



# Transcript

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## NATIONAL GUARD ON-THE-RECORD TELEPHONIC MEDIA ROUNDTABLE

JUNE 2, 2022

TOPIC	SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS
National Guard State Partnership Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Army Gen. Daniel Hokanson, chief of the National Guard Bureau (Prepared Statement)</li><li>▪ Army Maj. Gen. David S. Baldwin, adjutant general, California National Guard</li><li>▪ Air Force Maj. Gen. James O. Eifert, adjutant general, Florida National Guard</li><li>▪ Air Force Maj. Gen. Daryl L. Bohac, adjutant general, Nebraska National Guard</li><li>▪ Army Maj. Gen. Gregory C. Knight, adjutant general, Vermont National Guard</li></ul>

### Prepared Statement from Gen. Daniel Hokanson, chief of the National Guard Bureau:

For the first time in history, the United States has two nuclear-capable strategic competitors – China and Russia. This threat is especially concerning when you consider Russia’s unprovoked and ongoing invasion of Ukraine. It serves as a stark reminder of how quickly a democracy can come under attack.

It is also a reminder of the power of citizens-turned-Soldiers and Airmen, who in times of crisis, leave their civilian lives to take up arms in defense of their country. This is what we’ve witnessed in Ukraine. It is also the legacy and the purpose of our National Guard.

We cannot predict when or where the next conflict will be, or what our competitors will bring to bear, but we must ensure the National Guard and our allies are ready to fight, and win, when we are called.

That’s why we are so proud of the State Partnership Program and continue to strengthen ties with our allies and partners, who provide an unmatched strategic advantage and help maintain global order. Currently, our state National Guard organizations are partnered with 93 countries. That’s 45 percent of the world’s nations – and we’re looking to grow another 30 partnerships over the next decade.

The benefits of this program are readily apparent in the partnership between the California National Guard and Ukraine. Since their partnership began in 1993, they have conducted more than 1,000 military exchanges. While the rest of the world underestimated the Ukrainian Armed Forces, the California



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National Guard did not. Today, we are joined by California's Adjutant General, **Maj. Gen. David Baldwin**, who will share details about his state's nearly 30-year relationship with Ukraine.

There are other National Guard states with connections to Eastern Europe on this call.

We are joined by Vermont's Adjutant General, **Maj. Gen. Greg Knight**. His state has enjoyed one of the oldest partnerships with North Macedonia for nearly 30 years, and the newest, with Austria, which was formalized this year. His state is also partnered with Senegal, giving Vermont the distinction of having three separate countries working toward interoperability.

We're also joined by **Maj. Gen. Daryl Bohac**, the Nebraska National Guard's Adjutant General. They have been partnered with the Czech Republic for nearly 30 years. Just last month, they deployed a KC-135 Stratotanker to an Air Base in Czechia to support real-world

missions supplying aerial refueling capabilities to the U.S. and NATO coalition. This mission operates more than 100 coalition aircraft along the Eastern flank to ensure fighter jets receive timely refueling.

Finally, I would like to introduce the Adjutant General from Florida National Guard, **Maj. Gen. James Eifert**. In addition to the extremely important work his Guard members have accomplished with its partnerships with Guyana and the Regional Security System, comprised of several Caribbean nations, his Soldiers were working directly with the Ukrainian Armed Forces just prior to the invasion.

These TAGs, and numerous Combatant Commanders, know firsthand how important and cost-effective the State Partnership Program is and why it makes America immeasurably stronger. The program helps to ensure our Nation's military has trusted, capable, and interoperable partners at our side. Since Russia's brutal invasion, the National Guard has been actively engaged with our SPP partner nations across EUCOM – and we will continue to do so.

Our Nation relies on the National Guard to defend democracy, restore peace, and bring hope and security around the globe in times of crisis. "Always Ready, Always There" is not just our motto, it's our promise.



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## Dialogue:

[Name]

[QUESTION/RESPONSE]

Wayne Hall [00:00:26]

Good afternoon. Thank you for joining us for this afternoon's media roundtable focusing on the National Guard State Partnership Program. Before we begin today, I want to remind everyone that this event is on the record. The National Guard State Partnership Program has been successfully building relationships across the globe for nearly 30 years. The program now includes 85 partnerships with 93 nations. The roundtable will take will last approximately 45 minutes. While the topic is of significant importance to General Hokanson, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, he is, unfortunately, unable to attend; however, we will provide his opening remarks to you all as a prepared statement in the chat here, as well as by email after we conclude. So we'll begin now with opening remarks from our four-panel members. Today we have with us Major General David Baldwin, the adjutant general from California, Major General James Eifert, adjutant general from Florida National Guard. Major General Daryl Bohac, Adjutant General from Nebraska National Guard, and Major General Gregory Knight, adjutant general from Vermont National Guard. With that, over to you, General Baldwin.

MG David Baldwin [00:01:39]

Good morning, everybody, and thanks for joining us today as we bring some senior National Guard leaders together to talk to you about a program that delivers tremendous value to our nation and the defense of our nation in the state partnership program. [SPP] has been around for about 30 years, just under 30 years. And through this program, at very, very low cost, we in the National Guard deliver to combatant commanders across the globe a great capability in building relations with partner nations and helping those partner nations build their capability and capacity to defend themselves and to participate in collective defense. It's a great way for the United States to show its face around the globe through the soldiers and airmen of the National Guard. The other value of the program, of course, is because National Guardsmen tend to stay in their units for much longer than active component soldiers, airmen, sailors and Marines. We're able to build long term professional and personal relationships. We here in California have seen that really come to the test over the last couple of months with the invasion of Ukraine, not because we've had that partnership with Ukraine for going on 29, almost 30 years now, and we have been working with them



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through that time. But pretty intensely since 2014 to help them deliver to develop combat capacity and to reform their military. And the proofs of the pudding and the performance of the Ukrainian armed forces and their other security forces that we've worked with over the years and indeed, to this day, every single day at some level. Someone in the California National Guard is in contact with their counterpart in Ukraine, offering advice, giving technical assistance and receiving lessons learned from the Ukrainians that we can apply and then spread through our armed forces to make ourselves better, too. But the important thing is Ukraine is but one of the 93 partner nations and California, this month, we're concurrently hosting a very senior delegation of officials from Nigeria, our other partner nation, and around the globe. The other states and territories that are participating in this program have soldiers and airmen that are engaged in this type of partnership activity, whether it's training people in cyber defense, in military tactics, or just doing senior leader exchanges and visits and building those relationships. So again, it is a tremendously valuable program that we do for just a fraction of a fraction of a fraction of the total Department of Defense budget. But we deliver value add thousands of thousands of times more than what the program costs. So thank you for joining us today, and I look forward to your questions later.

Wayne Hall [00:04:41]

Thank you, sir. We'll now get to General Eifert in Florida.

MG James Eifert [00:04:46]

Hey. Good afternoon. I'm Jim Eifert the adjutant general of the Florida National Guard. It's a privilege to have the opportunity to discuss the things the Florida Guard is doing with our current partners, to share and discuss the great things that are going on. Not only does our State Partnership Program support the security cooperation objectives of the United States, but it also serves as a valuable tool to reinforce our servicemembers training and commitment to their mission, their unit, and our country by building strong bonds and relationships that last for decades with the same people through these continuing interactions. These training events and exchanges build the current partner capacity, improve interoperability, and enhance U.S. access and influence while increasing the readiness of U.S. and partner nations to meet emerging challenges. The training value as General Baldwin just mentioned, partnership is immeasurable. While costing the DoD very little. The SPP budget, I believe, is a mere 1% of the entire D.O.D. budget. And the specifics on that could be given by Mr. Hall further. Guyana. Barbados. Grenada. Antigua. Barbuda. Sake. Dominica. I'm sorry. Dominica. Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines have



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been our partners for over 15 years. Together, we are an unmatched network of partnerships, primarily focused on natural disaster relief and recovery. We also address ongoing security threats like human trafficking, illegal drugs and arms trade, and countering China's growing global influence in our own hemisphere. In this year alone, so far, the Florida National Guard has assisted U.S. Southern Command in accomplishing their theater campaign objectives by conducting 30 engagements in eight different countries, with another 12 currently scheduled the remainder of this fiscal year. These exchanges include small unit security, search and rescue, maritime planning, noncommissioned officer, leadership development, public affairs and communications, small unit patrolling. Logistics and sustainment. Cyber protection. All of these along with key leader engagements. In fact, interesting to note, as we speak, we have representatives down in Guyana that are conducting a jungle symposium with senior leaders, exchanging how operations in that environment can benefit both countries. Just two weeks ago, we hosted the Chiefs of Defense from both our peers in Antigua, Barbuda, in the first of its kind event in Florida, where I was able to personally show our partners some of the Florida National Guard's equipment and facilities to demonstrate potential training opportunities with their military forces here in Florida. These training facilities include our chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and high explosive enhance response, force package training facilities and our joint operations center, where we command and control domestic response operations like hurricanes, wildfires and alike. These key leader engagements are invaluable because they promote and reiterate shared values of freedom, democracy, and human rights, which lead to enhanced prosperity and security in the region. In fact, last year we hosted a Women in Peace and Security Conference in Guyana intended to increase the meaningful participation of women in our partners, defense and security sectors. These are events that they requested from us, recognizing that we are the standard bearer for how women are involved in our military forces. The event, in fact, was so successful that the Florida National Guard and Guyana will be co-hosting the Caribbean Women Peace and Security Conference in August, featuring 14 Caribbean nations. Stability, however, makes National Guard uniquely suited to conduct state partnership missions. Guardsmen typically remain in their state during their entire term of service, unlike our active-duty brethren who move every few years. This stability creates trust through long term associations that last decades. As an example, my Command Sergeant Major, Dave Lane, who just retired two weeks ago, has such a long relationship with the Command Sergeant Major of the Guyanese



