

THE WOLVERINE GUARD

**PTAE Trains our Own
CST Has Busy Summer
Air Guard NCOs Learn by Satellite**



The Adjutant General of Michigan, Maj. Gen. Thomas G. Cutler, addresses thousands of friends and families during the departure ceremony for the 1st Battalion, 119th Field Artillery as they prepare for a 12-month deployment to Kuwait. The ceremony was held at the Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek, Mich. Michigan National Guard photo by Senior Airman Brittany Simon

“This has been a time for leaders at every level to step up and lead, and that’s exactly what you’ve done,” Maj. Gen. Thomas G. Cutler.



Maj. Gen. Thomas G. Cutler, the adjutant general of Michigan, stands with Brig. Gen. Abduramhan, the senior Liberian military official and two members of his staff during the welcome ceremony for the new Liberian partners. The Michigan National Guard began their state partnership with Liberia this summer. Michigan National Guard photo by Sgt. 1st Class Scott Wilczynski

★ ★ *From the desk of
The Adjutant General* ★ ★

TAG TALK

On September 11th, 2010 we were all, once again, reminded of the horrific events that occurred nine years ago. While many of our fellow citizens have basically gone on with their lives, the past nine years have involved tremendous sacrifice on the part of each person serving in our nation’s armed forces. I was reminded of that as I recently attended the deployment ceremony for the 119th Field Artillery Battalion and the 1436th Engineer Co. They coordinated the largest deployment ceremony that we have ever done, and I’m glad they did it. Looking at that audience of approximately 600 deploying Soldiers, and about 3,000 family members, friends, fellow Soldiers, and community supporters, you could not help but be reminded of the tremendous sacrifice every one there was making to protect the freedoms of their fellow citizens. This scene has been played out over and over again over the past nine years. The amazing thing is our Soldiers and Airmen, their families, and their employers continue to step up to the plate and make the sacrifices necessary to win this fight for freedom. To date we have deployed approximately 16,000 Michigan National Guard Members, and are scheduled to deploy another 2,000 Soldiers and Airmen over the next year. That’s a huge challenge, but the dedication of each one of you always makes it possible! I’m always incredibly proud of your willingness to serve and to sacrifice, whether you’re a Soldier or an Airman, a family member, an employer, or all of the above! I thank you for that.

I also want to say a special thanks to the Air Guard members who have been doing such an incredible job of transitioning into the BRAC driven missions. The Michigan Air National Guard has never before experienced the amount of change that you have over the past five years. As difficult as this change has been, I believe we are stronger for it. The new missions will certainly stand the test of time and the character you’ve shown over the past five years will add value to your units for many years to come. This has been a time for leaders at every level to step up and lead, and that’s exactly what you’ve done. I thank you all for that. I want to also wish the 127th Wing Group and the 127th Air Refueling Group the very best as you take your first Nuclear Operational Readiness Inspection and the follow-on Operational Readiness Inspection. You worked and trained hard for this and I have every confidence you will do an awesome job!

As I close, I want to update you on the progress we’ve made on our new partnership with Liberia. By the time you get this we will have just finished hosting the first delegation of Liberians to visit the Michigan National Guard. That team will include their Chief of Defense, Maj. Gen. Abdurahman and two other senior Liberian military leaders. This visit will help them to better understand the citizen-Soldier concept, a concept that would add so much value to their country’s future. I know they will leave tremendously impressed with the Soldiers and Airmen they meet as they travel throughout our state! Later in October I will take a small team to Liberia for our first visit to their country. Our discussions there will set the stage for future partnership opportunities. We’re looking forward to watching you all make a difference in Liberia in the years to come.

As always, our plate is full, but each one of you make it happen. It is truly an honor to serve with you!


Maj. Gen. Thomas G. Cutler

A lot has happened in the Michigan Air National Guard in the last year or so since my last article in the Wolverine Guard. For the 127th Air Refueling Group this has been a year of inspections as they validate to higher headquarters their ability to execute their war time missions. By the time you read this they will have just completed the last of four major inspections and so far the results have been outstanding!

The 107th Fighter Squadron is well on its way to deploying with their A-10s to a combat zone in the not too distant future. In addition to honing their own combat capabilities they have been instrumental to the development of JTACs at the Grayling Air Gunnery Range assisting them as they quickly become the premier facility in the country for this type of training.

At Battle Creek ANGB the 172nd Airlift Squadron is on line with their C-21s flying TACC missions on a daily basis while they prepare for their transition to the newest aircraft in the Air Force inventory, the C-27 "Spartan." This is a particularly exciting time for the unit as they return to their tactical roots and pick up the theater airlift mission. Our newest unit, the 110th Air Operations Group, has made great strides in putting together this highly specialized organization, and they are already making significant contributions to both 17th Air Force and AFRICOM.

The Alpena CRTC will soon have a new leadership team in place as Col. Bryan Teff takes over for Col. Sansom, as the Commander, and Lt. Col. Andrew Roberts replaces Lt. Col. Dawson, as the director of operations. I have every confidence that these two officers will be able lead the CRTC in the future and build on Sam and Brian's outstanding legacy. Good luck in your well deserved retirement gentlemen!

All three bases continue to upgrade their facilities as we break ground very shortly on three major construction projects. Battle Creek is building a state of the art Air Operations Center and upgrading their airfield facilities in anticipation of the arrival of the C-27. Selfridge is upgrading their A-10 operations building and Alpena is building a modern troop quarters facility that will make it the location of choice for unit deployments and operational readiness inspections.

While all this transition is going on at the bases we continue to provide battle ready airmen to the fight. Our security forces, force support squadron, intelligence, and many other individuals have volunteered to go down range in support of active duty Air Force and Army operations. Their contributions have been invaluable and I am truly proud to be associated with such fine young men and women.

As I look in the future I feel that it is particularly important that we mentor and develop the future leaders of this great organization. We have done a good job over the last year in getting our NCOs and chiefs into in-residence Professional Military Education courses. In that same vein, we would like to provide an opportunity to some of our young officers and NCOs to take a two or three year tour to the Guard Bureau or an Air Force staff to learn how things are done, develop relationships and return to Michigan with the knowledge that will make us all more effective. If you have an interest please let us know.

In closing, I would like to thank all of you for your dedicated service to our state and nation and a special thanks to all the families and loved ones whose support is



Brig. Gen. Robert Johnston



Maj. Gen. Robert Johnston, the Michigan Air National Guard commander, stands with his family after being promoted with the same stars his father wore when he served as a general officer. Michigan National Guard photo by Senior Airman Brittany Simon

"Their contributions have been invaluable and I am truly proud to be associated with such fine young men and women," Brig. Gen. Robert Johnston.



Maj. Gen. Robert Johnston congratulates Tech. Sgt. Michael Mazure of the 127th Maintenance Squadron for his Academic Excellence Award presented at the noncommissioned officers academy graduation at McGee Tyson Air National Guard Base. Michigan National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Denice Rankin

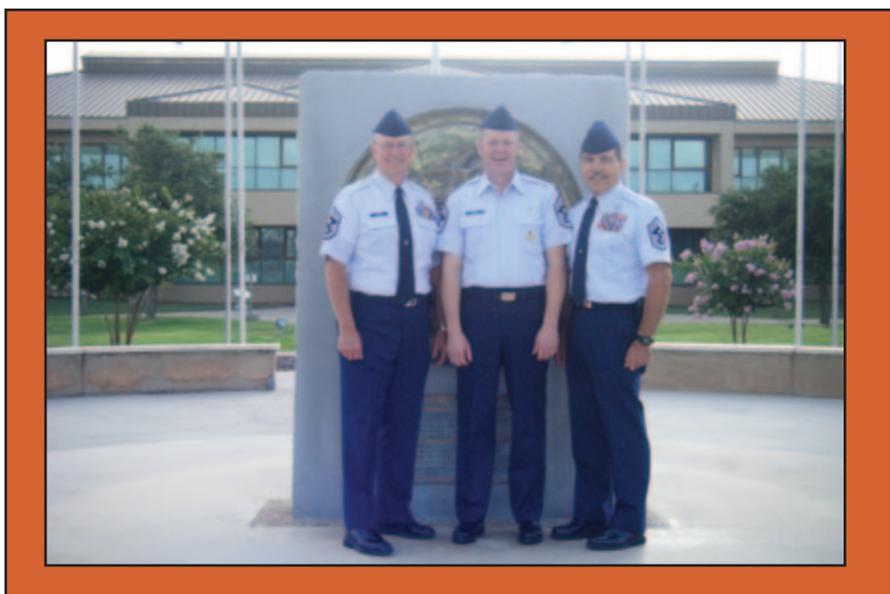
Throughout my career, I've been fortunate to have both officer and enlisted mentors, and have been lucky enough to have doors opened at the right moment. Last year, one of those doors opened for me that truly has had an impact on my life. Last May, Chief Master Sgt. Christopher Muncy, the Command Chief of the Air National Guard selected me to be the next Enlisted Field Advisory Council (EFAC) president. Now I must admit, it was very humbling to have been viewed as a viable candidate for president especially realizing that our council represents the entire 93,000 enlisted of the Air National Guard. Because of my position of the EFAC president, I have a seat on the ANG Air Directorate Field Advisory Council, the ANG Strategic Planning System and the Heritage to Horizon. All playing a significant role in the future of the Air National Guard.

