

THE WOLVERINE GUARD

**A-10s Complete First Deployment
MIANG's Finest
Michigan's Own-Ghost Mountain Boys**





During TAG Call in January 2010 Maj. Gen. Thomas G. Cutler reintroduced the burned Iraqi boy Mohammed, who is receiving medical help from Sparrow Hospital and MSU burn specialists, with his sponsor, Maj. David Howell, from the 125 Infantry Battalion. General Cutler presented Mohammed with a check from the MIARNG to cover some of the expenses for his stay in Michigan during surgery and recovery. Michigan National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Gabriel Morse

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

In case you haven't noticed it, we are in a period of significant change in our Michigan National Guard. At every level, there have been numerous leadership changes and mission changes. As we experience these changes, I'm again reminded of how important it is for us to have a Vision Statement and a set of Values that keeps us grounded and focused during all this change. From time to time, it's important to review our vision and values to ensure we're focused on the right things as we accomplish our mission in the midst of all this change. Our vision statement reads as follows, "Our Vision is to be a proud military organization, characterized by excellence and integrity, in the fulfillment of our duties to our nation, state, and to one another." Our values are integrity, excellence, teamwork, and accountability.

We established our vision and values soon after I became your adjutant general, well before we began to realize how challenging it would be to fulfill our duties to our nation as we answered the call to support OEF and OIF. We have indeed demonstrated tremendous excellence and integrity as we have deployed more than 12,500 Soldiers and Airmen since January of 2003. Every unit that has deployed has had to adapt their particular mission to the needs of the theater commander, but you've done it consistent with our vision and values and you've performed magnificently! Since January 2003 you've also responded, on numerous occasions, to state emergencies such as the black out, a forest fire, and Katrina. Each time you responded to the call of your state, you again demonstrated tremendous excellence, integrity, teamwork, and accountability...something to be very proud of.

As I reflected on our vision, I was reminded that it also includes a commitment to fulfill our duty to, "ONE ANOTHER," a duty that we take very seriously on the battlefield, but all too often neglect at home station. In a combat situation, whether you're an Airman or a Soldier, you've committed yourself to never leave a comrade behind. Unfortunately in a peace time situation, I all too often see Soldiers and Airmen who have been left behind by those who would never have let that happen in combat, that being their peers, their NCO's and their commander. This is an area where we can all do better. Whether it's mentoring someone, reaching out to someone who is struggling with PTSD, properly completing important paperwork (such as line of duty investigations!), guiding someone through the promotion process, or a hundred other key leadership responsibilities, we need to do so with the same commitment and accountability we bring to accomplishing the other aspects of our mission. Our Soldiers and Airmen have served our nation and state proudly. I would challenge each and every leader to care for them accordingly!

I want to thank each one of you for your part in realizing this vision and for living these values. It is an incredible privilege to serve with you!

Maj. Gen. Thomas G. Cutler

DMVA Vision

"A proud military and veteran's organization characterized by excellence and integrity in the fulfillment of our duties to our nation, state, and to one another."



Maj. Gen. Thomas G. Cutler shakes hands with Master Sgt. Danny Johns from the 46th Military Police Command as he prepares for their upcoming deployment to Afghanistan. General Cutler visited the unit during three weeks of pre-mobilization training at Camp Blanding, Fla. Michigan National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Helen Miller

It is with very mixed emotions I write this message. On one hand, I am looking forward to retirement, yet on the other I know I will miss the Guard Family that I have come to know, depend on and appreciate over the past 38 years.

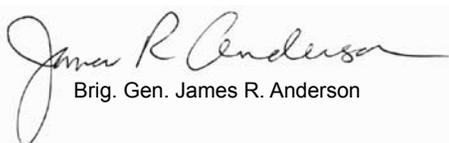
I couldn't be more proud of the time I have spent serving in the Michigan Army National Guard. Over the length of my service the Guard has made such a huge transformation because of our relevance to the National Military Strategy and the Global War on Terror. We are no longer an organization trying to be "missioned." We are no longer an organization using outdated equipment and suffering from a total lack of resourcing. It is hell to have to go to war to become relevant, but that is exactly what I believe has happened.

So it is what it is and we have met and frequently exceeded the challenge. As members of the Michigan Army National Guard you are part of an organization that has mobilized and deployed nearly 11,000 men and women to various locations around the world. During the past seven years the majority of deployments have been to OIF or OEF. We have also been called upon to assist in Bosnia, Kosovo, the Sinai and numerous other locations. Each time the Michigan Army National Guard has met the challenge and provided manned, trained, equipped and ready units. And on many of those deployments the work you have done has resulted in accolades from the active duty counterpart. You are members of a very unique and proud organization and I will always cherish my memories of serving with you.

I have had the distinct honor to speak in many communities throughout Michigan. Each and every time I am amazed at what our neighbors don't know about us. I want each of you to know that I have and will continue to tell the Guard story. It is a story I know so well and the words flow from my head as well as my heart. Be proud of your choice to serve in the Michigan Army National Guard.

As much as we have transformed into a "fully integrated operation force" there is still room for improvement and I ask you to help. Many of you have heard me tell you that "you are a precious resource." It couldn't be more true when you consider the experience and knowledge you have gained through the deployments you have endured. Now we are a trained, equipped and ready force and have proven beyond a shadow of doubt that we can transition from citizen to soldier, conduct ourselves as professionals on the battle field, bring a unique blend of skills to the fight and in many cases exceed the expectation of the mission. What we need to improve on is the transition back to citizen from soldier. The reintegration of our soldiers back to their families, communities and employers has become a very important process that we are involved in today. As the Guard family we need to take care of one another. Please help each other in the transformation from soldier to citizen. Seek help and offer help where needed. The well-being of our soldiers and their families has become the number one priority. It is not just a good idea to offer reintegration venues; it is the right thing to do.

Finally, let me close by thanking each enlisted soldier, NCO, warrant officer, officer and your families for your self-less service to our state and nation. I will miss you and be thinking of you during my retirement years. I can only hope that your time in the Guard has been and will continue to be as personally gratifying and rewarding as my time has been for me. I firmly believe you will get from your experience what you invest. Please continue to make a positive impact and be team players. Best wishes to all of you and may God Bless each and every one of you.


 Brig. Gen. James R. Anderson



Brig. Gen. James R. Anderson is pinned with his 2nd Lt. rank by his mother Lucille, Oct. 16, 1976. Photo courtesy of Brig. Gen. Anderson

"I want each of you to know that I have and will continue to tell the Guard story...the words flow from my head as well as my heart," Brig. Gen. James R. Anderson.



Brig. Gen. James R. Anderson receives a traditional loaf of bread from Latvian Army Col. Juris Zeibarts. Anderson's retirement ceremony was March 6, 2010. Michigan National Guard photo by Sgt. 1st Class James Downen



CSM
From the desk of
The Command Sergeant Major - Army
TALK

“Mission first, Soldiers always.” “It don’t go without the NCO.” “Taking care of Soldiers.” “The NCO Corps is the backbone of the Army.” All are slogans that I’ve attempted to live my life by. These slogans and the Army Values became a way of life for me that was not always understood by my civilian friends, family and co-workers. We, as Citizen Soldiers and Airmen, have a commitment to our country that drives our devotion to duty; we live by the tenets of these slogans and values. We are the National Guard and I have been a proud member of the Michigan Army National Guard for 36 years.

As I get ready to retire I think about how the Army was and what it is today. I’ve seen a lot in 42 years of active duty, reserve and National Guard service; both good and bad. I am grateful that the good outweighs the bad.

I enlisted in the Michigan National Guard after serving three years in the regular army, 19 months of which were in Vietnam. I served in an Army that had been at war in Vietnam for almost 10 years. The NCO Corps wasn’t broke, but it was tired. Multiple deployments had sapped the drive of the NCO Corps and the NCOs that had learned their profession in WWII and Korea were leaving, some to retire. To fill those losses Soldiers were picked during basic and AIT to attend an NCO Academy for 12 weeks. They went from private to staff sergeant in less than six months and were then assigned as squad leaders in combat. They did their job and accomplished the mission but 12 weeks of training didn’t prepare them to “take care of Soldiers.” They were taught to accomplish the mission and didn’t need to take care of Soldiers because the majority of our nation’s Soldiers were “drafted” into the Army. If the NCO Corps didn’t take care of Soldiers, there were more on the way from the induction centers. Thankfully after that war our nation’s leaders changed how we staffed the Army and the NCO Corps changed for the better. We now know that Soldiers, Airmen, Marines and Sailors are the most precious resource of our country.

One of the best things I’ve recently observed are today’s young Soldiers, privates, specialists and junior NCOs, accomplishing the mission while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan or training to deploy. The new generation, the so called entitlement generation, are Soldiers and I’m proud to have served with them. Several of my retired friends asked me how our Senior NCO Corps can work with a generation that is so different, with their online social networking and video games. We serve with them because they are Soldiers, the senior NCO Corps taught them to be Soldiers and they learned the core value of service to our country and the Army Values. Today’s young Soldiers do not respond to the style of leadership that I grew up with, but they can be led and will be the future leaders of the Michigan National Guard and our nation. We teach leadership.

