

CALIFORNIA NATIONAL GUARD

YEAR IN REVIEW



CNG LEADERSHIP



David S. Baldwin
Major General
Adjutant General

As I look back on the past year, I draw great pride from being part of an organization that has done so much to help Californians, residents of other states and people in countries around the globe.

More than 1,200 Soldiers and 340 Airmen of the California National Guard supported operations overseas in 2012, making significant contributions in Afghanistan, Egypt, Kosovo and other countries. Nonetheless, 2012 marked a notable reduction in foreign deployments for the Cal Guard as compared with recent years, and our force has

turned its focus to the Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA) mission as a result. This includes firefighting operations, search-and-rescue missions, anti-narcotics-trafficking activities, nuclear and hazardous materials response, and protecting the Western United States' airspace.

Readiness is central to our DSCA mission, as it is for our overseas contingency operations. The effort to prepare for disasters and civil unrest is no less a fight than combating terror and tyranny abroad. Our domestic-response skills must be sharp, and our troops continually train to hone those skills and prepare for the unexpected.

Maintaining our troops' readiness is my No. 1 responsibility, and it requires an organizational culture that promotes teamwork, caring and acceptance of one another. One of the great things about the National Guard is that it is representative of the communities it serves, and here in California, that means we have one of the most diverse forces in the nation. That diversity is reflected in our ranks and our leadership, as women and minorities hold some of the most influential posts in the Cal Guard.

Honor and integrity must be a cultural cornerstone for any organization of Soldiers and Airmen, and it has been a primary focus of mine since I took command of this force in April 2011. Internal monitoring of our troops' behavior has stepped up greatly in the past two years, including the activities of our newly created Office of Compliance and Management Controls, which ensures we act in accordance with federal and state statutory and regulatory requirements.

I also have emplaced leaders and commanders throughout the Cal Guard who will keep a vigilant watch on their troops and ensure they act legally and ethically and treat each other with dignity and respect. Increased use of automation, audits, reconciliation and, when necessary, investigations of our internal processes has also effectively prevented mismanagement or abuse of our systems during the past two years.

We can only adequately perform our mission if we maintain the trust, faith and confidence of our constituents and stakeholders, and living up to that trust will always be a value engrained in our troops.

When our Soldiers and Airmen deploy, they must be able to trust in each other and depend on their "battle buddies" or "wingmen" for support. That level of care must not end upon a mission's completion or a unit's homecoming. Being part of a family — and the Cal Guard is just that — means being vigilant about the well-being of those in your care.

Every member of the Cal Guard is expected to be on the lookout for signs of trouble in the lives of people they serve with and be willing to offer help, whether that be a willing ear or a referral to someone with professional expertise. During our October training weekend, every unit of the California Army National Guard conducted a "Suicide Stand Down" in conjunction with a similar Army-wide program at the national level. Among other skills, we learned how to spot signs that someone might be considering suicide and how to react in that situation. Those types of skills are continually stressed and reinforced through periodic classes.

The communication and stress-management training we all have received can help each of us achieve balance in our military, work and home lives. Perhaps the most important information we must hold onto from that training is to recognize that none of us is equipped to go it alone, and there should be no reluctance to seek help when needed. Asking for help does not show weakness: It shows courage and responsibility.

In 2012 our troops continued the valiant service you have come to expect from our Armed Forces, courageously fighting for democracy overseas while tirelessly working to protect citizens at home. You can count on our troops to continue their dedicated efforts in 2013 and for centuries to come, ensuring we live up to our motto: Always Ready, Always There.



CORNER



William Clark Jr.
Command Sergeant Major
Senior Enlisted Adviser

One of my favorite quotes, which I have carried with me since I attended basic training 30 years ago, is from John C. Maxwell, an author who has written extensively on leadership: "A leader is the one who knows the ways, goes the way and shows the way."

Since 1948, Army Field Manual 22-100 on military leadership has guided officers and noncommissioned officers in leading their Soldiers. To be successful, the principles of that manual must be coupled with the determination to lead from the front with passion. Leaders must

know their troops, mentor them, enforce military standards and be fit for duty.

Leaders also must be ethical. Troops will not follow you if they don't trust you. Soldiers and Airmen may follow a leader's direction because of their rank or position for a while. But in the long term, troops follow leaders whom they aspire to be like.

Another critical component of leadership is communication. Did I ever think I'd blog, tweet or post on Facebook? No! But here I am. Why? Because that is where our Soldiers are and where their families are. I use social media to share resources and information with our Guardsmen and their families.

Finally and most importantly, leaders take risks. Leaders visualize how things could be done better, and they seek to create change, exposing themselves to the possibility of a negative outcome in order to carry out their vision. Risk does not mean betting on long shots; one needs a record of success to ensure their troops will continue to follow their lead.

The adjutant general and I expect our officers and noncommissioned officers to be ethical, take-charge leaders, and we encourage that behavior by setting an example to follow. The Command Section of the California Military Department has wholeheartedly dedicated itself to creating a well-trained, innovative, courageous force of Soldiers and Airmen whose military careers are grounded in the tenets of honor and selfless service.

You can count on the California National Guard and State Military Reserve to perform our duties with loyalty, integrity and respect while striving for excellence in all we do. That is the standard upheld by Department leadership, and we will accept nothing less from our troops.

CNG's 2012 End Strength



16,537
Soldiers

California Army National Guard



4,539
Airmen

California Air National Guard

California Army National Guard



CNG Headquarters



CNG Medical Detachment



40th Combat Aviation Brigade



40th Infantry Division



49th Military Police Brigade



79th Infantry Brigade Combat Team



100th Troop Command



115th Regional Support Group



223rd Regional Training Institute (CA)



224th Sustainment Brigade



1106th Theater Aviation Sustainment Maintenance Group

California Air National Guard



129th Rescue Wing



144th Fighter Wing



146th Airlift Wing



163rd Reconnaissance Wing



162nd Combat Comm. Group



1,149
California

State Military Reserve



1,545
Mobilized

California National Guard

DEPLOYMENTS

CNG Mobilizations // 2012



TOTALS

Army // 1,337

Air // 691

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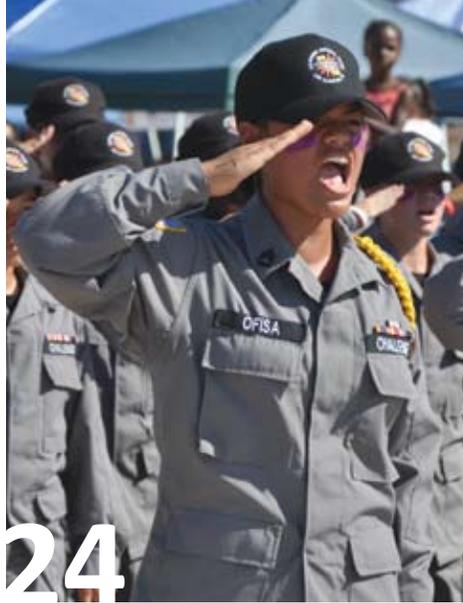
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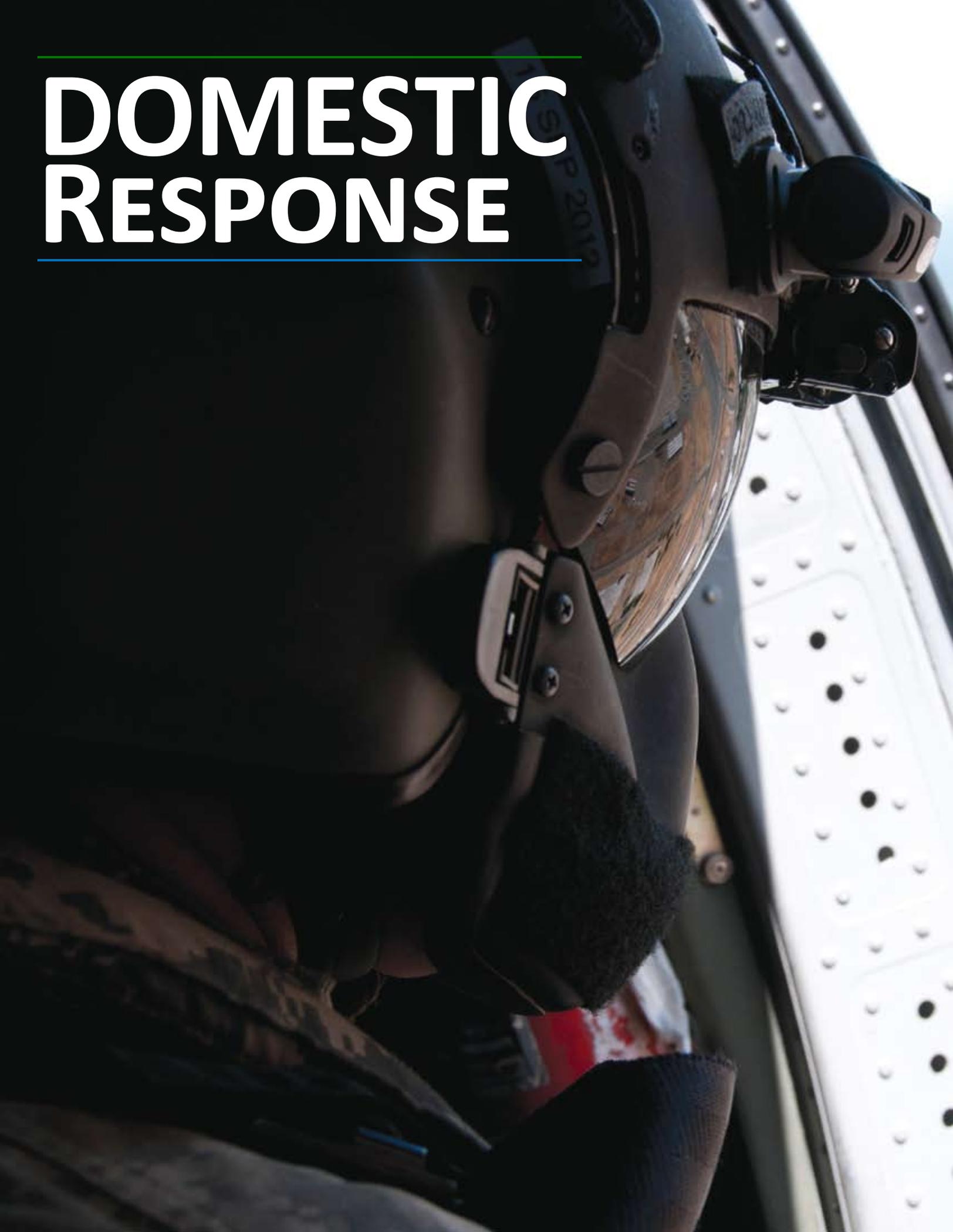
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DOMESTIC RESPONSE





When faced with natural or man-made disasters, California citizens count on the California National Guard to respond quickly and efficiently with all of our capabilities. No matter what emergency might arise — whether a wildfire, earthquake or weapon of mass destruction — our Soldiers and Airmen are always ready to assist.

The Soldiers and Airmen of the California National Guard are skilled, talented, courageous warriors who have proven their abilities in combat operations overseas. But the defining characteristic of the National Guard is our domestic-response mission.

We are always ready to mobilize at a moment's notice when disaster strikes or our fellow Californians are in need of assistance. We are the defenders of our homeland, just as the National Guard has been since 1636, and that commitment to our communities is the reason many of our members joined the National Guard rather than an active duty component.

Drench Warfare

As is often the case, the 2012 summer brought an opportunity for the National Guard to make a difference here in California by protecting lives, homes and businesses threatened by wildfires raging across the state. Army National Guard helicopter crews and Air National Guard helicopter and airplane crews responded to the California wildfires by flying more than 1,000 hours and dropping more than 2 million gallons of water and fire retardant while also performing medical evacuations.

The California Air National Guard trains each year so it is ready to serve California with its firefighting assets: two C-130J Hercules airplanes equipped with 3,000-gallon Modular Airborne Fire Fighting Systems II and



two helicopters equipped with 660-gallon fire-fighting buckets. The Army Guard meanwhile brings 11 helicopters to the fight, including eight equipped with firefighting buckets and three dedicated for command, control and fire-mapping.

Fortunately the Guard and other state agencies were able to quell the fires this year without calling for support from active-duty troops and assets. However, to ensure continuity of command if additional military forces were needed, Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr. took an important step to streamline joint operations, securing approval from U.S. Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta to mobilize all military firefighting troops and aircraft in California under a single commander, Col. Robert Spano of the Cal Guard.

Under a newly created command structure known as Dual-Status Command, a National Guard commander is empowered to manage all military resources responding to a domestic incident, rather than troops reporting up multiple chains of command.

“When fires are burning, every second counts,” Brown said. “By unifying the command, this agreement will allow us to fight fires, not bureaucracy.”

A Multitude of Missions

Our Soldiers and Airmen who were called out to battle the blazes consider it a highly meaningful mission — one in which we can be of direct service to the people who depend on us in our home communities. We take tremendous

pride in the contributions the California National Guard has made to overseas contingency operations since 2001, but there is something special about helping our neighbors.

For us, being a good neighbor means extinguishing wildfires, rescuing ill sailors stranded at sea and protecting the Western United States’ airspace with F-16C Fighting Falcon jets. It means monitoring our borders, coasts and forests for drug trafficking activity and being ready to respond to any natural or man-made disaster — including those involving chemical or biological contaminants and weapons of mass destruction.

Homeland Response Force

The Cal Guard’s 49th Military Police Brigade Homeland Response Force (HRF) is ready to respond to any domestic crisis, not just in California, but throughout all of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region IX. The 400,000-square-mile region includes Arizona, Hawaii and Nevada, as well as the territories of American Samoa and Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia.

The 570-member HRF combines a command-and-control element, a battalion headquarters and a security company with the 9th Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High-Yield Explosive Enhanced Response Force Package, or CERFP, which includes decontamination, search-and-extraction and medical capabilities to respond to any incident involving an airborne pathogen, “dirty bomb,” nuclear detona-



tion or other dangerous contaminant.

Following two years of intense training, the HRF earned certification in March 2012 as the key military operations element covering the 36 million residents of Region IX.

During its March evaluation on Camp Roberts, Calif., the Force reacted to a training scenario that simulated a tractor-trailer crashing into a building in San Francisco followed by a separate vehicle explosion nearby, which released a vapor cloud of hydrogen fluoride. Hours later, an unknown chemical was released inside a San Francisco theater where thousands were attending a concert, and as attendees fled, a cargo truck carrying explosives detonated in front of the theater.

“As I watched the Brigade in action, there was a sense of pride and accomplishment,” said Col. William Arruda Jr., who was the commander of the Brigade. “Everyone knew their jobs, and once they got their rhythm, they executed and



exceeded the standards. In fact [the Joint Inter-agency Training and Education Center] named the search-and-extraction team as the best they've seen in the nation."

The event was designed to create a sense of realism and urgency so HRF responders would be prepared to act swiftly and effectively in times of disaster. Preparedness is especially crucial in California, where environmental conditions are rife with potentially catastrophic events.

"Lying on the fault lines, we do have a lot of earthquakes and other natural disasters," said Staff Sgt. Daniel Caddy. "And with the terrorist threat always out there, you never know what's going to jump off."

HRF units are trained to find and extract victims from rubble piles, decontaminate survivors and treat injuries, among other functions. The HRF stands ready to respond and arrive at their readiness centers within six hours of receiving a call to duty and to have all

Homeland Response Force

Who: The CNG's Homeland Response Force (HRF) is composed of the 49th Military Police Brigade Headquarters and Headquarters Company; 185th MP Battalion; 40th MP Co.; 270th MP Co.; and 9th Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High-Yield Explosive Enhanced Response Force Package, which is composed of the 579th Engineer Battalion, 149th Chemical Co., 235th Engineer Co. and 144th Fighter Wing Medical Group.