I often say "everyday in uniform is a good day" and for me, this past week was an exceptionally good week for being in uniform. On Sept. 18, 2010, I was scheduled to attend our bi-annual H2H meeting. I arrived a bit late because I was conducting an EFAC briefing for the ANG Chiefs Executive Course earlier. As I slid in the back room and located my assigned seat, five ANG airmen were being seated to serve on an "Airmen in the Fight" panel. They were Master Sgt. Mendell Holley III an Explosive Ordnance Disposal flight operations NCOIC, Tech. Sgt. Ryan Carabajal an MQ-1 Predator sensor operator, Tech. Sgt. Theresa Kadis a Predator Sensor Operator, Tech. Sgt. Troy Page a Security Forces Craftsman, and Staff Sgt. Kenneth Walker III a Tactical Air Control Party Journeyman. Each told their stories to an intimidating audience of current and retired general officers and chief master sergeants. As I listened, all described how they had been both in combat and under enemy fire, or were coordinating the dropping of ordnance on the bad guys from thousands of miles away. Either way, in my book they were all true heroes. Many spoke about the stress of combat while in theater, or the stress of going home and to their child's soccer game after just having spent the day directing the dropping of bombs on the enemy. Their concern was with Post Traumatic Stress and its potential impact on them and their family's lives.

It made me think of how we as fellow Airmen, Soldiers, officers and or enlisted have an obligation to be the "battle buddy" or "wingman" to each other. It can be with your peer, subordinates or even your boss. Everyone is susceptible to stress and the potential of suicide. We've heard the terrible numbers within all the military organizations of our fellow members committing suicide. You can make a difference... just listen and then take appropriate action. There are multiple military and civilian organizations that a service member can contact for assistance. Please look out for each other, as one loss is too many.

Michael R. Dalton

Command Chief Master Sgt. Michael R. Dalton



Left to right: Chief Master Sgt. Michael Dalton, state of Michigan Command Chief Master Sgt., Chief Master Sgt. Christopher Muncy, Command Chief for the Air National Guard, and Chief Master Sgt. James Chisholm, state of Wisconsin Command Chief Master Sgt., stand in front of the headquarters building at Lackland Air Force Base after attending the Basic Military Training graduation in July 2010. Photo courtesy of Chief Master Sgt. Michael Dalton

Bullets

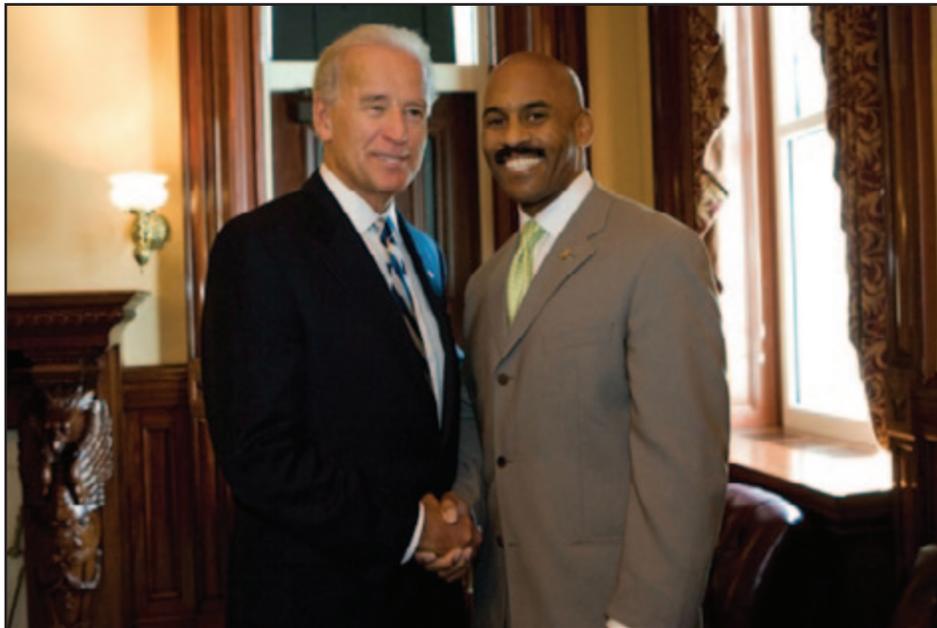
The Department of Defense has announced that Michigan Department of State Police of East Lansing, Mich., will receive the 2010 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award, the highest recognition given by the U.S. Government to employers for their outstanding support of their employees who serve in the Guard and Reserve. The Michigan Department of State Police was selected as one of only 15 employers from across the nation to receive the 2010 Freedom Award.

On behalf of Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, a National Selection Board comprised of senior defense officials, business leaders and prior Freedom Award recipients selected the 2010 Freedom Award honorees.

The Freedom Award was presented to the Michigan Department of State Police during a formal ceremony on Thursday, September 23, 2010 at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, D.C.

"The Michigan Department of State Police and this year's other recipients are among the top U.S. employers that provide outstanding support for Guard and Reserve employees. Their superior and unselfish initiatives to support their Guard and Reserve employees make them indispensable partners in the defense efforts of this country. We are truly grateful for their unwavering support," said James G. Rebholz, ESGR National Chairman.

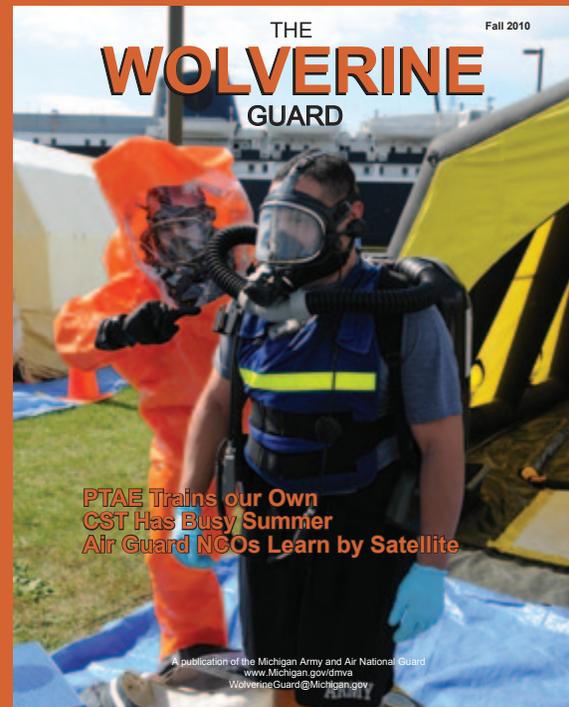
Nominated by Lt. Stephen Nowicki,



Vice President Joe Biden shakes hands with Col. Eddie L. Washington Jr., the director of the Michigan State Police after Washington received the 2010 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award in Washington, D.C. Photo courtesy of ESGR

United States Naval Reserve, a Detective Sergeant who works out of the Sterling Heights Lab, the Michigan Department of State Police was selected as a Freedom Award recipient for outstanding support of Guard and Reserve members. With more than 160 Guard and Reserve employees, the Michigan Department of State Police conducts departure ceremonies for each deployed employee and maintains constant contact with the service member throughout deployment. Upon return, each Guard and Reserve member is guided through the reintegration process by a member of the human resources division, and offered counseling and information on Post-traumatic Stress Disorder. The Michigan Department of State Police previously received the ESGR Pro Patria Award.

The Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award was instituted in 1996 under the auspices of Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR). ESGR is a Department of Defense agency established in 1972 whose mission is to develop and promote employer support for Guard and Reserve service by advocating relevant initiatives, recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of applicable laws, and resolving conflict between employers and service members. Since 1996, only 130 companies have been presented with the prestigious Freedom Award.



Members of the Michigan National Guard's 51st Civil Support Team suit up for decontamination during Operation Spartan Float, an exercise combining FEMA Region 5, Civil Support Teams. The exercise was designed to test their capabilities in the case of a maritime emergency. Michigan National Guard photo by 1st Lt. Michael May

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Adjutant General

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Assistant Adjutant General, Army

Brig. Gen. Burt Francisco

Commander, Michigan Air National Guard

Brig. Gen. Robert Johnston

Assistant Adjutant General Future Missions, Air

Brig. Gen. James R. Wilson

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State Public Affairs Officer

Capt. Corissa Barton

Editor *The Wolverine Guard*

Capt. Corissa Barton

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Grand Opening for Fort Custer PX

Story by Pfc. Alexandria Robinson

The grand opening of the AAFES PX was held in July at Fort Custer. This is the first time a PX has been on Fort Custer since the 1940's. The PX contains the basic necessities for all valid military ID cardholders and their dependants.