As I get prepared to leave the Army I am worried by the unwillingness of many Soldiers to accept help when they need it. In discussions with my boss, Brig. Gen. James R. Anderson, we call it “the suck it up and drive on mentality.” This mentality, this drive to succeed, is necessary to accomplish combat missions; however the mind set must change when the mission changes as Soldiers return home. Citizen Soldiers must adapt back to civilian and family life. Help is there when they need it, but to accept help our Soldiers must take a knee when they return to get their minds back in order so they can continue to serve.

In closing, “I say again,” I am proud that I was able to serve my nation and state in the Michigan Army National Guard. I’ve served with the best Soldiers in the world and I am grateful that my family and I lived and worked with people that are or were Citizen Soldiers.

Thank you for your service and remember:
MISSION FIRST, SOLDIERS ALWAYS!

Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas W. Foster

Bullets

2010 Michigan Census

The 2010 Michigan Census will be in mailboxes in March. For more information on this report see page 14.



MICHIGAN 2010 CENSUS
IT'S IN OUR HANDS



Tricare Reserve Select Health Plans

TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) is a premium based health plan that qualified National Guard and Reserve members may purchase unless eligible for coverage under the Federal Employees Health Benefits program (FEHB). If either the member or spouse is eligible to purchase the FEHB then the member and family are not eligible to purchase TRS. We use the terms National Guard and Reserve throughout this handbook to include:

- Army National Guard
 - Army Reserve
 - Navy Reserve
 - Marine Corps Reserve
 - Air National Guard
 - Air Force Reserve
 - U.S. Coast Guard Reserve

TRS offers coverage similar to TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra, and a monthly premium will be charged. You will receive comprehensive coverage with access to TRICARE-authorized providers. Annual deductibles, cost-shares, and a catastrophic cap apply. You may access care from a military treatment facility (MTF) on a space-available basis only. You may fill prescriptions through the MTF, the TRICARE mail-order pharmacy, and TRICARE retail network and non-network pharmacies. Costs for prescription medications vary depending upon the pharmacy option you choose and the medication's availability on the uniform formulary.

Out-of-Pocket Costs

TRICARE Reserve Select premium rates are established annually on a calendar year basis. You are required to pay the monthly premiums if you decide to enroll in TRICARE Reserve Select. The 2010 monthly premiums are:

- TRS Member-Only coverage: \$49.62 per month.
- TRS Member-and-Family coverage: \$197.56 per month.

For more information about TRS coverage, visit www.tricare.mil/reserve/reserveselect.

Programs Not Available with TRICARE

Reserve Select

If you are enrolled in TRS, you may not participate in the following programs:

- Special Supplemental Food Program
- TRICARE Extended Care Health Option(ECHO)
- TRICARE Global Remote Overseas (TGRO)
- TRICARE Prime/Remote (TPR)
- TRICARE Prime Remote for Active Duty Family Members (TPRADFM)
- TRICARE Prime Overseas
- TRICARE Puerto Rico Prime
- TRICARE Reserve Family Demonstration Project
- US Family Health Plan (USFHP)
- Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB)



Michigan Military Retirement Benefit

The State of Michigan authorizes a retirement for all former members of the Michigan National Guard (Army or Air) who have served a minimum of 19 years, 6 months and 1 day of active National Guard service in the State Defense Forces and Michigan National Guard.

Compensation will be at the rate of \$600 annually (\$50 per month) beginning at age 55 or the effective date of application, whichever is later. Active members of the Michigan National Guard may not draw it.

Under current state law, the retirement benefit is not automatic. Individuals must submit a written application using MING Form 600-4R dated 15 Jan 08. The updated MING Form 600-4R has been sent electronically to all ARNG units/ANG MPF's and is to be reproduced locally. Federal and State Military Retirement information, applications and forms are also provided on the Department of Military & Veterans Affairs (DMVA) website at www.michigan.gov/dmva. On the home page, click on Veterans Affairs and then click on Military Retirement. The application may be submitted within 3 months of being separated from the Michigan National Guard or within 3 months of turning age 55, if no longer a member of the Michigan National Guard. Units/Bases will provide an application form to their personnel requesting discharge from the Michigan National Guard if the soldier/airmen will qualify for the retirement benefit at time of discharge. The application may be attached to the request for discharge or may be sent directly to MITAG-RET NOTE: Applicants must attach a copy of their Drivers License or Birth Certificate to the application.

For more information on how this applies to you, please contact Mr. Kenneth Baldwin at 517-481-7647.



A Flight of six A-10s followed by a flight of four A-10s from the 107th fighter Squadron at Selfridge ANG Base, each accompanied by a U.S. Air Force KC-110, departed Selfridge on the Jan 2010 for their Snow Bird exercise in warm and sunny Arizona. Michigan National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Clarence Pence

Commander in Chief

Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm

Adjutant General

Maj. Gen. Thomas G. Cutler

Assistant Adjutant General, Army

Brig. Gen. James R. Anderson

Commander, Michigan Air National Guard

Brig. Gen. Robert Johnston

Assistant Adjutant General Future Missions, Air

Brig. Gen. James R. Wilson

Assistant Adjutant General for Veterans Affairs

Brig. Gen. Carol Ann Fausone

Director of the Joint Staff

Brig. Gen. Burt Francisco

State Senior Enlisted Advisor

Command Sgt. Maj. Delbert Husband

State Public Affairs Officer

Maj. Dawn Dancer

Editor *The Wolverine Guard*

Capt. Corissa Barton

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Thanks but No Thanks!

Story by Chaplain (COL) Herbert Heavner

Thanks—but no thanks! Have you ever uttered those words? Perhaps you had someone who was offering you something that you were less than excited about. Thanks, but no thanks, was a good way of kindly turning down the offer. As I am preparing to close out my active military career my mind drifts back to the first time, and several others, when I spoke those words. More than once I realized that I may have spoken too hastily, and I was not aware that perhaps God was really trying to gently prod me in a better direction.

My military career began as a striking young airman ready to excel in basic training and to begin my career as a radio broadcasting journalist, or so my recruiter led me to believe! I already had two years of college behind me and had begun a career in broadcasting as an option to doing what I earlier believed to be God's direction for me—to become a preacher. The allure of the radio waves distracted and confused me so I had decided to drop out of college; however, in 1968 you did not do so without receiving a friendly invitation from your draft board inviting you to see the world. The words of my Air Force recruiter sounded like a sure thing so I enlisted. I could include many other issues at this point; however, I would be diverting from my theme so I will stick to the subject of how God was leading me, in spite of myself.

One day, with about 75 percent of basic training behind me I was offered what the career people told me was a marvelous opportunity. I had been selected out of a cast of thousands to become a linguistic specialist. That really was a fancy term for “interpreter,” and I did not relish moving to Southeast Asia to fulfill that mission so I uttered the words, “Thanks, but no thanks,” for the first time. Perhaps in God's timing that would have been an opportunity to learn a great

new skill, but at the time I really wasn't interested.

Near the end of my four year enlistment I interviewed with a retention NCO who asked why I was so anxious to be done and out of the military. I explained to him that I really had interrupted my training to be a preacher with military service

because of some temporary confusion about God's direction in my life. He offered me a continuation of my military experience with paid education that would lead to becoming a military chaplain. Out came those words again: “Thanks, but NO thanks!”

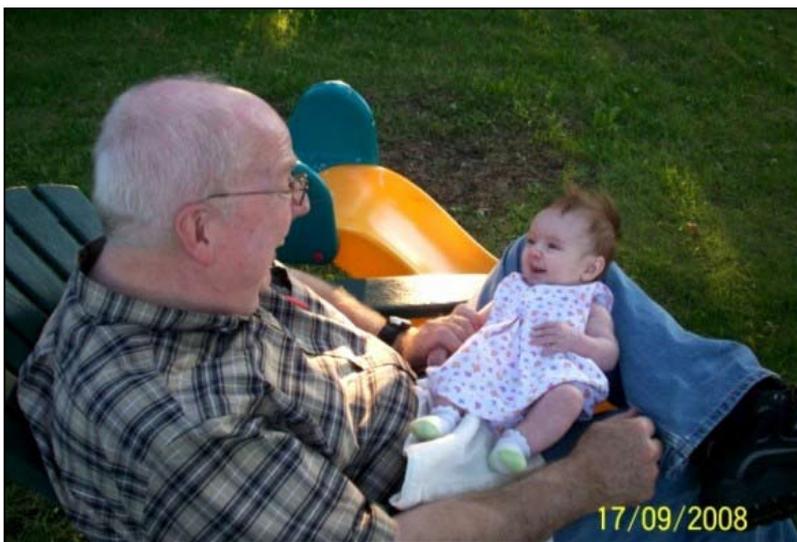
Fifteen years later God made it pretty clear to me that it was time to follow that course and I did indeed become a military chaplain. Looking back I'm thankful for every part of my military career, even those four years of enlisted service. God has led me in directions I never could have imagined or ever experienced as a civilian preacher. I've served “congregations” around the world and I believe that God allowed some of those very early emotional decisions to help me become a better chaplain. Even as I enter into retirement I'm still trying to apply the principle of it being better to not say, “No thanks,” until you are very certain that is the right answer.