What: The HRF consists of 570 Soldiers and Airmen in medical, search-and-extraction, decontamination, security and command-and-control teams.

Where: It is responsible for the 400,000 square miles and 36 million residents of Federal Emergency Management Agency Region IX, which comprises Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada and several U.S. territories and Pacific islands.

Why: In addition to natural disasters, the HRF is designed to counter incidents involving any hazardous material, including a nuclear detonation or "dirty bomb."



forces on the road to an incident site within 12 hours.

Civil Support Teams

The CNG also has two civil support teams, which continually tested their abilities to respond to incidents involving hazardous materials throughout 2012. The 22-member units of Soldiers and Airmen are trained to identify hazardous agents, assess and project their consequences, and provide advice on response measures.

The 9th Civil Support Team (CST), based at Joint Forces Training Base, Los Alamitos, in Southern California, hosted a weeklong mass casualty and hazardous material exercise in June that included CSTs from Arizona and Utah as well as local law enforcement agencies and civilian entities. The training included working with Army helicopters, Merchant Marine ships and local hospitals that decontaminated victim role-players. CST members also used radiation-detection instruments to find hazardous materials at the site of a simulated jet crash.

Separately the 9th CST deployed to Kaneohe

“Lying on the fault lines, we do have a lot of earthquakes and other natural disasters. And with the terrorist threat always out there, you never know what’s going to jump off.”

– Staff Sgt. Daniel Caddy
235th Engineer Company (Sapper)

Bay, Hawaii, in April to take part in Kai Malu O Hawaii, a training event that tested several agencies’ maritime response to a threat involving a weapon of mass destruction.

The Northern California-based 95th CST, meanwhile, spent time simulating chemical-response scenarios in Alaska and in California’s Sierra Nevada Mountains. In Alaska, the CST conducted a joint exercise with the active duty 95th Chemi-

cal Company that focused on a chemical explosion; reconnaissance of the location; identification of chemicals; and evaluation, evacuation and decontamination of casualties.

The mission in the Sierra Nevadas, dubbed Operation Red Snow, countered a mock domestic terrorist organization that was plotting to depose the state government. The 95th was assigned to survey a camp where terrorists were being trained in the use of explosive and chemical weapons and to rescue a person from the site. Security forces squadrons from the California Air National Guard’s 144th Fighter Wing and 146th Airlift Wing set up and manned the terrorist camp, acting as simulated enemies of the state.

“Our part was to play the bad guys in the Red Snow exercise,” said Staff Sgt. Jonathan Bass of the 146th. “We set up our base camp, set up mock chemical and bomb-making tents, and were just bad guys. It was fun.”

While the “terrorists” were setting up their camp, 30 Soldiers from the California Army National Guard’s 1st Battalion, 160th Infan-

try Regiment, were using intelligence from the CST and local civilian agencies to conduct reconnaissance, scout and sniper missions designed to take down the terrorists. The infantry Soldiers hiked silently and undetected using their night-vision goggles until they were within 50 yards of the terrorist camp, when the team was spotted by the terrorists, shots rang out and the assault team went in guns ablazing.

Patrolling the Skies

Acting as a mock terrorist group is not a common role for members of the 144th Fighter Wing, but its Airmen do play a vital part in domestic defense. The 144th is responsible for providing air defense protection of the Western United States utilizing its F-16C Fighting Falcon jet aircraft.

This capability was called into play in February, when a small plane strayed into a no-fly zone over Los Angeles that had been established for a visit from President Barack Obama. Two fighters from the 144th intercepted the plane, which turned out to be carrying 20 pounds of illegal marijuana. The pilot followed 144th instructions to land the plane in Long Beach, where he was taken into police custody.

Air Power

The 144th is just one of several Cal Guard wings that are vital to Californians' security. The 146th Airlift Wing and 129th Rescue Wing contributed greatly to the 2012 firefighting effort, and both wings deployed Airmen and aircraft to the East Coast in November so they could support recovery operations following "Superstorm" Sandy.

The Rescue Wing also is routinely called out to assist hikers and other residents in need of rescue support. This year the 129th's missions included three rescues of boaters hundreds of miles off the coast of Mexico.

"The U.S. Coast Guard does not have the capability to conduct rescue operations so far out at sea,"

Wildfire Roundup

More than 450,000 acres of California land were affected by wildfires in 2012. The California National Guard responded by equipping thirteen HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopters and UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters with 660-gallon buckets to fight the flames. Helicopter crews flew 920 hours of firefighting operations in 2012 and completed 3,000 bucket drops totaling 1.8 million gallons of water splashed onto fires across the state. In addition two C-130J Hercules planes equipped with Modular Airborne Fire Fighting Systems II conducted 93 drops, dousing the flames with 265,000 gallons of fire retardant.



said Sen. Lou Correa, chairman of the California Senate Veterans Affairs Committee, during a Senate ceremony to honor the Airmen who performed a rescue 500 miles off the coast of Acapulco. "They called the only organization in the world that could perform such a mission ... the California National Guard's 129th Rescue Wing." Since the Wing took on its rescue mission in 1975, it has saved 957 people, including combat rescues and domestic missions.

The California Army National Guard's aviation units also perform rescues when called upon. In 2012, those units' rescue missions ranged from Mount Whitney in Southern California to the Lake Tahoe back country on the Nevada border and as far north as Mount Shasta.

Putting technology to work

In addition the California Air National Guard has started making use of a different type of aircraft — MQ-1 Predator remotely piloted aircraft (RPA) — for domestic operations. In

2012, the 163rd Reconnaissance Wing's Predators were used in multiple disaster-response scenarios, including an earthquake exercise and a hurricane scenario.

In Grizzly Field Exercise 2012, which simulated an earthquake in Southern California, the 163rd provided full-motion video of the destruction area via cameras mounted on two Predators.

The 163rd also participated in the U.S. Northern Command exercise Ardent Sentry, which tested its ability to provide video feeds as well as still images.

"This is a new air operation era in which RPA are becoming more common," said Maj. Dawn Junk, chief of domestic operations and special missions for the 163rd Reconnaissance Wing. "One of the purposes of this exercise was to figure out the processes and procedures to incorporate RPA into the National Airspace System safely and effectively."



DART Essential Capabilities



The Guard's Domestic all-hazards response teams (DART) provide Defense Support of Civil Authorities capabilities ready to respond to a catastrophic event. The Guard has two DARTs nationwide, which are well-positioned for interagency response. Each DART develops force packages based on the National Guard Bureau's ten essential capabilities:

- Command and Control
- Logistics
- Maintenance
- Chemical
- Aviation
- Military Police
- Engineering
- Transportation
- Medical
- Signal Assets

Communication is key

During the Hawaii National Guard's Makani Pahili hurricane-preparedness exercise in June, the California Air National Guard's 147th Combat Communications Squadron and 149th Combat Communications Squadron established communications for emergency responders after a hurricane knocked out all telephone and Internet connections. Through satellite links, the squadrons' Joint Incident Site Communications Capability packages provided telephone, Internet, radio and video teleconference capabilities as well as other types of communications — a capability that is vital to coordinating any rescue or recovery effort.

"Even with all the emergency operations plans perfectly in line before [a disaster], to do it with no coordination is virtually impossible," said Firefighter III Kaulana Kino of the Maui County Department of Fire and Public Safety. "An individual unit on its own, even if they're helping people, it's just responding to little one-off incidents. They can't get ahead of the incident, and we could have multiple units searching the same areas, wasting time."

The CNG squadrons' 10-man contingents at Makani Pahili were able to link fire departments, police departments, emergency management departments and a myriad of other government agencies for seamless communi-

cations. They also received and broadcast live video feeds of the destruction from cameras mounted on civil air patrol planes, enabling a well-coordinated response.

Advancing the Civil Support Science

The 147th and 149th were joined in Hawaii by the CNG's 40th Infantry Division Domestic All-Hazards Response Team (DART), which provided command and control for the Maui Emergency Operations Center. The DART's Soldiers and Airmen brought expertise in logistics, intelligence, information technology and other areas of domestic operations.

"We definitely need [the DART's] assistance, because we're members of the community that the disaster occurred in," said Lt. Col. Dan Okamura, officer in charge of the logistics cell at Hawaii National Guard headquarters. "We won't be able to rely on the Hawaii National Guard's full support, so these senior staff guys plug in the gaps when we don't have all the people we are supposed to have."

In 2010, the 40th Infantry Division accepted a two-year mission to establish one of the first two National Guard DARTs, with responsibility for the 25 states and territories west of the Mississippi River. Drawing on lessons learned during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the 23-person team of Soldiers and



Airmen provides a modular and deployable command-and-control headquarters to synchronize the flow of National Guard forces in a disaster area.

The lack of such a capability in 2005 slowed reserve forces' response after Katrina — a mistake the National Guard Bureau does not plan to repeat. During the past two years, the 40th ID DART and its 42nd ID DART counterpart in New York have made great strides in civil-response duties such as joint reception, staging, onward movement and

integration, also known as JRSOI.

California's DART, however, was disbanded at the end of 2012: The National Guard is rotating the DART mission among its eight divisions, and the Texas National Guard will have responsibility for the Western United States beginning in 2013.

An Eye on the Homeland

Another Cal Guard mission that was mostly discontinued in 2012 was its support of operations on the U.S.-Mexico border. Some members of the California National Guard, particularly members of its Joint Task Force Domestic Support-Counterdrug, continue to support Customs and Border Protection with military assets. However, Operation Phalanx, a four-state effort to curb the smuggling of people, drugs, weapons and cash into and out of the United States on its Southwest border, concluded in February.

Beginning in August 2010, about 260 members of the California National Guard supported Operation Phalanx, which led to the seizure of 6,662 people and 110 tons of drugs in California as well as the discovery of four drug-smuggling tunnels.

"You performed your mission quietly, unassumingly and professionally every single day, all the while demonstrating the Customs and Border Protection core values of vigilance,

integrity and service to country," Paul A. Beeson, chief patrol agent for the San Diego Sector of U.S. Border Patrol, said Jan. 30 as the National Guard's mission came to a close. "Your dedication, hard work and unwavering support have significantly bolstered our border security"

CNG members served as additional eyes and ears for Border Patrol, keeping a vigilant watch from strategic remote sites on the coast and along the U.S.-Mexico border and reporting any suspicious activity to patrolling agents. Guardsmen also provided a visible presence, creating an effective deterrent to attempts to enter the U.S. illegally.

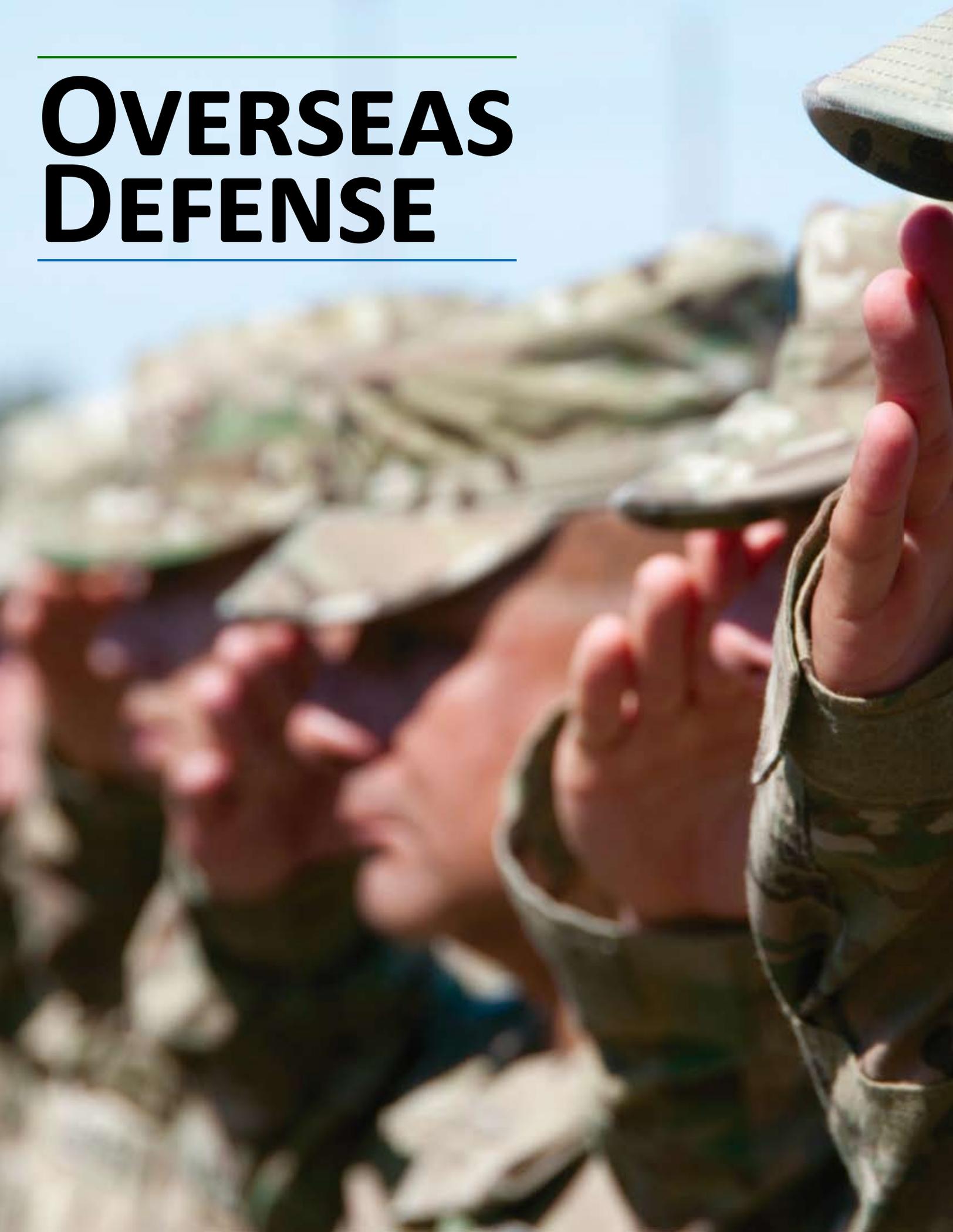
CNG criminal analysts also gave crucial support to Homeland Security Investigations, such as linguistic translation and trend analysis. In these roles, the National Guard was a "force multiplier" for Border Patrol, freeing up that agency's personnel to perform law enforcement duties.

Always Ready, Always There

We in the California National Guard are proud to be entrusted with ensuring the safety of our fellow Californians, and our dedication to that mission is reflected in the vigor with which we approach our training for domestic operations each year. Our enemy is any threat that confronts the people of our great state, and we will always be the first line of defense.



OVERSEAS DEFENSE





The California National Guard force made up of “weekend warriors” is now extinct. California is home to the nation’s largest and most frequently deployed National Guard force. To date, Cal Guardsmen have deployed overseas 29,000 times in support of the global fight against terrorism and other missions since 2011.

California Army National Guard

The 16,537 members of the California Army National Guard bring a wide variety of skills to overseas defense and peacekeeping missions. Since 9/11, our Soldiers have deployed to foreign soil more than 19,000 times to perform duties in fields such as aviation and maintenance, infantry, cavalry, artillery, armored vehicle operation, combat support, military police, engineering, military intelligence and Special Operations. Furthermore our Task Force Warrior element on Camp Roberts provides top-notch training for troops from numerous states who are preparing for overseas deployments.

More than 1,200 CNG Soldiers supported operations overseas in 2012, mainly in Afghanistan but also in Egypt, Kosovo and Kuwait. The CNG was fortunate to avoid any combat-related deaths in 2012, but since the beginning of the global fight against terrorism, 29 Cal Guard Soldiers have made the ultimate sacrifice in Iraq and Afghanistan, and many more have sustained serious injuries.

