



★ NATIONAL ★ GUARD

2021 *YEAR IN REVIEW*

*Our Promise To America
Always Ready, Always There*



OUR PROMISE

By GEN Daniel Hokanson
Chief, National Guard Bureau

Always Ready, Always There! Four simple, yet powerful words that represent the selfless service of our Citizen-Soldiers, Airmen, and their families, who stand ready to answer our Nation's call. Today's National Guard is a professional, well-trained, and highly experienced operational force integral to the security of our Nation.

After two decades of conflict in Iraq and Afghanistan, the National Guard stands stronger, more capable, and readier than ever. We are ready to maintain our Nation's competitive edge in this new strategic environment focused on China and Russia. We are ready to fight and win any and all future conflicts as part of the Joint Force. We are ready to use our battle-tested skills, equipment, training, and personnel to come to the aid of our American communities in times of crisis.

As our Nation faces this time of transition, challenged by a global pandemic, extreme weather, civil disturbances, and uncertainty about what the future may hold, our fellow Americans can rely on one thing—the Soldiers and Airmen of the National Guard, who have defended our country and protected our communities for 385 years. In more than 2,800 locations across the 54 states, territories, the District of Columbia, and around the globe, we are ideally poised to respond to the needs of our Nation.

**We are the National Guard, and this is our promise to America:
Always Ready, Always There.**



NATIONAL GUARD SNAPSHOT

ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

39% OF THE ARMY'S OPERATIONAL FORCES
336,000 SOLDIERS ACROSS 8 DIVISIONS

- ▶ 27 Brigade Combat Teams
- ▶ 10 Combat Aviation Brigades

- ▶ 2 Special Forces Groups + 10 Special Ops Detachments
- ▶ 1 Security Force Assistance Brigade
- ▶ 42 Multifunctional Brigades – 16 Maneuver Enhancement; 10 Sustainment; 8 Expeditionary Combat Aviation; and 8 Field Artillery Brigades
- ▶ 57 Functional Support Brigades and Groups
- ▶ 14 Command & Control Headquarters
- ▶ 1,462 aircraft
- ▶ 24,378 buildings, 1,343 firing ranges and 110 training centers in 2,339 communities

AIR NATIONAL GUARD

24% OF AIR FORCE'S OPERATIONAL FORCE
108,300 AIRMEN ACROSS 90 WINGS AND 10 CENTERS

- ▶ 44 Mobility/Tanker/Training Squadrons
- ▶ 34 Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Squadrons
- ▶ 27 Fighter/Training Squadrons
- ▶ 18 Cyber/Net Ops Squadrons
- ▶ 15 Combat Communications Squadrons
- ▶ 14 Attack/Training Squadrons
- ▶ 10 Combat Search and Rescue Squadrons

- ▶ **14 Air Control / Air Defense Squadrons**
- ▶ **8 Special Operations Squadrons**
- ▶ **7 Red Horse Squadrons**
- ▶ **Over 1,000 Space Professionals in 14 Space units across 7 states and Guam providing nuclear warning, offensive space electromagnetic warfare, military satellite communications, radar missile warning**
- ▶ **1,064 aircraft**
- ▶ **6,044 buildings, 176 installations (83 bases, 66 GSUs, 27 tenant locations, 8 ranges) in over 159 communities**



NATIONAL GUARD MISSIONS

COMBAT CAPABLE

Two decades of investment and modernization in the National Guard has paid measurable dividends to our Joint Force's lethality and our nation's security.

- ▶ Nearly 19,000 Army and Air Guard members, on average, supported combatant command missions overseas every day, in places like Afghanistan, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Kosovo, Kuwait and Qatar last year.
- ▶ Provides 40% of Air Force's conventional overseas MQ-9 Reaper Unmanned Aerial Vehicle sorties and hours.

- ▶ The Pennsylvania Army Guard's 56th Stryker Brigade Combat Team deployed to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California in June to test their combat proficiency.
- ▶ The California Army Guard's 79th Infantry Brigade Combat Team deployed to the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, Louisiana in July.
- ▶ 2,340 Air National Guard personnel and 86 aircraft were exposed to realistic combat situations during Red Flag and Green Flag exercises in FY21.
- ▶ In FY22, nearly 1,800 Air Guard Airmen and 29 aircraft tested their combat mettle at Red Flag.