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armed forces, that he taught the sergeant major from Guyana how to jump out of airplanes 30 years ago. And as he was retiring, the Guyana chief of defense was there representing Guyana at his retirement ceremony here in Florida. The program is also mutually beneficial, acting as an excellent retention tool for National Guard service members, all while growing and supporting strong relationships with our partners. Lastly, these training exchanges are largely made up of experienced traditional guardsmen who bring their civilian work experience to the table as well as their military expertise. This adds another dimension to the relationship which is unattainable by the active component. I truly believe that a state partnership program is the most cost-effective high value program in the entire Department of Defense. The Florida National Guard is proud of our participation in it.

Wayne Hall [00:09:50]

Thank you, sir. Next, we go over to Major General Daryl Bohac in Nebraska.

MG Daryl Bohac [00:09:56]

Mr. Hall I join my fellow out there saying what a great opportunity for us to talk about the state partnership program and, like general Baldwin, we've been involved with the Czech Republic since 1993, July of 1993, along with the state of Texas. In fact, the only state partnership program relationship that has two states allied to it to the Czech Republic. And this is largely because of cultural reasons at the time in Nebraska, as about 5% of its population that claim Czech heritage, while the state of Texas has the largest number of people that claim Czech heritage. So that was probably in many, many cases, the basis of forming relationships early on. The program has definitely progressed today where it's more about matching needs and capabilities and capacity development efforts between not only the partner nation but also the partner state. That's certainly been the case with the Czech republic. So when I first went to the Czech Republic in 1998 as a major, we required interpreters to communicate with senior leaders. And in fact most of the effort at that time was based on developing conversational English language skills among the Czech armed forces. One of the elements that we spent a fair amount of time on with them is the development of a professional noncommissioned officer corps, which is a requirement in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. And today, I'm glad to say, because of the mutual efforts of the Czech's commitment to NATO's and to our involvement along with Texas National Guard, they are a full NATO member and actively participating support to the Ukrainian armed forces in their counter efforts against the invasion of their nation and threat to the sovereignty integrity as my colleagues have talked about the





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continuity that the National Guard brings to these relationships really can't be overstated. And let me give you a couple of examples that in 2018, the Czech government celebrated 100 years of statehood, having been formed in 1918 after World War One. And as part of that celebration, they had a major military parade and asked the Czechs, excuse me, the Texas and Nebraska National Guard to carry U.S. Colors in that in that parade and the signal honor for us to do so. Now, fast forward to 2020 in the Fall when the prime minister of the Czech government wrote to Ambassador King, who was ambassador and the U.S. Embassy in Prague, and specifically asked for the Texas and Nebraska National Guard medical professionals in our formations to come assist them in their response to COVID 19. We were able to do that. And then finally here, most recently on the aviation side, we have a long-standing relationship in helping the Czech Air Force develop their ability to get certified for air to air refueling for some of their aircraft. As a result, that led to them now being able to participate in the NATO air policing mission in the Balkans on that area of the world as part of the NATO mission. So very proud of that. We also have a relationship with Rwanda on the continent of Africa, more a newer relationship that was formed in December 2019, and a much different kind of effort, if you will, in terms of what is desired by both us in Nebraska and in Rwanda defense forces. But suffice it to say, this wasn't a relationship either one of us needed, but rather a relationship that we wanted, which is becoming the case more and more often in the State Department's program. There we are focusing on helping them develop a more robust noncommissioned officer relationship engineering capacity, some cyber efforts on other lines of efforts as they continue to build capacity inside of Rwanda Defense Forces. And was really pleased to host their minister of defense here recently, Minister Muritala and the J5 for plans and programs here on safari here in the state of Nebraska as part of our ongoing key leader engagement. One of the developments in the state partnership program although not an official effort but is a natural. out Brief. I guess or outcome potentially is we've initiated an effort to develop the informal trilateral relationship between the Czech Republic, Rwanda and Nebraska National Guard, because there are capacities and competencies that each member bring to the relationship that will make it more robust and more effective and enables all of us, all three partners in this case, to share, engage in shared democratic ideals of our nations. Each of our states whatever the case may be continuous work with the State Partnership Program. So an excellent example of how to take this program to the next level. And as general Eifert points out, the exceptional value for the cost of the program that we deliver for the



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security interests of the United States and for our partner nations really can't be overvalued, in my opinion. It's a pleasure to be with you today. Thanks, Mr. Hall.

Wayne Hall [00:16:00]

Thank you, sir. And next, we'll go to Major General Gregory Knight from Vermont.

MG Gregory Knight [00:16:06]

Thanks, Mr. Hall. Appreciate the opportunity. Thanks, everybody, for joining us. I'll be very succinct so we can get to some questions here. We've been involved with the state partnership program for 29 years with North Macedonia, 14 years with Senegal, and most recently, our newest partner is with the Republic of Austria. When it comes to North Macedonia, for instance, and you've heard the other adjutant general talk about the importance of continuity and relationships. We've been alongside Macedonia originally and now North Macedonia all the way up through them becoming our newest NATO ally. Just recently, we had 100 of our infantry soldiers embedded as part of the Swift Response series of exercises at their training area. And we embedded them with the North Macedonian Special Forces to serve as an opposing force for the exercise and simulating that opposing force against NATO. The experiences that those soldiers shared with me when they came home. I simply cannot replicate doing it at Fort Drum or Fort Polk. The relationships they build, it's critical to the success of the organization. And for me. I've been doing this state partnership program, a key leader engagements for about 20 years now. The relationships that come out are just unbelievable. That's really where the program shines. I could go down a list. I want to leave time for questions. Certainly. I think you're going to be impressed with the scope and scale of what the state partnership program brings, general Baldwin spoke about it. It is absolutely a value proposition for our nation and certainly for our military and for our guard. One thing I want to highlight, though, the state partnership program starts. As mil to mil. But for instance, what we've done in the last year, in fact, it was a year ago this week, I went to North Macedonia with our lieutenant governor and our secretary of Commerce. My job was to facilitate relationships because was just really so much exponential potential in the growth of the program. I facilitate the relationships and I'll step out of the way. Our mil-to-mil relationships are always going to be there. There's always something to do. We'll do about 20 engagements with all of our partners every year. Different scale. A lot of the topics were addressed by the other Adjutants General range complex development, working on the domestic response capabilities and capacity. What we're pursuing now is more of a whole of Vermont or





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a whole of society approach to the state partnership program, and that can touch any number of things rule of law, agriculture, universal exchange programs, sister school programs. Most recently, I hosted the Minister of Defense in Vermont. We met with the governor, hosted a business roundtable. A lot of discussion on renewable energy, had nothing to do with military to military, but that's really the foundational element. We'll start the partnership and there's just huge potential for it to grow from there. And I'll stop there. I'll stop there, Mr. Hall, and we'll jump right into questions.

Wayne Hall [00:19:22]

All right. Thank you, sir. So being respectful of time, we ask that media, please keep it to one question with a follow up. And if we have more time, we'll work through for additional questions from reporters. Please state your name and outlet. When I call upon you and we'll take if we can't answer your question or something outside of the scope we can do. I'll take note of it and we'll get back to you with an answer as soon as we can following the roundtable. So with that, I'll start with Lita Baldor from A.P. Are you there? And do you have a question?

Lolita Baldor [00:19:52]

Yes, thank you. This question is, I guess, more for General Baldwin and General Eifert. General Baldwin. You talked about the fact that someone in your forces are in contact with people and with troops in Ukraine every day getting lessons learned and giving advice. Can you give us some specifics on that? Just kind of flesh out a little bit more about what you're hearing. What lessons are you learning? And sort of the similar question for general Eifert. What are you hearing from your forces who are working with the Ukrainian troops right now in terms of what they are training and what lessons are they learning? Thank you.