Task Force Mad Dog

At the beginning of 2012, hundreds of CNG Soldiers were serving overseas, including members of the 578th Engineer Battalion’s Headquarters and Headquarters Company and its Forward Support Company. In Afghanistan the 578th headed up Task Force Mad Dog, which comprised more than 1,000 troops from National Guard construction units and active-duty route clear-



ance companies. The Task Force was entrusted with completing the largest construction effort in the history of the Afghan campaign, building nine forward operating bases and six tactical operations centers in the dead of winter.

“[Task Force Mad Dog] displayed true grit and courage in an area with no U.S. forces and limited coalition forces,” said Maj. Stephen Peterson of the active duty 1st Brigade Combat Team, whose 82nd Airborne Division moved into the bases TF Mad Dog had built. “They found solutions to frozen ground and material shortages. ... They set the conditions for the 1-82nd to immediately eliminate the Taliban influence [in the region] ... and stayed on to support us with tactical construction missions.”

The unit also cleared 30,000 kilometers of routes, disarming more than 1,000 improvised explosive devices, and conducted security patrols for equipment transportation. Members of the 578th also made contributions to the Afghan National Army by training Afghan engineers and helping Afghan officials develop and manage their intelligence programs.

756th Keeps on Truckin’

The CNG’s 756th Transportation Company also ushered in the new year in Afghanistan, during a deployment that would eventually include 421 convoy missions, one of which had already proven fatal. The unit arrived in Afghanistan in

September 2011 with a mission to move personnel and cargo throughout the Kabul Base Cluster. The 756th was only transportation company in the Cluster.

Less than two months later, on Oct. 29, 2011, an up-armored bus driven by Sgt. Carlo Eugenio of the 756th was struck by a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device that killed 17 people including Eugenio and three other U.S. Soldiers.

“[Eugenio] took pride in the work he did and was always a professional,” 756th Commander 1st Lt. Dalia Sanchez said early in 2012. “The one thing I remember the most about him was he always smiled. ... It has been a huge loss for all of us in the 756th.”

When the unit arrived home in August 2012 — after escorting 952 Afghan trucks, completing 900 logistical movement requests comprising 4,000 pieces of cargo and moving 11,523 personnel throughout the Kabul Base Cluster — leadership arranged to rededicate the 756th’s readiness center in Lancaster in Eugenio’s name.

“[Eugenio] was more like a brother,” said Sgt. Ivan Garcia, a motor vehicle transportation operator for the 756th, who was with Eugenio on Oct. 29 and sustained burns to 45 percent of his body in the explosion. Garcia received a Purple Heart during the same ceremony that rededi-

2012 Deployments

California Army National Guard Unit // Number of Soldiers

Afghanistan

- Co. B, 1-126th Aviation Bn. // **123**
- 132nd Multi-Role Bridge Co. // **185**
- 217th Finance Det. // **26**
- 250th Military Intel Bn. // **30**
- 578th Engineer Co. // **171**
- 649th Military Police Co. // **78**
- 756th Transportation Co. // **169**
- 1072nd Transportation Co. // **90**
- 2668th Transportation Co. // **123**

Kuwait

- 140th Chemical Co. // **143**

Kosovo

- 3-140th Aviation Bn. // **58**

Afghanistan, Egypt, Kosovo

- Several units // **20**



cated the readiness center in Eugenio's name. "I feel [the Purple Heart] is more for him and the unit than it is for me. They're the ones that had to finish the mission after this happened."

Transportation and Security

The CNG deployed two additional transportation companies to Afghanistan in 2012, sending more than 200 total members of the 2668th and the 1072nd overseas to haul personnel and equipment, conduct convoy operations and train Afghan Soldiers. Both companies were accompanied by troops from the CNG's 649th Military Police Company, which sent nearly 80 Soldiers to ensure security for the transportation companies and their missions.

First Sergeant Howard Gilmore of the 1072 said his unit endured a year of intense training in preparation for the deployment.

"We have pushed these Soldiers to their limit to see how they can sustain in a combat environment," he said. "The men and women of this company always prevail. It is a tribute to their intestinal fortitude."

Bridge Authority

The CNG further showcased its diverse talents in February, when it deployed the 132nd Multi-Role Bridge Company to Afghanistan, where it was the only U.S. Army bridge unit in the country. The steel structures built by the 132nd are assembled from pre-fabricated sections to give coalition troops and Afghan civilians freedom of movement across the diverse Afghan terrain. In addition to building several types of bridges, engineers from the 132nd helped train numerous Afghan troops in the craft.

1-126th's Third Tour Since 2001

The CNG's final deployment of the year sent 100 Soldiers and a dozen CH-47 Chinook helicopters to Afghanistan from Company B, 1st Battalion, 126th Aviation Regiment, which is now serving its third yearlong tour in Afghanistan or Iraq since 2001.

"I am so proud of [Company B's] performance during its previous deployments and am confident its Soldiers will represent the state with distinction again," Col. Laura Yeager said during a farewell ceremony Aug. 18 at the Stockton Flight Facility. Yeager is the commander of the CNG's 40th Combat Aviation Brigade, higher headquarters for the 1-126th. "This superb company provides essential heavy-lift support to the ground tactical commander using 12



The men and women of this company always prevail. It is a tribute to their intestinal fortitude."

– 1st Sgt. Howard Gilmore
1072nd Transportation Company



[Chinook] aircraft. Their ability to move massive amounts of supplies, equipment and Soldiers into difficult terrain cannot be duplicated by any other aviation asset in theater."

Company B, which is the largest National Guard Chinook unit in the contiguous United States, has been tasked with air-assault missions and transportation of personnel and equipment throughout the theater.

Additional 2012 deployments in support of the Afghanistan mission, Operation Enduring Freedom, included military intelligence troops, finance experts and a chemical company.

Non-Combat Tours

In addition to its combat-related missions, the California Army National Guard sent members of the 217th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company and 3-140th Aviation Security and Support Battalion to Kosovo for peacekeeping operations in 2012, and it deployed troops to the Sinai Peninsula to enforce a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel, a role the National Guard has filled since 2002.

NATO has had a military presence in Kosovo since 1999, when Serbian forces agreed to withdraw from Kosovo following a 78-day NATO bombing campaign. The Republic of Kosovo declared its independence in 2008 following a United Nations administration period.

In Kosovo, which is one of the most heavily mined regions in the world, the 217th responds to calls regarding possible unexploded ordnance, evaluates the devices and disposes of the explosives. In slightly more than its first month on the job, the 217th responded to 40 calls regarding suspected unexploded ordnance.

"It is very important that we keep this area safe for the civilians as well as the military operating in the area," said Sgt. 1st Class Robert W. Lee of the 217th.

The 3-140th, meanwhile, is providing administrative and refueling support to coalition aviation units conducting missions with UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters in Kosovo.

"We will be providing airlift support for quick reaction forces when required," Commander Maj. Matthew McDermott said during a mobilization ceremony July 6 at the unit's readiness center in Stockton. "I think the unit is very well-prepared. The overall attitude and morale for

this deployment is outstanding.”

Whether supporting peacekeeping or combat missions around the globe, the 11 major elements of the California Army National Guard are ready to deploy skilled, courageous Soldiers with expertise in virtually every type of Army engagement. Our members have made invaluable contributions to overseas operations during the past decade of conflict, and their dedication to the mission will continue to shine whenever the nation calls.

California Air National Guard

The California Air National Guard deployed about 315 Airmen overseas in 2012 to support operations in 23 different countries, including a variety of missions in Afghanistan as well as humanitarian missions in other parts of the world. The deploying Airmen represented all five of the California Air National Guard’s major components — the 129th Rescue Wing, 144th Fighter Wing, 146th Airlift Wing, 162nd Combat Communications Group and 163rd Reconnaissance Wing.

Engineering a Better Future

Babies were born, kids grew taller and seasons passed while 50 Airmen from the 163rd Reconnaissance Wing Civil Engineering Squadron (CES) were deployed to Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, for six months in 2012. Overjoyed at their return, family members, friends and fellow Airmen greeted the Guardsmen at Ontario International Airport in Southern California on June 20.

“We are so proud of our Airmen and thankful for their sacrifices to keep America safe,” said Roseanne Lazoya, mother of Staff Sgt. Marcello Lazoya, as tears ran down her face after hugging her son. “We are ecstatic to have them home safe.”

A total of 58 Airmen from the 163rd CES deployed to Afghanistan, where the unit established a high-altitude surveillance system for troops beyond the Bagram perimeter.

“Our unit was able to establish the first Aerostat site in our area of responsibility and the first on a major airfield,” Senior Master Sgt. Bob Campos of the 163rd said. “This [provides] 30,000 troops as well as civilians a 360-degree eye in the sky for an increased level of security.”

The unit accomplished several additional engineering projects on Bagram, completing more

than 1,000 work orders ranging from concrete jobs to air-conditioning repairs and maintaining the emergency arresting system that catches distressed aircraft.

“We caught eight aircraft with the arresting system and completed numerous Airfield repairs, including one emergency repair on the centerline of the active runway, which was accomplished without delaying any flights,” Campos said.

In addition Maj. Heidi Gibson said her contracting and engineering team worked with local nationals to manage a total of \$13.8 million in construction projects, and the Airmen also fulfilled requests from forward operating bases.

During the six-month deployment, the 163rd was the lead unit working with fellow Airmen from Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Mississippi, Oregon, Tennessee and Washington, D.C.

“I remember working every day for a month because as ‘dirt boys’ we were responsible for keeping the taxiways and ramps for the F-15s and F-16s cleared of snow,” Tech. Sgt. Daniel Lowe said. “It seems like it snowed every Sunday for a good month, keeping us employed.”

The dirt boys were also first responders along with security forces at the entry control point

where local nationals enter the Airfield for work.

“At one point during the deployment, the citizens of Bagram were upset with our government and were throwing stones over the walls by the entry control point,” Lowe said. “Some of us were struck on the arms, legs or Kevlar helmet, but fortunately nothing serious. We used fire trucks and water trucks to spray water to defend the wall.”

The 163rd CES Heavy Equipment Shop supported 15 types of aircraft and installed more than 100 mooring points to secure the aircraft during wind storms.

“We were [also] involved in emergency ... repairs on the active runway, allowing aircraft to safely land and take off in a timely manner,” Senior Airman Patrick Enrich said.

After the deployment was over, Betty Lowe held on tight to her husband, Daniel, and didn’t want to let go. “I can’t believe he is really home,” she said.

In January 2012, as the 163rd CES was preparing to leave California for its Afghanistan tour, another California National Guard CES — this one from the 144th Fighter Wing — was preparing to bring home its own contingent of Air-

California Air National Guard Aircraft Inventory



HH-60G Pave Hawk

PRIMARY FUNCTION: Combat search and rescue. **SPEED:** 160 mph. **DIMENSIONS:** Length 64 ft., 8 in.; width 7 ft., 9 in.; rotor diameter 53ft., 7in. **RANGE:** 478 miles unrefueled. **ARMAMENT:** 7.62-mm miniguns or .50-caliber machine guns. **CREW:** Four.



MC-130P Combat Shadow

PRIMARY FUNCTION: Air refueling of helicopters. **SPEED:** 289 mph. **DIMENSIONS:** Wingspan 132 ft., 7 in.; length 98 ft., 9 in.; height 38ft., 6 in. **RANGE:** 4,000 miles. **CREW:** Eight.

men from Afghanistan. Then, six months later, as the 163rd CES was returning from Afghanistan in June, their fellow Wing members from the 163rd Security Forces Squadron were in the process of deploying to Manas Air Base, Kyrgyzstan, where they supported the flow of troops to and from Afghanistan from June through November.

Operation Coronet Oak

Also in June the CNG's 146th Airlift Wing deployed about 50 Airmen in support of Operation Coronet Oak, which provides theater airlift services for U.S. military and government operations across the Caribbean Sea, Central America and South America. The C-130J Hercules plane and crew from the 146th were on alert 24 hours a day for any contingency, including medical evacuation missions, humanitarian assistance and hurricane relief as well as providing resupply and troop-transport missions throughout the region.

Work From Home

In addition the California Air National Guard mobilized about 350 Airmen to support overseas operations while staying in the U.S. to perform "reachback" missions such as operating MQ-1 Predator remotely piloted vehicles, performing intelligence duties and working on satellite communications.



More to Come

In 2013, the 129th Rescue Wing will deploy three HH-60G Pave Hawk rescue helicopters, two MC-130P refueling planes and about 175 Airmen to Afghanistan and the Horn of Africa in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan from January through June. The 144th Fighter Wing, meanwhile, will send about 30 Security Forces Squadron members

to Kuwait from March through September.

With Fighting Falcon jets, Pave Hawk helicopters, Hercules cargo planes, Predator remotely piloted aircraft and Airmen with expertise in duties ranging from security and engineering to intelligence and space operations, the California Air National Guard is an invaluable part of U.S. contingency missions overseas.



F-16C Fighting Falcon

PRIMARY FUNCTION: Multi-role fighter. **SPEED:** 1,500 mph. **DIMENSIONS:** Wingspan 32 ft., 8 in.; length 49 ft., 5in.; height 16 ft. **RANGE:** 2,000 miles unrefueled. **ARMAMENT:** M-61A1 20-mm cannon with 500 rounds, and up to six missiles. **CREW:** One.



C-130J Hercules

PRIMARY FUNCTION: Global airlift. **SPEED:** 417 mph. **DIMENSIONS:** Wingspan 132 ft., 7 in.; length 97 ft., 9 in.; height 38 ft., 10 in. **RANGE:** 1,841 miles. **CREW:** Three.



MQ-1 Predator

PRIMARY FUNCTION: Armed reconnaissance, airborne surveillance and target acquisition. **SPEED:** 135 mph. **DIMENSIONS:** Wingspan 48 ft., 7in.; length 27 ft.; height 6 ft., 9in. **RANGE:** 454 miles. **ARMAMENT:** AGM-114 Hellfire missiles.

GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT





The California National Guard is best known for its overseas defense missions and domestic emergency-response capabilities, but it also serves the vital functions of growing partnerships with nations around the globe, keeping the peace in countries like Kosovo and fostering democracy in burgeoning republics such as Ukraine.

Sate Partnership Programs

The California National Guard's relationship with Ukraine began in 1993, shortly after the Cold War ended and Ukraine established itself as an independent nation. Through the National Guard's State Partnership Program, the CNG has helped Ukraine develop its military and civilian capacities for security, emergency management and organization.

California established a second State Partnership Program relationship, with Nigeria, in 2006. The Guard deploys teams to Ukraine and Nigeria and brings members of those countries to the United States to share information that will assist them in re-structuring and modernizing their forces and strengthening the principles of democracy and a free-market economy.

In addition the Cal Guard participates each year in the multinational exercise Rapid Trident in Ukraine, which promotes regional stability, strengthens international military partnerships and improves interoperability between participating nations. During the 2012 exercise, about 1,300 service members engaged in a week of situational drills focused on tasks such as countering improvised explosive devices, performing convoy missions and patrol operations, and training with helicopters and mortars.

"Together, in the spirit of friendship and partnership for peace, 16 countries worked together as one team to perform many tasks to improve interoperability,

strengthen partnership and foster trust between our countries,” said Col. David Markowski of U.S. Army Europe.

During the exercise, Maj. Gen. David S. Baldwin, adjutant general of the Cal Guard, and other CNG troops took the opportunity to visit the Starichy Preschool Educational Center, which the CNG has supported since establishing the Ukraine partnership. The Guard members brought school supplies, toys and a promise to help renovate the school during the next nine months.



Keeping the Peace

NATO has had a presence in Kosovo since 1999, when a 78-day allied bombing campaign forced brutal Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic to withdraw his troops from the war-torn country. The CNG has been an important part of that NATO presence, known as Kosovo Force, deploying a total of about 3,000 service members to Kosovo since 1999, including 67 in 2012.

In June, 58 Soldiers with Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC), 3-140th Aviation Security and Support Battalion, departed California for a year in Kosovo, where they are providing administrative and refueling support to coalition helicopter units.