Dan Barriga, the general manager of the Selfridge Air National Guard BX, said the store will be open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, but the hours may change depending on the flow of business.

"Troops can come here to acquire things such as snacks and small items they may have forgotten, like soap or gear," said Barriga.

Garrison Command Sgt. Maj., John Engel, said he discussed the idea of having a PX for Soldiers with the garrison Commander, Lt. Col. Dennis Nadrasik.

"We looked at the old Morale,

Welfare and Recreation building because it wasn't being used and decided to put the PX there," Engel said.

Engel said the building currently serving as the PX is only temporary until another building located at Fort Custer has been renovated.

Nadrasik said more than 127,000 servicemembers train at Fort Custer and this PX is nice to have for them.

"This PX will eliminate the transportation to the Air Force base to shop at their PX," Nadrasik said.

Nadrasik hopes with the design of the troop service support center more after-hour activities will be



Lt. Col. Dennis Nadrasik, the commander of Fort Custer, along with Command Sgt. Maj. John Engel cut the ribbon with the store manager, Sandra Lewis for the grand opening of the PX at Fort Custer for all the servicemembers who train there. Michigan National Guard photo by Spc. Tegan Kucera

constructed and offered in the future for servicemembers.

"All we can do is grow from here," Engel said.

46th Military Police Command receives Combat Patch

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Helen Miller

The 46th Military Police Command, Lansing, Mich., received their combat patch on August 21st, the 100th day of their deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Spc. Courtney Lewis was the first Soldier to receive the 46th Military Police Command's combat patch.

The combat patch ceremony has a history that dates back to 1945. This ceremony officially designates troops as combat veterans, having proven their service for a period of time in a combat zone.

The combat patch, which is worn on the right shoulder of the U.S. military uniform, symbolizes past or active participation in wartime service. The wearing of a combat patch also signifies a Soldier's participation in the continued freedom and protection of the liberties for the people of the United States of America.



Brig. Gen. Mandy Murray and Command Sgt. Maj. Dan Lincoln place the 46th Military Police Command combat patch on Spc. Courtney Lewis.

Military Air Museum

open for Business

Story by Capt. Penelope Carroll

Selfridge Military Air Museum officials recently announced their 2010 general public hours of operation for their Museum and Air Park as noon to 4:30 p.m. on Saturdays, Sundays, Memorial Day and Independence Day, from April 3rd through October 31st. The Museum and Air Park can also be opened by appointment at other times throughout the year by calling 586-239-5035.

Visitors to the museum will see their almost \$5 million worth of displays including a recently built full-scale historically accurate replica of a World War I fighter plane, the SPAD XIII, an interactive cutaway and motorized World War II aircraft engine, an interactive Air Traffic Control radar display, an extensive display of original aviation art produced by noted aviation artists, a Korean War era Jeep, and two aircraft cockpits, an F-16 Fighting Falcon and A-7 Corsair II, that guests can actually sit inside, plus a wide variety of military memorabilia including weapons, aircraft engines, military uniforms, military aircraft models, and photographs spanning the more than 93 year history of the base. The Air Park contains 28 full-size vintage military aircraft from World War



The Selfridge Military Air Museum is home to a full-scale historically accurate replica of a World War I fighter plane.

I to the present day, plus an assortment of military vehicles and missiles. Two new aircraft will soon be joining them, a C-130E Hercules and an A-10A Thunderbolt II. The large C-130A Hercules and P-3 Orion aircraft presently in the Air Park can be opened up to visitors when weather and the availability of docents permit. Photographs of the interior and exterior displays are permitted for private non-commercial use only.

The Museum and Air Park is located on Selfridge Air National Guard Base, accessible by vehicle only through the main gate at the intersection of M-59 and Jefferson Avenue. For security reasons, guests arriving in a private vehicle that is being driven by someone without a valid government identification card must register for a visitor's pass at that gate. A current and valid driver's license, vehicle registration, and proof of vehicular insurance will be required to obtain a visitor's pass.

The Selfridge Military Air Museum is a private non-profit organization located on a military installation that is staffed entirely by volunteers and receives no federal or state funding for the operation and maintenance of its facilities and displays.

Further information on the Selfridge Military Air Museum and Air Park can be found on their website www.selfridgeairmuseum.org.



The cockpit of an F-16 Fighting Falcon sits on display in the Selfridge Military Air Museum. Visitors can actually sit inside of the cockpit.

JPG is Golden

Story by Lt. Col. Andrea Sting

Since 1998, the Adjutant General annually presents the Adjutant General's Quality Cup to a team in recognition of their significant contributions in improving readiness or service quality in support of the Department of Military and Veteran's Affairs.

The 2009 gold recipient is the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Joint Planning Group.

The Joint Planning Group began a journey to provide the department with a comprehensive Continuity of Government and Continuity of Operations Plan that was relevant, realistic, and executable. Members

represented the Joint Staff, Veterans' Affairs, State Operations, Army and Air National Guard. This endeavor was a direct result of the Capital Area Response 2008 training exercise evaluation and analysis. This team successfully merged and synchronized several separate plans into a single organizational plan and met the intent of state and national homeland security and homeland defense directives; validated the utilization of the new Joint Staff in concert with the Joint Planning Group to systematically review, update, communicate, and exercise contingency plans.



The Joint Planning Group receives the gold award for the 2009 TAG Quality Cup. Pictured from left to right: Brig. Gen. Michael Stone, Maj. Mark Gorzynski, Maj. Dan Allen, Lt. Col. Alice Niedergall, Master Sgt. Kevin Page, Ms. Angela Simpson, Lt. Col. Mark Landes, Brig. Gen. Carol Anne Fausone, Lt. Col. Jeffery Connell, Mr. Joel Wortley, Col. Valde Garcia, Maj. Gen. Thomas Cutler. Not pictured from the Joint Planning Group: Capt. Chris Stone, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Troy VanAlstine, Warrant Officer Mike Yokie, Sgt. 1st Class Bill Beliew, Mr. Frank Snarski, Mr. Bradford Slagle, Capt. Dennis Prisk, Ms. Diane Erley.

PDHRA

Claim your Benefits

Story by Staff Sgt. Matthew Martin

The Post Deployment Health Reassessment program is designed to encourage Soldiers to get treatment for any injuries, physical or psychological, sustained in defending our country. If you were injured while deployed, you should take advantage of this benefit.

If you received a medical referral at your PDHRA screening, you are eligible to be placed on orders up to seven times to attend medical appointments. These medical appointments must be for the same medical issues you were referred. If you are unsure if you were given a referral, look at page 5, block 9 of your DD Form 2900; your referrals are listed here. You may request orders for appointments with any legitimate health care provider.

If you want to request orders for a medical appointment, you must contact your unit at least three business days before the day of your appointment. Late requests will be denied. We strongly recommend that you request orders as soon as your appointment is scheduled. E-mail all requests to NGMIPDHRA@ng.army.mil. When submitting your order request, you must include the following information: your full name, your full SSN, your current unit, the date you attended the PDHRA, appointment date, time, location, and a brief description of reason for appointment.

Once you complete your appointment, get a letter from the doctor's office verifying your attendance. You will not be paid until you show verification of attendance to your unit. If you travel more than 10 miles to your appointment, you may request travel reimbursement pay (through DTS or DD 1351-2, per unit SOP). Again, you request travel reimbursement through your unit. This must be done within 30 days of your appointment, or you will not receive travel pay. Remember, if you collect mileage reimbursement from the VA, you cannot also claim mileage from the Army.

There are additional special instructions for AGR Soldiers, Federal Technicians, and Soldiers on ADOS/AT orders:

- If you are on **ADOS/AT orders**: When requesting your orders, clearly state that these are "Travel Only." Failure to do so will delay the processing of your request, and may result in you missing the deadline to be reimbursed.

- If you are a **Federal Technician**: You may either request **Travel Only** orders as per ADOS/AT Soldiers above, and remain on technician status, OR take military leave and be placed on ADSW/ADOS orders for the day. For more information, see "TAG's Technician Policy, 5 May 06."

- If you are **AGR**: Request all travel authorization through the AGR Office. PDHRA does not pay for AGR travel.

Operation New Dawn

rewarding for 777th MP Det Soldiers

Story by Spc. Rebecca East

Four 777th Military Police Detachment Soldiers were awarded the Army Achievement Medal for their service in the transferring custody of Camp Taji, Iraq, from the United States Government to the Iraqi Government. Camp Taji is a fully functioning prison with visitation facilities, education resources, and a brick factory cost which cost more than \$1 million to build, and houses more than 2,000 detainees that have been arrested during Operation Iraqi Freedom. The transfer is proof of the growth of the Iraqi Security Forces, and puts the United States servicemembers one step closer to Operation New Dawn, which began September 1, 2010.

