



## Utah National Guard

### 2016 Information Update

# Colonel Journal

MAY. 2016

## Second Quarter Activities: Army

Anyone call for artillery? The 65th Field Artillery Brigade will be deploying to Camp Guernsey, Wyoming, in May to conduct a brigade live-fire exercise. The exercise will involve all organic- and training-assigned units within the brigade (HHB 65th, 5-113 FA-HIMARS, 340th BSB, 190th Signal Co, 1-145 FA-Paladin, and 2-222 FA-Paladin). In addition to the Field Artillery Brigade's units, the 144th Area Support Medical Company and 19th Special Forces Group Unmanned Aerial Systems Platoon will participate. Approximately 1,500 Soldiers are involved. The brigade has never been able to get all organic elements together for a live-fire event since its creation in 2008. This promises to be a great event. A brigade change-of-command ceremony will take place on June 4. Col. Todd Thursby will relinquish command to Col. Adam Robinson. There are also retirement ceremonies taking place that are worth mentioning. Former brigade commander, Col. Richard Miller and current commander, Col. Todd Thursby will both retire in June. Former brigade commander, Col. Brent Stark, will retire in August. Contact Lt. Col. Chris Caldwell (801) 878-5019 for details.

In addition to annual training in Wyoming, the 1-145 FA Battalion will participate in a regional Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear (CBRN) exercise in Denver, Colorado. The event is named, "Centennial Rogue," and is set to take place immediately following annual training. It will involve several different agencies. Charlie Battery will also provide support to Spanish Fork's annual Flag-Retirement Ceremony in July.



Several distinguished visitors and local media attended the artillery live-fire exercise in April. They were hosted by the 1-145th Field Artillery Battalion.



Sgt. Michael Dougherty, HHB, 65th Field Artillery Brigade, carries the artillery guidon during the annual state Best Warrior Competition, April 10, 2016.

The 2-222 FA is excited to participate in the brigade live-fire exercise in Wyoming. Its cannon crews and supporting elements can't wait to "fire for effect" in support of the brigade and notional maneuver units. The battalion will come back from annual training and begin recovery operations for a few months. It will also be supporting local southern Utah communities with its July holiday events. Lt. Col. Chris Caldwell will relinquish command of the battalion to Maj. Shawn Fuellenbach in June.

Members of 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne) continue planning and resourcing for two upcoming exercises to be conducted in the fourth quarter of Fiscal Year 16--Ulchi Freedom Guardian-16, in the Republic of Korea and Joint Combined Exchange Training in Morocco.

After approximately a year of planning and preparation, members of the group participated in Warfighter Exercise 16-4, a three-week exercise that ended in April at Fort Bragg, N. C. The group headquarters and staff exercised mission-command functions and systems during phase-three operations of a complex mission set with a "near-peer" opposition force. The participation of a Special Forces Group headquarters in

the warfighter was a “first,” and its purpose was to integrate Special Operation Forces (SOF) and conventional forces’ Interdependence, Integration and Interoperability—basically to bring awareness and learning to both the conventional and SOF organizations for potential, real-world missions.

In deployment news, a contingent supporting U.S. Central Command returns from deployment in May and a small group prepares to deploy in support of U.S. Pacific Command in June for approximately six months.

The vision for the 19th SFG (A) is to remain relevant with the Theater Special Operations Command’s mission and focus efforts in the existing relationship within the State Partnership Programs (SPP), focusing on languages in support of those SPPs. Unconventional Warfare, tradecraft and Unmanned Aerial System capabilities will remain at the forefront of the 19th SFG (A) efforts.

Training guidance from higher command includes language training and increased-language capability, Unconventional Warfare skill-set development, senior- and junior-leader development and incorporating combatives into all collective-training events. The group also continues teaching courses such as Advanced Urban Combat Course, Achilles Dagger, Special Operations Jump Master, and Level II Special Forces Sniper Course.

**T**he 1-211th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion has successfully completed its annual gunnery-crew qualification at the north Utah Test and Training Range based in Lakeside. During this last quarter, 61 out of 68 pilots qualified from the battalion

and MACOM. The supported gunnery event was a two-week, additional-flight-training period rather than the usual annual-training gunnery performed with the entire battalion on orders. This presented many challenges in logistics and pay, but all Soldiers involved with the event made it one of the most successful gunneries to date. The event was a prerequisite for the upcoming, Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) scheduled for this summer. Additional JRTC requirements pushed the 1-211th to complete not only the base-gunnery requirements but advanced-gunnery tables as well, qualifying an additional 16 pilots in these advanced tables. During the last quarter, the 1-211th focused on its common-warrior and Soldier tasks as well as aviation tasks in order to prepare for the JRTC event. It has been challenging to shift the focus from flying to basic Soldier tasks, but it’s been a great re-learning experience. It has definitely exposed weak spots, allowing the 1-211th to bolster its strengths prior to JRTC.