Also in June, nine members of the 217th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company deployed in an effort to make Kosovo safer for residents and troops. Of all the dangers Soldiers face in Kosovo, unexploded ordnance is the most hazardous. Identifying ordnances and properly disposing of them is crucial to the safety and security of everyone in Kosovo, which is one of

the most heavily mined regions in the world.

Study Abroad

The Cal Guard participated in several international exercises in 2012, including African Lion in Morocco, Rim of the Pacific in Hawaii and Panther Strike in Utah.

About 30 Soldiers from the CNG's 1498th Transportation Company deployed in April to provide instruction on operating a heavy equipment transporter during African Lion, which included nearly 2,000 members of the

brigade combat team military intelligence staff level in a deployment-based scenario," he said.

The following month, the CNG sent eight F-16C Fighting Falcon jets and 110 Airmen from the 144th Fighter Wing to Hawaii for the 23rd bi-annual Rim of the Pacific, or RIMPAC, exercise, where they were joined by two HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopters and about 40 Airmen from the CNG's 129th Rescue Wing. The event was designed to foster relationships critical to ensuring the safety of sea lanes and security on the world's oceans.



Together, in the spirit of friendship and partnership for peace, 16 countries worked together as one team to perform many tasks to improve interoperability, strengthen partnership and foster trust between our countries."

– Col. David Markowski
U.S. Army Europe

U.S. Army and Marine Corps along with 900 members of the Royal Moroccan Armed Forces. The CNG contingent trained 27 Moroccan truck drivers and mechanics.

"We only had two translators for the whole group," said Sgt. Peter Mavropoulos, assistant truck master with the 1498th. "That was enough. The Moroccans like to discuss things."

National Guard troops stayed in the United States for the Panther Strike military intelligence exercise in June but nonetheless strengthened relationships with partner nations. Soldiers from 21 Army National Guard units joined members of the Canadian and British armies in Utah for the event, which has been held annually since 2005.

Panther Strike gave different types of intelligence sections an opportunity to work together, said Maj. Scott A. Chalmers of Utah's 300th Military Intelligence Brigade. "The mission is to provide collective training and evaluation of intelligence assets from the team [level] to the

"The lessons learned and experience gained in integrating with the other international exercise partners will be invaluable," said Lt. Col. Scott Seyfarth, project officer for the 144th. "This exercise allows us to work with our partner nations at both a strategic and tactical level."

The world's largest international maritime exercise, RIMPAC involved 22 nations, 42 surface ships, seven submarines, more than 170 aircraft and 25,000 personnel.

"If you talk to anyone who lives within the Rim of the Pacific, they will tell you it's not a matter of 'if,' it's a matter of 'when' the next natural disaster or crisis may affect one of the countries," said Vice Adm. Gerald R. Beaman, U.S. Navy 3rd Fleet commander. "[RIMPAC nations] are forming a team. In ... the next crisis or disaster, this team will have worked with each other and understand the processes that a coalition will have to go through."

Old Friends

RIMPAC was first established more than 40



years ago, but the Cal Guard has important international relationships that date even earlier. In 1952, during the Korean War, the CNG's 40th Infantry Division made a mark on South Korea that has endured to this day.

In July of that year, When 40th ID troops arrived in Kapyong, South Korea, they found the town's high school had been destroyed during battle. The 40th ID Soldiers decided to help rebuild the school through personal donations and by enlisting CNG troops to perform construction work. For many years, the school was named Kenneth Kaiser High School in honor of a sergeant first class who was the first 40th ID Solder killed in combat during the Korean War.

Representatives from the 40th ID have attended graduation ceremonies in Kapyong many times in recent years in recognition of the countries' long-standing bond, and the Korea-based group Friends of Korean War Veterans (FKWV) sends a delegation to the United States each year to visit veterans, with most trips ending at 40th ID headquarters in Los Alamitos.

"By visiting 16 member countries of United Nations Joint Forces, [FKWV founder Homyung Shim] wanted to fulfill his personal commitment of expressing the appreciation of the Korean people," said Charles Kim, a U.S.-based FKWV member.



YOUTH PROGRAMS





California National Guard Youth Programs serve more than 5,000 students and cadets each year in five programs or academies that concentrate their efforts on youths who are deemed at risk of dropping out of school or who simply lack access to structured, quality education in their own communities.

Youth ChalleNGe Academies

The Cal Guard's two Youth ChalleNGe academies are raising the bar across the nation, posting top-notch graduation and post-graduate placement rates and coming forth with groundbreaking ideas to help their students, all of whom are former high school dropouts or at-risk students.

"We've received national recognition in each of the eight core components at our two programs," said Brig. Gen. James L. Gabrielli, commander of the CNG's Youth and Community Programs Task Force. "Most recently [Sunburst Youth ChalleNGe Academy] received an award as the most progressive program in the country."

Sunburst, on Joint Forces Training Base, Los Alamitos, and Grizzly Youth ChalleNGe Academy, on Camp San Luis Obispo, received funding in 2012 based on a target graduation total of 175 students at Grizzly and 165 at Sunburst, but both enrolled more than 200 students and maintained high expectations for graduation.

"We will exceed our target graduation [at each academy] by 30 students," Gabrielli said. "At a cost of about \$17,000 per student, taxpayers will be saving \$1 million this year."

Retaining cadets through graduation from the academies is a high point for the California programs. The national retention average throughout the five-month residential phase of the ChalleNGe program is about 70



percent, with nearly 1/3 of all students washing out, being dismissed or voluntarily withdrawing from the program.

“Too many times programs invite students but are very quick to dismiss them at the first sign of trouble, when we know these students have issues,” Gabrielli said. “If you’re too quick to pull the trigger, you’re not really giving them the second chance you’ve offered them.”

California has been among the top three states in the country for Youth ChalleNGe retention the past few years, averaging about 80 percent, but leaders have recently improved their processes, and Grizzly and Sunburst are now the only programs in the country exceeding 90 percent, with Sunburst at 96 percent.

The CNG academies also excel in cadet placement after graduation. Nationally about 60 percent of ChalleNGe students continue full-time education, work full-time or maintain a combination of both upon graduation, and the gold standard is 75 percent. But in California, the average has been between 85 and 92 percent each of the last four years at both programs.

“When you consider 100 percent of our students at day one of the program were dropouts,



unemployed or underemployed, that’s a pretty darn good indication of the return on investment,” Gabrielli said.

The fall class at Sunburst also broke new ground by being the only academy nationwide with a 50/50 ratio of female and male cadets.

The National Guard established Youth Chal-

leNGe academies in 10 states in 1993 in an effort to confront the growing number of students dropping out of high school and provide the discipline, education and skills necessary for dropouts and at-risk students to become positive members of their communities. The ChalleNGe program expanded to include Grizzly Academy in 1998 and added Sunburst Academy in 2007.

Oakland Military Institute

When current California Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr. took office as mayor of Oakland in 1999, he inherited a school district that was among the state's worst in academic performance. More than improvement, it needed resurrection. It screamed out for a prototype or model to inspire achievement. So Brown called on the National Guard.

"He wanted to give disadvantaged youth an opportunity to go to college, where they might not have had that chance otherwise," Gabrielli said. "From the beginning, he wanted to make it the West Point of public schools."

Brown joined forces with the Guard in 2001 to found the Oakland Military Institute (OMI), a first-of-its-kind public charter school based in a military environment for students in grades 6-12. Like West Point, OMI stands atop three pillars—academics, leadership and athletics.

"This is a powerful model," said Dr. Mark Ryan, a veteran educator and the superintendent at OMI. "[Brown] wanted to create a place where a military framework could serve as a suit of armor, to guard the students and provide a framework for academic and social success."

The OMI model is rooted in a warrior ethos, an expectation of high moral conduct and academic excellence that permeates everything at the school. It falls to several CNG instructors to ensure the students understand and meet those expectations.

Maj. Franciso Flores, commandant at OMI, was among several Guardsmen brought on to serve at OMI in 2011 as part of Maj. Gen. David S. Baldwin's increased emphasis on Youth Programs after he took over as the CNG's adjutant general. When the new Guardsmen arrived at OMI, they brought with them a renewed commitment to high standards.

"Today you can't find a single girl with her hair not right or a male student whose uniform isn't squared away," Flores said. "The kids are recognizing the challenge and they're raising their performance to meet the expectations."

The academy's overarching mission is to prepare inner-city youths for college, and according to the numbers, OMI is clearly on mission. More than 90 percent of OMI graduates go on to pursue higher education, most at four-year colleges and universities. Only about 40 per-



Youth ChalleNGe Academy Success Story

Before entering Grizzly Youth ChalleNGe Academy, I was doing nothing with my life. I was hanging out with the wrong crowd, failing at school, getting suspended and fighting. One day I was sitting in class and my teacher called me up and told me about Grizzly Youth Academy because I had an interest in the military. He told me I could get caught up on all of my credits and live on a military base for five months.

I knew Grizzly could help me change, so I applied and went down for my interview but was not accepted. I never gave up or lost hope because I knew Grizzly was the first step in the right direction. I called about two to three times a week hoping for a last minute dropout, and eventually there was one.

Grizzly, by far, was the toughest 5 ½ months of my life, but they were also the best and most memorable. While attending Grizzly, I learned the eight core components and the five academy values. I still practice the academy values on a day-to-day basis. I also got my education back on track and brought my GPA from a 1.5 to a 3.8. Grizzly is a great place, where you learn valuable life lessons and make friends that you will keep for life.

Then there was my cadre. ... These five men played the biggest part in helping me turn my life around. They taught me everything I would need to survive in the world. I owe my success to them.

Grizzly gave me the skills I needed to get where I am today. I never gave up, I pushed forward no matter how hard it got for me and I made it to graduation. ... Future cadets, when you make it to graduation day, look back at everything you accomplished, remember what you were before, and look at what you have become. Walk the stage with your head held high and never forget what you have done.

Cadet Alan Berg
Class 25

cent of their California public school peers follow suit, and in Oakland the number is about 20 percent.

“We are establishing a culture of success,” Ryan said. “Almost without exception, parents are blown away when they walk across our campus. It’s a clean and inviting environment where success is celebrated.”

OMI graduates have gone on to study at some of the nation’s most prestigious institutes of higher education. Recent graduates, for instance, have enrolled at Yale, West Point, the University of California at Berkeley and almost all other University of California and California State universities. But more than simply getting into good schools, OMI graduates are succeeding once they arrive on campus. Of the OMI graduates who attend college, about 60 percent graduate on time, Ryan said, compared to about 10 percent for the rest of the nation.

“Our youth don’t wash out,” Ryan said. “The discipline needed to succeed in college, our students are finding that it’s engrained in them by the time they arrive on campus.”

California Cadet Corps

California Military Department leadership has made it a top priority to reinvigorate the California Cadet Corps. A school-based applied leadership program conducted within a military framework, the Cadet Corps was established in 1911 to provide growth and leadership opportunities for cadets in elementary through high school levels.

The Corps has about 6,200 cadets in detachments at 63 schools throughout the state, where students enroll in the program as an elective course or alternative to physical education. Baldwin, however, has introduced an initiative to triple the size of the Corps. His plan includes hiring a full-time staff to bolster the program and initiating an outreach campaign to found new detachments at schools throughout the state.

Program leaders are confident new detachments will take root quickly with teachers and administrators.

“Seeing is believing,” Gabrielli said. “Once they see how squared-away our cadets are and the tremendous role models they are for students in and outside the program, they’ll want to be a part of it.”



“Our youth don’t wash out. The discipline needed to succeed in college; our students are finding that it’s engrained in them by the time they arrive on campus.”

– Dr. Mark Ryan
OMI Superintendent

Another top objective is to modernize the Corps’ approach. As a result of staff cuts and budget reductions in recent years, the Corps has struggled to keep pace with educational advances.

“We do so many things well, but the program is still using 20th century approaches with 21st century kids,” said Lt. Col. Brian Anderson, chief of staff for the Youth and Community Programs Task Force. “We’ve got to make use of all the powerful tools available.”

The way ahead will be built around an interactive and progressive curriculum that leverages technology to ensure a dynamic, impactful experience. The program will be student-centered and emphasize applied leadership and character development.

Also under the new plan, each detachment will partner with a CNG unit. Cadets will gain access to CNG facilities, role models and mentors, and Guardsmen will have an opportunity to embrace a leadership role in the lives of young community members.

“Our Soldiers and Airmen joined the Guard because they wanted to serve — not only serve our state and nation, but serve at home in their communities,” Baldwin said. “This unique program provides a prime opportunity for our citizen-Soldiers to get involved and make a difference.”

Though initially conceived as preparatory training for eventual military service, the California Cadet Corps through the years has evolved and today prepares youths for whatever paths they choose. Only about 3 percent of cadets go on to serve in the Armed Forces, but the Corps’ methodology continues to produce positive results. Cadets maintain higher grades, levels of fitness and graduation rates than their peers and are more likely to pursue a college education.

California schools that are struggling with limited staffs and tightening fiscal constraints can benefit from the Corps, which excels at doing more with less. The program’s current budget requires less than \$115 in state funding for each cadet. Baldwin’s plan relies on greater funding in years to come and forecasts even greater results.

STARBASE

2012 was a great year for the CNG's Science and Technology Academics Reinforcing Basic Aviation and Space Exploration, or STARBASE, program, as the Sacramento-based academy reached a milestone in January, teaching its 45,000th student.

The next year, however, will prove to be even better, as STARBASE plans to open a second site early in 2013 at Joint Forces Training Base, Los Alamitos, in Southern California.

In 2012, STARBASE supported 11 school districts in the greater Sacramento area by immersing 5th grade students in a five-day program involving real-life and simulated experiences in rocket science, aviation, chemistry and physics. With the help of Armed Forces personnel, students were provided 20 to 25 hours of mind-engaging experiences with Sir Isaac Newton's laws of motion and Daniel Bernoulli's fluid dynamics principle, and they were put to the test designing satellite stations, unmanned aerial vehicles and submarines.

The STARBASE program, which was established in 1993, focuses on reaching at-risk students and teaching them strategies stu-

dents need to achieve their dreams and become responsible members of society. In a budget-challenged educational environment, the STARBASE program enables school districts to provide access to an exceptional educational experience.

"We work with a lot of ... schools to reach at-risk students often in lower economic living situations, those with single parents or those living in free housing and frequently changing schools," said Sgt. Maj. (CA) John Lamb, director of the California STARBASE program. "We are often the first exposure these students have to this type of education."

STARBASE's Sacramento headquarters reaches nearly 3,000 students each year, plus it operates classrooms at three schools in the Sacramento area, emphasizing science and math, personal development and drug awareness and prevention.

"I've spoken with [many] parents, teachers, superintendents and mayors while at STARBASE ... and have gotten nothing but positive feedback," Lamb said. "We've heard back from students that have gone on to [the Massachusetts Institute of Technology], Northwestern University and military academies, all with roots in STARBASE."



COMMUNITY OUTREACH





The California National Guard actively supports, connects and engages with its surrounding communities to foster rapport, enhance morale, engender public trust, and demonstrate the Cal Guard’s supportive capabilities for both the nation and the state.

Emergency dental extractions, newly diagnosed diabetes patients and the initial signs of pancreatic cancer were all caught thanks to a humanitarian medical mission led by the California Army National Guard this summer — all while serving within the state Aug. 5-17.

A 10-person Guard team coupled with the Santa Ynez Tribal Health Clinic to provide free medical and dental care for anyone who was unable to access basic health care services on the rural Santa Ynez Reservation of the Band of Chumash Indians in Santa Barbara County. The community was so much in need, according to members on the mission, that a new patient was brought through the clinic every 30 minutes during working hours.

“It was tough on time as a lot of patients had a slew of problems,” said Maj. Ophelia Willis, a women’s health physician with Company C (Medical), 40th Brigade Support Battalion, 79th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, out of Montebello, Calif. “Some of them had never had a complete medical exam, so we gave them a complete exam from eyes all the way down.”

