course. The end of the course consists of rappelling from a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter 70-90 feet off the ground



Oregon Army National Guard Cadet Sacha Tudela, a human resource specialist with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 821st Troop Command Battalion, 82nd Brigade (Troop Command), practices rappelling procedures during the Air Assault course held at Camp Rilea in Warrenton, Oregon, June 7, 2017.



Oregon Army National Guard Spc. Thomas King, a medic assigned to C Company, 1st Battalion, 186th Infantry Regiment, 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team, provides the initial check on a Soldier’s injury during the Air Assault course held at Camp Rilea in Warrenton, Oregon, June 6, 2017. King’s skills helped the Soldier continue in the Air Assault practical exercises. King was part of the medical team supporting the Air Assault and Pathfinder courses.



Pathfinder

Supplies, personnel and equipment are always needed to support U.S. Army operations. Pathfinders help ensure those deliveries reach their destination. “The job of the Pathfinder is to guide aircraft into a drop zone; they find a path from air to ground for parachutes, personnel and vehicles,” said Staff Sgt. Josh Cavalier, a Pathfinder instructor assigned to the Warrior Training Center in Fort Benning, Georgia. Soldiers and Airmen from across the U.S. participated in the U.S. Army Pathfinder course at Camp Rilea in Warrenton, Oregon, May 26-June 9, 2017. The Service Members are trained in air-mobile operations through classroom instruction and hands-on practice. Pathfinder students said the difficult tests and short study time made the course challenging and interesting. Virginia Army National Guard Spc. Evan Robinson, assigned to B Company, 3rd Battalion, 116th Infantry Regiment, was one of the few lower-enlisted Soldiers participating in the Pathfinder course. He said, “I was able to learn different operations I have never been a part of before. The best part of the training is understanding how operations are conducted and what is needed to perform each operation.” The instruction part of the course relies heavily on math skills and memory. “This course is the hardest I have been to. It is a good academic challenge; you need to know algebra, geometry, and trigonometry,” said Staff Sgt. Isaac Lund, with C Troop, 1st Squadron, 303rd Cavalry Regiment, 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team. “Drop zone survey was the hardest

section; the hardest test was the nomenclature test. You had to give the exact name in Army terms, verbatim; no short cuts.” Instructors emphasized accuracy in communication is extremely important as a Pathfinder. Use of the proper calculations, terms and symbols are necessary for understanding and mission success. The practical, hands-on applications are conducted in coordination with UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters. “Those taking the course will prepare, inspect, send and receive a military vehicle to and from a helicopter by conducting a live, verbally-initiated drop zone,” said Cavalier. Assessing and coordinating a drop zone in the constantly changing weather can cause difficulty in landing accuracy. Drops landing outside the zone are inconvenient but not always difficult. The student who calls in the drop coordinates must retrieve their package wherever it lands. Oregon Army National Guard Capt. Chris Basset, assigned to 2nd Battalion, 641st Aviation Regiment, and also a manager for the 249th Regional Training Institute at Camp Umatilla, ordered a drop, calculating for wind speed and direction. It landed in the Pacific Ocean. “I compensated for wind drift, but the wind died down just as it was dropped and the package went straight vertical,” Basset said. He said the courses are mentally difficult but keeping a “strong will and effort to get through is what it takes to succeed.” Students said they appreciated the classroom instruction, familiarization of aircraft and their capabilities, and hands-on training by skilled instructors. “We are set up for success. It is nice to have the assets to put together all we have learned in the classroom,” Basset said.



Pathfinder students hook up a sling load to a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter during the Pathfinder course held at Camp Rilea in Warrenton, Oregon, June 7, 2017. The students learned to set up a helicopter landing zone, a drop zone, and rig up a sling load as part of the training.



Soldiers check wind and weather conditions during the Pathfinder course at Camp Rilea in Warrenton, Oregon, June 7, 2017. The students learned how to negotiate the weather’s influence on a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter as it prepares to drop a package in a designated drop zone.



Oregon Army National Guard Capt. Chris Basset, assigned to 2nd Battalion, 641st Aviation Regiment, retrieves the package he coordinated to drop from a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter during the Pathfinder course held at Camp Rilea in Warrenton, Oregon, June 7, 2017. The wind speed and direction changed, causing the box to land in the Pacific Ocean.

OREGON AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Kingsley Airmen journey to Israel to support F-15 gun maintenance

Story by Tech. Sgt. Jefferson Thompson,
173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

TEL AVIV, Israel – A recent, historic transfer of operational F-15 aircraft from the 173rd Fighter Wing to Israel has facilitated an ongoing relationship as American Airmen assist the Israelis on care and maintenance of the Eagle.

“The F-15 Technical Coordination Program Office out of Robbins Air Force Base asked for Kingsley to assist [the Israelis],” said Master Sgt. Brian Monson, the armament shop lead at the 173rd FW. “They said they were impressed with Kingsley from the delivery of the nine jets back in September, so they asked for our help again.”

Two weapons Airmen made the journey to the small, allied country in the Middle East to share techniques for keeping the 20mm gun system in perfect working order.

“It’s a lot about timing and proper lubrication; timing all of the different units to work together; the handoff of the round has to be perfect between the units, there are a lot of gears in the unit and they have to be aligned just right,” Monson said.

With that in mind Master Sgt. Greg Carte accompanied him on the trip.

“He’s the most proficient gun technician in the shop,” added Monson.

“Greg’s experience really shone through as he demonstrated our maintenance procedures for them,” said Monson. “His hands-on training really helped us get past



Photo courtesy Master Sgt. Brian Monson, 173rd Fighter Wing

Master Sgts. Brian Monson and Greg Carte stand with their munitions counterparts in the Israeli Air Force, while on a joint training trip to the country, May 15, 2017. The Kingsley troops were asked to participate in the bilateral training because the jets originally belonged to the 173rd Fighter Wing and were transferred to Israel in an historic agreement last September.

the language barrier.”

That language barrier showed itself in several ways; Monson noted that their technical orders are translated from English into Hebrew and it’s not always a perfect translation. Additionally, Hebrew reads right-to-left, which is opposite the English language. Despite the differences, he said they have much in common.

“Their maintenance culture is very similar to ours,” said Monson. “It’s their life, they are really about taking care of each other, maybe even more so than us. I was very impressed.”

The schedule was tight with the exception of one day off to adjust to the local time zone. After that, it was a long five days and after a full day’s work on the



Photo courtesy Master Sgt. Brian Monson, 173rd FW

Master Sgts. Brian Monson and Greg Carte look over the feeding mechanism for the 20mm Gatling rotary gun which can fire at a rate of 6,000 rounds a minute, during a trip to Israel to help train their airmen on maintenance techniques, May 16, 2017.

last day, Monson and Carte boarded a plane at 1:00 a.m. They arrived back in Klamath Falls on Friday evening after being in transit for more than 30 hours.

“That was one of the most satisfying training experiences I’ve ever had,” said Monson. “They were really glad we came, and we worked really hard to share everything with them in five days.”

Revitalizing Air Force squadrons

Story and photo by
Tech. Sgt. Aaron Perkins,
142nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

PORTLAND, Oregon—In the continuing efforts to help reshape and improve the U.S. Air Force and how it conducts business and responds to challenges, the Air Force Chief of Staff (CSAF), Gen. David L. Goldfein, appointed a team to gather as much information and new ideas from Airmen as possible.