I would encourage you to not be too hasty to say, “Thanks, but no thanks.” Somehow and in some

way God may be pointing you in a direction that will lead to the unimaginable. It's been a great ride. I won't tell you I've enjoyed every minute of it, but it has been a great ride. I'm thankful for my terrific wife who has stayed by my side through thick and thin. Together we move to the next chapter where God will show us even more exciting days ahead as we move to Germany for a year. Trust in God and you will indeed be blessed!



Above—Chaplain Heavner resides over a ceremony at Arlington Cemetery at the grave of Sgt. Duane Dreasky, a member of the Michigan Army National Guard who was killed in Iraq. Michigan National Guard photo by 1st Lt. Mandy Sullivan Below—Chaplain Heavner spends some of his offtime with his granddaughter. Photo courtesy of Chaplain Heavner



A Friend in Need, Gets A Kidney Indeed

Story by Sgt. 1st Class James Downen

A true friend is there for you when times get difficult. Michigan Army National Guard Sgt. 1st Class Scott Cortese of the Flint, Mich., Headquarters Company, 125th Infantry took that saying to heart when he donated a kidney to his friend, Elizabeth Foradori when hers failed due to polycystic kidney disease.

Polycystic kidney disease is a hereditary illness that causes its victims kidneys to develop internal and external cysts that shut down the blood filtering function of the kidneys. Foradori learned that she carried the disease when her mother was diagnosed with it in 1995. Children of patients with polycystic disease are screened to determine if it has been passed on to them, and, if so, they are monitored to detect it, should the disease become active. Unfortunately for Foradori, this was the case in 2007 when her creatine levels showed that her kidneys were beginning to fail. She was put on a transplant waiting list that averages 50,000 registered patients per year according to data from the United Network for Organ Sharing.

Cortese and Foradori met online through a social networking site in 2005 and became good friends. When Cortese found out that Foradori would need a kidney transplant in 2007, he told her to place his name on the donor's list. Foradori commented on Cortese's kind offer: "Scott is a one of a kind friend. A lot of (immediate) family members wouldn't do what he did in similar circumstances."

Foradori took care of Cortese's pets and property while he was deployed to Iraq in 2008. She began dialysis in April 2009 and had to alter her diet by lowering protein consumption, eliminating salt and watching her liquid intake. She underwent dialysis treatment three times a week, exhausting her and leaving her unable to work.

When he returned from deployment, Cortese kept his promise to remain on the donor list. In summer of 2009, he was screened and found to be a suitable candidate. The transplant surgery was performed by Dr. Darla Granger at St. John's Transplant Specialty Center in Detroit, Mich., in December 2009. The surgery was Cortese's first time under the knife.

Cortese sums up the experience, "I'm a strong believer in doing what you say especially when it comes to helping out a friend in desperate need and I most certainly didn't take my commitment to help Elizabeth lightly.



Michigan Army National guardsman Sgt. 1st Class Scott Cortese stands with Elizabeth Foradori following his 2008 deployment to Iraq. Cortese donated a kidney to Foradori after finding out hers had failed due to polycystic kidney disease. The two have been friends since meeting on a social networking site in 2005. Photo courtesy of Sgt. 1st Class Scott Cortese

Although the pain after the surgery was very unpleasant at times, hearing how much of a positive difference that the transplant affected her life made the pain worth it. Definitely Elizabeth and I will forever share a common bond."

Following the surgery, Foradori's new kidney was accepted by her body and began filtering blood immediately. Her diet and liquid restrictions were lifted and she was cleared to return to work. Foradori said, "Thanks to Cortese's kidney donation I have my life back now!"

Michigan Air National Gua



NCO of the Year
Staff Sgt. Maygan Rhodes
127th Wing Mission Support Group



Senior NCO of the Year
Master Sgt. Johnny White
127th Wing Mission Support Group



State Airman of the Year
Senior Airman Andrew Layton
110th Fighter Wing



Honor Guard Member of the Year
Tech. Sgt. Akenty Frazer
127th Maintenance Group

rd's Finest Airmen of 2009



Company Grade Officer of the Year
Capt. Brian Wyrzykowski
127th Air Refueling Group



Commanders Trophy
Maj. James Rossi
127th Air Refueling Group



1st Sgt. of the Year
Master Sgt. Ethan Boyd
127th WG, 107th Fighter Squadron, 107th Weather Flight



Airman of the Year
Airman 1st Class Katrina Smith
127th Maintenance Group

A-10s Complete First Deployment

“Operation Demons to DM” a Success

Story by Capt. Penny Carroll

A mere six months after officially taking on the A-10C Thunderbolt II flying mission, the 127th Wing successfully completed its first deployment of the jets to Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz., for a winter-basing exercised dubbed “Operation Demons to DM.” On February 6, all ten jets and more

than 100 support personnel returned to Selfridge Air National Guard Base after spending a month in warmer weather to develop confidence, enhance competencies and cultivate camaraderie.

The four-week deployment proved that the 107th Fighter Squadron, 127th

Operations Group and the 127th Maintenance Group are ready and able to position their combat capabilities wherever needed in the world.

“This deployment sets us up for taking the organization to the next level in preparation for the AEF,” said Lt. Col. Doug Champagne, 107th FS commander, referencing the Wing’s impending deployment in support of global operations in 2011.

The unit spent its first deployment focusing on training to be combat ready wingmen with the newest A-10 pilots completing their initial mission qualifications training. More experienced pilots with the unit previously flew the F-16; these Airmen focused their training on achieving flight lead upgrades in the larger and slower A-10.

The former F-16 Fighting Falcon mission took off for the last time from Selfridge Air National Guard Base in 2009 when the 127th Wing underwent conversion to the A-10C per the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission. Col. David L. Augustine, 127th Wing vice commander, indicated that the change in aircraft has somewhat affected the unit’s tenor, stating, “Although we remain the 107th Fighter Squadron, we do feel like a brand new unit.”

Augustine, who has been flying the A-10 for a decade now, credited the 127th Operations Group Commander Col.

Leonard Isabelle, 127th Maintenance Group Commander Lt. Col. Greg Holzhei and the 107th FS Commander, Lt. Col. Douglas Champagne, with the successful conversion. “This Wing has done an amazing job in transferring a renowned F-16 unit into a top-notch A-10 unit,” he commented.

The journey to Arizona offered the Michigan Guardsmen better winter weather in which to train. It also simulated the desert environment where current combat taskings are taking place in southwest Asia. The Arizona



ranges allowed the flexibility for the 107th’s “Red Devils” to drop all the munitions that the A-10 can hold in a single sortie - something that cannot be done in Michigan.

“A lot of the stuff we struggle to train on here, we are unlimited with there,” Champagne explained. The pilots practiced flying tactical maneuvers at low levels through mountainous terrain. The larger ranges in Arizona also allow jets to drop different munitions and shoot live rockets, flares, and missiles.

New A-10 pilot Lt. Wes Gregory had the chance to shoot a Maverick missile for the first time in his career on this trip. Usually, pilots train at home station using simulators and see how they perform on corresponding video screens. Gregory commented, “It was great to shoot the Maverick



for real because I could validate the weapons effect of the missile itself - how it impacts the target. Normally we just do it on video, but it worked as advertised.”

The 127th Maintenance Group proved their capability to deploy 10 aircraft and maintain an intense flying schedule for four weeks. Keeping the jets healthy and in the air also allowed 127th Operations to meet their sortie requirements for the first time since climbing into the A-10C cockpits.

“We’ve struggled with the health of these jets since we acquired them,” said Lt. Col. Greg Holzhei, 127th Maintenance Group commander. He made clear that the A-10s have been undergoing significant challenges in maintenance over this past year with fixing the fleet-wide wing crack issue as well as getting each jet through many upgrades.

However, the Airmen flew a vigorous flying schedule keeping to about 16 flights a day - a heavy 8-turn-8 schedule.

“A lot of the A-10 community at Davis-Monthan didn’t think we could do it with only 10 aircraft,” said Maj. Kurt Ring, 127th Maintenance officer. “A couple of things went

in our favor: a dedicated work force, working long hours and we didn’t have many hard breaks.”

The 288 sorties flown

“This was our first opportunity to deploy with the A-10, so we were able to gain knowledge in the A-10 specific mobility requirements,” Ring said of his maintainers. “We were also able to gain insight into sortie generation timelines and requirements. Overall this deployment was a major success for Maintenance.”