MG David Baldwin [00:20:36]

So this is General Baldwin, and I'll start with describing my own personal interactions. I, I do either a video teleconference with the most senior leaders of the Ukrainian armed forces and their Ministry of Interior for the security forces, probably once a week or so. And then on a daily basis, I'm doing text messages back and forth and sometimes some one-on-one phone calls. That's mainly exchanging information about what the overall situation is and then helping them shape their requests for additional aid from the West in terms of what might be within the realm of possibility for weapons systems that they could acquire flow of ammunition and those types of things at the staff level. So at our one star generals, down to our colonels and some of our senior NCOs. They engage with Ukrainian leaders, the Ukrainian Defense Attaché and others, to help them refine their requests in terms of types of



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weapons systems are asking for and providing them information of things that might be available at the more tactical level. So our lieutenant colonels, some of our colonels and a lot of our senior NCOs that have developed personal relationships with Ukrainian soldiers and airmen will be talking them on a daily basis to offer advice on tactics, tips and procedures, particularly in the partnership between our fighter wing here in California and the fighter pilots in Ukraine. They are in contact on a daily basis, updating each other, sharing ideas. And that relationship of all of them is probably proving to be about the most effective because of the tremendous performance of the under the outnumbered and outgunned Ukrainian air force.

Wayne Hall [00:22:32]

General Eifert, do you have something to add to that?

MG James Eifert [00:22:35]

I think the question was regarding the troops from the Florida National Guard that were deployed to the Ukraine. Just to clarify, that's not part of the state partnership program. The troops that we have deployed to the Ukraine are on a recurring mission. That is it just happened that we were there at the point at which the conflict kicked off with Russia. Our folks, about 160 Florida guardsmen mobilized back in October of last year and then were part of the team that supports the joint multinational training group in Ukraine. They were located L'viv Ukraine and were evacuated out of the country about a week prior to the Russian attack. During the time that they were there, prior to the attack, they were conducting training opportunities in a variety of different weapons systems and capabilities, primarily training the Ukrainians how to execute more high value exercises internally to their armed forces. Since the evacuation, our forces have relocated to different locations really throughout Europe. Now they're currently located about eight different countries, mostly in Eastern Europe and in the Baltics. And they have been engaged within about the last month in continuing training operations with the Ukrainians. Now, by training them in a number of the new weapons systems that have been introduced into the fight against the against Russia in their country. So that's kind of where they stand. But it had nothing to do with the state partnership program. That was not their role there. They were there on a title 10 mission supporting the JFTG of Ukraine. Any questions about that?

Wayne Hall [00:24:31]

Thank you, sir. Next, we're going to go to CNN. Do we have a CNN reporter on the line? Ali. Catherine, are you there? And nothing heard. So we're going to move on. Mike Glenn, this is CNN. Can you hear us? I'm sorry. Go ahead.



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Barbara Starr [00:24:54]

Sorry. Can we follow up on the California relationship with Ukraine? When you talked about tactics, procedures advice that kind of thing. The first question I was wondering is, is that broad scope or is that related to actual Russian targets, locations, time, date, place, or is this kind of just broader here's how you accomplish this task or that task?

Wayne Hall [00:25:35]

Yes. Thank you, Barbara. Sir, over to you. This is Barbara Starr from CNN.

MG David Baldwin [00:25:39]

Hi, Barbara. Thanks for joining us. It's General Baldwin again. It's in the in the main, it is strictly related to more technical advice rather than operational insight or sharing of intelligence or that type of thing. I do have one anecdote that's illustrative, but it comes from the Washington National Guard, because they had recently completed the JMTGU mission that General Eifert talked about for the Florida National Guard, Soldiers National Guard, Washington National Guard member was sitting at home and got a phone call and a desperate plea from a Ukrainian that he had made friends with when he was serving in Ukraine, training them, that Ukraine had had a misfire of the Javelin missile and couldn't remember the misfire procedures. So the National Guard watching the National Guard soldier talked them through it and then waited with great anticipation and 20 or 30 minutes later received on the phone the video of the missile launch and the destruction of the Russian tank that that National Guard's member had coached the Ukrainian soldier through that otherwise would not have resulted in the defeat of that Russian tank. So at the lower levels, it's mainly that type of interaction.

Barbara Starr [00:27:08]

Put on what you were taught. And by the way, if you feel like sharing that video, I bet we'd all like to see it. Oh. But what you're saying is, what you were talking about is not specific to a location, not a specific operational sharing. It is broader technical. Information sharing and advice.

MG David Baldwin [00:27:32]

At the lower levels is broader technical at the most senior levels, it is it is what we would call more of a grand strategic or strategic kind of decision making in terms of supply of and types of weapons systems and ammunition rather than methods of employment. Ukrainians do share with us what they're seeing on the battlefield at both the tactical level with more junior people and then by various regions at the most senior levels. But that's them telling us what they're seeing and in some cases,



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what their what their analysis of the situation is.

Barbara Starr [00:28:12]

And I'll be very quick. I'm so sorry to want to take up too much time. Once you have this exchange of information with Ukraine forces, the information you get, where does it go? Where do you send it? Where do you send it? Up the chain. Who sees it?

MG David Baldwin [00:28:26]

We participate in in a daily video teleconference with the joint staff in the Pentagon and with the United States European Command, because often the Ukrainians will tell us and share information with us that they don't share it through more formal channels because we have these personal relationships. So we do a daily call among all of our members that have ties to Ukraine to gather anecdotes and information and in some cases, photographs, videos and maps and things like that. And then we consolidate that. And then every day we have a general officer or a colonel that sits on the call and reports what we're seeing and hearing to make sure that that active component, military and the people that are involved in this, really involved in the support operations of delivery of supplies and equipment and weapons systems are tracking what we're seeing and hearing.

Oren Lieberman [00:29:26]

This is Oren Lieberman.

Oren Lieberman [00:29:27]

A very quick follow.

Oren Lieberman [00:29:28]

Up from CNN for General Heard. Do you do your Guardsmen participate in that call as well from Task Force Gaiter?

MG James Eifert [00:29:35]

Sure. Not to my knowledge.

Oren Lieberman [00:29:38]

Okay. Thank you, sir.

Wayne Hall [00:29:43]

So next, we will go to Lara Seligman from Politico. Are you on the line? Do you have a question?

Lara Seligman [00:29:48]

Hi. Yes, I am on the line. Just to follow up with General Baldwin. What are you hearing from the Ukrainians on how the weapons systems we are providing and other Western countries are providing are working, what's working, what's not working, and what additional training or weaponry or tactics, advice do they need from us?

MG David Baldwin [00:30:17] So the weapons systems of the United States and their allies have been



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providing have been tremendously effective and at least at the tactical level, decisive in some cases. And that that runs the gamut of the things that we and our NATO partners and other partners around the world have sent. Probably most notably that is anti-tank weapons systems, hand-held and shoulder launched. Anti tank weapons systems that really did blunt the assaults of in the early days of the Russian forces. And then now artillery systems have become critically important. And the 777 Howitzers that the United States and I think some of our NATO partners have sent are really, really making a difference in and the eastern part of Ukraine, because the war there has really turned into almost a stalemate. And the Russians have adjusted their tactics and techniques to use massive amounts of artillery, which results in artillery duels between the two sides and these more capable Western artillery systems that we're sending and will soon be sending the HIMARS rocket systems to Ukraine will be very, very helpful to the Ukrainians in that fight.

Lara Seligman [00:31:46] And will the guard have a role in helping with training on the new HIMARS system?

MG David Baldwin [00:31:54] So Cal Guard will not because we don't have that system in the California National Guard. We do have 777 artillery. So we are providing and just anecdotally, technical advice and support of that effort for training the forces is led directed by the United States European Command, as informed by the joint staff in the Pentagon. So they select the units that are currently in Europe and available to do that kind of training.

Wayne Hall [00:32:23] I'd like to ask if any of us, any of our other panel members can share some aspects of their role in training with their partners and how this helped shape their partner military.

MG David Baldwin [00:32:35] Mr. Hall this is general knight.

Wayne Hall [00:32:39] Sir. Yes, go ahead, please.

MG David Baldwin [00:32:40] Yeah. When we're talking about training and again, with North Macedonia being our newest NATO ally, one of the primary focuses that we're seeing here and all of all the adjutants general and all the training events that we do, there are focusing on interoperability and building, as general Baldwin said, that keep capacity and capability that central to the success of our allies and building and strengthening those partnerships. So the big focus there is interoperability. We're seeing it with Vermont



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F-35 supporting the NATO air policing mission in EUCOM, working with our NATO allies and on aviation platforms. So that's really hard to get into the weeds with, with how specific and how incredibly detailed that level of training is. As General Baldwin said down at that soldier and airman level, it's pretty impressive. But yeah, that's critical to us, is focusing on interoperability and building the capacity and capability with our allies.

