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# Oregon Sentinel

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE OREGON NATIONAL GUARD

## Oregon Military Department dedicates new headquarters building



Story by April Davis and John Hughel,  
Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

**SALEM, Oregon** - The Oregon Military Department formally dedicated the new Maj. Gen. George A. White Headquarters building during a ceremony, Sept. 26, 2018, in Salem, Oregon.

In attendance to help dedicate the facility were Salem Mayor Chuck Bennett; Maj. Gen. Michael Stencel, Adjutant General, Oregon; and Heidi Moawad, Public Safety and Military Policy Advisor to the Governor; among other community and military leaders.

“We at the City of Salem have some first-hand experience working with the Oregon National Guard during the recent water advisory,” said Mayor Bennett. “We are extremely fortunate that your headquarters is in our backyard, so to speak. Your commitment to service, both nationally and locally, makes an immeasurable impact, especially here in Salem.”

The new headquarters building is named after Maj. Gen. White, honoring the legacy and service of the Oregon National Guard’s longest-serving adjutant general. Until the time of his passing in 1941, White had served nearly 27 years as adjutant general, dating back to Feb. 1, 1915. Decedents of Maj. Gen. White were also in attendance at the dedication ceremony.

“Major General White had a robust and exemplary military career in the Oregon National Guard,” said Maj. Gen. Stencel.

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The Oregon Military Department’s new Maj. Gen. George A. White Headquarters building in Salem, Oregon, is designed to ensure operational flexibility, reduce operations and maintenance costs, and allow for future expansion. The facility meets seismic Essential Facility requirements for immediate use in emergency response following a seismic event.

Photo courtesy Fortis Construction Company

## Demobilization ceremony held for 1186th MP Company

Story by  
Sgt. 1st Class April Davis  
OMD Public Affairs

**SALEM, Oregon** – The 1186th Military Police Company, Oregon Army National Guard, was recognized in a demobilization ceremony, Oct. 14, 2018, at the Anderson Readiness Center in Salem, Oregon.

Approximately 30 Citizen-Soldiers were mobilized in May 2017 for deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Freedom’s Sentinel (OFS). The Soldiers provided Personal Security Details (PSD), protecting high-profile individuals.

Scheduled to attend the ceremony and welcome the Soldiers home will be Maj. Gen. Michael Stencel, Adjutant General, Oregon; Brig. Gen. William J. Prendergast, Land Component Commander, as well as other community and military leaders.

The 1186th MP Company is based in Salem, Oregon. The unit has often partnered with local law enforcement agencies for training. The 1186th MPs partnered with district and federal agencies to provide security, crowd management and traffic control during the 58th Presidential



Photo by Sgt. Cory Grogan, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

Oregon National Guard Maj. Gen. Michael Stencel (right), Adjutant General, Oregon, and 1186th Military Police commander, Capt. Richard Smith (left), pause for a photograph during a demobilization ceremony, Oct. 14, 2018, at the Anderson Readiness Center in Salem, Oregon.

Inauguration in Washington, D.C., in January 2017.

This unit has previously deployed overseas twice: to Afghanistan in 2011 and to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, in 2004. The company also provided domestic operations support in Louisiana following Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

The unit is comprised of Soldiers from

Portland, Salem, Keizer, Beaverton, Lake Oswego, West Linn, Gresham, Monmouth, Eugene, Springfield, Veneta, Central Point, Oakland, Roseburg, Redmond, Milton-Freewater, Ontario, and Nyssa, Oregon. A few Soldiers are from Vancouver, Aberdeen, and Everett, Washington.

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Oregon National Guard members and their families are encouraged to submit articles and story ideas. Stories and letters to the editor from any source, military or civilian, are accepted. All submissions must include the author's name, mailing address and daytime phone number. Names may be withheld in print upon request. All submissions are subject to editing prior to publication, and the Public Affairs staff reserves the right to print or reprint submissions at any time. The Oregon Military Department Public Affairs Office and Oregon Sentinel staff are not accountable for factual errors presented by contributing authors or photographers.

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Send electronic submissions, story ideas or questions to: [SentinelEditor@mil.state.or.us](mailto:SentinelEditor@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**

## Reflecting on accomplishments, preparing for the future

As 2018 comes to a close, I would like to reflect on the past twelve months and express my appreciation to all members of the Oregon Military Department for an outstanding year of hard work and dedication. I cannot be more proud to be part of such an exceptional organization that continues to live up to our motto of "Always Ready, Always There!"

Whether through the many deployments or other treacherous conditions calling us into action, you remain steadfast in your obligation to be prepared and available for any situation that may come our way. Both Air and Army components continued to support overseas mobilizations, provided more than 66,000 gallons of water to Oregonians during the summer water crisis, contributed pivotal manpower and resources to containment efforts of forest fires, and played a crucial role in search and rescue operations across the state.

Our state employees are integral to all of our military efforts, whether through emergency coordination, facility support, working state

budgets, or ensuring service members are placed on State Active Duty.

Furthermore, through persistent work and support of our elected leaders, we were able to get tuition assistance for Soldiers and Airmen attending state universities and colleges in Oregon. As leaders and learners, this allows for continuing education without further financial burdens to them and their families.

As we all look forward to next year, we recognize that it will be even more challenging. The operations tempo greatly picks up in April and will continue to at least the fall of 2020. In addition to several large-scale mobilizations, we are preparing for extensive training throughout the next several years. Anticipating the years to come, I hope you and your loved ones share in my enthusiasm and willingness to put forward our best efforts in fulfilling our mission to provide a trained and ready force to support our state and nation.

The holidays always seem to fly by quickly.



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

I encourage you to take as much vacation with friends and family as time allows. We owe them a tremendous amount of gratitude for the sacrifice they make in supporting us through the challenges of military life and public service. They make you successful, which in turn makes the Oregon Military Department successful. I look forward to all of us making 2019 a phenomenal year!

Always Ready! Always There!

## Statewide roadshow emphasizes readiness as top priority

*Story and photo by Sgt. Cory Grogan,  
Joint Force Headquarters  
Public Affairs*

Land Component Commander Brig. Gen. William J. Prendergast IV is leading an effort for the Oregon National Guard to increase readiness with stand-downs across Oregon that will take a pause from training to emphasize the importance of individual readiness. On Sept. 9, one of his stops was at Camp Withycombe along with Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Foesch the Senior Enlisted Leader for the Oregon National Guard to visit Soldiers with the 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team.

Prendergast said readiness is the number one goal for the stand-downs, but that what it's really about is putting people in boots in formations. He said the key is for Soldiers to tell the story of what it means to be in the Oregon National Guard because they'll go to their friends, tell them about what makes their experiences positive, and bring their friends into the organization.

"When you talk about how are we going to impact these young Soldiers we need to lead by example, we talk about personnel readiness, but what I want to talk about is your individual readiness because they will see this person doing all this great stuff and say I want to be like that," Prendergast said.

Foesch also said leading by example is the key.

"Are you doing that for Soldiers? Are they looking up to you? Are they saying hey, I wanna be like that guy or that gal? This supposed to be special and cool and when they joined the guard that was probably at least a factor for most of them. If it's not special and cool, why stay, why be a part of this?"

The readiness stand-down is an ongoing event that will continue across to encourage best practices in support of individual readiness.

"It's an honor for us all to serve, and I know we are all proud to be a part of the Oregon National Guard, so let's share our experiences," said Prendergast.



Land Component Commander Brig. Gen. William J. Prendergast IV addresses leaders in the 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team to discuss readiness in the Oregon Army National Guard during a stand-down at Camp Withycombe in Clackamas, Oregon, Sept. 9.

## Annual conference enables logisticians to support the force

*Story and photos by  
Sgt. 1st Class April Davis,  
Oregon Military Department  
Public Affairs*



Staff Sgt. Michael Toepfer, supply NCO with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1249th Engineer Battalion, attends classes with other Oregon Army National Guard logisticians during the 2018 Annual Logistics Workshop, Dec. 13, at Camp Rilea in Warrenton, Oregon.



A panel of logistics subject matter experts answer questions from supply sergeants with Oregon Army National Guard units across the state during an open-forum discussion at the 2018 Annual Logistics Workshop, Dec. 13, at Camp Rilea.



Master Sgt. Christian Watts (center), operations NCO for the Deputy Chief of Staff of Logistics, presents the Order of Saint Martin to Master Sgt. Victor Maxfield (right) and Lt. Col. Tannis Mittelbach (left) during the awards banquet at the 2018 Annual Logistics Workshop, Dec. 13.

**COMMAND**

## Colonel Day promoted to oversee domestic operations

*Story and photos by  
Sgt. 1st Class April Davis,  
Oregon Military Department Public Affairs*

**SALEM, Oregon** – Oregon Army National Guard Col. Gregory T. Day was promoted to the rank of brigadier general in a ceremony, Nov. 4, at the Anderson Readiness Center in Salem, Oregon.

Day is assigned as the commander of Joint Domestic Operations Command. He will oversee Defense Support to Civil Authorities (DSCA), which supports and partners with civilian agencies to provide a joint domestic response team to save lives and protect property during natural or man-made emergencies.

"Colonel Day has a long and accomplished career with the Oregon Army National Guard," said Maj. Gen. Michael Stencel, Adjutant General, Oregon. "He is an accomplished officer and a leader with demonstrated outstanding service at every level of command and staff from company through brigade with overwhelming success."



Col. Gregory T. Day (center) is pinned with his new brigadier general 'one-star' rank by his wife, Linda, and Maj. Gen. Michael Stencel (left), Adjutant General, Oregon, during his promotion ceremony, Nov. 4, at the Anderson Readiness Center in Salem, Oregon.

## Oregon Air National Guard welcomes new State Command Chief

*Story by Senior Master Sgt. Jennifer Shirar,  
173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs*

**SALEM, Oregon** – Chief Master Sgt. Mark McDaniel has stepped into a new position as the Oregon Air National Guard State Command Chief after serving as the 173rd Fighter Wing Command Chief since 2015.

As the State Command Chief, McDaniel is assigned to Joint Force Headquarters in Salem, Oregon, and serves as the personal adviser to the Oregon Air National Guard commander on all issues regarding the welfare, readiness, morale, and proper utilization and progress of the enlisted force. McDaniel is the ranking enlisted leader in the Oregon Air National Guard.

"It is very humbling," said McDaniel. He added that this opportunity is an accumulation of the experiences he has had since joining the active duty Air Force in 1980.

McDaniel began his career as a corrosion control specialist, and performed that job for 10 years before switching career fields and becoming a dental manager at Mountain Home Air Force Base in Idaho. In 1992, McDaniel decided to leave the Air Force and pursue a civilian career. Five years later, he returned to the service, joining the Oregon Air National Guard as a structural repair technician with the 173rd Fighter Wing.

"We came home," McDaniel noted, having grown up in Klamath Falls and graduating from Klamath Union High School.

During his 19 years with the 173rd Fighter Wing, McDaniel held multiple positions including hazmat supply manager, maintenance support section supervisor, material management flight superintendent, logistics readiness squadron superintendent, operations group superintendent, and finally his current position as the wing command chief.

"I am just a product of Kingsley Field," said McDaniel, crediting the Airmen of the wing for his successes. "Having outstanding Airmen in our organization



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Jennifer Shirar

Command Chief Master Sgt. Mark McDaniel stands before an F-15 Eagle static display, Aug. 28, which he painted nearly 20 years ago at the outset of his career at Kingsley Field in the sheet metal shop. McDaniel is the new State Command Chief for the Oregon Air National Guard.

allows us to be who we are. You take care of them, they will take care of you and this is an accumulation of that."

McDaniel said he's had many people help shape and develop him to where he is today. "Everything we do is based on lessons we learn through experiences," he said.

"One of my first supervisors back in the 1980s was an old master sergeant ... he was tough, but he taught me some valuable lessons," said McDaniel with a laugh.

McDaniel related one of those lessons he said he takes with him every day. When he first assumed the rank of staff sergeant, his supervisor explained that as a non-commissioned officer he was now responsible for the junior Airmen in the paint shop. McDaniel said that he was full of bravado and wholeheartedly agreed to take on this responsibility.