COMBAT CAPABILITIES

- ▶ **More than 12,900** Army National Guard Soldiers are conducting combat, peacekeeping, and deterrent missions worldwide in places like Iraq, Kuwait, Poland, and the Balkans among others.
- ▶ **5,000 Army Guard Soldiers** from 22 units in 27 states participated in 18 Joint Exercise Program events in support of Combatant Command Theater Security Cooperation plans in 2021.
- ▶ **Nearly 42,000 Army** Guard members were mobilized under Title 10 in FY21, supporting OCONUS and CONUS operations as part of the DOD Global Force Management Allocation Plan.
- ▶ The **California** Army Guard's 40th Combat Aviation Brigade recently returned from a Middle East deployment after flying 13,500 hours, delivering more than 16,300 passengers, moving 2.8 million pounds of cargo, and conducting 208 medical evacuation missions.

GUARD MEMBERS CONTINUE TO SUPPORT GLOBAL MISSIONS:

- ▶ **Washington's** 81st Stryker Brigade Combat Team provided training to the Armed Forces of Ukraine.
- ▶ **South Carolina's** 678th Air Defense Artillery Brigade provided command and control to air and missile defense in support of Operation Atlantic Resolve.
- ▶ **Illinois'** 404th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade provided regional security to the Horn of Africa.

- ▶ **Kansas'** 35th Infantry Division provided division-level command and control of Army forces in Kuwait and Jordan supporting Operation Spartan Shield.

SECURING THE HOMELAND

Despite a pandemic, the National Guard met every request for homeland support in 2021

- ▶ National Guard Soldiers and Airmen served their communities 10.2 million personnel days, supporting missions such as COVID-19, wildfires, civil disturbances, and hurricanes in 2021.
- ▶ Guard members from 28 states logged over 220,000 personnel days supporting severe weather events.
- ▶ Guard members responded to 1,963 natural disaster incidents in 2021, rescuing 826 people, clearing 6,391 miles of roads, and distributing nearly 7.8 million meals and over 11 million bottles of water.
- ▶ Guard Soldiers defend the National Capital region, and man non-stop, 24-hour intercontinental ballistic missile defense systems from Alaska and California.
- ▶ Air Guard pilots flew over 2,000 sorties protecting America's air space against external threats in 2021 while operating 15 of the 16 NORAD Aerospace Control Alert sites.
- ▶ Guard members logged 7.6 million personnel days supporting COVID-19 missions in 2021.
- ▶ The NG administered more than 14 million vaccinations to communities.
- ▶ The Air Guard is providing 25% of the Total Force's Distributed Common Ground System (a system that produces military intelligence for multiple military branches) capacity in direct support of the overseas Combatant Commanders.
- ▶ Air Guard C-130 crews, equipped with Module Airborne Fire Fighting Systems (MAFFS), supported 41 wildfire events by dropping nearly 10.1 million gallons of water and retardant in 2021.
- ▶ Air Guard personnel from the 176th Air Defense Squadron, and the 298th, 224th and 225th Air Defense Groups operate 15 of the 16 NORAD Aerospace Control Alert (ACA) sites.

- ▶ **Air Guard RC-26 fixed-wing and MQ-9 Remotely Piloted Aircraft crews logged over 2,300 hours supporting real-time fire mapping; evacuation route identification; and new fire / hot spot detection missions.**
- ▶ **More than 35,000 Guard members from 50 states, 3 territories and the District of Columbia logged over 1.7 million personnel days supporting law enforcement agencies in 2021 by providing crowd control, monument and infrastructure security, traffic control, and roving patrol missions.**
- ▶ **Nearly 26,000 National Guard Soldiers and Airmen reported to DC in under two weeks to support the presidential inauguration Jan 20, 2021. In total, the Guard logged 757,400 personnel days keeping the Capitol safe.**
- ▶ **There are over 2,200 Army and Air National Guard personnel serving in 38 cyber operations units, and an additional 2,240 Guard members providing cybersecurity and information technology support to DOD and state requirements across the 54.**
- ▶ **To allow effective communication between local, state, and federal emergency agencies, National Guard Joint Incident Site Communications Capability teams set-up and operated a self-contained communications package at the Super Bowl and numerous other major events and exercises last year.**
- ▶ **893 Soldiers and Airmen from 24 states supported Operation Afghan Welcome (OAW) missions in 2021.**
- ▶ **The National Guard Counterdrug Program supported 531 State, local, tribal, and Federal law enforcement agencies across the 50 states, 3 territories and the District of Columbia in 2021.**
- ▶ **National Guard Soldiers and Airmen efforts and support led to the seizure of more than 1.5 million kilograms of illicit narcotics, \$281 million in illicit currency and \$30 million in property last year.**
- ▶ **Five National Guard Counterdrug schools trained nearly 69,000 students (to include 9,220 civilian law enforcement officers) in 2021.**