Wayne Hall [00:33:46]

Thank you, sir. General Bohac, I'd like to ask for your perspective on this with regard to your partnership with the Czech Republic.

MG Daryl Bohac [00:33:54]

Sure, I think, as I mentioned earlier and general knight just mentioned it to our ability to help the Czech air forces get to the point where they can participate meaningfully in the NATO air policing mission probably one of the more significant aspects of our influence in that relationship. But I also think one of the outcomes of the invasion of Ukraine is, at least from my perspective, has really rallied the NATO alliance, our allies, allies and partners together in ways we haven't seen for a while. And I think one of the outcomes we've seen that is, is the partner nations where NATO in particular committing to and not already achieving 2% of the gross national product defense spending on defense. Why is that important? Because it relates right back to general knight's point about interoperability and using common equipment or common fire equipment that helps us. So the Czechs, for example, on the letter of commitment and are in the process of purchasing belt military helicopters to replace their Russian kind, equipped Russian helicopter equipment that they have now, moving away from the Russian supply chains and logistics, things that will enable them to be a better partner overall.

Wayne Hall [00:35:20]

Thank you, sir. We're going to move on next to Mr. Mike Glenn from The Washington Times. Are you online, sir? Do you have a question? Mike. All right. Nothing heard. We'll move on to Gina Caballero from ARMY magazine. Are you online, Gina?

Gina Caballero [00:35:41]

I am. Thank you, Wayne. I have no questions.

Wayne Hall [00:35:45]

Our very good. Thank you. Moving on to Eleanor Watson from CBS. Are you online? You have a question?

Eleanor Watson [00:35:53]

Hi, I'm here. Thank you all for doing this. I guess this is for General Eifert, but can you just give us an update, ballpark, of how many Ukrainians have been trained now since the Florida National Guard has





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resumed training? And then kind of following up on that, on the continued learning part after their training and after they go back into Ukraine, what kind of relationships are they maintaining to make sure Ukrainians are continuing to train and continuing to learn and use the equipment effectively? .

Wayne Hall [00:36:33]

Sir we can't hear you. Sorry. We've lost your audio. All right, we can't. For whatever reason, we've lost general Eifert's audio. We'll try to circle back. Ellie, do you have another question for anybody else?

Eleanor Watson [00:36:55]

No, that's kind of my one. Thank you.

Wayne Hall [00:36:57]

Okay. We'll try to we'll try to get that sorted out and we can get general Eifert's audio back up. We'll come back to it in the interim. Josiah Watson, are you online and do you have a question? Josiah.

Wayne Hall [00:37:16]

Nothing heard.

MG James Eifert [00:37:18]

Hey Wayne. Can you hear me now?

Wayne Hall [00:37:20]

Yeah. There we go. Thank you, sir.

MG James Eifert [00:37:22]

Yeah. Sorry. I had a burp where I got dumped off the meeting and had to reenter. Sorry about that. I believe the question for me was about the relationships of our Florida guardsmen with Ukraine. And I told kind of a similar anecdote to General Baldwin. You know, our guys have been in place for about six months, training at the JMTG, the joint multinational training group Ukraine, prior to being evacuated. And then we go on for about a month with similar contact with their Ukrainian counterparts through text messages and videos and those kind of things. Seeing how the work that they had done had paid off in actual tactical engagements with the Russians. So that was pretty inspiring for our troops. And they were they were really disappointed about having to leave, I can tell you that. And the elation that they felt in getting back into the fight was palpable to the point that when they rejoined their Ukrainian brethren there, there was some pretty emotional hugs and reunions there. So I can tell you that it's a it's a very emotional event that they're involved in. And I'm serious to the extent that they know through these talks and interactions of these Ukrainian soldiers rotating in and out of Ukraine back to these training locations that we have set up in different spots around Eastern Europe, that they're constantly reminded of the seriousness of their endeavor and the importance of the training that



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they're giving. So the exact types and numbers of training that they're given and the equipment I'd be, I don't think is something I can talk about because I just am not familiar enough with the security classification. The levels that I get information is not something I could release in an unclassified format. So Mr. Hall may be able to find from his unclassified sources what are the exact numbers that are being released. But I wouldn't be comfortable in discussing that in this forum.

Wayne Hall [00:39:37]

Thank you, sir. Next we'll go to Courtney Kube from NBC. Are you there and do you have a question, Courtney?

Courtney Kube [00:39:45]

Thanks, Wayne. I'm here, but I don't have a question. Thank you.

Wayne Hall [00:39:47]

Thank you, Courtney. Next, we'll go to The Washington Post. Karoun, are you on the line? Do you have a question?

Karoun Demirjian [00:40:10]

Hey, it's Karoun. Hi. I just want to go back. I have a question based on something that General Baldwin said. You were talking about how you've been helping the Ukrainians refine their requests for additional military assistance in the, you know, the success of draw down packages. I'm just wondering if you could give some more information about what you mean when you say refine the request. Is this like tempering certain expectations or is this kind of, you know, realistically giving them advice based on how long it will train them to do certain things? And ah, there's been quite a bit of back and forth within the government about what actually should go into these packages. And I assume that advice is, you know, the Ukrainians clamors have for certain systems have also been very vocal. So when you're talking about refinement of those requests, what are you talking about in terms of is it more training, is it more availability? Could you just give us more detail on that front?

MG David Baldwin [00:41:02]

Yeah. So you characterize it really well? I would say that it was it's mainly expectation management. So if they came to a with a request that we would help them shape it so that it was more likely, especially in the earlier days of the conflict, when there was not as with before, there was not this tremendous amount of support coming from our administration and from the Congress that we see now. When there were still some questions about which direction we were going to go, it was helping them shape in terms of types of systems. And that really went towards systems that would be not seen as necessarily threatening to become offensive weapons systems as opposed to defensive systems like artillery. Or. And then quantity and then also just availability. So they were asking



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for some systems that that we in the United States of the West just we barely had enough to meet our own needs, let alone to be able to ask the Ukrainians to use that. Starting to change, though, which is very helpful with the current one that we're working through, is, is what's the right fighter aircraft for them. There is a lot of goodness in them going to MiGs because they're already trained in that. But if they're going to use Western type aircraft, it's a discussion about numbers and types and capabilities of aircraft that may be available. And then then just being able to tell them, frankly, when they're asking for a certain platform, it's like, yeah, you're not going to get those. So you might want to put your energy someplace else. And we're able to do that because of these personal relationships that we've developed over the years.

Karoun Demirjian [00:42:46]

And this is a follow up. Can you give any examples of things you've had to shoot down? And also just because you said that the next gen, the next stage of this is what's that there fighter aircraft capacity? I mean, is there something specific that we're looking at or that you're advising them to go after and does that? Is that squarely in the Western wheelhouse, I guess, of systems? Have we moved on basically from the Soviet generation or Soviet origin systems to things that are produced in the last?

MG David Baldwin [00:43:16]

So let me to answer that second part of the question first. We're still encouraging them to pursue old Soviet systems because so many of their airmen and we'll talk about aircraft in particular, and soldiers are already trained in those systems and a lot of the stuff in the manuals come in Cyrillic so they can read them. And the learning curve is a little bit less so. Most you know, the Ukrainians are very quick on the uptake when we when we train them on Western systems, when it comes to the aircraft, we're steering them towards those mix first. But then there is an over the horizon discussion of in the midterm over the course next six months to the year and then the long term, what's in the realm of possibility for systems that will be effective, available and affordable for them.

Wayne Hall [00:44:03]

Thank you, sir. Anybody else have anything to add? All right. Thank you. So next, we move on to Military.com. Steve Beynon, are you on the line? You have a question?

Steve Beynon [00:44:20]

Yeah. Hey, appreciate y'all doing this. So the state partnership program kind of sounds like a slam dunk on paper troops. To get to go overseas via foreign weapons. It's a good retention tool. You make all these partnerships. And with sort of the receipts. Of the. Partnership program



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being good. With Ukraine. Has that spurred any additional funding for more trips for soldiers to your partner countries? more ATs, stuff like that.

Wayne Hall [00:44:52]

Let's go to General Knight from Vermont. Would you like to take that, sir?

MG David Baldwin [00:44:58]

Sure. So, Steve, historically, I wouldn't say we've been underfunded. It's the manner in how the state partnership program is funded. There are times when we would get our funding for the program too late in the year to effectively utilize it. And of course, it depends on the color of money, people money, printing money, school dollars. We're working to fix that with National Guard bureau, with the J5, the civ mil director here. And obviously that'll work with Congress. If we can receive funding that's timely. For more than one year, we're better able to spend and a lot of planning goes into these sometimes very complex training events. And that's going to be important for us when it comes back to the timing of the money will be better positioned to properly execute the funding and get better effective training in place sooner and with a little more predictability with our state partners. And I'll defer to all the other adjutants general if they wanted to add anything.