A few weeks later, McDaniel's supervisor pulled him back into his office and reminded him of their previous conversation.

"Yes, Sir, I remember," he said. The supervisor then asked him if he was aware of the trouble one of the junior Airmen in the shop had found himself in. He was, but unsure where the conversation was headed. That was when his supervisor



Oregon Army National Guard Brig. Gen. Gregory T. Day (right) receives a general officer 'one-star' flag from Oregon Air National Guard Brig. Gen. Mark Crosby (left), Assistant Adjutant General - Air, during Day's promotion ceremony, Nov. 4, at the Anderson Readiness Center in Salem, Oregon. Day is succeeding Crosby as the commander of Joint Domestic Operations Command where he will oversee joint military domestic response in support of civilian partner agencies during natural or man-made emergencies.

Regiment, to the Sinai, Egypt, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He later commanded the 1-186th Battalion during their deployment to Iraq in 2009-2010. He also deployed as the operations officer with the 41st IBCT to Afghanistan. He has served as the assistant chief of staff and chief of joint staff for Joint Force Headquarters, Oregon Army National Guard, and he was the brigade commander of the 82nd Brigade (Troop Command) from June 2014 to June 2017.

In his civilian career, he is an attorney and partner with Davis, Freudenberg, Day and Galli law firm in Grants Pass, Oregon.

presented him with a letter of counseling.

"I said, 'I didn't do anything!' To which my supervisor answered, 'Exactly,'" said McDaniel. McDaniel said this taught him the importance of always taking care of the Airmen below him.

And that is exactly what McDaniel hopes to continue in his new position. McDaniel said he's been formulating goals for his role as the State Command Chief.

Relationship building is his first focus. He noted that he would like to help educate the Airmen of both the 173rd and 142nd Fighter Wings on the difference of cultures and missions between the two wings.

"Our missions are different, our templates are different, our manning documents are different ... I want to help educate each other on what those differences are and how we can better work together as a team."

His second goal is focused on emphasizing what it means to be in the profession of arms.

"Sometimes I think we focus too much on trying to be like a corporate entity," he said. "We can definitely learn from the civilian sector, but we need to make sure we are careful to not cross that line and forget what it really means to be in the profession of arms."

McDaniel assures us that he will never forget Kingsley Field and the experiences that have shaped him. He noted a few areas that make Kingsley Field unique to him.

"You live the concept of the Wingman ... you actually put a verb connotation to the core values," said McDaniel. "And our amazing community support."

McDaniel said this next position is the "last adventure in our military career" noting the team effort with his wife, Jeannie, of 38 years.

"I'm the luckiest guy," said McDaniel. "I get a chance to continue to take care of Airmen ... and I don't take a day for granted, my wife and I never do."



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

Oregon Air National Guard Command Chief Master Sgt. Uiana M. Cole receives The Certificate of Retirement from Maj. Gen. Michael Stencel, Adjutant General, Oregon, during her formal retirement ceremony, Nov. 4, at the Anderson Readiness Center in Salem, Oregon. Upon her retirement, Cole relinquished her role as State Command Chief for the Oregon Air National Guard to Command Chief Master Sgt. Mark W. McDaniel.



## NEWS

## Demobilization ceremony held for 1186th Military Police Company



Photos by Sgt. Cory Grogan, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

Family, friends and community members take part in a formal demobilization ceremony honoring Oregon Army National Guard Soldiers of the 1186th Military Police Company, Oct. 14, 2018, at the Anderson Readiness Center in Salem, Oregon. Approximately 30 Soldiers in the unit deployed to Afghanistan where they provided Personal Security Detail (PSD), protecting individuals or groups of individuals.



## Kaiser Permanente NW receives ESGR Award



Photo by Staff Sgt. Zach Holden, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Dennis Klein, Oregon chairman of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), presents an award to Wendy Watson, regional vice president of Ambulatory Care and Clinical Services with Kaiser Permanente Northwest for their support to the Reserve components of the U.S. Armed Forces, Sept. 13, 2018, in Portland, Ore.

**CLACKAMAS, Oregon** – The Oregon National Guard presented Kaiser Permanente Northwest with Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) awards during a ceremony on Sept. 13, 2018, in Clackamas, Oregon. Maj. Gen. Michael Stencel, Adjutant General, Oregon, and Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Dennis Klein, Oregon chairman of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) presented certificates to hospital representatives while describing the ongoing support that Kaiser Permanente has provided to the Oregon National Guard over the past year. ESGR is a Department of Defense program established in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve component Service Members and their civilian employers regarding their military commitments.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Zach Holden, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

Maj. Gen. Michael Stencel (left), Adjutant General, Oregon, and Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Dennis Klein (right), Oregon chairman of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), stand with Christopher Markesino, director of hospital operations for Kaiser Permanente Sunnyside Medical Center, displaying an award presented by ESGR to Kaiser Permanente Northwest for their support to the Reserve components of the U.S. Armed Forces, Sept. 13, 2018, in Portland, Ore.

## Weapons teams compete for top honors

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

**PORTLAND, Oregon** - Weapons Loaders from the 142nd Fighter Wing Aircraft Maintenance Squadron competed for the highly-prized Sasquatch 'Hoki' trophy during the October Regularity Scheduled Drill (RSD) at the Portland Air National Guard Base, Oregon, Oct. 14, 2018.

The competition brought the four quarterly award winning teams together to square off for the overall 2018 fiscal year title. A total of six weapons were loaded from missile carts onto F-15C Eagles, as the three member teams were tested for their accuracy and speed for a comprehensive proficiency score.



'Green Team' members work together as they load weapons on an F-15 Eagle.

Each team finished well under the allotted time, with judge's deductions and safety inferences factoring into the final score.

In the end, the 'Red Team' of Airman 1st Class Eric Janson, Staff Sgt. Benjamin Jacobson and Staff Sgt. Morgan Annas were graded overall winners.



Left: 'Blue Team' members move missiles from a cart. Below: "Red Team" Staff Sgt. Ben Jacobson makes adjustments on a missile.



The winning "Red Team" weapons load crew made up of Airman 1st Class Eric Janson (left) Staff Sgt. Benjamin Jacobson (center) and Staff Sgt. Morgan Annas (right) are presented with the 142nd Fighter Wing Sasquatch 'Hoki' trophy by Col. Bill Kopp, 142nd Fighter Wing Maintenance Group commander, for their victory at the Portland Air Guard Base, Oregon, Oct. 14, 2018.

## NEWS

## Oregon Army National Guard Soldiers return from Middle East deployment

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

**SALEM, Oregon** -- The Oregon Army National Guard honored Citizen-Soldiers in a demobilization ceremony, Nov. 4, 2018, at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Salem, Oregon.

A platoon of more than 20 Citizen-Soldiers with Detachment 3, G Company

(Golf), 1st Battalion, 189th Aviation Regiment, returned from a nine-month deployment to the Middle East in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. These Soldiers are largely from the Willamette Valley area; Salem and Portland.

The platoon assisted with aerial medical evacuation (medevac) using HH-60 Blackhawk helicopters to save lives in support of U.S. and Coalition efforts.



Photo by Sgt. Jennifer Lena, 115th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Soldiers with Detachment 3, G Company (Golf), 1st Battalion, 189th Aviation Regiment, salute the United States flag during a demobilization ceremony at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Salem, Ore., Nov. 4, 2018. Over the course of their deployment, Detachment 3, Golf Company, 1-189th Aviation, flew more than 200 combined hours and conducted more than 80 medevac missions.

The detachment augmented the South Dakota Army National Guard's Company C, 1st Battalion, 189th Aviation Regiment, serving under the 1st Battalion, 126th General Aviation Support Battalion and the 449th Combat Aviation Brigade.

Over the course of the deployment, Detachment 3, Golf Company, flew more than 200 combined hours and conducted more than 80 medevac missions. The unit also conducted numerous training events with U.S. forces

and members of the Finnish, Australian, Canadian, Italian, German, Danish, Spanish militaries, among other Coalition partners.

Golf Company, 1-189th Aviation, has a long tradition of answering the call to duty. On the home front, the unit conducts medevac, search and rescues, as well as wild land fire suppression throughout Oregon. The unit has previously deployed overseas to Bosnia for Operation Joint



Photo by Sgt. Jennifer Lena, 115th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Maj. Brady Phillips, commander of Company G, 1st Battalion, 189th Aviation Regiment (right), presents a ceremonial flag that was flown overseas to Oregon Treasurer Tobias Read, during a formal demobilization ceremony at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Salem, Ore., Nov. 4, 2018.

Forge 7, three times to the Middle East in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation New Dawn, to Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom, and to Kosovo in support of Operation Joint Guardian. Another group of approximately 70 Soldiers with G Company, 1-189th Aviation, were recently welcomed home from a Middle East deployment in March of 2018.

## Oregon National Guard hosts Vietnam delegation visit through State Partnership Program

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

**SALEM, Oregon** – The Oregon National Guard hosted a delegation from Vietnam's National Committee for Search and Rescue (VINASARCOM) this week, Nov. 13-16, 2018, as part of the ongoing State Partnership Program.

The visit included dialogues to discuss the relationship between VINASARCOM and the Oregon National Guard as emergency managers and to reaffirm their commitment to an enduring and constructive State Partnership. The delegation also toured Oregon National Guard, Oregon Office of Emergency Management, and U.S. Coast Guard facilities related to emergency management and emergency response.

The relationship between VINASARCOM and the Oregon National Guard as state partners and the lead military agencies for emergency management in their respective country and state was established in September 2011 with a memorandum of understanding to advance bilateral defense cooperation through U.S. Pacific Command (USPACOM) and Vietnam Bilateral Defense Dialogue (BDD). The relationship recognizes that building and maintaining capabilities as emergency managers in times of Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) is for the benefit of



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

A delegation with Vietnam's National Committee for Incident, Disaster Response, and Search and Rescue (VINASARCOM), led by Sr. Lt. Gen. Pham Ngoc Minh (center left), Deputy Chief of the General Staff, pose for a photo with Maj. Gen. Michael Stencel (center right), Adjutant General, Oregon, and other Oregon National Guard leaders in front of a UH-72 Lakota helicopter during a tour of the Army Aviation Support Facility in Salem, Ore., Nov. 14, 2018. The delegation received an overview on how the Oregon National Guard uses helicopters to assist civil authorities during emergencies.

all countries and promotes stability, prosperity and domestic resiliency in the entire region.

The partnership between the Oregon National Guard and VINASARCOM was made official in November 2012 as part

of the National Guard Bureau-sanctioned program. The State Partnership program complements broader U.S. engagement with Vietnam in pursuit of shared priorities such as disaster relief, education, health, trade and the environment. The program

directly supports the broad national interests and security cooperation goals of the United States by engaging partner nations via military, socio-political, and economic conduits at the local, state, and national levels.



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

Sonya Pedersen (left) and Kelly Jo Craigmiles (center), both with the Oregon Office of Emergency Management, brief a delegation of officers with Vietnam's National Committee for Incident, Disaster Response, and Search and Rescue (VINASARCOM) on how the Emergency Communications Center works during disaster response, Nov. 14, 2018, in Salem, Ore.



Photo by John Hughe, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

U.S. Coast Guard Petty Officer AMT2 Stu Esham (left) gives a demonstration of rescue equipment to visiting dignitaries from Vietnam and members of the Oregon National Guard during a tour of the U.S. Coast Guard Station in Warrenton, Ore., Nov. 15, 2018. The delegation toured facilities around the state of Oregon to gain insights into disaster response.



Photo by Steven Conklin, 142nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Vietnam Sr. Lt. Gen. Pham Ngoc Minh (left), Deputy Chief of the General Staff, and Maj. Gen. Michael Stencel (right), Adjutant General, Oregon, sign the State Partnership Program Dialogue Joint Minutes, outlining initiatives for the Oregon National Guard's continued partnership with Vietnam's National Committee for Incident, Disaster Response, and Search and Rescue, at the Portland Air National Guard Base, Portland, Ore., Nov. 16, 2018.