Staff Sgt. Christopher Heath, Spc. Christa Dudley, Spc. Daniel Hopkins, and Spc. Rebecca East were awarded the Army Achievement Medal for their efforts during the transfer mission. These Soldiers were responsible for the electronic documentation of the transfer of detainee property, and the inventory of all documents relating to detainee custody, legal cases, and medical care while in the United States custody. The documents will be secured in the United States for the next 75 years, and are referenced daily by different agencies around the world.

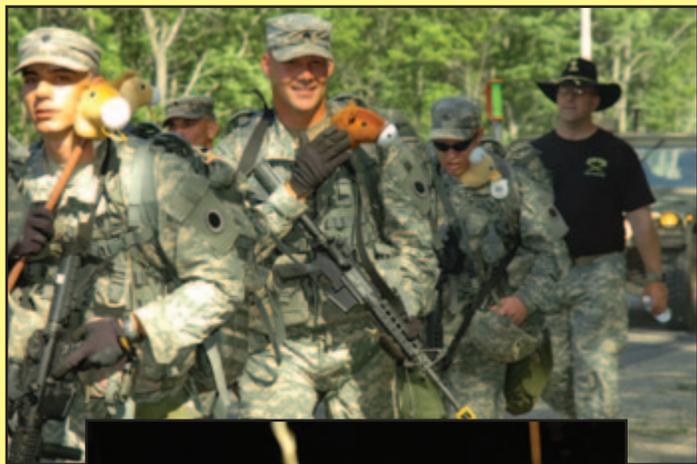
The transfer of the Camp Taji Theater Internment Facility is one of many steps leading to the end of Operation Iraqi Freedom, and the beginning of Operation New Dawn. Operation New Dawn represents the Iraqi Security Forces assuming full responsibility for the internal defense of their country. The United States Forces will continue to conduct partnered counter-terrorism operations and ensure that the Iraqi Security forces maintain pressure on extremist networks; however, the primary mission will be to provide training to the Iraqi Security Forces and support Provincial Reconstruction Teams.

Heath, Dudley, Hopkins, and East are four of 14 Michigan National Guard Soldiers from the 777th Military Police Detachment, based out of Taylor, Mich. They deployed in November of 2009, and will be replaced this fall by another 14 Soldiers from the 777th's MP DET's rear-detachment. The 777th Soldiers act as the Theater Detainee Reporting Center, which is a key facilitator of information between detainee operations in Iraq, and the National Detainee Reporting Center in Washington, D.C.

126th Cav Spur Ride

tests Skills and Patience

Photos by Sgt. 1st Class James Downen



Michigan Army National Guard Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 126th Cavalry participate in the Cavalry Spur Ride, a 36-hour evaluation of traditional Cavalry skills and physical tests at Camp Grayling, Mich. Cavalry Soldiers who successfully complete the Spur Ride are awarded the coveted silver Cavalry spurs at the end of the event. Cavalry Soldiers participating in the Spur Ride event are given toy horses that they are expected to care for as if they were live steeds. Whenever a Spur Ride candidate stops, the candidate is expected to water and care for the toy steed. These steeds serve to remind the Cavalry Soldier of the bygone horse era where the Cavalry Soldier was dependent on a horse he had to take care of that enabled him to perform his mission.

Summer Breeze brings back Memories

Story by Capt. Steve Dawson

It wasn't much, just a weird feeling. Kind of a hair-on-the-back-of-the-neck, déjà vu, mind flash in the subconscious.

As with all Soldier stories, they start with, "no-shit, there I was..." But this was dinner. I was eating out with co-workers recently while on a business trip. We had ordered some seafood and were enjoying some refreshments while we waited. The restaurant was alongside the water front. The Chesapeake Bay was mostly smooth but with a slight chop that day. The gulls and geese were plying for their fair share of the leftovers. It was tough going for there were few Monday night patrons. The late afternoon sunlight was just beginning to filter through the trees and buildings around us. The wind was blowing easterly and a few gusts caused the umbrellas at the tables to stiffen.

There was laughter and audible noises, but inaudible stories from the patrons surrounding me. We were talking shop. Some drabble about costs and the need to buy more materials for our test program. I lost my train of thought for a moment. Huh? A weird uneasiness flashed through my mind and a momentary heightened sensation flowed through my whole self. As quick as it came it passed. "What was that weird smell?" someone asked. Then I noticed it as well.

It reminded me of something...of what? The smell of coal burning in the blacksmith shop at Greenfield Village I guessed. Sure that was it; that was the only description I could find. We chatted for a moment, the subject turned to baseball, and the thought passed. The prickly feeling stayed however. It

lingered a while and I fidgeted in my chair, not quite comfortable. Dinner came and we moved on to still other conversation. Another round of beer and soon after dinner was over. We headed back to the hotel.

pulled out the library card for memories and told my mind to recover a vivid and clear memory, yet it flashed across my mind so quickly that I failed to recognize it fully. I had a flashback.

For one brief moment, I was the



Capt. Steve Dawson from the 1st Battalion, 125th Infantry Regiment stands in front of his truck at Camp Virginia, Kuwait. Photo courtesy of Capt. Steve Dawson

The next morning I awoke having had the strangest most restless night in a long while. Having been home from deployment for more than a year, it felt strange to have had such a restless night. I had been on travel too much in the previous weeks and coughed it all up to lack of "home." But the déjà vu was still there.

It finally hit me at breakfast. It wasn't the smell of the blacksmith shop. It wasn't even a common smell from home. It was the putrid smell of burning trash. I had smelled Iraq, and the awful concoction of burning trash, tires, and petroleum that wafted across Route Tampa nearly every night from An Nasaria. My olfactory glands had

convoy commander. The convoy was moving well and the line of civilian trucks was stretched out for the two miles in front of my truck. The combined drone of the engine and tires from our up-armored HMMWV were attempting to lull us all to sleep, but the gunner was telling jokes as he usually did and we were laughing in spite of the early morning hour. In spite of the heat, in spite of the lack of sleep, in spite of the smell of burning garbage, in spite of being away from family. I flashed and then was home again. One split second, but I was there.

Back in the present, my mind was now tracing through my visual catalogue of the prior evening. I realized that as

we left dinner there were three men up river burning trash at the VFW hall. How uncommon in a city. Couldn't they get fined for that? How uncommon indeed.

Why is this important? What is the significance? My Soldiers and I didn't see the horrific fighting that others did. There was no loss of limbs. We only fired three shots in anger across the entire company. So how did I have a flashback? What does it mean?

They say that the most vivid and fast occurring memory retrieval sense is the sense of smell. That often, it will bring memories from your past that you didn't even know you had. Or pull ones from your subconscious that were suppressed due to the horrific events around which the memory was recorded. Thankfully we did not have the full cornucopia of combat memories.

However, for more than a year now, I have helped to counsel our Soldiers on their reintegration and help them find the right resources to assist them and their families. It's been a tough 18 months with the economy and

with Michiganders getting the lion's share, hell even the tiger's share of the bad times. Each of us has had their challenges. For some the briefest and some the most enduring hardships of their lives just to get back to square one. I was gently reminded that every Soldier has stress; leaders too.

I was brought up to share and my friends will say I have the gift of gab. So I write this to remind everyone, Soldier and leader alike, that memories are just that, memories. However, every experience is a learning opportunity and life doesn't always line things up with an instructor who foot stomps the important parts. Commanders and Soldiers have experienced a hardship from home that the postman or the software engineer who lives next door will most likely never experience; many of us more than once since 9/11. Not to downplay their own stresses, but they aren't quite the same. With the best efforts of the Army leadership to assist us in coming home, there are still Soldiers out there who need a hand. Reintegration is, and has always been a continuous process. I just hope

that when your own "spider senses" are tingling, that you recognize that you're not alone, you're not the only one.

The Army Chaplains Corps, the volunteer veterans, the Veteran's Administration, and local counseling resources are all there for us still. Hopefully you will recognize your own flashback when it occurs. Take the time to take advantage of the resources afforded each of us. Take the opportunity to talk to someone. Summer is upon us and is full of wonderful smells. Hopefully your summer evokes memories of childhood, bonfires and smores rather than the desolate highways of southern Iraq. But if it does, I for one am right there with you.

Capt. Steve Dawson is currently the battalion supply officer for the 1st Battalion, 125th Infantry. He was the company commander of Company A, 125th Infantry and his company was deployed to Kuwait and Iraq for convoy security missions from January to December 2008.

Buddy-to-Buddy

If you or a Soldier you know needs help, call the Buddy-to-Buddy program at 1-888-82-BUDDY (822-8339). You will be matched with a vet trained to help you find resources for mental health, substance abuse, financial benefits, educational, legal or job issues.



PTAE Trains Soldiers to Fight Overseas

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class James Downen

“Soldiers Like Us”



(Left) Spc. Ryan Nabkey of the Michigan Army National Guard Wyoming, Mich., Company C, 1st Battalion, 125th Infantry throws a training grenade at Camp Grayling, Mich.