“I believe that it is at squadron level where we succeed or fail as an Air Force... It’s where Airmen are developed. It’s where Airmen and families thrive. It’s where training and innovation occurs. And I believe it’s where we make the most difference as leaders,” according to Goldfein.

The plan is being conducted in four phases. Phases one and two, were conducted by determining first what needed to be looked at using climate, readiness and inspection data followed by a retention survey sent out Air Force-wide to sixty-five thousand of its members, military and civilian. The survey results provided the basis for the third phase—field visits.

February through August 2017, the teams visited bases across the total force to conduct in-person interviews and focus groups to find targeted ideas and solutions

that can be applied across the Air Force. Additionally, a web-based, crowd-sourced platform will allow Airmen across the Total Force to submit insights into challenges along with recommended solutions.

During the Regular Scheduled Drill in April 2017 at the Portland Air National Guard Base, 142nd Airmen welcomed one of the teams conducting in-person interviews and focus groups. Currently, the 142nd is the only stand-alone Air Guard unit to have a field visit by the CSAF research teams, but Air National Guard members will be participating at all of the other scheduled locations.

Lt. Col. Meredith Page, 142nd Fighter Wing public affairs chief, was an attendee of the main group session and shared her thoughts about it.

“I think the Guard is unique in that sixty percent of our base is made up of traditional Guardsmen, and that we incorporate a huge amount of civilian corporate culture into our military organization. By that blending and assimilating of the two, we have been able to solve problems and get things accomplished by the ingenuity of our diverse set of Airmen,” said Page.

As for phase four of the plan, CSAF would like to have each squadron implement “Quick Wins”—improvements with immediate benefits—as they are discovered. Example: reduction of annual training requirements. Furthermore, subject matter expert working groups will conduct analysis and generate recommendations based on ideas from the field visits. Solution and implementation tracking will continue through 2020.

“It’s incredible that all the ideas and feedback our Airmen provided will be reviewed by Brigadier General Davis’ team,” said Page. “Our Airmen were able to provide a unique perspective to the team as the sole Air National Guard base on the schedule, and it is encouraging that Air Force leadership sought our input as they work to make squadrons stronger and more effective.”



Members of the 142nd Fighter Wing take part in a focus group orchestrated by the Air Force Chief of Staff to help give feedback on various areas to promote best practices and identify improvements, April 1, 2017.

550th Fighter Squadron activated



Airmen from the 173rd Fighter Wing and 550th Fighter Squadron stand at attention as the new 550th Fighter Squadron guidon is presented during an activation ceremony, July 21, 2017, at Kingsley Field in Klamath Falls, Oregon. The active duty Air Force detachment based at Kingsley Field, previously known as Detachment 2, is now officially designated as the 550th Fighter Squadron.

Story and photo by
Staff Sgt. Penny Snoozy,
173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KLAMATH FALLS, Oregon – The active duty Air Force detachment based at Kingsley Field is now officially designated as the 550th Fighter Squadron following an activation ceremony, July 21, 2017.

In 2014, the detachment was activated as a part of the Total Force Integration (TFI), which brought active-duty Airman to Kingsley Field for the first time. They were originally designated as Detachment 2, 56th Operations Group.

“As a combined operations, maintenance, and support squadron, the 550th ‘Silver Eagles’ will be one of the largest squadrons in Air Education and Training Command,” said Lt. Col. Brad Orgeron, the squadron commander. “Together the 550th Silver Eagles and the 173rd Fighter Wing will continue to produce the best air-to-air F-15C pilots for the Combat Air Force.”

550th Fighter Squadron members will

continue to fall under the command of the 56th Operations Group at Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, but will operate out of Kingsley Field alongside the Oregon Air National Guardsmen.

The TFI is designed to bolster Kingsley’s mission with additional Air Force active duty Airmen stationed at the Air National Guard base in order to increase the number of pilots trained in a given period of time.

TFI is an acronym used to describe a military organization that has both reserve and active component members working side-by-side for a common mission.

The TFI was initiated after the Chief of Staff of the Air Force directed increased production of F-15C pilots. To achieve this goal the Air Force recognized the need for additional aircraft and manpower at the 173rd Fighter Wing, the sole F-15C training base for the U.S. Air Force.

Currently, nearly 100 active-duty Airmen belonging to the 550th Fighter Squadron reside in the Klamath Basin.

OREGON AIR NATIONAL GUARD

EOD Airmen build skills during Exercise Audacious Warrior

Story and photos by Scott Sturkol,
Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office

FORT MCCOY, Wisconsin – Any time someone puts their life on the line to defuse a bomb or an explosive device it can be considered a willingness to take surprisingly bold risks, which is one definition of “audacious.”

“That’s why I thought Exercise Audacious Warrior was the perfect name for our exercise,” said Chief Master Sgt. Edward Smith with the Wisconsin Air National Guard’s 115th Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Flight in Madison, Wis.

Smith serves as an EOD program chief for EOD Air National Guard Airmen across the country. He and his unit, along with the Fort McCoy Counter Improvised Explosive Device/Asymmetric Warfare Team, trained 25 EOD Airmen for two weeks in late June 2017 during Exercise Audacious Warrior.

Audacious Warrior began six years ago as part of a larger training event, and has continued to grow and evolve each year since, becoming its own exercise. The

exercise was conducted between sites at Volk Field Air National Guard Base, Camp Douglas and Fort McCoy Total Force Training Center.

“This is an exercise that allowed them more hands-on training with the tools of their trade,” Smith said. “At Fort McCoy, with the support of the (Improvised Explosive Device/Asymmetric Warfare Team) and the spaces available, we are able to add more realism to give these EOD Airmen the kind of training they need to stay on the cutting edge of readiness for future responses.”

EOD members attended from Delaware, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oregon, Texas and Wisconsin.

“Bringing all these Airmen together here to train really provides an excellent opportunity for them to share ideas and information,” said Senior Master Sgt. Gilbert Holcomb, 115th EOD Flight superintendent. “In a career field as small as ours, sharing the (tactics, techniques, and procedures) that are successful is crucial to ensuring everyone’s success.”

Nic Casey, associate and site lead/exercise planner with contractor Booz Allen Hamilton Inc. on the Counter Improvised Explosive Device (IED)/Asymmetric Warfare Team, said his team worked with the 115th to have many training aids available for the Airmen, and they developed scenarios that needed problem-solving techniques to complete missions.

“Our team provided many training items that allowed the (EOD Airmen) to use most of the tools they have, which adds to the realism,” Casey said.

Throughout the training, the EOD Airmen completed scenarios in convoy



Oregon Air National Guard Staff Sgt. Dean Telecsan, with the 142nd Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Flight, examines a dummy munition during training, June 26, 2017, during Exercise Audacious Warrior at Fort McCoy, Wis. The exercise, coordinated by the Wisconsin Air National Guard’s 115th Civil Engineer Squadron EOD Flight and the Fort McCoy Counter Improvised Explosive Device/Asymmetric Warfare Team, trained more than 20 EOD Airmen from National Guard installations nationwide, focusing on core skills in the EOD career field.



