



### 152nd Airlift Wing News

## NOTAM: 2021 Flight Plan

By Col. Jacob Hammons  
152nd Airlift Wing Commander



Kevin Caldwell caught this shot of MAFFS 9 "livin' high and flyin' low" on November 5th out on Hwy 120 in Mono County. (Courtesy photo by Kevin Caldwell)

High Rollers,  
First, CONGRATULATIONS on a huge victory during the UEI CAPSTONE! We earned an EFFECTIVE overall with an EFFECTIVE in each of the 4 major graded areas: Executing the Mission, Leading People, Improving the Unit, and Managing Resources. This is an impressive score for our unit and one that each of you should be proud of having a hand in achieving. The inspection team was especially impressed by the command climate of the Wing, our embrace of the Strategic Plan, and the attitude of our Airmen.

It was a busy year in preparation for the CAPSTONE event, especially with COVID impacts, but I was humbled by your dedication and steady progress in making the unit better and getting us ready for our wartime tasking. CONGRATULATIONS to all and especially our Outstanding Performers who are listed at the end of this article.

The UEI sets the stage for 2021 – the year of violent execution. Now is the time to capitalize on our gains and truly take the Wing to the next level. We will continue to be relentless in our pursuit of excellence, and hold ourselves to the extremely high standard of the High Rollers. What follows is my flight plan for 2021, which focuses on our primary mission execution.

We begin the year with two important events: State of the State and our Wing Strategic Offsite. Both occur in February. State of the State is our annual trip to NGB to brief leadership on our progress along with strategic initiatives and facilitate collaboration in areas where we still need assistance. Our Wing Strategic Offsite is scheduled for 23-24 Feb. The two-day event includes members from the squadron, group and wing officer and enlisted leadership and is our annual review of the Strategic Plan. We are soliciting inputs from all Wing Airmen with a short SurveyMonkey that you should see in your email. This is your chance to give us feedback on how we are doing in meeting the objectives laid out in the Strategic Plan. Once complete, we will inform you of changes to our Strategic Plan.

Simultaneously, we are also preparing for our AEF cycle. There are several key milestones that need to be met to ensure we are prepared to provide

combat tactical airlift to the Combatant Commander. We pay close attention to these milestones – details are at a higher level, but please speak with your leadership so that you are tracking.

Next, we will enter our spin-up for our annual MAFFS season. This will consist of our Spring Training with other MAFFS units and then our vulnerability period in the summer. As you know, last year was very busy for us in this challenging mission. I expect this year to be the same.

The end of the MAFFS season will leave us a small window to spin-up our crews for the AEF deployment. The end of the year will be very busy.

All of this activity is set against the backdrop of COVID. Vaccinations will be a huge push for the state. I expect the Nevada National Guard will play an integral role in helping our community with that effort. I can't predict when we might return to a normal battle rhythm, but vaccinations will play a huge role.

Lastly, continue to watch out for each other, value your family, friends and loved ones and lend a helping hand if you see someone in need. If there's one thing we've shown during the last year, it was the High Rollers' immense capacity for good.

Livin' High, Flyin' Low,  
Roller 1

### UEI EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMERS

#### AMC IG COIN RECIPIENTS

Capt. Joshua P. Rogers 192nd Airlift Squadron  
Master Sgt. J. Hall 152nd Security Forces Squadron  
Master Sgt. Christa L. Morter 152nd Airlift Wing  
Master Sgt. Kristofer J. Salvadia 152nd Maintenance Squadron  
Staff Sgt. Sara H. Tucker 152nd Medical Group

#### INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITION

Capt. Lewis E. Roberts 152nd Operations Support Squadron  
Senior Master Sgt. Rommie G. Brown 152nd Logistics Readiness Squadron  
Master Sgt. Jose D. Escobar Jr. 152nd Airlift Wing  
Master Sgt. Rita E. Middleton 152nd Airlift Squadron  
Master Sgt. Martin A. Rodriguez 152nd Maintenance Squadron  
Master Sgt. Emory E. Simons III 152nd Civil Engineer Squadron  
Tech. Sgt. Janalee K. Morris 152nd Medical Group  
Tech. Sgt. Steven R. Wolfgang 152nd Security Forces Squadron  
Staff Sgt. Mychel L. Christian 152nd Operations Support Squadron  
Senior Airman Theo Chason 152nd Security Forces Squadron  
Senior Airman Shemar L. Wiggins 152nd Maintenance Squadron  
Ms. Michelle J. Dieters 152nd Airlift Wing