(Right) Michigan Army National Guard Pfc. Justin Spangenberg of the Wyoming, Mich., Company C, 1st Battalion, 125th Infantry demonstrates how to hold an M4-A carbine while low crawling.

(Center) Michigan Army National Guard Sgt. Jamie Davis of the Wyoming, Mich., Company C, 1st Battalion, 125th Infantry practices low crawling at Camp Grayling, Mich.



All Army National Guard Units deploying overseas have 365 days of active duty starting on the first day of mobilization. This includes time spent at mobilization sites. National Guard Bureau directed state level Pre-Mobilization Training Assistance Elements to be formed in June 2007 to assist deploying units to meet 1st Army training standards prior to mobilization so units would be certified as trained before arrival at the mobilization sites. An Army National Guard unit trained to 1st Army standards has a shorter stay at the mobilization site because it doesn't need as much time to meet the training requirements; therefore the unit has more time in theater performing the war-time mission it has been assigned.

The Michigan Army National Guard has 50 Soldiers assigned to the state's PTAE. The PTAE sends out teams, consisting of two to three Soldiers to each unit preparing to deploy, to assist them in training to meet the standards. "We make the field the classroom," said PTAE Staff Sgt. Sean Menard. "Our training curriculum comes from

Army publications and lessons learned in the field. The curriculum is taught and executed in the field."

Michigan Guard Soldiers of the Wyoming, Mich., Company C, 1st Battalion, 125th Infantry attending the "classroom" given by PTAE Soldiers at Camp Grayling put their lessons to work on the range conducting, individual movement techniques and buddy team drills prior to a live fire exercise.

The Soldiers gave their input on the training methods and techniques taught by their PTAE brethren. Sgt. Benjamin Miller said, "The PTAE are Soldiers like us, many are from our battalion, so we have that bond. During my first deployment, the trainers were from a different state. They taught us well, but it's easier to work with people who are from your own organization."

Miller went on to describe training administered by the PTAE team, "Our most challenging event was advanced rifle marksmanship. Our new Soldiers got to do a lot of shooting while moving. The Soldiers also reloaded their weapons a lot and got excellent muscle memory training while doing this."

Another Company C Soldier, Cpl. Dustin Hall said, "The PTAE team doesn't just train us, they teach us to train ourselves. We've done things like videotape ourselves while doing advanced rifle marksmanship so we could see how we moved as a team. Reviewing the footage allowed us to

sharpen our skills. I'd advise anyone deploying to concentrate on physical fitness and gain all tactical knowledge before you get your boots on the ground."

Pfc. Justin Spangenberg said the PTAE showed them a better way to handle their weapons while low crawling. "We keep the rifle in our hands instead of dragging it by the sling, you have better muzzle control and you can roll into a firing position quicker. The old way taught in basic can cause you to sweep your buddies with the rifle's muzzle, something you want to avoid doing."

The Company C Soldiers concluded training with an admonishment from the PTAE team to continue rigorous training and physical preparation for their upcoming Afghanistan deployment. The PTAE trainers released them to their company following an after actions review of the individual movement techniques that would be used in the upcoming live fire event.

Soldiers wanting to join the Michigan Army National Guard PTAE team need to have earned the Combat Infantry or Combat Action badge in either Afghanistan or Iraq. Once assigned to the PTAE, Soldiers are still deployable and can expect to be re-deployed every two years because the PTAE needs experienced Soldiers with recent combat service in order to properly train units deploying for war time missions.

51st CST Responds to Operation Spartan Float

Story by Sgt. 1st Class James Downen



The small West Michigan coastal town of Ludington hosted “Operation Spartan Float,” a multi-state and multi-agency exercise designed to test the ability of first responders to handle a ship with a crew and cargo infected with dengue hemorrhagic fever from Sept. 14 to Sept. 16, 2010.

The National Guard Civil Support Teams evaluated included the 51st of Michigan, 52nd of Ohio, 53rd of Indiana and 54th of Wisconsin. The U.S. Coast Guard provided perimeter protection around the ship used as the contaminated craft. Participating civilian law enforcement included agencies ranging from the Michigan State Police to the local Mason County Sheriff’s Office.

The exercise scenario involved the S.S. Spartan, a retired car freighter, portraying a Panamanian flagged ship with dengue hemorrhagic fever contamination in the crew compartment of the vessel. Part of the cargo consisted of monkeys, which had fleas that carried dengue hemorrhagic fever. CST search teams were required to survey the ship and locate a monkey figurine in order to complete an accurate search of the ship. Upon completing the search and recovering the monkey, each CST would return to a designated area to be decontaminated and file a report on the survey they had conducted.

Sgt. Justin Johnson, the non-commissioned officer in charge of the 51st CST Operations Center, said, “Michigan

was the command and control element of this exercise. The scenario called for multiple CSTs from Federal Emergency Management Agency Region 5 to respond to a major incident and this was a test to see how well we work together. The 5th CST from Illinois served as the observer-controller element and 5th Army North set up the scenario and oversaw it to ensure everything was done to Army standards.”

“Operation Spartan Float” was the first region level ship-borne training scenario for the FEMA Region 5 CSTs. Johnson said, “All of the CSTs have trained as individual teams on ships before, but this is the first time that multiple teams have worked together on a ship borne incident. All CSTs follow the same doctrine for responding to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and high yield explosives incidents, but our doctrine is flexible to allow for climate differences. One example is that in Michigan we use a lot of dry decontaminant procedures due to the cold winters. Working with other CSTs allows us to learn different procedures for various environments. This is important because in a major incident, we could work outside of our region where conditions are different.”

The National Guard CSTs work with civilian first responders, disaster relief and law enforcement agencies from the local to the federal level and need to have the means to communicate with them. This requires the ability to communicate with devices ranging from Motorola hand held radios, land lines, cell phones and by internet connections.



Sgt. Lucas Montalvo (left) and Staff Sgt. Raul Taylor pack up their gear after participating in Operation Spartan Float. Both are members of the Michigan National Guard's 51st Civil Support Team. Michigan National Guard photo by Sgt. 1st Class James Downen

Johnson said, "We have a truck mounted Unified Command Suite that has connections and receivers for all of the communications systems that our civilian counterparts use." The UCS even has a video capability, allowing on-site commanders to conduct teleconferences.

"Operation Spartan Float" brought four CSTs together to respond to a ship borne incident in Ludington, Mich., Each team has trained individually on ships, but "Operation Spartan Float" was the first multi-CST exercise for FEMA Region 5 and allowed the teams to learn from each other by conducting a joint operation. If a CBRNE incident occurs on the Great Lakes, the CST teams of FEMA Region 5 have conducted the training needed to protect our citizens from such danger.

Michigan National Guard leads Oil Spill Response

Story and photo by Capt. Greg Mason

On Monday, July 26th 2010, if you were driving along 15 mile road towards the Kalamazoo River in Calhoun County you would have smelled a strong odor of petroleum. Sometime on Sunday, July 25th, a 30-inch pipeline carrying crude oil from Indiana to Ontario burst and spilled an estimated 800,000 gallons of crude oil into the Talmadge Creek in Marshall. Pipeline owner, Enbridge Oil Company immediately implemented oil emergency response procedures and Governor Jennifer M. Granholm called upon the Michigan National Guard to support disaster relief operations.

The Michigan National Guard supported the Enbridge Oil Spill response with employment of the 51st Civil Support Team for air quality monitoring assistance to the Environmental Protection Agency; the Michigan National Guard Joint Staff was activated for emergency response coordination; the Michigan Air National Guard Public Affairs Office supported the state Joint Information Center; and Fort Custer Training Center provided disaster relief personnel with lodging during the initial response.

In a unified command, five lead agencies consisting of local, state and federal partners coordinated efforts to clean-up and mitigate environmental impact of the crude oil spill in Calhoun County. Extensive damage to the Kalamazoo River and Lake Michigan were avoided by prompt cleanup efforts of more than 1,000 responders, dozens of civil response agencies and private industry partners.

The joint effort by the Air/Army National Guard Military members, as well as Department of Military and Veterans Affairs civilians, resulted in a quick response leading to containment of leaking crude oil. Clean-up efforts continue and the lasting effects to the community and environment lessen daily.



Staff Sgt. Michael Kimble and Sgt. 1st Class Bradley Bunch work with an air quality machine in Kalamazoo, Mich. Kimble and Bunch were part of the Michigan National Guard's 51st Civil Support Team response to the Enbridge Oil Spill.

Engineers travel the globe to move the Earth

Story and photos by Master Sgt. Ron Raflik

Passport. NATO Orders. Country clearance. These are not the standard items for an annual training packing list. But then, this is not a standard Michigan Army National Guard annual training.

Members of the 1432nd Engineer Company of Kingsford, and Iron River, Mich., flew to Latvia to construct a Temporary Forward Operating Site on Adizi. Three rotations of 28 Soldiers, for two weeks each, constructed the TFOS in support of Operation Sabre Strike, which will take place in Latvia in October.