Oregon Air National Guardsmen, Staff Sgt. Dean Telecsan, Senior Airmen Max McCluskey and Jason Calio, with the 142nd Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Flight, review a training scenario, June 26, 2017, during Exercise Audacious Warrior at Fort McCoy, Wis.

operations, populated area responses for IEDs, and more.

“This was not an inspection for these Airmen; it was an exercise to allow them to improve their abilities and learn from each other,” Smith said. “They also used the simulation training available at Fort McCoy, completed land-navigation, combatives training, and held active-shooter drills.”

Smith said the training wouldn’t have been the same without the support of the Counter Improvised Explosive Device/Asymmetric Warfare Team.

“Every time we come here, Nic and his team help us drive better scenarios that build the skills of our Airmen,” Smith said. “In our business, better skills can save lives.”

The Counter Improvised Explosive

Device/Asymmetric Warfare Team was established at Fort McCoy in spring 2014 through a contract by the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security to prepare service members for asymmetric threats.

“Our ultimate goal is to help with (Service Member) survivability when they are deployed,” Casey said. “We provide that unique training that can be customized to any region of the world to meet any unit’s training requirements and more.”

Staff Sgt. John Tourtelloutte with the 104th Civil Engineer Squadron EOD Flight at Barnes Air National Guard Base in Westfield, Mass., said he appreciated the opportunity to train at Fort McCoy.

“We’ve certainly learned a lot in our time training in (this exercise),” Tourtelloutte said.

Sweat and spears: Airmen compete in weapons loading challenge

Story by Tech. Sgt. Brandon Boyd,
142nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

PORTLAND, Oregon – Runners crave the early morning trail run. Kayakers search for the epic flow of a Northwest river. But if you’re in the military, civilian weekend pursuits can look, well, a little tame.

For the Airmen of the 142nd Fighter Wing, preparing and loading lethal air-to-air missiles on a hot tarmac is the thing to get the pulse racing, especially when you add a little friendly competition.

The 142nd Fighter Wing conducted their annual Weapons Load Competition at the Portland Air National Guard Base, May 7, 2017. High-stakes weapons loading is a high-drama endeavor. Winner-take-all the glory. Although there’s no monetary prize, being part of a weapons competition is a weapons loader’s dream.

“The weapons load competition demonstrates the capabilities and dedication to strive for perfection of the weapons load crews,” said Chief Master Sgt. Daniel Conner, 142nd Maintenance Group superintendent.

The load competition brings three teams of weapons loaders together to load three aircraft, creating a race with a tightly choreographed set of movements that essentially gets the deceptively heavy munitions loaded underneath the wing of a jet as in a real-world deployment scenario.

“We’re prepping for the real world loading of aircraft in a deployed scenario,” said Master Sgt. Damian Barnhart, aircraft armament systems mechanic for the 142nd Fighter Wing.

As Tech Sgt. Jay Aebi, aircraft armament ordnance journeyman with the 142nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, ushers

the AIM missile toward its temporary home: a supersonic F-15 Eagle fighter jet, it’s a race against time. He’s got a small team sweating, swarming like bees in a coordinated dance, prepping and loading a nest of projectiles to its rightful owner.

“Our F-15 is the perfect platform for our homeland defense mission. It is truly one of the world’s most lethal weapons delivery systems,” said Conner. “The weapons load crews maintain and load the system. I compare their job to sharpening the sword.”

Although speed is a factor, the crews were evaluated on task assignment accuracy and regulation compliance. The crew that completes the load the fastest with the least amount of discrepancies is crowned the winner. Though the weapons loading happens at a fast clip, there is a large margin of safety built into the process, a critical safeguard for the projectiles with destructive power.

“We’re always training for these things to be live. So anything unsafe could be catastrophic,” said Tech. Sgt. Elijah Olsen, aircraft armament systems mechanic for the 142nd Fighter Wing and evaluator for the competition.

Weapons loaders keep score: key metrics help decide who is allowed to prove their skills in the competition.

Olsen explained the set up, “The one man is the crew chief. He makes sure the team is loading correctly and safely and carries a clipboard with a detailed checklist, which he updates throughout the process. The two and three man prepare and load the aircraft.”

Since the early 1950’s weapons loading competitions have been a long-standing tradition with crews in the Air Force. These competitions were developed from load



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Aaron Perkins, 142nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Oregon Air National Guard’s 142nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, aircraft armament ordnance journeymen, participate in an F-15 Eagle weapons load contest to see which team can properly and safely load six missiles onto three separate aircraft, May 7, 2017, at the Portland Air National Guard Base.

crews testing their skills and speed against each other while loading their aircraft for their next missions in the Korean War.

With a 57-minute maximum load time, weapons loaders prepared and loaded two AIM-9 Sidewinder, four AIM-120 AMRAAM missiles and chaff countermeasures.

In the end, a sweating Tech Sgt. Jay Aebi and his three-man crew took home bragging rights for the weapons loading competition, coming from behind to pull

out the victory.

“We’ve got one of the best three-man jammer drivers in the business out here. It really anchored us down and made us come through,” Aebi said about how his team overcame a time deficit.

Col. Christopher Lantagne, 142nd Maintenance Group commander, conveyed his pride for the crews that competed, “At the 142nd Fighter Wing, we are the tip of the spear and these fine men and women behind me sharpen the spear.”

FEATURES

Redhawks test their resolve at Weapons Instructor Course

Story and photos by
Master Sgt. John Hughel,
142nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

LAS VEGAS, Nevada – Over the trajectory of the past year, 142nd Fighter Wing F-15 Eagles have been to the furthest reaches of the United States; first west to Hawaii in August 2016, and then east to Georgia in February of this year. Yet, not to be outdone domestically, incorporated international trips north to Canada in October 2016, and most recently this spring, deploying overseas to support missions in the Middle East. In all, it has been one of the busiest twelve months in the unit's 76-year history.

The Redhawks were called upon to travel once again, this time sending more than 120 members to Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, to support the Weapons Instructor Course (WIC), May 29 to June 16.

Building on success:

"It really shows our resolve and resiliency," said Capt. Aaron LaMont, who served as the project officer for the WIC assignment. "Its when you go on the road, you see what's it is like to be world-wide deployable."

The intense planning for WIC, like all the other assignments away from home station, begins 120 days in advance, with key areas assigned to make sure everything is covered when it's time to load up and move out.



As the sun begins to set at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., Oregon Air National Guard Lt. Col. Nick Rutgers, assigned to the 123rd Fighter Squadron, 142nd Fighter Wing, prepares his F-15 Eagle for a late day sortie, June 8, 2017.

"We start by mapping out how many people are needed, then assign key POC's (Points of Contact) within our maintenance department, finance, logistics, communication and other areas," LaMont said. "Once we know what we need to bring then we go over the rules and responsibilities."

LaMont, like many of the Redhawks, was serving on his third temporary duty assignment (TDY) this year, while a handful of others were on their fourth. The hard work has been evident as the jets are meeting their flying responsibilities and the Airmen are taking on the challenges with fluctuating shift hours and last minute schedule changes.

"Obviously the more flying we do it's harder on the aircraft and the more toll it puts on maintenance, but those guys are awesome, the jets are clean and ready to



Oregon Air National Guard Staff Sgt. Jake Huff (right), assigned to the 142nd Fighter Wing, marshals an F-15 Eagle onto the flight line at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.; June 8, 2017.



