



Utah  
National  
Guard

2017  
Information  
Update

# Colonel Journal

MAY 2017

## Second Quarter Activities: Army

The 65th Field Artillery Brigade (FAB) will be loading and shipping equipment in May to Camp Atterbury, Ind. in preparation for its Warfighter Exercise 17-05 that will take place in June. The 65th FAB will be a training audience at the Force Field Artillery headquarters and the counter-fire headquarters for the 40th Infantry Division. The warfighter will exercise all of the brigade’s mission-essential tasks, focusing on decisive action and stability-operations planning that will integrate all of the brigade’s mission-command systems. The FAB will be supporting many community events in the month of July as we celebrate Independence Day and Pioneer Day in the state of Utah.

The 1-145th Field Artillery (FA) will be conducting Operation Skull Valley for its annual-training event at Dugway Proving Ground (DPG) in May. This collective, live-fire exercise will measure the battalion’s field-artillery readiness. Observer controller teams from Fort Lewis, Wash., will be evaluating the battalion as it conducts its artillery tables. The 214th Forward Support Company, in conjunction with the 489th Brigade Support Battalion, will provide all logistic support for the exercise and will participate in ammunition sling-load and medevac operations with the 2-211th Aviation. During Operation Skull Valley, more than 20 employers of 145th Soldiers will have the opportunity to fly in UH-60s to Dugway to spend a day with their Soldiers. In June, the battalion will participate in a Homeland Response Force validation event, “Devil’s Breath,” at Camp Grafton, N.D. In July, the battalion will conduct



*Soldiers from A Battery, 2-222nd Field Artillery Battalion clean equipment following and overnight field-training exercise during drill conducted at their local training area.*

a Fleet Synthetic Training-Joint exercise at Naval Amphibious Base, Coronado, Calif. This mission allows the 1-145th FA Soldiers to work with the U.S. Navy and coordinate fire-support resources in a combined/joint environment.

The 2-222 FA Battalion is entering its collective-training portion of the yearly training calendar for 2017. The battalion operations section has coordinated to conduct two four-day, live-fire exercises in April and May at DPG where the battalion will be utilizing two large, training areas. Fire-direction-center section and howitzer-section certifications have taken place in order to conduct collective training focused on field-artillery tables. Tracked equipment has been hauled and staged at DPG in preparation for the battalion’s training.

The 2-222 FA Battalion staff will be supporting the 65th FAB’s Warfighter 17-05 in June as a work cell replicating four field-artillery battalions and a brigade-support battalion. This high-intensity training will build on training the battalion staff completed at Yama Sakura 71 in December and continue to improve on military decision-making and staff-operations processes. These training events all work towards ensuring the battalion is certified and trained for its culminating training event, which will take place in August at Orchard Combat Training Center in Idaho.



*Soldiers from the 213th Field Support Company take instruction on loading and unloading a casualty on a Black Hawk during drill medevac training.*

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**



## Veterans Day Concert

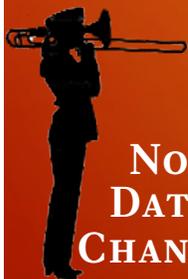
The Veterans  
Day Concert  
will be held

Friday,

November  
10, 2017

(traditionally  
held on the  
11th).

Formal  
invitations  
to the  
reception and  
concert are  
forthcoming.



**NOTE  
DATE  
CHANGE**

**M**embers of 19th Special Forces Group (SFG) (Airborne) are currently engaging in planning, preparation and execution of Fiscal Year 17 missions. The 19th SFG (A) headquarters personnel are preparing for a Command Post Exercise in August. The higher command's training guidance remains the same and 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.

First Battalion returned from a successful annual training at the Joint Readiness Training Center, in April in preparation for an upcoming mobilization in support of Central Command (CENTCOM).

In May, Group Support Battalion (GSB) will conduct its annual field-training exercise with weapons qualification and air operations on the agenda. In June they will conduct the Static-Line Jump Masters Course. Additionally, the GSB will support deploying SF forces with an enabler package and the Mission Support Teams are providing support during the deploying unit's pre-mission training.

The Advanced Skills Company is conducting the Level II Special Forces Sniper Course.

The Tactical Unmanned Aircraft System Platoon is preparing for its mobilization in support of CENTCOM this May.

A member of the 19th SFG (A) took top Army National Guard honors in the Utah Best Warrior/Soldier of the Year event conducted in April, and will be attending Special Forces Assessment and Selection this summer.

