



First Quarter Activities

Army

The 65th Fires Brigade, (FiB) along with members from both battalions, had a successful annual training, the Yama Sakura 63 (YS63) exercise, held this year in Sendai, Japan. The Soldiers enjoyed a visit from Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, while in Japan. Exercises like YS63 and others throughout the year, are good unit-level training. The training keeps the 65th FiB ready for current situations in the world today.

The Headquarters, 65th Fires Brigade extends thanks to Col. Loren Fuller as he relinquishes command to Col. Brent Stark in a change of command ceremony planned for February drill. The 65th FiB will look to Col. Stark for great training to come and appreciates Col. Fuller for his years of service to the Brigade.

The 1-145th Field Artillery will host this year's 65th FiB Red Leg Social which will be held in February. This quarter, the Battalion is conducting Warrior Tasks and Section trainings that are critical for upcoming deployments. The training will be evaluated by Pre-mobilization Training and Assistance Element.

The 2-222nd Field Artillery will be supporting the annual Red Leg Social. The 2-222nd is conducting howitzers training on gunnery skills and continues to prepare for upcoming live-fire exercises in May 2013.

The 19th Special Forces will be focused on overseas deployments and pre-mobilization training in the next few months. Bravo Company, 1st Battalion has personnel in Thailand supporting the Pacific Command theater's coordination security plan, exercise Balance Torch 13-2. The 1st Battalion, headquarters is making final preparations to take part in Joint Chief of Staff exercise Cobra Gold 13, also in Thailand, to train and receive validation as a Special Operations Task Force. The 19th Group Operations Detachment will begin pre-mobilization training for elements of 5th Battalion, 19th Group deploying in support of Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force-Afghanistan. The training will consist of two iterations of the Special Forces Advanced Urban Combat Course, Tactical Combat Casualty Course, and certification in the family of Special Operations vehicles.

January marked the end of a long and challenging deployment for the 1-211th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion (ARB). The Battalion returned to Utah arriving at the Utah Air National Guard Base in two, separate, commercially contracted flights on Jan. 17 and 20, respectively. Prior to the unit's arrival, 10 of its 16 Apache Longbow helicopters were shipped via C-17 Heavy Cargo planes to Hill Air Force Base while the remaining six went directly to Fort Hood, Texas for later transport to Utah. The 1-211th ARB successfully completed its mission which included Armed Aerial Escort for MEDEVAC and utility aircraft missions, Armed Route Reconnaissance, and Armed Response to Troops in contact with the enemy.

The next aviation deployment occurs at the end of February 2013 as Detachment 50, the Utah Army National Guard's only fixed-wing aircraft, deploys to Afghanistan. Detachment 50's classified mission will enhance the overall security of ground movement operations for U. S. and coalition forces. This will be the unit's second deployment to Afghanistan conducting this mission.

1-211th Returns from Afghanistan



Soldiers with the 1-211th Aviation reunite with their loved ones at the Utah Air Guard Base after a yearlong deployment to Afghanistan Jan. 17 and 20.

Save the Date

Bronze Minuteman Awards Dinner

Wednesday, June 12

Little America Hotel

Formal Reception 6:30 p.m.
Dinner 7:30 p.m. Complimentary

While the 300th Military Intelligence Brigade (Linguist) is experiencing a temporary lull on the deployment front, interest in the Utah National Guard's intelligence and language capabilities keeps the Brigade moving. Over that last three months, they have participated in briefing distinguished visitors from the National Security Agency, National Ground Intelligence Center, and Northern Command to name just a few. In addition, Utah has been recognized for its ability to provide intelligence professionals to meet the Department of the Army Intelligence requirement that all personnel receive annual Threat Awareness and Reporting Program (TARP) training. The TARP training has to be conducted by a Counter-Intelligence Special Agent. They have conducted briefings at the request of the 902nd Military Intelligence Brigade in support of Deseret Chemical, the Army Reserves Civil Affairs unit in Pleasant Grove, and the Army Recruiting Command in Salt Lake City, Idaho and

Utah
National
Guard
participates
in the
inauguration
ceremony for
Gov. Gary R.
Herbert

Montana. At the request of National Guard Bureau the 300th will conduct TARP briefings this month to the North Dakota National Guard.

The 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade's (MEB) upcoming activities include participation in annual Soldier Readiness Processing. The unit is currently involved heavily in the pre-mobilization process, preparing for upcoming deployments to Kosovo, and Afghanistan. Col. Tom Fisher, commander of the 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, was promoted to colonel on Jan. 27.

The March/April time frame will bring mixed emotions and uncertainty as we see Soldiers once again depart from families and loved ones to fulfill their commitments. But as we say farewell to two groups of Soldiers leaving for Kosovo and Afghanistan, in May we look forward with anticipation to the return of another group of Soldiers returning from deployment in Afghanistan, the 624th Vertical Engineer Company.

The 489th Brigade Support Battalion had a change of command ceremony at the end of January. Lt. Col. Ronald Jonas relinquished command to Lt. Col. Michael Mismash.

In February, Alpha Company, 489th Brigade Support Battalion will conduct communications training on various devices and systems. HHC, 489th Brigade Support Battalion will conduct sling-load training to prepare for modern-day logistics management. Both companies are also preparing to re-locate to different armories. Alpha Company will be moving to Spanish Fork and the Battalion headquarters will move to Springville.

Utah Guard's 1-145th Field Artillery Soldiers fire a 19-gun salute in honor of Gov. Gary R. Herbert's inauguration. Left to right: JoLynn Bell, Lt. Gov. Greg Bell, Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, Charn Burton, Gov. Gary Herbert, and Jeanette Herbert at the governor's inauguration ceremony Jan. 7.