An Oregon Air National Guard F-15 Eagle, assigned to the 142nd Fighter Wing, takes off from Nellis Air Force, Nev., on a late afternoon sortie, June 8, 2017. More than 120 Oregon Air Guardsmen supported the Weapons Instructor Course during their three-week duty assignment.

go," said LaMont. "When it all comes together, we're able to be successful from the plan we built in advance."

The Nellis experience:

Soon after arriving, the work tempo, like the temperature, quickly shot up. Early in the first week, as many as three missions sets were being flown a day, with aircraft often returning back to base as others taxied off the flight line. The intensity played well into the role the Redhawks provided as the 'Red Team' aggressors, taking the fight to the 'Blue Team.'

"The training is different because our role here [at WIC], is the part of aggressors or non-American tactics, but it allows us to see the combat environment from a different approach than back at home," said LaMont.

Training tactical leaders has a long history at Nellis. The United States Air Force Weapons School was first established in 1949, as veteran flyers of WWII

formed the cadre to help instruct the next generation of pilots. The 'Red Air Support' role provided by the 142nd Fighter Wing helped to also support the instructor pilots in the weapons school.

"Nellis is the hub for tactics and training and has the best air space in the world," LaMont explained. "For the most part, the weather is great and reliable. Almost every aircraft in the Air Force inventory is involved in the course work and that simulates the combat environment necessary for this training."

When moving the 142nd Fighter Wing's F-15 Eagles from Portland's cooler and damper climate, to the Nevada desert conditions, the aircraft needed time to

make the transition. On the flight line, the maintenance Airmen knew the first few days would be busy.

"It takes a couple of days for the jets to get acclimatized to the environment, settle-in and start working more consistently," explained Master Sgt. Haina Searls, an avionics technician. "The same thing I noticed when we got to the UAE (United Arab Emirates), the first week was hard on avionics, but then the jets really started to cooperate with the dryer weather, performing superbly."

As important as getting the aircraft functioning at a high rate, it is equally important to get a good mix of the staff for the WIC assignment. Seasoned veterans, like Searls, feel it is important to bring a good number of Drill Status Guardsmen (DSG) that can spend time building skill sets.

"Our intent is to get 40 percent of our DSG's on extended temporary situations," he said. "With our nine avionics members here, five are traditional Guardsmen, and they can get more out of these missions when they focus solely on the jets."

To support the number of trips in the past year, family members pay a price too. Several members missed their kids' high school graduation ceremonies during this TDY; others missed special events like baseball tournaments or birthdays.

"I cannot say enough about my family, they are big supporters of me and our mission," said Searls. "I thank my wife everyday, as this is my third major TDY in less than a year."

Great sense of accomplishment:

As the tempo of launch and recovery of the Redhawk's F-15's kept the two shifts in concert with the flying mission, it was hard not to notice all the other aircraft in the U.S. Air Force inventory moving in the same precision. A rapid succession of F-16 Falcons, followed by 5th Generation F-22 Raptors, followed by the new kid on the

block; the joint force F-35 Lightning II.

The U.S. Air Force Weapons School stated mission is to train "Airmen skilled in the art of integrated battlespace dominance across the land, air, space and cyber domains." The depth and variety of aircraft helps distinguish the Weapons Instructor Course like none other in the Air Force, allowing the student to integrate training with airframes both new and old.

As he stood from the end of the flight line, Staff Sgt. David Schnek watched a B-52 Stratofortress trek skyward with the same type of wonder the fighter jets demand.

"When I joined the Air Force, that was the first airframe I worked on," Schnek recalled. "It's been 13 years since I watch a B-52, and it has been awesome, I don't want to miss a second of the take-off or any of the details when it leaves the air base."

Working the swing shift, Schnek and his comrades found themselves turning jets in the dark, late at night and often into early morning hours, only to have an early starting time the next day.

"We have a good group of guys, everyone is stepping up, and the shift hours keeps it interesting and helps mixes it up," he said. "When we deployed to Romania in 2015, our work schedule was often just as varied and demanding."



Oregon Air National Guard Staff Sgt. Ryan Audett, assigned to the 142nd Fighter Wing Maintenance Group, inspects the intake of an F-15 Eagle after an afternoon sortie at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., June 8, 2017.

The cumulative effect of deployments, temporary duty assignments, schools and daily undertakings with the home station alert mission has built a skilled, trained and prepared group. Even though Schenk is part of The North American Aerospace Defense Command alert team in Portland, the WIC assignment is his third diversion from his normal 24-hours-on, 48-hours-off, continuous schedule over the past two years.

"I really love it and get a great sense of accomplishment from working on the alert mission," said Schenk. "When you get the opportunity to go and work with other Air Force units, whether it be U.S. or other nations, it's great because we simultaneously learn from each other."

Major Bradley Young echoed the same sentiment as he concluded his final days in the WIC program. The long months of training have prepared him to take his flying to the next level and incorporate the knowledge with his colleagues with the 142nd Fighter Wing.

"The Weapons School has been an amazing experience," he said. "I am very much looking forward to taking everything I've learned and bringing it back to the Redhawks."



Oregon Air National Guard Staff Sgt. Zachary Cogar, a weapons loader assigned to the 142nd Fighter Wing Maintenance Group, adjusts mountings on an F-15 Eagle missile following an afternoon sortie at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., June 10, 2017.



As the sun begins to set at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., Oregon Air National Guard Lt. Col. Nick Rutgers, assigned to the 123rd Fighter Squadron, 142nd Fighter Wing, prepares his F-15 Eagle for a late day sortie, June 8, 2017.

FEATURES

Oregon Soldier competes at national Best Warrior Competition



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Paul Santikko, Minnesota National Guard

Oregon Army National Guard Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Ash navigates the obstacle course during the 2017 Army National Guard Best Warrior Competition, July 18, 2017, at Camp Ripley Training Center, Minnesota. He competed at the national level after earning the title of Oregon Army National Guard Noncommissioned Officer of the Year and was then selected as the Region VI NCO of the Year. He is an infantry platoon sergeant with D Company, 1st Battalion, 186th Infantry Regiment, 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team. He has served in the Army for 16 years and deployed in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. Ash is Combat Infantryman, Expert Infantryman, Air Assault and Pathfinder qualified. He is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in mathematics from the University of Oregon.

Story by
Sgt. 1st Class Jon Soucy,
National Guard Bureau Public Affairs

CAMP RIPLEY, Minnesota – As heavy rains fell, 14 Soldiers from 12 states battled it out at Camp Ripley in the 2017 Army National Guard Best Warrior Competition, July 17-20, 2017.

Competitors who made it through their unit, state and regional level competitions vied for the title of Army Guard Soldier and Noncommissioned Officer of the Year. The competitors came from Arkansas, Georgia, Maryland, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, Oregon, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Washington D.C., Washington state, and Wisconsin.

“Making it this far in the competition has been a surprise,” said Oregon Army National Guard Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Ash, an infantry platoon sergeant with D Company, 1st Battalion, 186th Infantry Regiment, 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team.

Ash was the oldest competitor in the NCO division during the Oregon National Guard Best Warrior Competition held in August 2016 at Camp Rilea in Warreton, Oregon. He went on to be selected as the Region VI NCO of the Year before competing at the national level.