With the delay of the army-restructuring-initiative (ARI) decision still on the horizon, some changes have already begun. The battalion was required to transfer six, Block II aircraft to Los Alamitos, California in preparation to receive Block I aircraft in Utah. The transfer to Los Alamitos presented some difficult aircraft-maintenance issues while transferring the aircraft, but as always, with hard work and the best maintainers in the Army, the 1-211th was able to get all six aircraft to Los Alamitos on time and in good condition. The 1-211th ARB now anxiously awaits the ARI decision due to be announced shortly. Utah is anticipating a favorable outcome from the decision; it will present new, high OPTEMPO and challenging training which 1-211th stands ready to accomplish.

The 2-211th General Support Aviation Battalion (GSAB) has had another busy and successful quarter ranging from civil support to supporting entities outside of the Utah National Guard. These last three months have featured everything from conducting collective-unit missions in the Aviation Combined Arms Tactical Trainer, supporting organizations from within the state with rotary-wing support, to supporting an annual Joint Special Operations Command exercise in Dugway, Utah. These events have provided invaluable experience and training to the aircrews of the 2-211th. In addition, its UH-72 Lakotas continue to accomplish counterdrug support to local, law-enforcement agencies.



*Last flight from the Forward Arming and Refueling Point Gunnery Qualification, March 23.*

**2016  
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**Thank you for  
your continued  
support!**

As the final decision on the Aviation Restructuring Initiative (ARI) draws near, the 2-211th GSAB has begun to feel the effects. In March, crews from the battalion picked up and brought home seven Black Hawks from Fort Bliss, Texas. This is a potential, but fluid piece of the initiative that could easily change if its sister battalion remains in the state. As anxious as the 1-211th is awaiting the announcement of the decision, so remains the 2-211th.

The 2-211th GSAB looks forward to this upcoming quarter as the battalion will be conducting its annual training in Beaver, training in a simulated, linear-battlefield environment. In addition, the battalion has recently picked up a support mission for late summer and into the early fall. This mission will include aviation support in Illesheim, Germany. All of this demonstrates the level of OPTEMPO the battalion continues to successfully support.

**T**he 300th Military Intelligence (MI) Brigade (Linguist) recently welcomed home a group of Soldiers returning from an 11-month deployment to Afghanistan. The brigade conducted a Yellow-Ribbon ceremony on Feb. 20 for the Soldiers and their families. These Soldiers served a critical role augmenting the 319th MI Battalion and the 303rd MI Battalion in a counterintelligence capacity, helping increase the security of coalition bases throughout Afghanistan.

On April 17, the 141st Military Intelligence Battalion officially stood up its Intelligence Coordination Detachment in Orem, Utah. Capt. Joe Brandt will serve as the detachment commander with Sgt. 1st Class Jared Archer as the detachment non-commissioned officer. Both the 141st and 142nd gained this new structure on Sept. 1, 2015. These new detachments were established to augment division and corps-level G2 operations.

In June, the 300th MI will host Panther Strike 2016. Panther Strike is the largest exercise of its kind, exercising not only multiple echelons from the team level to the division, but also exercising critical-intelligence fusion among human intelligence, counterintelligence, signals intelligence, geospatial intelligence disciplines and analysis. One of the strengths of this exercise is the inclusion of coalition partners. This year, we will include both active and reserve Canadian Army Soldiers in the exercise. Panther Strike will have more than 525 Soldiers from more than 30 units within the

## **SAVE THE DATE**

**Utah National Guard fifty-fifth annual**

### **Bronze Minuteman Awards Dinner**

**Thursday, June 16**

**Little America Hotel  
Invitations are forthcoming**



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

Active Army, Army and Air National Guard, and Army Reserves. Panther Strike continues to be one of the most sought-after, intelligence exercises in the Army. It plays a critical role in providing realistic, intelligence-focused training in a coalition environment, preparing intelligence leaders and Soldiers for future deployments. This year will also include several general officers from U.S., coalition and other allied partnerships observing the exercise.

The 300th MI continues to support various training and real-world missions throughout the world. In May and June, the organization will deploy linguists to Greece for Phoenix Express and Gabon for Central Accord training missions, as well as to Camp Edwards, Mass., and Fort Sam Houston, Texas for Russian and Spanish linguist support. In July, the brigade will again send Soldiers to participate in Eastern Accord in Tanzania, and to Morocco to continue to support the State Partnership mission.

