

Nevada National Guard
Biennial Report 2015-2016



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Cover & Table of Contents photos:
Zephyr Cove beach at Lake Tahoe.

Photos by Tech. Sgt. Emerson Marcus

Letter to the Governor



THE HONORABLE BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor of Nevada



BRIG. GEN. WILLIAM R. BURKS
The Adjutant General

Gov. Brian Sandoval
Nevada Capitol
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Dear Gov. Sandoval,

I am pleased to present you with the Nevada Office of the Military biennial report for 2015-2016. This publication chronicles the primary missions and achievements of the Nevada National Guard over the past two years, and it provides an update on the activities of the state's Army and Air units.

The report also outlines the future goals and objectives of the Nevada National Guard and catalogs the organization's fiscal numbers for 2015 and 2016.

As the new biennium begins, we continue to fulfill our federal mission with troop deployments in support of overseas operations in locations including Afghanistan and Egypt. We simultaneously remain ready and prepared to respond to any man-made or natural contingency within the Silver State to assist Nevada's citizens.

This biennium included an Army unit re-organization to better maximize our manpower and equipment. Additionally, the 152nd Airlift Wing began its certification as one of four C-130 military units working the U.S. Forest Service's Modular Airborne Fire Fighting Systems mission. This national firefighting mission increases the Nevada Air National Guard's visibility in the country with a noble domestic mission.

In today's climate of decreasing military budgets, our Airmen, Soldiers and civilian employees focus daily on making responsible decisions when using federal and state resources, including in the area of efficient energy consumption.

We sincerely appreciate the unparalleled support our Airmen and Soldiers receive from the state's political leadership, the Silver State's civilian employers and our local communities.

I am very proud of the accomplishments and efforts of the Nevada Guard during the past two years and I guarantee the Nevada Guard will continue to fulfill our commitments in the same conscientious and professional manner we've continued since the Nevada Guard's inception in 1861.

We remain Always Ready, Always There for the citizens of Nevada.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wm R Burks".

William R Burks
Brigadier General
Nevada Office of the Military
The Adjutant General

National Guard Overview

The National Guard does three things extraordinarily well: fight America's wars, protect the homeland, and build global and domestic partnerships. At the same time, the Guard provides localized emergency response to natural and civil upheavals.

National Guard Soldiers and Airmen are dedicated to readiness and service. Their innovative civilian skills complement military training in operations both overseas and at home. This unique combination of civilian and military experience along with close ties to our communities pays dividends for American taxpayers.

Fighting America's Wars

For more than a decade of combat, the Guard has demonstrated its reliability, accessibility and cost-effectiveness. Today's National Guard members clearly understand the likelihood they will be deployed in service to their country.

As the nature of warfare evolves over time, the National Guard will remain adaptable as it plans and prepares to operate seamlessly alongside active-duty Army and Air Force active-duty service members. The organization also enables experienced Soldiers and Airmen who separate from active duty to continue to contribute their skills in service to the nation and state.

Protecting the Homeland

When it comes to responding to domestic emergencies, the Guard — operating under the command of the governors — provides unique, time-tested expertise.

Before natural or man-made incidents strike, National Guard Soldiers and Airmen work closely with civic and private industry leaders in their local communities to forge relationships.

When the scope of an incident is beyond the capacity of local and state responders, the Guard's dual status as both state militia and federal reserve of the Army and Air Force helps ensure seamless integration of federal personnel and resources in support of civilian incident leaders.

The National Guard also supports U.S. Northern Command, protecting the skies over America or providing immediate response to attacks involving weapons of mass destruction.



Col. Karl Stark, left, commander of the 152nd Airlift Wing and Reno Mayor Hillary Schieve greet President Barack Obama on Aug. 31, 2016, at the Nevada Air National Guard Base in Reno.

Building Global and Domestic Partnerships

On a daily basis, the National Guard strengthens its partnerships with civilian communities at home and military allies around the world. The State Partnership Program (SPP) builds personal relationships between Americans and leaders in

developing nations that support the goals of our combatant commanders and the State Department. The Nevada National Guard is teamed with the Kingdom of Tonga.

Today, there are 68 state partnerships with 76 nations at a total cost of less than \$14 million annually. Since 2003, 15 nations have co-deployed with U.S. National

PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. EMERSON MARCUS, NEVADA GUARD JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS



PHOTO BY SGT. WALTER LOWELL, 17TH SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE

Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval addresses Soldiers of the 17th Sustainment Brigade before their deployment in 2016.

Guard forces 79 times to Iraq and Afghanistan. Additional benefits of the SPP include economic expansion, agricultural development and educational exchanges. National Guard civilian expertise in areas such as engineering, infrastructure development and reconstruction are in great demand with nations eager to partner with America.

At home, the National Guard is part of the DNA of every community. Guard service members serve in the same communities in which they live and work. This makes Guard Soldiers and Airmen personally invested in the communities in which they serve.

Accountability

As the National Guard fights America's wars, protects the homeland and builds partnerships, it does so affordably and with accountability.

Today's unprecedented National Guard readiness posture as part of the Total Force offers options to preserve both capability and capacity rather than choose between them. The National Guard is a cost-effective, proven force capable of rapidly generating forces and quickly returning them to inactive status.

The National Guard has a long-standing reputation for exceptional performance in the eyes of the American public, and

because of that the force recruits the best and brightest Americans. Guard Soldiers and Airmen are held to the highest personal and professional standards.

Summary

The National Guard performs three critical defense duties for America: fighting America's wars, protecting the homeland and building global and domestic partner-

ships. After more than a decade of fighting side-by-side, the Guard is seamless with the active Army and Air Force. The Guard is more ready and more accessible than at any other time in its history.

Now, more than ever, the National Guard remains "Always Ready, Always There." That's why investing defense dollars in the National Guard is a win-win for American security and the American taxpayers.

National Guard Fast Facts

- Nearly half of the force has combat experience.
- 84 percent of force serves in a traditional part-time status.
- Guard members train to the same standards as their active Army and Air Force counterparts.
- Guard Soldiers and Airmen have served, or are serving in more than 70 countries around the world.
- National Guard forces were called upon 286 times and logged more than 547,100 man-days responding to emergencies in the homeland during the 2015 fiscal year.
- Operates and manages nearly 43 percent of the Army's manned and unmanned aircraft.
- Flies 36 percent of the Air Force's cargo and air-refueling aircraft.

Nevada National Guard at a Glance

The National Guard of the United States encompasses the Army and Air National Guard from the 50 states, three territories and the District of Columbia.

The history of the National Guard has evolved over the course of four centuries from local militia to a force with a dual federal and state mission. But one factor remains: service.

The birth of the Nevada militia coincided with the American Civil War. Nevada was “Battle Born” in 1864. Therefore, origin papers of the first known Nevada militia unit, the Union Blues, said they organized to “overawe outbreaks of secessionists” and the “maintenance of our present, political life.”

During the early 20th century, Congress passed laws — the Militia Act (1903) and the National Defense Act (1916) — increasing federal standards of each National Guard and giving the president authority to mobilize the National Guard in time of war. In 1973, the Total Force Policy was enacted, requiring that all active-duty and reserve components be treated as an integrated fighting force.

The history of the Nevada National Guard in the 20th century flourished in the post-World War II era with the creation of the Nevada Air National Guard in 1948 — originally as a fighter squadron that deployed during the Korean War —



PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. EMERSON MARCUS

Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval, left, and Nevada National Guard Adjutant General Brig. Gen. William Burks, read the names and units of Nevada Guardsmen who have deployed to combat operations since the Gulf War. A tribute wall with the names of about 2,700 Nevada National Guard Soldiers and Airmen deployed into combat zones since the Gulf War was unveiled at the Office of the Adjutant General in 2015.

along with several mission evolutions of the Nevada Army Guard, from anti-aircraft defense to a tanker force and into today’s focus on military sustainment.

The Nevada Military Department, headquartered today at the Office of the Adjutant General in Carson City, provides military organization, guidance and overall administration for the Nevada National Guard. Gov. Brian Sandoval is the commander-in-chief for the state and may order the Nevada National Guard into action during natural disasters or in times of potential unrest when citizens’ safety is at risk. Nevada’s adjutant general is Brig. Gen. William Burks. The adjutant general is the governor’s advisor on all military matters concerning the Nevada National Guard and is responsible for oversight of all Nevada National Guard activities and personnel. Brig. Gen. Ondra Berry is the commander of the Nevada Air National Guard and Brig. Gen. Michael Hanifan is the commander of the Nevada Army National Guard.

The 2016 total of 4,348 members in the Nevada National Guard was a slight increase from the 2014 force of 4,264 and nearly even with the total of 4,350 in 2012.

At the end of the 2016 fiscal year, the Nevada National Guard included



PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. EMERSON MARCUS

Jayde Danae Murphy, 3, blows a kiss to a memorial of her grandfather, Sgt. Patrick Stewart, a Nevada Guardsman killed in 2005 when his helicopter was shot down in southwestern Afghanistan. A memorial service was held at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Stead for the five men killed in the crew of the Mustang 22 CH-47 Chinook helicopter.

3,211 Soldiers and 1,137 Airmen. Of the Soldiers, 2,803 were enlisted, 309 were officers and 99 were warrant officers. Of the Airmen, 964 were enlisted and 173 were officers. The state's traditional Guardsmen commit to participate in military training one weekend a month and 15 days each year in their respective military occupations and career fields.

More than 460 full-time federal technicians and about 400 Active Guard and Reserve personnel stationed throughout the state support traditional Guardsmen and the Nevada National Guard's military equipment.

The Nevada National Guard is the most visible military entity in Nevada with armories and facilities in eight of the state's 16

counties and state capital with 16 primary facilities statewide.

In addition to headquarters' Soldiers, the Nevada Army Guard includes the 17th Sustainment Brigade, the 991st Aviation Troop Command and the Medical Detachment.

The Nevada Air Guard is composed of the 152nd Airlift Wing and 152nd Intelligence Squadron in Reno and the 232nd Operations Squadron in Indian Springs.

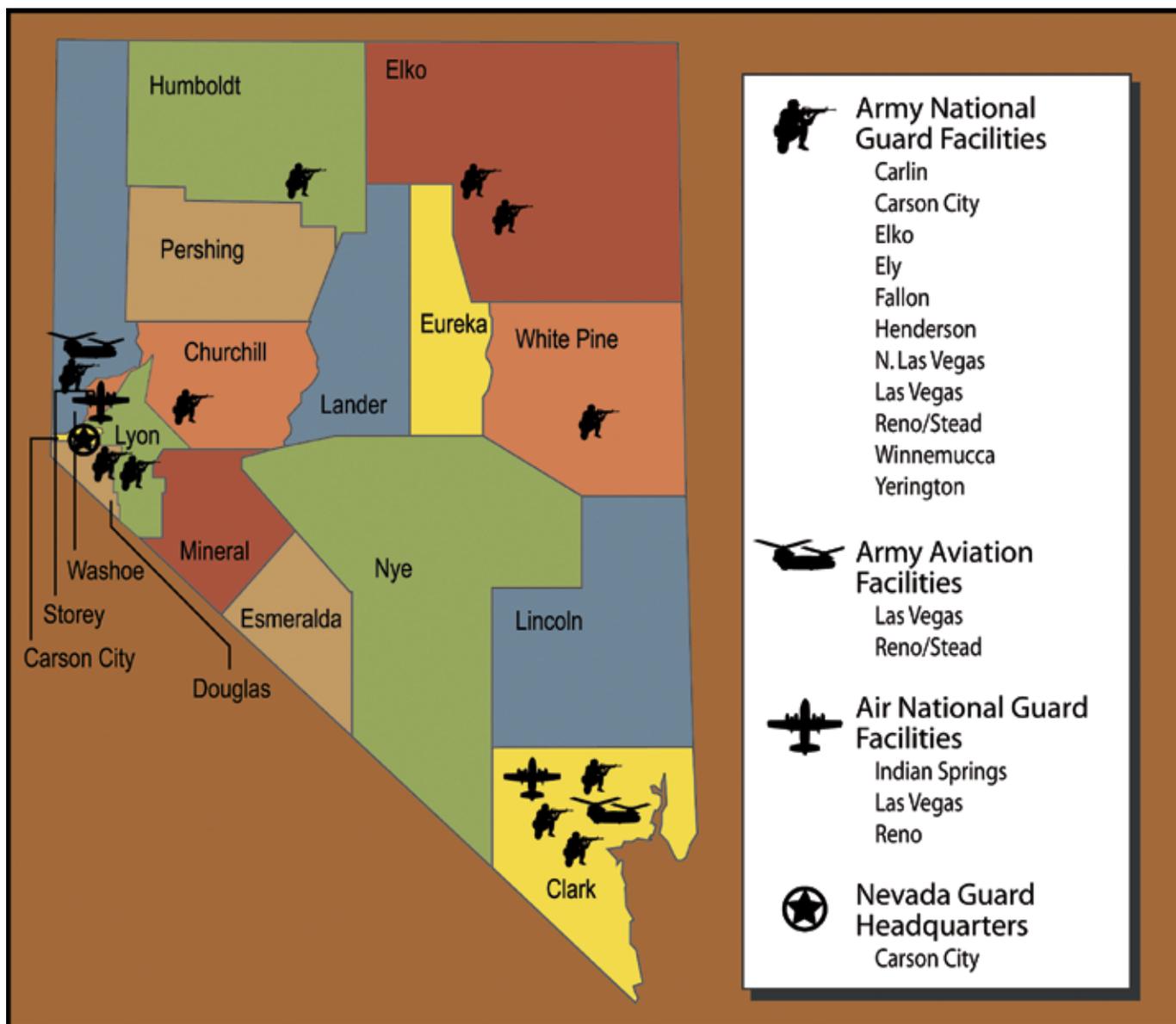
The majority of Nevada Airmen work at the 64-acre base on the southwest corner of the Reno-Tahoe International Airport supporting tactical airlift missions with C-130 aircraft and at the 152nd Intelligence Squadron facility. About 60 Airmen work at Creech Air Force Base in Indian Springs.

The organization remains ready and prepared to expand as needed to meet Nevada's future military requirements.



PHOTO COURTESY NEVADA STATE MUSEUM

This 19th century photo shows a Nevada militia unit forming up before a parade in Virginia City.



Nevadans Around the Globe

The Nevada National Guard's deployment tempo during the biennium remained consistent with previous years in the post-9/11 era.

The 15 years of continuous support in the Global War on Terrorism marks the longest span of time the Nevada National Guard has remained in constant support of combat operations in its history.

Several Air and Army Guard units deployed to various locations in the Middle East, from Kuwait to Afghanistan to the Sinai Peninsula — and even the Nevada National Guard's first deployment to Africa.

The National Guard provides a cost-effective asset for both federal and state governments. More than 80 percent of personnel expenditures for the Nevada Guard's state employees come from federal funds. Additionally, this provides ready and trained Soldiers and Airmen for the federal mission.

Soldiers like Capt. Carlito Rayos, North Las Vegas emergency manager and commander of the 137th Military Police Detachment, bring decades of experience in law enforcement when deployed. Rayos and the 137th began a yearlong deployment to Afghanistan in November 2015.

With the National Guard, the federal government can rely on already-trained Soldiers of the National Guard to meet its mission.

Ongoing Deployments

At the conclusion of 2016, the Nevada National Guard was in the midst of two large-scale deployments.



PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. EMERSON MARCUS

Senior Airman Alanna Vick is interviewed following return from her deployment to Southwest Asia in 2015. About 90 members of the 152nd Operations Group were on the deployment.

— About 120 Soldiers of the 485th Military Police Company were conducting customs and border duties primarily in Kuwait. The unit is set to return to the Silver State in July.

— The majority of the more than 180 Soldiers in the 422nd Expeditionary Battalion are set to return in March. Soldiers in the battalion first mobilized in February 2016 for

deployment to the Horn of Africa and Middle East. About 40 Soldiers in the forward element deployed to the Horn of Africa, while the remainder of the Soldiers deployed to various locations around the Middle East.

Army Guard Deployments

— The largest deployment of Nevada Army Guard Soldiers since 2009 began in January as about 240 troops in the Las Vegas-based 17th Sustainment Brigade marked the start of their 10-month mission to Kuwait. The brigade provided logistical support throughout the Central Command area of operation, but also sent troops to Jordan, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain.

During its deployment, the 17th oversaw the delivery of tens of thousands of tons of food, ammunition, vehicles and other supplies to U.S. and coalition forces throughout CENTCOM. Its most high-profile assignment was delivering more than \$150 million worth of weapons, ammunition, vehicles and other equipment through the Iraq Train and Equip Fund used by the Iraqi Security Forces in its fight against ISIL, including the liberation of



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. VICTOR JOECKS

Command Sgt. Maj. James Richardson, command sergeant major of the 17th Sustainment Brigade, talks to Soldiers with the forward logistics element (FLE) at the Baghdad Diplomatic Support Center, May 12, 2016. Through FLEs throughout Iraq, the brigade oversaw the distribution of more than \$200 million of Iraq Train and Equip Fund supplies and equipment during its 2016 deployment.

Fallujah. The 17th was the first National Guard unit to perform the mission.

— The 137th Military Police Detachment, based out of Henderson, mobilized more than 30 Soldiers for deployment to Afghanistan in November of 2015. The unit provided garrison law and order operations during the deployment.

— The 757th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion headquarters company, of Stead, returned nearly 50 Soldiers from a nine-month deployment August 2015 from Egypt, where they were tasked to provide command, control and administrative and logistical support to Task Force Sinai, the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) peacekeeping contingent in the region.

— Detachment 45, Operations Support Airlift, of Stead, returned in the summer of 2015 from deployment to Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan. The unit served one year performing aerial surveillance, combat support and airlift operations.

Air Guard Deployments

The Nevada Air National Guard ended another high-operations-tempo biennium of deployments.

While Air Guard deployments tend to be more sporadic and numerous than the Army Guard, one of the larger deployments of the year ended November when about 120 Airmen of the 152nd's operations, maintenance groups and logistics readiness squadron returned from Kuwait conducting re-supply missions providing combat service support to land component forces throughout the Persian Gulf region.

One member of the 152nd Communications Flight also deployed on the mission. Additionally, the 152nd Security Forces Squadron deployed more than 50 Airmen to Afghanistan where they forward deployed various locations in Southwest Asia.

Operations Group Airmen returned on staggered flights over the course of a week in November 2015 with dozens of families and friends waiting their return on the flight line at the base in Reno.

No return surprised as many as Staff Sgt. Jeffery Sarkis' return from a five-month deployment. He greeted his girlfriend on the flight line with a ring and one four-word question: "Will you marry me?"

Sarkis' girlfriend, Missy Flory, said, "Yes."



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. VICTOR JOECKS

Col. Vernon L. Scarbrough, commander of the 17th Sustainment Brigade, shakes hands with Brig. Gen. Khalid M. Mohammed, the commander of the Kuwaiti Security Forces, during a meeting on April 21, 2016, in Kuwait. The brigade and Kuwaiti Security Forces are working closely together during the brigade's deployment to Kuwait, and both allies are eager to grow and develop the partnership between the two countries.