NEWS

# Oregon Military Department dedicates new headquarters building

Continued from Front Page

“He was attributed with the rebuild of the Oregon National Guard after the World Wars, which eventually lead the 41st Infantry Division being named National Guard’s best trained division.”

Born July 18, 1880, in Long Branch, Illinois, White began nearly a half-century of service to his country by first enlisting in the Utah National Guard on August 1, 1895. After serving in the Utah artillery during the Spanish-American War, he joined the Third Infantry of the Oregon National Guard and was commissioned as a first lieutenant in August 1907. He served on active duty on the Mexican border in 1916, commanding Troop A, Oregon Cavalry, and on Sept. 10, 1917, he was assigned to the newly organized 41st Division prior to World War I. White served in France from Jan. 10, 1918, to June 18, 1919, serving both with the 41st Division and General Headquarters of the American Expeditionary Force, serving on the staff of General John J. Pershing.

General White was one of four officers credited with founding the America Legion while in France and became the first vice-commander and adjutant while the American troops were still overseas.

He was a graduate of the Command and General Staff School, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, in 1926, and the Army War College, Washington, D.C. in 1928. White was awarded by the President of France as Chevalier, Ordre De l’Étoile Noire (Knight, Order of the Black Star) and the Cross of the Legion of Honor.

In his professional life, White first started working for the Salt Lake Tribune newspaper in Salt Lake City, Utah, at the age of 16. When White moved to Portland he worked as a journalist, and became a member of the editorial staff for The Oregonian. He later married Henrietta Diana Fletcher and they had two children.



Photo courtesy Oregon Military Museum

Maj. Gen. George A. White was the Oregon National Guard’s longest-serving adjutant general, having served nearly 27 years.



Photo courtesy Fortis Construction Company

The new 55,078 square-foot Joint Force Headquarters building incorporates an open workspace with an abundance of natural light.

1940. White led his troops successfully through training maneuvers in California and war games in western Washington, but died on November 23, 1941, after becoming ill.

“General White possessed, as few men did, an ever abiding love for his fellow men and an unflagging devotion for his country. Wherever the 41st Division may go, there also will he go in spirit,” said Lt. Col. John T. Murray, after the publishing of Official Order Number 31 shortly after General White’s death.

In 1954, he was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Medal of the American Legion.

The new Oregon National Guard headquarters facility is 55,078 square-feet and is situated on an 8.1-acre parcel adjacent to the Anderson Readiness Center on State Street. With a total financial cost of \$26 million, this Military Construction (MILCON) project is a combination of federal (\$19.3 million) and state (\$6.7 million) funding. The project was awarded in July 2016 to Fortis Construction Company and SERA Architects. Construction commenced in May 2017 and occupancy began in July 2018.

“The Oregon Military Department are the foundation of this building, ensuring we take care of our great state and the resources it provides while also being prepared for whatever Oregonians need from us in the future,” said Moawad.

Facility construction meets Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold and State Energy Efficient Design (SEED) requirements.

The facility is designed to ensure operational flexibility, reduce operations and maintenance costs, and will allow for future expansion. In addition, the building meets seismic Essential Facility requirements for immediate use in emergency response following a seismic event.

“The Major General White building was designed with disasters in mind, so that if a natural disaster occurs, your Oregon National Guard is still up and running and ready to serve,” said Moawad. “This building represents the National Guard promise of ‘When we are needed, we are there’ not only for the people of Oregon, and the United States of America, but in response to natural disasters, and for the longevity of the environment.”

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.



Photo by Christopher L. Ingersoll, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

The descendants of Maj. Gen. George A. White stand for a family photo in front of the new headquarters building named in his honor during the dedication ceremony, Sept. 26, 2018, in Salem, Ore.

## First-ever nationwide wireless emergency alert

Story and photo by Cory Grogan,  
Oregon Office of Emergency Management

**SALEM, Oregon** – The first-ever nationwide test of the Integrated public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) was conducted on Oct. 3, 2018. IPAWS encompasses the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and Wireless Emergency Alert System (WEA).

The test, coordinated by FEMA and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), will be broadcast via radio, TV, cable stations and wireless carriers. The test was originally scheduled to take place on Sept. 20 but was postponed due to response and recovery efforts after Hurricane Florence.

In Oregon, the WEA portion of the test commenced at 11:18 a.m. Pacific Time, and the EAS portion followed at 11:20 a.m. Pacific Time.

IPAWS is a national system for local alerting that provides authenticated emergency alerts and information from emergency officials to the public through radio, TV, cell phones and Internet applications. Although this is the fourth EAS nationwide test, it is the first national WEA test.

“This is the first time a wireless alert has been tested in Oregon, and we don’t want anyone to be caught off guard,” said Oregon Office of Emergency Management Director Andrew Phelps. “No matter where someone is—at work, in their car, at school, at the doctor’s office, anywhere—they should



hear and see the alert on their phone,” said Oregon Office of Emergency Management Director Andrew Phelps.

The nationwide test ensures that in times of an emergency or disaster, public safety officials have methods and systems that will deliver urgent alerts and warnings to the public. Alerts are rare, but can happen locally, statewide, or nationally. In addition, the test is a way to assess the operational readiness of the infrastructure for distribution of a national message, and determine whether technological improvements are needed. A nationwide WEA message would only be used in the most extreme emergency situation.

“This is a very important test that will help improve our ability to get critical information to the public, both over traditional broadcast venues such as radio and TV, as well as over mobile phones. We encourage our partners, including the media, to help share this important information.”

NEWS

# 102nd CST trains with Oregon Department of Corrections

Story and photos by  
Staff Sgt. Zachary Holden  
Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

**SALEM, Oregon** – Members of the Oregon National Guard’s 102nd Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) - Civil Support Team (CST) and Oregon Department of Corrections participated in a training exercise, November 14, 2018, in Coos Bay, Oregon.

This is the first time the two agencies have trained together, and the exercise enhanced incident response capabilities by furthering interoperability and coordination between agencies.

“The best takeaway for us and everyone involved would be gaining awareness for how each other works in the event we partner together in the future,” said Capt. Ryan Le Bard, with the 102nd CST.

The 102nd CST, based in Salem, can be rapidly mobilized to an incident anywhere in Oregon to assist civil authorities with

early-detection and analysis capabilities of a chemical, biological or nuclear incident. The goal is to minimize the impact on civilian populations and facilitate requests for follow-on emergency and military support by civil authorities.



Members of the Oregon National Guard’s 102nd Civil Support Team (CST) investigate an unknown substance during a training exercise with the Oregon Department of Corrections.



Members of the Oregon National Guard’s 102nd Civil Support Team (CST) investigate an unknown substance during a training exercise with the Oregon Department of Corrections.

## 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team receives notification for potential deployment

Story by Maj. Stephen Bomar,  
Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

**SALEM, Oregon** – The 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT), Oregon Army National Guard, has received notification for approximately 2,400 Soldiers to potentially mobilize overseas. This mobilization will likely start in the fall and winter of 2019.

Potential locations for the deployment include the Middle East, Africa, and/or Eastern Europe. There will be more information available once an alert order is received closer to the actual deployment.

The 41st IBCT is made up of battalions from Oregon, Washington and New Mexico. All subordinate battalions will most likely be represented in this mobilization, but as of now, specific units have not been formally identified.

The 41st IBCT recently completed their brigade field training exercise, known as eXportable Combat Training Capability (XCTC). The training exercise prepares the brigade for supporting federal mobilizations such as this.

“We have been training for this type of deployment with our culminating event of XCTC, where the 41st as a whole has superbly performed from the brigade to the platoon level,” said Col. Eric Riley, brigade commander of the 41st IBCT. “The 41st Brigade has been assigned this mobilization and will answer the call to serve, just as it has since World War I. It’s an honor to serve in this historic brigade with such a rich history.”

The history of the 41st Brigade can be traced back to 1917 when the 41st Infantry Division was created for service in World War I, comprising National Guard units from Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana. The 41st Infantry Division was the longest deployed division during World War II, serving in the Pacific.

Elements of the 41st Infantry Brigade have served in Saudi Arabia, the Sinai, Kuwait, Bosnia, Iraq and Afghanistan. The brigade deployed a large contingent known as Task Force Phoenix to Afghanistan in 2006 and again deployed the entire brigade to Iraq in 2009. The most recent overseas deployment of the 41st IBCT was in 2014-2015 to Afghanistan.

The National Guard is an operational

force with a dual mission of serving both at home and abroad. The 41st IBCT is trained and ready for any mission.

Support from families, loved ones, and employers make it possible for us to serve our communities, state and nation.



Photo by Maj. W. Chris Clyne, 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

An Oregon Army National Guard Soldier with Company A, 741st Brigade Engineer Battalion, provides overwatch security during the 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team’s eXportable Combat Training Capability (XCTC), August 6, 2018, at Fort Hunter Liggett, California. The XCTC training was part of the 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team’s preparations for a potential upcoming deployment.

## 173rd Fighter Wing highlights the importance of Cyber Security

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

**KLAMATH FALLS, Oregon** - A concerning reality of society’s dependence on technology is that information such as bank account passwords and credit card numbers are vulnerable to hacking—no matter the precautions taken.

Government networks present a substantially bigger target for various types of hacking attacks and they are

quite literally at war with what Logan Shipley, a 173rd Fighter Wing Cyber Security representative describes as both state-sponsored hackers as well as “hacktivists”, also known as hobby hackers.

“Every day something new pops up and even we get taken by surprise,” said Shipley, on why he and other Air Force cyber warriors maintain constant vigilance over the 173rd Fighter Wing network.

A recent example making headlines is detailed in an article by Bloomberg Businessweek titled The Big Hack: How China Used a Tiny Chip to Infiltrate U.S. Companies. The story explains that circuit boards manufactured in China had small, illicit chips added to them allowing hackers “a stealth doorway into any network that included the altered machines.”

The chips were added by manufacturing subcontractors in China and became part of a coordinated attack against names recognized the world over, like Apple Inc., and Amazon—says the article.

Shipley lends perspective to the problem, saying this is a new battlespace, and one that must be addressed by individuals and entire nations.

“Cyber is not going to go away, computers, cell phones, it’s not going away and if you don’t start now you’re going to be so behind the curve when you do,” said Shipley referencing how cyber-aware a person is.

The proliferation of technology presents cyber security professionals with thorny issues; one of the main ones is that if an infection enters the body on the smallest finger on a person’s hand, it still infects the entire organism. The “body” of the Air Force network we operate on spans the globe and has millions of connections to other networks—each connection is vulnerable to attack and infection. Hence the need for vigilance at the individual level.

“Those basic techniques that people use to take advantage of you—your kids—your money, those are only going to get more advanced,” says Shipley. “So if you can learn the basics behind it, that’s when you can empower yourself to take back control of your devices, your money and your network.”

Of course, like any war—and make no mistake this is a war—there are success and failures. While the failures are often publicized, it’s inherent in the business that the successes and wins are often kept quiet. A recent Air Force Magazine article explains why. “What they do, though, must necessarily remain secret, so as not to tip off the enemy about what the cyber force knows, what it can do, and what it is doing.”

Shipley advises Airmen on how to protect themselves and by extension, help protect the networks they use every day—the base network, the network they conduct banking on, and even social media platforms. In the current environment the vaccine of educated users is becoming a necessity.

His strongest recommendation is that people use encryption for every device connected to the internet, something easily available through an app store for mobile devices.

Finally, for those who want to learn how to protect themselves, Shipley recommends, “Just Google it, you will learn everything you need to know.”



Photo by Tech Sgt. Paul Rider, 194th Air Wing Public Affairs

Air Force Staff Sgt. Wiggin Bernadotte, a cyber warfare operator in the Washington Air National Guard’s 262nd Cyberspace Operations Squadron, works with Capt. Benjamin Kolar, a cyberspace operations officer in the 262nd, on an electrical substation simulator on November 3, 2018. Air National Guard units across the U.S. are emphasizing efforts Airmen can take to protect themselves, their families and the Air Force networks from Cyber Security threats.