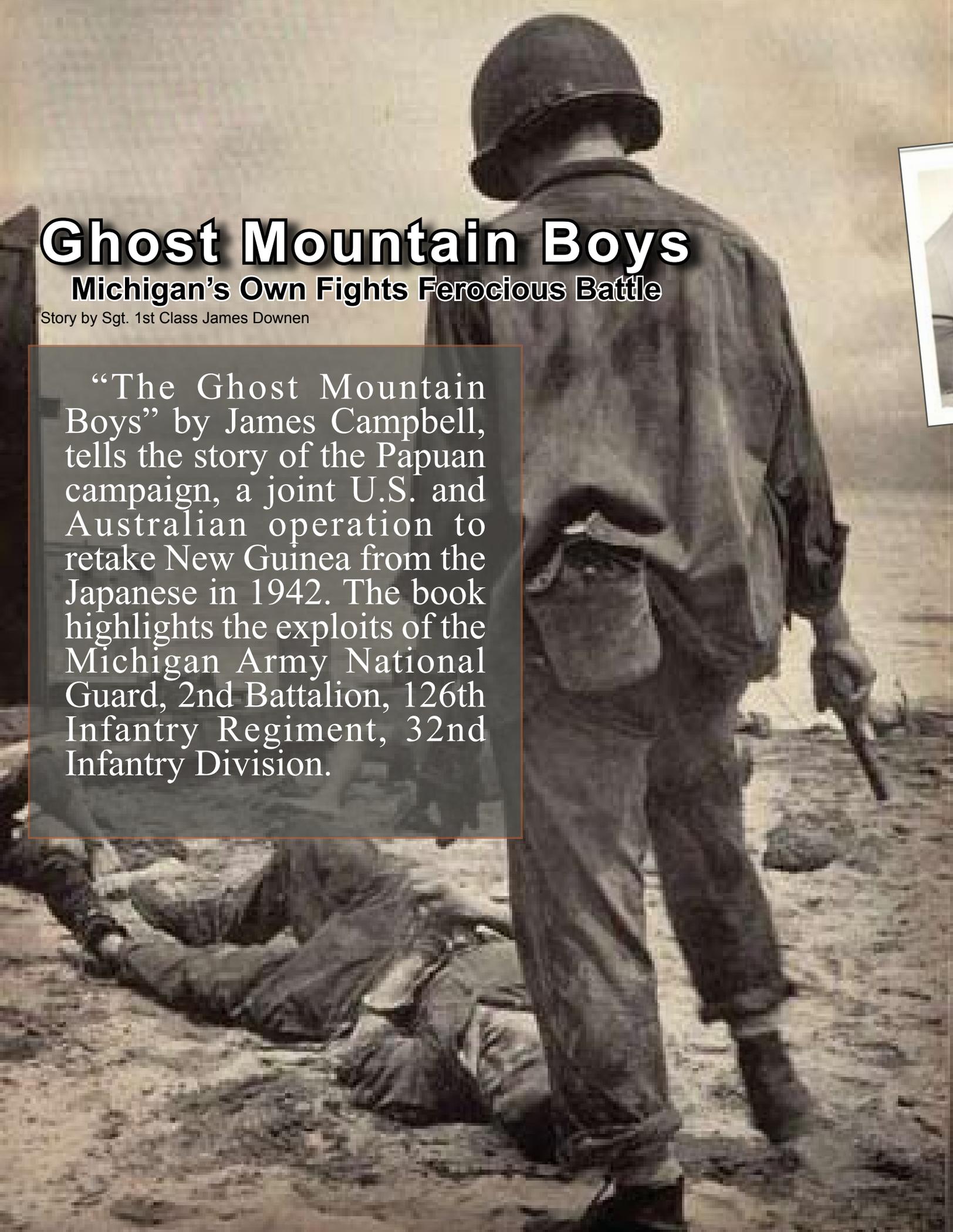
“This trip was a pivotal moment in not only the conversion, but in preparing the unit for combat operations that are just 16 months out,” Augustine emphasized. “We’ve proven we are more than adequately prepared as a combat organization to succeed wherever we may be needed in the future.”

Brig. General Michael Peplinski, 127th Wing commander, commented on the success of the A-10 deployment and underscored the readiness of the 127th Wing stating, “With the Wing in the midst of two simultaneous mission conversions, these success stories are critical to morale. The Wing continues to steadily move forward toward a combat ready status as it meets the nation’s airpower needs.”

Pilots of the 107th Fighter Squadron step to the A-10s that they deployed in as part of “Operation Demons to DM” on Saturday, January 9. After just six months of flying the A-10 mission from Selfridge Air National Guard Base, the 107th’s “Red Devils” along with approximately 120 maintenance and support personnel, deployed to Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz. There, the Michigan Guardsmen took advantage of the ideal weather conditions to increase training tempos to prepare for upcoming missions in support of global operations. Michigan National Guard Photos by Master Sgt. Clarence Pence



allowed the pilots to achieve their upgrades while logging almost 650 flying hours in the Warthogs. The pilots expended almost 3,000 flares, hundreds of dummy bombs and close to 10,000 rounds of 30mm ammunition from the A-10’s large Avenger Gatling gun around which the jet is built.



Ghost Mountain Boys

Michigan's Own Fights Ferocious Battle

Story by Sgt. 1st Class James Downen

“The Ghost Mountain Boys” by James Campbell, tells the story of the Papuan campaign, a joint U.S. and Australian operation to retake New Guinea from the Japanese in 1942. The book highlights the exploits of the Michigan Army National Guard, 2nd Battalion, 126th Infantry Regiment, 32nd Infantry Division.



The 32nd Infantry Division, Ghost Mountain Boys were assigned some of the most grueling missions of the entire Pacific campaign. The Division was comprised of Michigan National Guardsmen from the 2nd Battalion, 126th Infantry Division.

“Nowhere in the world today are American Soldiers engaged in fighting so desperate, so merciless, so bitter, or so bloody.” Time Magazine, Dec. 28, 1942.

One hundred and thirty two officers and 3,040 enlisted men of the 126th Infantry Regiment were the first U.S. Army unit to conduct offensive ground combat operations against the Japanese Empire in World War II. They were flown from Australia to New Guinea on Sept. 15, 1942 and remained in action until the campaign was concluded on Jan. 20, 1943. The Soldiers entered battle with no jungle warfare training and lacked the basic necessities such as machetes, anti-malaria pills, water purification tablets and fatigue uniforms needed for warfare in the tropics.

The Soldiers fought on three major fronts; Buna, Sanananda and Gona, to secure the Papuan Peninsula of New Guinea. The jungle terrain of New Guinea is extremely mountainous and in some places averages 200 inches of rainfall a year. The 126th Inf. Regt. Soldiers conducted a 130-mile forced march up the Owen Stanley mountain range, that peaked more than 10,000 feet, to get to Buna where they first faced the Imperial Japanese Armed Forces. This march started on Oct. 14, 1942 and lasted for more than 42 days.

1st Sgt. Paul Lutjens of Company E, 2nd Battalion, 126th Infantry described a typical day's march, “It would take five or six hours to go a mile, edging along cliff walls, hanging on to vines, up and down, up and down. The men got weaker; guys began to lag back. It would rain from three in the afternoon on, soaking through everything. The rivers we crossed were so swift that if you slipped it was too bad. It was every

man for himself. No one waited for anyone else, unless he was hurt. An officer stayed at the end of the column to keep driving the stragglers. There wasn't any way of evacuating to the rear. Men with sprained ankles hobbled along... If they hadn't made it, they'd have died.”

The U.S. Soldiers weren't the only troops fighting on New Guinea. The stalwart Soldiers of the Australian Militia Force and 7th Australian Imperial Forces Division that the U.S. 32nd Infantry Division was fighting alongside had been in action on New Guinea fighting along the Kokoda trail since July and August of 1942 respectively. Many Papuan natives of New Guinea served in the campaign as well, some in the Papuan Infantry Battalion and many others as porters, litter bearers and guides. The U.S. and Australian forces would not have been able to operate in the New Guinea jungles without the assistance of these native peoples.

When the 2nd Battalion, 126th Infantry reached Buna on Nov. 23, 1942, they were tasked to assault a bunker complex known as “the triangle.” This complex was manned by 1,800 Japanese Soldiers and was supported by machine gun positions north and south of the triangle along the Doboduna-Buna track. The battalion was hampered by a lack of good maps, artillery support and their 81mm mortar crews lacked delay fuses that would allow their mortar shells to sink into the Japanese bunkers before detonating.

The 2nd Battalion, 126th Soldiers fought a see-saw battle to secure the

triangle. They would advance a few hundred yards, only to find themselves thrown back again by the Japanese forces. In December, re-enforcements from the 127th Infantry Regiment, the 163rd Infantry Regiment of the 41st Infantry Division, Australian Imperial Forces and armor support began arriving and turned the tide in the allied favor. A captured Japanese diary made note that the Americans had gone from being “untrained, afraid and stumbles about in the jungle” to “the enemy is very hard to see in the jungle... Enemy tactics are to hurl heavy mortar fire on us and rush in close behind.” The combination of re-enforcements and Soldiers who had transformed into battle hardened veterans routed the Japanese from their last stronghold in the triangle on Jan. 2, 1943.

At the conclusion of the Papuan campaign on Jan. 22, 1943, the 126th Infantry Regiment had 32 officers and 579 enlisted men standing. Most of these Soldiers had lost one quarter to one third of their body weights and suffered from diseases ranging from dysentery to malaria. The surviving Soldiers continued to fight in places such as Aitape, Morotai and the Philippine Islands until the end of World War II, racking up a total of 654 days in combat, more than any other unit in the United States Army. The epic story recounted in the pages of “The Ghost Mountain Boys” is a testament to the “Courage Sans Peur” spirit of today's Michigan Army National Guard, 126th Cavalry Regiment.

2010 Census 10 Questions in 10 Minutes

When you fill out the census form, you're making a statement about what resources your community needs going forward. Accurate data reflecting changes in your community are crucial in apportioning seats in the U.S. House of Representatives and deciding how more than \$400 billion per year is allocated for projects like new hospitals and schools. That's more than \$4 trillion over a 10-year period for things like new roads and schools, and services like job training centers.