**T**he 4th ID Main Command Post-Operations Detachment (MCP-OD) is a new unit assigned to the 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade (MEB) and commanded by Lt. Col. Talon Greeff. The unit was stood up on Feb. 16, 2016 and is currently stationed on Army Garrison Camp Williams. The MCP-OD is the reserve component of the 4th Infantry Division's multi-component, unit design. It provides expansibility for the headquarters by providing increased capacity for the Main Command Post and the Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion (HQB). Augmentation by the MCP-OD increases capacity and capability for simultaneous execution

## Join the Corps

**Do you know someone that would like to be an Honorary Colonel?**

**Current members may nominate individuals to join the Corps.**

**If you are interested, please contact membership coordinator David Gunn at 801-372-4338 or [trgunner@comcast.net](mailto:trgunner@comcast.net).**



of missions, extended operations and/or support for the forward deployment of the MCP. The commander's intent is to fully integrate the Utah ARNG MCP-OD into the 4th Infantry Division HQ's team to augment mission-command-capacity gaps resulting from the focus-area-review group (FARG) II implementation.

During this past quarter, the 489th Brigade Support Battalion (BSB) experienced two company change of commands. In January, Capt. George Martinez relinquished command of HHC, 489th to 1st Lt. Kritina Hoffman, and Capt. Kyle Newman relinquished command of A Co., 489th to Capt. Keisha Worthen in April. The 489th BSB is now the first battalion in the UTNG with two outstanding, female, company commanders. The 489th also sent the first rotation of 32 Soldiers to Guatemala for Operation Beyond the Horizons and will send 35 more in May. Upcoming events for the battalion include annual training at Strawberry Reservoir in June, and a Homeland Response Force external evaluation in July that focuses on convoy proficiency.

The 1457th Engineer Battalion has remained actively engaged over the last quarter, taking advantage of multiple, key-training opportunities and operational events. Training events include participation by the 118th Engineer Company (SAPPER) in the Army Reserve Component, Best SAPPER Stakes, held at Fort Drum, N.Y. This is the first time a National Guard SAPPER Team has participated in this national-level event.

*1st Lt. Kritina Hoffman receives the company guidon from battalion commander, Lt. Col. Richard Shuck at the HHC, 489th BSB, change-of-command ceremony in February 2016.*

Furthermore, the 1457th Soldiers participated in the United Kingdom Defense Academy's Counter IED Capability Course--a first for the U.S. Military. Operationally, the 1457th re-kindled a relationship with the USDA Forest Service and successfully gained approval for a state civil-military project. Additionally, the 1457th directly supported the 204th MEB's humanitarian-mine mission in Morocco--another first for both the UTNG and the Kingdom of Morocco.

**T**he third quarter for 97th Troop Command (TC) and its Soldiers will be a time of high operational tempo. Soldiers of the 128th Mobile Public Affairs, 1993rd Contingency Contract Team, and 653rd Trial Defense Team continue to stay busy with multiple exercises to which they provide their technical expertise.

The 97th TC, as part of the Disaster Preparedness Program and in conjunction with the State Partnership Program, will continue to participate with the Royal Armed Forces of Morocco in May for a multi-national, multi-agency exercise titled "Maghreb Mantlet." This exercise includes quarterly events leading to an annual culmination exercise. The March 2016 iteration included members from 97th TC, Utah Air National Guard, 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, 300th

## Miscellaneous:

**M**ajor General Jeff Burton will be traveling to Wyoming and Idaho to visit Soldier annual training and attend senior leadership meetings.

**D**uring February, March and April, 277 funeral honors and 40 community-support requests were processed. For Scouting for Food, one of our March requests, Guardsman supported this event in nine counties with more than 40 vehicles and about 150 people.

## Welcome:

**M**aj. General Burton would like to welcome three new members: Gary R. Harter, director, Veteran Affairs, State of Utah; Weston R. Saunders, owner, Saunders Outdoor Advertising, and Sheryl Cox, vice president of governmental and community relations, America First Credit Union, our newest Honorary Colonel to join the Corps.



*Members of the UTARNG, Royal Armed Forces of Morocco, Task Force 1, and Unified Fire Authority at the rope-rescue-training site in Lamjaara, Morocco, March 2016.*

## **Upcoming Band Events:**

### **23rd Army Band Spring/Summer 2016 Events:**

Armed Forces Day (Gallivan Center)	Saturday, May 21
Dugway Army Birthday Ball (Rock Band only)	Saturday, June 11
Orem Summerfest Parade (Marching Band only)	Saturday, June 11
Freedom Festival Flag Retirement (Brass Quintet only)	Tues., June 14
Brigham Young Park Concert	Friday, June 17
Provo Freedom Festival	Sunday, June 26
Veterans' Wheelchair Games Opening Ceremonies	Monday, June 27
Midvale City Park Concert	Friday, July 1
Salt Lake Tabernacle Concert	Saturday, July 2
Farmington Festival Days (Rock Band only)	Saturday, July 9
Bountiful City Park Concert	Friday, July 15
Cedar City (Canyon View High School)	Saturday, July 16
Panguitch City Park Concert	Sunday, July 17
Bountiful Handcart Days Parade (Marching Band only)	Friday, July 22
Ogden Pioneer Days Parade (Marching Band only)	Monday, July 25
Governor's Day and Military Ball (Marching/Jazz Bands)	Sat., Sept. 17
North Salt Lake Concert	Sunday, Sept. 18

All concerts are open to the public and free of charge.