FY 2015-2016 Southwest Asia Deployment & Temporary Duty Locations

Nevada National Guard Southwest Asia Duty

1. 485th Military Police Company
2. 422nd Expeditionary Battalion
3. 17th Sustainment Brigade
4. 137th Military Police Detachment
5. 757th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion headquarters company
6. Detachment 45, Operations Support Airlift
7. 152nd Operations Group
8. 152nd Maintenance Group
9. 152nd Logistics Readiness Squadron
10. 152nd Security Forces Squadron

State Expenditures

Under the direction of two state employees — the governor and the adjutant general — the Nevada Military Department oversees and manages the Nevada National Guard's missions, facilities and training. State of Nevada employees provide administrative, accounting, personnel, firefighting, security, maintenance and custodial support for all facilities assigned to the Nevada Military Department. Not all funds used to pay personnel come from state coffers; in fact, more than 80 percent of personnel expenditures for military department state employees are from federal funds.

The state administrative section maintains and manages the master cooperative agreement that dictates the Nevada Military Department's budget. The administrative section maintains and secures the department's facilities and resources and provides information to pertinent parties regarding aspects of the master cooperative agreement. The expenditures from 2015-2016 have been analyzed and will help forecast upcoming biennium expenditures. The Nevada Military Department will compare planned expenses to actual expenditures at the end of FY 2019.



PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. EMERSON MARCUS

Brig. Gen. William Burks is the state employee responsible for the command, control and supervision of the Nevada National Guard. He has been the state's adjutant general since June 2009.

Activity 1: Command and control

The adjutant general is responsible for command, control and supervision of the Nevada Army and Air National Guard. In 2015, the Nevada Military Department expended \$142,565 on command and control; in 2016, the department spent \$148,782.

Activity 2: Facility management

The Nevada National Guard maintains day-to-day operations at 14 primary bases, armories and readiness centers managed by the state of Nevada. As reserve components of the Army and Air Force, the Nevada Army and Air Guard fall under the auspices of the Department of Defense. Due to of this relationship between National Guards and the Department of Defense, the federal government relies on master cooperative agreements with each state to build and maintain the facilities necessary for effective military operations. Expenditures for state active-duty events, as well as administrative expenses, are included within the activity.

Management of the Nevada Guard's facilities is funded from two main accounts: the general fund and federal assistance. During the state's 2015 fiscal year, the general fund provided \$3,064,634, or 16 percent of 2015 expenditures. The federal government supplied the remaining \$15,670,814 (84 percent of expenditures).

In fiscal year 2016, general funds provided \$2,969,246 (13 percent) and federal monies accounted for \$19,323,046 (87 percent).

Activity 3: Recruitment, retention and education incentives

Recruiting, training and retaining Soldiers and Airmen for the Nevada National Guard are crucial to the organization's success. The state provides tuition assistance for Guardsmen who are enrolled in the Nevada System of Higher Education. In 2016, the tuition waiver program — which takes care of 100 percent of a student's tuition costs — waived 11,824 credit hours

for members of the Nevada Army National Guard and 4,631 credit hours for members of the Nevada Air National Guard.

The tuition waiver program is not used for summer credit hours, but excess monies allocated from the general fund for the Guard are used for students to go to school during the summer. Of this money, the state paid \$52,716.26 in summer tuition from the general fund on behalf of Guardsmen in 2015; that figure increased to \$57,823.72 in 2016.

Additionally, the Patriot Relief Act was established in 2005 as a special account in the state general fund for reimbursement on textbook costs, Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance and monetary relief from economic hardship.

The Patriot Relief account expended a total of \$111,768.61 in 2015 and \$117,324.95 in 2016. The majority of those costs went to textbook reimbursement for students: \$106,068.94 in 2015 and \$113,733.95 in 2016.

Federal Expenditures

Nevada Air Guard Federal Appropriated Funds, Fiscal Years 2015 & 2016

Military Personnel and Payroll	2015	2016
Pay and Allowances	\$18,068,410	\$19,604,480
Enlisted Uniforms	\$102,902	\$69,441
Subsistence Dining Hall and Annual Training	\$553,510	\$675,705
Training, Deployment and Guardlift Travel	\$1,323,270	\$1,538,588
Counterdrug Program	\$0	\$3,850
Permanent Change of Station Charges	\$12,150	\$33,410
Total Military Personnel and Payroll	\$20,060,242	\$21,925,474

Operational Expenses	2015	2016
Civilian Payroll	\$19,703,530	\$19,953,630
Training and Guardlift, Travel	\$490,040	\$648,770
Exercises, Deployments, Contingencies, Military Programs	\$249,540	\$190,550
Equipment, Supplies, Shipping and Other Services	\$1,266,000	\$1,391,950
Communications	\$121,900	\$90,370
Fly Supplies/Depot Level Repairs	\$12,290	\$98,960
Property Maintenance, Utilities, Security and Repairs*	\$3,046,750	\$12,699,460
Environmental Compliance Program	\$41,650	\$24,070
Medical	\$328,400	\$135,520
Counterdrug Program	\$18,620	\$8,100
Recruiting and Advertising	\$23,770	\$25,600
Family Support Program	\$54,500	\$51,650
Total Operational Expenses	\$25,356,990	\$35,318,630

Total Nevada Air National Guard Expenses	\$45,417,232	\$57,244,104
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*FY16-Funded for 9.8M for Building 84 remodel

The Air National Guard Directorate in Washington, D.C., administers the personnel, facilities, and training and equipment budgets for the Air National Guard. The 2016 budget for the entire Air National Guard was \$9.6 billion, a decrease of about \$145.5 million from fiscal year 2015.

Of the \$9.6 billion budgeted for the Air National Guard, \$6.4 billion was allocated for operations and maintenance expenditures and \$3.2 billion was spent on personnel appropriations. The Nevada Air National Guard operated efficiently within its allocated budget despite the fact it received less than 1 percent of the entire Air National Guard budget.

Total expenses in 2016 were up nearly \$10 million compared with 2015. This increase in funding for 2016 was primarily a result of the \$9.8 million received for the Building 84 remodeling project on the base, where base operations are housed.

The Nevada Air National Guard employs 352 full-time permanent personnel, including federal technicians and Active Guard and Reserve Airmen, with an additional 37 temporary technicians allocated for fiscal year 2017. Overall, the Nevada Air National Guard includes 1,137 Airmen, the vast majority known as traditional guardsmen drilling one weekend a month and two weeks each year.

The Nevada Air Guard is composed of the 152nd Airlift Wing and 152nd Intelligence Squadron in Reno and the 232nd Operations Squadron in Indian Springs.

The majority of Nevada Airmen work at the 64-acre base on the southwest corner of the Reno-Tahoe International Airport supporting tactical airlift missions with C-130 aircraft and at the 152nd Intelligence Squadron facility. About 60 Airmen work at Creech Air Force Base in Indian Springs.

Source: The Nevada Air National Comptroller's Office and the Nevada National Guard Human Resources Office.

Nevada Army Guard Federal Appropriated Funds, Fiscal Years 2015 & 2016

	2015	2016
Pay and Allowance	\$46,600,947	\$47,748,229
Subsistence	\$765,900	\$694,448
Service Schools & Training	\$2,717,000	\$3,382,143
Counterdrug Program	\$599,687	\$487,337
Recruiting Activities	\$1,818,400	\$1,860,916
Medical Care, Hospitalization, and INCAP Pay	\$1,261,800	\$1,925,806
Military Uniforms	\$975,200	\$1,012,405
Travel Costs	\$1,258,700	\$1,152,619
Repair Parts	\$2,796,790	\$1,640,314
Petroleum, Oil, and Lubricants	\$1,258,700	\$1,631,738
Transportation Costs	\$386,425	\$377,399
Safety & industrial Hygiene Program	\$71,600	\$84,347
Environmental Related Costs	\$431,000	\$369,000
Communications & Visual Information	\$956,400	\$1,158,030
Real Property Operations and Maint.	\$8,078,500	\$7,639,866
Logistical Supplies and Services	\$4,377,500	\$1,784,858
Military Support to Civilian Authorities	\$84,200	\$88,240
Training Site Support	\$1,529,200	\$181,201
Data Processing Systems	\$771,500	\$867,100
Administrative Services	\$60,000	\$66,000
Family Assistance Program	\$349,600	\$268,500
Security & Civil Support Programs	\$2,846,600	\$2,770,800
Mobilization Expenses	\$3,464,600	\$4,490,904

Total Nevada Army National Guard Expenses

\$83,460,249.00

\$81,682,200.00

The Army National Guard's Joint Staff in Washington, D.C., assists the Chief, National Guard Bureau, in the administration and management of the personnel, facilities, training and equipment budgets for the Army National Guard.

The Army's entire budget for 2016 was \$126.6 billion and the Army Guard budget was about \$15.1 billion, or about 12 percent of the U.S. Army's total budget. The economical Army National Guard contributes 39 percent of the Army's operational forces while employing 86 percent part-time (or traditional) Soldiers who train one weekend a month and two weeks per year.

Of the \$15.1 billion budgeted for the Army National Guard, approximately \$8.1 billion went toward personnel appropriations and

\$7.0 billion was used for operations and maintenance.

The Nevada Army Guard's 2016 expenditure total of \$81.6 million amounted to only about .5 percent of the entire Army National Guard's budget.

Internally, Nevada Army National Guard expenditures for 2016 decreased by almost \$2 million in comparison to 2015. The expenditure total of \$81.6 million in 2016 is about \$45 million less than the record expenditure year of \$126.9 million in 2010 at the height of wars on two fronts. In 2010, nearly 700 Soldiers drew full-time pay while on active duty orders supporting the Global War on Terrorism.

The Nevada Army National Guard employs 547 full-time personnel, including 287

Army federal technicians and 260 Active Guard and Reserve Soldiers.

Military and civilian pay for the Nevada Army National Guard was \$94.3 million during the biennium. That total was slightly more than the \$93.5 million in payroll expenditures in 2013-2014. Army military and civilian pay expenses increased in 2016 from 2015 by \$1.15 million.

Although payroll was up last year, total expenses decreased in 2016 versus 2015 for a variety of reasons. The overall decrease in expenditures could be attributed to drastic cuts in logistical supplies and services and fewer purchases of repair parts.

Sources: National Guard Bureau Office of Legislative Liaison FY16 President's Budget Request; National Guard Bureau Posture Statements 2014-2016.

Construction & Maintenance

The replacement of the aircraft parking area at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Stead, a 205-kilowatt photovoltaic power system at the Cometa Complex and selection of the Floyd Edsall Training Center as the new location for the Close Combat Tactical Trainer and Call for Fire Trainer regional training assets highlighted the **Nevada Army Guard's** significant infrastructure additions in 2015-16.

Located adjacent to the Reno-Stead Airport, the Army Aviation Support Facility provides logistical and administrative support for helicopters assigned to the Nevada Army National Guard. The pavement, originally installed in 1984, was failing and beyond repair. Using \$4.8 million in federal funding, the Nevada Army National Guard replaced 43,428-square yards of pavement providing safe taxi and tie-down areas with a designed life expectancy of more than 20 years.

In 2015, the Nevada Army National Guard completed construction of a 205-kilowatt, \$700,000 photovoltaic power system at the Cometa Complex in Las Vegas. This new asset provides 100 percent of the power needs for the 47,231-square foot vehicle maintenance facility during daylight hours, reduced electricity costs by 68 percent and annually eliminates more than 407 tons of carbon emissions in the Las Vegas Valley.

The U.S. Army selected the Nevada Army National Guard to house two regional training assets at the Floyd Edsall Training Center in North Las Vegas at a cost of \$750,000. The Close Combat Tactical Trainer supports the training of infantry, armor, mechanized infantry, cavalry and armored reconnaissance units from squad through battalion/squadron level, to include their staffs.

The **Nevada Air National Guard's** significant infrastructure repairs in 2015-2016 were highlighted by the successful award for construction of the Repair Operations Facility project to remodel and modernize the 30-year-old, 20,000-square-foot facility.

Additionally, the Nevada Air Guard completed a project to install an uninterruptible power system on the Base Communications Facility. This is the first ever install of its kind in the Air National Guard.

The 152nd Airlift Wing also upgraded base lighting as part of its ongoing goal to reduce energy usage. The project replaced nearly every exterior lighting fixture on the Reno base adjacent the Reno-Tahoe International Airport.

The base's mass notification tower was also upgraded.

Major Construction Dollars Spent in 2015-2016

Project Title	County/ Community	Federal Funds	State Funds	Total Cost
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD PROJECTS				
Army Aviation Pavement Replacement	Stead/Washoe	\$4,807,000	\$0	\$4,807,000
Central Plant Renovation	Clark/N. Las Vegas	\$474,713	\$474,713	\$949,426
Close Combat Tactical Trainer	Clark/N. Las Vegas	\$750,000	\$0	\$750,000
Call for Fire Trainer	Clark/N. Las Vegas	\$750,000	\$0	\$750,000
Motor Pool Lighting Installation	Clark/N. Las Vegas	\$744,020	\$0	\$744,020
Readiness Center Roof Replacement	Elko & Clark/ Carlin & Henderson	\$327,239	\$327,239	\$654,478
Army National Guard Projects Total		\$7,852,972	\$801,952	\$8,654,924
AIR NATIONAL GUARD PROJECTS				
Repair Ops Facility	Washoe/Reno	\$9,390,000	\$0	\$9,390,000
SUPS	Washoe/Reno	\$420,000	\$0	\$420,000
Basewide Lighting Renovation	Washoe/Reno	\$285,000	\$0	\$285,000
Replace Flooring Base Wide	Washoe/Reno	\$210,000	\$0	\$210,000
Mass Notification Tower	Washoe/Reno	\$150,000	\$0	\$150,000
Readiness Bldg 76 Transformer	Washoe/Reno	\$115,000	\$0	\$115,000
Air National Guard Projects Total		\$10,570,000	\$0	\$10,570,000
TOTALS		\$18,422,972	\$801,952	\$19,224,924

Army Guard Overview



PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. EMERSON MARCUS

The Nevada Army National Guard traces its origin to June 8, 1861, when a group of citizens on the Comstock formed a militia unit, “Union Blues,” to “overawe outbreaks of secessionists” and maintain “our present, political life.”

In the interim 156 years, the Nevada Army National Guard has grown to more than 3,100 Soldiers — the majority traditional Guard Soldiers training one weekend a month and two weeks a year — supporting federal contingency- and domestic-response missions. During the biennium, the Nevada Army National Guard deployed more than 600 Soldiers around the globe and supported several emergency domestic missions, including firefighting activations and response to the Beatty chemical explosion in 2015.

The Nevada Army Guard is composed of a Joint Force Headquarters, the 17th Sustainment Brigade, the 991st Aviation Troop Command, a Medical Detachment and the Recruiting and Retention Battalion.

The following recounts the activities and events of the Nevada Army National Guard elements based on the structure of the organization set for May 2017.

Joint Force Headquarters



The Nevada Army National Guard's Joint Force Headquarters is located at the Office of the Adjutant General complex in Carson City. The mission of the unit's 140 Soldiers is to provide personnel for logistical and training support to the state's Soldiers, especially those set to deploy. The headquarters' personnel staff conducts multiple Soldier Readiness Program events annually to ensure deploying units and individuals are prepared for service abroad. The unit also supplies trained, knowledgeable Soldiers to support the directorate staff. Many Soldiers in the unit work full time as Active Guard and Reserve Soldiers or as federal technicians.

Headquarters Soldiers also comprise the training and ranges staff at the Stead Training Site and they provide administrative and training support for the 106th Public Affairs Detachment.

17th Sustainment Brigade



The 17th Sustainment Brigade maintains administrative control over two-thirds of the Nevada Army Guard's units and personnel. The brigade oversees the 17th Special Troops Battalion and the 757th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion.

At the beginning of 2016, the 17th executed the largest deployment of Nevada Army Guard Soldiers since 2009. More than 240 brigade Soldiers began a 10-month mission to the Middle East with a mobilization ceremony at the Mandalay Bay Events Center in January. After completing a month of pre-mobilization training, including the successful completion of its mission readiness exercise, at Fort Hood, Texas, the 17th arrived in Kuwait in February.

The 17th completed its "relief in place" with the 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade and assumed command of logistical operations for U.S. and coalition forces throughout U.S. Central Command on March 3. Maj. Gen. Paul Hurley Jr., commander of the 1st Sustainment Command (Theater), called the 17th's logistical op-



PHOTO BY SGT. MIKE ORTIN

Members of the 92nd Civil Support Team participate in a training exercise designed to test their abilities to respond and contain domestic contingencies.

erations mission "the most complex and difficult sustainment mission ever tackled by a sustainment brigade."

The 17th was the first National Guard unit to perform the mission. Over the course of its nine-month deployment, the 17th oversaw the delivery of tens of thousands of tons of food, ammunition, vehicles and other supplies to U.S. and coalition forces throughout CENTCOM.

Its most high-profile assignment was the delivery of more than \$150 million worth of weapons, ammunition, vehicles and other equipment via the Iraq Train and Equip Fund used by the Iraqi Security Forces in its ongoing fight against ISIL.

The brigade's headquarters, including commander Col. Vernon Scarbrough, and brigade Command Sgt. Maj. James Richardson, were based in Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, where the 17th oversaw four battalions running operations at more than a dozen locations in several countries, including Iraq.

It was the brigade's first mobilization since its formation on May 1, 2009.

Prior to the deployment, the brigade participated in a 2015 Warfighter Exercise at Joint Base Lewis-McCord, Wash., where the unit earned its federal validation. The exercise simulated division-level operations and prepared the brigade to plan and execute sustainment operations across a widespread and diverse operational environment. After the exercise, now-retired Maj. Gen. Walter Wojdakowski, the

exercise's senior advisor, called the 17th "the best trained mission command group in the Army."

17th Support Battalion

The 17th Support Battalion provides administrative support for the 72nd Military Police Company, the 137th Military Police Company, the 100th Quartermaster Company and the 240th, 277th and 777th Engineers. The battalion's staff is based at the Las Vegas Readiness Center in Clark County. The battalion also oversees the headquarters company which is responsible for brigade administrative and logistical support.

72nd Military Police Company

The 72nd Military Police Company, the most deployed Nevada Army Guard unit since 2001, returned from its fifth deployment — this time to Kabul, Afghanistan — in May 2016. The company provided transportation and security support for leaders of the International Security Assistance Force and NATO.

Since 2001, the unit has deployed twice to Iraq and Afghanistan and once domestically to the Defense Language Institute in California. The most recent deployment was unique given it lasted nearly two years and included two rotations of Soldiers. Chalk One of about 25 Soldiers left in September 2014; Chalk Two replaced the Chalk One and arrived in May 2015 and returned in May 2016.



PHOTO BY SGT. WALTER LOWELL

Spc. Caleb Campbell of the 3665th Ordnance Company displays an inert mortar round while clearing a mortar range at the Hawthorne Army Depot in July. Campbell transitioned to the Army EOD corps after an initial stint in the military in the Air Force's nursing corps.