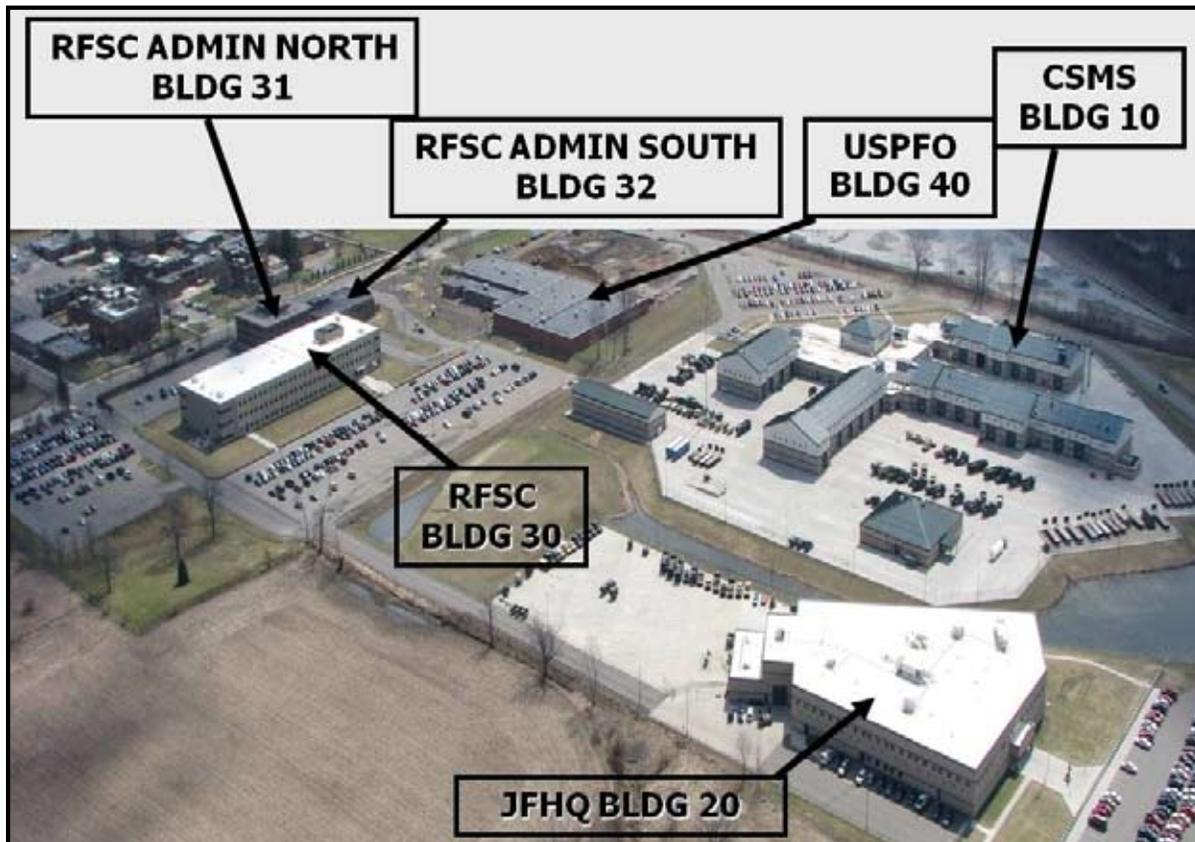
In March of 2010, census forms will be delivered to every residence in the United States and Puerto Rico. When you receive your form, just answer the 10 short questions which take approximately 10 minutes to complete and then mail the form back in the postage-paid envelope provided. If you don't mail

the form back, you may receive a visit from a census taker, who will ask you the questions from the form.

We can't move forward until you mail it back. Any personal data you provide is protected under federal law. Additional information can be found at www.michigan.gov/census2010 or <http://2010.census.gov>.



Joint Forces Readiness Center Changes



As of Feb. 1, 2010 changes have been made to the Lansing headquarters facility. The main campus to include all of the buildings will now be called the Lansing Joint Forces Readiness Center.

There will be one entry control point at the main gate. All of the buildings will also be numbered. As shown in the picture: the Combined Support Maintenance Shop is Bldg 10, Joint Forces Headquarters is Bldg 20, Reserve Forces Support Center is Bldg 30, Olin Baker(RFSC) North is Bldg 31 Olin Baker(RFSC) South is Bldg 32 and United States Property and Fiscal Office is Bldg 40.

126th Cav Conducts Traditional Change of Command

Story by Maj. Jeffrey Kinninger



In late 2009 the officers and Soldiers of the 1st Squadron, 126th Cavalry Regiment hosted a change of command ceremony where the outgoing commander Lt. Col. Clark Barrett relinquished command to the incoming commander Maj. Charles Fischer.

However, this change of command was a little different than a standard parade field ceremony. This ceremony took place at Range 19 at Camp Grayling as Soldiers concluded their rifle day fire and prepared for the night fire. The ceremony was also the first time this unit held a full cavalry ceremony with a trooping of the line, inspection of the troops, on horseback.

Prior to the change of command several officers were recognized for their contributions to the cavalry force with awards from the United States Armor Association. The Order of St. George Award was presented to Lt. Col. Clark Barrett, Maj. Charles Fischer, Capt. Ryan Schuring and Capt. Mark Hill. Capt. Neil Elt also received the award but he was unable to attend the ceremony due to his continued support of Operation Warrior Trainer. The Noble Patron of Armor award was presented to Capt. Eric Schwartz. Capt. Ryan Keith also received this award but was not in attendance. All of these awards recognized the careers and contributions of these officers with special emphasis on their recent deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The 126 CAV patterned their change of command

ceremony on those done by 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas. The 1st CAV has their own horse detachment dedicated to supporting unit functions including cavalry demonstrations, community outreach, changes of command and other ceremonies. All changes of command in 1st CAV include a trooping of the line by the incoming and outgoing commander on horseback. Each of these ceremonies concludes with a cavalry charge across the parade field by the Horse Detachment with supporting chuck wagons and caisson artillery.

Lt. Col. Barrett shared his thoughts, “We have always wanted to build the cavalry esprit de corps within the unit first with the Spur program – recognizing Scout prowess – then the Stetsons. This was the natural next step. While on active duty, I saw a number of these ceremonies at Fort Hood and I was very impressed. We contacted the 1st CAV Horse Detachment to better understand how they do these ceremonies and they provided their guidance. I hope this becomes another part of the 126 CAV lasting traditions.”

The ceremony was short but celebratory and the Squadron immediately returned to their combat training. Thanks to the organizers of the ceremony and the troopers of the 126 Cavalry. Special thanks go to Staff Sgt. Darin Schultz and his wife Tami Schultz for providing the two horses for the ceremony. Hunters, Charge!

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Speaks to Michigan National Guardsmen in His Home State

Story by Senior Airman Anna-Marie Wyant



Chief Master Sergeant for the Air Force, Jim Roy, addressed about 360 attendees at the 3rd Annual, Joint Michigan National Guard, Senior NCO Conference, on Feb 6th, 2010 in Grand Rapids Michigan. Michigan National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Clarence Pence

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Roy spoke to more than 360 Michigan Army and Air National Guardsmen at a senior noncommissioned officer conference at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel at the beginning of February. Roy, who represents the highest enlisted level of leadership in the Air Force, grew up in Monroe, Mich., and said he enjoyed the opportunity to speak to members of his home state's National Guard.

"It's great to be back home," said Roy, who has many family members in Michigan. "It's great to see how Michigan continues to evolve."

Roy, who has been in the Air Force for 27 years, stressed the importance of the Army and Air National Guards integrating with each other and their active-duty counterparts. Roy said getting service members from all branches to work together gives the military its strength.

"When you talk about total force integration, it's more than just words; it's something you have to believe in, and it's something you have to take action on," Roy said.

The Michigan National Guard certainly has been taking

an active role in total force integration. Since 2001, they have deployed more than 12,500 Soldiers and Airmen. Roy said this participation makes missions successful and fills voids that active-duty service members cannot fill alone.

"The capabilities that a typical Guardsman brings in are more than just the Air Force specialty they have," Roy said. He added that he has witnessed Guardsmen using skills acquired outside military training, such as farming, to aid overseas operations.

During the conference, Roy also addressed the importance of senior NCOs mentoring junior enlisted personnel. Roy said one of the biggest challenges senior NCOs face is ensuring their subordinates are mission ready.

"First and foremost, we are a nation at war, and that's what we need to remain focused on," Roy said. Roy said all senior NCOs must ensure they organize, train and equip their service members properly for each mission. He said this conference and similar conferences are important because they allow Guardsmen to network, build relationships and share ideas.

"When you get into combat, that's not the time to establish relationships," Roy said. "Relationships are established prior to." In addition to building relationships, Roy said the Guard must focus on being flexible and willing to meet the nation's changing needs.

The Michigan Air National Guard has proven its flexibility. The 127th Wing at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich., officially replaced its F-16 Falcons with A-10 Thunderbolts in 2008. That year, the wing also replaced its C-130 Hercules cargo planes with KC-135 Stratotanker refueling planes. Maj. Gen. Thomas G. Cutler, the adjutant general for the state of Michigan and the director for the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, said the Michigan Air National Guard has been extremely effective in these transitions.