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

**T**his time of year brings an increased operational tempo to many units of the Utah Army National Guard, including the 1-211th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion (ARB). Members of the unit recently returned from a joint-training event at Nellis Air Force Base where they provided live-



*Inside the UH-72A Lakota cabin during a mission.*

# 2017 Annual Dues

**\$200**

**Make Check out to:**

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**Mail to:**

**Utah National Guard**

**Office of the Adjutant General**

**12953 S. Minuteman Dr.**

**Draper, UT 84020**

**Thank you for your continued support!**

fire-training support to student Joint Terminal Attack Controllers. The event provided aircrews with excellent training in call-for-fire and close-air support while integrating with critical members of another service. The battalion also completed a successful field-training problem exercising many of the field craft and defensive-operations skills it will need in its coming exercises.

In May the battalion begins its annual gunnery table requirements where aircrews will demonstrate proficiency in the delivery of all weapons systems as well as the tactics, techniques, and procedures needed to properly employ the AH-64D Apache. As always, crews from across the battalion will compete for the title "Top Gun" which is given to the highest-scoring crew during each annual gunnery event. The logistics behind the execution of aerial-gunnery exercises can be daunting, and the support Soldiers who enable these exercises are among the most hard-working Soldiers in the Utah Army National Guard. Upon completion of gunnery, the pace will only quicken as the 1-211th will be sending crews to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., and companies to two eXportable Combat Training Capability (XCTC) events, one at Fort Hood, Texas and another at Fort Pickett, Va. The XCTC events will offer companies and the battalion the opportunity to integrate and train with two Brigade Combat Teams from across the country that the battalion will train with in the coming year. As the Army continues to prepare to fight in Decisive Action (DA) operations, the attack-

aviation units of the Army National Guard will play an increased role in large-scale training events that take place at the Army's Combat Training Centers. These rotations are vital to building the readiness the nation requires and place the Army National Guard ARBs at the forefront of Army readiness.

With spring quickly becoming summer, the 2-211th General Support Aviation Battalion (GSAB) continues to prepare for an upcoming mobilization in 2018. Over the next three months, the battalion will experience some very busy training times compared to the rest of the year. Not only will the organization be involved in state-support missions, but it will also continue to train for combat in the decisive-action environment.

May not only brings about May showers, but also one of the highest operational tempos for the battalion. During this month, annual training and supporting a rotation at the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, Calif., are the priorities. Annual training will fully exercise the battalion's overall ability to operate and conduct mission command over three different locations, simulating a combat environment. The dispersed nature of annual training operations will truly test and stretch the capabilities and aptitude of the Soldiers and equipment of the 2-211th GSAB. Additionally, during this time frame, the battalion will work in conjunction with the 1-145th Field Artillery and 489th Brigade Support Battalion to conduct collective-training events ranging from helicopter external-load training, medevac, and scenario training, to a convoy live-fire exercise.



*Hoist-tagline training with civilian counterparts during Sheriff's Conference 2016.*

## SAVE THE DATE

Utah National Guard fifty-sixth annual

### Bronze Minuteman Awards Dinner

**Thursday, June 22**

**Little America Hotel**  
Invitations are forthcoming

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



## 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).

During June, the 2-211th GSAB will support the annual Sheriff's Conference at Fish Lake, Utah. This annual event is a great venue for the battalion to display its capabilities to various civilian, law-enforcement agencies that will also be in attendance. Capabilities that will be showcased include the medevac platforms of the UH-60 Black Hawk and the communications capabilities that the UH-72A Lakota possesses, in both video downlink and radio retransmission. In addition, the battalion will be sending a small cell to Camp Atterbury, Ind., to observe Warfighter Exercise 17-05. This exercise is a simulation-driven event, primarily supported by the 35th Combat Aviation Brigade. The 2-211th GSAB will be in attendance to ensure a continued, positive-working relationship with the battalion's wartrace higher-brigade headquarters.

The 2-211th GSAB looks forward to a highly busy and successful quarter that involves every facet of the organization's operational ability. This, coupled with the outstanding members of the organization, is the insurance for success. The month of July will be welcomed by all as a time for rest and recuperation prior to "getting back at it" in August.