Along with the 137th Military Police Company, the Henderson-based 72nd MPs benefitted from the renovation upgrades to the Henderson Armory. Both units temporarily moved to the Las Vegas Readiness Center during the renovation.

137th Military Police Company

The 137th Military Police Company, headquartered in Henderson, provides technical supervision, planning, employment and coordination of support for military police operations. The company deployed more than 30 Soldiers to Afghanistan in November 2015 to provide garrison law and order operations in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel.

It was the unit's second deployment since its activation in 2007. The company mobilized about 50 Soldiers for a year-long deployment to Afghanistan in 2010.

Additionally, the company continued its support of Operation Vigilant Sentinel and provided security at McCarran International Airport and other locations in Las Vegas during the city's annual New Year's Eve celebration.

Also during the biennium, renovations on the Henderson Armory were completed. The 137th's home armory — built in 1971 — received a new ceiling, improved heating and air conditioning systems and an electrical and lighting upgrade. Additionally, the building was re-roofed and received new

doors and windows. Total amount spent on the renovations was about \$1.5 million funded with a combination of state and federal monies.

100th Quartermaster Company

Headquartered at the North Las Vegas Readiness Center, the 100th Quartermaster Company specializes in turning natural water sources into potable water fit for human consumption and water transportation.

In 2016, the unit spent its annual training at Camp Navajo, Ariz., where it filtered sev-

eral thousand gallons of water through its Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit filtration system to generate potable water. While in Arizona from May 15-25, 2016, the 100th also conducted several other training events, including an Army Physical Fitness Test, ruck march, confidence and land navigation courses and weapons training.

240th, 277th, and 777th Engineers

The Nevada Army Guard's engineer team, based at the Las Vegas Readiness Center, is led by the 240th Engineer Company, which is supplemented by the 277th Engineer Haul Platoon and the 777th Engineer Detachment.

The company specializes in vertical engineering, the platoon specializes in heavy equipment operations and the detachment is adept at horizontal engineering, especially concrete emplacement.

757th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion

The Headquarters and Headquarters Company of the 757th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion provides mission command for the 150th Maintenance Company, 485th Military Police, 593rd Medium Transportation Company, 609th Engineer Company and the 1859th and 1864th transportation companies.

About 50 Soldiers of the headquarters company returned from a nine-month deployment to the Sinai Peninsula in Egypt in 2015. The unit served as the U.S. Army's 1st Sustainment Battalion's headquarters



PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. EMERSON MARCUS

Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval speaks during the 137th Military Police deployment ceremony in November 2015.

and provided mission command to Allied Forces throughout the Peninsula.

During the biennium, the battalion's staff filled the role as the headquarters element of the 17th Sustainment Brigade. The duty temporarily pushed the number of Soldiers in the battalion-sized element's oversight to more than 1,000 Soldiers during the brigade's absence.

150th Maintenance Company

The 150th Maintenance Company consolidated its forces in northern Nevada in 2016. The company, headquartered in Carson City, previously included a detachment of Soldiers in Las Vegas.

In 2015, the company worked with contractors at the Sierra Army Depot in Herlong, Calif., during its annual training to fix and repair federal vehicles. The unit conducted maintenance operations in three shop areas with more than 80 Soldiers. The company completed more than 120 services on ground support equipment, refurbished 112 gun mounts and welded three flat racks.

In 2016, the company conducted convoy operations and completed vehicle swaps in order to complete its consolidation to the Capital City.

485th Military Police Company

The 485th Military Police Company, of Reno, provides guards for detainees or U.S. military prisoners and performs security and law enforcement missions on military installations and other facilities.

The company spent much of the biennium preparing for a mobilization in support of Joint Task Force Guantanamo set to begin September 2016. Instead, the unit deployed to Kuwait to provide customs and security operations. The unit's departure pushed the total number of Nevada Army Guard Soldiers deployed to more than 500.

The 485th is set to return from deployment in autumn 2017.

The unit's most recent deployment prior to the current one occurred in 2011 to Bagram, Afghanistan. The company has often responded to domestic contingency requests for assistance and provided security at several northern Nevada wildfires and the Reno Championship Air Races crash in 2011.

593rd Medium Transportation Company

The 593rd Medium Transportation Company provides transportation for the



PHOTO BY SGT. MICHAEL ORTON

Sgt. Jacob Flick, left, kneels while instructing Cadet Shawn Joseph, who is scanning the dirt with mine detecting equipment alongside Spc. Colton Wenger. The Soldiers are members of the Nevada Army National Guard's 609th Engineer Company.

movement of bulk petroleum products. This unit is capable of both line-haul and local-haul operations through direct haul, shuttle, relay and inter-modal operations.

The primary employment of the unit is reserved for the warfighter in theater, but the company may also operate in a Corps/Division area dependent on road conditions.

In 2015, Spc. Chase Howard, 25, of the 593rd Medium Transportation Company, won the Soldiers' division of the Nevada Army Guard Best Warrior competition, claiming three of the seven events contested.

609th Engineer Company

The 609th Engineer Company, or "Sappers," provide combat engineering for front-line infantrymen and conduct mobility, counter mobility and survivability missions. The company, stationed in Fallon, also supports state missions with equipment and Soldiers for natural disaster relief and civil disturbances.

The company spent much of the biennium training on demolition calculations, construction demolition charges and other mission-essential tasks. In 2015, the Sappers trained at Fort Irwin, Calif., on breaching enemy obstacles and combat infantry strategies. During the exercise, the 609th halted enemy advances in order to allow allies to engage and destroy blocked enemy columns before breaches occurred.

The unit continued training on mission-

essential tasks in 2016 at the Marine Corps' Mountain Training Warfare Center in Bridgeport, Calif.

This upcoming biennium, the Fallon unit will assume the confined space search-and-extraction portion of the Nevada Guard's Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, High-Yield Explosives (CBRNE) Enhanced Response Force Package, commonly known as CERFP.

1859th Transportation Company

The 1859th Transportation Company, the Nevada Army National Guard's newest unit, provides transportation support for the movement of bulk cargo, containers and personnel.

The 1859th Transportation Company was created during the Nevada Army Guard re-organization in 2016. It was named the 1859th to honor the Comstock miners who helped settled the state in 1859 at the onset of the region's mining boom.

1864th Transportation Company

The 1864th provides transportation for the movement of containerized, non-containerized, palletized, dry and refrigerated cargo and bulk liquid products.

The unit performs both line haul and local haul operations. Hauling methods include direct haul, shuttle, relay and inter-modal operations.

In 2016, the 1864th Transportation Company established the Spc. Anthony Cometa Memorial Academic Scholarships

for the 2016-2017 academic year. The two scholarships, worth \$650 and \$500, are reserved current and former members of the company. Cometa, of the 1864th, died in a vehicle accident one day after his 21st birthday on June 16, 2005, while on a convoy security mission in Iraq. He was the first Nevada Guardsman killed in action while supporting the Global War on Terrorism.

991st Multi-Functional Brigade



The 991st Multi-Functional Brigade boasts a wide array of capabilities and services to support domestic and foreign operations. The brigade includes the Aviation Troop Command, the 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion and, beginning May 2017, the 1st Squadron, 221st Cavalry.



A CH-47 Chinook helicopter with the Nevada Army National Guard's 1/189th Aviation conducts water bucket training near Truckee, Calif.

Aviation Command Element

The Nevada Army National Guard's Aviation Troop Command is headquartered at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Stead. The command is composed of six units: Detachment 1, 45th Operation Support Airlift; Detachment 3, B Co, 2-641st Aviation Regiment; B Company, 3/140th Aviation (MEDEVAC); D Company, 3/140th Security and Support; C Company, 1/168th Aviation (MEDEVAC) and B Company, 1/189th General Support Aviation Battalion.

Detachment 1, 45th Operational Support Airlift and Detachment 3, B Co, 2-641st Aviation Regiment

Detachment 1, 45th Operational Support Airlift and Detachment 3, B Co, 2-641st Aviation Regiment fly fixed-wing C-12 aircraft out of the Army Aviation Support Facility in Stead.

In June 2015, the unit returned from a 12-month deployment with Task Force Observe, Detect, Identify and Neutralize (ODIN), a brigade-sized task force focused on reconnaissance, surveillance and target acquisition in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Freedom's Sentinel in the Middle East.

Upon redeployment, the unit transitioned back to its home-station mission of passenger and cargo transport for the Nevada National Guard among other customers, including the various active and reserve military branches as well as the North American Aerospace Defense Command, U.S. Special Operations Command and Department of Defense leadership.

B Company, 3/140th Aviation (MEDEVAC) and D Company, 3/140th Security and Support

Both elements of the 3/140th fly and maintain the state's six UH-72 Lakota helicopters out of the Nevada Army Guard's new Limited Army Aviation Support Facility at the North Las Vegas Airport. The southern Nevada Army aviation assets can respond to potential terrorism events, perform search-and-rescue and medical evacuation operations, and support damage assessment and counterdrug missions.

In 2015, the aviation units obtained the last of the 212 Lakota helicopters Airbus Group, Inc., produced for the U.S. Army use since it received the contract in 2006.

During the past two years, many of the Soldiers in the unit deployed in support

of southwest border missions to provide aerial detection and monitoring support for U.S. Department of Homeland Security and U.S. Customs and Border Protection at the Western Army Aviation Training Site in Marana, Ariz.

In 2015, two of the unit's Soldiers saved a man's life when his vehicle crashed into an electric pole outside Tucson, Ariz. The two Soldiers — Sgt. Kyle Stephens, 25, and Spc. Michael Knight, 23 — were night fishing on their time off when the single-vehicle accident occurred. If they hadn't pulled the man from the fiery vehicle, the man could have died, Tucson police said.

C Company, 1/168th Aviation (MEDEVAC)

Following its return from Afghanistan in 2014, Company C, 1/168th Aviation (MEDEVAC) increasingly focused on domestic firefighting and stateside support missions. The unit flies and maintains six UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters and has deployed five times since 2001.

In 2015, the unit flew 31 sorties on wildland firefighting missions, making 114 drops with about 6,700 gallons of water on fires throughout the American West.

In addition to firefighting missions, the unit supports medical evacuation efforts for both civilian and military counter drug operations and search and rescue operations.

The unit logged 1,349 total flight hours on 800 separate missions while transporting 142 passengers from January 2015 through July 2016.

B Company, 1/189th General Support Aviation Battalion

B Company, 1/189th General Support Aviation Battalion spent the previous biennium focusing on domestic and stateside missions following its return from its third deployment to Afghanistan in 2013.

In 2015, 1/189th Soldiers flew 21 sorties during wildland firefighting missions, making 130 drops of 2,000 gallons of water.

The 1/189th supports Army, Navy and Air Force special operations forces in addition to the Nevada Guard. Training missions include water bucket drops, high-altitude landings, external sling loading, radar passive identification, low-altitude drops and time-on target operations.

Statistics reveal the unit logged 973 total flight hours on 429 missions with 1,109 passengers flown from January 2015 through July 2016.

1st Squadron, 221st Cavalry



As fiscal year 2016 concluded, 1st Squadron, 221st Cavalry, headquartered at the Edsall Readiness Center in North Las Vegas, was set to change its affiliation and upgrade its armored fleet.

After 20 years of a close partnership with the active duty's 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in neighboring California, the Nevada Army Guard's 1-221st Armored Reconnaissance Squadron was set to join the 116th Cavalry Brigade Combat Team headquartered in Idaho in November.

As of November 2016, the 1-221st Soldiers will don the patch of the massive 116th CBCT that spans four states and includes more than 3,000 Soldiers. The 116th is the lone cavalry brigade combat team in the National Guard and is the largest organization within the Idaho National Guard. In addition to Nevada, it oversees battalions in Oregon and Montana.

The move brings the unit full circle to its origins. The Nevada Guard first oversaw armored cavalry in 1967 when Nevada artillery units were consolidated into 3rd Squadron of the 116th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Idaho National Guard.

Although the 1-221st will no longer have the distinction of being the only reserve-component armor squadron assigned to an active-duty combat arms unit, the transition to the 116th brought lucrative incentives.

The 1-221st will expand from about 420 Soldiers to more than 650 Soldiers and the squadron will eventually receive more than \$250 million worth of new armored vehicles, including 45 Bradley M2A3 Fighting Vehicles and 14 M1A1 AIM-SA tanks, to equip itself for its new mission. The squadron's previous fleet of 26 outdated Bradleys will be decommissioned.

Clear evidence the transition to the 116th was in high gear was seen during the 1-221st's 2016 mid-summer annual training session, as about 100 Bradley crewmen trained on the first shipment of 14, 30-ton Bradleys parked behind the Clark County Armory.

The arrival of the tanks marks the first time since 2006 that the Nevada Army Guard has fielded tanks in its arsenal. Each M1A1 AIM-SA tank is worth \$6 million and features state-of-the-art electronics and



NEVADA NATIONAL GUARD PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A Nevada Army National Guard UH-72 Lakota helicopter participates in training with the 72nd Military Police Company near Las Vegas, Nev.

software to accurately fire its 120 mm main gun. Each M1A1 is also armed with a M240 machine gun and a .50 caliber machine gun.

422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion

In the past two years, the 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion upgraded \$22 million worth of equipment and training tools for more than 250 Soldiers on the Warfighter Information Network, Tactical Increment 1B communications suite.

As 2016 concluded, almost half of the 503 assigned Soldiers in the battalion were deployed to 10 countries throughout North Africa and the Middle East. Despite the deployments, the battalion maintained deployment readiness, increased its technical and tactical communications capabilities, and was recognized by U.S. Army Forces Command as the No. 1 expeditionary signal battalion in the nation.

The battalion consists of four companies in Nevada and Arizona, making it one of the largest organizations in the Nevada Army Guard. The companies include Headquarters Company in Reno, Alpha Expeditionary Signal Company, in Casa Grande, Ariz., Bravo Expeditionary Signal Company in Las Vegas, and Charlie Joint-Heavy Signal Company in Reno.

Fulfilling the first Nevada Army Guard deployment to Africa, Task Force - Horn of Africa was formed from various 422nd elements to support the military's Combined Joint Task Force Horn of Africa mission. About 40 signal Soldiers deployed in the winter of 2016 to provide communications support in Kuwait, Iraq and Qatar.

In order to prepare for its multiple deployments, the 422nd received major signal equipment upgrades during the summer of 2015. The Increment 1 Bravo upgrade improved cyber security and connectivity with U.S. Armed Forces at the cost of \$22 million. Training for 250 Soldiers on the new equipment was completed in a span of four months.

1/421st Regional Training Institute



The 421st Regional Training Institute experienced significant changes during the last biennium. The RTI continues to focus on its mission of conducting regionalized individual training on the behalf of Training and Doctrine Command, as Army training initiatives drive funding allocation, military occupational specialty density and force structure allocations.

The unit pared its instruction down from a wide range of military specialties, or military occupational specialty (MOS) jobs, down to just the 25 series Signal Corps MOS in order to meet National Guard Bureau requirements for classes, course structure and logistics for certifying the institute.

In 2015, the bureau placed the 421st in a probationary status as the unit reorganized its force structure and mission focus. That status led to the elimination of Officer Candidate School, motor transport operator and military police courses from the institute's curriculum as the RTI focused its efforts on becoming a regional hub for signal MOSs.



1-221st Armored Reconnaissance Squadron Bradley crewmen perform evacuation drills adjacent to a new Bradley Fighting Vehicle during annual training on July 29 at the Clark County Armory in Las Vegas.

In the midst of the ongoing global transition to technologically driven systems and procedures and the Army's switch from The Army School System to the One Army School System, the 421st positioned itself to become a western hub for the signal corps education system.

Under OASS, Army and National Guard regional training institutes are in the process of reorganizing school houses and MOS focus. Instead of several RTIs in relatively close proximity teaching the same MOS, each RTI will now focus on a MOS for its region.

The OASS transition led to a huge physical change for the RTI during the last biennium — it moved from Camp Stead Training Center near Reno to the North Las Vegas Readiness Center. The move resulted in substantial cost savings for the unit and opened more opportunities for specialized instruction for students nationwide. It also allowed the RTI to coordinate with Nellis Air Force Base to provide housing and meals for students.

Nevada's RTI offers six courses each year with an average of about 18 students per class. In the future, the 421st aims to acquire additional classroom space to increase student capacity.

Medical Detachment

The Nevada Army Guard's Medical Detachment provides and sustains health force protection and medical/dental support in order to meet operational, training and mobilization medical readiness requirements of the state's units and Soldiers. The Medical Detachment has a platoon in both Reno and in Las Vegas comprised of physicians, nurses, dentists, dental and preventative med technicians, combat medics, behavioral health personnel and administrative staff. All combat medics are qualified as National Registry Emergency Medical Technicians-Basic for a high level of proficiency both on and off the battlefield.

Over the past two years the Medical Detachment facilitated more than 20 pre-deployment Soldier Readiness Process health screenings for seven mobilizing units. It accomplished the mission in addition to the unit's requirement to complete annual periodic health assessments for all Nevada Soldiers.

In 2016, the Medical Detachment surpassed the National Guard Bureau's seasonal influenza vaccination requirement

of 90 percent prior to the bureau's deadline; Nevada was one of only 20 states that met the deadline. Also, Medical Detachment personnel used Lean Six Sigma skills to improve the PHA process and increased the number of Soldiers who could be examined each day.

The Med Det's annual training in 2016 included participation in the Army Reserve's massive field medical support operation named "Relevant Medic." During the joint operation, the Medical Detachment's Soldiers supported the exercise's combat support hospital, the paramedicine section, the preventative medicine section, the psychological care management office, the tactical field medicine section, the medical logistics section and the administration section while also providing role players for the training exercise.

Sixteen of the 26 Medical Detachment Soldiers who participated were "coined" (recognized for their efforts) by various commanders.

Recruiting and Retention Battalion



The Recruiting and Retention Battalion's mission is to maintain the Nevada Army Guard's strength and military expertise by recruiting new Soldiers and retaining experienced Guardsmen.

There are about 30 full-time Guardsmen in the battalion stationed across the state. The vast majority of the battalion — which can reach as many as 400 Soldiers at any given time — include many Guardsmen who are in the midst of their military training schools and are awaiting their next military course; for example, delayed-entry Soldiers waiting on their Army Basic Combat Training or military occupational specialty school dates.

The battalion was expected to meet and exceed its mission at the end of fiscal year 2016. As of August 2016, enlisted numbers had reached 366 of the goal of 390 Soldiers. In 2015, the battalion enlisted 409 Soldiers.

In 2016, 322 Soldiers graduated from their military occupational schools or BCT. In 2015, 309 Nevada Guard Soldiers passed their schools.

Air Guard Overview



From its humble beginning in 1948 when it was established as the 192nd Fighter Squadron with 88 Airmen, the Nevada Air National Guard has grown into a force of about 1,100 Airmen, a majority working one weekend a month and two weeks each year as traditional guardsmen.