"Most of the time in the Air National Guard, that's about 30 years worth of transformation," Cutler said, "but it's all happening in about three years." Cutler said the Michigan National Guard has been busy with deployments and transitions, but the service members have been working hard and making operations run smoothly.

"I am deeply appreciative of what you're doing," Cutler told Guardsmen at the conference.

Roy said he also appreciates the Michigan National Guard's efforts, and although he said he finds the state's economic struggles disheartening, he said he is impressed with its residents' motivation and determination.

"The resiliency of Michiganders is still there," Roy said. "It really is good to be back."

OMLT Teams a true Partnership for Peace

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class Tyrone Walker, Joint Multinational Readiness Center, Hohenfels, Germany

At dusk on a bitter, cold morning recently, Staff Sgt. Jesus Medina of the Michigan National Guard stood behind a parked vehicle, guarding a dirt road leading to a small Afghan outpost during a simulated combat exercise at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center at Hohenfels, Germany.

With a member of the Latvian Army helping him guard the road, Medina took advantage of the time to practice some basic Latvian numbers, words, and phrases -- some he's learned from studying books, others he's picked during everyday conversations.

"If I can pick up key phrases, it's going to help," said Medina, who is scheduled to deploy later this year to Afghanistan with the Latvians.

The 31-year-old resident of Midland, Mich., is one of a small contingent of Wolverine State Guard and Latvian Soldiers teaming up to deploy to Afghanistan to mentor and to train Afghan Soldiers to take a leading role in defending their nation.

In the rigorous-training environment, Medina realizes that he must use every spare moment to soak up as many new words as possible from his Baltic State comrades. What he learns in this training environment could make a big difference should he and his Latvian comrades come under fire on the battlefield in Afghanistan.

"I need to know what they're shouting so I can react," he said.

The guardsmen commander, Maj. Robert Walker of



Michigan National guardsman Staff Sgt. Gregg Walsh communicates via a radio while Latvian Soldiers provide security on a rooftop during a simulated-combat exercise at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center.

Williamston, Mich., said the joint exercise is the first time this group of guardsmen and Latvians has worked together, so the training has been the best way to discover and to iron out unforeseen difficulties.

"There's an understanding going into this exercise of language barriers. There's anticipation of tactics and technical barriers. But there could be other types of barriers there we hadn't anticipated," Walker said.

The deployment, scheduled later this year to Afghanistan, will mark the third time the Michigan National Guard and the Latvians have teamed up in Afghanistan.

The relationship between the Michigan National Guard and Latvian Army stretches back nearly 17 years, when the Wolverine State and the Baltic State linked up in the Partnership for Peace, which pairs former Warsaw Pact nations with National Guard units from across the United States. Michigan guardsmen started training Latvia's Soldiers in 1993. In 2008, the state and the country sent their first joint team to Afghanistan to help train Soldiers there.

Maj. Audrey Zaburdajevs, commander of the Latvian Landforces heading to Afghanistan, said that the state to country relationship over the years has strengthened the cohesion between his Soldiers and the guardsmen. That bond now brings them together to play a significant role in Afghanistan.

"The ongoing war against terrorists is not just an American war or Latvian war, we are fighting together against common threats," Zaburdajevs said.



Michigan National guardsman Staff Sgt. Jesus Medina provides a shoulder for a Latvian soldier during a simulated combat exercise at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center. Michigan National Guardsmen and the Latvian Army are part of an Observer Mentor Liaison Team who will deploy to Afghanistan to coach, teach and mentor an Afghan National Army unit.

Ft. Custer Receives

Environmental Achievement Award

Story by Angela Simpson



A monarch butterfly perches on a native genotype prairie forb. The consistent propagation and reintroduction of native plants in prairie restoration directly supports the survival of the butterfly and other insect species. Because of high quality habitat restoration and maintenance, Fort Custer is one of two sites being considered for reintroduction of the Mitchell's Satyr Butterfly from the captive rearing program. Photo by Michele Richards

The Fort Custer Training Center is one of three U.S. Army National Guard installations to receive a Secretary of the Army award for their environmental and sustainability program achievements during fiscal year 2009.

Fort Custer was selected as the Natural Resources Conservation-Small Installation recipient. The NRC-SI recognizes installation efforts to promote the conservation of natural resources, including the identification, protection, and restoration of biological resources and habitat, the sound management and use of the land and its resources, and the promotion of conservation ethics.

The Secretary of the Army Environmental Award represents the highest honor in the field of environmental science and sustainability conferred by the Army. "The Army is building green, buying green and going green," said Lt. Col. Dennis Nadrask, Fort Custer post commander. "Winning environmental programs like this one make the Army sustainable thereby impacting generations to come."

The achievements at Fort Custer include grant-funded endangered species surveys and wetland restoration projects, an updated planning level survey for all resources on the installation demonstrating natural resource improvements, and expansion of prescribed fire usage and prairie restoration.

Fort Custer will represent the Army during the Department of Defense Environmental Awards competition to be decided later this year.

Michigan National Guard

Gives Back to Homeless Vets

Story by Senior Airman Brittany Simon

A few years ago, during the Annual Veterans Stand-down, the Volunteers of America asked Brig. Gen. Thomas Cutler to be a speaker at their event. It was then he saw the impact that the Volunteers of America has on homeless veterans. Since then, he has looked for ways for Michigan Guardsmen to support the organization. He asked VOA if they needed assistance.

On January 13, 2010, the first group of five volunteers headed over to the Volunteers of America to volunteer their time and service to Lansing's homeless veterans. Among the first group to go was, Sgt. Jordan Piper who works for the Michigan Counter Drug Taskforce Office.

"This is such a great program but, I am sad that it hasn't started until now. That organization (Volunteers of America) has been serving three meals a day for a long time. That day alone, we served 150-200 people just for lunch. Most of the homeless veterans there had retired from the military and all had their stories. Some were very emotional and most didn't understand that the military had changed. Overall, it was a good experience to get out there and show them that they aren't forgotten and we appreciate them," said Piper.

Every employee, military or civilian, working at the Lansing Joint Force Readiness Center, is being provided the opportunity to volunteer some of their time to serve lunch to our homeless veterans at the Volunteers of America facility in downtown Lansing.

"The Lansing Volunteers of America serves our Lansing homeless population, many who happen to be Veterans, by serving lunch each Wednesday. I've been to Volunteers of America several times and it is very clear that they deeply appreciate our willingness to honor their service by serving them in this small way. I am proud of the people volunteering their time to do this," said Cutler.



Michigan Army National Guard Soldiers from the J3/5/7 Domestic Operations section serve lunch to homeless veterans participating in the Volunteers of America Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program in Lansing, Mich. on Jan. 13, 2010. Michigan National Guard photo by Sgt. 1st Class James Downen

Walking the Hero's Highway

Story by Sgt. Don Herbert

On Saturday, Feb. 20, 2010, we had just dropped off a wounded soldier at Joint Base Balad Combat Support Hospital. While I was still inside the CSH, my crew chief, Spc. Andrew Weiss, climbed out of the helicopter to snap a few photos of the covered transition area between the helicopter landing pad and the entrance to the hospital.

The clam shell passage has a giant American flag, weaved overhead between the support skeleton, stretching from end to end. The passage is appropriately called "Hero's Highway," in honor of the wounded that pass through there on their way to the Trauma Center. The flag is placed so that they may see it as they are laying face-up on the stretcher.

On a previous mission I had one wounded soldier, who was particularly anxious, tell me that he "knew he was going to be all right" when he saw the flag pass overhead as we were wheeling him into the TC.

Andy was still snapping photos when I started my walk through to rejoin the crew, and captured the shot.

I'm not a hero. I'm one of the lucky ones who routinely, as a matter of duty, get to pass through Hero's Highway twice; on the way in and on the way out. Some of the men we carry through there only get to see it once. They are the hero's, and it is a privilege to serve as their witness and honored escort through Hero's Highway.

Sgt. Don Herbert is currently deployed with Det. 1, Charlie Co. 3/238th Aviation MedEvac, Michigan Army National Guard, Grand Ledge, Mich.



"I'm not a hero...They are the hero's, and it is my privilege to serve as their witness and honored escort through Hero's Highway," Sgt. Don Herbert.

Calling all animal lovers!



We want to display your furry best friends in the next issue of the Wolverine Guard. If you have a picture of your beloved pet and would like to see it featured in the magazine please send an email to WolverineGuard@Michigan.gov. Please include your name, rank and unit, your pet's name, breed (if applicable), and any other relevant information. Submissions must be received by May 1, 2010.



Post 9/11 GI Bill

Story by Master Sgt. Anthony Salinas

Many servicemembers of the Michigan National Guard are currently taking advantage of the most recent GI Bill version available to help them pay for the costs of post-secondary and professional education. Signed into law under the Bush Administration, the new GI Bill was first unveiled by the Veteran's Administration early last year and the program became effective on Aug. 1, 2009.