**T**he 300th Military Intelligence (MI) Brigade hosted its 28th annual Language Conference in Draper, Utah. The two-day event was one of the highest attended in the conference's history with over 500 individuals in attendance. Conference participants included not only Soldiers from the 300th MI but also Soldiers, Airmen, and Department of the Army (DA) civilians from 18 states and three foreign countries representing over 60 different organizations across the Department of Defense. The theme for the Conference was "A Global Discussion" and featured keynote

presentations discussing strategic-language issues with perspectives from the DA and the office of the Director of National Intelligence. The conference also had input from the civilian and academic sectors with presentations and key language and cultural issues from representatives of Utah State University, Brigham Young University, Utah State University, University of Utah, University of Arizona, the Defense Language Institute and the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterrey. The capstone of the conference featured a panel of experts discussing key issues and perspectives of the people and leadership of Russia, China and North Korea. This two-hour panel discussion was a definitive highlight of the event as it presented alternative points of view to world events in the news today.

In April, as part of the Army's continuing cyber initiative, the 141st MI Battalion (Linguist) mobilized six Soldiers for a year to Fort Meade, Md. to support cyber-counterintelligence efforts. These Soldiers will be supporting the 780th MI Brigade, which is under the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command supporting U.S. Army Cyber Command.

In June, the brigade will host its 6th Annual Panther Strike exercise at Camp Williams. The exercise continues to be a key part of the yearly intelligence training cycle for organizations throughout the intelligence community. This two-week exercise allows Soldiers to practice and refine their occupational skills in a variety of scenarios as well as expose them to new opportunities to work with Soldiers from other organizations and other countries. Approximately 750 individuals from the Active Duty, National Guard, Reserves, and three NATO countries will be participating in this year's training.



*At the 28th annual Language Conference, academic experts conduct Q&A on Russia, China and North Korea. Air Force and Army linguists collaborate on language-training strategies. Conference participants learn about resources and opportunities to utilize and develop their language skills.*

## Miscellaneous:

**M**ajor Gen. Burton will be traveling to Palo Alto, Calif. and Camp Atterbury, Ind. to attend events with Soldiers. He will also be visiting Soldiers around the state to observe annual training.

**D**uring February, March and April, 228 funeral honors and 41 community-support requests were processed. For Scouting for Food, one of our March requests, Guardsman supported this event in 11 counties with more than 30 vehicles and about 195 people.

## Welcome:

**M**ajor Gen. Burton would like to welcome two new Honorary Colonels: D. Arlo Johnson, Owner Arlo's Oils and Dennis N. McFall, Deputy Director Utah Department of Veteran and Military Affairs.



## Upcoming Band Events:

### *23rd Army Band's Spring/Summer 2017 Events:*

Armed Forces Day (Gallivan Center).....	Saturday, May 20
Orem Summerfest Parade.....	Saturday, June 10
Grantsville Flag Retirement.....	Tuesday, June 13
Brigham Young Park Concert .....	Friday, June 16
Provo Freedom Festival .....	Sunday, June 25
Midvale City Park Concert.....	Friday, June 30
Salt Lake Tabernacle Concert .....	Saturday, July 1
Dugway Independence Day .....	Thursday, July 6
Bountiful City Park Concert .....	Friday, July 7
Days of '47 Pops Concert .....	Friday, July 14
Days of '47 Pops Concert .....	Saturday, July 15
Bountiful Handcart Days Parade .....	Friday, July 21
Days of '47 Parade.....	Monday, July 24
Tooele Army Depot 75th Anniversary ..	Thursday, Aug. 10

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

The 300th MI Brigade continues to maintain its high-operational tempo with training and real-world-support missions in the near future. In the coming months, Soldiers from the brigade will participate in missions in Italy, Morocco, Ghana, Tajikistan, Korea, and Spain.

Soldiers will also be engaging in language and cultural training as part of the newly developed Language Enhancement Abroad Program. This program provides the opportunity to select Soldiers to study abroad for a period of three weeks. These training opportunities will take the brigade's linguists to cities in Portugal, Estonia, the Philippines, France, Thailand, South Korea, Spain, Taiwan, and the Ukraine. These experiences add greatly to both the language and cultural proficiency of the Army's only linguist brigade.