## 125th STS mobilized for hurricane relief



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

**PORTLAND, Oregon** – Members of the Oregon Air National Guard’s 125th Special Tactics Squadron mobilized, Sept. 12, 2018, to provide humanitarian support for Hurricane Florence relief.

Approximately 12 Oregon Air National Guardsmen departed from the Portland Air National Guard Base on a California Air National Guard C-130 Hercules aircraft headed to Dover Air Force Base. They deployed from Dover after the Hurricane passed through. The Airmen conducted rescue operations as well as reestablished airfields that became inoperable due to the hurricane.

“This is one of our many missions to protect and serve the United States of America,” said 142nd Fighter Wing Vice Commander Col. Todd Hofford. “We have a very elite group of special operations forces that include Air Force combat controllers and pararescuemen that have a unique skill set in this time of need.”

Along with the Airmen, the Special Tactics Squadron brought inflatable Zodiac boats, all-terrain vehicles, and mini-bikes to aid in their operations.



OREGON NATIONAL GUARD COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND REGIONAL EVENTS



Photo by Staff Sgt. Zachary Holden, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs  
The Canadian Forces Snowbirds perform their routine in their CT-114 Tutor aircraft during the 2018 Oregon International Airshow, Hillsboro, Oregon, September 28th.

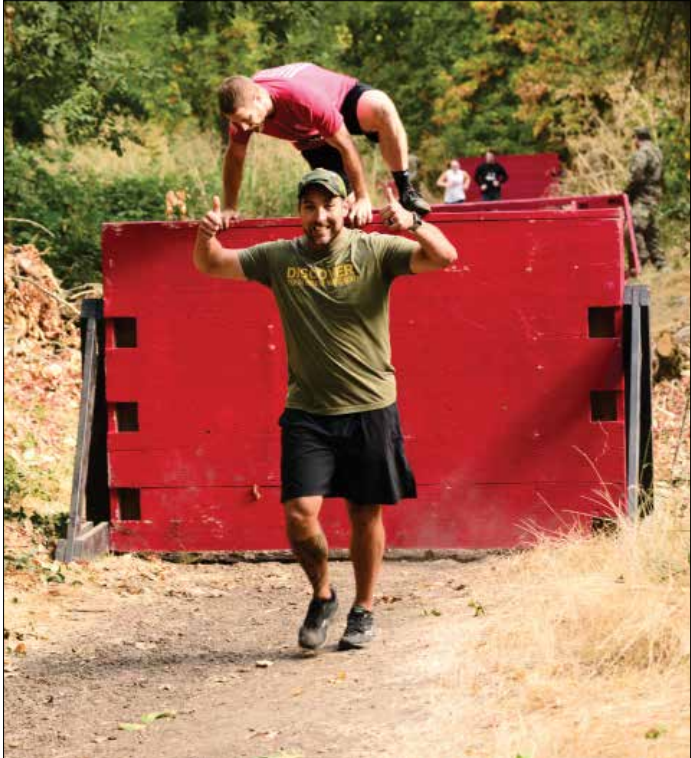


Photo by Sgt. 1st Class April Davis, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs  
Competitors navigate obstacles during the "Storm The Castle" fitness and recruiting event hosted by the 1249th Engineer Battalion, Oregon Army National Guard, at Wallace Marine Park in Salem, Oregon, Sep. 8, 2018.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class April Davis, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs  
Competitors navigate obstacles during the "Storm The Castle" fitness and recruiting event hosted by the 1249th Engineer Battalion, Oregon Army National Guard, at Wallace Marine Park in Salem, Oregon, Sep. 8, 2018.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class April Davis, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs  
Competitors begin the race during the "Storm The Castle" fitness and recruiting event hosted by the 1249th Engineer Battalion, Oregon Army National Guard, at Wallace Marine Park in Salem, Oregon, Sep. 8, 2018.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Zachary Holden, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs  
The color guard of Veterans of Foreign Wars post 2666 present the U.S. flag during the playing of the national anthem at the annual Washington County Veterans Day ceremony in Hillsboro, Ore.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class April Davis, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs  
An Oregon Air National Guard F-15C Eagle, from the 142nd Fighter Wing, based at the Portland Air National Guard Base, takes off during the Oregon International Air Show at the Hillsboro Airport, Sept. 30, 2018.



Photo by Sgt. Cory Grogan, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs  
Maj. Gen. Michael Stencel (right), Adjutant General, Oregon, and Oregon Army National Guard Brig. Gen. William Edwards (left), the Deputy Commanding General – Operations, First U.S. Army Training Support Division (West), observe the annual Albany Veterans Day Parade from the reviewing stand, November 10, 2018, in Albany, Oregon.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Zachary Holden, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs  
Oregon Army National Guard Command Sgt. Maj. Geoffrey Miotke (left) and 1st Sgt. Matthew Holmes present a holiday wreath representing all seven branches of the U.S. Military at the Oregon State Capitol, December 17, 2018.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Zachary Holden, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs  
Veterans of Foreign Wars post 2666 performs a rifle salute at the Washington County Veterans Day ceremony in Hillsboro.



Photo by Sgt. Cory Grogan, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs  
The Oregon National Guard participated in the Albany Veterans Day Parade, Nov. 10, 2018, in Albany, Ore.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class April Davis, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs  
Oregon Air National Guard Airmen with the 125th STS participate in the Albany Veterans Day Parade, Nov. 10, 2018.



OREGON AIR NATIONAL GUARD

First Time: 173rd Fighter Wing hosts Secretary of the Air Force

Story by Tech. Sgt. Jefferson Thompson  
Photos by Staff Sgt. Riley Johnson  
173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KALAMATH FALLS, Oregon -- Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson visited the 173rd Fighter Wing Nov. 3-4, 2018, marking the first visit by a sitting secretary since Kingsley Field opened its gates during WWII.

During her visit, Wilson had the opportunity to see firsthand the wing's mission, which is the sole training provider of F-15C air superiority pilots to the U.S. Air Force. The base coined the phrase, "America's air superiority starts here," to describe a mission vital to the interests of the Air Force.



Secretary of the U.S. Air Force, Heather Wilson, arrives at the 173rd Fighter Wing and is greeted by Col. Jeff Smith (left), wing commander; Brig. Gen. James Kriesel (center), Oregon Air National Guard commander; and Maj. Gen. Michael Stencel, Oregon Adjutant General, Nov. 3.

One of her key messages for the community and the wing is the emergence of threats with capabilities comparable to the U.S., which she said requires a concerted effort to modernize and re-establish technological superiority. "The thing that's driving all this is the threat—we've returned to an era of great power competition and we have to be prepared for that," she said.

That means an increase in readiness, an expansion of the number of squadrons, and an increase in the number of Airmen joining the ranks of fully qualified fighter pilots, something the 173rd Fighter Wing executes every day.

Over the last several years the wing has added training airspace making it the second largest range in the entire Air Force, second only to the Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, range. Kingsley Field has also secured the longest lease in the Air Force, until the year 2095, largely driven by strong community support.

"It's a very supportive community, and that matters to our Airmen and it matters to inspire the next generation of young people to consider the United States Air Force whether it's active, guard or reserve," said Wilson.

Secretary Wilson's history with the Air Force dates back to college, she graduated from the Air Force Academy and served for seven years in the 1980s. She said there are some differences in the service now and one of them is readily evident at Kingsley Field.



U.S. Air Force Col. Jeff Smith (right), 173rd Fighter Wing commander, helps Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson strap into an F-15D Eagle before a familiarization flight Nov. 4, 2018, at Kingsley Field in Klamath Falls, Ore.

"It's a guard unit that has an active association so that is very unique," she said referencing the active association with the 550th Fighter Squadron. "One of the things that's different about the Air Force from when I was on active duty is the closeness of the active, guard and reserve. The operating tempo is much higher, but that also means that the integration is even more important today than it was 20 years ago."

Kingsley added more than 90 active duty troops several years ago, and they help increase the number of student pilots the wing graduates in a year.

Although her visit spanned just over 24 hours she made time to meet with Airmen from the most junior to the higher ranks and she hosted a town hall for more than an hour. The

base theater reached capacity and still more people filed in to stand in the back. During her presentation she asked each Airmen to write on a three-by-five card something they would like her to know.

"If there is anything you would like me to know, anything at all, please write it on the card, I will read every one of them on the plane when I leave," she said.

The final part of her visit was a ride in the back seat of the F-15 Eagle where she traveled to the training airspace to see its scope and to experience some of what the aircraft is capable of.

"It was a great day, it was a really great day," she said with a smile on her face. "Climbing at 70-degrees nose-high and going from 6,000 feet to 18,000 feet in what seemed like less than 30-seconds—going inverted and just having [Col. Jeff Smith] show me what the jet could do was a lot of fun."



Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson is accompanied by U.S. Representative, Greg Walden as Tech. Sgt. Tyler Strop explains how 173rd Fighter Wing maintainers have pioneered a method for inspecting F-15 wings for structural defects, helping keep the fleet airworthy, Nov. 3, 2018.

NORAD Commander visits 142nd Airmen



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

PORTLAND, Oregon -- The Commander of North American Aerospace Defense Command, General Terrence O'Shaughnessy, met with Airmen of the 123rd Fighter Squadron, 142nd Fighter Wing, August 23, 2018, to commend them for their actions during an alert launch. The 142nd Fighter Wing's F-15 Eagles intercepted the stolen Horizon Bombardier Q400 aircraft out of SeaTac International Airport on August 10, 2018.

During his visit, O'Shaughnessy provided a brief statement to the Airmen at the Portland Air National Guard Base before presenting them with commemorative coins, a military tradition honoring individuals for noteworthy actions or accomplishments.

The incident fell under the ongoing mission of Noble Eagle, the air-defense mission launched after the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

"The jets were armed but did not fire on the aircraft," said Air Force Capt. Cameron Hillier, a NORAD spokesman. "They attempted to divert the aircraft toward the Pacific Ocean while maintaining radio communication with controllers and the Eagles flew close enough to make close visual contact with the Horizon aircraft."

The brief flight ended when the aircraft crashed on Ketron Island about an hour after it left Sea-Tac. There was no other loss of life on board the Q400 nor were any others hurt or injured on the ground.

173rd FW Airman creates "Farmer's Market"

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

KALAMATH FALLS, Oregon -- The 173rd Finance Office saw an opportunity to practice generosity and foster healthy eating by creating a "Farmer's Market" at Kingsley Field, in the late summer of 2018.

Lt. Col. Shana Stroh, the 173rd Fighter Wing comptroller, says her garden is producing beyond her family's needs so she decided to give it away to members of the wing.

She started with getting permission—there are certain things you can't give away for public health reasons like eggs and meat—and she recruited other



Lt. Col. Shana Stroh, the 173rd FW Comptroller who organized a "Farmer's Market" provides recipes for beet greens, which she donated from her garden, Sept. 4.



Fresh beets were among the items provided during a "Farmer's Market" organized by the 173rd FW Finance Office, Sept. 4, 2018. The market was a way for 173rd Airmen to donate excess produce from their gardens.

gardeners to bring in their excess produce. "The way we were doing it is just a self-serve farmer's market," she said. "It's for people that have extra and who want to give it away to people on the base, and it's fresh produce."

All of the items on the table are free-of-charge, on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Stroh says it's a nice union between having so much on-hand and feeling good about being generous.

"You're either going to store it, process and can it or your just going to have way too much," she said. "I actually intentionally planted extra rows just for this."

The last week of August and the first week of September saw two tables full of fresh produce provided to the wing, and they plan to do another in mid-to-late September.

"There is so much that is growing, I can't keep up with it," said Tech. Sgt. Alicia Edick, a finance technician. "I'd rather give it to someone who can use it, rather than throw it away."

Stroh says there are plans to expand the program and she envisions next year having more produce. She adds that any produce left after the farmers market is donated to the local food bank.