“I really didn’t expect to win the state competition, it was just to challenge myself,” said Ash. “Much to my surprise when I was announced the winner of that

competition and heading into the region competition, I thought, ‘Ok, cool, I made it to the next level!’”

The grueling four-day competition in Minnesota stood as a hard won test designed to stress the competitors’ “physical and mental agility,” said Sgt. Maj. Darin Mjeon, the noncommissioned officer in charge of the overall competition.

“We’re going to stress these competitors, but not break them,” Mjeon said at the start of the competition. “Ultimately, we’re going to select the top NCO and the top Soldier to represent the Army National Guard at the all-Army Best Warrior Competition later this fall.”

The competitors said the events lived up to those expectations.

“They had us running, I think yesterday, for about 20 hours, moving constantly. The day before that it was pretty similar,” said Sgt. Grant Reimers, a heavy vehicle operator with the Nevada Army National Guard’s 1859th Transportation Company.

Other competitors felt similarly. “It’s definitely been one of the most challenging things I’ve ever done,” said Staff Sgt. Dustin Rottero, a drill sergeant with the Tennessee Army National Guard’s Recruiting and Retention Battalion.

But for Rottero, one of the most challenging parts was simply the other competitors.

“The other competitors, they’re all a bunch of great guys and here you have the cream of the crop of the [Army] National Guard,” he said. “You could just roll the dice, pick any one of them, and they’re going to compete and represent well at that next level.”

Competitors engaged targets with a variety of weapons, tackled numerous physical challenges on the obstacle course, called in artillery fire, performed medical tasks, ran a 13-mile ruck march, as well as numerous other physically demanding events.

“You just don’t get the opportunity to train like that, especially for me being a truck driver,” said Reimers.

The competition challenged each competitor in different ways, but for many the

mental challenges were just as difficult as the physical ones.

For Staff Sgt. Daniel Sebo, a combat medic with the Minnesota Army National Guard’s 2nd Battalion, 175th Regiment (Regional Training Institute), that mental challenge was toughest during the night land navigation course. Starting just after 3 a.m., competitors had to use a map and compass to guide them to several pre-determined points over large distances.

“As soon as you start walking through the woods, it’s cold and you’re soaked and your boots are drenched,” said Sebo. “At that moment you’re thinking to yourself, ‘Do I really want to do this?’”

For Reimers, that feeling came earlier in the competition, when competitors were required to run an unknown distance while encountering numerous tactical challenges along the way.

“My knees hurt and there was so much weight with the [body armor] and the Kevlar [helmet] and I was like, ‘Man, this pretty much sucks,’” he said.

However, competitors leaned heavily on each other to make it through the competition.

“They showed up here as competitors, but they’re now comrades,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Doug Wortham, the senior enlisted advisor of the Minnesota National Guard. “What we saw throughout this competition was competitors turning into comrades, cheering each other on, and in-turn supporting each other.”

For Wortham, that was most evident during the 13-mile ruck march.

“When that last competitor came across that [finish] line with that ruck, his whole pack of comrades were there with him, there to cheer him along the way,” he said. “That just speaks to the values of what these Soldiers mean to each other.”

Reimers said the reason for that support was simple.

“It’s really great when you can all embrace the suck together,” he said. “It just helps all around, embracing just how hard these events are. You can laugh and joke and get over it that way.”

But competitors supported each other in other ways.

“We all brought our expertise together from our specific areas,” said Sebo. “Whether it was [infantry] or truck drivers or medics, [we could] combine that knowledge so that when it came to the competition we all could put our best foot forward. We all really grew together as a team and that camaraderie developed.”

The events also challenged competitors to think on their feet.

“By design [the competitors] received very little guidance and very little direction,” said Wortham. “We did that because we wanted to make sure they could think on their feet.”

Sebo said that was especially true during the crew served weapons event, which required competitors to move between positions using



Photo by Staff Sgt. Patrick Loch, Minnesota National Guard

Oregon Army National Guard Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Ash completes the final obstacle, a 100-meter sked-pull, in the unknown-distance run event as part of the 2017 Army National Guard Best Warrior Competition at Camp Ripley, Minn., July 18, 2017.

machine guns and other weapons to engage targets.

“The only direction was, really, grab an ammo bag and engage your enemy with any weapon available,” he said.

In the end, Sebo was named the NCO of the Year, while Reimers was named Soldier of the Year.

“I just couldn’t stop smiling,” said Sebo, of his win. “It was a bit of a surprise.”

Reimers agreed.

“Honestly, I couldn’t really believe it,” he said. “Throughout the competition, talking with some of the other guys, the competition was really steep. I had no idea I was going to win it.”

Both will move on to compete in the 2017 Department of the Army Best Warrior Competition, scheduled for October, where they will compete against Soldiers from throughout the Army to be named the Army’s Soldier and NCO of the Year.

“I’ve got a lot of training to do,” said Reimers. “I didn’t do as well here as I thought I should have, so I have to hone in my skills to make sure I’m ready to go for the all-Army competition.”

Sebo had similar thoughts. “It’s a big competition,” he said. “It’s a big stage. There’s definitely going to be a lot of training going into it.”



Photo by Staff Sgt. Patrick Loch, Minnesota National Guard

Oregon Army National Guard Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Ash grinds through the push-up event during the Army Physical Fitness Test at Camp Ripley, Minn., July 18, 2017. The event, originally scheduled for the night prior, was delayed by severe weather and would be the first of many physically demanding challenges the 14 competitors would undergo on Day 2 of the competition.



Photo courtesy Minnesota National Guard

Staff Sgt. Daniel Sebo (left), from Minnesota, was named Army National Guard NCO of the Year, and Sgt. Grant Reimers (right), from Nevada, was named Soldier of the Year.

FEATURES

ORNG Youth ChalleNGe Program graduates 53rd class

Story and photos by
Christopher L. Ingersoll,
Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

BEND, Oregon – The Oregon National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program (OYCP) graduated its 53rd class on June 14, 2017, at the Deschutes County Fair and Expo Center in Redmond, Oregon.

OYCP is a statewide, accredited alternative high school that serves all of Oregon. The graduation ceremony featured 131 students from several different high schools across Oregon who underwent a rigorous five-and-a-half-month in residence phase. The students will return home and continue with one year of active mentorship following their graduation.

“We are so grateful for our educators and staff, as well as pride filled for each and every individual graduate and their efforts. Congratulations to all for this success,” said Dave Stuckey, Deputy Director for the Oregon Military Department.

The ceremony drew hundreds of family members, friends and community supporters of the graduating cadets from across the state.

OYCP is one of 37 nationwide National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Programs and has been recognized as one of the premier programs in the country. The OYCP program is cost-free to cadets and their families and has successfully graduated more than 4,600 cadets since its inception in 1994.

The voluntary, 17-and-a-half-month



The Oregon National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program (OYCP) drill team performs with their rifles during a graduation ceremony in Redmond, Oregon, on June 14, 2017. The OYCP program, which is run by the Oregon National Guard, helps students recuperate high school credits and learn valuable life skills in a military training environment.

program provides youth who are at risk of not completing their high school education, both male and female, ages 16 to 18, from urban and rural areas of Oregon, with another opportunity to succeed.