The team included a physician, physician’s assistant, dentist, dental technician, behavioral health specialist, behavioral health assistant and administrative personnel. By the end of the 13-day period, a total of 126 medical patients and 102 dental patients had been treated by the medical team.

"I think the people in the area appreciated it immensely," said Willis, who works in an emergency room in her civilian career. "It was hard work, but for me personally, it was very fulfilling. It's great help the Army [and] the state are providing to these people in need."

Citizen-Soldiers and -Airmen also work throughout the year to support community projects such as a June 2 event in which the 579th Engineer Battalion cleared debris and prepared an area for building expansion for the Petaluma Family Life Center, a private school for troubled youths.

Medical missions and construction projects are just two of many examples of the California National Guard working with the communities it serves to improve Californians' quality of life. The Guard's Drug Demand Reduction (DDR) Team, part of the CNG's Joint Task Force Domestic Support-Counterdrug, for instance, hosts or participates in events throughout the year that teach youths and teens positive lifestyle choices.

"Our goal is to work with the community coalitions to mentor the next generation," Sgt. 1st Class Leo Castillo said March 21 during the "Kick Butts Day" organized by the Calipatria Unified School District and the Imperial County Public Health Department. "Tobacco is the most addictive legal substance out there and seen as a stepping stone to other drugs. As we work together, we hope to start changing minds and teaching healthy lifestyles."

In addition to educating more than 300 elementary school students and their parents on the dangers of smoking, alcohol and other drugs, the DDR Team brought a Low Rugged Outdoor Physical Experience System, or ROPES course, to demonstrate lessons on teamwork.

"The fun activity sets the message into motion," Staff Sgt. Alfredo Bello said.

The Task Force also lent its support this year to a new Northern California nonprofit that works to prevent child molestation. The mission of Mothers of Molestation Survivors, or MOMS, is to break the cycle of generational molestation by educating and empowering parents, relatives, friends and the community to establish a safe environment for children.

"On the surface, MOMS is a group that simply addresses the emotional needs of the molestation survivor and his or her immediate family," said Army Maj. Jeffrey Moore, Counterdrug operations officer. "But look a little deeper at the alarming data our intelligence analysts have collected, and it's clear that molestation survivors are at risk of abusing drugs and alcohol as an attempt to solace themselves from the pain they're suffering."

A partnership emerged between MOMS and the Counterdrug program in which the Task Force researched demographic data and child molestation figures by county.

"We wanted to identify what age groups are

vulnerable to drug use, what the age they start is and their drugs of choice," Greenawalt said.

Using his analysis, MOMS was able to determine the age range that is most vulnerable in each county and concentrate educational efforts accordingly. The Task Force also helped MOMS narrow down a focus area: Placer County, where the child abuse rate is estimated at 12 incidents per 1,000 people, which is higher than the state average, and where 11th graders are twice as likely as students nationwide to abuse prescription drugs.

The Counterdrug Task Force is also involved in training law enforcement groups throughout the state, such as the California Border Alliance Group (CBAG), which learned tactics, techniques and procedures for the management of casualties from Counterdrug troops Feb. 21-23 in San Diego. During the training, Soldiers and Airmen shared their military training and experiences with various law enforcement agencies through scenarios involving casualty care.

CNG Soldiers and Airmen have expertise in a wide variety of areas, which they often work to share with the public. In March, for instance, CNG recruiters facilitated career guidance and life skills courses for students at Samuel F.B. Morse High School in San Diego. During a two-day seminar, more than 300 seniors participated in the 50-minute Career Direction 2 workshop plus a 50-minute Budgeting Basics module facilitated by CNG Soldiers. In addition



more than 150 juniors took part in Budgeting Basics.

“Our goal is to provide life skills such as budgeting tools, interviewing techniques, resume writing and decision making,” said Sgt. 1st Class Charles East, the event’s noncommissioned officer in charge. “We are able to share key career components through the curriculum — such as interests, priorities and abilities — as it relates to the student’s career choices.”

Throughout the year, CNG units also respond to numerous requests to support veterans meetings and events with guest speakers, color guards and chaplains for organizations such as Rotary clubs, Veterans of Foreign Wars posts, American Legion posts, the Military Officers Association of America and Sons in Retirement.

Perhaps the greatest service to veterans, however, is performed by the CNG Honor Guard. CNG teams render honors at thousands of funerals and plane-side services each year — often performing more than 1,000 services a month — making the CNG Honor Guard one of the most active in the country.

“It is an honor to serve those who have risked their lives in the present and in the past,” said Pfc. John Gabino. “When you hear their life stories and accomplishments, it makes you appreciate people.”

The CNG has 12 honor guard teams throughout the state, which comprise a total of 80 full-time



It is an honor to serve those who have risked their lives in the present and the past.”

— **Spc. John Gabino**
CNG Honor Guard

service members as well as 220 traditional part-time Guard members who don pristine white gloves, perform crisp, sharp movements and precisely fold American flags at funerals for National Guard, Reserve and active duty veterans.

“The people who do what we do have a passion for taking care of the veterans,” said Sgt. Maj. Daniel DeGeorge, noncommissioned officer in charge of the CNG Honor Guard program. “It consumes you, and all you want to do is give more attention to detail at every service.”

Other events supported by the CNG each year include providing aircraft displays and flyovers for numerous air shows in California; in 2012, the Guard also supported such events in Idaho, Nevada and Canada. A Cal Guard presence can also often be seen at local sporting events: More than 100 Guard members unfurled a 100-yard-long American flag during the pre-game ceremonies at two San Francisco 49ers games in 2012, and Guard members presented the flag at multiple Golden State Warriors games.

The CNG is also happy to support career day events for schools and educational programs throughout the state by providing vehicles and aircraft for display along with Soldiers and Airmen to speak with local youths about military career opportunities.

Finally, the California Military Department was recognized this year by the State Personnel Board (SPB) for its practices regarding the hiring of people with disabilities and for providing upward mobility for employees in low-paying occupations. The SPB found the Department’s representation of employees with disabilities stands at 14 percent, exceeding the SPB’s goal of 13.3 percent. The CMD also has committed to establishing a Disability Advisory Committee.

The Military Department also was recognized for hiring three “personnel specialists,” a position designated by the U.S. Armed Forces Personnel Offices as an “upward mobility classification because employees in low-paying classifications may advance into this classification,” the SPB stated.

“The California Military Department is committed to not only achieving the state’s goal of hiring employees with disabilities but exceeding that goal as a best business practice,” said Col. Robert Spano, director of the Joint Staff for the California Military Department. “This standard practice will also facilitate the hiring of veterans with disabilities who are pursuing state civil service careers with the Military Department.”



JOINT TASK FORCE DOMESTIC SUPPORT **COUNTERDRUG**





The Cal Guard’s Joint Task Force Domestic Support–Counterdrug is an effective force multiplier, providing unique capabilities to community-based organizations and law enforcement agencies to assist in combating drug use and drug trafficking, and to support the National Drug Control Strategy.

Sweeping Away the Threat

The pungent scent of ripe marijuana mixed with the putrid odor of the remains of an illegally poached deer butchered to feed illegal marijuana growers at a site near the Ice House Reservoir in Northern California in late August. The normally pristine forest was littered with garbage, corroded lead-acid batteries, miles of plastic drip line and piles of illegal and unknown fertilizers and pesticides.

“Typically you find growers that put chemicals and additives directly into the water source, and all these water sources run directly into the South Fork of the American River, the Sacramento River and the [Sacramento-San Joaquin River] Delta,” said El Dorado County Sheriff John D’Agostini. “Chemicals from these types of drug-growing organizations end up in the water table and cause great environmental and health concerns.”

During Operation Mountain Sweep throughout July and August, the California National Guard’s Joint Task Force Domestic Support–Counterdrug joined with 14 other local, state and federal agencies to eradicate illegal marijuana grow sites and reclaim land in Northern California.

“Damage from the drug-growing organizations causes an intense danger to not only the land but also to the public,” said R. Gil Kerlikowske, director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy. “The National Guard is absolutely critical in stopping the damage done to

our forests. I don't think this could be accomplished at anywhere near the scale that it has been accomplished without their expertise and their airlift capability."

The CNG has had a long-standing role in local, state and federal counterdrug missions. For 23 years the Guard has provided transportation, logistical, medical and evacuation support; removed thousands of miles of irrigation line and tens of thousands of pounds of fertilizer; and helped return the forest to its natural state.

"In this plot alone, there are approximately 3,000 plants, and we believe there are two additional gardens with several thousand plants each [nearby]," Maj. Gen. David S. Baldwin, adjutant general of the CNG, said Aug. 21 in the El Dorado National Forest. "These drug growers do a lot of damage environmentally and provide a threat to public safety because they are armed and will use violence to protect these marijuana gardens."

Law enforcement agents in California eradicated more than 130 marijuana grow sites on public lands during Operation Mountain Sweep, seizing 540,000 plants and 14 firearms and indicting 26 defendants.

The Soldiers and Airmen of the CNG's Counterdrug Task Force are full-time military personnel who are passionate about making a difference and personally invested in improving the communities in which they live, work and raise their families. During Counterdrug operations, the members employ skills and tactics that are similar to those learned during training for overseas warfighting or domestic peace-keeping missions, such as performing reconnaissance, establishing a perimeter and synthesizing intelligence with multiple agencies through a combined forces headquarters.



Stopping Drug use Before it Starts

In addition to supporting law enforcement agencies and community-based organizations that strive to disrupt illicit drug-production and drug-trafficking activities, the CNG's Counterdrug team also works to reduce the demand for drugs by educating children about healthy lifestyle choices and the dangers of drug use.

"We hope to mentor kids in a positive direction through our interactions and actually reach out to the young people in the community in hopes of mentoring the youth to make healthy choices and remain drug-free," Sgt. 1st Class Leo Castillo said March 21 during the "Kick Butts Day" organized by the Calipatria Unified School District and the Imperial County Public Health Department, one of many DDR events held throughout the year. "Giving back to our communities is not just a job but a benefit to our families. We live in the communities we serve and take to heart building the community."

Maria Nava-Froelich, principal of Grace Kelly

Elementary School, said it was helpful to have bilingual DDR members reach out to families at Kick Butts Day in their native language.

"The Counterdrug Program conveys anti-drug messages through a dynamic mentoring program and provides a new approach to delivering information to the children in the community," she said. "The program adds great benefits to our community."

Coastal Entry Identification Teams

Task Force members are instrumental in protecting California's coast from drug smugglers. In the last few years, law enforcement officials have seen a considerable spike in the number of smugglers loading drugs or immigrants onto boats in Mexico's Baja Peninsula, then motoring north to off-load their illegal cargo along a 300-mile-long stretch of California beaches.

Up and down the Southern California coast in 2012, the Task Force provided personnel and equipment to monitor the coast per requests

Counterdrug 2012 Highlights

2,442

pounds of marijuana seized from a panga boat in conjunction with 10 arrests on Jan. 4

1,582

pounds of marijuana seized from a panga boat and three arrests made on Jan. 28

12

arrests made along with seizures of methamphetamine and marijuana May 12

3,539

pounds of marijuana seized from two panga boats, and six arrests made in June

\$2.3

million seized during a vehicle stop by DEA agents that resulted in two arrests July 11

6,619

pounds of marijuana seized from a panga, and 11 arrests made July 26

from a multi-agency task force composed of Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, Drug Enforcement Administration, FBI and state and local law enforcement agents. The Guard's access to high-powered surveillance equipment and its watchful eyes contributed to numerous arrests and seizures along the coastline.

Sky Watchers

In addition Counterdrug Task Force members had their eyes on the sky in 2012. Soldiers and Airmen used the Sentinel Air Defense Radar System to detect ultralite aircraft used to transport drugs across the U.S.-Mexico border. As a result, law enforcement agents detected more than 30 aircraft and intercepted 400 pounds of marijuana worth approximately \$2 million.

"From inception to fielding, a mission like this took other organizations approximately a year of planning," said Col. William T. Arruda Jr., Counterdrug commander. "In California the same planning and execution with National Guard forces took 45 days and yielded more successful results."

The Sentinel System is the highest-grade technology available to detect ultralite aircraft.

"If we don't stop these ultralites, the drugs they are carrying are bound to reach kids and teens in California, or else be distributed throughout the U.S.," said Maj. Jeffery Moore, Counterdrug operations officer. "This is the front line."

Acting Assistant Chief Patrol Agent Troy Matthews of U.S. Border Patrol's San Diego Sector said he is grateful for the Counterdrug Task Force's contributions. "Their dedicated support has significantly strengthened our detection capabilities throughout Southern California in order to combat various threats including ultralite aircraft incursions."

A Shift in Focus

Historically, California's Counterdrug program has focused strongly on eradicating marijuana from public lands and reclaiming affected forests. This has significantly helped the efforts of local law enforcement agencies, which are often hard-pressed to allocate manpower, time and resources such as high-tech infrared camera technology and aircraft with hoist capabilities.

"The California National Guard is essential to our success," said Fresno County Sheriff Deputy Rick Ko. "During the past two years especially, the Counterdrug program has exceeded our expectations by providing superior service with a positive attitude."

As a result, "We have created an emerging trend of no more marijuana being grown on public land," said Army Capt. Sabino Martinez, the Counterdrug Task Force's Central California District Captain.

While this emerging trend is beneficial in many ways, it has spurred a different danger due to the movement of grow sites out of the forests and into urban and suburban areas.

"Rather than growing marijuana in the relative secrecy and anonymity afforded by remote public lands, many moved illicit operations onto private agriculture lands," Fresno County Sheriff Margaret Mims said, noting that armed drug traffickers on these agricultural plots bring with them the dangers and violence associated with their illicit operations.

As law enforcement efforts on public lands have increased in recent years, counties in California's Central Valley have observed an increase in marijuana grown on agricultural sites. During 2011, more than 110 grow sites

on agricultural land were identified in Fresno County, and another 60 sites were identified in Madera County. Kern County also reported numerous agricultural grow sites, many of which had booby traps installed to protect the plants.

Operation Mercury

The U.S. Department of Justice's Operation Mercury launched in March and brought federal and local agencies together to target marijuana grow sites on agricultural lands in Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced and Tulare counties, with National Guard intelligence teams providing the key criminal analysis.

Since March, Operation Mercury has seized more than 120,000 marijuana plants, 1,500 pounds of processed marijuana, 32 firearms and nearly \$5,000 in cash. In addition, the Operation has resulted in criminal charges for more than 70 federal defendants.

"This Operation should send a clear message that marijuana cultivation and distribution remain illegal under federal law," said DEA Special Agent Anthony D. Williams.

Getting Better all the Time

Counterdrug added two crucial pieces of equipment this year, the LUH-72 Lakota helicopter and the Shadow Harvest aerial observation tool. The Task Force's Lakota team flew 826 hours in support of law enforcement partners in 2012 and drew acclaim from other states for its support during Operation Mountain Sweep.

Shadow Harvest was placed under the wing of C-130J airplanes from the CNG's 146th Airlift wing, from which it provided state-of-the-art capabilities that proved valuable to the Coast Guard and Customs and Border Patrol for both land and maritime reconnaissance.

200

pounds of crystal methamphetamine and three weapons seized, with two arrests made July 27

2,356

pounds of marijuana seized from a panga boat and sailboat, and seven arrests made Aug. 22

3

pounds of methamphetamine, 29 grams of heroin, 4 ounces of cocaine, 34 ecstasy tablets, 10 oxycontin pills, 44 firearms and 81 stolen vehicles seized, and 104 suspects arrested during the 18-month, multi-agency Operation Garlic Press supported by a Counterdrug criminal analyst

31

arrests made during the multi-agency Operation Royal Flush supported by a Counterdrug criminal analyst

SOLDIER, AIRMAN & FAMILY SUPPORT





Caring for Soldiers, Airmen and their families is of paramount concern for the leadership of the California National Guard. The organization's men and women sacrifice greatly for their country, and in turn they deserve the best possible assistance with medical concerns, psychological stresses, job placement, financial advice and family counseling.