OREGON AIR NATIONAL GUARD

The 142nd Fighter Wing conducts dual readiness exercise

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

PORTLAND, Oregon -- The Oregon Air National Guard's 142nd Fighter Wing focused their attention on combat readiness and emergency response training during the unit Regularly Scheduled Drill (RSD), September 8-9, at the Portland Air National Guard Base.



Air National Guard Senior Airman Nelson Chicas-Ramos works on an F-15C Eagle during combat readiness training, Sept. 8.

The training exercise main emphasis tested the Airmen's ability to work in high-tempo and mission operational scenarios wearing protective 'MOPP Gear' (Mission Oriented Protective Posture), simulating toxic environments after a possible chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear strike. The second day of the exercise focused on a simulated F-15 aircraft accident.

A crucial element the training examined the ability of the unit to function proficiently in hostile and combat environments. Updating and issuing gear to all the Airmen and while working on the basics allowed the entire Wing to refresh and sharpen skills.

"A big emphasis of the training is to familiarize ourselves the gear, wearing it properly, and then working (in simulation) in extreme environments," Col. Adam Sitler, 142nd Fighter Wing commander.

The simulated chemical warfare environment had Airmen launching and recovering the Wing's F-15 Eagles, to include generating maintenance procedures, loading missiles, refueling operations and flight crew tasks. The exercise also included night flying training, allowing Drill Status Guardsmen to work along side the full time staff.

As the first day transitioned into day two, Sitler said that the Airmen responded well to the challenges in the exercise.

"This training allows us to evaluate



Oregon Air National Guardsmen Senior Airman Nelson Chicas-Ramos (right) along with Master Sgt. Michael Boudreau (center) and Staff Sgt. Bryce Cunningham (left), assigned to the 142nd Fighter Wing Maintenance Group, remove missiles from an F-15C Eagle as they transfer training weapons to a mobile storage cart after an afternoon sortie as part of combat readiness training, Sept. 8, 2018, Portland Air National Guard Base, Ore.

mission readiness for wartime and deployed assignments," said Sitler.

The second day of training shifted the emphasis to base Firefighting and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) teams responding to a variety of circumstances with an aircraft accident

on the Air base.

As the two-days of training concluded, Wing leadership was able to evaluate accomplishments and areas of emphasis for future readiness exercises, all the while, keeping the all-current mission postures operational.

173rd FW Airmen work to build resiliency

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

KLAMATH FALLS, Oregon - The 173rd Fighter Wing hosted an integrated restoration seminar, known as iRest, for its Airmen, Sept. 14, 2018, in an effort to help them as they pursue Comprehensive Airman Fitness—a program fostering mental, physical, social, and spiritual fitness.

Integrated Restoration focuses on resilience, a subject that is a key area of focus for the Air Force and other service branches.

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Kaleth O. Wright, the Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, stressed its importance saying, "If the foundation of readiness is training, then the core of what makes an Airman more lethal is resilience." He then added, "I used to think [resilience] was the ability to bounce back, but I now see it as the ability to move through the hardships, the pain, the fear and the suffering."

That focus sees the force trying new and innovative approaches to building resilience, which is why a group of Airmen found themselves lying on mats in a training room, listening to the voice of Kelly Birch, an iRest instructor.



The 173rd Fighter Wing hosted Integrative Therapy instructor, Kelly Birch, for training designed to help Airmen better manage stress inherent to the modern workplace, Sept. 14, 2018.

"Formulate your intention for the day so you know what you are doing and why you are doing it," she says at one point during a session in which she works to help students develop more awareness of what their senses are telling them.

"By yourself, sweep your attention through your body from head to toe: head, neck, torso, arms and hands, legs and feet and back to the head," she intones.

She explains the reason for this approach from a physiological perspective. "When we are stressed our cortisol is elevated, we don't have any down time, the sympathetic nervous system stress responses are chronically activated," says Birch.

This training uses that focus to regulate those responses. "It carries over in our capacity in daily life to manage our emotions, to notice our thoughts, which ones are helpful and which ones aren't."

Birch says the training can help people function in a chaotic environment calmly and rationally, and that practitioners may have less stress and anxiety, sleep disturbances and increased energy levels.

For many Airmen that attended this seminar, this is the first time they have tried the training or what Birch calls a protocol.

"I wanted to try iRest to see what it was truly about," Senior Airman Melinda Grounds said. "To me it promised a new experience and a new way to navigate and control my own emotions and thoughts, a purposeful practice to maintain a balanced disposition in my own life."

Grounds says the skills this training imparted will serve her in that capacity and that she sees it as a viable approach to managing stress.

"I participated in this at a Yellow Ribbon event after returning from my deployment," said Staff Sgt. Penny Snoozy, who largely spearheaded the effort to bring Birch and the iRest training to the 173rd Fighter Wing. "I felt that we all have stress in our lives, especially those of us who are in the military, and I wanted to bring this to our Airmen because mental resiliency is important whether we are at home or overseas on deployment."

Kingsley Field hosts local recruiting expo

Story and photos by  
Senior Master Sgt. Jennifer Shirar  
173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KLAMATH FALLS, Oregon - Airmen from the 173rd Fighter Wing hosted a recruiting expo for approximately 200 local high school seniors and juniors from nine schools. Recruiters from the Air National Guard, Army National Guard, Army, Air Force, and Navy were all on-hand to share the different opportunities that are available through their respective branches.

Tech. Sgt. Rafe Pierce, a 173rd Fighter Wing production recruiter and organizer of the event says the purpose of this was two-fold.

"I wanted to increase public knowledge and opinion of the Air National Guard in the local, recruitable population, while at the same time fostering greater cooperation between the local recruiters of the different branches," he said.

Not only were the students able to meet with the recruiters, but they had the opportunity to talk with Airmen who work at the 173rd FW, see the equipment they use, and ask questions.

On display was an F-15 Eagle, a mock engine and gun demonstration, an R-11 refueling truck, and security forces and many other pieces of equipment and machinery for the students to observe first-hand.

"I felt that allowing the students and staff of our local schools see the different branches come together in a cooperative way, while demonstrating what service in the Air National Guard and Air Force can actually look like, would help to break down some of the stereotypes," adds Pierce.

Pierce also saw this as opportunity talk about the newest benefit available to Oregon Guardsman, 100-percent tuition assistance. Oregon House Bill 4035 was signed in April, authorizing 100-percent state tuition



Students from multiple Klamath County High Schools listen to Staff Sgt. Kevin Gordon, 173rd FW, explain how a refueler truck works during a recruiting expo at Kingsley Field in Klamath Falls, Ore. Oct. 11, 2018.

assistance for all Oregon Guardsman, and was made available starting the fall 2018 academic year. This benefit pays for tuition and some fees for Airmen and Soldiers attending an Oregon state university or community college in pursuit of an associate or baccalaureate degree.

Pierce hopes to make this an annual event and is already looking at ways to make next year's event even more successful.

"My biggest goal for this event was to create a successful framework for future Armed Forces Expos; and thanks to the amazing support of members of Kingsley Field we did," he added.



Students from multiple Klamath County High Schools listen to Senior Airman Colton Oates, 173rd FW, explain what it is like to be an F-15 Eagle engine maintainer during a recruiting expo at Kingsley Field in Klamath Falls, Ore. Oct. 11, 2018.



FEATURES

# Oregon National Guard secures an all-natural defense

Story by John Hughel,  
Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

**CLACKAMAS, Oregon** - As important as all-terrain vehicles, up-to-date weaponry, and cutting-edge communication systems are essential assets for the U.S. Military to complete its ascribed mission, the Department of Defense (DOD) has factored in renewable energy to the list of resources vital to securing our nation.

The growth of renewable energy in the Oregon National Guard began in 2011 when Oregon was the first state chosen to participate in the “Net Zero Pilot Program.” The funding and resources made available allowed armories around the state to dramatically reduce their energy cost.

“When awarded the Net Zero Program, Oregon became the first and only National Guard site in the overall DOD initiative,” said Kenneth Safe, construction and facilities management officer for the Oregon Army National Guard. “To reduce energy and produce energy on the site was the goal of becoming sustainable and increase security.”

There are nearly 38 Army National Guard armories throughout the state of Oregon, functioning as readiness centers for Soldiers to train, house their gear and shelter essential equipment. Several of these facilities are securing a reliable and affixed energy source by harnessing the power of the sun, all while saving taxpayer dollars.



Photo by Ken Safe, Construction and Facilities Management Officer, Oregon Military Department

A solar photovoltaic (PV) array installed at the Army Aviation Support Facility (AASF) in Pendleton, Ore. The 150-kilowatt solar system provides renewable electricity for the helicopter hangar utilizing 475 Oregon-made solar panels divided between a ground-mounted system and a carport structure that also provides weather protection from parked vehicles.

“We’re installing panels that are 300 watts, or approximately three panels per kilowatt, for a total of 750 panels on the Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC).”

When the AFRC was first constructed in 2011, there was an original installation of 18.8 kilowatts, Safe remarked when breaking down the numbers. In September of 2018, an additional 249.6-kilowatt array increased the projected production

The impact on the environment for solar collection is minimal as the panels are mounted on rooftops, not taking up land space with ‘Solar Farms’ of panels.

“Where we have gone to some non-rooftop installations has been over parking lots which has provided car cover too,” said Jeff Mach, natural resources conservation manager for the Oregon National Guard.

An important consideration with renewable energy outside of the cost savings and sustainability are the impacts on the environment. Switching for coal and natural gas will help reduce carbon pollution and provide healthy habitats.

In a 2015 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency report, the study found that in the new Clean Power Plan, renewable energy sources of wind and solar will play an expanded role in the next decade, and by 2030 could generate well over 400 billion kilowatt hours of electricity annually.

“Reducing our impact on the environment is a driving factor with energy, water usage and other resources, and also fits into a broader aspect of resiliency,” said Mach. “If there was a natural disaster, it would be easier to ‘get back on your feet quicker,’ so having resources already in place serves both desires.”

of 320,233 kilowatt-hours per year. The lifecycle of these solar projects is rated for a 25-year span, factoring in about a 10 percent degradation over this lifespan.

“In 2015, when Executive Order number 13693 was written (by the DOD) it specified that there were targeted goals for renewable energy savings through 2025, increasing efficiency at around two percent and compounded every year after,” Safe said.

The DOD and the Department of the Army have recognized the importance of these renewable energy projects and have set up their own funding stream.

“That’s how we are funding our solar projects,” Safe emphasized. “The disposition of the funds to the states helps award future projects and it is why we in Oregon have been as successful with other building projects.”

By working with local utility companies, the Oregon National Guard armories are factoring in reliable, long-term standards, which will help with project operating costs and long term budgeting.

“Under the Net metering agreement with other power utilities, it helps balance the books. We can produce up to as much as we use, and if we overproduce the utility just gets to keep it,” said Safe.

According to a Defense Science Board report in 2017, “Army installations consume an average of 21 million barrels of petroleum a year.” The DOD’s move toward energy security has invigorated programs like ‘Net-Zero’ and is part of the Army Energy Security Implementation Strategy moving into the future.

In the past, American Service Members deployed and established positions to secure and defend gas, oil and other fuel sources needed in an area of operations. Having renewable in place will provide units in the field the energy sources they need and can control. This alone will save lives while managing renewable resources in the field.

“That’s where we’re headed next, we are going to be looking at what we can do that will build in this type of self-sufficiency,” Safe said, as he summarized the continuing plans. “If we are faced with a situation where we can benefit with a large installation training site, like Umatilla, we may want to do a combination of solar and battery storage at the same time.”

Not every training site or armory in the state is ideal for using and installing solar panels, but by reducing the cost across the state and using resources efficiently, this will help meet the 2025 goals set by Congress; where military facilities must get 25 percent of their energy from renewable sources.

“When looking at the cost per kilowatt hour and the leveled cost of electricity (LCOE) this gives us a clear gauge for the overall value in these solar projects,” said Safe. “Moving forward, we want to be as efficient as possible and get the best return on investment for everyone involved.”