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

Enduring guard relationships benefit our combatant commands and impact global security

- ▶ Integrated deterrence demands greater cooperation with partners. The National Guard's network of 93 allies and partners through the State Partnership Program (SPP), directly supporting objectives outlined in the National Defense Strategy.
- ▶ After 9/11, 28 SPP partner countries contributed troops to coalition operations - 15 of those SPP countries deployed forces alongside their National Guard partners.
- ▶ The SPP continues to grow by an average of two new partnerships per year.
 - In 2021, we added four new partners: Austria, Cabo Verde, Turkmenistan, and the Maldives.
 - Two more countries are expected to join the SPP in 2022.
- ▶ Through the SPP, National Guard and partner nation personnel learn together, work together, and prepare - if necessary – to fight together.
- ▶ The SPP is a cost-effective program that provides DOD decision-makers a proven tool to help address today's security challenges and a wide range of potential future threats.
- ▶ Before COVID, National Guard Soldiers and Airmen conducted an average of more than 1,000 SPP activities worldwide each year in support of Geographic Combatant Commands.
- ▶ The SPP is a cost-effective program that provides DOD decision-makers a proven tool to help address today's security challenges and a wide range of potential future threats.
- ▶ The National Guard's reputation in disaster response at home and proven combat capability overseas makes it an attractive partner to nations faced with military and non-military threats.
- ▶ Nearly 2,500 Counterdrug Guard members supported 531 law enforcement agencies and 170 community-based organizations in support of 2,700 missions taking nearly \$12 billion in drugs, currency, and property off the streets.

COVID — 19 MISSIONS

- 423** — Food Banks Supported
- 452.6M** — Meals Distributed
- 345M** — PPE Pieces Distributed
- 88.1M** — Masks Made
- 18.9M** — Tests / Screens Conducted
- 24K** — COVID Testing Sites
- 115** — Warehouses Operated
- 63.1M** — Pallets Prepared
- 5.8M** — Miles Driven to Deliver Supplies
- 11K** — Bed Capacity Provided
- 1.8M** — Calls Answered / Made
- 550** — Facilities Disinfected / Cleaned
- 440** — Liaison Officers to Supporting Agencies
- 435M** — Total Tests
- 14M** — Vaccinations Administered to Civilians

NATURAL HAZARD EVENTS

- 826** — People Rescued
- 7.8M** — Meals Distributed
- 2.8M** — Gallons of Water Distributed
- 11M** — Bottles of Water Distributed
- 1.5M** — Bags of Ice Distributed
- 391K** — Tarps Distributed
- 6.4K** — Miles of Road Cleared

WILDFIRES

- 172.6K** — Personnel Days logged
- 4.1K** — Acres Cleared by Hand Crew

CIVIL DISTURBANCE

- 26K** — Personnel Supporting Capital Response
- 54** — 50 States, 3 Territories and DC Involved
- 22.1K** — Personnel Trained

NG AVIATION WILDFIRE SUPPORT

- 4.7K** — Hours Flown
- 1,360** — Missions
- 10.7M** — Gallons Retardant / Water Dropped

C-130S EQUIPPED WITH MOBILE AIRBORNE FIRE FIGHTING SYSTEMS

- 945** — MAFFS missions
- 940** — MAFFS Hours flown
- 2.6M** — Gallons dropped

OTHER

- 5,320** — Personnel supporting Southwest Border
- 893** — Personnel providing housing, life support to 20K displaced Afghans
- 21K** — Days supporting Cyber missions in 33 states



PEOPLE

Developing healthy, resilient, and professional Soldiers and Airmen for any mission, anywhere.

- ★ Sustain the balance between Guard members' civilian careers, military careers, and family commitments.
- ★ Ensure Guard member's pay, benefits, and treatment reflect their service and sacrifices.
- ★ Foster a diverse, inclusive professional environment that rewards talent and provides opportunity.
- ★ Prioritize achieving and maintaining physical and mental awareness.