Wayne Hall [00:46:00]

General Bohac. Anything to add, sir?

MG Daryl Bohac [00:46:04]

I would just offer that there's been two challenges to the state partnership program in terms of funding. And general Knight identified. One of them. One is the continuing resolution process, which limits our activities, usually in the first quarter, if not into the first half of the federal fiscal year, and then the use of supplementals to add money to the program. So as he said, the Chief National Guard Bureau has a legislative objective to get more stage lights funding for the program so that we can operate throughout the year with more effective partners. Thank you.

Wayne Hall [00:46:39]

Thank you, sir. General Eifert or General Baldwin, anything else to add to that?

MG James Eifert [00:46:45]

The only thing I'd add is, you know, the sky's the limit, I think, on how we can grow and advance both in terms of the funding and the other additional nations. You may have seen a map that just shows how many state partners are and how many blank spots there are on the globe that don't have state partners that we would be able and really been able to



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expand into if the funding grew. And so for the bang for the buck that you get out of this program to grow, it seems like a no brainer to me, especially given the impact that has directly on our national defense strategy.

Wayne Hall [00:47:22]

Thank you. Thank you, sir. General Baldwin, anything else?

MG David Baldwin [00:47:26]

I was just going to echo exactly the same thing that General Eifert said is just is that the program first started with just a handful of nations in Eastern Europe and now is global. And the list of countries that are interested in participating grows by leaps and bounds every month. And but the funding does not necessarily keep pace or so to improve the program. We really do need to fix the timing and sequencing of the money or perhaps allow us to use money over multi-year instead of just within a single year, and then ensure that as we add new nations that the Pentagon and Congress are cognizant that it's better to add more money than the spread thinner, the very little about amount of money that we already get in order to execute this great program.

Wayne Hall [00:48:19]

Thank you, sir. I would like to keep moving. We've got a couple more reporters to get through before time runs out. Kari Williams, are you on? Do you have a question?

Kari Williams [00:48:27]

I am, but I don't have any questions. Thank you.

Wayne Hall [00:48:30]

Thank you. Kerry. Mark Hensch. Are you on a do you have a question?

Mark Hensch [00:48:35]

I am. And my question is, for anyone who would care to answer. What can we say about The guard's use of drones and how they're being used with the SPP program in Ukraine? Is there anything you can comment on there?

Wayne Hall [00:48:54]

Any of our panelists have anything to offer.

MG David Baldwin [00:48:58]

So. Hey, Mark, it's General Baldwin. This is something where we're learning from the more for the Ukrainians, especially in their tactics and techniques that they're using for drones, for Target acquisition, and then they actually engage in targets with armed drones. Our experience with Ukrainians in the past with drones was rather limited to just drones for surveillance. And we did, in cooperation with General Atomics, do a big Air Force exercise a couple of years ago where we sent eight of our fighters are F-15s and we sent some of our rescue airmen from our



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rescue wing and then we borrowed contractor owned MQ nine Reapers and helped operate them. And, and what we did there though is it's not it wasn't necessarily training that was focused on How to Operate the drones. It was really focused on how to integrate the information that you've got into tactical decision making so that you could take the raw feed from that you get from drones regardless of what the platform is, and instead of it just being the soda straw that you're looking through, turning it into actionable intelligence and a decision-making tool for a ground commander.

Wayne Hall [00:50:16]

Thank you, sir. Any other panelists have something to add.

MG James Eifert [00:50:19]

I can pile on to that a little bit. So and it's interesting because of different perspectives you get based on your partnerships. The Guyana Defense Force, which is one of our partner nations and is located on the northern shore of South America with a fairly long, very porous border with Venezuela. And one of their big concerns is human trafficking and drug trafficking and that that kind of thing through Venezuela. And one of the things that we just assisted them with recently through a small unit tactics exchange here with the Florida National Guard, was teaching them the drone capabilities that we have, resident in our infantry brigade and our security forces assistance battalions. And so they are already looking to expand that drone use both in border really domain awareness. It could be over water. It could be over these very remote border locations throughout the Guyana, Venezuela border, and as well as the main awareness on the coasts that they have that are difficult to maintain awareness of. So drones, I think, represent a significant future for where our state partnerships will go, will grow. And the more we both can learn from one another, the better both of our militaries will be.

Wayne Hall [00:51:38]

Thank you, sir. General Knight, you have something that as well.

MG David Baldwin [00:51:44]

Nothing on this topic.

Wayne Hall [00:51:46]

Thank you. Anything from you, General Bohac.

MG Daryl Bohac [00:51:50]

I would just say we learn from our Rwanda partners about the innovation they're doing with drone technology, which is to deliver fresh blood supplies across the nation into remote areas. And I think it's those kinds of things that are the intangible benefits we often don't think about, but an excellent use of technology by their government. Thank you.





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Wayne Hall [00:52:14]

Thank you, sir. All right. We have time for one more question. Who go to the Ellen Mitchell from the Hill. Are you on? Do you have a question? Ellen. All right. Ellen, I can't hear you if you're on. So nothing heard. We'll move on. And what we'll do is will, in the interest of time, will allow our panelists to offer some brief closing comments. I'd like to start with Vermont. We'll go to Nebraska, then Florida and California. So, General Knight, please over to you, sir.

MG David Baldwin [00:52:52]

All right. Thanks, Mr. Hall. I appreciate the engagement today. There's a pretty significant story to tell here. And again, as I said up front, when you look at the scope and the scale of what the National Guard does within the state partnership program, it's pretty profound. And I could go on, as any of us could. Providing you vignettes about some of the success stories and not of them. Not all of them are tactics, techniques and procedures. Some of them are vastly different based on the experienced folks that we're sending over. We do medical readiness exercises, for instance, in Senegal and in North Macedonia. We did one in Senegal two years ago. We sent over 18 of our providers, both Air and Army National Guard surgeons. Physicians assistants, RNs, technicians to help repair equipment and calibrate it in two weeks, working with the Senegalese colleagues, they saw 540 patients. They did everything from orthopedic surgery to labor delivery, C-section, follow ups. It was pretty amazing to see. But one and again, I said upfront, they have experiences I can't replicate here. A new Air Force nurse just out of school, working side by side with a Senegalese surgeon in our air national Guard surgeon performing a bowel resection on a two-day old infant. And that nurse is providing respirations for that child. That's incredible. And the goodwill that comes from that is pretty awesome. But I could go on for much longer than the time we have here. But that's just one example of the goodness that comes with the state partnership program and the wealth of experience that we have throughout the Guard. Thanks, Mr. Hall.

Wayne Hall [00:54:34]

Thank you, sir. General Bohac, closing thoughts.

MG Daryl Bohac [00:54:39]

I think the other would be a bit repetitive, but I want to reemphasize the value gained not only for the state National Guard that's involved within partner nation, but also the benefit to the United States and our allies and partners. And what that's done for us, I think since the inception of the program in 1993, and in particular when I think about the Czech Republic and I look at where they came from, from a conscript, Soviet influenced style military to where they are today and what they do as a nation and how they participate in the NATO alliance to bring over



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300,000 displaced Ukrainians into there, into their country and help coach them. This battle rages on. I think we all take a certain amount of pride in being a small part of that, all of the things that we achieved together with our allies and partners.

Wayne Hall [00:55:34]

Thank you very much, sir. General Eifert.

MG James Eifert [00:55:40]

Yeah, thank you. So, again, the program is so unique and important and depending also on the combat command to the countries that your participants in the partnerships are with. For Florida, our partnerships are with the U.S. Southern Command nations. And so what I see and where I really appreciate the value of these partnerships is a growing presence and danger from the People's Republic of China in our own backyard, in our hemisphere. Very few people in America realize the presence of the People's Republic of China in the Eastern Caribbean, in Central and South America, and what that means to the future generations of Americans having to deal with that presence as we continue to grow this program. More than anyone that I know of, anyone that I've ever heard of gets after the relationship building that becomes the fence that we could use to keep off our backyard. The People's Republic of China and their debt diplomacy tactics to really influence these friendly democratic nations in our own hemisphere. And so the state partnership program, like I said, is how we're getting after it. And I couldn't be prouder of what it means to both current and future generations of our citizens.

Wayne Hall [00:57:08]

Thank you very much, sir. And lastly, and certainly not least, General Baldwin, closing thoughts.

MG David Baldwin [00:57:15]

Yeah. Thanks again. This program does deliver tremendous value at very, very low costs in establishing a low level of presence around the globe in order to counter our adversaries and as general Eifert said, in particularly the People's Republic of China. When we go into Nigeria and meet with our Nigerian partners, we are focused on assisting them, on truly reforming and improving their armed forces for the good of their country. And we get a collateral benefit from that. But it's not, as general Eifert said, debt diplomacy, where we're going in with any kind of expectation when we send old soldiers and airmen into work with the Nigerians, with their judge advocate general Corp on rule of law, with their infantry soldiers, on how to follow that rule of law with their air force, on how to deliver humanitarian aid or resupply in fighting the insurgents in the north. It's all done with this concept in mind that we're there to help them, to truly partner with them. And they get that because we're not as a



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country asking for anything in return to the degree that the coercive nature that the people from China and other nations do when they come in and our partners see that, they appreciate that. And it really, really makes the partnership strong.