Over the long run these savings will support all parties looking to plan, budget and offset cost. In the end, having a reliable and predictable energy resource for Oregon Guardsmen to use in response to future public emergencies is invaluable.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Anita VanderMolen, 115th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Robert Johnson (left) explains the differences between the newly installed photovoltaic system and one previously installed in 2015 to the operations facilities specialists, James Odan (second from left) and Steven Roche (far right), and Oregon Military Department project managers, Eric Manus (center) and Mark Williams, at the Roseburg Readiness Center, in Roseburg, Ore., August 10, 2017.



Photo by John Hughel, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

Solar Panels attached on top of the Armed Forces Readiness Center at Camp Withycombe, in Clackamas, Ore., helped boost the energy savings of the building. Panels were added to the building over the previous summer. The panels continue to produce power for the building, even on overcast days, helping the Oregon National Guard save on energy costs.

“The cost savings is only part of the benefit to the Net Zero program,” Safe described. “It also allows these armories to be self-sufficient facilities and function for up to two-weeks, if necessary, from their own power.”

Forecasting the devastation of a potential Cascadia Subduction Zone episode, maintaining the sustainability of the armories around the state will be of utmost importance. Having self-sufficient facilities will enable the Oregon Army National Guard to respond to vital community needs, operating as distribution hubs, medical response sites, and critical ongoing communication centers.

When it comes to generating electricity directly from sunlight, solar photovoltaic systems are easy to maintain and can be located almost anywhere, with no need to be refueled. The first Oregon armory to have solar panels installed was the Captain John W. Brown Armory, in Ontario, Oregon, in 2010. Other solar panels projects quickly followed suit to include larger projects at Pendleton, Roseburg, Dallas, Camp Withycombe, and most recently at the new Maj. Gen. George A. White Joint Force Headquarters building in Salem.

“The biggest project we have done to date is at Camp Withycombe,” Safe explained.

FEATURES

# Office of Emergency Management builds a culture of preparedness

By Andrew Phelps, director  
Oregon Office of Emergency Management

**SALEM, Oregon** – As the Director of the Oregon Office of Emergency Management (OEM) I see how passionate the OEM team and our partner emergency management organizations are about helping Oregonians prepare for emergencies and disasters.. Recently, Governor Kate Brown unveiled a plan to improve Oregon’s readiness for a Cascadia Earthquake and Tsunami by 2025.

As part of that effort, the my office has been tasked with developing a plan, in coordination with county emergency management, non-profits, and the American Red Cross, to ensure that 250,000 homes in the Cascadia Subduction Zone region have 2-weeks of emergency supplies by 2021.

For many years, we’ve been talking about the importance of being prepared for 72-hours. While this is a good start, it does not reflect the reality of the impacts from a large earthquake and tsunami, which will leave much of our infrastructure, including transportation routes, communications networks, and water and energy services unusable. Oregonians will have to count on each other and their communities to be safe until responders can arrive.

This is why OEM is focused on efforts to establish a culture of preparedness, where Oregonians have a shared set of beliefs relating to our need to be ready to take care of ourselves, our families and our community during emergencies or disasters. We encourage Oregonians to be prepared



for a minimum of 2-weeks as part of our “2 Weeks Ready” initiative. When more individuals, families and communities are prepared, our emergency responders can better focus their resources on injured and other vulnerable populations immediately following a disaster.

So what does being ready for two weeks mean? It means having the skills and the stuff to take care of yourself and those in your household for at least two weeks following an emergency or disaster. Learning first aid and CPR can go a long way towards individual and family preparedness, as can ensuring your residence is properly insured, you know where utility shut-offs are located, how to communicate and evacuate, and where to get emergency information. There is no “one-size” way to put together two weeks’ worth of supplies since everyone has individual dietary and medical needs. If your family includes children, seniors or pets, you will have additional needs.

## Oregon Army National Guardsmen work to maintains public lands

Story by 1st Lt. Erin Smith  
115th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment  
Photos by Staff Sgt. Zachary Holden,  
Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

**REDMOND, Oregon** - Oregon Army National Guard Soldiers with the 224th Engineer Company, based in Albany, Oregon, worked long days during their Annual Training (AT) to improve conditions at Biak Training Center near Redmond, Oregon. The gravel roads throughout Biak have been deteriorating for years. This summer, the 224th Engineer Company provided the equipment and manpower to repair three major roadways at Biak.

Bryan Nielsen, Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM) coordinator and facilities manager at Biak Training Center, said he was grateful for the help.

“The 224th Engineer unit approached us and wanted to know if they could do their AT out here and do some road work for us and I always welcome that,” he said. “I am the only person that does that here at Biak and we have 43,000 acres.”

While the unit may have offered to do “some” work, they certainly accomplished more. Bryan Nielsen estimated that the engineers accomplished about one-year



An Oregon Army National Guard Soldier smooths out a freshly resurfaced road at Biak Training Center.

worth of work in 2-3 days.

The only thing the engineers did not provide was the rock, which was supplied by the ITAM program and the sustainment program. Biak does not have the equipment or manpower to do major road repairs, so they usually rely on contractors for any major maintenance projects. In comparison to normal repair costs, buying rock was a minimal expenditure for repaired roadways.

Bryan Nielsen and the team at Biak were not the only ones to benefit from this AT project.

“It is sort of a win-win-win, which doesn’t happen very often,” explained

Everyone’s kit will look different but for a basic starting point, you can visit our 2 Weeks Ready page at <https://www.oregon.gov/OEM/hazardsprep/Pages/2-Weeks-Ready.aspx>. This page suggests activities or items to include in your preparedness kit. You probably have many 2-Weeks Ready items around the house and may be more prepared than you think! Being prepared to be self-sufficient for 2-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 a 72-hour kit if you have one.

We are asking Oregonians to think about emergency preparedness and talk about it. 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 are unable to get to them for several hours?
- Who in your neighborhood has medical skills, a generator, a chainsaw, or other important tools or resources?
- Do you have an out of state contact? Designate one person to be the main contact for your group of friends or family.

Experience has shown that in the aftermath of large disasters (consider the 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan or hurricanes in Southeast U.S. and Caribbean), it may take weeks before help can arrive. While first responders are at the ready to assist wherever, whenever needed, OEM and our partners are encouraging you to create preparedness kits and build emergency skills to maintain

self-sufficiency.

The devastation on display in the Florida Panhandle following Hurricane Michael as survivors sought clean water, food, fuel and medical care is another example of the challenge we still face getting more people to take preparedness seriously. As an emergency manager, it’s incredibly frustrating to see these events unfold when you know there are actions and steps people can take to be better prepared.

This is why we are asking you to be ready for a minimum of 2-weeks, with both stuff and skills. Do it a little bit at a time, you don’t have to get there all at once. OEM, local emergency managers, and partners like Red Cross and FEMA have a host of publications, videos and other resources to help you get 2-Weeks Ready.

Until the Cascadia earthquake and tsunami happen we don’t know exactly how our infrastructure and our environment are going to respond, so it’s important we heed these warnings. Let’s use the available science and forecasts and look at how we prepare as a community for all hazards, and start building a culture of preparedness into our everyday lives.



Capt. Joseph Zimmerman, commander of the 224th. “Training is provided to my Soldiers, maintenance to an Oregon training facility, a National Guard training facility, and then infrastructure is built up out here that the public can use.”

The thousands of acres that make up Biak Training Center are also open to the public, who use the same roads traveled by military vehicles. Nielsen believes the neighbors and the public will be grateful for the improved roads.

Soldiers from the unit received an excellent training opportunity in exchange for their hard work.

Sgt. Jason Schroeder shared the benefit for his section, “Here the Soldiers are able to be hands on and have the experience to learn how to process rock and to construct roads. The experience they gain here and the time and the equipment builds that confidence that, down the road, if they are called to deployment they will know what their equipment is capable of and what their job entails.”

The hard work by Soldiers at Biak was a successful ending to almost a year of

planning and coordination. Leadership from the 224th coordinated with Biak personnel about needs and priorities. Additional interagency coordination was required because, unlike most National Guard training facilities, Biak is a multipurpose land use area. Biak Training Center holds a 30-year land use agreement with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) who owns the property. Finally, months of planning resulted in what all parties agreed to be a successful training project.

Zimmerman saw the difference working on a lasting project made for his Soldiers, “Being able to see it stay, makes them put a little bit more effort into it because nobody wants to build something just to tear it down... They know they can come back here in a few years and see what they have done and they just stay very excited about it.”

While the work for the 224th Engineer Company is done for now, it probably won’t be the last time Biak Training Center sees them.

“[Bryan] is limited on his scope of equipment, as one guy would be, so he can’t get done what we can get done. He can maintain to a certain level but it will require us to come back and work on it,” said Zimmerman.



An Oregon Army National Guard Soldier with the 224th Engineer Company, 1249th Engineer Battalion, waters down a pile of gravel that will be used to improve miles of roads.



Oregon Army National Guard Soldiers with the 224th Engineer Company, 1249th Engineer Battalion, smooths out a freshly resurfaced road at Biak Training Center near Redmond.



FEATURES

# Oregon Air National Guardsman plays Soldier with UK partners

Story by Master Sgt. Nick Choy  
Photos courtesy by Maj. Christopher Webb  
142nd Fighter Wing Medical Group

**PORTLAND, Oregon** - When Oregon Air National Guard Maj. Christopher Webb signed-up for the 2018 Military Reserve Exchange Program, he admitted he had no idea what he was getting into. “I didn’t know what to expect,” Webb said, as he sat in the CERFP building at the Portland Air National Guard Base during the recent October drill weekend, recollecting his experiences the month prior.

Webb, who serves as the Deputy Commander and Director of Operations for the 142nd CBRNE Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP) at the Portland Air National Guard Base in Portland, Ore., ultimately spent two weeks with British and Irish Soldiers during Exercise Stone Viper, held at Camp Swynnerton near the village of Stone in central England.

Members of the 335 Medical Evacuation Regiment from England and the 253 Medical Regiment from Northern Ireland conducted field-based medical evacuation training over the course of two-weeks



Oregon Air National Guard Maj. Christopher Webb at Swynnerton Camp in central England, during the Stone Viper exercise.

with a focus on “Soldiering skills”.

As part of the 2018 Military Reserve Exchange Program, or MREP, Webb and three other U.S. Air Force members from across the United States participated in the exercise with their counterparts from the United Kingdom.

“This program provides American Airmen an opportunity to embed with allied forces and function as a member of their team,” Webb said.

Webb said the exercise was unique, even for the British Army Reserve Soldiers because it allowed them to push beyond their normal level of training—sometimes into a level of discomfort they had not experienced in a long time—especially for the newer British Soldiers.

“We had no idea that we would be in the field for seven days and six nights, so we weren’t prepared simply from a packing standpoint,” Webb admitted.

Despite being ill-prepared for the weather and the field conditions, Webb and the other three American service members adapted and overcame even as many of the British Soldiers began to fall out after the first few days. Webb admitted his Nike Airman Battledress Uniform (ABU) combat boots didn’t fare as well.

“I definitely wouldn’t have worn my summer-weight Nike ABU combat boots had I known better!” he said.

During his first few days at Swynnerton, Webb took part in a British Army fitness test, which was exactly the same as the Air Force Physical Fitness Test. Webb and his fellow American service members attended training on the standard issue HK-A2 assault rifle, structural breaching and clearing, communications training on the British Bowman field radios, tactical operations during civil unrest in urban environments, medical care under fire, and



Participants with the U.S. Military Reserve Exchange Program (MREP) join members of the 335 Medical Evacuation Regiment from England unloading a simulated injured patient.

basher (divvy) building and concealment techniques.

“We were also outfitted with a complete British Army kit to get us ready for the next week in the field,” Webb added.