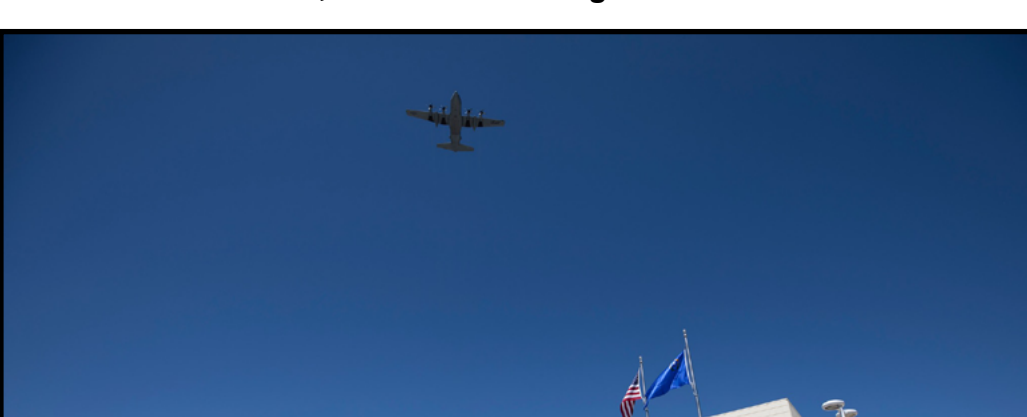
#### TEAM RECOGNITION

Aircrew Flight Equipment Shop 152nd Operations Support Squadron  
Command Post 152nd Airlift Wing  
Infection Prevention and Control 152nd Medical Group  
Intel Flight 152nd Operations Support Squadron  
JA Legal Office 152nd Airlift Wing  
Maintenance QA 152nd Maintenance Squadron  
Military Personnel Flight 152nd Mission Support Group

### Opinion Editorial

## The Guard Enters the Storm

By 1st Lt. Emerson Marcus  
Public Affairs Officer, 152nd Airlift Wing



A 152nd Airlift Wing C-130 soars over Carson Tahoe Medical Center as part of the unit's Salute to Medical Professionals for its flyover of 13 hospitals in northern Nevada and California during the region's COVID-19 outbreak in April 2020. Photos/Brad Horn.

At the beginning of the coronavirus outbreak in Nevada, following Governor Steve Sisolak's stay-at-home directive on March 17, 2020, I quarantined and worked from home for two weeks. It soon became evident, though, the Nevada National Guard—where I work as a public affairs officer—would undertake an integral role in the state's COVID-19 response. More than 1,200 Nevada Guardsmen entered the fight against the virus with many remaining on orders into 2021, the largest and longest state activation in Nevada Guard history. Most missions aligned with testing, contact tracing, warehousing, and distribution of personal protective equipment.

On April 3, I was assigned to the state's Emergency Operations Center (EOC), under Emergency Support Function 15, or external affairs, working for Nevada Guard state public affairs officer, Lt. Col. Mickey Kirschenbaum. Under the Federal Emergency Management Agency's national response framework, there are 15 support functions, including information and planning, transportation, logistics, public safety, security, and communications among others. Initially, the external affairs team included about a half dozen members in the EOC working to assist the state's communication efforts. The staff of mostly civilian public information officers also ran the Nevada Health Response website, which included the Department of Health and Human Services dashboard, populated daily with updates on statewide deaths, cases, positivity rate, and various other trends and statistics. So much remained unknown during the first weeks of the pandemic and information moved quicker than any event I've worked during my career in journalism and as a military public affairs officer.

Along with responding to reporters and the public, and disseminating

information through social media and press releases, I assisted the state with communication campaigns. One campaign, Hero of the Day, highlighted Nevada citizens. The governor announced the campaign during a press conference in early April. Within minutes, calls and emails flooded our office with nominations, which included a single mother of two working as a nurse at the University Medical Center of Southern Nevada; a Clark County School District employee who led food drives for children in need; a member of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe catching fish to feed tribal elders sheltered at home; and a 14-year-old girl making masks for medical professionals and law enforcement.