BUILDING WARRIOR RESILIENCE

- ▶ **The NGB Ready and Resilient school house provided resilience training to 1,222 members of the Army Guard, Army Reserves, Active Army, and civilian contractors.**
 - The Army Guard's Resilience Program trained 731 Master Resilience Trainers (MRTs) in FY2021, bringing the total number of MRTs trained in the ARNG to 7,637. This represents a 13 percent over last year.
- ▶ **The NGB provides Suicide Prevention Coordinators in each of the 50 states, 3 territories, and DC. These program coordinators oversee ARNG suicide prevention and intervention training, policy, and reporting.**
 - They provided advanced training (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST); Ask, Care, Escort – Suicide Intervention (ACE-SI), and Targeted Prevention Training) to 163,595 Soldiers and family members in FY2021
 - Training enables Soldiers to recognize the signs of suicide in themselves and others, have the confidence and skills to intervene appropriately, and connect those in need to military and community resources.
 - The Air Guard uses additional duty Suicide Prevention Program managers at each wing. All uniformed and civilian Airmen receive annual AF Suicide Prevention training that is designed to encourage conversations about suicide prevention, promote connection, and reduce stigma.
- ▶ **The NGB led a 180-day Suicide Prevention Task Force, launched by CNGB in January 2021, to improve NG suicide prevention efforts by identifying best practices, exploring gaps and redundancies, and developing an actionable plan to isolate risk factors and produce tools, resources, and strategies to reduce suicides and improve resilience across the 54.**
 - Recommendations included revisions to existing training of first-line supervisors and leaders, and the development of an integrated primary prevention workforce to provide education and resources for those at heightened risk of perpetuating or experiencing violence, including suicide.
- ▶ **In response to continued COVID-19, the NGB increased communication to the 54 by distributing Wellness Resource Cards for Guard Soldiers and Airmen to serve as a single and easily accessible references for local and national resources.**
- ▶ **The NGB collaborated with the Defense Suicide Prevention Office (DSPO) to explore viable ways to reduce access to lethal means for those who are at risk.**
 - Strategies are focused on increasing awareness on the importance of safe practices, and safely storing firearms and medications.
 - Additionally, the National Guard has partnered with the VA to distribute gunlocks, which are provided to service members during annual suicide prevention briefs, suicide intervention trainings, resource fairs, and as part of Suicide Prevention Month Campaigns.

- ▶ **The NGB developed a catalogue with over 140 research-informed programs aimed at preventing and responding to suicide, sexual assault, and substance abuse.**
 - A similar framework was developed to provide information about unified crisis response and recovery resources for the National Guard that was distributed to state and unit leadership during COVID-19 activations.
- ▶ **NGB's Warrior Resilience and Fitness Innovation Incubator program implemented 27 pilots across 34 states, territories, and DC to provide programmatic assistance to develop, evaluate, and expand local programs that promote resilience and prevent harmful behaviors to include suicide.**
- ▶ **The NGB worked closely with Veterans Affairs to continue to expand Vet Center access to NG members to provide behavioral health services for members and families. The number of NG members accessing support during drill weekends and at off-site Vet Centers continued to rise in 2021.**
- ▶ **The NGB expanded the Star Behavioral Health Providers (SBHP) program to an additional 8 states. Currently, SBHP operates in 21 states and has trained more than 2,300 community mental health providers to understand military culture and treatment protocols.**
- ▶ **The NGB established a partnership with Medical Research Development Command and the Texas-based Brain Health Institute to establish a cognitive training initiative for National Guard members and their families.**
 - The training has been scientifically proven to increase productivity, reduce stress, and improve mental acuity.
 - This initiative will provide an online portal to approximately 950 members and their families across five states and is designed to improve the resilience of participating individuals by providing cognitive training tools accessible on smart devices, and computers.
 - This program looks to improve cognitive performance, sleep, stress management, and enhance daily factors that contribute to brain health and performance.
- ▶ **The NGB and the Marine Corps signed the Innovation, Prevention, and Outreach (IPO) Advisory Committee Charter, formalizing a collaborative group to improve behavioral health, access to care, and overall well-being for the Reserve Component, geographically dispersed service members, and their families.**
 - Since 2020, the committee has conducted five quarterly IPO forum meetings to identify gaps, share best practices, and lessons learned across the 15 participating Services, components, and federal agencies.
- ▶ **Approximately 500 NG leaders, staff, and partner organizations are provided timely products and resources to enhance service member resilience and promote a support seeking culture throughout the 50 states, 3 territories, and DC.**

- ▶ **The NGB is planning the strategic implementation of the Integrated Prevention Workforce in accordance with SecDef Intermediate Action #3 and DoDI 6400.09, “DoD Policy on Integrated Primary Prevention of Self-Directed Harm and Prohibited Abuse or Harm.”**

- There is a phased strategic plan in place to implement the Prevention Workforce across the 50 states, 3 territories, DC, and the NGB.

