



Utah National Guard 2012 Information Update Colonel Journal

May 2012

Second Quarter Activities

Army

The 65th Fires Brigade continues to lean forward with aggressive training and successful mission accomplishment as they engage in multiple events to keep Soldiers challenged and proficiencies at high levels. The 65th FiB supported Operation ShakeOut wherein Soldiers and equipment supported local communities in validating emergency response plans for the large-scale, earthquake event. ShakeOut provided a battle-focused opportunity to exercise the newly fielded Standardized Integrated Command Post System as they establish a remote command post at Sandy City Hall. Next, the 65th FiB will go into the summer with the III Corp Warfighter Exercise as its premier event. This will be a great opportunity to exercise the 65th FiB staff and prepare the unit for the 40ID Warfighter Exercise planned for 2013. The unit continues to hone its skills during FST-J events with the Navy. These worthwhile training exercises continue to challenge our Soldiers and increase proficiency of the unit to accomplish its mission.

The 1-145th Field Artillery returns with pride having completed participation in FOAL EAGLE in Korea. They paved the way to conduct howitzer live-fire exercises with the Korean Soldiers which has not occurred for more than 60 years. The 1-145th

will now change its focus and begin training for its Operation New Dawn mobilization next year.

The 2-222nd Field Artillery's focus on training for the past few months has been post-mobilization activities and Yellow-Ribbon events.

In May, the 19th Special Forces Group Airborne will continue to conduct a company-sized, Unconventional Warfare (UW) exercise in and around Camp Williams in order to sustain and improve its capability to conduct this mission set in preparation for Overseas Contingency Operations. The training and conduct of UW operations will continue to be a critical mission set for the future of the 19th SFG(A) and the Special Forces Regiment. Additionally, the Group will also host three, 100-hour, language-sustainment courses for Indonesian, Arabic, and French languages at Camp Williams. Also, Group Support Company will host Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle and Ground Mobility Vehicle "Train the Trainer" certification courses at Camp Williams. First Battalion elements will continue to participate in Joint, Combined-Exchange Training at the School of Infantry and Tactics in Bangladesh and will complete this

1-171st Trains for Hoist Mountain Rescues



Above: Soldiers from Utah's newest unit, Charlie Co., 1-171st Aviation Regiment, participate in a search and rescue training exercise, rescuing a lost hiker, Staff Sgt. Christian Larsen, (left) a 171st medic. Right: Sgt. Jason Townsend, a flight instructor, and Sgt. Nathan McLaughlin, a standardization instructor, practice hoist-mountain rescues on Camp Williams, April 3.



**2012
Annual
Dues
\$200**

Make Checks
out to:

**Honorary
Colonels
Corps**

Mail to:
Utah National
Guard

Office of
the Adjutant
General

12953 S.
Minuteman
Drive

Draper, UT
84020

Thank you for
your continued
support!

Army continued

mission in June.

In June, Group Support Company, Operations Training Detachment, 19th SFG(A) will host 2nd Battalion as they establish a Special Operations Task Force at Camp Williams to command and control three Operational Detachment Alpha (ODAs) during the conduct of an UW training exercise. The size and scope of this training event being conducted is unprecedented and further displays the criticality and emphasis placed on this skill-set by Col. Steven Watt, the 19th SFG(A) commander. Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, will deploy its Operations Detachment Bravo and two ODAs to participate in Joint, Combined-Exchange Training in the Philippines.

In July, 5th Battalion, 19th SFG(A) will instruct a Static-Line Jumpmaster Course in Watkins, Colo. This course trains up to 60 Soldiers assigned throughout U.S. Army Special Operations Command. Also, Group Support Company, Operations Training Detachment, 19th SFG(A) will host and continue coordination with 5th Battalion advance party at Camp Williams in preparation for a third, fiscal-year 2012, UW event that will be conducted in August.