**T**he 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade (MEB) spent the first months of 2017 preparing for upcoming training events. To improve unit training capabilities, the 204th MEB qualified three officers at the 1st Army Observer/Controller Course. This allows the 204th MEB to professionally evaluate the training of its units in accordance with new training doctrine and standards. The MEB staff continued preparation for two exercises that will take place this summer. One of these exercises, at Camp Atterbury, Ind., will support the 40th Infantry Division (ID), California Army National Guard. The other exercise will take place at Fort Hunter Liggett, Calif., supporting the 91st Training Support Division (U.S. Army Reserve). Select staff officers participated in a Command Post Exercise in Los Alamitos, Calif. with the 40th ID. This exercise allowed the 204th to more fully integrate with and build relationships with 40th ID staff and commanders.

The 204th MEB participated in two major developmental events last quarter. First, the brigade commander participated in a senior leaders' conference hosted by the National Guard Professional Education Center where he attended briefings by senior National Guard Bureau leadership and the Chief of Staff of the Army. Second, a junior Soldier of the 204th MEB briefed the Command Sergeant Major of Forces Command during a visit to the Utah Army National Guard. This brief outlined the capabilities and relevance of the 204th MEB to the United States Army.

The 204th MEB and the 1457th Engineer Battalion will continue its instruction for the Army of the Kingdom of Morocco in humanitarian demining efforts. This successful program promotes stability and friendship within the Kingdom of Morocco.

Finally, the Main Command Post Operational Detachment (MCP-OD) fully integrated with its parent unit, the 4th ID, during Austere Challenge 17. During this exercise the MCP-OD filled staff roles within the 4th ID in both Fort Carson, Colo. and Grafenwoer, Germany.

## Second Quarter Activities: Air



Col. Kristen Streukens, 151st Air Refueling Wing commander; Lt. Col. Darrin Ray, 151st Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Group commander; and Brig. Gen. Christine Burckle, Utah Air National Guard commander, welcome the group to the organization.

More than 20 Utah Air and Army National Guardsmen recently traveled to Wash., D.C. to deliver the state-of-the-state address to National Guard Bureau senior leaders. The group briefed the Air National Guard Readiness Center Commander, Brig. Gen. Steven Nordhaus, on important milestones, innovation, accomplishments and challenges.

Airman 1st Class Kelley Barney, a member of the 151st Air Refueling Wing's Security Forces Squadron earned the title of Utah National Guard's Best Warrior in the junior-enlisted category. This was the first year the Army-hosted event was open to members of the Air National Guard. The three-day event included a written test, an essay, a board interview, a physical-fitness test and a ruck march, as well as weapons proficiency, land navigation, and other components.

A new unit, the 151st Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance Group (IRG) was recently established at the Utah Air National Guard. The 151st IRG is an expansion of the 169th Intelligence Squadron that will promote processing, exploitation, and dissemination of intelligence information as part of the Air Force Distributed Common Ground System.

In late April, Brig. Gen. Kenneth Gammon, who began his military career in 1984, retired from the Utah Air National Guard. In his most recent role, he served as Director Joint Staff, Utah National

Guard. During his career, he has also served as the 151st vice wing commander, Mission Support Group commander, and 109th Air Control Squadron commander, among other assignments. Brig. Gen. Gammon has an extensive deployment history. In 1996, he was deployed to Jacotenente, Italy in support of Operation Joint Endeavor. He was activated and deployed to Kuwait with members of his squadron in 1999-2000 in support of Operation Southern Watch. In 2001-2002, he was deployed with the 109th Air Control Squadron in support of Operation Noble Eagle and then again in 2003-2004 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He has also deployed to South America on numerous occasions to support counterdrug operations. Col. Darwin Craig will fill the position of Director Joint Staff behind Brig. Gen. Gammon.

The Utah Air National Guard will hold its annual Wingman Day during June's drill weekend. Wingman Day is a mandatory Air Force initiative that reinforces the four pillars of Comprehensive Airman Fitness--physical, mental, social and spiritual wellness. Comprehensive Airman Fitness is best described as a holistic approach to resilience and fortitude that encompasses military, civilian, and family members. This includes putting emphasis upon the importance of leadership, peer-to-peer engagement, awareness and member empowerment. This year's theme is "Readiness" and Guardsmen are encouraged to bring their families to base to participate in the Wingman Day activities. Wingman Day is also an opportunity for leaders to foster the type of environment necessary for optimal performance at work, home, and in the community in consideration of the unique challenges a military lifestyle presents.



Senior Army and Air National Guard leaders congratulate Airman 1st Class Kelley Barney on her win as Utah National Guard's Best Warrior, junior-enlisted category.



Army and Air National Guard members pause for a group photo during the annual state-of-the-state address to senior National Guard Bureau leaders.