The Nevada Air National Guard State Headquarters office is located in Carson City at the Office of the Adjutant General. It oversees the 152nd Airlift Wing and the 152nd Intelligence Squadron at the Nevada Air National Guard Base in Reno and the 232nd Operations Squadron at Creech Air Force Base north of Las Vegas in Indian Springs.

The Nevada Air National Guard's mission is to provide world-class tactical air delivery, remotely piloted aircraft, intelligence and advanced Airmen for federal and state objectives.

PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. EMERSON MARCUS



152nd Airlift Wing



The 152nd Airlift Wing, commanded by Col. Karl Stark, includes four groups, eight squadrons and three flights. The groups are the 152nd Operations Group, the 152nd Maintenance Group, the 152nd Mission Support Group and the 152nd Medical Group. The 152nd Airlift Wing's mission is to provide rapid global mobility airlift and expeditionary mission support.

During the previous biennium, the 152nd Airlift Wing received the U.S. Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for 2012-2014; a fleet upgrade with new C-130 H series aircraft; passed a federal inspection in March 2016 and was selected to become the newest unit to take on a nationwide firefighting mission with the U.S. Forest Service's Modular Airborne Fire Fighting Systems, or MAFFS.

152nd Operations Group

The 152nd Operations Group employed its eight C-130 H series aircraft around the globe in support of federal and state missions as well as national level exercises. Two squadrons make up the group: the 192nd Airlift Squadron and the 152nd Operations Squadron.

The biennium included several positive announcements for the group. In 2015, the unit began its second fleet upgrade since converting to C-130 aircraft in 1996. The C-130 H2 models were replaced with six C-130 H3 models and two C-130 H2 models. The new models include upgraded avionics with digital flight instruments and fuel gauges.

In 2016, the National Guard Bureau announced the 152nd Airlift Wing would replace the 145th Airlift Wing, North Carolina



TECH. SGT. EMERSON MARCUS

Loadmasters with the 152nd Operations Group look out over Lake Tahoe at a trailing 152nd Airlift Wing C-130 last summer.

Air National Guard, as the newest Modular Airborne Fire Fighting Systems (MAFFS) unit. Since 1974, MAFFS — a fire retardant delivery system inserted into C-130 aircraft — has been a joint effort between the U.S. Forest Service and the Department of Defense. Three National Guard units and one reserve unit support the Forest Service with C-130 aircraft for the mission. Thirteen Airmen of the group participated in the unit's first MAFFS certification and training May 1-7, 2016 at Channel Islands Air National Guard Station, Calif. The 152nd Airlift Wing will continue its training with the goal of full certification to begin flying autonomous firefighting missions with its aircraft in three to five years, depending on how much experience 152nd aircrew gain fighting actual fires.

Additionally, the unit continued its Air Expeditionary Force tasking in 2015, culminating in the deployment of four C-130 H series aircraft and 62 group members from United States Central Command. After integrating with the active duty as well as members of the Georgia Air National

Guard, the unit flew 1,335 sorties in support of Operation Inherent Resolve Iraq and Operation Freedom's Sentinel Afghanistan, as well as other operational support missions throughout the Gulf region. During the four-month deployment, the group transported 1,448 passengers, delivered 1,423.5 tons of cargo, eight distinguished visitors and flew 327 sorties for a total of 472.7 hours.

The group continued providing Advanced Mountain Airlift Tactics School courses in support of the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center's field exercises. The courses include tactical operations in the challenging mountainous terrain of northern Nevada and northern California. The training is attended by various Air Force, Air Guard and Air Reserve units throughout the year.

The operations group also supported PAC ANGEL in 2015 and 2016, a humanitarian aid event supporting South Pacific nations, including Nevada's State Partnership Program partner, the Kingdom of Tonga.



PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. EMERSON MARCUS

This unit photo of the 152nd Airlift Wing was taken in May of 2016 at the Nevada Air National Guard Base flight line in Reno.

152nd Maintenance Group

The 152nd Maintenance Group maintains eight C-130 H series aircraft at the Air National Guard Base in Reno. The group is composed of the 152nd Maintenance Squadron, the 152nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and the 152nd Maintenance Operations Flight. The group also performs maintenance on C-130 aircraft from other U.S. Air Force or Air National Guard units when needed.

The maintenance group deployed numerous times in 2015-2016. Three aircraft and 68 maintainers deployed to Kuwait in 2015, the group's largest deployment during the biennium. The deployment oversaw 1,324 sorties, moved 6,351 passengers, flew 2,039 hours, completed more than 4,000 aircraft maintenance actions and relocated more than 5,000 tons of cargo. Additionally, the 152nd Maintenance Group sent six maintainers to Kabul Air Force Base in Afghanistan as air advisors to train Afghan maintainers. An additional five maintainers deployed to Antarctica in 2016 in support of Operation Deep Freeze.

In time for the 152nd Airlift Wing's C-130 H3 and H2.5 fleet upgrade in 2015, the group received new inspection stands to help maintain the planes. The equipment, known as isochronal inspection stands or ISO stands, allow for thorough examinations of the entire aircraft. During these inspections, aircraft maintainers inspect, diagnose and repair problems in every system of the aircraft. The previous stands — in the Nevada Air National Guard's possession since the 152nd Airlift Wing became a C-130 unit in 1996 — were deteriorating. The new \$1.5 million stands include built-in lighting and toolbox storage that was not included in the previous equipment.

Staff Sgt. Kaitlind Becker, a personnelist with the 152nd Maintenance Operations Flight training office, was named the Nevada Air National Guard Airman of the Year at the annual Airman of the Year banquet at the Eldorado Hotel and Casino in Reno on Jan. 9, 2016. Becker is near completion of her bachelors in social work and hopes to begin her masters soon at the University of Nevada, Reno with hopes of someday entering a career in behavioral health services with a focus on veteran services.

152nd Mission Support Group

The 152nd Mission Support Group includes four squadrons and one flight: the



PHOTO BY TECH SGT. EMERSON MAROUS

Maintainers with the 152nd Maintenance Company work on the unit's C-130s during a drill weekend last year.

152nd Civil Engineer Squadron, the 152nd Force Support Squadron, the 152nd Logistics Readiness Squadron, the 152nd Security Forces Squadron and the 152nd Communications Flight.

152nd Civil Engineer Squadron

The 152nd Civil Engineer Squadron oversees facility management at the Nevada Air National Guard Base with construction, energy-efficiency initiatives and fire protection at the base and on the flight line.

In 2015, the Nevada Air National Guard received a Federal Energy and Water Management award recognizing the squadron's efforts in energy efficiency resulting in a \$45,000 federal grant. This grant was a result of base facility managers reducing energy used by 36 percent in 2014 despite adding 94,500 square feet energy intensive space. It also reduced water intensity levels by 60 percent.

The squadron installed a \$425,000 project to backup communications systems during power outages. It also completed a \$267,000 energy management project to replace outside lighting base wide. During the previous biennium, the squadron received \$2.5 million from National Guard Bureau for construction projects at the base.

During the biennium, squadron engineers deployed to various locations in the Middle East and around the world, including Kuwait, Sri Lanka and Tonga. The squadron also assisted with stateside projects.

Base projects included retro-commission of several buildings, a base-wide energy audit, re-paint projects and replacement of outdated equipment.

152nd Communications Flight

Strategic infrastructure and personnel at the 152nd Communications Flight puts Nevada in a unique position to acquire new cyber missions.

The flight is taking proactive steps to increase cyber security while maintaining data availability for members of the Nevada Air National Guard.

The Wing Cybersecurity Office now receives threat briefs from a wide range of government agencies. Relevant information is passed to Air National Guard members to aide in their defense against these threats.

The Joint Incident Site Communications Capability, or JISCC, system has proven effective in executing command and control communications during recent disaster recovery exercises and delivers immediate response capability to the governor. The flight deployed the JISCC in support of the Vigilant Guard 2015 exercise in Hawaii and Cascadia Rising exercise in Washington State. Additionally, it aided command and control communications during Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High Yield Explosive (CBRNE) Enhanced Response Force Package, or CERFP, exercises. This six-man team has a response time of four hours from receipt of deployment orders, and is capable of around-the-clock operations.

152nd Force Support Squadron

The 152nd Force Support Squadron's mission is to enhance the total force readiness for Nevada Air Guard Airmen and to assist families during deployments and throughout the year. The squadron's

primary functions include the management of personnel actions including training schools, enlistments, retirements, promotions, awards and decorations. It also takes the lead role in the wing's physical fitness program, lodging program, mortuary affairs, casualty assistance and the food service program.

The customer service section ensures all Airmen are prepared for deployments by assisting with life insurance, acquisition, entitlement benefits and recordkeeping.

The squadron processed more than 300 Guardsmen who deployed in support of worldwide contingencies. The readiness section also supported Air Expeditionary Forces and Expeditionary Combat Support deployments.

Three Airmen from the squadron completed a seven-month deployment to Southwest Asia this biennium. The Airmen performed services functions, including recreation and fitness. Despite its small staff, the services section continues to provide meals for hundreds of Airmen each training weekend. The section developed new menus and updated equipment. New mixers, grills and a new smoker allowed for faster, better and more creative meal planning serving nearly 700 meals each drill weekend.



Airman 1st Class Tristan Leach, of the 152nd Security Forces Squadron, takes aim last summer during a live-fire training exercise near Fallon.

FSS members also attended the Manager Safety Course to improve inventory control, food sales and storeroom upkeep.

Twelve services Airmen traveled to Travis Air Force Base, Wash., for two weeks to work with active-duty services units. This deployment sharpened skills in lodging, recreation, unit deployment management, dining facility management and public health.

152nd Logistics Readiness Squadron

The 152nd Logistics Readiness Squadron ensures every Airmen and Nevada Air Guard piece of equipment is ready to go for local, state and federal entities. The squadron supported deployed Airmen and accounted for all equipment in time for a U.S. Air Force audit in 2015.

The squadron was responsible for conducting the Nevada and Regional, Joint Reception, Staging, Onward Movement, and Integration (JRSOI) of National Guard forces for the Vigilant Guard 2017 exercise in Las Vegas in November 2016.

Additionally, the squadron executed a continuous process improvement project for passenger processing, which resulted in reducing wait time by 50 percent.

Supported U.S. Transcom's western regional exercise, 'Turbo-Distribution 2016,' with manpower, equipment and materials as well as two Advanced Mountain Air Tactical School classes with rigging, recovery and re-build of low-cost, low-altitude airdrop bundles at the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center in Pickle Meadows, Calif.

The squadron also prepared deploying Airmen of the 152nd Airlift Wing, including several members from the squadron.

Additionally, the squadron aided in base events and community volunteerism, including acting as the Nevada Air Guard lead for the annual Diversity Day event in 2015.

152nd Security Forces Squadron

The 152nd Security Forces Squadron is organized, trained and equipped to perform security, law enforcement, air base defense and combat arms missions worldwide.

The previous biennium saw a high deployment tempo met with increasing demands for security at the Nevada Air National Guard Base in Reno. The deployment tempo was especially high when the

squadron deployed nearly 40 Airmen to the Middle East in 2015. Additionally, the squadron often supports the Air Force with Airmen for long-term, temporary duty assignments around the nation.

Even with the high deployment tempo and demands at the base, the squadron continued its annual support of community policing events, such as Vigilant Sentinel, which provides additional security at McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas during the New Year's Eve celebration.

The squadron also manages the state-of-the-art shooting range at the base: the Mobile Containerized Small Arms Training Set, or MC-SATS. The facility helps maintain the shooting proficiency of Nevada Air National Guard Airmen. The squadron also welcomed law enforcement agencies to tour and train at the facility in the previous biennium, including the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

152nd Medical Group

The 152nd Medical Group recorded significant improvement on its readiness percentages across the board during the previous biennium.

The group increased 152nd Airlift Wing medical readiness from a ranking of 70th out of 92 medical groups nationwide to third in the nation. Additionally, the group received five of the 152nd Airlift Wing's nine overall strength markings in the unit's first Unit Effectiveness Inspection, or UEI.

The group ranked third out of 92 medical groups in overall flu shot completion percentage for the 2015-16 flu season.

In November 2015, 34 Airmen of the group completed HAZMAT operations refresher training. Once certified, the training pushed the medical element of Nevada CERFP (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High Yield Explosive (CBRNE) Enhanced Response Force Package) trained percentage to 96 percent – the second best percentage in the nation out of 27 total CERFP teams.

The group participated in several training exercises around the country and the world. Forty-seven members of the CERFP medical element participated in the week-long training exercise Vigilant Guard 2015 in Hilo, Hawaii. The exercise certified FEMA IX regional response to weapons of mass destruction and natural disaster events. It was the first time a CERFP team deployed via airlift to a simulated event of this magnitude.

The group also participated in the third annual Pathfinder Minutemen 2015 in Camp Rilea, Ore., where nine members of the CERFP medical element trained on WMD and natural disaster response — specifically earthquake — during the multi-agency, multi-state training exercise. The group also staffed and coordinated four medical professionals who participated in PAC ANGEL 2015 in Papua New Guinea. This three-week humanitarian exercise provided an opportunity for medical professionals to develop their skills and improve the quality of life for patients who received care.

Other training exercises included: the Collective Training Event in North Las Vegas and Cascadia Rising in Camp Rilea.

The Nevada CERFP team continued training affiliation agreements with federal, state and county partners during the biennium, including local hospitals in Las Vegas and Reno. This agreement gives 152nd Medical Group Airmen hands-on medical training with hospital full-time staff. The agreements allow medical personnel to train and certify in their specialty in less time, saving the Nevada Air National Guard thousands of dollars.

152nd Intelligence Squadron



The 152nd Intelligence Squadron provides timely multi-format actionable imagery intelligence products to the warfighter for overseas contingency operations and meets day-to-day needs of the Governor of the State of Nevada.

The squadron, an Air Combat Command unit of the Nevada Air National Guard hosted by the Air Mobility Command's 152nd Airlift Wing, has supported overseas contingency operations with intelligence, reconnaissance and surveillance for 15 consecutive years.

The squadron was activated June 6, 1994 and operates out of the 36,000-square-foot intelligence facility built in 2008 at the Nevada Air National Guard Base in Reno.

Domestically, the squadron has increasingly developed its capabilities in civil support. In 2015 and 2016, about 10 Airmen supported the PATRIOT event, a national mass casualty training in Wisconsin with more than 1,100 participants.

Additionally, the squadron continued its support of battalion-level field training exercises at the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center at Pickel Meadows, Calif. The squadron supports these types of training with full-motion video analysis captured by unmanned aerial vehicle systems.

The squadron also supported the joint intelligence directorate with intelligence analysts at Joint Force Headquarters in Carson City alongside the Nevada Department of Emergency Management. This support includes weekly briefings to the Joint Operations Center on issues that affect ongoing operations.

232nd Operations Squadron



The 232nd Operations Squadron was activated in 2007 as an associate unit integrated with the U.S. Air Force Warfare Center and the 432nd Wing at Creech Air Force Base in southern Nevada.

The squadron's Airmen provide remotely piloted aircraft pilots, sensor operators, intelligence specialists and aircraft maintainers. The squadron's operations, maintenance and support personnel deploy to multiple overseas locations operating two different remotely piloted aircraft platforms: the MQ-1 Predator and MQ-9 Reaper.

Additionally, many 232nd Operations Squadron pilots and sensor operators use their experience as instructors, evaluators and supervisors during launch recovery and operations.

The squadron completed its first-ever Unit Effectiveness Inspection — performed by the Air Combat Command Inspector General — in November 2015. The draft report from the inspector praised the unit's strategic planning as it focuses efforts toward the accomplishment of operational test and evaluation for both the active duty and 11 Air National Guard wings flying remotely piloted aircraft.

Nearly 50 percent of the squadron consists of aircraft maintenance Airmen. These personnel support, test and conduct training missions with the MQ-1 Predator and MQ-9 Reaper sections at Creech Air Force Base. Similar to their operational counterparts, they also train visiting Airmen from other organizations.

The squadron's maintenance expertise led to the selection of Creech Air Force Base as the Air Force's next MQ-9 Field

Training Detachment. This organization will qualify new technicians on MQ-9 maintenance. Airmen of the 232nd will form the core cadre of this new organization.

A 232nd remotely piloted domestic operations team was established during this biennium to integrate with the Joint Domestic Operations staff in Carson City and analyze the capability of the MQ-9 RPA for use during state disaster response. This ongoing analysis was part of the domestic readiness training exercise Vigilant Guard held November 2017. This is the first step in the development of an MQ-9 Domestic Operations Center of Excellence for NGB led by the Nevada Air National Guard to determine the MQ-9's potential in domestic operations.

Additionally, the squadron's aircrew continued NASA test missions for their collaborative effort with the Federal Aviation Administration to meet President Barack Obama's mandate allowing remotely piloted aircraft to operate unrestricted in the nation's airspace.

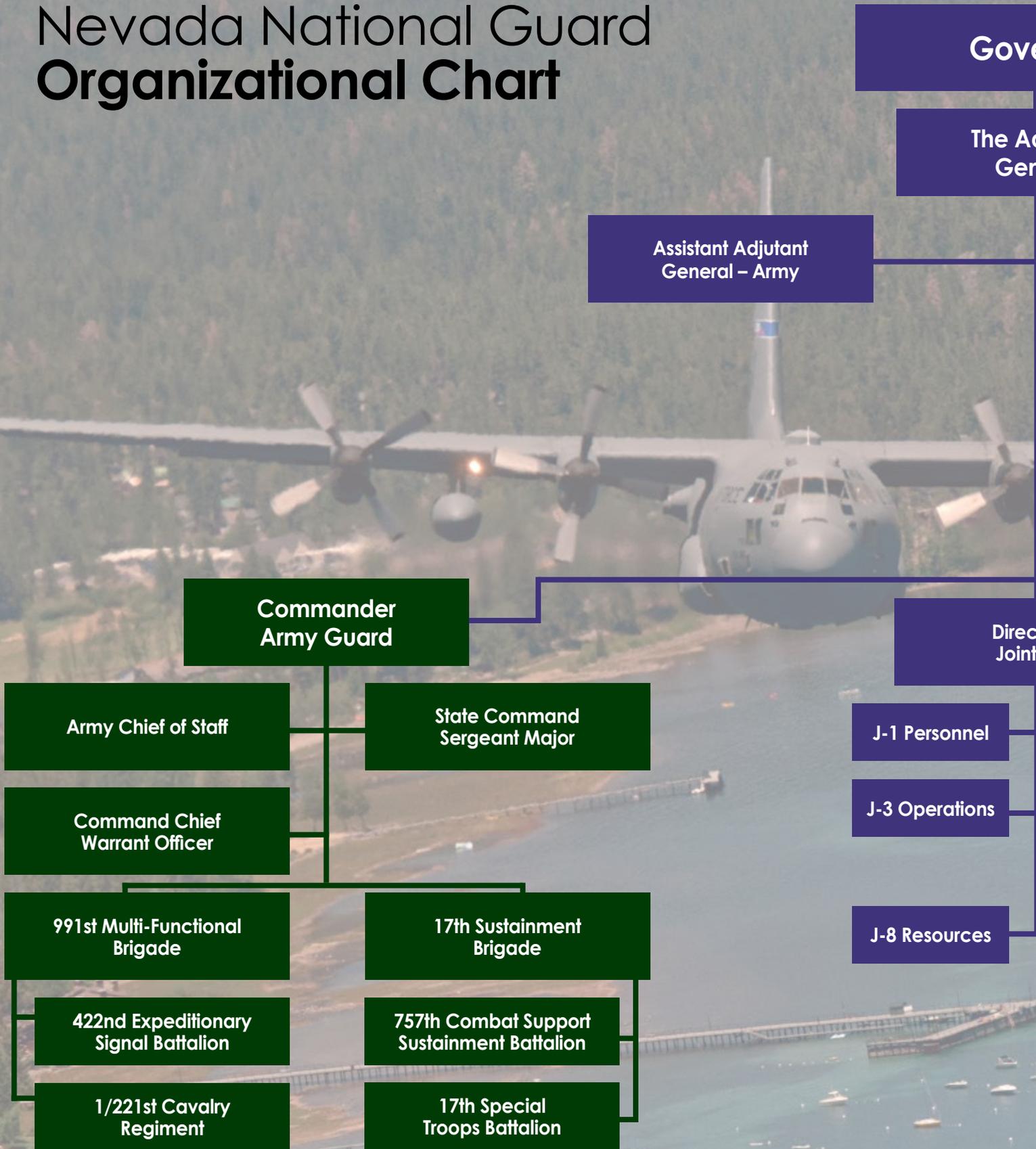
Nevada's support of this unit is welcomed by the active duty, especially after recent contract aircrew issues resulted in a shortfall of experience and continuity.