Cadets work through a two-phase program, beginning with an intensive five-and-a-half-month residential program during which they develop life-coping skills, perform volunteer community service work and attend academic classes.

While in the program, cadets continue their education, develop life skills and create a plan, outlining clear and organized steps to keep them along the

path of success following graduation.

The second phase of the program consists of one year of mentorship. During this phase, cadets receive encouragement and support as they implement their plans to re-enter their home environments.

Details about the Oregon National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program are available at www.oycp.com or by phoning (541) 317-9623.



Cadet Alexa Sprengle, student body president, gives a before and after picture of her life and the difference OYCP has made during opening remarks at the graduation ceremony in Redmond, Oregon, on June 14, 2017.

Education & Incentives

GI BILL PROGRAM FACTS

Multiple programs are available depending on your military service. For more information on GI Bill programs go to: www.vets.gov

- MGIB-SR/Chapter 1606:**
- \$369/month for members of the Selected Reserve.
 - Must sign six-year contract, have a high school diploma or GED, and complete
 - IADT or BOLC.
- MGIB-AD/Chapter 30**
- \$1,857/month for three or more years of active duty.
 - \$1,509/month for two-three years of consecutive active duty.
- Post-9/11 GI Bill/Chapter 33**
- Payments based on qualifying active duty served/tier percentage.
 - Pays up to 100% tuition and fees at public schools.
 - Pays up to \$21,970.46 per academic year at for private/foreign schools. Pays a housing stipend equal to BAH at E-5 rate with dependents.
 - Pays a book and supply stipend up to \$1,000 per academic year.
- Transfer of Education Benefits (TEB)**
- Option to transfer Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to dependents.
 - Must have served six years and agree to serve four more in the ARNG.
- GI Bill Kicker**
- Supplements your GI Bill payments.
 - Must sign a six year contract and meet relevant criteria in current kicker policy.
 - \$200 Enlisted Kicker and \$350 Officer Commissioning Kicker.

FEDERAL TUITION ASSISTANCE FACTS

- Available to currently serving ARNG Soldiers.
- Must complete one year of service after IADT or BOLC.
- Pays tuition costs up to \$250 per semester hour, up to 16 semester hours per fiscal year.
- May be used up to a master’s degree.
- Apply through GoArmyEd and click on “New User” to begin. www.goarmyed.com

CURRENT REENLISTMENT INCENTIVES

REENLISTMENT BONUS:
2 Year (\$4,000) or 6-Year (\$12,000)

STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM:
6 Year Only (up to \$50,000 max)

ARMY PERSONNEL TESTING (APT)

Free testing opportunities that can help Soldiers raise their GT score and qualify for specialized training, foreign language billets and proficiency bonuses.

- Exams include; AFCT, SIFT, DLAB, DLPT, DLRPT and OPI.
- Offered at selected ARNG and Active Army testing locations.
- For more information on APT contact your ESO/ESS or nearest Army education center.

MILITARY TRANSCRIPTS AND PLANNING

The Joint Services Transcript (JST) is an academically accepted document approved by the American Council on Education (ACE) to validate a service member’s military occupational experience and training along with the corresponding ACE college credit recommendations.

- ARNG Soldiers can download a copy of their JST at: www.jst.doded.mil
- The following web sites can help Soldiers with college and career planning:
 - TA Decide: www.dodmou.com/TADECIDE
 - College Navigator: www.nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator
 - GI Bill Comparison Tool: www.vets.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool
 - Army e-Learning: www.atrrs.army.mil/selfdevctr/eLearningWelcome.aspx

DANTES PROGRAMS FACTS

The Defense Activity for Non Traditional Education Support (DANTES) offers numerous programs and services to ARNG Soldiers.

- Free testing opportunities offered at National Test Centers (NTCs)
 - High school completion and college entrance exams GED, ACT, SAT, GRE, GMAT
 - College credit exams including CLEP and DSST
 - Teacher certification exams (Praxis)
- For more information visit: www.clep.collegeboard.org/search/test-centers
- College planning resources including; Kuder® Journey: www.dantes.kuder.com
- College prep resources including; Online Academic Skills Course (OASC) and College Placement Skills Training (CPST) available at: www.nelnetsolutions.com/DantesNet
- Tutoring assistance, available at: www.military.tutor.com/home (This program is currently limited to only ARNG Soldiers serving in an active duty/AGR status or deployed)
- Service members Opportunity College (SOC) available at: www.soc.aascu.org
- Troops to Teachers, (TTT) available at: www.proudtoserveagain.com

For more information on DANTES programs and services visit: www.dantes.doded.mil

ORARNG Education & Incentives Office

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Ann Browning, Education Services Specialist, (503) 584-3434, ann.m.browning.civ@mail.mil

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FEATURES

Joint council seeks members to foster a culture of diversity

Story and photo courtesy
ORNG Joint Diversity and Inclusion
Executive Council

The Oregon National Guard (ORNG) Joint Diversity and Inclusion Executive Council (JDIEC) advises senior leadership to create and foster an organizational culture where diversity is valued as a factor of personnel readiness and a combat multiplier.

The vision of the JDIEC is to achieve an organizational culture that values and respects all Soldiers, Airmen and Employees for their diversity and abilities, free from prejudicial barriers, stereotypes and restrictions.

What is Diversity, and Inclusion? Diversity is a composite of unique individual characteristics, attributes, experiences, abilities and background of our Soldiers, Airmen, Employees, and Family members of the Oregon National Guard. Inclusion is to be a part of a larger group or organization, making genuine efforts to include others. Developing goals to address diversity and inclusion in the ORNG begins with the National Guard Bureau (NGB) Diversity Strategic Plan.

The goals of the ORNG JDIEC are in alignment with the NGB Diversity Strategic Plan, ORNG Strategic Plan and ORNG JDIEC Strategic Plan. These goals include: leadership commitment and policy development; career management; diversity awareness; education and training; community outreach and involvement; recruiting and retention.

Being part of the ORNG JDIEC is where you can make a difference to promote the ORNG JDIEC initiatives and carry out the adjutant general's diversity goals and objectives. Council members have equal voices in council discussions, regardless of military rank or position. Their role is to serve as an ambassador, change agent, mentor, educator, organizer, and diversity champion. All of these attributes are used to apply the purpose, vision, and mission



Members of the Joint Diversity and Inclusion Executive Council (JDIEC) pose for a group photo. The JDIEC gathers regularly to develop goals and implement plans that foster an organizational culture where all Soldiers, Airmen, Employees and Family Members are valued and respected.

of the ORNG JDIEC.

Council attendance and participation is open to all Soldiers, Airmen, and Employees of the ORNG. Brigades, Wings and JFHQ are encouraged to have representation by an authoritative delegate with the ability to communicate and carry out the council purpose, vision, and mission.