Military Intelligence Brigade, and many civilians from Utah Task Force 1 and Unified Fire Authority. Morocco provided nearly 200 military and civilian participants from several agencies to include the Ministry of the Interior, Provincial Government, and 5th U.S.S. Battalion. This event also included officers from Spain who provided additional value and insight.

Units assigned the Homeland Response Force mission will conduct a Regional Collective Training Exercise in Denver, Colo., during May. This event exercises Soldiers' ability to deploy and respond to a "dirty-bomb" incident within FEMA Region VIII. The headquarters will also participate in the Oregon National Guard's training exercise "Cascadia Rising" in June. The 97th TC will provide mission command to multiple Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) elements during both exercises. This gives Soldiers additional opportunity to establish a tactical-operations center to exercise command and control with units from other states within the region.

The 115th Maintenance Company will participate in two separate missions during the next quarter. It will send a small group to support "New Horizons" in Guatemala. It will then provide maintenance support in Kaiserslautern, Germany to train its war-time mission on non-organic equipment.

The 144th Area Support Medical Company will conduct its annual training in Guernsey, Wyo. It will convoy with all of its equipment and establish a field clinic to support the 65th Fires Brigade during a live-fire event and a mass-casualty exercise. The unit will also support the "Central Accord" exercise in Gabon, Africa.

The 85th Civil Support Team (CST) will again be busy with several, stand-by missions across the state and nation to maintain its high level of readiness for response to CBRN events anywhere in the region. Some of the many events the CST will support include the St. George Ironman, Warriors Over The Wasatch air show at Hill Air Force Base, Talladega NASCAR race in Alabama, Festival of the Pacific in Guam, and several Real Salt Lake soccer games.

The 23rd Army Band, as the highest-rated band in the nation, continues to be one of the most active units in the Utah National Guard. The band has many performances scheduled across the state during the next few months. A list of upcoming performances is included on this page.

## Second Quarter Activities: Air

During April drill, the 151st Air Refueling Wing (ARW) participated in a Nuclear Operational Readiness Inspection (NORI) designed to ensure unit preparedness according to Air Force guidelines. A NORI requires 24-hour operations, and areas of inspection included maintaining aircraft, securing critical assets, processing personnel and cargo, responding to and launching alert aircraft, running command-post operations, and other critical tasks. A team of 10 from the Air Mobility Command (AMC) Inspector General's (IG) office performed the inspection. The AMC/IG's out brief to the commander showed that the 151 ARW is fully capable of executing its assigned nuclear operational mission. The IG awarded three coins for Outstanding Performance, nine Individual Performance awards and six IG Team Awards. According to Col. Clinton, the AMC/IG team chief, the Utah Air National Guard performed exceptionally well together and its dedication toward the nuclear mission and its support of the USSTRATCOM commander is highly evident."



Col. Kristin M. Streukens, 151st Operations Group commander, will take over as 151st Air Refueling Wing commander June 4.

command to Col. Kristin M. Streukens, who currently serves as the 151st Operations Group commander. A Florida native, Streukens graduated from the U. S. Air Force Academy in 1992 and served on active duty for 13 years before joining the Utah Air National Guard. She is a command pilot with more than 4,500 hours. Craig will continue his military service as part of the adjutant general's staff in Draper.

Though the official date is November 18, the Utah Air National Guard will celebrate its 70th anniversary of extending Global Vigilance, Global Reach, and Global Power for America through a number of events scheduled throughout the year. These events will culminate in a formal evening celebration Friday, Nov. 4 in Salt Lake City. While venue details are still to be determined, individuals are encouraged to contact Col. Christine Burkle, Joint Force Headquarters director of staff, at (801) 245-2298 to receive more information.

With a proud heritage steeped in excellence, the organization traces its lineage back to the end of WWII when President Franklin D. Roosevelt directed the activation of new postwar National Guard units. Current missions include training and operational aerial refueling, airlift and aeromedical evacuation, intelligence, airspace control, cyber infrastructure and information operations. More than 1,400 Airmen lend technical expertise and professionalism through military operations and daily activities designed to bolster state and federal projects and priorities.



Master Sgt. Pona Misa marshals a forklift transporting an ISU 70 mobility container during the Nuclear Operational Readiness Inspection April 23.



Master Sgt. Jason Hixson, 151st Logistics Readiness Squadron, as well as others from his squadron, return home after deployment April 8.