PREVENTING SEXUAL ASSAULT

- ▶ **The National Guard continued its commitment to eliminate sexual assault and harassment from its ranks, through a strategy based on preventing sexual violence.**
 - Strategy focuses on data-informed initiatives, holistic and collaborative approaches, and an investment in building a prevention infrastructure.
- ▶ **The Chief of National Guard Bureau signed the NGB Sexual Assault Prevention Task Force Final Report consisting of 19 recommendations that will be immediately implemented depending on funding allocation.**
- ▶ **The National Guard Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program provided training, services, and advocacy to victims of sexual assault with its 138 full-time nationally certified Sexual Assault Response Coordinators, 49 full-time Victim Advocates, as well as an additional 1,920 part-time nationally certified Sexual Assault Response Coordinators and Victim Advocates.**

FAMILY READINESS PROGRAMS

- ▶ **The National Guard Family Readiness Program staff reached nearly 1.5 million Service members and their families (1,187,804 ARNG and 310,650 ANG) in FY21 by assisting with challenges associated to military life.**
 - Top inquiries and requests were general information and referral, personal financial management, deployment assistance, personal and family life education, and transition support.
 - This number includes services for quick information and referral (731,141 ARNG and 127,001 ANG), and more than 50,000 interactions requiring more in-depth services (30,523 ARNG and 20,464 ANG).
 - There are 445 geographically dispersed National Guard Family Assistance Centers at JFHQs, National Guard armories and Reserve centers.
 - The Air National Guard has 91 Airman and Family Readiness Program Offices.

- ▶ **Army and Air National Guard Family Readiness program staff conducted nearly 10,000 workshops with 1,159,603 attendees in FY21.**
 - Workshops provided information and support to service members and their families on general information and referral, personal financial management, deployment and transition education and support, as well as program education on the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) and Family Advocacy Program.
- ▶ **Family Readiness leadership engagement was provided to 6,226 personnel to assist commanders and unit leaders with tools to help build unit cohesion and operational readiness. Program staff provided consultation services, briefings, and other resources (5,190 ARNG and 1,036 ANG commanders and leaders).**
- ▶ **The Army National Guard Soldier and Family Readiness program executed a \$49.1 million dollar O&M budget, and the Air National Guard Airmen and Family Readiness program executed a \$16.9 million dollar O&M budget.**
- ▶ **Soldier and Family Readiness staff delivered 1,059 financial readiness training opportunities for 59,402 participants. This is an increase from FY20 of almost three times the number of sessions, and a 65% growth in the number of Service members and family members who participated.**
- ▶ **Army National Guard Child and Youth Services conducted over 2,800 events for nearly 88,800 National Guard youth ages 6-18 to promote resilience and sustain the quality of life through high-quality support services and enrichment programs.**
 - Child and Youth Services incorporated a hybrid method of in-person and virtual programming opportunities resulting in 25,870 more Army & Air Guard youth being served in FY21, than in previous fiscal years.

ACCESS TO COMMUNITY SERVICES

- ▶ **The Joint Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program helped 31,100 service members and families connect with their local community support services before, during, and after deployments by overseeing 631 nationwide events in 2021.**
 - The Army National Guard conducted 588 Yellow Ribbon events and supported 25,292 Soldiers and family members.
 - The Air National Guard conducted 21 in-person and 22 online Yellow Ribbon events supporting 5,808 Airman and their families.

- ▶ **Transition Assistance Advisors impacted the lives of 36,765 service members and veterans in FY2021 by providing support, advocacy, and information on 133,520 benefits / entitlements.**

- Advisors are located at each National Guard Joint Forces Headquarters to provide resource and referral information for such issues as education, employment, VA healthcare enrollment, and disability claims.

EDUCATION ASSISTANCE

- ▶ **The Army Guard provided over \$37.8 million in Federal Tuition Assistance benefits to more than 15,700 Soldiers enrolled in over 72,000 courses in FY2021.**

- Provided over \$6.1 million in Credentialing Assistance benefits to over 3,500 Soldiers.
- Provided over \$46.9 million in Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve benefits to over 20,000 Soldiers.
- In addition, 138 ARNG Soldiers used over \$1 million of their Montgomery GI Bill, Active Duty entitlement.
- 30,000 ARNG Soldiers used over \$385 million of their Post 9/11 GI Bill entitlement.
- 12,800 family members took advantage of the Transfer of Education benefit equating to over \$170 million.