**2013
Annual
Dues
\$200**

Check made
out to:

Honorary
Colonels
Corps

Mail to:
Utah National
Guard

Office of the
Adjutant
General

12953 S.
Minuteman
Dr.

Draper, UT
84020

Thank you
for your
continued
support!

In March, the 489th Brigade Support Battalion will be conducting a field-training exercise to include individual marksmanship, chemical agent training, hand-grenade qualification, and night vision driver's training.

The 1457th Engineer Battalion activities include demolitions qualification, annual weapons qualification, and field-training exercise preparation and training to take place in Price, Utah.

Air

Happy New Year to all from the 151st Air Refueling Wing (ARW)! Currently, only a handful of Airmen are on overseas deployments, but 2013 will once again see a surge of deployment activity during the spring and summer months. The Operations and Maintenance Groups are gearing up to provide aerial refueling support for a Red-Flag exercise in February. Red-Flag exercises are very realistic, aerial war games held at Nellis AFB, Nev. The purpose is to train pilots from the U.S., NATO and other allied countries for real combat situations. This includes the use of "enemy" hardware and live ammunition for bombing exercises within the Nevada Test and Training Range.

The 151 ARW also participates in Guardlift missions. Last quarter the 151 ARW provided airlift to Guard members traveling to locations such as Yokota AB, Japan; Ramstein AB, Germany; and many places in between. In addition to deployments, the KC-135s are flying a full, training schedule refueling heavy and fighter receivers over the western United States.

The 151 ARW would like to acknowledge and congratulate A1C Savannah Raskey on her recent selection as a finalist for the Air Force Tops in Blue competition. A1C Raskey works in the plans and scheduling office in the Maintenance Operations Control Center. She recently submitted a video entry to the talent competition, in the category of Female Vocalist, and was chosen as one of the top contenders for her region. She now goes on to compete at Lackland Air Force Base, where she will have a chance to win the grand prize within her group and secure a spot with the 2013 Tops in Blue Tour. We wish her the best of luck in the next phase of her competition.

Miscellaneous

Major General Burton will be traveling to Bangkok, Thailand in February to visit 19th Special Forces Soldiers participating in exercise Cobra Gold. He will also be attending Adjutant General meetings in Washington, D.C. in February. In April, he will travel to Morocco with the Utah National Guard delegation as part of our ongoing State Partnership Program.

Welcome: Major General Burton would like to welcome four new Honorary Colonels to the Corps: COL (Ret) Jerry R. Acton, Brian Garrett, COL (Ret) James H. Hadfield, COL (Ret) Lynn V. Ritchie.

During November, December and January, 95 community support requests were processed.

In November, the 130th Electronic Installation Squadron was very excited to welcome back 12 deployed members returning from the Middle East in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The members were assigned with several different Army units and traveled throughout the Area of Responsibility, working at numerous Army Forward Operating Bases. A few of the 130th members did see some action but all returned unharmed.

The 151st Medical Group continues to stay busy. It is made up of two squadrons; the Medical Squadron and the CBRNE Enhanced Response Force Package Squadron (CERFP). The CERFP Squadron or to be more accurate, the Medical Element of the CERFP is part of the newly stood up, Homeland Response Force (HRF). This is a Joint Army and Air Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and High-yield Explosive (CBRNE) response force. They continue to stay busy training with local authorities to prepare for large-scale disasters, either natural or man-made.

In January, the state government kicked off the new year by participating with the VA hospital in Operation ICY-HOT, a joint exercise with the

Homeland Response Force Trains for Air Mobility

Salt Lake City Fire Department and local civilian hospitals. The exercise was designed to give the local hospitals an opportunity to take care of critically injured patients, most with some type of burn, in a winter environment. After the local providers became overwhelmed, they called the State Emergency Operation Center to request support from the Utah National Guard.

Once authorized, the Utah Homeland Response Force (HRF) or components are activated. In the ICY-HOT exercise, parts of the CERFP/CBRNE components were “deployed” to the Salt Lake City VA. This included the Decontamination team, primarily Army National Guard, and the Medical Element from the Air National Guard. They worked in concert with the Salt Lake Fire Department in decontamination exercises with support of the local hospitals. Both civilian and military organizations set up their decontamination equipment in one of the Salt Lake City VA hospital parking lots. The Medical Element set up its medical tents to perform triage and emergency care on the casualties before sending them to the various local hospitals. This was an excellent opportunity to test equipment in less-than-freezing conditions. There were civilian role players that volunteered to act as patients. This exercise proved

to very beneficial for all parties, giving the first responders, military augmentation teams, and local hospitals an opportunity to see what capabilities each could offer in a large, local disaster.

Immediately following the ICY-HOT exercise, the Utah HRF/CERFP, to include the Decon and Medical Elements, worked side by side with the 151st ARW and the 172nd Air Lift Control Flight from Jackson, Miss. Brig. Gen. David Fountain arranged to have the Mississippi Air National Guard teams from the 172nd Airlift Wing bring one of its C-17 Globemaster III, a large capacity, cargo aircraft to the Utah Air National Guard Base to test the concept of moving a HRF by air. Again working in sub-freezing conditions, the three organizations worked together to learn how to prepare, load, and secure large, rolling-stock cargo for deployment by military aircraft. Many great lessons were learned. From this exercise we are now developing viable templates for all 10 HRFs to use if their HRF is activated and required to be deployed by aircraft. The templates include packages that can be moved using any of the major military aircraft including the C-17, C-130, and the KC-135. This exercise was also a great success, giving us a foundation to build upon and refine.



Members of the Utah National Guard's Region VIII Homeland Response Force train loading their equipment on a C-17 from the 172nd Airlift Control Flight, Mississippi Air National Guard, at the Utah Air National Guard Base Jan. 7-10.