We also led a COVID-19 recovery campaign with Nevada citizens explaining their run-in with the virus. One Las Vegas resident, fighting back tears, explained how she and her father contracted the virus and were admitted three rooms apart at Desert Springs Hospital. She survived, but her father died July 21, 2020—on Father's Day. Another woman, from Sparks, said her entire family got sick, including her brother, who has cerebral palsy. He spent two months in a hospital before recovering. Ronald Pipkins, a Las Vegas resident and Marine veteran, was the first reported case in the state on March 5. Pipkins spent weeks hospitalized in a coma with a fever that spiked to 107°, but lived to tell his story.

Throughout, though, my focus largely remained on public information surrounding the Nevada Guard. I enjoyed the opportunity to leave the office and visit testing sites, usually with members of the media seeking access. The Guard collected more than 1.2 million test swabs during the first eight months, ramping up the state's effort to track the spread. One of the Guard's most important roles became the setup of mobile "strike teams" for swab sample collection. The state encouraged testing of asymptomatic cases through large scale swab collection sites in Clark and Washoe counties—also staffed by Guardsmen—but access for rural citizens remained limited. To reach remote locations in a state with geographic challenges posed by its position in the Great Basin, the Guard's strike teams led dozens of strike teams for citizens in rural Nevada and on tribal land. Swabs were then given to the health districts or tribes to conduct tests at the nearest lab. They also led a continuous operation that rotated through the Quad County region (Lyon, Storey, Douglas counties, and Carson City). Each strike team usually included about a dozen guardsmen to set up sites, conduct site administration, traffic control, and collect samples. Other Guardsmen also worked contact tracing and call centers, under the oversight of health districts and the tribes.

The most remote location I visited was in Esmeralda County on August 27 and 28. Nevada's least populated county made national news when it was reported as one of three counties in the country without a known positive case. Even with minimal or nonexistent transmission, the Esmeralda County Commission that summer asked Ken Elgan, the county's sheriff and emergency manager, to request a strike team for COVID-19 testing. After the sheriff put in the request to the state Division of Emergency Management, members of the Nevada Guard setup drive-thru locations in Goldfield, Silver Springs, and Dyer. Elgan expressed fear that even a handful of positive cases could force the closure of businesses in Esmeralda County, something he obviously wanted to avoid, but he appreciated the Guard helping determine whether the virus existed there. Many officials such

[CLICK HERE FOR COMPLETE STORY](#)

### Airman & Family Programs News

#### Nevada National Guard Family Programs provides needed toys to members of the Nevada National Guard

Courtesy Story and Photo by Fred Barton  
Airman & Family Readiness Manager



From left to right, Master Sgt. Caroline Cousineau, Mr. Ryan Wickes, Ms. Kimberly Brooks, Ms. Catherine Summers, Master Sgt. Javier Sosa, Master Sgt. Ian O'Grady, Mr. Fred Barton, Master Sgt. Michelle Rauch, Lt. Col. Hal Woerner and Master Sgt. Katie McCray.

This year's annual kids Christmas party had to be canceled due to the pandemic, and the COVID-19 protocols for the safety of our Guard members and families. But that did not stop the Nevada National Guard Family Programs from getting needed toys and gifts to our National Guard members, families, and kids.

On December 19th, the Guard Lane Armory was converted into a Santa's workshop, so National Guard members, families, and retirees were able to pick out toys and gifts for their children, helping them to have a Merry Christmas and a little bit of normality after an incredibly challenging year of lock down and uncertainty.

The Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Ondra Berry, and his family, Retired Brig. Gen. Zachary Doser, Nevada National Guard First Sgt's, and the entire Nevada National Guard family programs staff was available to hand out and distribute toys and gifts to 140 families this year.

Special thanks go to Ms. Lorri Mills for picking up the toys, and sorting them. Toys for Tots for their generous donation of must have toys for this year's event.

#### Nevada National Guard Key Volunteer Mentor hosts annual Key Volunteer appreciation dinner

Courtesy Story and Photo by Fred Barton  
Airman & Family Readiness Manager



On December 8th, Ms. Angie Solberg, Nevada Air National Guard's Key Volunteer Mentor hosted her annual Nevada Air National Guard Key Volunteer appreciation dinner in the Dining Facility.