The ORNG JDIEC will be comprised of (at a minimum):

- State Diversity and Inclusion Advisor (SDIA)
- State equal Employment Manager (SEEM)
- Wing Human Resources Advisor (HRA) – Air
- State Human Relations and Equal Opportunity (HR/EO) Officer – Army
- Brigade and Joint Force Headquarters (JFHQ) Equal Opportunity Advisors (EOAs) – Army
- Equal Opportunity Professionals – Air

- ARNG and ANG Recruiting and Retention Command/Office
- Land Component Command Sergeants Major
- Brigade Command Sergeants Major
- Air Component Command Chief Master Sergeant
- Wing Command Chief Master Sergeants
- Senior Enlisted Advisors (State, Brigade, Wing levels)
- JFHQ Public Affairs (PA) Representative
- State Family Program Director or designated representative
- Special Emphasis Program Manager (SEPM)
- Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Counselors
- Behavioral or Psychological Health Professional
- The Assistant Adjutant Generals (Army and/or Air) and the Director, Manpower

and Personnel (HRO) serve as executive advisors to the council. The chairperson and vice chairperson, in coordination with the executive advisors, will develop the council meeting agenda. The agenda will be distributed to the council members prior to each meeting.

In January, council members attended a Diversity and Inclusion Workshop in Reno, Nevada, for the JDIEC Southwest and Northwest Regions. Approximately 130 people attended from both regions. The Northwest Region includes: Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, and South Dakota. The Southwest Region includes: California, Nevada, Arizona, Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, and Hawaii.

Representatives from NGB, Brig. Gen. Mark Anderson, Special Assistant to the Chief of NGB for Diversity, and Ms. Shirley Copeland, Chief of NGB-Diversity and Inclusion, were in attendance at the workshop to receive feedback, answer questions, and present information.

The conference addressed successes, challenges, trends, best practices used in each state, and the way ahead for the Diversity and Inclusion Program. Limited funding often forces states to be creative in finding ways to accomplish their mission and meet the intent.

“It was good to meet other states and share ideas. The conference re-energized, motivated, and inspired us to work harder and smarter to get best practices and ideas to achieve our diversity and inclusion goals in Oregon,” said Maj. Rey Agullana, State HR/EO officer. “Some of the best practices presented will be adopted and used in Oregon to make our program run more efficiently.”

If you are interested in participating in the JDIEC or attending an upcoming meeting, please contact Maj. Dawn Choy, the State Equal Employment Manager (SEEM) and acting chair of the JDIEC at (503) 584-3842 or email at dawn.y.choy.mil@mail.mil.

Are you and your family ready for when disaster strikes?

Story courtesy
Oregon Office of Emergency Management

SALEM, Oregon – It occurred 317 years ago and while there’s no way to know when the next Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake might hit, it’s a good idea to be prepared.

The Cascadia Subduction Zone is a 600-mile fault that runs from northern California to British Columbia, about 70-100 miles off the Pacific coast shoreline. The last Cascadia quake occurred in this fault on January 26, 1700, with an estimated 9.0 magnitude. Currently, scientists predict that there is about a 40 percent chance that a megathrust earthquake of 9.0+ magnitude in this fault zone will occur in the next 50 years.

News media attention about Cascadia has generated awareness and created some fear. But, Althea Rizzo, geologic hazards program coordinator for the Oregon Office of Emergency Management (OEM), says that fear is often based on the unknown. Knowing what to do, and how to be prepared for a large-scale earthquake, or any disaster, can help to mitigate fear and empower people to take action. That action, says Rizzo, includes putting together a plan and emergency kits to be “2 Weeks Ready.”

For many years, OEM has promoted the importance of being prepared for 72 hours. This is a good start, and helpful in the event of short-term power outages or temporary evacuation. But a large earthquake and tsunami will leave much of the area’s transportation routes destroyed. Oregonians will have to count on each other in the community, in the workplace and at home in order to be safe

until responders can reach you.

There is no one correct way to put together two weeks’ worth of supplies as people have individual dietary and medical needs. If your family includes children, seniors or pets, you will have additional needs for them. According to Rizzo, people are more prepared than they might think.

“You probably already have many of the things you need, such as flash lights and leather gloves,” says Rizzo. “Pick up a couple items every payday and check out garage sales and thrift stores for tools and gear. Look in the garage, closets and junk drawer for items before adding to your shopping list. Being prepared to be self-sufficient for two weeks is an achievable goal. You can get there over time.”

Oregon’s Office of Emergency Management suggests approaching the goal by thinking about what you need to be ready for an earthquake (or any disaster) in the first two minutes, two hours and two days after it occurs. For example:

- What to do in the first two minutes?**
 - Drop, cover and hold on.
 - Stay in place until the shaking stops; be prepared for aftershocks.
- What to do in the first two hours?**
 - Check immediate surroundings for anyone injured and in need of help.
 - Evacuate, if necessary; if out of your home, determine if it is safe to enter.
 - Follow your family communication plan (communicate with your out-of-state contacts).
- What do you do in the first two days?**
 - Use resources in your preparedness supplies as needed.

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Get your family neighborhood community 2 WEEKS READY

- Check with neighbors/community members to determine who has what skills/resources, and work together to make sure everyone is safe and comfortable.
- What do you do in the first two weeks?**
 - Add/replace necessary items to your emergency kits.
 - Organize community members to assist with disaster recovery in your neighborhood.
- Being prepared to be self-sufficient for two weeks is an achievable goal. Many of the standard preparedness kit items such as flashlights, gloves, hand-crank radios, trash bags and a first-aid kit are already in your 72-hour kit. The bigger thing to think about is food and water: prepare your pantry, prepare to hydrate.
- Being prepared is not just having two weeks of food, water and supplies. There are other considerations in planning the

- best way to bounce back after a disaster. Have a meaningful conversation with the members of your household to discuss the following:
- Do you have backup transportation methods and routes?
 - Who will care for the kids, grandparents and pets if you’re stuck on the other side of the river for several hours?
 - Where will you meet your family? At school, at the local park, at the corner of the neighborhood?
 - Do you have an out of state contact? Have a conversation with your family and friends and have one person designated to be the main contact for your group.
- Oregon Office of Emergency Management has many tools and resources to be prepared for a Cascadia quake and other disasters. For more information visit their website at www.oregon.gov/OEM.

AZUWUR



Story by Jeff Oerding,
142nd Fighter Wing History Office

Former 123rd Fighter Squadron member earned Distinguished Flying Cross in Korea

PORTLAND, Oregon – Former 123rd Fighter Squadron member, 1st. Lt. Ernest P. Wakehouse, was always interested in cars and airplanes. Born in 1922, he was an Iowa farm boy who grew up during the Great Depression.

He enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Forces during World War II. He went through Basic Training three times when his military records were slow to arrive. He completed his Pre-Flight courses in December 1943, having logged 10 hours of dual in a Piper Cub.

Ernie and his brother Bob, two years younger, were assigned to Class 44-J in San Antonio, Texas. They went to Missouri for Primary Flight Training in the Fairchild PT-19 trainer, then to Independence, Kansas, in June 1944 for Basic Flight Training in the Vultee BT-13 “Valiant” and North American BT-14 “Yale” trainers.

Ernie and Bob were next assigned to Advanced Single-Engine Flight Training, Foster Field, Victoria, Texas. Ernie was initially selected for Multi-Engine Advance Training, his commander telling him it would better prepare him for a post-war career in the airlines. Ernie convinced the colonel that he should be sent to Single-Engine Training, wanting to stay with his brother.

During their time at Foster Field they witnessed an aerial display by Dick Bong, the Air Corps’ World War II “Ace of Aces.”