An Airman with the 152nd Airlift Squadron hugs her son before leaving for deployment in 2015.

PHOTO BY SENIOR MASTER SGT. PAULA MACOMBER

Nevada National Guard Organizational Chart



governor

Adjutant General

Assistant Adjutant General – Air

Special Staff

Chaplain

Judge Advocate General

Inspector General

Public Affairs

State Senior Enlisted Leader

Director of Staff

J-2 Intelligence

J-5/7 Operational Plans, Doctrine, Training and Exercises

Chief of Staff-Air

Director of Staff – Air

State Command Chief Master Sergeant

152nd Intelligence Squadron

232nd Operations Squadron

152nd Airlift Wing

152nd Operations Group

152nd Maintenance Group

152nd Mission Support Group

152nd Medical Group

Nevada National Guard Programs

Civil support team responds to record number of incidents

The Nevada National Guard is committed to assisting the Silver State during any type of contingency, ready to assist Nevada's first responders in the wake of natural or man-made disaster. The 92nd Civil Support Team, the Nevada National Guard's Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP) and the Counterdrug Task Force provide countless services in support of local and federal law enforcement and first responders.

The 92nd Civil Support Team relocated from Clark County to northern Nevada in June 2015. Relocating the team resulted in a more evenly dispersed chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear or explosive (CBRNE) response force and provided better hazardous material hazardous

materials and items (HAZMAT) response coverage to rural Nevada. Upon arrival in northern Nevada, the team set out on a rigorous program of unit introduction and capability briefs to all regional first response agencies. This effort provided agencies an overview of the unit's capability and the process for requesting support.

The 92nd is the first military responder at apparent CBRNE incidents. The civil support team mainly supports local incident commanders and emergency responders as well as state and federal agencies including the FBI, the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Secret Service and the Department of Homeland Security. Support by the team is requested via the Nevada Department of Emergency Management. The team, composed of

22 Soldiers and Airmen, was established in 2004 primarily to assist officials with the assessment of CBRNE situations and the detection and determination of unknown substances.

Incidentally, 2016 was the busiest year on record for the 92nd, executing seven real-world call-outs in support of first response agencies throughout the state. Responses included:

- Beatty U.S. Ecology Response: CST deployed its Initial Response Team to Beatty to assess and monitor the Beatty nuclear fire at a waste storage facility
- Numerous suspicious package and white powder calls at the state Capitol, Carson City Sheriff's Office and other locations
- Provided communication support, manpower and equipment for Joint Hazard Monitoring Teams during President Barack Obama's northern Nevada visit
- Provided manpower equipment for national events, including the Boston Marathon and Super Bowl 50
- Support and pre-sweep missions in the previous biennium included: New Year's Eve on the Las Vegas Strip, NASCAR races, the Professional Bull Riders Championships, the National Finals Rodeo, the Electric Daisy Carnival Las Vegas, the Life is Beautiful arts festival and the Las Vegas Marathon.

The unit and its personnel are federally funded, equipped and trained, but the governor retains command and control of the team. The CST trains regularly with emergency first responders to ensure the team is fully integrated into the National Incident Management System. Members of the team are available to consult with community and business officials on emergency preparedness planning.

Each Soldier and Airman on the team must complete 600 to 1,800 hours of training before becoming a deployable member of the fast-paced unit. U.S. Army Northern Command conducts external evaluations on the team every 18 months.



PHOTO BY LT. COL. MIKOL KIRSCHENBAUM

A member of the Nevada National Guard Civil Support Team, left, goes over response plans with a member of the Carson City Fire Department during the Quad Counties exercise at the Lawrence E. Jacobsen Regional Training Facility in Carson City.

Nevada CERFP team prepared for specialized assistance

The Nevada National Guard's Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP) is a joint team of 210 specially trained Soldiers and Airmen who can quickly assemble to provide specialized assistance to federal and state agencies as well as National Guard civil support teams during and after a variety of hazardous situations.

During the previous biennium, the CERFP participated in Operation Vigilant Guard 2015, a multi-state exercise in Hilo, Hawaii and Vigilant Guard 2016 in Las Vegas. Vigilant Guard is an annual event that allows local first responders to work with federal and military agencies in a multi-spectral training exercise.

The CERFP also participated in Cascadia Rising/Operation Pathfinder Minuteman in Oregon, a large-scale exercise with military and civilian first responders and emergency management personnel throughout the entire state, along the Cascadia fault.

Additionally, the CERFP continued its affiliation agreement with St. Mary's and Renown regional medical centers. CERFP medical technicians work on the job in the emergency medical departments at these hospitals to gain on-the-job experience and potentially augment the hospitals in time large-scale emergencies.



PHOTO BY SGT. WALTER LOWELL, 17TH SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE

Spc. Brittney Lynch, of the 277th Engineer Company, Nevada Army National Guard, pulls a dummy trapped in a confined space as part of Vigilant Guard 2015 in Hilo, Hawaii. Nevada Soldiers and Airmen worked the exercise with local first responders to prepare for natural or man-made disasters.

The Nevada National Guard CERFP team is composed of a command and control section, a decontamination element, a medical element and a casualty search and extraction element. Team members maintain traditional Guard jobs, but receive additional training for their respective CERFP responsibilities.

The team is specially trained to integrate into the National Incident Command System to conduct life-saving actions within a contaminated environment.

The unit receives funding from the Department of Defense, but remains under the control of the governor of Nevada. Civilian authorities retain overall command throughout an incident.

The Nevada CERFP team was established in 2012 and received an external evaluation from the National Guard Bureau in August 2014. The evaluation included the 92nd Civil Support Team and other agencies' first responders from northern Nevada. The exercise validated the CERFP's ability to quickly respond and provide effective support to all of Nevada's first responders, including the Nevada Guard's civil support team.

The CERFP continues to strengthen and expand its relationships with federal and state agencies to ensure the capabilities of the Nevada National Guard's CERFP are widely known.

The Soldiers and Airmen in Nevada's CERFP are drawn from five Army and Air Guard units. They are:

- The 17th Special Troops Battalion, Las Vegas
- The 240th Engineer Company, Las Vegas
- The 100th Quartermaster Water Purification Company, Las Vegas
- The Nevada Air Guard's 152nd Medical Group, Reno
- The Arizona Air Guard's 162nd Force Support Squadron, Tucson, Ariz.



PHOTO BY SGT. WALTER LOWELL, 17TH SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE

Nevada National Guard Soldiers and Airmen encountered simulated trouble in paradise when they participated in the massive disaster-response training exercise Operation Vigilant Guard in June 2015 on the Big Island in Hawaii. Operation Vigilant Guard is an annual event that allows local first responders to work with federal and military agencies in a multispectral training exercise.

State's Honor Guard teams attend record number of events

For hundreds of Nevada families each year, the Nevada Army and Air Guard military funeral honor guard teams represent the face of the military. Their immaculate uniforms, precise movements and poignant flag presentations are on full display at hundreds of events across the state annually, primarily at military funerals.

The Nevada Army Guard military funeral honors team fulfilled a record number of duty appearance requests during the biennium with a total of 1,455 missions. The team completed 770 missions – a one year record – in 2016 and 685 missions in 2015. The previous record was the 2012-2013 total of 1,374 missions.

As of September 2016, the Nevada Army Guard military funerals honor team had eight full-time Soldiers and one coordinator. The full-time staff's duties include training, recruiting, scheduling, and equipment and vehicle maintenance.

The teams are supplemented with pool of about 30 qualified traditional Soldiers from across the state who fulfill appearance requests and are compensated by additional unit training assembly funds. The Soldiers' participation in honor guard activities has no effect on their allocated number of annual training days.

In addition to paying final military respects at funerals, the Army Guard also

fulfills requests at dozens of events for color guards at a wide spectrum of events. Currently, the Nevada Army Guard's military funeral honors team cannot perform color guard duties because the team is composed of contracted employees from HRCI, the Army National Guard's Survivor Services program. Color Guard Soldiers volunteer for each respective event and are compensated from training funds and they also receive retirement points.

Like the Army Guard's teams, the Nevada Air Guard's honor and color guard teams support military and civilian events throughout the state.

The Air Guard honor guard team is responsible for funeral support in Nevada when it's requested by the active-duty honor guard at Beale Air Force Base, Calif. In 2014, two Nevada Air Guard honor guard members received intensive instruction during a training session with a team from Beale Air Force Base. Three Airmen attended an honor guard training course at Beale AFB in 2015 and two more attended in 2016.

In 2016, the team participated in 36 events including two funerals and 34 color guard details. In 2015, the honor guard supported 80 events, including 6 funerals and 74 color guard details.



PHOTO BY SGT. 1ST CLASS ERICK STUDENICKA

Sgt. Nicholas Gonzales of the Nevada Military Funeral Honors Program presents the U.S. Flag to Elizabeth Huntzinger in September 2016 in Boulder City, Nev., during the funeral ceremony for her father, Vincent Cravero.

Nevada Counterdrug Task Force cuts supply of illegal drugs

The Nevada Counterdrug Task Force provides military support to law enforcement agencies and community-based organizations to reduce the availability and demand of illegal drugs. The task force has contributed in 307 arrests and the seizure of \$169 million in illegal narcotics, 17 firearms and \$17,500 during the previous biennium.

A leaner force than in years past, with only 18 members compared with historical highs of 60, last May, the task force supported six missions in one day — more than any day since 2010. The task force has focused law enforcement assistance on criminal analyst and reconnaissance missions and all missions are supported under law enforcement agency supervision.

The task force provides trained analysts to the Drug Enforcement Administration,

Nevada Department of Public Safety, the Douglas County Sheriff's Office and the Department of Homeland Security. The Soldiers and Airmen in these positions provide daily support to narcotics investigations through the compilation, review and creation of financial, phone, electronic databases to support case development through prosecution. Additionally, these analysts use open source and law enforcement information networks to develop case information and assist in case de-confliction.

The task force supports law enforcement with aerial and ground reconnaissance capabilities. Using Nevada National Guard helicopters and the regional fixed wing RC-26 aircraft, the task force provides unique capabilities to enhance law

enforcement investigation capabilities with extended observation and increased officer safety.

The ground reconnaissance mission fills a void for law enforcement agencies on manpower-intensive investigations. Ground reconnaissance teams serve as force multipliers in direct support of all criminal analyst missions, providing flexible backing to law enforcement agencies' dynamic mission requirements. During these missions, the task force assists in observing and reporting the trafficking, manufacturing and transporting of illegal drugs. The task force supports both urban and rural reconnaissance and have supported law enforcement in venues ranging from hotel rooms to remote portions of the Nevada wilderness.

ESGR recognizes contributions of Nevada's employers

The state's volunteer committee for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve organization supported dozens of employer and military-outreach events during 2015-2016. The committee members recorded more than 2,400 volunteer hours while interacting with more 6,000 employers and they presented about 330 awards to deserving employers and individuals for their support of reserve-component military personnel.

In addition, ESGR staff provided ombudsman mediation services on behalf of several Guardsmen who had issues or conflicts with their civilian employer. To recognize its contributions to the business community, the Nevada ESGR was nominated as a finalist in the Community Partner category at the 4th annual Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada Industry Awards ceremony held at the Peppermill Hotel and Casino in Reno in October 2015.

Nevada ESGR hosted an Employer Appreciation Day on April 6, 2016, at Creech Air Force Base in Indian Springs. The event included a base tour, a Briefing with



the Boss and luncheon that included the recognition of several southern Nevada employers. More than 45 employer's and volunteers attended the event. The guest speaker was Nevada ESGR Vice-Chair Steve Seroka, a retired United States Air Force Pilot.

On June 10, 2016, Nevada ESGR hosted an awards banquet at Tamarack Junction in Reno to recognize outstanding employers and individuals in northern Nevada. The event featured guest speaker Len Stevens, the chief executive officer of The Chamber of Reno, Sparks and northern Nevada.

Among those recognized with the ESGR Seven Seals Award was Nevada Guard Adjutant General Brig. Gen. William Burks and Nevada ESGR chair emeritus retired

Col. David Cantrell. Cantrell also received the Nevada Distinguished Service Medal from Brig. Gen. Ondra Berry. Also, ESGR volunteer Richard Dickerson was presented with the ESGR Spirit of Volunteerism Award during the biennium.

Nevada employers who became recipients of the ESGR Above and Beyond Award in 2015-2016 included: ESI Security Services, IQ Technology Solutions and Renown Health.

Those three companies and Nevada State Bank, Charter Communications and the Nevada Department of Public Safety were nominated for the 2016 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award.

On July 15, 2016, ESGR coordinated a Boss Lift in conjunction with the 152nd Airlift Wing in Reno. Forty employers from northern Nevada received the opportunity to personally see what role their Air Guard employees perform while on military duty. The event included an ESGR briefing, lunch and C-130 Hercules orientation flight. An earlier Boss Lift was held in May 2015 at Creech.



PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. EMERSON MARCUS

One of the highlights of the biennium for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve organization was the 2015 Boss Lift. Several dozen employers from northern Nevada received the opportunity to see what role their Air Guard employees perform while on military duty on a round-trip C-130 Hercules orientation flight to Creech Air Force Base in southern Nevada.

Military and Family Support staff provide myriad of services

The Nevada National Guard's Military and Family Support Services ensure all service members, regardless of branch and component, their dependents, veterans and retirees are informed about their entitlements and have the opportunity to receive maximum support and assistance. The MFSS strives to provide a level of service that exceeds all expectations.

The MFSS maintains four satellite offices across the state in addition to its main hub located at the Plumb Lane Armory in Reno. Resources provided and facilitated include: family assistance; child and youth programs; family readiness; family life and financial counseling; resilience and risk reduction; veterans' transitional assistance; suicide prevention and sexual assault response. Every quarter, the staff offers a variety of workshops that improve life skills and promote well-being in all aspects of life.

The MFSS also houses and supports those working in the Yellow Ribbon, Work for Warriors, Survivor Outreach Services, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, the Military OneSource and the Equal Employment Opportunity offices.

At the end of fiscal year 2016, the MFSS staff was supporting about 600 deployed Army Guard Soldiers and their dependents in addition to the 300,000 veterans who reside in Nevada.

The **Family Readiness Program** is composed of volunteers who ensure military families are informed, educated and prepared for the unique demands of military life before, during and after deployment.

In each satellite office, the MFSS employs a family assistance specialist who provides a variety of referral-based services. Services include, but are not limited to: identification and Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System enrollment; TRICARE insurance and military medical benefits education; emergency financial services; legal information and referral; crisis intervention and referral; and community information and referral.

The **Work for Warriors Nevada** employment program, formerly known as Beyond the Yellow Ribbon, completed its second year of existence in 2016. The program supported more than 1,800 service members, veterans and family members with employment assistance during the biennium. Staff members work one-on-one with candidates



PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. EMERSON MARCUS

Master Sgt. Kenneth Dupree, right, escorts a Native American dancer at the 2016 Nevada Guard Diversity Day Celebration in Reno. The event is organized annually by the Military and Family Support Services staff to celebrate the Nevada Guard's diversity and promote organizational inclusion.

to hone every step of the job seeking process and the staff has helped more than 550 individuals secure employment.

The program's staff coordinates and participates in job fairs and hiring events and attends unit briefs, Yellow Ribbon events, transition assistance briefs and community veteran's events. The staff partners and networks with the state's top employers, including those in private industry as well as state and federal entities.

The state's **Transition Assistance Advisor** provides guidance on a wide range of topics, including post-deployment advice, service-related injury or health care issues and pre-retirement planning. The advisor ensures service members and their dependents receive the benefits earned by their military service.

The **Survivor Outreach Services Program** (SOSC) supports families who have lost a loved one serving in the military in support of either Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom, or Operation Resolute Support. The program was established in 2009 and it provides Survivor Outreach Service coordinators in all states. The number of staffers in a respective state depends on the size of the state and the number of survivors. Survivors are welcome to be linked to the Army family and receive support from the program as long as they desire.

Nevada has about 550 individual survivors who are considered Gold Star family

members. The SOSC maintains contact with the family members throughout the year and liaisons various outings and sponsorships between organizations and survivors.

The staff aims to resolve family issues associated with the loss of a loved one and ensures survivors know about their entitlements and how to apply for them. Some of the programs staffers inform the Gold Star families about include: scholarship information; special days such as Gold Star Spouses Day; military records; and Veterans Administration questions.

For information: www.facebook.com/NevadaSurvivorOutreachServices.

The **Substance Abuse Prevention Program** continued to conduct Strong Choices classes, which were made available to 65 percent of the state's Guardsmen. Unit risk inventories were completed by 50 separate units and organizations and provided a resource for identifying units with potential reduced readiness. There has been a significant increase in prevention awareness due to a targeted marketing campaign that focused on service members making low-risk choices regarding alcohol, accepting zero tolerance for drug misuse and encouraging tobacco cessation. The SAP program has ongoing partnerships with multiple treatment facilities around the state to place certain service members under the care of health care professionals. The professionals provide assessments for substance use disorders and treatment plans to mitigate risk to overall unit readiness.

The **Suicide Prevention Program** partnered with the State Office of Suicide Prevention to facilitate about a half dozen Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training workshops in northern and southern Nevada along with two Ask, Care, Escort - Suicide Intervention classes. The training included 56 service members in ASIST and 58 students in ACE-SI in 2016. The SPP program enhanced its capabilities through community partnerships and coalition attendance. Participation in inter-region communication among eight states concerning best practices ensured Nevada remained at the forefront of suicide prevention and was ready to assist service members with innovative training designed to empower leaders to take action with persons in crisis.