- ▶ **The Air Guard's Federal Tuition Assistance program served 986 Airmen with \$2.2 million in Federal tuition assistance, helping Airmen pay for 3,246 courses in FY2021.**



STRENGTH THROUGH SPIRITUALITY

- ▶ **Air Guard Strong Bonds conducted 342 Wing retreats for nearly 4,600 service members.**
- ▶ **Strong Bonds developed a new virtual ANG Strong Bonds delivery platform for the 90 ANG Wings and 260 geographically separated units to allow Airmen and their families to gain access to resiliency and relationship-related ANG tools.**
 - This program has now been adopted the U.S. Air Force and Space Force worldwide for the first time in Air Force history (since 1947).
- ▶ **Developed and coordinated Strong Bonds Program for over 8,000 direct communications from newsletters, email, and phone calls.**
- ▶ **The Army National Guard Strong Bonds Program delivered 408 virtual training events to 8,435 Soldiers and family members to increase Soldier and Family readiness through relationship education and skills training that contributes to readiness, retention, and wellness.**

HONORING THE FALLEN

- ▶ **Army Guard Survivor Outreach Service coordinators assisted 44,956 surviving family members in FY2021, while maintaining a nearly 99% survivors contact rate.**
- ▶ **The Army Guard's team rendered honors at 112,601 service member funerals in FY2021.**
 - The funeral honors team is projected to render burial honors for 111,000 veterans and retirees in FY2022.
 - The Army Guard conducts 83% of the Army's burial honors and 43% of the DOD's.
- ▶ **The Army Guard's Casualty Operations state program provided 721 casualty assistance and 394 notification officers to families of the Army Guard, Army Reserve, and Active Army in FY2021.**
 - 45% of the missions and training for the Total Army Casualty Program are done by Army Guard Soldiers.



READINESS

Having the manning, training, and equipment necessary to support the national defense strategy and the joint force allows us to meet the needs of our communities in times of emergency.

- ★ Generating combat-capable, interoperable, and sustainable National Guard forces to meet Joint Force missions.
- ★ Integrating the National Guard into future force design.
- ★ Strengthening alliances and partnerships through worldwide engagement.
- ★ Enhancing national resilience by strengthening homeland defense and protecting critical infrastructure.

READINESS FACTORS

- ▶ COVID impacting ability to train.
- ▶ Medical coverage (Tricare Reserve Select) for all Guard members, regardless of status, optimizes availability.
- ▶ Predictable funding for State Partnership Program – one of DOD’s best returns on its investment.

BUILDING READINESS

- ▶ 5,000 Army Guard Soldiers from 22 units in 27 states participated in 18 Joint Exercise Program events in support of Combatant Commands.
- ▶ The Pennsylvania Army Guard’s 56th Stryker Brigade Combat Team will deploy to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California in June.
- ▶ The California Army Guard’s 79th Infantry Brigade Combat Team will deploy to the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, Louisiana in July.



READINESS CHALLENGES

- ▶ **12304a mobilization authority reform needed to expedite National Guard call-ups for no-notice events and deployments.**
- ▶ **Support Service-owned policy on use of training with incidental benefits**
- ▶ **Increase Tricare Reserve Select availability for Guard members will ensure readiness**

INCREASING LETHALITY

- ▶ **The Army National Guard participated in 18 Joint Exercise Program events, with 5,000 Army Guard Soldiers from 22 units across 27 states, in support of Combatant Command Theater Security Cooperation plans in 2021.**
- ▶ **Air Guard units enhanced readiness and interoperability with their Joint Force partners after participating in the first Red Flag exercise of 2022 at Nellis AFB, Nevada.**
 - The exercise included 100 aircraft and 3,000 Soldiers from the Air National Guard, Air Force, Marines, Navy, Space Force UK Royal AF, and Royal Australian AF.





MODERNIZATION

Ensuring equipment, facilities, and processes are modern, deployable, sustainable, and interoperable

- ★ Balance funding today's training and deployment requirements with modernization and recapitalization needs to ensure tomorrow's advantage.
- ★ Invest in key capabilities and facilities through sustained and predictable budgets.
- ★ Maintain interoperable systems and equipment for both combat and homeland response.
- ★ Find innovative organizational solutions to meet future challenges, increase national resilience, and seamlessly integrate with the Joint Force.