Ernie and Bob flew the North American AT-6 “Texan” advanced trainer and Curtiss P-40 fighter at Foster Field. Ernie added nearly 200 hours to his logbook. The two were awarded their pilot’s wings in December 1944.

Following leave they served at various transition bases in Georgia and Florida, flying the AT-6 trainer. Ernie met his life-long friend and future 123rd Fighter Squadron member, Greg James, at a basketball game in Florida in 1945.

The trio moved on to Venice, Florida, where they were in North American P-51 Mustang fighter transition training when the war ended.

Returning to Oregon at the war’s end, Ernie attended Oregon State College (now University), then opened an auto repair shop in Portland, named Wakehouse Motors.

During the post-WWII years, Ernie joined the Oregon Air National Guard, serving in the 123rd Fighter Squadron (an original unit of the 142nd Fighter Group, now Wing), based at the Portland Airport. He flew the T-6 Texan trainer/utility, F-51 Mustang fighter, and C-47 transport. In June 1949, he was promoted to first lieutenant, a rank he held until his separation from the Air Force.

Following the start of the Korean War in



1st. Lt. Ernie Wakehouse poses with his “lucky horseshoe” following his 100th mission in Korea, Dec. 22, 1951.

June 1950, Ernie flew a Mustang to Naval Air Station Alameda, near San Francisco, California. He was confused to be flying an Air Force aircraft to a Navy airfield. He learned that his plane was one of 145 Mustangs loaded onto the aircraft carrier USS Boxer for transport to South Korea to be used by U.S. and Allied forces in the ground attack role against North Korea.

In February 1951, Ernie was recalled to active duty with the U.S. Air Force. In May of that year Ernie and his friend, Greg James, whom Ernie had prompted to join the 123rd, flew a pair of Mustangs to Luke Air Force Base (AFB) in Arizona for Fighter Combat Training.

On August 6, 1951, Ernie was “dogfighting” with another Mustang, piloted by future Brig. Gen. Bob Titus, west of Luke AFB, Arizona. At 7,000 feet the Mustang’s engine quit. Ernie elected to save the airplane by landing “dead stick” (without engine power) at an auxiliary field. As he waited on the ground for the engine fire to be extinguished, he saw Titus fly overhead and drop a note. The note stated, “I’m sorry Ernie, I didn’t know the guns were loaded!” Ernie and Titus were life-long friends. Titus went on to fly 101 combat missions in the F-51 during the Korean War and 400 in the F-4 Phantom during the Vietnam War, downing 3 MiG-21s.

The Air Force chose to deploy F-51 pilots from Air National Guard units around the U.S. to fly Mustangs in Korea.

In September 1951, Ernie was one of the nine pilots from the 123rd FS ordered to Korea. He flew his first orientation flight from K-10 airbase at Chinhae, South Korea. Moving to K-16 airbase, Seoul City Airport, he flew his first combat mission on September 12, 1951, in which he flew in the number four position of four aircraft, his friend, Greg James, being one of the other Mustang pilots in “Willie” flight that day.

Ernie was now a member of the 39th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron, 18th Fighter Bomber Wing (FBW), Fifth Air Force. The Air Force had pulled Mustangs from the U.S. and the Philippines for the job in Korea. Ernie found dirty (muddy wings, exhaust streaks on fuselage sides, streaks on wings from machine gun firing), but mechanically sound, Mustangs based

there.

The 18th FBW was composed of four squadrons: 12th Fighter-Bomber Squadron (“Foxy Few”), 39th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron (“Cobra in the

pilots.

Fifty percent of his missions were flown to targets north of Pyongyang, North Korea, up to the Yalu River, the border between China and North Korea. A single “flight” of four aircraft (two “elements” of two aircraft each) participated in a close air support mission. Twenty-four aircraft flew on “bridge busting” missions, with one flight circling over-head as Combat Air Patrol (CAP).

Ernie flew on one five-and-a-half hour MiG CAP mission over a downed B-29 bomber north of Pyongyang. His flight circled overhead at 2,000 feet to provide protection from enemy ground forces and aircraft until Air-Sea Rescue could arrive and pick up the B-29 crew.

Ernie was nearly shot down by a Mig-15 on one mission. On another his flight leader led the aircraft into a box canyon, then back out, with horizontal enemy tracer fire aimed at them.

Near the end of his tour Ernie became a flight leader. He often checked out new flight leaders, many of them regular Air Force officers.

Ernie flew his final combat mission in Korea on December 16, 1951. He had flown 100 missions in the F-51 Mustang in ninety days. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and several Air Medals for his service there. His total flight time in the Mustang amounted to approximately 600 hours. He logged night, combat, instrument time.

He separated from the Air National Guard in July 1952, preferring to return



1st Lt. Ernie Wakehouse (left) poses for a photo with fellow ‘Zebra Flight’ pilots, Johnny Taylor, Rock Brett, and Fred Rockmaker in Korea, 1951.

Clouds”/“Fighting 39th”), 67th Fighter-Bomber Squadron (“Fighting Cocks”), and No. 2 Squadron (“Flying Cheetahs”), South African Air Force (SAAF). All flew the North American F-51D Mustang (the South Africans transitioned to the U.S.-supplied Mustangs from their British-built aircraft).

Many of the pilots sent to Korea were WWII veterans with only multi-engine combat experience. Their transition to Mustang combat tactics, especially ground attack, sometimes came at a cost to those inexperienced pilots. One South African pilot, a four-engine flying boat pilot before the war, crashed a fully combat-loaded Mustang into parked Mustangs when he failed to apply right rudder to compensate for the right-turning propeller on the American-engined Mustang.

Ernie credited the Mustang maintenance crews with doing a great job of keeping the aircraft flyable. Most were WWII veterans, and they took good care of their charges.

Ernie flew half of his missions from K-16 air base, the other half from K-46 air base, fifty miles east of Seoul. At the forward air bases (K-16, K-46) the pilots slept in tents. At K-10, the maintenance base, there were Quonset-type huts for accommodations for

to the automobile business. Ernie owned Wakehouse Motors, a successful Portland car dealership, for forty years. He sold import cars (Fiat, Lancia, Triumph, MG, Saab) and recreational vehicles.

Following retirement, Ernie often attended meetings and reunions of the American Fighter Aces. Though not an Ace himself, he was a guest of WWII Mustang Ace Clayton Kelly Gross. He met most of the famous WWII American, British, and German Aces. He was also a featured speaker at “The Gathering of P-51 Mustangs and Legends” in 2007.

Ernie’s airplanes included a Beechcraft 35-B33 Debonair, a Beechcraft S35 Bonanza, and a Learjet 24B. He was very proud of his aviation group memberships in Columbia Aviation Association and the Quiet Birdmen, and his many friends there. He was also proud of his military service and the recognition afforded him by 142nd Fighter Wing officers such as Col. Mike Bieniewicz.

Ernie passed away on April 25, 2016, at the age of 93. He died peacefully at home where he was receiving hospice care for lung cancer. He is buried next to his bride, June, at Skyline Memorial Gardens in Portland, Oregon.



1st Lt. Ernie Wakehouse’s Mustang, FF-999, undergoes a 100-hour inspection by a maintenance team at K-46 Air Base, Korea, in 1951.