The **Resilience and Risk Reduction (R2) Program** conducted two executive resilience performance courses and completed deployment cycle resilience training in conjunction with all Yellow Ribbon events conducted during the biennium in Nevada. Nevada R2 has 64 Soldiers trained as Master Resilience Trainers. During the next two years, Nevada R2 will begin conducting Wellness Camps and will train current MRTs in Level II and III courses, DCRT, and other performance training.

The **Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program** continued to provide services and advocacy for survivors of sexual assault incidents as well as training for both Army and Air Guardsmen. The program continued to train victim advocates and ensured their proper credentialing and qualifications to respond to assault cases.

The **Child and Youth Programs** staff provided services for the children and teenagers of about 800 military service member each quarter in 2015-2016.

One of the highlights of the biennium for programs' staff occurred during the Month of the Military Child in April when the office hosted its Spring Fling in Las Vegas and the Spring Eggstravaganza in Reno. More than 870 service members and their dependents attended the two events supported by 237 volunteers.

The office hosted multiple youth council meetings during the past two years that included resilience training. Office staff recognized hundreds of children and adolescents of deploying service members at numerous deployment ceremonies with backpack presentations. The staff also hosted several first aid and CPR classes for youth and volunteers.

The Child and Youth programs office continued its wildly popular Mother/Daughter Tea Socials at the North Las Vegas Readiness Center and the Governor's Mansion in Carson City. Nearly 200 pairs of mothers and daughters enjoyed the spring 2016 edition of the event thanks to the help of 25 volunteers.

The programs' 2016 Youth Symposium was held at the North Las Vegas Readiness Center. Twenty-five youth teamed for training sessions focusing on "Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens" and the "Four Lenses Personality Assessment."

The office continued to host its annual Teen Leadership Camp. In the summer of 2016, the staff held an Operation Kids Camp overnight adventure concurrently with the Teen Camp for the first time. Ninety-five youth and children participated in the 2016 camps that were held at Camp Nawakwa in Angelus Oaks, Calif. Campers tested and improved their resilience through various activities including wall climbing, hiking and group activities. Also, a Resilience workshop was conducted in Las Vegas for 20 teens. The summer of '16 concluded with a bang in Las Vegas and Reno as 75 father/son teams built and launched their own rockets.

The **Nevada Army National Guard's Yellow Ribbon Program** supported and assisted more than 1,000 Soldiers and their dependents throughout their deployment cycle during the biennium. The program prepares Soldiers and families in advance of deployment, supports families while their

service member is abroad, and helps Soldiers and their families as they reintegrate following their return to the Silver State.

The program also collaborated with local community organizations such as the Veterans Resource Center and the Nevada Office of Suicide Prevention as well as federal agencies such as the departments of Veterans Affairs and Labor.

Demonstrating its commitment to **Diversity and Inclusion**, the Nevada National Guard claimed four of the five 2015 Excellence in Diversity prizes awarded at the 2016 National Guard Diversity Training and Workshop in Norman, Okla.

The awards were distributed during the annual workshop aimed to help Army and Air National Guard service members develop talent management strategies within their units from a diversity perspective.

The Nevada Guardsmen accepting awards for their support of diversity and inclusion included:

- **Col. JoAnn Meacham** from the 152nd Airlift Wing was named top individual Air Guard service member
- **Staff Sgt. Michelle Ochoa** of the Nevada Army Guard's Recruiting and Retention Battalion was named top individual Army Guard service member
- **The Nevada Army Guard's Recruiting and Retention Battalion** was named top unit proponent of diversity and inclusion in the Army Guard
- **The Nevada National Guard** tied with the Vermont National Guard for top diversity and inclusion states.

Military and Family Support Services Directory

Director	775-384-5800	Air Guard Yellow Ribbon	775-384-5821
Family Programs			or 775-790-6588
Director	775-384-5820	Transition Assistance	775-384-5837
Army Guard Family Assistance	702-694-4475	ID Cards	775-384-1043
	or 775-384-5811	Southern Nevada Support Services	
Child and Youth Programs	775-384-5805	Army Guard Family Assistance	702-694-4477
Airman/Family Readiness	775-788-4585		or 800-699-3128
National Guard Family Assistance	775-384-5808	Child and Youth Programs	702-694-4476
Beyond Yellow Ribbon		Family Readiness Support Assistants	702-856-4811
Employment Coordinator	702-632-0551	Southern Nevada Counseling	
Northern Nevada Counseling		Psychological Health	775-224-4991
Beyond Yellow Ribbon			or 702-856-4931
Behavioral Health Counselor	775-384-5850	Alcohol, Drug Control Officer	702-632-0387
Air Guard Psychological Health	775-788-9307	Southern Nevada Resiliency	
Northern Nevada Resiliency		Resilience and Suicide Prevention	702-632-0385
Suicide Prevention	775-384-5819	Survivor Outreach Services	702-632-0556
Sexual Assault Response	775-384-5840	Southern Nevada Resources	
Survivor Outreach Services	775-445-0291	ESGR South	702-632-0332
Northern Nevada Resources		Military One Source	800-342-9647
Employers Support		Yellow Ribbon	702-856-4967
of Guard and Reserve	775-384-5836	ID Cards	702-632-0301
Heroes 2 Hired	775-384-5849	Substance Abuse Prevention	775-384-5827
Military One Source	800-342-9647	Winnemucca, Elko and Ely Support Services	
Equal Opportunity	775-384-5845	Family Assistance	775-625-8286



Spc. David Gardiner gives a course on generator maintenance last August during a State Partnership Program exchange last summer in Nuku’Alofa, Tonga.

Nevada-Tonga partnership continues to expand

The Nevada National Guard and Kingdom of Tonga continued their State Partnership Program with about two dozen exchanges during the biennium. Through SPP, the National Guard conducts military-to-military engagements in support of defense security goals but also leverages whole-of-society relationships and capabilities to facilitate broader interagency and corollary engagements spanning military, government, economic and social spheres.

Last August, they completed their largest State Partnership Program (SPP) exchange in the partnership’s two-year history with Soldiers and Airmen simultaneously working three separate exchanges — search and rescue, agricultural security and equipment maintenance procedures — alongside several Tongan military and civilian agencies.

Other exchanges in Tonga touched on drug trafficking, communications and weapons tactics. Members of His Majesty’s Armed Forces of Tonga also visited Nevada during the U.S. Pacific Command Senior Leader Working Group in August and the Vigilant Guard natural disaster training exercise in November.

The Nevada National Guard and the Kingdom of Tonga signed a Declaration of Partnership on April 11, 2014. SPP links a state’s National Guard with the armed forces of a partner country.

“The program is aimed to reinforce relationships with defense and also training of our capability,” Lt. Col. Lord Ve’ehala, of His Majesty’s Royal Armed Forces, said last August. “At the same time, it helps the Nevada National Guard learn more about us in the Pacific, how we operate and how we work in time of crisis.”

Additionally, Nevada and Tonga have partnered in several U.S. Pacific Command and South Pacific exercises that include active duty, Guard and reserve

forces, as well as military personnel from Australia, New Zealand and several other Pacific Rim nations.

The SPP is administered by the National Guard Bureau, guided by State Department foreign policy goals, and executed by each state’s adjutant general in support of combatant commanders and Department of Defense policy goals.

Overall, the program includes more than 70 partnerships from states around the nation with 76 countries.



PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. EMERSON MARCUS

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Patrick Quinn, left, and Master Sgt. Brian Butler, right, work alongside members of His Majesty’s Armed Forces of Tonga during a State Partnership Program exchange last August in Nuku’Alofa, Tonga.

Nevada Guard unveils new emblem

A 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion administrative officer and amateur graphic artist, 2nd Lt. Adonis Palustre, added a very visible award to his portfolio last August when his submission was named the top entry in the Nevada National Guard's logo contest. Palustre's submission is now the official overarching emblem of the Nevada National Guard.

The logo, recognized by the Department of the Army's Institute of Heraldry, is the first all-encompassing, military-branch neutral logo in the Nevada Guard's 155-year history.

Adjutant General Brig. Gen. Bill Burks spearheaded the contest to design the initial Nevada Guard logo after seeing the North Carolina National Guard emblem earlier in the year. Like the Tar Heel state's National Guard logo, Burks sought an easily-identifiable emblem for the Nevada National Guard. He proposed the contest – open to all Soldiers and Airmen – which Palustre eventually won.

"I wanted a thoughtful design that incorporated various aspects of the state and Nevada National Guard to serve as a branding tool that will be widely displayed," said Burks, who awarded Palustre a plaque during the August 2016 drill weekend to recognize his achievement.

Palustre, 27, of Sparks, submitted three designs to the contest. After review, one of his designs was chosen and forwarded to the Institute of Heraldry.



This hand-drawn illustration is the original logo 2nd Lt. Adonis Palustre submitted to the Nevada National Guard Public Affairs Office for the state's logo contest. A few items were added to the design following the contest.



2nd Lt. Adonis Palustre designed the logo that is now the official emblem of the Nevada National Guard. The logo, recognized by the Department of the Army's Institute of Heraldry, is the first all-encompassing, military-branch neutral logo in the Nevada Guard's 155-year history.

Palustre said he intended to create a logo that incorporated many Nevada symbols.

In his original design, he included 17 stars to represent Nevada's 16 counties and Carson City. The 17 stars increased to 36 stars to signify the fact Nevada was the 36th



PHOTO BY SGT. 1ST CLASS ERICK STUDENICKA

2nd Lt. Adonis Palustre stands with his award for winning the Nevada National Guard's logo contest.

state to join the Union. He also added the mountains to denote the most mountainous state in the country and the words "Battle Born," which appear on the state flag.

Two larger stars on the logo represent the Air Guard and Army Guard, Palustre said. A minuteman representing the National Guard is also prevalent in the design.

Palustre said he began drawing at a young age. He continued to draw and design art during his academic career at the University of Nevada, Reno, where he studied International Affairs and even submitted a design for the university's bookstore in 2011.

Palustre was excited to contribute a piece of artwork to the Nevada Guard that will likely be exhibited for decades.

"I wanted to leave a lasting mark on the Nevada Guard," Palustre said.

Nevada Guard history tidbits

- The origin papers of the first known Nevada militia unit, the "Union Blues," were written two months after shots fired on Fort Sumter in 1861, vowing to "overawe outbreaks of secessionists" and the "maintenance of our present, political life."
- The Nevada militia activated for the State Prison War in Carson City in 1873 when Lt. Gov. Frank Denver refused to leave his post as warden. Denver surrendered with no shots fired after Nevada militiamen aimed artillery at the prison.
- The Nevada Guard disbanded in 1906 during a period of rising animosity toward standing militia and policing forces in the state as a result of growing labor tensions in the southern Nevada mining boom in Goldfield and Tonopah. The Guard re-organized in 1928.
- The Nevada Guard's 40th Military Police Company and 115th Regiment Engineers organized Jan. 1, 1941 as the 121st Separate Battalion Coast Artillery. They were inducted into federal service June 23, 1941. Federalized Nevada Guard troops served on the southern California coast and eventually in Pacific Theater. They favored the moniker "Desert Wolf."
- The Nevada Air Guard gained federal recognition April 12, 1948. The 192nd Fighter Squadron and its 16 P-51 Mustangs deployed for 21 months during the Korean War. Additionally, all Nevada Air Guard elements except headquarters activated during the Pueblo Crisis in 1968.
- The 152nd Reconnaissance Group, Nevada Air National Guard, and the 72nd Military Police Company, Nevada Army National Guard, deployed during the Gulf War. The 152nd supported aerial reconnaissance missions over Iraq and Kuwait. The 72nd provided prisoner detainment and military policing functions.
- The Nevada National Guard is entering its 16th year of continuous support of operations in the wake of 9/11. Dozens of Nevada Air and Army Guard deployments from a variety of units have occurred in this unprecedented support of federal government overseas missions.

High Rollers receive national firefighting mission

The National Guard Bureau announced April 2016 that the 152nd Airlift Wing, of Reno, received the U.S. Forest Service's Modular Airborne Fire Fighting Systems (MAFFS) mission for wildland firefighting nationwide.

Subsequently, the "High Rollers" attended a certification at Channel Islands Air National Guard Station in southern California last May and activated 12 aircrew in August for fires in Oregon, Idaho and Nevada.

The 152nd remains years from autonomous firefighting missions based on its certification level and experience flying the low, slow and heavy mission over large-scale wildland fires. Certification is completed through an annual weeklong training exercise and flight hours over actual wildland fires.

The 152nd first activated as co-pilots for MAFFS on Aug. 3, 2016 during the Pioneer Fire in the Boise National Forest.

"The actual drops have been challenging and exhilarating," said Lt. Col. Tony Machabee, acting 152nd Operations Group commander and the first member of the unit to co-pilot a MAFFS mission. "It's a great feeling to see your immediate results whether we are dropping a protective line of retardant between the fire and someone's property or dropping 'mud'

(retardant mix) directly on flames leaping from the tops of trees in an effort to slow the fire's progress."

By the beginning of September, the Air Expeditionary Group — the MAFFS group comprised of all four units flying the mission — flew 142 sorties, 125.5 flight hours, dispensing 3.5 million gallons of retardant on 165 drops. Most of that was on the Pioneer Fire, which burned more than 100,000 acres in Idaho last summer. AEG crew also fought fires in Oregon and the Rock Hill Fire in central Nevada.

With Nevada aircrew augmenting Colorado and Wyoming units flying the mission, this fire season effectively started the 152nd's co-pilot certification clock. Co-pilot certification could be completed as soon as next year when the unit would then begin certification as aircrew commanders. Once that certification is complete, they then begin certification as flight instructors and could begin the process of training in-house — ready for autonomous firefighting missions.

The other units involved in the mission are: the 146th Airlift Wing, California Air National Guard; the 153rd Airlift Wing, Wyoming Air National Guard and the 302nd Airlift Wing, Air Force Reserves.

A planned conversion of an existing MAFFS unit, the 145th Airlift Wing, North



PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. REBECCA PALMER

A 152nd Airlift Wing C-130 equipped with the Modular Airborne Fire Fighting System flies during a water demonstration this summer at the Nevada Air National Guard Base in Reno.

Carolina Air National Guard from the C-130 to the C-17 aircraft, prompted NGB to evaluate existing C-130 Air National Guard units for a suitable replacement for the MAFFS mission. All National Guard C-130 units were considered, the bureau said.

"Nevada crews have fully embraced the MAFFS mission and are committed to getting full up as quickly and safely as possible," Col. David Herder, deputy AEG commander, said last summer. "They have been stepping in to get training with the other units whenever possible. They have been a welcome addition to the MAFFS community."

The development of the MAFFS mission in Reno brings large-scale wildland firefighting capabilities to a Guard unit located in the largest national forest in the lower 48 states — the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest — prone to massive fires in recent years.

Since 1974, MAFFS — a fire retardant delivery system inserted into C-130 aircraft — has been a joint effort between the U.S. Forest Service and the Department of Defense.

The U.S. Forest Service owns MAFFS equipment, supplies retardant and ground crew for firefighting. The Department of Defense provides C-130 aircraft, flight crews, and maintenance and support personnel to fly missions. MAFFS delivers surge capability that can be used to boost wildfire suppression efforts. The equipment can discharge up to 3,000 gallons — 28,000 pounds — of retardant in less than five seconds, covering an area one-quarter of a mile long and 60 feet wide. Once discharged, it can be refilled and airborne in less than 12 minutes.



PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. EMERSON MARCUS

Members of the 152nd Airlift Wing, Nevada Air National Guard, pose for a photo on the flight line at the Nevada Air National Guard Base in Reno before their flight to Channel Islands Air National Guard Station, Calif., in May for the unit's first Modular Airborne Fire Fighting System certification and training.

Nevada Guard remembers the fallen

A decade after her son became the first Nevada Guard casualty in the Global War on Terrorism, Nancy Cometa-Fontana, of Rochester, N.Y., visited the field maintenance complex bearing his name in 2015.

The Nevada Guard named the field maintenance complex at the Las Vegas Readiness Center after Spc. Anthony Cometa in 2013.

Cometa died one day after his 21st birthday on June 16, 2005 manning a Humvee machine gun turret and providing convoy support. His vehicle lost control rounding a turn and flipped. Two other Nevada Guardsmen were injured, but survived the crash. Cometa was pronounced dead while being transported to a field hospital in Kuwait.

Cometa was one of three Nevada National Guard Soldiers killed in the war in 2005. Two months after Cometa's death, a rocket-propelled grenade struck the fuel tank of a Chinook helicopter in Afghanistan, killing Nevada Guard Chief Warrant Officer 3 John M. Flynn, of Sparks, and Sgt. Patrick D. Stewart, of Fernley. Also killed in the crash were two Oregon Army National Guardsman and an active duty Soldier.

More than 20 active and former unit members shared stories during Nancy Cometa-Fontana's visit of the facility grounds, reminiscing about her son's love



PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. EMERSON MARCUS, NEVADA NATIONAL GUARD JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Nancy Cometa-Fontana, center, puts her arm around her 15-year-old son, Matthew Fontana, during their tour of the Las Vegas Readiness Center in 2015. Cometa-Fontana's oldest son, Spc. Anthony Cometa, was the first Nevada Guardsmen killed in the Global War on Terrorism in 2005.

of guitar and his "unforgettable laugh" a decade after his death.

"After 10 years, I'm just so proud and amazed that you all are still honoring him," Cometa-Fontana said at the reunion.

The 'Pact'

Cometa-Fontana's 2015 visit came after she planned a trip to Las Vegas with her 15-year-old son, Matthew Fontana, Cometa's brother. Both shed tears upon seeing Cometa's photo at the entrance of the Las Vegas Readiness Center.

She described the visit as "bittersweet, but more sweet than bitter."

During the visit, Cometa-Fontana shared a memory about the deal she made her son to attend his unit's return ceremony in Las Vegas in 2005.

"I'd tell him I'd be there (at the end-of-deployment ceremony) if he was home for Christmas when he returned," she said. "We had a pact."

During Christmas in 2005, six months after her son died, she heard the doorbell ring at her home in New York.

"I had just called everyone to sit down for dinner," she said. "I said, 'Who is at my door?' I asked my mother-in-law to grab the front door and there wasn't anyone there. So I went to the side door thinking someone came in through the garage. No one was there either."

"I had that overwhelming feeling. I know it was my son. He was with us for Christmas."

A lasting legacy

A large, cutout photo of Cometa sits behind glass in Nevada National Guard facilities in Las Vegas and Carson City — a constant reminder of his sacrifice.

Cometa drove more than 13,000 miles on 16 missions while deployed, navigating some of the most dangerous roads in Iraq.

"His legacy transcends the whole state," said Col. Enrique De La Paz, who served as Cometa's battalion commander, 992nd Troop Command, in 2005. "This is important. We must never forget."

In the years since the three deaths in 2005, Soldiers explored ways to honor the fallen.