The "New GI Bill" is also known as the Post 9/11 GI Bill because eligibility is based on Title 10 service after Sept. 11 2001. There are many options which allow servicemembers the choice to utilize the GI Bill benefits for themselves or give it to their families. Major components of the GI Bill are:

- Eligibility is based on qualifying Title 10 active duty after 9-11 if the SM also
- Served 30 continuous days and was discharged due to a service-connected disability, or for an aggregate period ranging from 90 days to 36 months
- Eligibility period is while on Active Duty; or up to 15 years from date of last discharge; or release from Active Duty service of at least 90 consecutive days

Benefits for the Service-member include:

- Tuition and fees paid up front to the educational institution
- Monthly housing allowance paid directly to the servicemember
- Books and supplies stipend paid directly to the servicemember

- Tutorial benefit of \$1,200 and a rural relocation stipend available

Benefit amounts are tied to the Payment Tier:

- Payment Tier is based on aggregate service and range from 40 percent to 100 percent
- A 12-month Title 10 tour equates to a 60 percent payment tier and thus pays 60 percent of tuition, fees, monthly housing allowance and \$600 for books and supplies
- Kicker is still paid; Federal Tuition Assistance offsets remainder of tuition

Benefits can be transferred to the servicemember's dependents:

- Servicemember must have completed six years of service and meet the Remaining Service Obligation (RSO) if applicable
- Dependents can use after the Soldier has completed 10 years of service
- Transfer to spouse for a 15 year eligibility period
- Transfer to children for their use beginning at age 18 and ending at age 26
- Must transfer to children before they reach 23 years of age
- Add dependents, revoke or modify amount of benefits while actively serving

The monetary benefits and increased flexibility make this GI Bill the premier weapon of choice over previous programs for attacking education goals. Servicemembers can get more information from the VA website at www.gibill.va.gov, or contact their battalion and MSC career counselor.

Michigan Army and Air National Guard Promotions

November 2, 2009 through February 28, 2010

Col.	Bridge, George	Schultz, Michael	Mager, David	Buchanan, Timothy	Jones, Gearld
Filipowicz, Leo	Bunch, Bradley	Smith, Derek	Maki, Joshua	Burns, Michelle	Kelley, Daniel
Hensen, William	Cain, Jason	Sutton, James	Mansell, Michael	Burton, Zachary	Kellner, Robert
Lee, Michael	Charania, Kalvin	Tchorzynski, James	Mcdaniels, Michael	Cabinaw, Jacob	Kurtenbach, Joseph
Rogers, Paul	Dale, Bruce	Webber, Edward	Mclane, Steven	Ciaramella, Russell	Lane, Micah
Lt. Col.	Derringer, Heather	Wickens, David	Meadows, Samuel	Clemens, Bethany	Latimer, Jonah
Hayes, David	Ellis, Lawrence	Wilkins, Scott	Moody, Sean	Collins, Joel	Leatherman, Kurt
Maj.	Grenon, Paul	Zeiss, Daniel	Munoz, Juan	Collins, Steven	Lee, Jordan
Hoose, Jeffary	Homrock, Edward	Sgt.	Nieboer, Jacob	Cooley, Ryan	Leonard, Shaun
House, Robert	Houston, Mark	Alford, Sonya	Piper, Jordan	Cooper, Phillip	Lewis, Michael
Kuhns, Andrew	Jaramillo, John	Baker, Victor	Priest, James	Cote, Grace	Magnan, Caleb
Smith, Allen	Johnson, Russell	Belen, Holly	Redigan, Sean	Courtade, Adam	Makela, Elizabeth
Capt.	Lakomy, Adam	Berger, Penny	Reed, Larry	Crooks, Jasper	Maki, Dylan
Carroll, Matthew	Mcdanielmoore, Gio- vanna	Braatz, Matthew	Rhinehart, Paul	Cross, Eric	Maki, Ryan
Ruby, Jeremi	Mcginnis, Daniel	Brahmer, Benjamin	Rhodes, Michael	Davis, Brent	Malone, Michael
Spina, Adam	Peterson, Jodi	Brendel, Matthew	Richards, Robert	Davis, Sara	Mcclain, Kristin
1st Lt.	Rawlins, Douglas	Burk, Robert	Rinckey, Lacey	Dean, Amanda	Mccoy, Bryan
Garrett, Michael	Schram, John	Buthia, Yalonda	Ring, Paul	Demarais, Donavyn	Mcculley, Eric
2nd Lt.	Schwaller, Andrew	Caddell, Jason	Ruel, Ricardo	Desira, Joseph	Mcghan, Brandon
Collins, Reginald	Vanklompberg, Kevin	Carpenter, Jarrod	Russell, James	Drake, Gina	Melton, Samuel
Gikas, Neil	Whitcher, Sharon	Cox, Kenneth	Schatzer, Jason	Dubas, Brandy	Miesler, Wesley
Hedger, Daniel	Whitehead, David	Czopek, William	Scott, John	Elliott, Jonathon	Miller, Donald
Mack, Daniel	Staff Sgt.	Damask, Adam	Servello, Crystal	England, John	Mills, Justin
Pfeiffer, Ryan	Anderson, Tiffany	Dennis, Kevin	Shankel, Jason	Fasten, Maxwell	Monroe, Tyler
Quackenbush, Rebecca	Ault, Matthew	Deveaux, Rashidi	Sheen, Jessica	Frens, Thomas	Morrish, Jesse
Vibbert, Brent	Betz, Robert	Edmonds, Andrew	Smaltz, Jonathan	Gage, James	Morrow, Stephanie
Weiss, Ryan	Bragg, Doreia	Edson, Thomas	Smith, Joshuah	Gallegos, Derek	Moyryla, David
Warrant Officer 3	Fettig, David	Elder, Michael	Spoor, Tresa	Garey, Wesley	Mullins, Staci
Kruckeberg, Anthony	Fuller, April	Elegeert, Mark	Sternisha, Michael	Gekiere, Justin	Parker, Eric
Warrant Officer 1	Gendron, Jesse	Fernandes, Jessica	Tomassini, James	Gordon, Zachary	Peck, James
Austin, Thomas	Green, Brent	Fitzgerald, Kyle	Tozer, Ashley	Grant, Nathan	Pelham, Dino
Brink, Jason	Grollimund, Aaron	Florida, Micah	Vannortrick, Jason	Gregaitis, Nicholas	Pelshaw, Steven
Dams, Kenneth	Hurban, Christopher	Foos, Lance	Walls, Patrick	Grier, Carlo	Pelton, Britny
Smith, Jason	Kiger, Steven	Fouty, Miles	Wildey, Tony	Grogg, Eric	Pero, Caleb
Whitcher, Todd	Kitchen, Virun	Frato, Cortney	Spc.	Groulx, Forrest	Petrou, John
Sgt. Maj.	Klimek, Steven	Furlong, Theresa	Abbott, Shane	Hagan, Brain	Price, James
Montgomery, Tina	Markham, Donald	Gibson, John	Alberda, Christopher	Hay, Kent	Pruitt, Alexas
Master Sgt.	Maxon, Derek	Griffen, Jacob	Albert, Suzanne	Herzog, Jacob	Pueblo, Jonathon
Anderson, Chester	Moore, April	Hanshaw, Christina	Alexander, Joshua	Hewitt, Bryant	Raish, Johnathan
Johns, Danny	Pickett, Terry	Haynes, Jeffery	Altherr, James	Holcomb, Jennifer	Ratliff, Eric
Kotila, Jack	Preston, Randall	Hoeker, Aaron	Anger, Melissa	Hollister, Bradley	Redmer, Brian
Okon, George	Rhinard, Robert	Howell, Nathan	Baca, Samuel	Hughley, Erin	Richardson, Amanda
Pearce, Alvie	Rivard, Andrew	Huot, Thomas	Belusar, Dakota	Hutchens, Ian	Rider, Shane
Redding, Tyrone	Rodriquez, Gonzalo	Jackson, Samuel	Bolf, Kimberly	Ingles, Alicia	Riggs, Patrick
Sgt. 1st Class	Sanderfer, William	Leyrer, William	Bouchard, Brian	Jefferson, James	Robb, Eric
Anderson, Stephan	Sangster, Phillip	Louks, Michael	Bravo, Cristina	Johnson, Lee	Rockefeller, John
Bentz, Jonnie	Schmidt, Christopher	Macdonald, Andrew	Brewer, Billie		
Betts, Michael		Macgregor, James	Brown, Corey		