Describing the teams assembled for the exercise, Webb said all participants were divided up into three squadrons—two having one American each, and the third having two Americans. Each squadron consisted of a command staff, medical officers (providers), medics, and ambulance drivers. Additionally, it was up to the command staff of each squadron to assign staff to two PHTTs (pre-hospital treatment tents) and a QRF (quick response force). All of the Americans were placed on their squadron’s command staff, with Webb named as the Intel Officer and 3IC (third in-charge) of his squadron. But most important to Webb was the focus on battlefield casualty evacuation.

“It was important for me to see Role-1 medical care which is emergency care from the point of injury and includes triage, treatment, stabilization, and evacuation to the next higher role medical treatment facility,” Webb said.

In his past experience in the U.S. Air Force, and especially with the CERFP, Webb has had experience in patient evacuation, but he admitted he had never participated in the entire process until now.

“I now have working knowledge of

the entire chain of care from injury on the battlefield through evacuation out of theater,” Webb said.

The other difference Webb noted was how little “simulating” happened during this exercise.

“The exercise was surprisingly realistic in every way, from constantly exchanging fire with the enemy using blank rounds, meeting with angry village chiefs who spoke only Russian, ambushes and raids, and performing medical interventions on casualties while under fire,” he said. “I left very impressed that there was very little ‘nationalizing’ in this exercise.”

For Webb, the challenges of traveling half way around the globe and spending two weeks training, sleeping and eating in the field were worth it.

“I gained an appreciation for Army field craft and an understanding of how care under fire can greatly make even the most rudimentary medical evaluation or procedure infinitely more difficult,” Webb said.

Webb also noted that the skills he acquired in his MREP experience will help him better plan training for his CERFP teammates back at the Portland Air National Guard Base.

“CERFP medical response is field-based and there’s actually more carry-over between battlefield medicine and responding to a mass-casualty disaster than one might initially think,” he added.

Webb recommends the exchange program to others. He said it allows US military members to embed with allied forces and to function as a full member of their team.

“It provides U.S. military members unique perspectives, unparalleled access, and interesting insight into how other nations’ militaries function,” he said. “In addition, you’ll form international relationships and friendships with some really great individuals.”

As is typical with most members of the National Guard, Webb’s family was very involved in his British adventure.

“They enjoyed hearing my stories and looking at pictures taken during the exercise,” Webb said. “They also look forward to visits from some of my new friends who work in medical regiments throughout England and North Ireland.”

# Largest earthquake drill highlights Oregon’s push for disaster resilience

Story and photos by Cory Grogan,  
Oregon Office of Emergency Management

**PORTLAND, Oregon** - Oregon is earthquake country. Crustal earthquakes are regular occurrences in Oregon that have the potential to cause significant localized damage, and the threat of a Cascadia Subduction Zone quake is a geologic hazard that will affect the entire state. On average, Cascadia quakes occur every 300 years and are caused by the shifting of geologic plates in the Cascadia subduction zone. Emergency management agencies with support from the Governor and other organizations across the state have worked with communities to share

information and promote preparedness. The best protective action anyone can do during any type of earthquake is to “Drop. Cover. Hold on.” Most injuries are caused by falling debris or being thrown to the ground.

“Earthquakes are just one of the natural hazards we face in Oregon,” says Althea Rizzo, geologic hazards awareness program coordinator at Oregon’s Office of Emergency Management. “We also experience winter storms, wildfires and flooding. Experience has shown that in the aftermath of large disasters - consider the recent earthquake and tsunami in Indonesia or Hurricanes Maria and Florence – personal preparedness is critically important. The Great ShakeOut

is a safe and fun way to practice what to do when seismic activity occurs.”

On Thursday, October 18, people worldwide practiced how to “Drop, Cover and Hold On” as part of the Great ShakeOut annual earthquake drill. The Oregon Office of Emergency Management in collaboration with the Governor worked with local, tribal, state, federal, media, private and non-profit



Students from Rigler Elementary School in Portland, Ore., “Drop, Cover, and Hold On!” during the Great Oregon ShakeOut earthquake drill, Oct. 18.

partners to make this year’s Great Oregon ShakeOut earthquake drill a success. The most ever, 672,623, Oregonians participated in this year’s drill!

Oregon Governor Kate Brown declared October 18, 2018, “Great Oregon Shakeout Day.” The proclamation encouraged participation in the ShakeOut and urged Oregonians to be 2 Weeks Ready.

“We know that a Cascadia Subduction Zone quake and tsunami could leave large areas of our state without resources for days and weeks,” says Rizzo.

“Having 2 weeks of food, water and other emergency supplies is critical for individuals and families who may need to take care of themselves until formal response resources can reach them.”

Rigler Elementary School in Portland was one of many schools in Oregon that learned about earthquakes and what to do during a quake.

With help from their teachers, students throughout the state “Dropped, Covered, and Held On!” during the nation’s largest earthquake drill, “The Great ShakeOut”



Students from Rigler Elementary School in Portland, Ore., learn about the earthquakes before the Great Oregon ShakeOut earthquake drill, October 18, 2018. This year’s drill was the largest ever with 672,623 Oregonians registered.

on Oct. 18, at 10:18 a.m.

“As we build a culture of preparedness within our youth it’s going to benefit Oregonians for decades to come,” said Oregon Office of Emergency Management Director Andrew Phelps.

This year’s Great ShakeOut happened as Gov. Kate Brown unveiled her plan to get Oregon ready for a Cascadia subduction zone quake by the year 2025. She is highlighting six strategies that she’s hoping to focus on in the next five to seven years.

FEATURES

# The 3670th Component Repair Company deactivates after 75 years of service

Story and photos by John Hugel,  
Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

**CLACKAMAS, Oregon** – With the unit colors rolled up and cased for the final time, the 3670th Component Repair Company was formally deactivated during a ceremony on Dec. 7, 2018, at Camp Withycombe in Clackamas, Oregon.

Marking more than 75 years of service, the formal deactivation for the 3670th allowed unit members a final opportunity to reflect on past accomplishments and close an extensive chapter within the Oregon Army National Guard.

The unit was first established on February 24, 1943, as the 309th Ordnance Medium Maintenance Company at Camp Hood, Texas, but was later inactive until June 10, 1945, when it was reconstituted as the 3670th Ordnance Medium Maintenance Company and allotted to the Oregon Army National Guard.



Oregon Army National Guard Maj. Matthew Brewer (center), commander of 3670th Component Repair Company, and 1st Sgt. Robert Bryson (center right) case the unit colors held by the unit guidon bearer (left) as Lt. Col. Dustin Ballard (right), commander of 821st Troop Command Battalion, waits to receive the colors one final time during the official deactivation ceremony, Dec. 7, 2018, at Camp Withycombe in Clackamas, Ore.

“Today we reflect on the storied history of the company, from the fields of strife in Europe, Kuwait and Desert Storm, and later as part of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom,” said Brig. Gen. William Prendergast, Oregon Army National Guard Land Component commander, in describing the long history of the unit.

In addition to combat deployments, Prendergast said the 3670th has supported state and other federal missions to include working with the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, performing maintenance to allow cadets to have the necessary equipment for training.

Several members of the unit recently returned from a nine-month deployment to Eastern Europe in support of Operation Atlantic Resolve. It was the third time that members of the 3670th Component Repair Company deployed to Europe to provide theater-level calibration and repair of critical weapons systems, communications

equipment, tactical vehicles and other equipment.

“We deployed Soldiers with very specific MOS’s (Military Occupational Specialty) that did testing, measuring diagnostics of equipment in the field and other roles with our NATO partners,” said Maj. Matthew Brewer, 3670th Component Repair Company commander.

When not deployed, the unit supported the major commands in the state, both the 82nd Brigade Troop Command and the 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT). They prepared equipment for training, including the 41st IBCT’s recent eXportable Combat Training Capability (xCTC), and preparing them for potential future deployments.

“The work involved purging night vision devices, gauging up weapons and providing a full spectrum of armament and maintenance support to the elements in our state,” said Brewer.

The transition of Soldiers and transferring nearly \$3 million worth of specialized equipment is part of the deactivation process.

“As we continue to challenge ourselves, a deactivation should not be looked at as an ending, rather as a beginning for others in the unit (3670th) to go onto new opportunities,” Prendergast said.

In deactivating the unit, Brewer said the principal challenge was finding new homes for more than 200 Soldiers that made up the 3670th.

“It was a pretty big movement of Service Members as we worked with each individual Soldier to find out what they were looking for in a new unit,” Brewer



Oregon Army National Guard Lt. Col. Dustin Ballard (right), commander of 821st Troop Command Battalion, exchanges the cased unit colors of 3670th Component Repair Company one final time from 1st Sgt. Robert Bryson (left) during the unit’s official deactivation ceremony, Dec. 7, 2018, at Camp Withycombe in Clackamas, Ore. The official deactivation of the 3670th concludes more than 75 years of federally recognized service dating back to Feb. 24, 1943.

said, describing these case-by-case challenges. “For some, it was keeping their same MOS but others with unique skills we had to find other ways to cross train them into new jobs.”

For some of the Guardsmen, the changes are welcome as this deactivation allows them an opportunity to look at new military career fields. For others, it has been more bittersweet as long-established bonds and traditions formed over many years will now lie in the memories of the unit’s history. Though in many ways, the 3670th will now live on in other units around the state as the Soldiers transition forward.

“During our last drill meeting in September, the key message I wanted them to know is that we have built such a cohesive team and developed so many good Soldiers,” said Brewer. “By building great leaders, we will fill the ranks in other units and carry on the highest principles of the 3670th.”

# Former NASA Engineer visits Kingsley STARBASE students

Story and photos by  
Tech. Sgt. Jefferson Thompson  
137rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

**KALAMATH FALLS, Oregon**

-- The space race of the 1960s is a period in the history of the United States that left an aura of passion and discovery.

It spawned famous books that have become part of the fabric of the country, such as Tom Wolfe’s The Right Stuff, published in 1979, which provides a co-pilot’s view of the most famous seven astronauts who went into orbit and eventually landed on the moon’s surface. Across its pages Air Force legends are cemented, most notably Chuck Yeager, the storied test pilot who broke the sound barrier but couldn’t break into the astronaut ranks because he didn’t have his college degree. As well as the Apollo moon landing with its timeless video of Buzz Aldrin saluting the U.S. Flag on the surface of the moon in 1969, where it still stands today.

The topic may be resurgent as the Air Force prepares to launch a new space force and China says they’ll place an astronaut on the moon as well.

A group of students at Kingsley Field’s STARBASE program had a first-hand introduction to this era when retired NASA propulsion engineer, Norman Chaffee, visited them.

He described for them his career in the heyday of the space race, which included helping design and build the very thruster rockets that helped Buzz Aldrin and



Retired NASA Engineer Norman Chaffee shows students at STARBASE one of the very rocket motors he created, which helped the lunar lander safely settle on the moon’s surface on the Apollo missions during the “space race” of the 1960’s, Oct. 19, 2018.

Neil Armstrong safely land on the moon for the first time—and get them back into orbit for the ride home. In fact, he brought one of them to show the students what they look like and let them hold it to see how heavy it was.

“You look like you might be about a hundred pounds,” he said gesturing to a student standing next to him. “This is a hundred-pound thrust rocket, so if you held on to it tightly on the surface of the moon it could very slowly lift you up.”

He gestured toward another younger, slighter student and said, “If you were to do the same thing, I think you may weigh about 60-pounds, this rocket would throw you up really, really fast,” he said with a big smile on his face as he handed the

he still supports those endeavors through telling stories of how he came to love science, many of which are fairly humorous.

At one point he describes using a toaster to hold a beaker upright while heating it up, naturally that worked quite well until it “popped” sending a flammable liquid onto the kitchen curtains and walls resulting in a house fire. Another time he created a mixture that reacted—bursting from the test beaker and leaving a dark purple stain on the kitchen counters and carpet. He later became interested in astronomy, and Chaffee said his parents rested more easily

rocket to the student.

Since retiring in 1998, Chaffee is part of the Johnson Space Center Education Office specializing in STEM for middle and high school students, which is the focus of the Kingsley Field STARBASE program.

His areas of focus while employed at NASA included propulsion and power systems, robotics, biomedical engineering, and systems engineering and integration. Thus visit is an example of how

as a telescope does not burn or stain its surroundings.