This year's event was a little different due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the state of Nevada's protocols of personal gatherings.

With great planning, social distancing and keeping in mind of the safety measures of all the invited guests, Ms. Solberg was able to pull off this annual event with great training, information, and a delicious meal of barbecue ribs, chicken, side dishes and desserts from a local restaurant.

**Brigadier General Glen Martel**  
Chief of Staff, Nevada Air National Guard

Cordially invites you to the  
Nevada Air National Guard's  
Outstanding Airmen of the Year and Awards Ceremonies  
Via Facebook Live and TEAMS

On Sunday, 31 January 2021  
152d Airlift Wing Auditorium

Awards Ceremony begins at 9:00am  
and  
Outstanding Airmen of the Year begins at 10:15am

For more information, please contact:  
CMSgt James Lindsay  
(775) 762-4080  
[James.lindsay.4@us.af.mil](mailto:James.lindsay.4@us.af.mil)

**SOMETHING NEW ON THE MOBILE APP!**

Nevada Air National Guard Retention Team presents:

**RETENTION**

**NOW AVAILABLE ON THE MOBILE APP FRONT PAGE**

**Learn:**

1. Who your "Retention Team" is
2. Unit Career Advisors for each unit
3. Federal and State Education Benefits
4. JOB OPPORTUNITIES
4. Applicable SCHOOL forms available too!

You can even directly contact retention through the app!

**CHECK IT OUT TODAY!**

## DO YOU HAVE THE "RIGHT STUFF?"

There will be a Hiring Board for C-130 Combat Systems Officers October 3-4 of UTA drill. We are looking for highly motivated, hard-charging individuals who want to join the best Combat Airlift unit in the country. This comes with the opportunity to excel at Undergraduate Combat Systems Officer Training and as an Officer in the Nevada Air National Guard. Applications (hard copy and electronic) must be received by 30 August 2020.

**Requirements:**

- Preferred age no older than 33 for Applications
- Enrolled in your final Bachelor's degree semester
- Flight time preferred
- Competitive AFOQT Scores
- Call our Base Training Office at (775) 788-4511 to schedule test ASAP

**For questions contact: 152.OG.Officer.Hiring@us.af.mil**

**PT Testing**

BASE-WIDE PT TEST  
**STARTS THIS MONTH BE READY!**

**Finance Forum**

USE DTS/CTO FOR ALL RESERVATIONS

1. It is mandatory policy that all Uniformed Services Members and DoD civilian employees use an available DTMO contracted CTO for all official transportation requirements.
2. The eligible traveler must contact the responsible Service/Agency/DoD Component designated official if there is not an available DTMO contracted CTO for the official travel.
3. Payment construction comparisons provided below should in no way be interpreted to suggest that use of other than the DTMO contracted CTO is authorized or encouraged.
4. The payment options are provided for situations when the CTO cannot be used.

**For More Finance Info:**  
[CLICK TO VISIT THE FINANCE PAGE](#)

**High Roller Social Media**

[@nevadaairguard](#)

[@152AW Public Affairs](#)

[@NUNationalGuard](#)

[@152AW](#)

**Lodging Information**

For the hotel location members can contact Services'awling office at: 775-788-9320 or 152.AW.Lodging.Org@us.af.mil

Members must sign-in with the hotel representatives to ensure they are accounted for in the rooms. Failure to sign-in or not showing up for a confirmed reservation will result in by-name notification to AW/CC. The cut-off day for reserving a room is COB three days prior to drill. The cut-off day to cancel reservations is COB two days prior to drill.

Members are authorized Friday night stays if they are outside the commuting distance. Please see the map on OneHome.

Members on any type of orders will make their own reservations and pay for it on their GTC. Services provides at least two base billeting list updates during the month to provide a list of members who are currently signed up for lodging.

All RUTA lodging requests must be submitted NLT 72 hours before needed and all RUTA lodging is provided at Stead. If member goes elsewhere or does not notify Services in advance, charges will not be reimbursed. If a member is on any type of orders, the member will make their own reservations and pay for it on their GTC. The member then will be reimbursed on their travel voucher with the receipt.