Work for Warriors

Many offices of the California Military Department are involved in serving Guard members, including a new office established in 2012, the Work for Warriors (WFW) program. The initiative, introduced March 29 by the Guard and Speaker of the State Assembly John Perez, is designed to cut unemployment among CNG members by at least 25 percent in its first year and ultimately reduce unemployment to less than 5 percent. The program, which Perez made possible through an Assembly contribution, helped place more than 325 California National Guard members in full-time jobs in 2012.

In addition to working with Guard members to refine their resumes and interviewing skills, the WFW staff actively seeks out employers that value characteristics Guard members bring to their jobs — such as responsibility, loyalty and a no-fail mindset — and establishes relationships that lead to interviews and job opportunities. The California Conservation Corps, JPMorgan Chase, Berkeley National Laboratory and the California Chamber of Commerce are just a few of the employers that have joined the WFW network. Guard members and employers can learn more about participating in the program at www.calguard.ca.gov/EIP.

“In some units we have unemployment as high as 50 percent,” Maj. Gen. David S. Baldwin, the adjutant general of the Cal Guard, said when the program was introduced. “That’s a direct threat to our readiness — our

ability to call upon our Soldiers when needed — because they have other stresses that are facing them and their families, because they don't have ... access to good health care and all those things that a good career path [provides]."

WFW's efforts add to existing job initiatives run by the Defense Department program Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), such as the Hero 2 Hired Mobile Job Store, which toured California in August and September, and the Hero 2 Hired website. ESGR also organized employment summits and job fairs for California Guard members in various locations throughout the year, and it secured statements of support from thousands of employers that recognize the value of citizen-Soldier laborers.

"When a company like Disney recognizes the value of military training and experience, it really reinforces the fact that service members are worth hiring," Acting Assistant Secretary

nearby to help military families," Sgt. 1st Class Noah Ronquillo of Troop B, 1st Squadron, 18th Cavalry Regiment, said during the ribbon-cutting ceremony. "Sometimes Soldiers need assistance, too. It really feels good to know the community came together to support us."

Service members can use a computer station at the Center to search for jobs, and they can obtain help in finding day care, benefits information, local veterans programs, food assistance, job assistance and education information.

Family wellness is always a top priority for the Guard, and family assistance specialists from the Guard's Operation Ready Families are always available to provide support, information and referrals related to crisis intervention, legal needs, financial advice, health benefits, community outreach and military identification cards. They also organize events throughout the year to support Soldiers, Airmen and their families, whether deployed or stationed at home.

"For my kids, this is their third deployment."

Each unit's family readiness group is a liaison between the unit and its Soldiers' families. It organizes events to bring the families together, especially during deployments, and it informs families about available benefits and resources.

Operation Ready Families' family assistance specialists also host monthly "We Care" meetings throughout the state, which offer families an opportunity to meet with other families and establish a local social support network. The meetings include activities for children and adults and keep families up to date on military news and benefits.

Several special events for children were also held throughout 2012, including the state's first Military Children's Appreciation Ball. The event was held simultaneously in Sacramento and Fresno in April, which has been designated the Month of the Military Child by the Defense



I wanted to do something to honor the kids, because I believe they serve too."

**— Lisa Romero
578th FSC Family
Readiness Group**



of Defense for Reserve Affairs David L. McGinnis said May 22, when Walt Disney Co. signed a statement of support. "Now other businesses will see this and say, 'If they're good enough for Disney, then they're good enough for me.'"

Family Assistance

The Cal Guard also broke new ground in family outreach in 2012, opening a first-of-its-kind Family Wellness Center on Sept. 8 in San Diego. Located in the community, rather than on a military base like many wellness centers, the facility is open to members of all branches of the military and offers assistance with everything from career counseling and financial advice to tutoring for children and help with post-traumatic-stress-related family problems.

"When I was stationed in Louisiana and Hurricane Rita struck the Gulf Coast in 2005, I was thankful there was a family wellness center

"I'm excited that our Family Support Group put together such an awesome event for our families," said Maj. Ted Arlauskas of the 578th Engineer Battalion during an April 22 picnic at the McCoy Equestrian and Recreation Center in Chino Hills, Calif. "It's a great opportunity for families to bond and talk about their loved ones forward in Afghanistan."

The event included arts and crafts, games and a tug-of-war, and it gave relatives of deployed Soldiers an opportunity to meet with others who were experiencing similar struggles while a family member was away, he said.

"Since April is the Month of the Military Child, and especially since [two of our units] are deployed, I wanted to do something to honor the kids, because I believe they serve too," said Lisa Romero, volunteer leader of the 578th Forward Support Company Family Readiness Group.

Department since 1986. The Ball will expand to three sites next year.

A Leadership Camp was also established at Camp San Luis Obispo, attracting 67 children who enjoyed an educational and jam-packed three-day adventure. CNG Child and Youth Programs teamed with the Guard's Joint Task Force Domestic Support-Counterdrug to create a Leadership Reaction Course and other activities for the campers, who will remember and benefit from the Camp for years to come. The Camp will grow to five days and include more campers in 2013.

Operation Ready Families also assists the CNG community with Strong Bonds and Marriage Enrichment seminars, family days, workshops, benefit briefings, commissary sales, free classes donated by community members and myriad other activities.

Tie a Yellow Ribbon

While Operation Ready Families assists all CNG members and their families, the CNG's Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program focuses solely on families experiencing a deployment, though it works with them before, during and after the service member's tour.

"I think that deployment affects the whole family," Romero said. "We love our Soldiers wholeheartedly, but we serve too. The spouses at home are like a single parent, so you end up having to do the jobs of both parents."

Yellow Ribbon is a "one-stop shop" for services, training and resources to help service members and their families through the entire process of a deployment, providing the tools and resources necessary to be successful from the moment a unit receives an alert, through mobilization and deployment, to the return home and beyond.

The Yellow Ribbon Program's role doesn't end once a service member is safely back in California. Yellow Ribbon specialists continue to assist with finding jobs, dealing with the mental and spiritual stresses of deployment, and helping Soldiers and Airmen fully integrate back into the daily lives they left.

"It's amazing to see the family members bond with each other during the Yellow Ribbon events. Many of them find lifelong friendships," said Master Sgt. Donald Hedge, family readiness assistant for the 163rd Reconnaissance Wing, during a Family Night event Nov. 4 in advance of the Wing's Civil Engineering Squadron deploying to Afghanistan. "The Yellow Ribbon events ... help [family members] cope with the challenges that arise while their loved ones are deployed."

Suicide Prevention

"The hardest part of the class was asking the person to share his or her reasons for dying," 1st Sgt. Kristina Ghio of the 129th Rescue Wing said Sept. 28 during Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST), which is held regularly for Soldiers and Airmen throughout the state. "This wasn't something I was expecting."

The immediate urge when counseling a person who is considering suicide, she said, is to tell that person all the reasons they should want to live, but ASIST pushes students in a different direction: "We learned not to try to immediately fix people," she said. "Our job is to listen."

ASIST teaches people to intervene when they identify suicidal behavior rather than just reporting the behavior. The training includes group sessions on how to communicate with someone who may be considering suicide.

Sgt. 1st Class Frank Guizar of the 315th Vertical Construction Company, said he took the course because he has known two service members who took their own lives. "I went to the workshop not knowing what to expect," he said, "and now I feel confident I can make a difference."

In October every California Army National Guard Soldier learned how to make a difference, as each unit conducted a full day of suicide-prevention training. At the 49th Military Police Brigade Headquarters and Headquarters Company's session, Soldiers experienced the usual wave of PowerPoint slides and video clips inherent to most Army training. Unique, however, was the raw honesty and personal interaction of the day's training, which centered on eliminating the stigma associated with seeking counseling.

"The thing with being a team and a family is we should know what's going on with each other's lives," 1st Sgt. Gerald Davis said.

Across the rest of the California Army National Guard, the results were in some cases immediate, as several Soldiers inspired by the training contacted suicide prevention representatives to express concerns over their own mental health. First Lieutenant Nathan Lavy, the Cal Guard's Suicide Prevention Program manager, attributed the responsiveness in large part to the transparency shown by leaders, which helped combat the stigma associated with seeking help.

"A lot of senior leaders shared their personal stories," Lavy said. "It really showed that we all experience tragedy and adversity, but with resilience skills and a strong connection to your battle buddies, it is all conquerable and you can still be a success."

In the near future, Lavy said, the Guard will begin training resilience training assistants (RTA) across the state. The RTAs will support intensely trained master resiliency trainers (MRT) in bolstering morale and suicide awareness. In addition personnel in the Joint Operations Center at state headquarters will receive training to ensure a 24-hour suicide prevention presence is available.



ECONOMIC IMPACT





In addition to employing nearly 5,000 full-time workers and 21,000 part-time Guardsmen, the California Military Department brings millions of dollars to the state each year to fund construction projects, counterdrug missions, youth academies, domestic-response teams and other federally supported programs.

In 2012, federal spending on the National Guard in California exceeded \$665 million, including almost \$307 million for operations and maintenance and \$273 million for National Guard personnel.

Federal allocations for construction and sustainment projects, including a host of improvements at the California Guard's premier training base, Camp Roberts, totaled nearly \$79.1 million in 2012, with those funds available to be spent anytime within five years.

The California National Guard's award-winning Youth Challenge programs, Grizzly Academy and Sunburst Academy, received a total of more than \$9.3 million in 2012 to continue instilling a sense of discipline in at-risk youths and helping them achieve their academic and career goals. The CNG's STARBASE, or Science and Technology Academics Reinforcing Basic Aviation and Space Exploration, program, meanwhile received about \$289,632 to immerse 5th graders from 11 school districts in a five-day program involving real-life and simulated experiences in rocket science, aviation, chemistry and physics. The Sacramento-based program will add a second location, at Joint Forces Training Base, Los Alamitos, in Southern California, in 2013.

In addition the federal government supported the Cal Guard's counterdrug operations with \$19.9 million in 2012 and provided nearly \$1.2 million for the CNG's two civil support teams, 22-member units trained to respond to incidents involving hazardous materials.

CNG Youth Programs



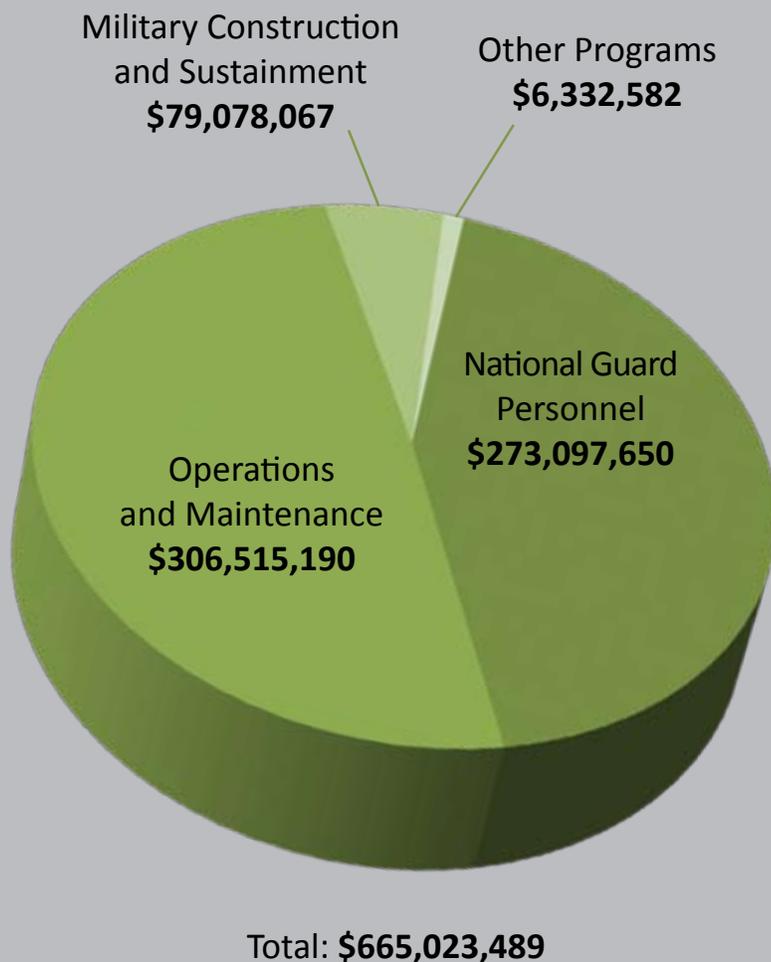
| Program | Congressional District | Federal Expenditures |
|--|------------------------|----------------------|
| Grizzly Youth ChalleNGe Academy | 24 | \$4,160,349 |
| Sunburst Youth ChalleNGe Academy | 47 | \$5,145,886 |
| STARBASE | 6 | \$289,632 |
| Total Expenditures | | \$9,595,867 |

Counterdrug



**Federal Expenditures,
Joint Task Force Domestic
Support—Counterdrug
\$19,874,467**

Federal Spending FY 2012





Civil Support Teams: \$1,168,000

Federal Construction Spending



| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Military Construction | \$28,257,400 |
| Sustainment, restoration, modernization | \$50,820,667 |
| Total Construction | \$79,078,067 |

**allocations can be spent over five years*

Top MILCON Spending

| Location | Congressional District | Federal Allocations |
|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Camp Roberts | 24 | \$25,500,685 |
| Channel Islands | 26 | \$23,160,886 |
| Los Alamitos | 47 | \$18,394,128 |
| Fresno | 16 | \$18,388,575 |
| Moffett Fed. Airfield | 18 | \$13,478,151 |
| Camp San Luis Obispo | 24 | \$6,925,854 |
| March Air Reserve Base | 41 | \$5,481,832 |

ARMY

NATIONAL GUARD





The California Army National Guard comprises a Headquarters plus 10 major components in fields such as infantry, military police, aviation, maintenance, sustainment and medical care. The Guard's 16,537 Soldiers throughout the state train year-round to be prepared for any mission, foreign or domestic.

Whether supporting defense operations, law enforcement or our state's response to fires or floods, the California Army National Guard's 10 major components stand ready to leap into action to protect and defend the United States and the state of California.

40th Combat Aviation Brigade

During 2012 the 40th Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB) was heavily involved in inspecting and maintaining its equipment following its 2011 tour in Iraq, where it served as the largest aviation brigade in the history of the U.S. Army. The CAB's operational area in Iraq extended across the entire country, and its Soldiers provided maintenance support for all Army rotary-wing aircraft in the theater.

In addition the Brigade deployed Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 140th Aviation Regiment, to Kosovo in July 2012, and it sent its CH-47 Chinook helicopter unit, Company B, 1st Battalion, 126th Aviation Regiment, to Afghanistan in August.

Two of the Brigade's LUH-72 Lakota helicopters served in Arizona in 2012, augmenting border patrol efforts. And here in California, 1st Battalion (Air Assault), 140th Aviation Regiment, was activated to support wildland firefighting efforts throughout California from Aug. 5-Sept. 11 in the biggest activation for California firefighting support since 2008.



The Combat Aviation Brigade is composed of more than 1,300 Soldiers and 49 aircraft: sixteen UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters, twelve UH-60 Medevac helicopters, twelve CH-47 Chinooks, eight UH-72 Lakotas and one C-12 Huron airplane.

Based out of Los Alamitos, the 1-140th is the Combat Aviation Brigade's air assault battalion. It provides air assault, air movement, VIP transport, search-and-rescue, and wildland firefighting capability.