FACILITY RESTORATION

- ▶ More than one-half of Army National Guard facilities are classified as “poor or failing”.
- ▶ Funding reductions impact ARNG’s operations, training, and safety.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

- ▶ Modernizing facilities and infrastructure to meet the demands of today’s Guard force.
- ▶ After 30 years, OSD Policy removed NG from receiving Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) funds.
- ▶ National Guard forced to use O&M funds for site clean-up -- compromising mission and readiness.
- ▶ Without full access, NG lacks equal DOD Service parity to address hazards.

FACILITY SUSTAINMENT AND RESTORATION

- ▶ More than one-half of Army National Guard facilities are classified as “poor or failing”.
- ▶ Funding reductions impact Army Guard’s operations, training, and safety.

ARMY GUARD MODERNIZATION

UH-60V BLACK HAWK

- ▶ **The Army Guard received its first modernized UH-60V Black Hawk at the Eastern ARNG Aviation Training Site in Annville, Pennsylvania.**
 - The UH-60V is a recapitalized UH-60L that incorporates a digital glass cockpit that increases aircrew situational awareness, enhances navigation, improves safety, and prepares the helicopter for multi-domain operations.
 - The UH-60V is the first aircraft to implement Modular Open Systems Architecture, a critical element of the Future Vertical Lift “Eco-System”.

AH-64E APACHE

- ▶ **South Carolina 1st 151st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion received the first AH-64E Apaches in 2022.**

JOINT LIGHT TACTICAL VEHICLE -- JLTV

- ▶ **The 19th Special Forces Group was the first National Guard unit in the nation to get the Joint Light Tactical Vehicle. The Guard’s 20th SFG will receive the JLTV in 2022.**

FAMILY OF MEDIUM TACTICAL VEHICLES -- FMTVs

- ▶ **Florida’s 81st Stryker Brigade Combat Team received the newest A2 Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles models in 2022.**

PALADIN 109A7 ARTILLERY SYSTEM

- ▶ **North Carolina’s 30th Armored Brigade Combat Team (ABCT) received the Paladin 109A7.**
- ▶ **Minnesota’s 1st ABCT and Tennessee’s 278th ABCT is scheduled to receive the same Paladin artillery system in FY2023.**

AIR GUARD MODERNIZATION

- ▶ The Utah Air National Guard's 151st Air Refueling Wing upgraded the first KC-135 in the Air Force inventory with NATO-Standard Link 16 communication capabilities as part of its Real-Time Information in the Cockpit (RTIC) system, revolutionizing the tanker's role in combat.
- ▶ Want to know how many aircraft tires or satellites are in the Air Force's inventory? The Integrated Logistics System – Supply or ILS-S has the answer. ILS-S is a modern Logistics Information Technology (LogIT) Defense Business System that supports active-duty Air Force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve operations.
- ▶ The Air National Guard / Air Force Reserve Test Center (AATC), known for their innovation and cost-saving efforts, took on a much broader mission as the coordinator of a multi-faceted, joint Agile Combat Employment (ACE) exercise – Exercise Kani Wildcat. The exercise allowed Air Force Special Warfare operators to integrate with A-10, C-130, F-22, UH-1N, MV-22 and CH-53 personnel.
- ▶ Kentucky's 123rd Airlift Wing received eight state-of-the-art C-130J Super Hercules aircraft, marking a new era in aviation for one of the most decorated units in the U.S. Air Force.
- ▶ The Air National Guard (ANG) purchased Tactical Radio Systems (MIDS-JTRS) enabling KC-135 interoperability with a joint, low-latency, ad hoc, IP-based line of sight tactical datalink network.
- ▶ The ANG, in a collaborated effort with Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory and Georgia Tech Research Institute, began building the first-ever common high value airborne asset (HVAA) defense pod. HVAA pods will provide real-time threat data to mobility aircrew, beginning with the KC-135, and deliver additional capacity for future expansion of kinetic and non-kinetic defensive systems.
- ▶ The ANG continues to modernize the C-130H fleet with upgraded 3.5 engines, NP2000 propeller systems, and is in the testing phase of the Avionics Modernization Program increment 2. These modernizations will enhance performance and reliability of the aircraft, ensuring combatant commanders have similar capabilities across the H and J fleets.
- ▶ In line with CSAF's direction to accelerate change, the Kansas ANG's 184th Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Group is conducting Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) evaluation efforts to fundamentally change the way intelligence is produced by the Air Force Distributed Common Ground System.
 - Air Combat Command is providing 11 man-years of Military Personnel Authorization resources to fuel the 184th ISRG's AI / ML evaluations



REFORM

Maximizing our value to the American taxpayer by eliminating inefficiencies and investing in the people and programs that make the greatest difference

- ★ Structure our organization to reduce unnecessary bureaucracy and most efficiently support the Joint Force.
- ★ Deliver rapid and meaningful innovation by leveraging the National Guard dual-use model.
- ★ Enforce budget discipline, transparency, and accountability across all levels to be proper stewards of taxpayer funds and maximize purchasing power.
- ★ Emphasize the importance of fostering an organizational culture of performance and accountability.