Wayne Hall [00:58:37]

Thank you, sir. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of our panelists today and our guests for joining us. If you members of the media, if you have any additional questions or follow up questions, please contact us by email and we'll do our best to try to get them addressed. That will conclude our roundtable for today. Thank you very much.

[End of Audio]

**Duration: 58 minutes 37 seconds**

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# National Guard

## General DANIEL R. HOKANSON

Chief, National Guard Bureau  
Washington, DC  
Since: August 2020



### SOURCE OF COMMISSIONED SERVICE USMA

### EDUCATIONAL DEGREES

United States Military Academy - BS - Mechanical Engineering (Aerospace)  
Naval Postgraduate School - MA - International Security and Civil-Military Relations  
United States Naval War College - MA - National Security and Strategic Studies

### MILITARY SCHOOLS ATTENDED

Aviation Officer Basic Course  
Aviation Officer Advanced Course  
United States Naval War College - College of Naval Command and Staff  
Senior Service College Fellowship - Harvard University  
CAPSTONE - National Defense University  
PINNACLE - National Defense University

### FOREIGN LANGUAGE(S) None Recorded

<u>PROMOTIONS</u>	<u>DATE OF APPOINTMENT</u>
2LT	28 May 86
1LT	28 Nov 87
CPT	1 Nov 90
MAJ	30 Oct 97
LTC	24 Jul 02
COL	2 Aug 06
BG	22 Dec 10
MG	23 May 13
LTG	15 Aug 15
GEN	3 Aug 20

<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>
Aug 20	Present	Chief, National Guard Bureau, Washington, District of Columbia
Jun 19	Aug 20	Director, Army National Guard, Arlington, Virginia
Nov 16	Jun 19	Vice Chief, National Guard Bureau, Washington, DC
Aug 15	Oct 16	Deputy Commander, USNORTHCOM, Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado
Aug 13	Aug 15	The Adjutant General, Salem, Oregon
Jul 12	Jul 13	Director, Strategic Plans and Policy (J-5), National Guard Bureau, Washington, DC
Aug 10	Jul 12	Deputy Director, J-5, NORAD and USNORTHCOM, Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado
Mar 08	Jul 10	Commander, 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Oregon Army National Guard, Portland, Oregon and OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM, Iraq
Jul 07	Mar 08	Deputy Commander, 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Oregon Army National Guard, Portland, Oregon
Aug 06	Jul 07	Chief of Staff, Combined Joint Task Force Phoenix V, OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM, Afghanistan

Jul 05	Jul 06	Student, Senior Service College Fellowship, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts
Jul 04	Jun 05	Commander, 641st Medical Battalion (EVAC), Oregon Army National Guard, Salem, Oregon
Jun 02	Jun 04	Deputy Director, Army Aviation, Headquarters State Area Regional Command, Oregon Army National Guard, Salem, Oregon
Jun 01	Jun 02	Executive Officer, 641st Medical Battalion (EVAC), Oregon Army National Guard, Salem, Oregon
Jul 00	Jun 01	Student, College of Naval Command and Staff, Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island
Jul 99	Jul 00	Plans Analyst, Program Analysis and Evaluation Division, National Guard Bureau, Arlington, Virginia
Dec 98	Jun 99	Student, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California
Oct 97	Dec 98	Aviation Operations Officer, Oregon Army National Guard, Salem, Oregon
Oct 96	Sep 97	Operations Officer, 641st Medical Battalion (EVAC), Oregon Army National Guard, Salem, Oregon
Oct 95	Sep 96	Aide-de-Camp, Office of The Adjutant General, Oregon National Guard, Salem, Oregon
Jul 95	Oct 95	Control Group (Ready Reserve)
Jun 94	Apr 95	Project Engineer, Aircraft Armament Test Division, Yuma Proving Ground, Arizona
Oct 92	Jun 94	Commander, Company B, 1st Battalion, 229th Aviation Regiment (Attack), 18th Airborne Corps, Fort Bragg, North Carolina
Jun 91	Oct 92	Assistant S3, 1st Battalion, 229th Aviation Regiment (Attack), Apache Training Brigade, Fort Hood, Texas
Oct 90	Jun 91	Student, Aviation Officer Advanced Course and AH-64 Combat Aircraft Qualification Course, Fort Rucker, Alabama
Jul 87	Aug 90	Troop Executive Officer, later Scout Platoon Leader, later Flight Operations Officer, 2nd Squadron (RECON), 9th Cavalry, 7th Infantry Division (Light), Fort Ord, California and OPERATION JUST CAUSE, Panama
Jul 86	Jul 87	Student, Aviation Officer Basic Course; Air Assault School; Initial Entry Rotary Wing Flight Training (Aeroscout); Fort Rucker, Alabama

SUMMARY OF JOINT ASSIGNMENTS

	<u>DATE</u>	<u>GRADE</u>
Vice Chief, National Guard Bureau, Washington, DC	Nov 16 - Jun 19	Lieutenant General
Deputy Commander, USNORTHCOM, Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado	Aug 15 - Oct 16	Lieutenant General
The Adjutant General, Salem, Oregon	Aug 13 - Aug 15	Major General
Director, Strategic Plans and Policy (J-5), National Guard Bureau, Washington, DC	Jul 12 - Jul 13	Major General
Deputy Director, J-5, NORAD and USNORTHCOM, Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado	Aug 10 - Jul 12	Brigadier General
Chief of Staff, Combined Joint Task Force Phoenix V, OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM, Afghanistan	Aug 06 - Jul 07	Colonel

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS

	<u>DATE</u>	<u>GRADE</u>
Commander, 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Oregon Army National Guard, Portland, Oregon and OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM, Iraq	Mar 08 - Jul 10	Colonel
Chief of Staff, Combined Joint Task Force Phoenix V, OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM, Afghanistan	Aug 06 - Jul 07	Colonel
Troop Executive Officer, later Scout Platoon Leader, later Flight Operations Officer, 2nd Squadron (RECON), 9th Cavalry, 7th Infantry Division (Light), Fort Ord, California and OPERATION JUST CAUSE, Panama	Jul 87 - Aug 90	First Lieutenant

US DECORATIONS AND BADGES

Defense Distinguished Service Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)  
 Distinguished Service Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)  
 Defense Superior Service Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)  
 Legion of Merit  
 Soldiers Medal  
 Bronze Star Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)  
 Meritorious Service Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)  
 Army Commendation Medal (with 2 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters)  
 Army Achievement Medal (with 3 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters)  
 Joint Meritorious Unit Award  
 Army Meritorious Unit Commendation  
 Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (with 2 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters)  
 National Defense Service Medal (with 1 Bronze Service Star)  
 Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal  
 Afghanistan Campaign Medal (with 2 Campaign Stars)  
 Iraq Campaign Medal (with 1 Campaign Star)  
 Global War on Terrorism Service Medal  
 Humanitarian Service Medal  
 Armed Forces Reserve Medal (with Silver Hourglass and M Device)

Army Service Ribbon  
Overseas Service Ribbon (with Numeral 2)  
North Atlantic Treaty Organization Medal  
Combat Action Badge  
Master Army Aviator Badge  
Air Assault Badge  
Parachutist Badge  
Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge  
The Army Staff Identification Badge

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Master Army Aviator  
Flight hours: More than 2600; over 50 Combat Hours  
Aircraft flown: AH-64, OH-58, TH-55, UH-1, UH-60  
Pilot wings: Fort Rucker, Alabama

As of: 3 Aug 20

*The date of publication indicated on this biography reflects the most recent update. It does not necessarily reflect the date of printing.*





# National Guard

Major General DAVID S. BALDWIN

The Adjutant General, California  
Sacramento, CA  
Since: April 2011



## SOURCE OF COMMISSIONED SERVICE ROTC

### EDUCATIONAL DEGREES

Stanford University - BS - Medical Microbiology  
University of Southern California - MPA - Public Administration  
United States Army War College - MSS - Strategic Studies

### MILITARY SCHOOLS ATTENDED

Infantry Officer Basic Course  
Armor Officer Advanced Course  
United States Army Command and General Staff College  
United States Army War College  
Army Senior Leader Development Program-Basic (ASLDP-B)  
Equal Opportunity (EO) Advisor Reserve Components Course  
Army Senior Leader Development Program- Intermediate (ASLDP-I)  
George C. Marshall Center, Senior Executive Seminar  
United States Judge Advocate School, Reserve Component - General Officer Legal Orientation Course (RC-GOLO)  
Army Senior Leader Development Program- Advanced (ASLDP-A)  
CAPSTONE  
Harvard University, General and Flag Officer Homeland Security Executive Seminar  
Harvard University, Senior Executives in National and International Security (SENIS)