The Michigan Soldiers worked closely with their Latvian counterparts through concept, planning, and execution phases that spanned the year leading up to the construction taking place from late July through mid-September of this year.

“Although there is currently no designated Engineer MOS in the Latvian Land Forces, the Latvian Soldiers have built a shooting range in the past, and are benefitting greatly from the TFOS project,” stated Col. Ozroga, Latvian Ground Forces commander.

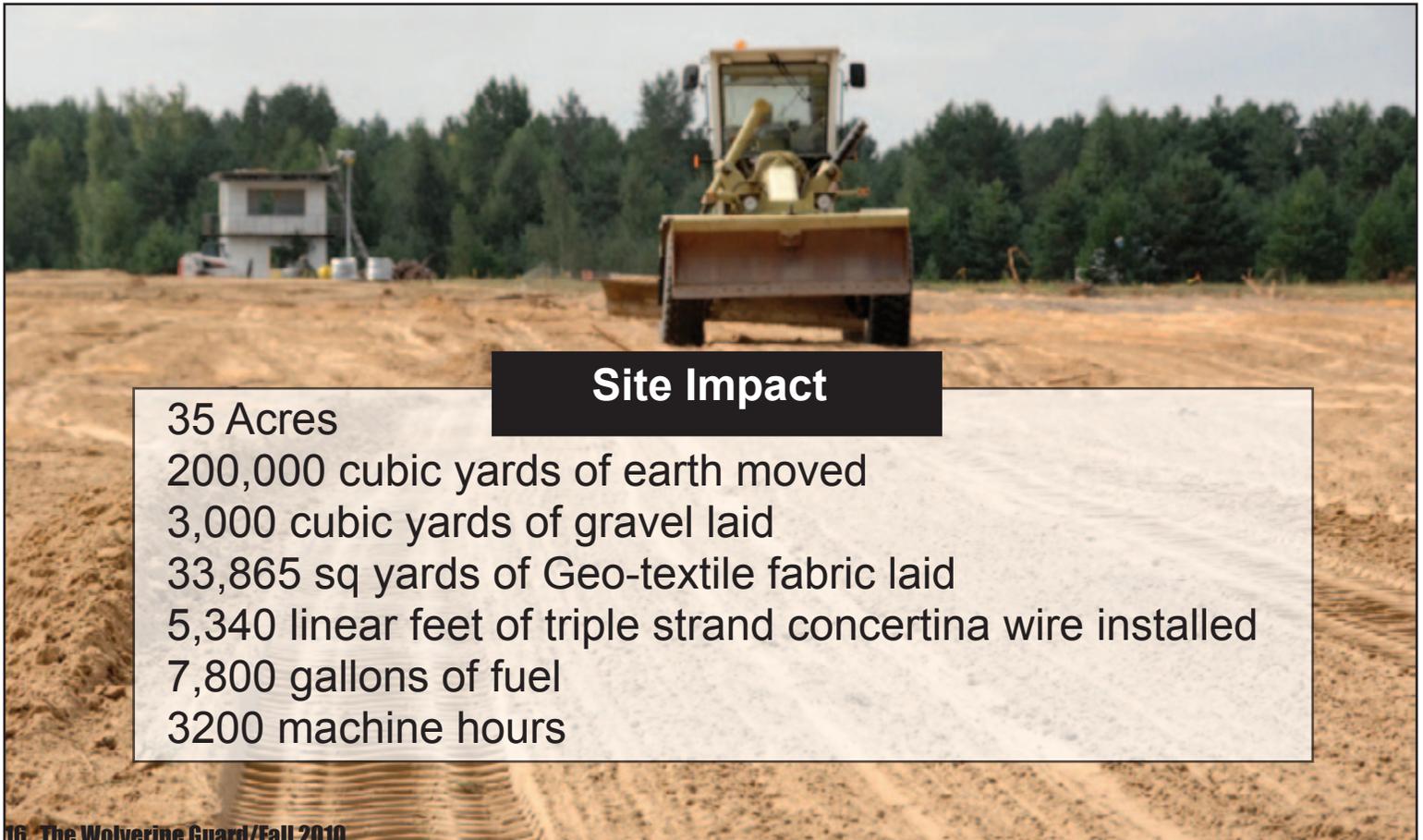
The TFOS site, built on 35 acres of land on Camp Adizi, is a former Russian tank range. “Our only setbacks so far have been some moderate vehicle repair, and two UXO’s (unexploded ordnance),” said 1st Sgt. Michael Touchinsky

of the 107th Engineer Battalion, and NCO in charge of the TFOS project. “The Latvian Explosive Ordnance Disposal team hauled one of them away, and did one on-site detonation.”

The equipment used for the project was mostly rented locally and some donated by Sweden. “We knew it would be too expensive to bring our own equipment, but we had to present that option for consideration to get us to the best solution,” said Capt. Dan Mills, commander of the 1437th Engineer Company out of Sault Ste. Marie, and officer in charge of the project.

Touchinsky and Mills stayed in Latvia throughout the construction phase of the TFOS. “Continuity during the rotations plays a key role in the success of a project this large,” said Touchinsky. “There is always someone with ‘eyes-on’ to pass information from one rotation to the next.”

Once the TFOS is complete, it will be maintained and improved by the Latvian engineers. After Operation Sabre Strike, Col. Ozroga hopes to add a dining facility and other structures to make the site suitable for more training. “The future holds many possibilities for projects and training for both Latvian and American Soldiers,” said Ozroga.



Site Impact

35 Acres

200,000 cubic yards of earth moved

3,000 cubic yards of gravel laid

33,865 sq yards of Geo-textile fabric laid

5,340 linear feet of triple strand concertina wire installed

7,800 gallons of fuel

3200 machine hours

Unpredictable Future made easier with Education and Training

Story and photos by Master Sgt. Denice Rankin

Earlier this summer, 25 members of the Michigan Air National Guard completed 14 weeks of intensive academic training. Upon completion, the Michigan Airmen were Noncommissioned Officer Academy graduates of the I.G. Brown ANG Training and Education Center at McGee Tyson Air Guard Base in Tennessee.

Completing NCO Academy is not a new requirement for Airmen but the method these Guardsmen accomplished the training is. For the first time in Michigan, the initial 12-week phase of the NCO course was held at three different "satellite" locations simultaneously as Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center, Battle Creek Air National Guard Base, and Selfridge ANGB all connected through video-conferencing technology. The Michigan Air Guardsmen in the class spent four hours a night, two nights a week engaging in the instruction with their comrades across the state and Airmen nation-wide via a video and audio bridge from McGee Tyson Air National Guard Base. The structure of the course was a great way to fit the class into an already full schedule.

"The satellite program was definitely the most convenient for someone not looking to be away from work or home for a long period of time," said Technical Sgt. Chris Jenney, a personnel technician with the 110th Airlift Wing in Battle Creek.

Following the 12-week satellite portion of the course, the Airmen completed the final two-week phase at McGhee Tyson. This portion of the training taught in-depth Air Force leadership principles and interpersonal communication skills. During the initial 12-week phase, the Airmen were told that in the final in-residence phase they would be required to give three 10-minute briefings on a particular subject,

for instance, a briefing on another country. They also came prepared to give a briefing on a subject they were familiar with such as their career.

"The in-residence portion was fast paced. We were involved with different scenarios which taught us how to provide feedback, instill discipline, lead interpersonal groups, and how to improve public speaking," said Jenney.



Five members of the 127th Wing have reason to smile; they have recently graduated from the Air National Guard Enlisted Professional Military Education Academy at McGhee Tyson, Tennessee. Pictured left to right are Staff Sgt. Nathan Henkel, Technical Sgt. John Sciarrino, Technical Sgt. Sherlyn Wilson, Technical Sgt. Michael Riggins (NYANG), Technical Sgt. Ronald Smith, and Technical Sgt. Michael Mazure.

At the training phase completion, a banquet dinner and awards ceremony awaited. The key note speaker, Chief Master Sgt. Donald Felch, Munitions Management Branch functional manager at National Guard Bureau, reminded the audience how the enlisted Airmen impact the Air Force.

"America's enlisted Airmen are some of the best trained and

educated on the planet," said Felch. "They are not just trained, they are educated!"

During the ceremony, three Airmen from Michigan were selected as distinguished graduates of their flight; Technical Sgt. Caleb Drane, who is assigned to Alpena, CRTC; Technical Sgt. Brian Shaner, 110th Communication Flight, Battle Creek ANG; and Technical Sgt. Michael Mazure, 127th Maintenance Squadron, based at Selfridge ANG. Mazure, an electronic integrated system mechanic with the 127th, had the highest academic score out of more than 120 graduates and received the Academic Excellence Award from the commandant.

In his closing remarks, Felch prepared the new graduates for the unforeseen future.