"It's not easy getting a building named after someone," said Command Sgt. Maj. Jared Kopacki, the Nevada Guard's State Command Sergeant Major and senior enlisted leader. Kopacki was the first sergeant for the 1864th when Cometa deployed in 2005. "It literally takes an act of Congress. But the state owns complexes. So that's why we were able to name the maintenance shop complex after Anthony."

A memorial has also been dedicated to Flynn, Stewart and three killed Soldiers in the crew of Mustang 22 at the Nevada Guard Army Aviation Support Facility in Stead.

"It's important to remember the Soldiers," De La Paz said. "But it's also important to remember them for their mothers and fathers. We've lost fellow Soldiers. They've lost children."



PHOTO COURTESY NANCY COMETA-FONTANA

Spc. Anthony Cometa is seen headed to deployment in Iraq in 2005.

Nevada Adjutants General through history

The Nevada Historical Society, State Archives, University of Nevada, Reno Special Collections and the Nevada National Guard State Headquarters have compiled photos and information on each Nevada Guard adjutant general throughout the decades since the Nevada Guard's inception in 1861. Although two photos of past adjutants general remain elusive, the compilations provide a personal look at the men — and one woman — who've served as the commander of the Nevada Guard dating back to Nevada's territorial status. Researching each one also reveals the transformation of the Nevada Guard through its history. These bios are not comprehensive and are edited for space.

— Tech. Sgt. Emerson Marcus, Nevada National Guard State Historian



1862

1864

Nevada's Organic Act created Nevada Territory in 1861 and gave the territorial governor power to appoint an adjutant general, who was ex-officio the governor's chief of staff, quartermaster general, commissary general, inspector general and chief of ordnance. Territorial Gov. James Nye appointed **H.P. Russell** to the post. Russell lost his post following statehood when the Nevada Senate declined his confirmation as adjutant general in 1865.



1865

1867

John Cradlebaugh was assigned as district judge of western Utah Territory (Carson City) in 1859. In 1861, he became Nevada's first territorial delegate to Congress. Cradlebaugh served as a Union colonel in the Civil War and was seriously wounded at the Battle of Vicksburg. His wounds included being shot in the face, which left him incapacitated. Unable to practice law as a result of the injury, Cradlebaugh received an appointment and was unanimously confirmed in the Nevada Senate as the first Nevada adjutant general following statehood. He died in Eureka, Nev., in 1872.



1867

1870

A member of Nevada's Constitutional Convention of 1863, **Chauncey N. Noteware** was the first elected adjutant general. In 1866, the Nevada Legislature made the position an additional duty of the secretary of state, a position Noteware held from 1864-1870. Noteware also served in the Nevada Senate. Noteware had no known military record.



1871

1874

Elected Nevada's secretary of state in 1870, **James D. Minor** is best known for his activation of the Nevada Militia in 1873 to remove Lt. Gov. Frank Denver from his prison warden duties during the "State Prison War" in Carson City. Lawmakers ousted Denver as lieutenant governor — a position that came with the additional duty of prison warden — and Minor was tasked with removing him. While defiant throughout, Denver left without a fight when the militia set up artillery outside the prison and demanded he surrender.



1875

1883

Jewett W. Adams was the first of three lawmakers to serve as both adjutant general and eventually as the governor. As adjutant general, Adams saw the expansion of the state militia — then almost entirely located in Storey County — with new units in Eureka, Lincoln and Ormsby counties. He saw the activation of the Nevada militia during the Bannock War in 1878 in northern Nevada and Oregon.



1883

1886

Charles E. Laughton sought the expansion of the Nevada Guard and consolidation of companies into a brigade. His term included regular pleas for more support and greater standardization of enlistment terms. Although Adams referred to the militia as the Nevada National Guard, Laughton is the first adjutant general to use the term on a regular basis, in place of "militia."

Henry C. Davis' tenure as adjutant general was best remembered for his procurement of U.S. Army uniforms for Nevada National Guard Soldiers. His tenure also coincided with the state's increasing depression following the end of the Comstock boom in Virginia City along with a great degree of political turmoil. Davis was the first adjutant general to die in office in 1889 of a heart attack in his garden in Carson City. The following year, Governor Charles Stevenson, who appointed Davis, also died in office.

Samuel Chubbuck, a native of Nova Scotia, was appointed lieutenant governor following Davis' death. He served in the position for two months in 1889 before leaving Nevada for a job as a Wells Fargo freight agent. Chubbuck was a Comstock pioneer and two-term Republican senator from Storey County.

Frank Bell, a distant cousin of Alexander Graham Bell, served multiple stints as Nevada State Prison warden along with his appointment as lieutenant governor following the resignation of Samuel Chubbuck. Bell also worked in the telegraph business and was the brother-in-law of Senator C.C. Powning, of Reno. Following the death of Governor Charles Stevenson, Bell became Nevada's sixth governor.

Joseph Poujade oversaw the long-awaited re-organization of the Nevada militia into a regimental organization and the Guard's first organized summer encampment. The encampment began Aug. 22, 1892 at Treadway's field in Carson City and included a 3 a.m. surprise attack. During Poujade's tenure, the Nevada Legislature officially changed the name of the state militia to the Nevada National Guard in 1893. That year, the adjutant general became a separate appointed position from the lieutenant governorship.

Charles Henry Galusha was the only Nevada adjutant general to serve two non-consecutive terms, including a brief stint in 1890. He was a long-time soldier who entered service in a Michigan volunteer unit during the Civil War before he moved to Carson City in the 1870s. During the ramp up to the Spanish-American War, Galusha eventually left his post for hospital in Oakland, Calif., as a lung infection worsened. The illness would take his life and he died July 21, 1898.

George W. Cowing, appointed following the death of Adjutant General Charles Henry Galusha, served as adjutant general for five months in 1898. However, it was during a frantic time for the Guard as it mobilized volunteer units for the Spanish American War. Many of the volunteer soldiers eventually departed overseas and served in the Philippine Insurrection of 1899.

James R. Judge, an engineer and lawyer, served as adjutant general in a great time of transition for the Guard. State legislation in 1899 fixed peacetime Guard strength at one battalion of no more than five companies and returned the adjutant generalship to the lieutenant governor. Additionally, Congress passed the Militia Act of 1903 and enacted federal standards for Guard units. When Judge left office in 1903 he lobbied for funding for what he called the poor conditions of the Carson City armory. The state legislature did not deliver on funding.

Lemuel Allen, a Silver Democrat of Churchill County, was a long-time Nevada politician, serving in the Assembly in 1877 and as Speaker of the Assembly before being elected lieutenant governor in 1902. He warned that if more funds weren't allotted, "it will not be many years until it (Nevada) will have no armed militia." Following the Militia Act of 1903, Allen's prophesy came true in 1906 and Nevada lost its federal recognition. This was due in large part to the anti-militia sentiment among labor unions in the mines who feared militia activation for strong-armed, strike-breaking tactics.

1887

1889

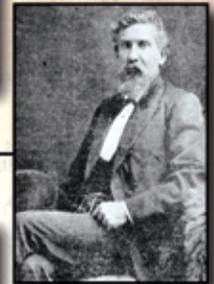


1889



1889

1890



1891

1895

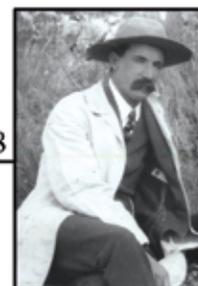


1890, 1895

1898



1898



1898

1903



1903

1906





1907
1911

Denver Dickerson served as adjutant general during perhaps the darkest hour of the Nevada National Guard. Dickerson, a veteran of the Spanish American War, was elected lieutenant governor in 1906. He became governor in 1908 following the death of Governor John Sparks. Dickerson maintained the position of adjutant general during this time — with no federally recognized Guard or even state militia.



1911
1915

Gilbert C. Ross, elected lieutenant governor in 1910, led the re-emergence of the Nevada State Militia. On July 29, 1912, the hopes of many Nevada citizens came to fruition with the formation of three companies of infantry. However, these forces did not meet federal inspection standards and remained without federal recognition. Even without federal funds, though, Nevadans organized and trained.



1915
1926

Maurice J. Sullivan, Nevada's longest serving lieutenant governor and eventual U.S. congressman, repeatedly sought re-organization of the Nevada National Guard, but was continually denied funding by the state Legislature. In 1916, the War Department requested Nevada create two units of cavalry to combat the Pancho Villa raids in New Mexico. The request was denied as Nevada failed recruitment marks. He did organize the production of Nevada's Gold Stars, a book dedicated to Nevadans killed while serving in World War I.



1927
1947

Jay H. White, the longest-serving adjutant general in Nevada history, spearheaded the re-organization of the Nevada National Guard. In 1925, the adjutant general position returned as a private secretary to the governor. White developed an unprecedented degree of respectability to the office and achieved federal recognition for the Nevada National Guard in 1927. He also served as adjutant general during World War II as Nevada Guard units federalized. Additionally, White wrote a history of the Nevada National Guard and the state militia during his tenure.



1947

Marlowe M. Merrick's tenure as adjutant general was deliberately brief. Merrick, a cavalry officer in World War I under Gen. John Pershing, became a pilot and eventually commanded the Stead Army Air Base at the end of World War II. After stepping down from command, Merrick sought permanent residence in northern Nevada. In 1947, Gov. Vail Pittman asked Merrick if he would help with the Guard's re-activation, given his connections in the War Department. Upon the activation of the 192nd Fighter Squadron, Nevada Air National Guard, Merrick resigned after only two months as adjutant general.



1947
1966

James A. May, an instrumental leader in the Nevada National Guard's transition into the post-World War II era, spearheaded efforts for the Nevada Air Guard's move to its current base at the Reno Airport. The base is unofficially named after May, the Nevada National Guard's second-longest tenured adjutant general. He served as adjutant general during the Nevada Air Guard's 22-month deployment during the Korean War, the re-organization of the Army Guard and during a considerable build-up of armories around the state.



1967

Addison A. Millard was only adjutant general for five months, but his tenure occurred during the Guard's revision of militia laws at the Legislative Session in Carson City in 1967. Millard led efforts for a new Military Code of Justice and the formation of the Nevada Military Department. Additionally, the adjutant general position became a full-time state position, separate from the director of selective service position that supervised and administered local draft boards. Millard maintained his position as director of selective service and resigned as adjutant general following the legislative session that year.

Floyd L. Edsall was Nevada's first full-time adjutant general following the Nevada National Guard's revision of its militia laws in 1967. A World War II veteran and Silver Star recipient as a member of the 63rd Infantry Division, Edsall oversaw the Nevada Guard's transition into the post-Vietnam War Era and an all-volunteer force, along with the Nevada Air Guard's acquisition of F-4 aircraft. In 1997, the Nevada Army Guard's 1,697-acre training facility in North Las Vegas was dedicated as the Maj. Gen. Floyd Edsall Training Center to recognize Edsall's contributions to the Nevada Guard.

1967
1979



William F. Engel, a graduate of Reno High and the University of Nevada, Reno, served as an executive assistant in the Nevada Highway Department before his appointment to adjutant general in 1979. He also served as the state's director of selective service and was an active volunteer in the community. During his tenure as adjutant general, Engel survived injuries suffered during a commercial airline flight crash landing while on his way to visit Soldiers training at Camp Ripley, Minn.

1979
1983



Robert J. Dwyer, an accomplished Vietnam War combat pilot, was adjutant general as the Nevada Guard ratcheted up its manning levels in the 1980s. Dwyer, awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his service in Vietnam, had more than 5,500 flight hours and was rated in numerous aircraft before becoming adjutant general.

1983
1986



Drennan A. Clark, a prominent attorney in Reno before becoming adjutant general, entered the Nevada Air National Guard in 1960. After commissioning in 1964, he activated during the Pueblo Crisis in Korea. He was the third-longest serving adjutant general in Nevada history. The Order of Nevada Service Ribbon, given to members with more than 25 years of exceptional service, is named in his honor. During Clark's tenure, the Nevada Guard began its first state partnership — then called the "partnership for peace program" — with Turkmenistan in 1996. He also oversaw the Nevada Air National Guard's transition from F-4 to C-130 aircraft in 1995.

1986
2001



Giles E. Vanderhoof oversaw an unprecedented increase in the demands on the Nevada Military Department following the terrorist attacks of 9/11. At times during Vanderhoof's tenure, the Nevada Air and Army Guard hit overseas deployment percentages as high as 23 and 49 percent of the entire force, respectively. That ranked among the highest percentages of any state National Guard in the nation. Vanderhoof also oversaw the opening of the new Office of the Adjutant General in Carson City in 2002, and the consolidation of the state's Joint Force Headquarters in 2003.

2001
2005



Cynthia N. Kirkland, the Nevada National Guard's first female adjutant general, managed continuous operation tempo and overseas deployments during her tenure. Additionally, as she entered the position, the Nevada Air National Guard faced the loss of its entire C-130 fleet in 2005 due to Base Realignment and Closure review. Following a robust campaign and community effort to prevent the closure, the Department of Defense decided to not close the base, which effectively saved the Nevada Air National Guard.

2005
2009



William R. Burks, a veteran of Operation Desert Shield/Storm, served at the Pentagon before returning to Nevada as assistant adjutant general and eventually adjutant general. Burks' tenure has included unprecedented facility growth and improved infrastructure with the construction of the North Las Vegas Readiness Center, a new maintenance shop in Las Vegas and the Guard's acquisition of the training facility in Carlin. Additionally, the Nevada National Guard signed a Declaration of Partnership with the Kingdom of Tonga in 2014 and has developed several other partnerships in the Pacific under the National Guard Bureau's State Partnership Program. ■

2009
present



Nevada National Guard Leadership

Brig. Gen. William Burks

The Adjutant General



Brig. Gen. William R. Burks is the Adjutant General for the State of Nevada. As Adjutant General, he is the senior uniformed Nevada National Guard officer responsible for formulating, developing and coordinating all policies, programs and plans affecting more than 4,000 Nevada Army and Air National Guard personnel. Burks serves as the governor's principal adviser on all National Guard issues, is responsible for both the federal and state missions of the Nevada National Guard, and serves as the official channel of communication with the National Guard Bureau, Department of the Army, and Department of the Air Force.

Prior to his current position, Burks was the Assistant Adjutant General for Air, Nevada Air National Guard, and also served as Director of the Joint Staff, Joint Staff Headquarters, Nevada National Guard. During this timeframe, he also acted as a Special Assistant to the Headquarters Air Force Quadrennial Defense Review Office.

Burks began his military career with the Nevada Air National Guard when he was selected to attend navigator training for the 152nd Tactical Reconnaissance Group in Reno and received his commission as a second lieutenant in 1978. Burks earned his navigator wings at Mather Air Force Base, Calif. and weapons system officer rating at Shaw Air Force Base, S.C., in 1978. Burks is a Master Navigator with more than 2,000 flying hours and is a veteran of Operation DESERT SHIELD/STORM with 29 combat sorties. Burks is a native of Reno, and graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno.

Brig. Gen. Michael Hanifan

Commander, Nevada Army Guard



Brig. Gen. Michael Hanifan was commissioned in 1986 upon graduation from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point with a degree in engineering physics. He is a native Nevada resident and grew up in Fallon.

Hanifan served on active duty from 1986-1996 in various positions as a military intelligence officer. His positions while on active duty included: company commander, infantry battalion intelligence officer, division production section and analysis section chief, infantry brigade assistant intelligence officer and assistant operations and intelligence electronic warfare staff officer.

After two years in the Army's Individual Ready Reserves, Hanifan joined the Nevada Guard in 1998 as a major. His various positions in the Nevada Guard include: director of training and mobilization; deputy commander of the 17th Sustainment Brigade; battalion commander of the 1/421st Regional Training Institute; commander, Headquarters, State Area Command; deputy directorate of training and operations; and state command inspection program coordinator. Prior to assuming command, Hanifan was the deputy commander of the Nevada Army National Guard.



Three Nevada Guard general officers and the senior enlisted leaders joined and signed a letter of support in 2015 for the state to host the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States' (EANGUS) annual conference in 2017. The state landed the conference and it will be held in Reno on Aug. 13-16, 2017. Seated is Brig. Gen. William Burks; behind Burks is, left to right: Brig. Gen. Zachary Doser, Senior Master Sgt. Rosemarie Marston, Nevada Army Guard State Command Sgt. Maj. Jared Kopacki and Brig. Gen. Michael Hanifan.

Hanifan has been activated four times for more than four combined years since 9/11 to serve in various positions, including: officer in charge, Nevada National Guard Airport Security; exercise director/coordinator for Vigilant Guard 2008 (the largest domestic operations training exercise in the history of the Nevada National Guard); exercise director for the National Level Exercise 2010; deputy state officer for joint operations; and director of training, readiness and mobilizations.

In civilian life, Hanifan has worked for Bentley Nevada since 1996, and is currently the engineering manager for sustaining, including hardware, software, custom products and failure analysis.

Brig. Gen. Ondra Berry

Assistant Adjutant General, Air Guard



Brig. Gen. Ondra L. Berry serves as Assistant Adjutant General, Nevada Air National Guard. Berry is responsible for developing and coordinating all policies, programs and plans affecting more than 1,100 Nevada Air National Guard personnel, and the Nevada Air National Guard's C-130, MQ-1/9 and Distributed Common Ground Station weapons systems. Appointed by the Nevada Adjutant General, Berry serves as the principal adviser on all Nevada Air National Guard issues, responsible for federal and state missions. Additionally, he serves as the official channel of communication with the National Guard Bureau and U.S. Department of the Air Force.

Berry's most recent and current federal dual assignment is Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, Manpower and Reserve Affairs, providing oversight and input concerning laws, regulations and policy of the Human Capital portfolio to ensure mission success. In this role, Berry assists in areas of diversity,

force development, force management, total force and Airman and Family Readiness. He has had a significant impact on diversity and inclusion in the Nevada Air National Guard, implementing the National Guard Bureau's message of diversity, education and opportunity around the country. Berry's energy and expertise in this field enhanced his abilities as a driving force in the National Guard, where he routinely sets the stage for increased diversity and opportunities for all members of the armed forces. Berry received his commission from the Air National Guard Academy of Military Science in 1990.

Brig. Gen Zachary Doser

Ass't Adjutant General, Army, & Director, Joint Staff



Brig. Gen. Zachary Doser is the Director of the Joint Staff and the Assistant Adjutant General, Army Guard. He is also the domestic operations Joint Task Force commander. Doser oversees the joint operations that support the more than 4,300 Soldiers and Airmen serving in the Nevada National Guard. He is responsible for coordinating the Nevada National Guard support to civil authorities during domestic response operations.

Doser received his commission from the University of Nevada, Reno's ROTC program in 1985 and was one of the class's distinguished graduates. He graduated from UNR in 1986 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Geography. He also holds a Master of Arts degree in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College. Doser has command experience at a wide range of military levels ranging from platoon through brigade echelons. Prior to becoming the director of the Joint Staff, he served as the Nevada Army Guard's Chief of Staff and the Army Assistant Adjutant General, Nevada National Guard.