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE(S) None Recorded

### PROMOTIONS

### DATE OF APPOINTMENT

2LT	1 Sep 84
1LT	27 Aug 87
CPT	20 Sep 90
MAJ	30 Jun 95
LTC	18 Jan 00
COL	7 May 04
BG	15 Apr 11
MG	8 Sep 15

<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>
Apr 11	Present	The Adjutant General, California, Sacramento, California
Jul 10	Mar 11	Deputy Commander, 101st Airborne Division Tactical Command Post and Senior Mentor to Corps Commander, 201st Afghan Army Corps, Gamberi, Afghanistan
Apr 09	Jun 10	Chief of Joint Staff, Joint Force Headquarters, Sacramento, California
Jan 07	Mar 09	Commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 40th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Sacramento, California
Apr 04	Dec 06	Director, Plans and Operations, Joint Force Headquarters, Sacramento, California
Jun 02	Mar 04	Chief Personnel Assignments Officer, Headquarters (-) State Area Command, Sacramento, California

Sep 99	May 02	Commander, 1st Battalion, 184th Infantry, Modesto, California
Aug 97	Aug 99	Executive Officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 184th Infantry, Modesto, California
Jan 95	Jul 97	S-3, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 184th Infantry, Modesto, California
Feb 94	Dec 94	Assistant S-3, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade, 40th Infantry Division, San Jose, California
Apr 93	Jan 94	Aide-de-Camp, Headquarters (-) State Area Command, Sacramento, California
Jan 90	Mar 93	Company Commander, Company D, 2nd Battalion, 159th Infantry, Pleasanton, California
Oct 86	Dec 89	Scout Platoon Leader, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 159th Infantry, San Jose, California
May 86	Sep 86	Executive Officer, Company B, 2nd Battalion, 159th Infantry, San Jose, California
Sep 84	Apr 86	Rifle Platoon Leader, Company B, 2nd Battalion, 159th Infantry, San Jose, California

#### SUMMARY OF JOINT ASSIGNMENTS

	<u>DATE</u>	<u>GRADE</u>
Deputy Commander, 101st Airborne Division Tactical Command Post and Senior Mentor to Corps Commander, 201st Afghan Army Corps, Gamberi, Afghanistan	Jul 10 - Mar 11	Colonel

#### SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS

	<u>DATE</u>	<u>GRADE</u>
Deputy Commander, 101st Airborne Division Tactical Command Post and Senior Mentor to Corps Commander, 201st Afghan Army Corps, Gamberi, Afghanistan	Jul 10 - Mar 11	Colonel

#### US DECORATIONS AND BADGES

Legion of Merit  
 Bronze Star (with 2 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters)  
 Meritorious Service Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)  
 Army Commendation Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)  
 Army Achievement Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)  
 Joint Meritorious Unit Award  
 Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)  
 National Defense Service Medal (with 1 Bronze Star)  
 Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Campaign Star  
 Global War on Terrorism Service Medal  
 Armed Forces Service Medal  
 Humanitarian Service Medal  
 Armed Forces Reserve Medal (with "M" Device, Numeral 2 and 20 year device Silver Hourglass)  
 Army Service Ribbon  
 Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon  
 North Atlantic Treaty Organization Medal  
 Combat Action Badge  
 Parachutist Badge

#### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

National Guard Association of the United States  
 National Guard Association of California

As of: 12 Sep 19

*The date of publication indicated on this biography reflects the most recent update. It does not necessarily reflect the date of printing.*



## Biography

# National Guard Bureau

General Officer Management Office, Arlington, VA

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## MAJOR GENERAL JAMES O. EIFERT

Maj. Gen. James O. Eifert is assigned as The Adjutant General, Florida. As The Adjutant General, he is the senior military advisor to the Governor, responsible for the overall management, readiness, and mobilization of both U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force elements of the Florida National Guard.

General Eifert received his commission from the United States Air Force Academy in June 1982 and graduated from the United States Air Force Fighter Weapons School in December 1992. He has commanded at the squadron, group, wing and state levels and has led multiple F-15 combat deployments. General Eifert served as chairman on both the Air Dominance Weapons Systems Council and the National Strategic Planning System Force Structure Committee. He previously served as the Air National Guard Assistant to the Commander, Pacific Air Forces, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.



## EDUCATION

1986 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

1998 Air Command and Staff College, by correspondence

2002 Air War College, non-residence

2013 North American Aerospace Defense Command/Northern Command (NORAD/NORTHCOM), Dual Status Commanders Course, Peterson AFB, Colorado Springs, Colo.

2014 John F. Kennedy School, Harvard University, Senior Executives in National and International Security, Cambridge, Mass.

2014 Joint Air and Space Operations Senior Staff Course, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

2014 Senior Leader Orientation Course (SLOC), Joint Base Andrews, Md.

2014 University of Tennessee, Air Force Smart Operations 21, Knoxville, Tenn.

2015 Enterprise Perspective Seminar (EPS), in residence

2015 John F. Kennedy School, Harvard University, General and Flag Officer Homeland Security Executive Seminar, Cambridge, Mass.

2016 CAPSTONE National Defense University, Capstone General and Flag Officer Course, Fort Leslie J. McNair, Washington, D.C.

2017 Advanced Senior Leader Development Program-Strategic Engagement Seminar (ASLDP-SES), Arlie Center, Warrenton, Va.

2018 Joint Force Air Component Commander Course (JFACC), Maxwell AFB, Ala.

2020 National Security Studies Management Course (NSSMC), Syracuse University, Syracuse, N.Y.

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

1. June 1982 - July 1983, Student, Undergraduate Pilot Training, 82nd Student Squadron, Williams Air Force Base, Ariz.
2. July 1983 - November 1983, Student, AT-38B Lead-In Training, 479th Tactical Training Wing, Holloman AFB, N.M.
3. November 1983 - June 1984, United States Air Force Operational Training Course, 308th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron, Homestead AFB, Fla.
4. June 1984 - December 1984, Aircraft Commander, F-4E, 337th Tactical Fighter Squadron, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.
5. December 1984 - July 1987, Emergency Action Controller, 4th Tactical Fighter Wing, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.
6. July 1987 - September 1987, Student, AT-38B Fighter Lead-In Training Course, 479th Tactical Fighter Wing, Holloman AFB, N.M.
7. September 1987 - January 1988, Student, F-15 Replacement Training Unit, 2nd Tactical Fighter Training Squadron, Tyndall AFB, Fla.
8. February 1988 - February 1991, Commander/Instructor Pilot, F-15, 525th Tactical Fighter Squadron, Bitburg Air Base, Germany
9. March 1991 - December 1991, Headquarters Air Readiness Personnel Command, Denver, Colo.
10. December 1991 - September 1994, Pilot Fighter, D Flight, 199th Fighter Squadron, Hickam AFB, Hawaii
11. September 1994 - September 1995, Weapons and Tactics Officer, 154th Operations Support Flight, Hickam AFB, Hawaii
12. September 1995 - September 1996, Weapons and Tactics Officer, 159th Fighter Squadron, Jacksonville, Fla.
13. September 1996 - June 2002, F-15 Fighter Squadron Operations Officer, 159th Fighter Squadron, Jacksonville, Fla.
14. June 2002 - June 2008, Commander, 125th Operations Group, Jacksonville, Fla.
15. June 2008 - January 2011, Vice Commander, 125th Fighter Wing, Jacksonville, Fla.
16. January 2011 - February 2013, Commander, 125th Fighter Wing, Jacksonville, Fla.
17. February 2013 - February 2017, Assistant Adjutant General, St. Augustine, Fla.
18. March 2017 - March 2019, Air National Guard Assistant to the Commander, Pacific Air Forces (PACAF), Hickam AFB, HI
19. April 2019 - Present, The Adjutant General, Florida, St. Augustine, Fla.