"Your next challenge," he said, "is to prepare for those things that are unpredictable, this takes education."

Vigilant Guard takes Teamwork

Story by Capt. Corissa Barton

In June the Michigan National Guard held a Vigilant Guard exercise. This interagency training included numerous scenarios ranging from a worldwide “Dragon Flu” pandemic, a local tornado, hazardous materials (HAZMAT), numerous white powder packages, and the security of critical infrastructure and key resources including points of distribution (PODs) of pharmaceutical supplies and vaccines. The scenarios are designed to strain resources and test the capabilities of local, state and national response organizations to include the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) – the process where governors reach out to other governors for assistance. The exercise was held at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Battle Creek Air National Guard Base, Oakland County Airport, each state Emergency Management Center, and various other locations.



Selfridge Fireman Greg Scott finishes de-contaminating Lt. Col. Lawrence Crowder, 127th Wing anti-terrorism officer, one of the simulated victims, with the decon hoop while the recon team waits in the background. Michigan National Guard photo by John S. Swanson



SMELLS LIKE **TEAM SPIRIT**



Michigan Wolverines and Michigan State Spartans co-existing in Mosul, Iraq.
Staff Sgt. Jeff Jennings (Michigan)
Sgt. Jeremy Briggs (Michigan State)
144th Military Police Company
2nd Platoon “Blacksheep”
Mosul, Iraq



Staff Sgt. George Farrell from the 127th Wing LRS
“Truth of the matter is, I love all three of these schools equally.”
From left to Right: Currently attend, University of Michigan: Alma Mater, Central Michigan University Class of 1999: Alma Mater, Eastern Michigan University Class of 1991

End of an Era

The capstone training event for National Guard units is the two-week annual training period held at various locations throughout the world. For the Michigan Army National Guard, Camp Grayling has been such location. In 2009 it was decided that the MIARNG would no longer conduct a consolidated annual training period. August 2010 saw the pass and review, with thousands of Soldiers standing on the parade field, for the final time.

Due to the increased demand put on units for deployments, most units spend the majority of the year training for multiple two-week periods and sometimes more. Though it is an end to an era, it isn't an end to training or Camp Grayling. The post will continue to be used throughout the year by units getting ready to deploy and units completing their normal warrior task training.



We want to see your babies!

Send us a photo of you and your children, young or old! Send photos to WolverineGuard@Michigan.gov. Please include your name, rank, unit and children's names. Submissions must be received by November 1, 2010.



125th Infantry Battalion honored for Deployment Excellence

Story by Staff Sgt. Benjamin Evans

The Michigan Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 125th Infantry Regiment was recognized for deployment excellence at a ceremony held in Richmond, Virginia earlier this summer. Accepting the award from the Chief of Staff of the Army, General George W. Casey Jr., was Lt. Col. Ryan E. Connelly, commander of the 1-125th Infantry Regiment.

The "Viking Battalion," based in Flint, Michigan, was selected to receive the Deployment Excellence Award for overall excellence in training, logistics and administration during its 12-month, deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2008.

Connelly said, "This award captures the efforts of over 600 Viking soldiers through a year-and-a-half process and is a reflection of their professionalism and dedication."

The unit deployed more than 600 soldiers to the al-Anbar province in Iraq to conduct security force operations. While in the region, the 1-125th conducted more than 2,100 combat missions, provided security and advisory support to Iraqi Security Forces throughout the al-Anbar province, and served as the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force's main effort during the transition of security from U.S. forces to al-Anbar provincial Iraqi control. Upon arrival to Camp Ramadi, the battalion received more than 230 wheeled vehicles that had an initial operational readiness below 10%. The battalion turned over a fleet of vehicles to the incoming battalion at 94% operational readiness.

The purpose of the Deployment Excellence Award is to recognize units for outstanding deployment accomplishments that meet or exceed established deployment standards and capture and share innovative deployment initiatives that have improved the deployment process. This year, 122 units competed and the 1-125th was the National Guard winner

in the large unit category.

"The accomplishments made by the Soldiers of the 125th during their deployment are truly impressive," said Maj. Gen. Thomas G. Cutler, commander of the Michigan National Guard. "To have their skill recognized at the national level is a terrific honor for them and the Michigan Guard."

The competition and award process begins with an Army command nominating one or more of its units. Then evaluators from the U.S. Army Transportation, Ordnance and Quartermaster Schools travel worldwide conducting on-site evaluations and judging the units nominated.



Maj. Ray Stemitz, Gen. George W. Casey, Jr., Lt. Col. Ryan E. Connelly, and Lt. Col. Bruce Revers stand with the Deployment Excellence Award plaque and certificate presented to the 1st Battalion, 125th Infantry Regiment of the Michigan Army National Guard. The award recognizes units for outstanding deployment accomplishments. (Michigan National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Benjamin Evans)

Michigan Army and Air National Guard Promotions

June 1, 2010 through September 1, 2010

Maj.

Abbe, Shawn
Glymph, Stephen
Harden, Russel
Leatrea, Matthew

Hutchinson, Christopher
Johnson, Jennifer
Johnson, Zachary
Kaiser, Steven

Lannon, Scott
Lapine, Troy
Luce, Leah
Lutz, Jami

Fouty, Timothy
Furman, Michael
Gillett, Calvin
Gonzalez, Joseph

Devaughn
Rick, Allison
Rivard, Nicholas
Rohr, Ashley

Fleeson, Joshua
Gall, Michael
Garrett, Isaac
Gottschalk, Tera

Capt.

Edgar, Neil
Fox, Richard
Shaffer, Scott

Krawczyk, Andrew
Krozal, Kenneth
Kuklewski, Cory
Lopiccolo, Christopher

Meeusen, Chasta
Mihlfeld, Ian
Miller, Benjamin
Neu, Joseph

Hammons, Thomas
Harper, Kyle
Hensler, Jonathan
Houle, Justin

Ross, Richard
Roy, Patrick
Rumsey, Christopher
Rushton, Evan

Grams, Aimee
Groat, Austin
Hart, Cody
Huff, Jonathan

1st Lt.

Lundquist, Ryan

Malenfant, Anthony
Malone, Hollis

Ostyn, Roscoe
Palmatier, Billy
Penegor, Nicholas

Howland, Brock
Huskey, Joseph
Javellana, Edwin

Salazar, Christopher
Samuelson, Jason
Soderquist, Brian

Kirkpatrick, Kenneth
Kreft, Taylor
Maki, David

2nd Lt.

Erwin, Robert
Navarre, Adam
Noe, Christy

Mapp, Stanley
Moberly, Jay
Mohr, Angela
Murphy, Brooke

Polmanteer, James
Potenga, Kenneth
Sanders, Raymond
Schenk, Christopher

Jayska, Ryan
Jones, Devin
Jones, Jody
Jurich, Anthony

Stultz, Christopher
Taylor, Emily
Tefft, Tyler
Thomas, Larae

Morgan, Bryan
Peterson, Jonathan
Ratell, Scott
Ray, Jasmin

Warrant Officer 4

Maclaren, Todd

Pillars, Joseph
Prell, Richard
Pride, Lakeshia

Thompson, Jacob
Tolan, Gregory
Tracy, Robert

Kingkyles, Charalisa
Knowles, Bryan
Koblinski, Kyle

Thomas, Tanell
Tompkins, Adam
True, James
Turek, David

Southworth, William
Stott, Matthew
Suchland, Christopher

Warrant Officer 2

Davis, Diedra
Lammi, Robert
Merice, David

Purol, David
Reynolds, Ryan
Schreiber, Mark
Simpson, James

Walch, Desmer
Wier, Sean
Williams, Reginald

Lange, Andrew
Lapoint, Lacey
Lapratt, Barbara
Long, Jill

Twiss, Michael
Vajko, Stephen
Vannoy, Tyler
Vasquez, Jeffrey

Ussery, Erica
Villareal, Alejandro
Webb, Benjamin
Webster, Nathaniel

Warrant Officer 1

Moody, Jerry
Teichman, Erica
Banks, Darryl

Smith, Johnnie
Smyers, Archie
Stitt, Wesley
Troeger, Andrew

Arndt, Jordan
Barnes, Davonta
Bell, Jason
Benjamin, Allison

Lapoint, Lacey
Lapratt, Barbara
Long, Jill
Lorio, Joshua

Waldorf, Jacob
Webster, Bianca
Wehner, Justin
Wetzel, Christopher

Wirth, Dustin
Campbell, Andrew
Edmondson, Anthony
Hofmann, Christina

Master Sgt.