The 1-211th Attack Recon Battalion deployed in January to Fort Hood, Texas to conduct mission validation and complete the unit's mission-fielding program. Armed with the AH64 Longbow (the most lethal and technically advanced helicopter in the world), the 1-211th is now ready to deploy in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Riding high on their success at

Fort Hood, the Soldiers are all anxious to execute the mission they just proved they could do. Nothing demoralizes the enemy faster than a well-trained, AH64 Longbow helicopter!

Alpha Company, 2-211th General Support Aviation Battalion is on the home stretch of its one-year deployment to Afghanistan. As they come home to Utah, the battle-hardened crews and the UH60 Blackhawk helicopters will likely transition from one "fire fight" to a different kind of "fire fight." As Utah prepares for perhaps one of the most dangerous wildland-fire seasons in recent memory, the timing of this redeployment is not a minute too late.

Detachment 1, 1-171st is Utah's newest aviation unit and clearly the one that many senior leaders in the State are anxious to have operational. This unit is an aero-medical, evacuation organization that can be equipped as a search and rescue platform complete with rescue hoist and trained medical personnel. Having recently completed its first, live-hoist training event, the unit

**19th Special Forces Group (Airborne)
Halo Jump at Global One**



Soldiers from 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne) conduct a high-altitude, low-open parachute jump from a C-130 Hercules, at Fairfield, Utah, March 15, 2012.

**Bronze
Minuteman
Awards Dinner**

**Wednesday
June 27, 2012**

Little America Hotel

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

Formal invitations
forthcoming

is now moving forward with the hope to be operational by midsummer. Few Emergency Medical Services helicopters can match the capabilities of the UH60 Blackhawk. Once all crews are trained, this elite unit could be the high-angle, mountain-rescue unit of choice throughout all of Utah.

The 2-211th General Support Aviation Battalion is scheduled to conduct its annual training near the town of Ferron, Utah. This ambitious training event mixes tough survival training with community support activities and an open house. This provides community members with an opportunity to meet Soldiers and have hands-on viewing of the helicopters and other impressive pieces of military equipment.

Detachment 50, Operational Support Airlift Command flies the Utah Army National Guard's only fixed-wing aircraft. This small but tight-knit unit is fully engaged in preparing for its upcoming deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. This deployment means that in the span of one year, three Utah Army National Guard aviation units have deployed. The combat experience gained recently in the Utah Army National Guard would have been unimaginable 10 years ago!

The 300th Military Intelligence Brigade (Linguist) hosted the 23rd Annual Language Conference on March 2-4, 2012, in Draper, Utah. Keynote speakers included Brig. Gen. Jim Keffer, Deputy Chief, Central Security Service; BG Robert Walter, Jr., Deputy Commanding General of U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command; Dr. Michael Nugent,

Director, Defense Language and National Security Education Office; and Dr. Don Fischer, Provost, Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center. For the third straight year, the Sunday morning, and final, session of the conference consisted of local academia discussing culture and language. This year's focus was on Mexico, Pakistan and Syria. With continued support from 28 exhibitors and more than 300 conference attendees, the 23rd Annual Language Conference was an absolute success. The 300th is now in the final preparations to host the Brigade's annual training exercise Panther Strike. Strike is a NATO exercise that will host 700 participants from 23 different states and three different countries, both active-duty military and National Guard. The exercise will be held at Camp Williams in June. Soldiers will be trained and evaluated on their Military Intelligence skills. The exercise has received national-level support. As a result, Utah has received money, new equipment and will be a test bed for emerging technologies.

Upcoming activities for the 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade (MEB)



Utah ANG Refuels F-15 Henry

Tech. Sgt. Santiago Avila, an instructor boom operator, and Staff Sgt. Patricia Rich, a new boom operator from the 191st Air Refueling Squadron, complete the preflight check on a Boeing KC-135 Stratotanker before a refueling mission with eight Oregon Air National Guard F-15 Strike Eagles, from the 173rd Fighter Wing, Kingsley Field, Klamath Falls, Ore., on March 27, 2012.