Following the visit, Alesha Earnest, the Kingsley Field STARBASE Director, said it peaked the interest of many of the students in attendance. “A couple of them said they are going to Mars,” she adds.

This is something Chaffee said was very likely adding, “I wouldn’t doubt if a number of you do go to Mars and if not you—your children will.”

Earnest said her favorite part was his enthusiasm for inspiring kids to pursue STEM, “to see his eyes light up when he was teaching the kids, his zeal in sharing his own discovery and wanting to pass that along to these students was my favorite part of his visit.”



NASA Engineer Norman Chaffee shows STARBASE students his “computer”, a slide rule used to create the rocket motors that safely landed astronauts on the moon.



## AZUWUR



Story by Master Sgt. John Hughel,  
Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

**PORTLAND, Oregon** - Maintaining Air Superiority, both domestically and strategically in the broader global reach, is sacrosanct for the U.S. Air Force in safeguarding the nation. It has been earned and sharpened over time, yet in the skies over Europe during the late summer and early autumn of 1943, it was in serious jeopardy of failure over the Third Reich. It was in those tenuous days that the early history of American flying men was forged, 'when the world hung in the hands of young men' in their B-17 Flying Fortresses.

In reflecting back 75 years, to that pivotal second week of October 1943, a "most critical point" for the U.S. Air Forces during WWII, serious lessons were profoundly absorbed. In the culmination of seven days of intense Allied bombing in Germany, on October 14, more than 3,000 Airmen took part in Mission 115; the Second Raid over Schweinfurt.

#### The Mighty 8th Air Force

The Combined Bomber Offensive (CBO) by the Allied forces of the United States, United Kingdom and Canada was intended to destroy vital industrial manufacturing and aircraft production targets essential to keeping the German war machine operational.

The Operation Pointblank order of June 14, 1943, instructed the U.S. Eighth Air Force and Royal Air Force (RAF) Bomber Command to target specific factories, primarily to take place during daylight raids as a means to clear obstacles for the eventual invasion of Northwest Europe. On August 17, 1943, the Schweinfurt-Regensburg mission was the first major targeted attack aimed at demolishing the German military aircraft industry.

With the lead up to Mission 115, the U.S. 8th Air Force Bomber Command began a three-day engagement beginning on October 8 against multiple cities and targets over Germany. In total, nearly 1,000 heavy bombers were launched into combat, with 88 aircraft lost and nearly 900 men with them. Staggering, almost unprecedented numbers, yet commanders kept plans in check for the second shot at the Schweinfurt ball bearing factories.

For the second raid on Schweinfurt, the U.S. Army 8th Air Force assembled 1st Division Bomb Groups (BG) from the 91st, 92nd, 303rd, 305th, 306th, 351st, 379th, 381st and the 384th. The 3rd Division Groups included the 94th, 95th, 100th, 385th, 388th and 390th. The B-17's would have P-47 Thunderbolt fighter escorts over the English Channel and into France. The remaining part of the mission would require steady formation, group integrity and adequate ammunition to engage the Luftwaffe without fighter support.

The combined force of 291 B-17's took part in the mission: yet regretfully by day's end, over 600 Airmen were killed or captured, as 60 Flying Fortresses were lost during the single-day raid, forever marking the day's mission as "Black Thursday."

In his book titled, "Black Thursday," author Martin Caidin described the impact on U.S. Air Superiority due to the staggering losses of the raid. "The Strategic Bombing Survey reported that the consequences of our heavy losses of bombers in the second Schweinfurt raid were ominous. In one raid, the U.S. Eighth Air Force had temporarily lost its air superiority over all German targets."

Among the American units who paid the heaviest price was the 305th Bomb Group, losing more than 130 men, 36 which were killed; and the 306th Bomb Group, stationed at Thurleigh Airdrome, losing 100 men, 35 died on the mission or of their wounds and 65 were captured to become Prisoners of



U.S. Air Force Photo

A large force of 8th Air Force heavy bombers and escorting fighters attack the ball bearing factories at Schweinfurt, Germany, for the second time, October 14, 1943. Multiple bombardment groups sent 291 B-17 Flying Fortress four-engine heavy bombers on the raid.

War (POW). One of the 306th BG POWs was my uncle, 2nd Lt. Edward B. Hughel.

For the crewmembers aboard aircraft 42-30811, assigned to the 306th Bomb Group, 369th Bomb Squadron, they endured the first wave of attacks from Luftwaffe fighters as they entered Germany. The B-17, piloted by 1st Lt. Ralph Peters and co-pilot 2nd Lt. Hughel, came under heavy attack again prior to the targeted bombing run.

In his account of the Schweinfurt mission after the war, Lt. Hughel, flying his fifth combat mission, reported that; "We took rocket hits which resulted in damage to the left wing, severe enough to Salvo the bomb load in order to keep up with the formation."

After taking more damage from FLAK on the bombing run, aircraft commander Peters gave 'the bail out order,' as all 10 crewmen aboard 42-30811 parachuted into enemy territory and all were captured almost immediately. Miraculously, all 10 men aboard the B-17 not only survived the attack on their aircraft, but the parachute jump as well, and became POW's.

For most of the men, the frenzied transition from their trainee phase to combat bomber crewmembers had been a blur, having only recently completed their final B-17 training in Pendleton, Oregon, in late August 1943. Now as POWs, they had somehow beaten the long odds of survival, as less than 20 percent of Airmen outlived the destruction of their aircraft and the forced parachute jumps into hostile hands during these massive raids.

Throughout airfields in England that day, the sense of despair began to sink in as many damaged Flying Fortresses hobbled home, yet many others were long overdue, never to return.

As Caidin described in "Black Thursday," the scene at the Thurleigh Airdrome late that day was one of devastation. "The feeling of crushing disaster overwhelmed the men on the ground. The 306th Group has lost ten bombers - 100 men are never coming back. Fifteen four-engine B-17 bombers had gone on to raid - only five returned."

With the enormous "Black Thursday" losses at nearly 20 percent of the bomber aircraft, the U.S. Army Air Force (USAAF) discontinued the deep strike CBO strategy into Germany until longer-range fighter escorts could be developed. It would be five months before the P-51 Mustang fighters would be ready to escort the B-17 and B-24 Liberators and the operations renewed in late February of 1944. As the P-38 and P-47's gave way to the Mustangs, other major changes within the USAAF leadership were also part of the CBO changes.

In early February of 1944, Maj. Gen. Jimmy Doolittle took command of the 8th Air Force, applying policy changes and requiring fighter escorts with bombers at all times. Doolittle, the well-known leader who led the first strike over Japan, on April 18, 1942, brought the experienced conviction the 8th Air Force badly needed after "Black Thursday" losses. By the spring of 1944, P-51's were clearing the skies of

Luftwaffe fighters, thus allowing bomber combat formations back over targets vital to reestablishing air supremacy prior to the Operation Overlord (D-Day) landings in Normandy on June 6, 1944.

There had been meticulously analyzed and countless deliberations over the impact to the Third Reich's war manufacturing by the 8th Air Force during the Mission 115 bombing campaign. It was widely known by both sides that the five-months bombing gap after "Black Thursday" offered Germany a

break to move ball bearing factories to other parts of the country. Though the pause gave the German military time to move and decentralize production facilities. The advantage for the USAAF and the RAF allowed a needed replenishment of aircraft, and ultimately rejuvenating air superiority to position the Allied Forces in advance of Operation Overlord, and eventually concluded the war in Europe by the late spring of 1945, culminating to 'Victory in Europe' on May 8, 1945.

#### The Legacy Beyond "Black Thursday"

At the conclusion of WWII in Europe, when the guns, tanks and planes finally drew quiet, the stark reality of the devastation immediately became clear. In the final weeks of the war, POW and concentration camps, as well as other forced labor facilities were uncovered and liberated by advancing Allied forces. This included the thousands of American and RAF aircrew that had been shot down during the limitless air battles over Germany.

In the closing months of the war, with Allied advances from the west and east, many of these camps were forced to move in fear of the approaching armies. On January 27, 1945, Stalag Luft III, (near Sagan, Poland), had more than 11,000 POWs, primarily USAAF and RAF officers captured when their planes had been shot down. With the approaching Soviet Army less than 15 miles east from the camp, the entire POW population was evacuated and force-marched in sub-freezing temperatures. A majority of the POWs arrived at Bad Muskau for a brief rest after a 34-mile march, only forced to renew the march another 16 miles to Sprembreg, Germany.

In his book, "Kriegie," author and Stalag Luft III POW, Kenneth Simmons, vividly describes the chaos and anxiety as reports of the advancing Soviet Army came into the camp. "We were briefed that the Russians are very near at hand, and the Germans are scared to death. They have been told that we are their only chance of survival and that we must be held as hostages."

After his capture on "Black Thursday," Lt. Hughel had been a prisoner at Stalag Luft III and was one of the many thousands of U.S. Army Air Force POW's that had survived the long months in captivity and the undernourishment conditions in the camp. Now, facing the bitter cold conditions, he was among a group of prisoners at Stalag III (from the West and Central compounds) that were sent by train to Moosburg, on January 31, 1945, after five days of the march. The remaining POW's (North, South and East compounds) had been diverted at Sprembreg to Stalag XIII-D in Nurnberg. By the time

the main group of American prisoners from Stalag III finally arrived on February 10 at Stalag VII-A, it had taken 13 harrowing days, a nearly 500-mile excursion across Germany due to snowstorms, multiple forced delays and the time-consuming cattle train transfer process. Throughout the ordeal, men also risked being shot by German guards and S.S. officers if they fell out of the march or tried to escape at any point. Faith, determination and camaraderie held the men together, pushing them past illness and exhaustion.

In "Kriegie", Simmons described their arrival at Stalag Luft VII-A, "Over 3,000 men were sick with infected stomachs, dysentery, colds, and pneumonia. All of us were weakened from the effects of malnutrition and mental and physical exhaustion."

In the years after the war, Lt. Hughel attributed part of his survival during that harsh 50-mile forced march to a pair of shoes and other care package items from the American Red Cross at Stalag Luft III prior to evacuation. While most men were able to survive the march and arrive at Stalag Luft VII-A, others were not as lucky as the unforgiving freezing conditions took the lives of numerous POW's.

By mid-April 1945, the Stalag VII-A prison camp, built to hold 14,000, now had over 130,000 prisoners as barracks built to hold 100 men now held as many as 300, all confined in one building. Fortunately, on April 29, the U.S. 14th Armored Division liberated the camp and Third U.S. Army commander, Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., personally greeting the men after one last confrontation in Moosburg. For the many thousands of men who had survived the horrors of combat, a forced winter march, and a horrendous lingering imprisonment while anticipating liberation, their war was finally over. Within days of the camp's liberation on May 8, 1945, the Allied force accepted Nazi Germany's unconditional surrender of its armed forces.

As Lt. Edward Hughel, returned to the United States he was triumphantly welcomed home by his wife Vivian, his young son Craig, who was born during his captivity, as well as his parents, siblings and other family members and friends who had been awaiting his homecoming after his 19 months as a POW. He was officially released from military duty in December



Photo courtesy of Edward Hughel estate

Airmen of 1st Lt. Ralph Peters B-17 Flying Fortresses crew pose for a photo at Thurleigh Airdrome, England, prior to taking part in Mission 115, the second raid on Schweinfurt.

1945, returning to Anderson, Indiana, and like millions of other WWII veterans; began to rebuild their lives after securing the freedoms they sacrificed so much for.

The gallant actions of these men resulted in 17 Medals of Honor being bestowed on Airmen of the U.S. Army Eighth Air Force during the course of the American air war over Europe from 1942-1945. However, the liberation of Europe came at a heavy price as these harrowing aviation battles caused more than 47,000 casualties and claimed the lives of more than 26,000 Airmen.

To honor the Airmen of the U.S. Eighth Army Air Force, now 75 years later, is to preserve the security they achieved and the peace that has prevailed in Europe ever since.