Hess, Robert
Sanchez, Miguel

Verschragen, Craig
Waterbury, Rex
White, Brad
Wildt, Kyle

Casey, Heather
Chirikas, Bernard
Clark, Brian
Coleman, Alanda

Manor, Jarrett
Mashon, Steven
Massie, Nicholas
Mchaney, Shimiko

Wieber, Jordan
Wilcox, Mackenzie
Batchelder, Cameron
Billings, Jacob

Webb, Benjamin
Webster, Nathaniel
Wirth, Dustin
Campbell, Andrew

Sgt. 1st Class

Cruz, Christopher
Decanter, Dean
Gorgon, Jonathan

Benchley, Brandon
Byers, Amanda
Cherry, Ryan
Davis, Brian

Arndt, Jordan
Barnes, Davonta
Bell, Jason
Benjamin, Allison

Mckim, Joseph
Mcmahan, Coady
Miller, Ashley
Miller, John

Wetzel, Christopher
Wieber, Jordan
Wilcox, Mackenzie
Batchelder, Cameron

Edmondson, Anthony
Hofmann, Christina
Kellerman, Paul
Starnes, Joseph

Staff Sgt.

Beaudry, Preston
Bowen, Daniel
Boyd, Matthew

Degroot, Kenneth
Dexter, Rocky
Donovan, Robert
Eddy, Michael

Clark, Brian
Coleman, Alanda
Coleman, William
Cripe, Matthew

Mitchell, Sarrah
Moran, Abbey
Morris, Jeffery
Mott, Chad

Wetzel, Christopher
Wieber, Jordan
Wilcox, Mackenzie
Batchelder, Cameron

Starnes, Joseph
Senior Airman
Arnet, Sarah M.
Garza, Roland C.

Staff Sgt.

Brown, Dawn
Cox, Charles
Dalusong, Charles

Fogarty, Daniel
Foy, Nathaniel
France, Michael
Hardaway, Elliot

Crockett, Michael
Davidson, Taylor
Dietzel, Jacob
Elliott, James

Murray, Brandon
Nguyen, Johnbao
Pasanski, Shawn
Plumb, James

Blockton, Eric
Brooks, Kevin
Cech, Robert
Choyce, Oliver

Arnet, Sarah M.
Garza, Roland C.
Harris, Chad M.
Kelly, Kyle

Staff Sgt.

Dent, Robert
Dickie, Allen
Fair, Antoine

Hardaway, Elliot
Kerns, Ryan
Krieger, Kristin

Ellsworth, Jerald
Fairfield, Marcus
Felber, Justin
Fisher, Jason

Richardson,
Rentz, Matthew
Richardson,
Richardson,

Cook, Brandon
Cpak, Krzysztof
Davis, Eli
Ellison, Aaron

Koch, Stephanie M
Lecureaux, Daniel
Lomax, Deangelo
Matchinski, Dustin

Michigan Army and Air National Guard Promotions

June 1, 2010 through September 1, 2010

McCourt, Corey	Burch, Kevin	Kovacic, Jacob P.	Voories, Farrah	Huhtasaari, Timothy	Mihelich, David C.
Neeley, Darian	Campbell, Christopher	Lancaster, Shannan	Webber, Jeremy	Mikols, Kelly A.	Staup, Matthew
Nowosad, Deborah	Carter, David S.	Parker, Richard	Wesley, Jeremy	Nigg, Alan D.	Weitting, Jeremy B.
Osborne, Jason	Cathey, Wytina	Paulson, Kevin c.	Wilson, Michael A.	Noot, Peter	Senior Master Sgt.
Peelish, Adam	Davidson, James	Payne, William J.	Tech. Sgt.	Russell, Bryan L.	Brun, Karen
Wilkins, Joshua	Depue, Bret A.	Perkins, Keith	Anderson, Axel J.	Master Sgt.	Christle, Henry Jr.
Staff Sgt.	Gilbert, Nicky	Rallo, Douglas	Brown, Nathan	Bergeron, Brandon D.	Hatlevig, Terry
Barton, Rachel	Holtz, Michael	Savage, Sean	Brown, Shawn D.	Chappel, Mary	Higley, Denver
Balcom, Chad	Homrich, Nicholas	Squires, Brandon	Franks, Barbara M.	Margaret	Chief Master Sgt.
Black, Matthew	Kirkbride, David	Tew, James V III	Goebel, Michael	Freeburg, Richard Jr.	Thomson, Roger
Blair, Daniel	Klein, Christopher J.	Tucker, Jeffrey	Gombos, Michael	Haven, Bonnie Sue	
Brock, Nicholas	Vergun, Daniel		Gunderson, Dandrea	McCall, Richard K.	

Michigan Army Guard learns to Drive the Guard

Story by Sgt. 1st Class James Downen

The National Guard Bureau and the Commercial Driver Training Foundation have partnered to create the Drive the Guard program.

This program allows current and prior service Michigan Army National Guard Soldiers to obtain their Commercial Driver's License by attending an accredited truck driving school and gain full-time employment with a trucking company upon successful graduation of training.

Sgt. David Bradley, of the Ypsilanti-based 146th Multifunctional Medical Battalion, was the first Michigan Army National Guard Soldier to complete the Drive the Guard program. Bradley, who was unemployed before he began the program, said that his battalion career counselor told him about "Drive the Guard" and helped him make contact with Master Sgt. Anthony Salinas, the program manager.

"Salinas did a great job of getting me into the program quickly," Bradley said.

Bradley was trained by the International Trucking School branch in Kalamazoo. He said his instructor, Chad Slane, had 18 years of truck driving experience. "He was a great instructor. The training had two weeks of book work, which isn't my strongest area, and Chad helped me get through that part of the curriculum successfully."

Job placement for Bradley was addressed before completing the training. Bradley said, "I had seven pre-hire appointments prior to graduation. I have signed on with Warner Enterprises and I'm now going through their certification process. Warner has been supportive of my National Guard commitment. I keep them updated with my drill schedule, and they have my driving routes scheduled around it."

Bradley hopes other Michigan Soldiers will take advantage of the program as well.

"I would recommend 'Drive the Guard' to any Soldier. I was at Camp Grayling last July promoting it. I'm happy to say that Spc. David Frank, a Soldier assigned to my old unit, signed up for it recently."

The National Guard Bureau pays Guard Soldiers to attend the training by putting them on state active duty orders for pay and retirement points. Michigan Soldiers receive a \$500 military scholarship from CDTF toward tuition at an participating school and the school seeks financing on the Soldier's behalf from Michigan Works. The school also provides tuition financing. At some schools, Soldiers may be able to draw GI Bill benefits in addition to pay.

Interested Soldiers should contact their battalion career counselor for more information about the 'Drive the Guard' program. First-year annual salaries for truck drivers range from \$36,000 to \$45,000 with benefits.



Master Sgt. Anthony Salinas of Recruiting Command, Sgt. David Bradley and his wife Amanda and Curt Cole of the International Trucking School, pose in front of an 18-wheeler truck. Michigan National Guard photo by Sgt. 1st Class James Downen

Currently Deployed Army

46th Military Police Command	Afghanistan
CO C, 3/238th GSAB	Iraq
777th MP Det	Iraq
1437th Engineer Co.	Iraq
1073rd Maint. Co.	Iraq
147th Aviation	Iraq
1225th CSSB	Iraq
1436th EN CO	Kuwait
119th Field Artillery	Kuwait
182nd Field Artillery	Kuwait
CO B, BSTB, 37th BCT	Kosovo
CO C, BSTB, 86th BCT	Afghanistan
OMLT 3	Afghanistan
745th Ordnance Det	Afghanistan



TAPS

1st Sgt. George H. Lanting Jr., (ret), 58, May 15, 2010
 Master Sgt. Donald Ball, (ret), 86, June 5, 2010
 Sgt. 1st Class Robert Stukey, (ret), 75, June 20, 2010
 Capt. Joseph Dubnicki, (ret), 90, June 29, 2010
 Lt. Col. Dennis Hunter, (ret), 85, June 30, 2010
 Master Sgt. Vincent Buffa, (ret), 86, July 2, 2010
 Lt. Col. James Decatur, (ret), 82, July 19, 2010
 Capt. Leslie Keller, (ret), 83, July 20, 2010
 Sgt. Maj. Ralph Laverty, (ret), 81, July 29, 2010

Sgt. 1st Class John Murray, 80, August 3, 2010
 Staff Sgt. John Zeller, (ret), 69, August 6, 2010
 1st Sgt. Edward Salata, (ret), 87, August 12, 2010
 Chief Warrant Officer 4 Eugene Sluke, (ret), 81, August 19, 2010
 Command Master Sgt. Donald Miller, (ret), 66, August 21, 2010
 Chief Warrant Officer 4 Richard Tate Jr. (ret), 75, August 21, 2010
 Sgt. Ronald Calovecchi, 70, August 24, 2010
 Maj. Gen. Rudolph Bartholomew, (ret), 82, September 7, 2010

Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
Michigan Army and Air National Guard
3411 N. Martin Luther King Blvd.
Lansing, Michigan 48906

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Members of the Michigan National Guard Funeral Honors Team perform the flag folding ceremony during the annual POW/MIA Remembrance Day Ceremony held at the state capital in Lansing, Mich. Michigan National Guard photo by Stefanie Hoppes