Freedom Academy

**July 29-
Aug. 3,
2012**

For high school
student-body
officers

Camp Williams

**17800 S
Redwood Rd**

Please feel
free to attend
any activities
you'd like. You
will receive a
schedule via
e-mail.

include the 115th Engineer Facilities Detachment conducting its annual training in Heidelberg, Germany in April and May 2012. The unit's mission is to finalize a site master plan for a Forward Operating Site capable of supporting up to 1,000 personnel. They will design a modular housing facility for 200 personnel, including two community showers and latrine areas for males and females. They will also design a modular office building for 12 personnel with office space and a conference room. This is great training for the unit.

The 624th Vertical Company will begin its unit Certification Exercise (CERTEx) on May 19. The CERTEx will train 624th Soldiers, at Camp Williams, on a variety of tasks deemed mandatory before deployment. On June 9, the 624th will conduct its farewell ceremony before deploying to Afghanistan. The ceremony will be held at the Salt Lake Air Base.

Also in June, the 1457th Engineer Battalion will conduct its annual training at Camp Williams. The Battalion will have a variety of missions during the two-week period including the 116th Horizontal Company repairing and improving range roads. The 116th has proven to be a valuable asset to the Battalion and the Utah National Guard. The Forward Support Company will have the opportunity to cook meals for the entire Battalion (500 personnel). They will also repair vehicles.

Air

In June, the 109th Air Control Squadron will send Operations crews to the Distributed Mission Operations Center at Kirtland AFB, N.M., to participate in a Virtual Flag exercise. This large force, joint-simulation exercise will fuse members from Marine Corps Air Station 1 (Miramar, Calif.) into the 109th Air Control Squadron's Operation Crews. This is the second of three unit exercises the 109th Air Control Squadron is participating in during Fiscal Year 2012.

The 130th Engineering Installation Squadron has 26 personnel on a partial mobilization deployment for 179 days in support of ongoing efforts in the Global War on Terrorism. Fourteen of the personnel deployed to Camp Bullis, Texas for a two-week, Combat Airman Skills Training course prior to deploying forward. This team is composed of a cable, engineering and small-management team that will be manning an office at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar. The cable team will forward deploy to Saudi Arabia to perform C4 system installations. The other 12 personnel deployed to Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst for Joint Expeditionary

Tasking Combat Skills Training for 30 days and will return to home in time to deploy with the Army to undisclosed locations. All personnel are scheduled to return to Utah in the late fall.

The 151st Operations Group (OG) recently returned two aircrews operating in the Central Command area of operation supporting Operation Enduring Freedom and deployed another crew at the end of April. The Group assisted the 169th Intelligence Squadron deploy for its African Command commitment and is scheduled to help them with their upcoming Southern Command obligation as well. Currently, the OG has a crew in Marrakech, Morocco where they have been supporting an international Aero-Expo with our state partnership country. In addition to our deployments, the KC-135s are flying a full-training schedule refueling heavy and fighter receivers over the skies of the western United States.

Due to its strategic geographical location, the 191st Air Refueling Squadron has currently committed two aircraft and four crews conducting special missions for Air Materiel Command. The 191st will be conducting fighter drags, aero-medical evacuations, and test refuelings of the F-35 at Edwards AFB on these missions.

Miscellaneous

Major General Tarbet will be traveling to Lincoln, Neb., for the National Guard Bureau Senior Leadership and Adjutants General Conference. He will travel to Fort Bliss, Texas with the ESGR Bosslift for the 624th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade. He will also be in Washington, D.C. for State Partnership meetings in July. He just returned from his last State Partnership Program trip to the Kingdom of Morocco where he was awarded the Wissam al-Istihkak al-Askari (the Order of Military Merit) from Morocco's highest-ranking military commander.

We processed 85 community support requests during February, March and April.