Based out of Sacramento and Stockton, the 3-140th Security and Support Battalion is the CNG's multi-functional aviation unit. Its twelve UH-60 aircraft provide medical evacuation support out of Sacramento; its twelve CH-47 aircraft provide heavy cargo lift capability out of Stockton; and its eight UH-72 helicopters provide medevac, reconnaissance and VIP transport capability.

Primarily based in Los Angeles and Long Beach, the 640th Aviation Support Battalion provides logistical and maintenance support to the Combat Aviation Brigade. Designed to support 2,600 Soldiers and 121 helicopters, the Battalion has more than 200 vehicles and performs critical functions such as water purification, refueling, supply management, signal support and aviation maintenance support.

The 40th Combat Aviation Brigade operates daily to achieve the high standards of the Army's aviation branch and to meet the needs of

the state and nation.

40th Infantry Division

The 40th Infantry Division serves as the command element of joint military forces in support of state, local or tribal authorities to help mitigate the effects of any natural or man-made disaster; when directed by the governor.

In this role, the 40th ID is able to:

- rapidly deploy with little notice to assist civilian authorities following a catastrophic event in Southern California;
- provide effective leadership and command guidance for up to eight brigades, partner states or active duty forces to assist civil authorities during a natural or man-made disaster; and
- provide communications assets when established systems are disabled to allow effective communication with subordinate units and civilian authorities.

The Division also trains year-round to keep its Soldiers ready to deploy overseas in support of federal missions. Its regular preparation focuses on Army Warrior Tasks, marksmanship, health evaluations and assessments, physical fitness and equipment maintenance, among other areas.

"Training is my number one priority, and it has but one purpose: to produce competent, confident and adaptive Soldiers, leaders and units, trained and ready to respond," said Brig. Gen. Keith D. Jones, 40th ID commander. "I am confi-



Training is my number one priority, and it has but one purpose: to produce competent, confident and adaptive Soldiers, leaders and units, trained and ready to respond."

– Brig. Gen. Keith D. Jones
Commander
40th Infantry Division

dent the Soldiers of the 40th Infantry Division are well-prepared for any mission, whether it's in response to a domestic emergency or to fight and win across the full spectrum of military operations when called into combat."

2012 proved to be invaluable for the Soldiers of the 40th Infantry Division, as it provided several robust training experiences at home and abroad to prepare the troops for their future



federal and state missions:

- In February in Korat, Thailand, the Division supported U.S. Pacific Command's Cobra Gold exercise, a multinational training event with representation from Japan, Korea, Malaysia and Singapore as well as Thailand and the United States.
- In May at the National Training Center on Fort Irwin, Calif., the 40th ID acted as opposing forces and observer-controllers in support of an exercise for the CNG's 79th Infantry Brigade Combat team.
- In June in Honolulu, the 40th ID Domestic All-Hazards Response Team provided command and control for the Maui Emergency Operations Center during the Hawaii National Guard's Makani Pahili hurricane-preparedness exercise
- In July in Lviv, Ukraine, the Division supported a peacekeeping command post exercise at the annual Rapid Trident event, which is part of the CNG's continuing State Partnership Program mission.
- In July and August, the Division focused on the Military Decision Making Process during its annual training to prepare for its upcoming Warfighter exercise at Fort

Leavenworth, Kan., in June 2013.

49th Military Police Brigade

The 49th Military Police Brigade remained at the center of the California National Guard's domestic and federal missions in 2012. In addition to several combat deployments, the Brigade also assumed an important federal mission in becoming the military headquarters of the Homeland Response Force for Federal Emergency Management Agency Region IX.

More than 2,400 Soldiers are assigned to the Brigade and its subordinate units, which reach from the urban centers of Southern California to the remote stretches of the Northern California wilderness. The Brigade's strength lies in its diversity; it includes military police and engineer battalions, criminal investigation and public affairs detachments, and chemical, explosive ordnance disposal, firefighting and bridge-building units.

The Brigade is among the California National Guard's most frequently deployed commands, and 2012 proved no exception. Soldiers from the Pittsburg-based 870th and San Luis

Obispo-based 649th Military Police companies, the Chico-based 649th and Redding-based 132nd Engineer companies and Paso Robles' 217th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company all served on overseas combat and peacekeeping missions.

In addition, three of the Brigade's subordinate units are preparing for yearlong deployments to Afghanistan in 2013, ensuring the federal demands on the command will remain high.

The Brigade also holds a foundational role in the domestic mission of the California National Guard. The Brigade serves as the headquarters for Joint Task Force North, which provides the California Guard's first tier of emergency-response for Northern California.

Should the state and its residents face a significant man-made or natural threat, the governor and adjutant general can call upon the Brigade to provide command and control of the California Guard's initial emergency-response assets. These include security, transportation, emergency medical and chemical-decontamination equipment and personnel.

The Brigade also was validated in March 2012 as a FEMA Homeland Response Force (HRF) during a weeklong exercise evaluation at Camp Roberts, Calif. As the Region IX HRF, the Brigade is responsible for responding to chemical, biological, nuclear, chemical and high-yield explosive events in the Western United States as well as the nation's Pacific islands and territories.

The Brigade also experienced a change in leadership in 2012, when Col. William T. Arruda Jr. relinquished command to Col. Kelly Fisher, the Brigade's first female commander and a combat veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. Fisher assumed command of the Brigade shortly after returning from Afghanistan, where she served alongside the active duty 82nd Airborne Division. She leads the Brigade into what will undoubtedly be another busy year, a challenge for which its Soldiers are both well-suited and well-trained.

79th Infantry Brigade Combat Team

The 79th Infantry Brigade Combat Team opened 2012 with intense preparation for its May training rotation at the National Training Center on Fort Irwin, Calif., where the 79th IBCT would become only the second Army brigade to train under the Army's newest construct for land operations, the Decisive Action Training Environment. For three weeks in May, the 79th and supporting troops from the Army Reserve and the active duty Army conducted intensive platoon and company training while simultaneously fighting simulated battles in a command post exercise.

Merely supplying the 3,400 IBCT Soldiers involved in the National Training Center rotation was an exercise in itself. The Brigade Combat Team handled more than 1.5 million rounds of ammunition, kept 1,200 vehicles running in the harsh desert environment and provided 157,000 rations and 187,000 gallons of water to sustain the troops.

The "Thunderbolt Brigade's" notable success at the National Training Center led to the desired outcome: It was selected to form Combined Team Uruzgan in 2013 with Australian forces and troops from other nations contributing to operations in Afghanistan. As part of the 79th's mission, the Brigade Combat Team's companies and battalions will send 25 security force assistance and adviser teams, or SFAATs, to Afghanistan to assist Afghan military and police forces in Regional Command-South.



Since September, when the 79th received notice of its 2013 deployment, the IBCT has been selecting and training teams for all three of the Brigade Combat Team's missions in 2013: Combined Team Uruzgan Headquarters, SFAAT and Joint Task Force-79, which will provide ready forces and trained command posts to support civil authorities in California.

Because the Combined Team Uruzgan and SFAAT missions both require leaders, but not whole units, the 79th IBCT will still have more than 4,300 Soldiers in California, with battalions maintained at 12-hour readiness and the Brigade Tactical Command Post at six-hour readiness. In addition to the Brigade headquarters, Joint Task Force-79 includes Ready Reaction Force North, Ready Reaction Force South and Transportation Task Force South.

The 79th is also preparing to send several hundred Soldiers to the Philippines for the annual Balakitan exercise in April 2013, which ensures the interoperability and readiness of Philippine and U.S. forces.

2012 also saw the 79th Infantry Brigade Combat Team grow, gaining administrative control of 1st Battalion, 185th Armor Regiment. With the 1-185th on board, the 79th IBCT has more than 4,800 Guardsmen.

100th Troop Command

The 100th Troop Command, headquartered in Sacramento, is a diverse brigade whose history reaches back three decades and whose headquarters is designed as a command-and-control headquarters for various types of missions and units. Since Sept. 11, 2001, Soldiers of the 100th Troop Command have deployed in support of disaster relief, peacekeeping and national security missions in more than 30 countries.

In 2012, Soldiers with the Troop Command's 250th Military Intelligence (MI) Battalion from Long Beach deployed an element to Afghanistan in support of Special Operations Command and separately participated in a State Partnership Program exchange of officers with Nigeria.

Meanwhile the 223rd MI Battalion from San Francisco provided 10 Soldiers for the Ulchi Freedom Guardian event in Korea, the world's largest computerized command-and-control implementation exercise, which focused on defending South Korea from a North Korean attack. Soldiers from the 223rd also participated

in the Cobra Gold exercise in Thailand, Key Resolve in Korea and Rapid Trident in Ukraine.

The Troop Command's 49th Personnel Company in Sacramento is the only human resources company in the California Guard. The 49th sent 27 Soldiers to Korea for two weeks before the Key Resolve exercise and before the Ulchi Freedom Guardian exercise to train on joint reception center operations. The Soldiers were responsible for reception of the troops, in-processing and out-processing of the troops, maintaining accountability and transportation coordination.

Soldiers with the 100th Troop Command's Company A, 5th Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne), from Los Alamitos are capable of mobilizing and deploying on short notice in support of overseas combat operations and domestic emergency response missions. They compose the only Special Forces unit in the California Army National Guard.

During 2012, Company A's Headquarters and two detachments deployed to Europe for five weeks to train with allied special operations forces. A detachment also spent five weeks in Utah participating in an unconventional warfare exercise, and Soldiers participated in three-week training events in Arizona, Colorado and California.

Soldiers with Detachment 1, 100th Missile Defense Company, operate the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense system at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif. During 2012, Detachment 1 Soldiers participated in annual combatant-command-level training exercises and other exercises conducted by the 30th Space Wing at Vandenberg. The Detachment also supports operational testing and development for the Missile Defense Agency and hosts a wide array of high-level VIP visits to Ground-Based Midcourse Defense sites at Vandenberg.

Soldiers with the 140th Chemical Company from Los Alamitos returned from mobilization to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, in 2012. The deployment in support of Task Force Badger was the company's first overseas tour since the unit was created.

During the deployment the Soldiers conducted camp-command-cell and quick reaction force operations and were responsible for the camp's life-support activities and security. Soldiers of the 140th have also been mobilized for



numerous domestic emergencies in its history, including wildfires and riots.

115th Regional Support Group

In January the 115th Regional Support Group initiated an Emergency Deployment Readiness Exercise in preparation for possible wildfire or civil-disturbance support. The exercise assessed the 115th RSG and its subordinate units' ability to rapidly respond and transport up to 500 troops from multiple locations in Northern California in less than 12 hours. The exercise was a success and earned accolades from top CNG leaders.

In July, the 115th conducted annual training at Camp Roberts, Calif., with its two subordinate battalions consisting of 15 units and more than 900 Soldiers on the ground for collective

group-level staff training and pre-deployment training provided by the CNG's Task Force Warrior. Also, during July and August, the Group supported the 40 Infantry Division with base-operations support for the Rapid Trident exercise in Ukraine.

The 115th RSG also conducted a change-of-command ceremony in 2012, with Col. Rene Horton handing the Group flag to Col. Keith Tresh in April.

Throughout the year the 115th RSG's Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment supported 75 state missions, providing personnel, equipment and transportation for many community, veterans organization and charity events. This included transporting food and gifts to families throughout Northern California



during the holiday season.

One of the Group's subordinate units, the 2668th Transportation Company, which is part of the 749th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, is currently deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, transporting equipment and supplies across Afghanistan.

Many of their brethren in the 749th recently returned from overseas, including the Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 749th CSSB, who returned from Iraq in November 2011 after providing food, water, transportation, ammunition, maintenance and other services to military and civilian customers throughout Iraq.

The 297th Area Support Medical Company, also part of the 749th CSSB, returned from Iraq in late 2011 as well after acting as the Military Treatment Facility for coalition forces on Contingency Operating Base Basra and training Iraqi forces in modern battlefield medicine.

In 2012, the 115th RSG's 340th Brigade Sup-



port Battalion was assigned as the headquarters for Joint Task Force 49 Transportation, a critical component of the Cal Guard's Defense Support of Civil Authorities, or DSCA, mission. JTF-49 Transportation is tasked to transport up to 500 Ready Reaction Force troops within 12 hours of notification.

During the 115th RSG Emergency Deployment Readiness Exercise in January, the 340th sent 28 trucks to three separate locations, alerted and recalled 100 percent of its Soldiers, stood up an emergency operations center and dispatched trucks to assigned locations in less than 12 hours.

223rd Regional Training Institute

The mission of the 223rd Infantry Regiment Regional Training Institute (RTI) is to develop competent, confident, disciplined and adaptive leaders for the National Guard, Army Reserve and active duty Army through its Officer Candidate School and Warrant Officer Candidate School, Noncommissioned Officer Education System courses, combat arms and ordnance military occupational specialty qualification, additional skill identifier training and functional exercises.

The 223rd is recognized by the U.S. Army as an Institute of Excellence. It is composed of a Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC), three battalions and a maintenance company.

Located on Camp San Luis Obispo, the 223rd HHC provides budgetary, administrative, operational and logistical support for the RTI. Each year, the 223rd evaluates instructor and course availability and balances those with the needs of the state and the Army to ensure the RTI is providing the best training in the most essential skill areas to make significant contributions to the readiness of the National Guard.

The RTI's 1st Battalion provided world-class military police instruction throughout 2012, mostly to Soldiers who were on their way to Afghanistan. The Battalion is a model schoolhouse for U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, as evidenced by its 96 percent class-fill rate and 98 percent graduation rate. The Battalion also delivers non-lethal weapons certification courses in support of the Defense Support of Civil Authorities, or DSCA, mission.

The RTI's 2nd Battalion is home to the Officer Candidate and Warrant Officer Candidate

Schools Company, which trains future leaders of the California Army National Guard. A total of 18 students graduated from the Officer Candidate School in 2012, and 14 students graduated from Phase 2 of the Warrant Officer Candidate Course at Camp San Luis Obispo, before moving on to Phase 3 at Fort Rucker, Ala.

As compared with 2011, the Battalion increased the number of graduates from its Combatives Level 1 and Level 2 courses, and the popularity of its Army Basic Instructor Course and Small Group Instructor Training Course continued to grow. The Battalion also continued to train supply specialists.

The RTI's 3rd Battalion conducted the Motor Transport Operator Course for Guard and Reserve Soldiers from Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, New York, Washington and Guam in 2012, with most of the graduates then deploying to Afghanistan. The Battalion worked alongside those mobilizing units to ensure each Soldier had been trained to Army standards and with the latest information available, contributing to an average graduation rate of 99 percent. Third Battalion also has two subordinate training companies in Nevada and Washington state.

The RTI also commands the Regional Training Site Maintenance Center, or Company D, at Camp Roberts, Calif. For the fourth straight year in 2012, Company D was a national leader in ordnance and maintenance training as an Institute of Excellence and provided train-the-trainer instruction for the mine-resistant, ambush-protected vehicle, or MRAP.

In 2012 the 223rd also organized and hosted the Best Warrior Competition for National Guard Region VII, which comprises eight states and territories.

The RTI is planning for continued growth in order to meet increased demands for training and to ensure National Guard members are prepared to answer the call of their state and nation.

224th Sustainment Brigade

Since returning from its deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in late 2011, the 224th Sustainment Brigade and its subordinate commands have participated in multiple overseas deployments involving more than 600 Soldiers in various roles including engineering, finance and transportation operations.

Soldier's Creed

I am an American Soldier.

I am a Warrior and a member of a team.

I serve the people of the United States and live the Army Values.

I will always place the mission first.

I will never accept defeat.

I will never quit.

I will never leave a fallen comrade.

I am disciplined, physically and mentally tough, trained and proficient in my Warrior Tasks and drills.

I always maintain my arms, my equipment and myself.

I am an expert and I am a professional.

I stand ready to deploy, engage and destroy the enemies of the United States of America in close combat.

I am a guardian of freedom and the American way of life.

I am an American Soldier.