Michigan Army and Air National Guard Promotions

November 2, 2009 through February 28, 2010

Russell, Nathaniel	Collins, Cody	Rader, Daniel	Spoelman, Timothy	Vanmeekeren, Brandon J.	Schuldt, Amber Lynn
Sands, Anthony	Debano, Daniel	Renkema, Joseph	Sullivan, Jeremiah		Stocking, Steven
Schahczinski, Brittany	Demick, Michael	Rosso, Gregory	Vang, Michael	Staff Sgt.	Anselm
Shipman, Bryan	Dunlap, April	Shouse, Myles	Verlinde, Cody	Burke, Jared P.	Stommen, Jacob J.
Shreeve, Stephan	Esser, Ashley	Sleppy, Daniel	2nd Lt.	Cleary, Daniel Robert	Szenda, Theodore F.
Simpson, James	Farmerprice, Derrick	Smith, Andrew	Church, Ryan A.	Evans, Triston A.	Zink, Rodger D.
Skriba, Scott	Fesler, Jonney	Smith, Edward	Edgeworth, Stephanie Ann	Fenn, Mark Anthony	Master Sgt.
Sleight, William	Fital, Sean	Snider, William	Genereaux, Bryan Michael	Ford, Matthew P.	Bachelor, Brandon T.
Smith, Lindsay	Franklin, Carlos	Spohn, Mitchell	Stritzinger, Ryan J.	Fielhauer, Brian Jeffrey	Beeker, Matthew D.
Soto, Anthony	Fredrickson, Kristal	Stefan, Charles	Thieroff, Adam Zachary	Fryhover, Lance E.	Berry, Donald E.
Spear, Matthew	Godard, Michael	Tapani, Bradley	Capt.	Galvini, Cristina Lynn	Burson, Todd A.
Stephens, Mark	Haan, Zachary	Trouten, Aaron	Ferrell, Leonard Thomas III	Gunter, Justen Joseph	Cassada, Donald J. III
Sullivan, Ryan	Hartwell, Justin	Valenzuela, Candy	Forbes, Jason Michael	Harris, Virgil Dale Jr.	Conway, Stephen J.
Swearingen, Seth	Hearold, William	Vanbronkhorst, Lee	Mestelle, Ryan Steven	Hinkle, David Matthew	Cox, Douglas A.
Symons, Joseph	Heath, Jerry	Vancil, Haley	Tennapel, Daniel L.	Hull, Brian Richard	English, Adam Peter
Taylor, Vincent	Helton, Scott	Wagner, Alexander	Vergos, George	Leyman, Ryan Michael	Gehringer, Joseph Michael
Tomczak, Miranda	Herman, Joshua	Waldorf, Jacob	Whiting, Sue H.	Loghin, Elena	Haft, Eric Scott
Vickers, Tyler	Herrington, Michael	Wasalaski, Kevin	Lt. Col.	Mikelsavage, Stanley Benedict	Holloman, Edward Jr.
Vuocolo, George	Jones, John	Washington, Kenneth	Crowder, Lawrence J.	Moehlig, Bradley Michael	Johnson, William Edward
Waite, Michael	Keller, Autumn	Waters, Korey	Kaplan, Richard M.	Nielsen, Daniel Arthur	Kaletka, Jeffrey Michael
Waldo, Alyssa	Kennedy, Joshua	Wilberding, Ian	Col.	Reagle, Nathan Z.	Kurzatkowski, Dawn Ann
Walker, Derrious	Krick, Joshua	Winkelmann, Timothy	Faust, Billie J.	Robison, Gary Robert	McGaw, Douglas Arthur
Warnock, Christopher	Labonte, Christopher	Winkler, Jaykob	Southworth, Sean M.	Sorenson, Peter R.	Meeuwesen, Gregory S.
Warzynski, Matthew	Lane, Joshua	Yates, Kevin	Valle, Jeffrey Ralph	Tarquino, Christopher Edward	Morgan, Gerald Mitchell
Weber, John	Larm, Trent	Pvt.	Williams, Rodney	Telfor, Kirsten M.	Snyder, James Patrick
Williams, Jessika	Lee, Jeong	Bentley, Joshua	Airman 1st Class	Woolsey, Gregory Keith	Walker, Scott D.
Willings, Christopher	Martin, Lance	Buchanan, Jorrell	Brunner, Amy L.	Tech. Sgt.	Weinman, Amy S.
Wingett, Christopher	Mcguigan, David	Cpak, Krzysztof	Hart, Jacob E.	Balk, Aaron Douglass	Senior Master Sgt.
Wood, Chaz	Mchaney, Shimiko	Dannard, Demetrius	Jackson, Alfonzsa Finch	Barker, Erika A.	Bottorff, James A.
Woodrick, James	Meece, Joshua	Emery, Colton	McNally, Kenzi A.	Bialy, Jason Gary	Carroll, Raymond Michael
Woolner, Joshua	Merren, Joshua	Fletcher, Holly	Sommer, Nicholas M.	Boukamp, Matthew R.	Clark, Jerry L.
Wright, Anthony	Miller, John	Garrett, Isaac	Stringer, Daniel P.	Colonpagan, Ricardo Omar	Douglas, Michael Delane
Zeman, Mark	Milner, Korey	Hartpriest, Kyle	Vanmeekeren, Adam J.	Diegel, Roque Eugene	Haller, Roger F.
Pfc.	Moen, David	Jobe, Elizabeth	Wilkins, Daniel O.	Diiacovo, Scott James	Jerome, Jeffrey C.
Athan, Robert	Molnar, Mitchell	Jude, Justen	Ybarra, Christina R.	Durkee, Kevin Randall	McKay, Eric C.
Beck, Justin	Morales, Luciano	Kahler, Mark	Senior Airman	Grady, Steven Michael	Moore, Roy Clyde Jr.
Benjamin, Allison	Nelson, Vincent	Kukulski, Christopher	Bean, Amanda M.	Haire, Hart Smith III	Yuhas, John Jr.
Bjunes, Alicia	Nickles, Dalton	Lopez, Elisha	Braman, Samantha L.	Helinski, Randy A.	Chief Master Sgt.
Bloomquist, Richard	Nunez, Christopher	Mapes, Andrew	Cloud, Benjamin Arthur III	Kanine, Suzanne Renee	Moore, Roy Clyde Jr.
Brancheau, Jon	Palmateer, Eric	Marshall, Drew	Corston, Lana S.	Kerschenheiter, John Michael Jr.	Yuhas, John Jr.
Burchell, Joseph	Papenfuse, Gillen	Nelson, Tyge	Frazee, Rivan F V	May, Erik J.	
Card, Johnathan	Paris, Tyrone	Ostrander, Lana	Goulette, Alex Douglas	Mikowski, Douglas Edward	
Cardenas, Jasmine	Pember, Christopher	Pittman, Keven	Miller, Rebecca L.	Richards, Robert Lee III	
Clark, Matthew	Pomeroy, James	Psenki, Sarah	Mousseau, Merushjola		
Cobb, Kevin	Queen, Samuel	Rees, Jesus	Ploe, Trevor Robert		
Coleman, Alanda	Rabb, Andrew	Reid, Jason			
		Robinson, Kylon			
		Seavolt, Ryan			

Currently Deployed Location

Army

425th In Co.	Iraq
1434th Engineer Co.	Iraq
CO C, 3/238th GSAB	Iraq
777th MP Det	Iraq
1437th Engineer Co.	Iraq
1073rd Maint. Co.	Iraq
CO B, BSTB, 37th BCT	Kosovo
OMLT 3	Afghanistan

Air Force

110th Fighter Wing	Nellis, Nev.
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A young Iraqi child, who accompanied his father to the polling stations, shows off his purple inked finger in the International Zone of Baghdad, Iraq, March 4, 2010. Children are not allowed to vote but this child was allowed to dip his finger in the ink. The voting included Iraqi Special Elections for Iraqi Police, Army and medical care providers. Photo by Staff Sgt. Kelly Longbine



TAPS

1st Sgt. Jarvis Compagner, (ret), 62, Oct. 3, 2009
Col. Donald Walz, (ret), 91, Oct. 16, 2009
Master Sgt. Robert Apel, (ret), 82, Nov. 5, 2009
Sgt. Donald Nichols Jr., (ret), 55, Nov. 7, 2009
Col. Roderick Hogan, (ret), 73, Nov. 7, 2009
Capt. Walter Labhart, (ret), 67, Nov. 10, 2009
Capt. Thomas Sainz, 48, Nov. 13, 2009
Sgt. George Wright, 72, Nov. 14, 2009
Sgt. 1st Class William Ridders, (ret), 61, Nov. 17, 2009
Tech. Sgt. Eugene Dunn, (ret), 74, Nov. 26, 2009
Senior Master Sgt. Warren Allen, (ret), 78, Nov. 28, 2009
Sgt. Jeffrey Schewe, (ret), 56, Dec. 3, 2009
Spc. Bruce Patton, (ret), 61, Dec. 4, 2009
Tech. Sgt. John Rubbelke, (ret), 49, Dec. 6, 2009
Senior Master Sgt. James Brousseau, (ret), 90, Dec. 7, 2009
Col. Robert Flagg, (ret), 89, Dec. 18, 2009
Maj. Dale Peters, (ret), 81, Dec. 22, 2009
Capt. John Moynahan, (ret) 79, Dec. 29, 2009

Sgt. 1st Class Norman Tak, (ret), 76, Jan. 1, 2010
Spc. Edwin Adair, 66, Jan. 3, 2010
Sgt. 1st Class Wesley Wilbanks, (ret), 67, Jan. 9, 2010
Master Sgt. Dennis Spencer, (ret), 60, Jan. 11, 2010
Sgt. Maj. Max Klempert, (ret), 75, Jan. 14, 2010
Sgt. Harold Sykes, 68, Feb. 2, 2010
Master Sgt. Arlie Cantrell, (ret), 84, Feb. 2, 2010
PV2 James McCoy, 67, Feb. 16, 2010
Chief Master Sgt. Donald Marten, (ret) 78, Feb. 16, 2010
Chief Master Sgt. Donald Barker, (ret), 72, Feb. 18, 2010
1st Sgt. Arnold McAtee, (ret), 76, Feb. 22, 2010

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