Doser served in Afghanistan for more than a year in 2008-2009 as a team chief for the Nevada Guard's Embedded Training Team. During the same deployment, he later became the Chief of Staff for the Afghanistan Regional Security Integration Command – East. In his civilian occupation, Doser is a police detective with the Reno Police Department who specializes in the investigation of sexually-motivated crimes, child abuse and domestic violence.

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Col. Felix Castagnola

U.S. Property and Fiscal Officer



Col. Felix Castagnola became the U.S. property and fiscal officer for Nevada in 2008. As the USPFO for Nevada, Castagnola is accountable and responsible for all National Guard federal resources in the state.

A military police and signal officer, Castagnola received an ROTC commission in 1979 from the University of Nevada, Reno. During his Nevada Guard career he has served as a company commander, battalion commander, director of personnel, director of training and operations and as the Nevada Army Guard chief of staff.

In addition to a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from UNR, he holds a master's degree in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, Penn.

Command Sgt. Maj. Jared Kopacki

Senior Enlisted Leader



Command Sgt. Maj. Jared Kopacki assumed his role as the Nevada National Guard's Senior Enlisted Leader on May 2, 2015. He is concurrently the Nevada Army Guard's state command sergeant major, a position he has held since Sept. 7, 2013.

As the state's senior enlisted leader, he advises both The Adjutant General and the Commander of the Army Guard on all matters concerning enlisted Airmen, Soldiers and their family members. He advises senior leadership on myriad of topics for the state's enlisted Airmen and Soldiers. Kopacki supports the directors of the Joint, Army and Air staffs with the management of the full time enlisted staff, including Active Guard and Reserve Soldiers and Airmen as well as military technicians.

After a break in service, Kopacki enlisted in the Nevada Army National Guard's 1864th Transportation Company in Henderson. Kopacki also served on an Agricultural Development Team as an operations sergeant major during Operation Enduring Freedom 2010-2011. Kopacki was also as an instructor at the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy.

Kopacki has a Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies with a focus in Administrative and Management Studies from Excelsior College in Albany, N.Y, and a Master of Arts in Leadership Studies from the University of Texas at El Paso.

Chief Master Sgt. Michael Drisdale

State Command Chief, Nevada Air Guard



Chief Master Sgt. Michael Drisdale is the State Command Chief for the Nevada Air National Guard. Drisdale is the principle advisor to the Adjutant General for all enlisted Airmen issues and is responsible for matters influencing readiness, force development, health, morale and welfare for the over 900 assigned enlisted personnel and their families.

Before moving to the office of the State Command Chief, Drisdale was assigned as the Group Superintendent and the Senior Health Services Technician to the 152nd Medical Group Nevada Air National Guard. Previously Drisdale served 27 years with the 152nd Maintenance Group Nevada Air National Guard. His duties while assigned to the Maintenance Group include Maintenance Group Superintendent, Quality Assurance Superintendent, Flight Chief, Inspection section Work Leader, Phase Dock Inspector and a dedicated Crew Chief on C-130 E/H and RF-4C Phantom II aircraft.

Drisdale has deployed overseas 15 times while assigned to the Maintenance Group, four of which were in direct support Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. Drisdale also served four years in the United States Army, serving three years as an infantryman with the 1st Battalion 75th Infantry (Airborne/Rangers) stationed at Hunter Army Airfield Savannah, Ga. Drisdale deployed 7 times overseas while assigned to the 1st Ranger Battalion, including a deployment in support of Operation Urgent Fury in 1983.

Nevada National Guard **Equipment**

C-130 Hercules cargo aircraft

The 152nd Airlift Wing flies eight C-130 Hercules cargo airplanes. The 152nd underwent a fleet upgrade in 2016 to newer C-130 H3 models.

The Hercules model is a four-engine turboprop military airframe that has been in continuous use by the Air Force for more than 50 years. The model has experienced multiple upgrades and improvements in its five decades of existence. Via its aft loading ramp and door, the Hercules can accommodate a wide variety of cargo, including utility helicopters, military vehicles, palletized cargo and military personnel. The Hercules can deliver loads of



up to 42,000 pounds and is capable of landing in remote locations with rough, dirt landing strips.

The flexible design of the C-130 enables it to be configured for a myriad of missions.

The special mission equipment added to the Hercules is usually removable, allowing the airframe to easily revert back to its traditional cargo delivery role.

CH-47D Chinook, UH-60L Black Hawk and UH-72A Lakota helicopters

At the end of 2016, the Nevada Army Guard possessed 20 helicopters, including six CH-47 Chinooks, seven UH-60 Black Hawks and six UH-72A Lakota aircraft.



CH-47D Chinook

The 1/189th Aviation unit maintains and operates the state's Chinooks. The CH-47D can operate in day or night in nearly all weather conditions. The airframe accommodates a wide variety of internal payloads, including vehicles, artillery pieces, up to 44 troops or 24 litters plus two attendants. Externally the helicopter can hoist

26,000 pounds and can deploy firefighting water buckets capable of carrying 2,000 gallons of water.



UH-60L Black Hawk

Soldiers from the 1/168th Aviation, a medical evacuation unit, crew Nevada's Black Hawks. The four blade, medium-lift airframe is capable of transporting up to 11 troops or 2,600 pounds of cargo internally or 9,000 pounds externally. The UH-60 can deploy a 660-gallon firefighting water bucket.



UH-72A Lakota

Nevada's 3/140th Security and Support, B and D Companies, operates six UH-72A Lakota helicopters. Four of the light-duty airframes are configured with homeland security options and two are equipped with medical evacuation features.

MQ-1 Predators, MQ-9 Reapers and RQ-11 Ravens (unmanned aircraft systems)



The Nevada Guard operates three unmanned aircraft systems, two in conjunction with the active-duty military. The unmanned systems include the MQ-1 Predator, MQ-9 Reaper and the RQ-11 Raven.

The MQ-1 Predator is a medium-altitude, long-range unmanned aircraft system whose primary mission is interdiction and armed reconnaissance against critical and often transitory targets.

A complete Predator system consists of four aircraft with sensors, a ground control station, a Predator satellite link, and operations and maintenance crews for continuous operations.

The MQ-9 Reaper is a medium-to-high altitude, long-range unmanned aircraft system. The Reaper's primary mission is to attack and eliminate targets. The system's alternate mission is to serve as an intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance asset, using its

sensors to provide real-time data to commanders and intelligence specialists.

The typical Reaper system consists of several air vehicles, a ground control station and communications equipment. The crew for the MQ-9 entails a pilot and a sensor operator who operate the aircraft from a remote ground station.

While the Nevada Air Guard does not own MQ-1 and MQ-9 systems per se, Airmen from the 232nd Operations Squadron work with the active-duty Air Force to fly unmanned aircraft and analyze imagery from unmanned aircraft nearly every day.

The smallest aircraft in the Nevada Guard aviation inventory is the RQ-11 Raven. The Raven system features a 4.2-pound, remote-controlled propeller airplane with a 43-inch fuselage length and a 51-inch wingspan. It is equipped with infrared and daytime color cameras. Crews launch the Raven by hand in a manner similar to a model airplane launch; the Raven does not require a landing strip.



M2A3/M7A3 Bradley fighting vehicle

1-221st Cavalry Squadron operates 41 M2A3 and 4 M7A3 Bradley fighting vehicles that were recently received; these vehicles feature more advanced optics capabilities for the vehicle commander than previous versions.

Nevada's Bradley fighting vehicles are tracked vehicles capable of engaging and destroying enemy personnel, armored vehicles, reconnaissance vehicles, fortified positions, battle tanks and helicopters. The M2A3s utilized by Nevada are configured as cavalry fighting vehicles due to the squadron's armored reconnaissance mission, while the M7A3s are specifically configured to provide front line units with advanced fire support capabilities.

C-12 Huron fixed-wing aircraft



Detachment 3, Company B 2/641st Aviation, operates the only fixed-wing aircraft in the Nevada Army Guard's inventory, the state's lone C-12 Huron.

The C-12 Huron is a versatile, twin-engine turboprop aircraft and is used by all branches of the U.S. military. The aircraft is closely related to the Beechcraft 1900 and Super King Air aircraft models. It is used for a variety of different missions, including cargo and passenger transportation, embassy support, logistical support, medical evacuations and surveillance.

M-915 truck tractors

The Nevada Army Guard operates 120 M-915 versions A3 and A5 line-haul tractor trucks. The 593rd Transportation Company in Reno operates 60 A3 models in conjunction with M-867A2 5,000-gallon fuel trailers. The 1864th Transportation Company in Las Vegas operates 34 A3 models and 26 A5s that haul M-8872A4 flatbed trailers. Each trailer is capable of carrying 34 tons. The trucks are designed to haul cargo throughout a combat theater and are engineered to meet severe duty operating conditions including off-road movements.

M1A1 AIM-SA Abrams main battle tank

The Nevada Army Guard recently received 14 M1A1 AIM-SA Abrams main battle tanks as part of the 1-221st Cavalry Squadron's realignment under the 116th Cavalry Brigade Combat Team.

Based on the original M1 Abrams main battle tank, the M1A1 AIM-SA features multiple upgrades including enhanced optics and improved armor. The M1A1 AIM-SA employs a 120 mm smooth-bore cannon and three machine guns to engage and destroy enemy infantry, reconnaissance vehicles, armored vehicles, battle tanks, fortifications and slow, low flying aircraft.

M1117 Armored Security Vehicle

The Nevada Army Guard's 72nd Military Police Company operates 12 M1117 Armored Security Vehicles. Specifically designed for military police operations, the M1117 is a wheeled vehicle capable of protecting its occupants from multiple threats including small arms fire and land mines. The vehicle is highly versatile and is utilized by military police personnel across the full spectrum of military operations.



Nevada National Guard Facilities

Nevada National Guard Facilities

Joint Facilities

1 – Fairview Complex

1 – Office of the Adjutant General

2460 Fairview Drive
Carson City, NV 89701
775-887-7802

- Joint Force Headquarters
- Headquarters, Nevada Army National Guard
- Emergency Operations Center
- Nevada Air Guard Personnel Office
- 150th Maintenance Company
- Headquarters, Recruiting and Retention Battalion
- Recruit Sustainment Company
- Combined Support Maintenance Shop
- 106th Public Affairs Detachment
- 92nd Civil Support Team

1 – United States Property and Fiscal Office

2452 Fairview Drive
Carson City, NV 89701
(775) 887-7802

- Joint Force Headquarters Finance and Contracting
- Army Guard Warehouse

Air Guard Facilities

2 – Reno Air National Guard Base

1776 National Guard Way
Reno, NV 89502-4494
(775) 788-4500

- Headquarters, Nevada Air National Guard
- 152nd Airlift Wing
- 152nd Intelligence Squadron
- Counter Drug Program

16 – Nevada Air National Guard

Building 45
Creech AFB, NV 89018
(702) 652-2840

- 232nd Operations Squadron

Army Guard Facilities

9 – Spc. Anthony Cometa Training Center

9 – Las Vegas Readiness Center

4500 W. Silverado Ranch Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89139
(702) 856-4988

- Headquarters, 17th Sustainment Brigade
- Headquarters, 17th Special Troops Battalion
- 137th Law and Order Detachment
- NVARNG Medical Detachment South
- Field Maintenance Shop Seven

3 – Army Aviation Support Facility

20,000 Army Aviation Drive
Reno, NV 89506
(775) 971-6097

- B Company, 1/189th Aviation

- C Company, 1/168th Aviation (MEDEVAC)
- Det. 1, D Company, 3/140th Security and Support
- Detachment 45, Operational Support Airlift

6 – Cheyenne Air Center

4511 W. Cheyenne Ave. Suite 700
North Las Vegas, NV 89032
(702) 643-4270

- Det.1 B Company, 3/140th Security and Support (Hangar 1 and 2)

13 – Elko Armory

1375 13th Street
Elko, NV 89801
(775) 778-3003

- Det. 2, 593rd Trans. Co.

12 – Elko County Readiness Center

100 University Ave.
Carlin, NV 89822-0877
(775) 338-7065

- Det. 1, 593rd Transportation Company

15 – Ely Armory

545 Mill Street
Ely, NV 89301
(702) 632-0592

- Det. 1, 72nd Military Police Co.

10 – Fallon Armory

895 E. Richard Street
Fallon, NV 89406
(775) 423-3050

- 609th Engineer Company

8 – Floyd Edsall Readiness Center

6400 N. Range Road
Las Vegas, NV 89115
(702) 632-0519

- HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
- I Troop, 1/221st Cavalry
- K Troop, 1/221st Cavalry
- L Troop, 1/221st Cavalry
- 777th Forward Support Company
- B Co., 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion
- Det. 1, C Co., 422nd Expeditionary Signal Bn

3 – Harry Reid Readiness Center

19980 Army Aviation Drive
Reno, NV 89506
(775) 971-6031

- Stead Training Site
- HQ, 991st Multi-functional Brigade
- HHD, 991st Multi-functional Brigade
- B Company, 1/189th Aviation
- C Company, 1/168th Aviation (MEDEVAC)
- Det. 45, Operational Support Airlift
- 3/140th Security & Support Det.
- 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion
- HHC, 422nd ESB
- C Co., 422nd ESB
- 757th Combat Sust. Support Bn.
- 485th Military Police Co.
- 1859th Transportation Co.



PHOTO COURTESY NEVADA GUARD FACILITIES MANAGEMENT OFFICE

Construction has begun on the 13,000-square-foot Field Maintenance Shop located at the Harry Reid Readiness Center in Stead, Nev. The new building will more than double the Nevada Guard's ability to provide maintenance to its northern Nevada ground vehicles.

7 – Henderson Armory

151 E. Horizon Ridge Parkway
Henderson, NV 89002
(702) 567-4580

- 72nd Military Police Company
- 137th Law and Order Detachment

8 – North Las Vegas Readiness Center

6600 N. Range Road
Las Vegas, NV 89115
(702) 856-4890

- 1/421st Regiment (RTI)
- 100th Quartermaster Company
- 1864th Transportation Company
- 240th Engineer Company
- 777th Engineer Concrete Team
- 277th Engineer Haul Platoon
- 3665th Ordnance Company
- 593rd Transportation Co.

4 – Plumb Lane Armory

685 E. Plumb Lane
Reno, NV 89502
(775) 348-5120

- Military Services Support Center
- Selective Services Branch
- NVARNG Medical Detachment, North
- Army Guard Recruiting

5 – Stead Training Site

4600 Alpha Avenue
Reno, NV 89506
(775) 677-5214

- 1/421st Regional Training Institute (-)

11 – Winnemucca Armory

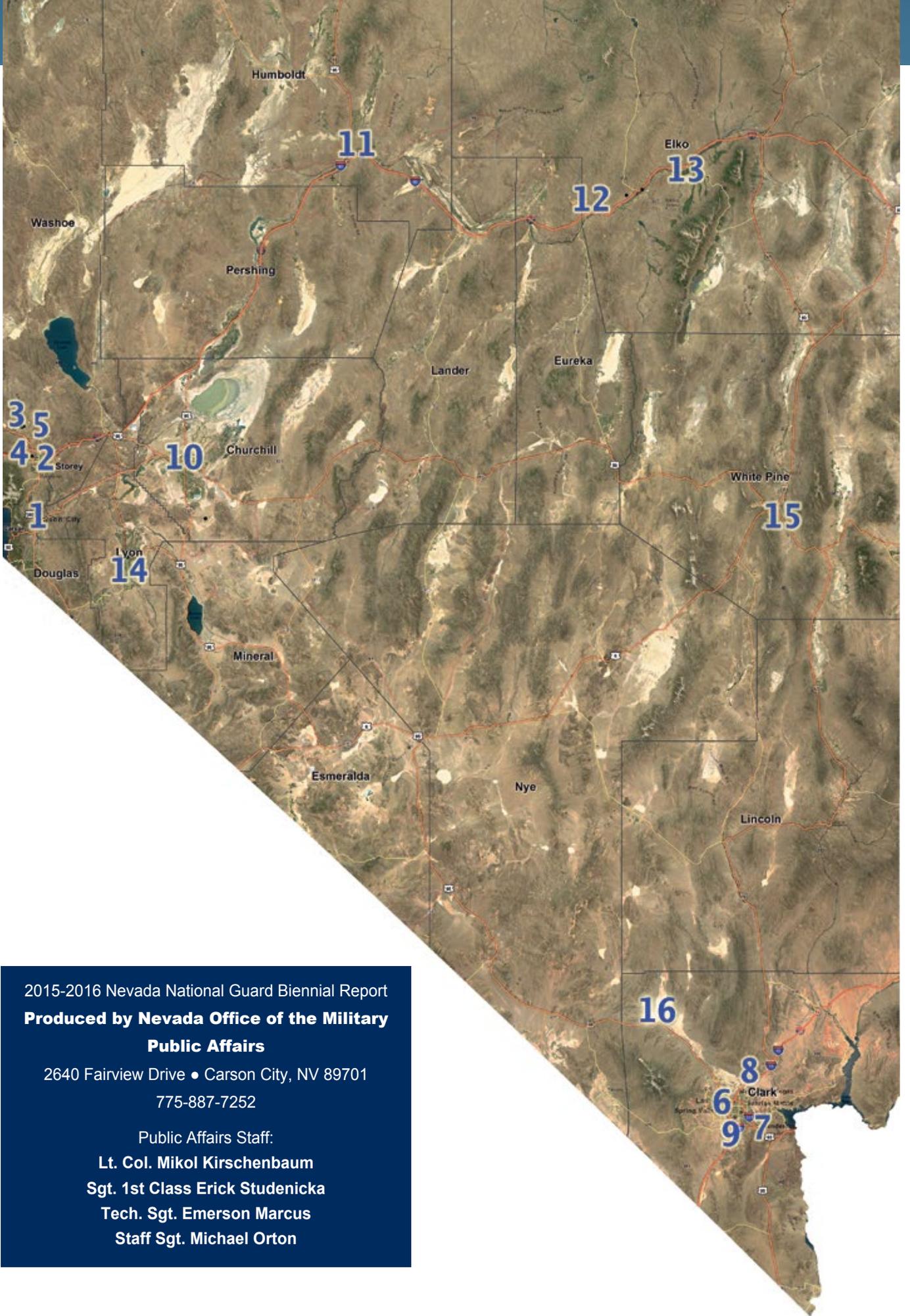
735 W. 4th Street
Winnemucca, NV 89445
(775) 625-8280

- Det. 1, 1859th Transportation Co.

14 – Yerington Armory

14 Joe Parr Way
Yerington, NV 89447
(775) 463-6203

- Det. 1, 609th Engineer Co.



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Public Affairs

2640 Fairview Drive • Carson City, NV 89701

775-887-7252

Public Affairs Staff:

Lt. Col. Mikol Kirschenbaum

Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka

Tech. Sgt. Emerson Marcus

Staff Sgt. Michael Orton



Nevada National Guard Public Affairs Office, 2460 Fairview Drive, Carson City, Nevada 89701