## **FLIGHT INFORMATION**

Rating: Command Pilot

Flight hours: More than 3,800 hours; 63 combat hours

Aircraft flown: F-4C/D/E, F-15A/B/C/D, T-37, T-38

## **MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**

Air Force Distinguished Service Medal

Legion of Merit

Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Air Force Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with "V" device and five oak leaf clusters

Air Force Organizational Excellence Award

Combat Readiness Medal with eight oak leaf clusters

National Defense Service Medal with bronze service star

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal  
Global War on Terrorism Service Medal  
Air Force Overseas Service Ribbon Long  
Air Force Longevity Service with four oak leaf clusters  
Armed Forces Reserve Medal with silver hourglass and "M" device  
Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon  
Air Force Training Ribbon

**EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION**

Second Lieutenant June 2, 1982  
First Lieutenant June 2, 1984  
Captain June 2, 1986  
Major Aug. 2, 1995  
Lieutenant Colonel Sept. 1, 1999  
Colonel June 27, 2003  
Brigadier General Feb. 8, 2013  
Major General March 1, 2017

(Current as of January 2021)

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## Biography

# National Guard Bureau

General Officer Management Office, Arlington, VA

## MAJOR GENERAL DARYL L. BOHAC

Maj. Gen. Daryl L. Bohac serves as The Adjutant General, Nebraska National Guard, Lincoln, Nebraska. As the Adjutant General, he is the senior uniformed National Guard officer responsible for formulating, developing, and coordinating policies, programs and plans affecting more than 4500 Army and Air National Guard personnel. Appointed by the Governor, General Bohac serves as a principal on the Governor's Staff and is the Director of the Nebraska Military Department and the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency. He serves as the state's official channel of communication with the National Guard Bureau to the Departments of the Army and Air Force.



General Bohac was commissioned in 1988 at the Air National Guard Academy of Military Science, McGhee-Tyson Air National Guard Base, Tennessee. Prior to receiving his commission, General Bohac served as an enlisted member of the United States Marine Corps Reserve and the Nebraska Air National Guard

## EDUCATION

1987 University of Nebraska, Bachelor of Arts, Psychology, Lincoln, Nebr.  
 1991 University of Nebraska, Master of Arts, Psychology, Lincoln, Nebr.  
 1994 University of Nebraska, Doctorate of Philosophy, Clinical Psychology Lincoln, Nebr.  
 1996 Squadron Officer School, by correspondence  
 1999 Air Command and Staff College, by correspondence  
 2005 Air War College, by correspondence  
 2006 Advanced Joint Professional Military Education, National Defense University, Joint Forces Staff College, Norfolk, Va.  
 2006 Reserve Component National Security Course, National Defense University, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C.  
 2007 Joint Task Force Commander Training Course, United States Northern Command, Petersen Air Force Base, Colo.  
 2013 Dual Status Commanders Course, United States Northern Command, Petersen Air Force Base, Colo.  
 2014 Capstone General and Flag Officer Course, National Defense University, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C.



2015 General and Flag Officer Homeland Security Executive Seminar, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

2017 Fellow, Senior Executives in National and International Security, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

2020 Fellow, National Security Management Course, Syracuse University, Syracuse, N.Y.

2021 Regional Seminar - Africa, Alan L. Freed Associates Inc., Alexandria, VA

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

1. August 1988 - August 1997, Supply Operations Officer, 155th Resource Management Squadron, Tactical Reconnaissance Wing, Lincoln Air National Guard Base, Nebr.
2. August 1997 - April 1998, Chief of Supply, 155th Logistics Squadron, Air Refueling Wing, Lincoln Air National Guard Base, Nebr.
3. April 1998 - September 1998, Aircraft Maintenance Officer, 155th Aircraft Generation Squadron, Air Refueling Wing, Lincoln Air National Guard Base, Nebr.
4. September 1998 - August 2003, Commander, 155th Maintenance Squadron, Air Refueling Wing, Lincoln Air National Guard Base, Nebr.
5. August 2003 - November 2003, Commander, 155th Aircraft Generation Squadron, Air Refueling Wing, Lincoln Air National Guard Base, Nebr.
6. November 2003 - September 2006, Executive Staff Support Officer, Air National Guard, Joint Force Headquarters, Lincoln, Nebr.
7. September 2006 - June 2007, J-3, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, Nebraska Joint Force Headquarters, Lincoln, Nebr.
8. June 2007 - April 2010, Director of Staff - Air, Nebraska National Guard, Nebraska Joint Force Headquarters, Lincoln, Nebr. (December 2008-May 2009, Senior Air Reserve Component Advisor for Air Force Central Command, Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar)
9. April 2010 - July 2013, Assistant Adjutant General - Air, Nebraska National Guard, Nebraska Joint Force Headquarters, Lincoln, Nebr.
10. July 2013 - Present, The Adjutant General, Nebraska National Guard, Nebraska Joint Force Headquarters, Lincoln, Nebr.

## **SUMMARY OF JOINT ASSIGNMENTS**

1. September 2006 - June 2007, J-3, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, Nebraska Joint Force Headquarters, Lincoln, Nebr. as a Colonel
2. July 2013 - Present, The Adjutant General, Nebraska National Guard, Nebraska Joint Force Headquarters, Lincoln, Nebr. as a Major General

## **MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**

Distinguished Service Medal (Air Force)

Legion of Merit

Meritorious Service Medal with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster

Air Force Commendation Medal

Army Commendation Medal

Air Force Achievement Medal

## **EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION**

Second Lieutenant Aug. 11, 1988

First Lieutenant Aug. 11, 1991

Captain Oct. 3, 1993

Major Aug. 15, 1998

Lieutenant Colonel Sept. 15, 2002

Colonel Aug. 2, 2006

Brigadier General April 4, 2010

Major General Feb. 12, 2014

(Current as of February 2021)

*The date of publication indicated on this biography reflects the most recent update. It does not necessarily reflect the date of printing.*



# National Guard

Major General (VT) GREGORY C. KNIGHT

The Adjutant General, Vermont  
Colchester, VT  
Since: March 2019



## SOURCE OF COMMISSIONED SERVICE OCS

### EDUCATIONAL DEGREES

Johnson State College - BA - History

Post University - MS - Education

United States Naval War College - MA - National Security and Strategic Studies

### MILITARY SCHOOLS ATTENDED

Armor Officer Basic Course

Armor Captain's Career Course

United States Army Command and General Staff College

United States Naval War College

### FOREIGN LANGUAGE(S) None Recorded

### PROMOTIONS

### DATE OF APPOINTMENT

2LT	24 Aug 97
1LT	30 Nov 99
CPT	7 Feb 02
MAJ	28 Aug 07
LTC	6 Apr 12
COL	1 May 17
BG	30 Jul 20

<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>
Mar 19	Present	The Adjutant General, Vermont, Colchester, Vermont
May 18	Feb 19	Commander, 124th Regiment Regional Training Institute (RTI), Colchester, Vermont
Jul 16	May 18	G1, Joint Force Headquarters, Vermont Army National Guard, Colchester, Vermont
Jul 15	Jun 16	Student, United States Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island
Oct 12	Jul 15	Deputy Commander, 124th Regiment Regional Training Institute (RTI), Colchester, Vermont
Sep 08	Sep 12	Commander, Recruiting and Retention Battalion, Colchester, Vermont
Jun 07	Sep 08	Battalion S3, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Brigade Special Troops Battalion (BSTB), 86th Brigade, Rutland, Vermont
Jun 06	Jun 07	S3, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 1st Squadron, 172nd Cavalry, St. Albans, Vermont
Jan 06	Jun 06	Task Force Battle Captain, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 172nd Armor, Ramadi, Iraq
Jan 05	Jan 06	S-3 Air, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 172nd Armor, Ramadi, Iraq
Jun 01	Jan 05	Commander, Company B, 1st Battalion, 172nd Armor, Enosburg Falls, Vermont
Jun 00	May 01	Battalion Support Platoon Leader, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Squadron, 172nd Armor, St. Albans, Vermont
May 98	May 00	Tank Platoon Leader, Company C, 1st Battalion, 172nd Armor, Morrisville, Vermont
Aug 97	May 98	Platoon Leader, Detachment 1, 42nd Military Police Company, Montpelier, Vermont

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS

Task Force Battle Captain, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 172nd Armor, Ramadi, Iraq	Jan 06 - Jun 06	Captain
S-3 Air, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 172nd Armor, Ramadi, Iraq	Jan 05 - Jan 06	Captain

US DECORATIONS AND BADGES

Bronze Star Medal  
 Meritorious Service Medal (with 4 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters)  
 Army Commendation Medal (with 2 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters)  
 Air Force Commendation Medal  
 Army Achievement Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)  
 Coast Guard Achievement Medal  
 Coast Guard Commandant's Letter of Commendation  
 Navy Unit Commendation  
 Coast Guard Good Conduct Medal  
 Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal  
 National Defense Service Medal (with Bronze Star)  
 Iraq Campaign Medal (with 2 Campaign Stars)  
 Armed Forces Reserve Medal (with Silver Hourglass and "M" device)  
 Army Service Ribbon  
 Army Overseas Service Ribbon  
 Basic Recruiting and Retention Badge  
 German Proficiency Badge in Gold

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

28th Infantry Division Association  
 Adjutants General Association of the United States  
 American Legion Post #19, Bristol, VT  
 Association of the United States Army  
 Cavalry and Armor Association  
 National Guard Association of the United States  
 Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 792, Montpelier, VT  
 U.S. Army Officer Candidate School Alumni Association

As of: 11 Sep 20

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