DUTY-STATUS IMPROVEMENTS

- ▶ Enhances readiness with less disruptions to benefits like healthcare and pay.
- ▶ Simplifies utilization authorities, frequency, duration, and timelines of activations.
- ▶ Improves access to NG members in support of Service requirements and contingency operations.

REFORM EFFORTS:

- ▶ In response to critical capability gaps, the Air Guard has prioritized the acquisition and employment of satellite-based commercial internet access across platforms. These efforts include providing an alternate command and control system for ANG MQ-9s and access to SIPRnet, cloud-based common operational picture displays and chat functionality for C-17 and KC-135 aircrew.
- ▶ The ANG is working with ACC A589 / A5A22 to procure a helmet-mounted display capability for the F-22 Raptor. This upgrade will ensure the survivability and lethality of the ANG 5th generation fighter fleet in line with Air Combat Command's F-22 modernization roadmap.
- ▶ ANG staff streamlined the process for ANG installations to obtain Authorities To Operate (ATOs) on unclassified and classified Air Force networks
 - The ANG staff recognized nearly half of all cybersecurity control answers are the same for every installation.
 - This effort has reduced the time to obtain for initial & renewal ATOs by 60%.
 - ANG's process will soon be adopted by Air Combat Command so the Air Guard's efforts will also save active-duty installations the same amount of time.
- ▶ The Air National Guard led the DoD in a network modernization initiative using the newest networking technologies that will save DoD \$10 billion over the next 5 years.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Programs making a difference in nearly 2,800 communities in 50 states,
3 territories and DC

- ★ 10.2 million personnel days in support of domestic emergencies in 2021.
- ★ Served more than 7.6 million days providing nearly 14 million vaccinations, security, logistics, and food in 2021.
- ★ The National Guard is part of a whole-of-government response that has helped resettle over 50,000 Afghan evacuees since August.
- ★ The 40 National Guard Youth ChalleNGe and 5 Job ChalleNGe academies across the nation have graduated nearly 190,500 cadets since its inception in 1993.

- ★ National Guard units host STARBASE events where fifth-grade students can conduct hands-on activities related to aviation, science, technology, engineering, math, and space exploration.

YOUTH CHALLENGE PROGRAM

- ▶ The 5-1/2 month, in-residence course takes at-risk 16- to 18-year-olds and teaches them the life skills and self-discipline needed to success, while helping them to earn credits toward high school diplomas or prepare them for a GED.
- ▶ The 5-month Job Challenge in-residence program allows selected Youth Challenge graduates to obtain job certifications, credentials, or apprenticeships to facilitate living wage jobs.
- ▶ Nearly 82 percent of all Challenge graduates earn their high school diploma, GED or obtain college credits.
 - Approximately 33 percent going on to attend additional college or other schools.
 - Roughly 10 percent enter the military
 - The remainder join the work force within one year of graduation.
- ▶ The per-student-cost for a Challenge graduate averages \$24,000 annually, compared to the approximately \$112,555 per-year cost for a youth in juvenile custody.



ALL IN FOR THE FUTURE

For 385 years, the National Guard has fulfilled its promise to America: Always Ready, Always There. By prioritizing people, readiness, modernization, and reform, we are preparing for the challenges our Nation will face.

By prioritizing people, we are working to ensure our force is physically and mentally resilient, able to balance the demands of the mission with the demands of their civilian careers, and fully representative of the communities we serve.

By prioritizing readiness, we are better able to anticipate the challenges of the future, from strategic competition to climate change, and leverage the Guard's unique capabilities to enhance the Joint Force and support the National Defense Strategy.

By prioritizing modernization, we position ourselves for the best possible deployment, sustainability, and interoperability when we are called to fight our Nation's wars and serve our communities.

By prioritizing reform, we maximize our value to the American taxpayer by eliminating inefficiencies that hamper our agility and investing in the people and programs that make the greatest difference.

Our Nation relies on the National Guard to defend democracy, restore peace, and bring hope and security to American communities in times of crisis.

WE BOLDLY FACE THE FUTURE: ALWAYS READY, ALWAYS THERE.