The 224th and its subordinate units constitute one of the largest commands in California, with more than 2,500 Soldiers and 19 companies. The Brigade's units are located throughout Southern California and offer a wide variety of combat and support functions.

The 224th Headquarters and Headquarters Company and the 224th Special Troops Battalion are composed of multiple support staffs and elements that can conduct theater-wide commodities-management, communication networking, finance operations, heavy equipment hauling and garrison command functions. The two units are now preparing for potential overseas deployments in support of operations in Africa, Kosovo and Taiwan.

Looking to the future, the Brigade has refocused its efforts on training that emphasizes its responsibilities in support of local and regional communities in the event of an emergency. During a disaster, the 224th is prepared to deploy throughout California in less than 24 hours to provide support that includes civil construction, cargo hauling and basic life functions.

One of the Brigade's battalions, the 746th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion (CSSB), based out of Van Nuys, Calif., has more than



200 trucks in its inventory, giving the CSSB the ability to move 300,000 gallons of fuel and more than 1,800 tons of cargo. With two transportation units having recently returned from overseas deployments, the 746th has combat-tested platoons with thousands of miles of experience.

Based in Burbank, the Brigade's 1st Battalion, 144th Field Artillery Regiment, provides direct-support fire for the active duty 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment and is currently preparing to send its Battery F to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The Brigade's 578th Engineer Battalion, based out of Manhattan Beach, performs both combat and maneuver-support functions including vertical construction, route clearance and engineer project management. Its 578th Headquarters and Headquarters Company and 578th Forward Support Company recently returned from a successful deployment to Afghanistan, while the 216th Engineer Company is preparing to deploy Soldiers in 2013.

1106 Theater Aviation Sustainment Maintenance Group

Have you ever wondered what happens to National Guard helicopters in need of significant repairs — ones that are battle-damaged, have crashed or are just too broke to fly? They are fixed by Soldiers of the 1106th Theater Aviation Sustainment Maintenance Group, or TASMG.

The TASMG, located in Fresno, is one of only four very specialized aviation maintenance units in the entire Army force structure. The 1106th consists of four subordinate organizations and is authorized a strength of nearly 500 Soldiers who are trained in more than 70 military occupational specialties. The unit provides a multitude of maintenance and logistical capabilities that support, enhance and improve Army aircraft and weapon-systems readiness.

TASMG Soldiers provide a broad spectrum of aviation maintenance — from the flightline mechanic level to the selected depot level — in support of the 13 Western states. This regional footprint consists of 23 Army aviation support facilities, which in turn support 66 Army National Guard units that have a total of 359 aircraft.

During overseas contingency operations, 1106th Soldiers act as U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command's forward presence to pro-

vide aviation logistics operations and depot-level repairs of battle-damaged helicopters. During state emergencies, the 1106th provides aviation maintenance and performs other missions as directed.

The TASMG is capable of performing airframe and component maintenance and repairs on UH/HH-60 Black Hawk, CH-47 Chinook, AH-64 Apache, UH-72 Lakota and OH-58 Kiowa helicopters. In 2012 the 1106th expended 453,265 man-hours to complete 399 aircraft work orders and 58 aircraft phase maintenance service inspections, paint 14 aircraft, repair 136,108 aircraft components and manufacture 57 special tools.

A total of 303 personnel work on a full-time basis in the organization's various sections and shops, with most of the work performed on the hangar floor or in one of the TASMG's various shops: engine, hydraulic, armament, prop and rotor, sheet metal, machinist, electrical, avionics, non-destructive inspection and the corrosion-control paint shop.

The TASMG supply warehouse stocks thousands of aircraft repair parts valued at more than \$24 million. On a monthly basis, thousands of requisitions are processed through the supply warehouse and shipped in support of Army National Guard customers.

The TASMG also serves as the higher headquarters for Detachment 1, Company I, 185th Theater Aviation Brigade, a flight detachment with two C-23 Sherpa airplanes. The Detachment provides air transport capability for passengers or cargo and supports parachute operations. Upon completion of a deployment to the Sinai Peninsula last year, the Detachment flew a C-23 across the Northern Atlantic Ocean, over the snow and ice of Greenland, and returned home to the sunny skies of Fresno.

The 1106th TASMG is ready and able to support any state or federal mission and maintain Army aircraft by the unit's motto, "Semper Volans!" Always Flying!

Medical Command

The California Army National Guard Medical Command comprises 117 medical, dental, preventive medicine, mental health and administrative personnel in several sections:

- Five medical readiness teams of physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners and medics conduct periodic

health assessments and physical exams, and provide vaccinations and general medical support.

- Five dental readiness teams of dentists and technicians conduct exams and screenings
- The Aviation Medicine Section of flight surgeons and aeromedical physician assistants conducts flight physicals and assists aviation units with other aviation-medicine programs.
- The Preventive Medicine Section works to reduce health risks and preserve the fighting force.
- The Mental Health Section promotes Soldier resiliency and works to preserve behavioral health.
- Patient Administration and Case Management personnel follow up on Soldier care and provides ongoing support services.

All medical professionals in the Command maintain dual civilian and military credentials. Combat medics must be certified as civilian emergency medical technicians and Army medics on a regular basis; and physicians, dentists, psychologists, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses and social workers also maintain military and civilian medical credentials.

The Medical Command has a full-time staff as well as traditional, part-time Guard members at three locations: Okinawa Readiness Center in Sacramento, Camp Roberts near Paso Robles and Joint Forces Training Base, Los Alamitos, near Los Angeles.

The Command's personnel work tirelessly to support the health and resilience of Soldiers and their families, develop exceptional leaders, connect with the community and be prepared to respond to domestic emergencies and save lives. The Command also provides medical support for training, mobilization and operations activities, and it is ready to mobilize to provide medical support to civil authorities in California.

The Command's facilities are undergoing upgrades, and within a few months each of its three sites will have the ability to perform periodic health assessments, flight physicals, dental X-rays, blood tests and other laboratory functions, immunizations, and hearing and vision tests.

The Soldiers of the Medical Command embody their motto: Trained to Save — Fit to Fight.

AIR NATIONAL GUARD





The California Air National Guard's inventory includes fighter jets, rescue helicopters, cargo and refueling planes, and unmanned aerial vehicles to serve the state in times of emergency and the nation in domestic and overseas contingency operations. California's 4,539 Air Guardsmen in five major units are always ready to fly, fight and win.

Rescue, reconnaissance, air defense, airlift, communication and space operations capabilities are just some of the ways the California Air National Guard's four wings and its Combat Communications Group support the Department of Defense and the state of California in their efforts to protect and defend the citizens of this great state and nation.

129th Rescue Wing

In 2012 the 129th Rescue Wing demonstrated its world-class personnel-recovery capabilities in missions around California, across the country and over international waters. As one of only three Air National Guard rescue wings, the Department of Defense, the state of California and countless local agencies depend on the unique assets the wing provides: HH-60G Pave Hawk rescue helicopters, MC-130P Combat Shadow refueling planes and highly trained "Guardian Angel" pararescuemen.

The 129th worked closely with its California Army National Guard and California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection counterparts during the 2012 wildfire season to extinguish flames across the state, saving untold lives and property. Helicopter crews from the 129th flew nearly 70 missions with 660-gallon firefighting buckets attached to their aircraft and dropped more than 247,000 gallons of water on wildfires throughout the state.

The 129th also conducted three international, long-

Airman's Creed

I am an American Airman.

I am a Warrior. I have answered my nation's call.

I am an American Airman.

My mission is to fly, fight, and win.

I am faithful to a proud heritage, a tradition of honor and a legacy of valor.

I am an American Airman, guardian of freedom and justice, my nation's sword and shield, its sentry and avenger. I defend my country with my life.

I am an American Airman: Wingman, Leader, Warrior. I will never leave an Airman behind. I will never falter and **I will not fail.**

range rescue missions over the Pacific Ocean west of Mexico in 2012. In March, two Pave Hawks, two Combat Shadows and two para-rescue teams provided lifesaving treatment and transportation to San Diego for a man who had experienced severe burns aboard a fishing vessel more than 500 miles off the coast of Acapulco, Mexico.

In September, Combat Shadows brought para-rescuemen to a boat more than 1,400 miles off the coast of Acapulco, where they provided lifesaving support to two fishermen, who were then transferred to a U.S. Coast Guard boat that was sailing toward Mexico, where they were treated for their injuries. And in November, the 129th launched a successful rescue mission to assist and transport to the U.S. a ship's hand who had suffered a serious head injury on a boat 300 miles off the coast of Mexico.

Bilingual Airmen from the 129th were brought along on two of the overwater rescue missions to serve as translators for non-English speaking patients, performing duties outside of their traditional roles for the Wing and highlighting the diversity of the highly trained and capable Airmen of the 129th.

The 129th also continued to assist the U.S. Coast Guard closer to home in 2012, such as in April, when the Wing responded to a distress signal during a race around California's Farallon Islands. Helicopter crews from the 129th joined rescue personnel from local Coast Guard units in a mission that saved a missing crew member who had been thrown overboard after their vessel was hit by a large wave.

Overall the Wing saved 10 lives in 2012, bringing to 957 the number of lives saved by the Wing in both combat and non-combat situations since being entrusted with its search-and-rescue mission in 1975.

144th Fighter Wing

The primary federal mission of the 144th Fighter Wing is to provide air superiority in support of worldwide joint operations and air defense of the United States. In addition the Wing offers agile combat support and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities to combatant commanders around the globe and a variety of homeland defense capabilities to U.S. Northern Command.

The Wing also provides a variety of capabilities to the governor of California as part of its Defense Support of Civil Authorities, or DSCA, mission. Its primary contributions include ready manpower, reconnaissance assets, security teams, medical personnel, civil engineering expertise, command and control capabilities, community assistance and responders to chemical, biological and radiological incidents.

The unit primarily operates out of the Air National Guard Base in Fresno but also maintains an alert detachment at March Air Reserve Base in Riverside, Calif.

In addition to fulfilling its commitments in California, the 144th continued to support military operations throughout the world in 2012, with 93 Airmen deploying to Afghanistan, Germany and Kuwait for a variety of missions.

2012 also presented 144th Airmen with sev-





eral valuable training experiences in the United States and abroad. In total, Wing pilots flew more than 2,250 training sorties and logged 3,440 flight hours in fiscal year 2012.

In October the 144th took part in Combat Archer, a two-week weapons-system evaluation exercise at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. Pilots from the Wing's 194th Fighter Squadron shot eight AIM-9M Sidewinder missiles, six AIM-120 Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missiles and more than 6,000 rounds from a 20-mm cannon, while the Wing's maintainers and weapons load crew personnel benefited from

the opportunity to practice for combat situations. The Wing also participated in a dissimilar air combat training exercise with F-15 aircraft in Klamath Falls, Ore., in May.

In July the Wing sent eight F-16C Fighting Falcon jets and 110 Airmen to Hawaii for the Rim of the Pacific exercise, where they worked with 25,000 personnel from 22 nations to ensure the partner nations can maintain secure open sea lines and protect maritime lines of communication.

During exercise Silver Flag at Tyndall Air Force

Base in March, personnel from the 144th Force Support Squadron received training on providing contingency food service, lodging, fitness and recreation, and mortuary affairs under wartime conditions. And in April the Wing sent members of its 144th Security Forces Squadron to Isa Air Base, Bahrain, where they provided security during the multinational exercise Initial Link.

146th Airlift Wing

Home to 1,200 Airmen, the 146th Airlift Wing at Channel Islands Air National Guard Station north of Los Angeles supports the mission of





the C130-J Hercules, a versatile and highly capable combat-ready cargo plane. The C130-J is the newest cargo aircraft in the Air Force inventory and supports a wide range of disaster-response, humanitarian relief and large-scale aerial firefighting missions for the state and the nation.

The Wing's wartime mission is to provide general purpose air transportation of personnel and materiel, normally into airports but also by parachute airdrop or by landing on short, unimproved airstrips under combat conditions. The C130-J also can be configured for combat delivery of paratroopers, aeromedical evacuations and photo reconnaissance.

The 146th maintained a steady operational tempo in 2012 and deployed to numerous locations around the world. The Wing was occupied for much of the year by wildfires, as crew members relentlessly battled flames around the Northwestern United States from May through September using the Modular Airborne Fire Fighting Systems (MAFFS) II.

The nation's MAFFS fleet, which includes three other Guard and Reserve units with MAFFS-equipped planes, dropped more than 2 million gallons of fire retardant on wildfires during 2012, the most since 1994.

Civil engineers from the 146th deployed to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and Alberta, Canada, in 2012 to conduct training and complete needed construction projects. During its six-month Cuba deployment, members of the 146th Civil

Engineering Squadron provided a variety of engineering skills and constructed two buildings for the public affairs office at Camp Justice, where military commission proceedings are to be held. Then, during its annual training in July and August, Squadron members remodeled day-care facilities on Canadian Forces Base Cold Lake and built a new concrete pad to store the Base's mobility equipment.

Other 2012 missions for the Wing included aeromedical troops deploying to the East Coast in November to be ready to assist victims of "Superstorm" Sandy and the Band of the Southwest traveling to Europe during the summer to boost the morale of troops deployed overseas. The Wing also successfully completed a Wing-wide compliance inspection, capping off a banner year for the 146th.

162nd Combat Communications Group

The 162nd Combat Communications Group is a nine-unit, 798-person organization located at five sites throughout the state. The Group is the hub for all non-flying, non-kinetic global effects operations for the California Air National Guard, leading the way in cyber, intelligence and space missions.

The 147th Combat Communications Squadron (CCS) in San Diego and 149th CCS in North Highlands provide communications infrastructure and support for deployed Air Force units worldwide. In addition the 147th supplies imagery to civil authorities utilizing the Eagle Vision III commercial satellite ground system.



Members of the 149th supported “Superstorm” Sandy relief efforts on the East Coast in 2012, and the 149th and 147th both participated in hurricane-preparedness exercise Makani Pahi-li in Hawaii, enabling tactical communications support for Hawaiian first responders.

The 148th Space Operations Squadron at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., enables secure global communications through five Milstar satellites and two new Advance Extremely High Frequency satellites. The 216th Operations Support Squadron at Vandenberg administers qualification and space surveillance courses for active duty Air Force, joint and coalition personnel.

The 222nd Communications Maintenance Flight at Beale Air Force Base, Calif., provides communications operations and maintenance support for the Global Hawk weapons system. As the leading experts for Global Hawk communication electronics, the Flight’s Airmen are heavily involved in the re-architecture of the Global Hawk network and the design of the next-generation mission-control element.

The 222nd Intelligence Support Squadron at Beale provides communications operations, maintenance and logistics support for the Distributed Ground Station-2, which enables critical processing, analysis and dissemination of intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance data. The 234th Intelligence Squadron at Beale offers intelligence support to joint, combined-force and component commanders supported by Distributed Ground Station-2, and the 222nd Operations Support Squadron at Beale ensures training, standards and evaluation continuity for Distributed Ground Station-2.

The 261st Network Warfare Squadron in Van Nuys, Calif., identifies, pursues and mitigates cyber threats within the Air Force network.

In 2013 the 162nd Combat Communications Group plans to implement an innovative approach to strategic planning, which will address some of the organization’s most critical areas and take the Group to the next level of excellence.

163rd Reconnaissance Wing

The 163rd Reconnaissance Wing is the premier remotely piloted aircraft unit on the West Coast. Its mission is to execute global combat support and to aid in humanitarian missions. The 163rd also trains remotely piloted aircraft



We now have two exercises under our belt integrating the Predator into the national airspace, which will allow the future integration of full motion video into disaster-response enterprises.”

– Col. Randall Ball
Commander
163rd Reconnaissance Wing

pilots, sensor operators, intelligence coordinators and maintainers from across the country and manages the Regional Training Site.

The 163rd provides federal combat support on a daily basis through intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions overseas. In 2012 alone the Wing performed more than 600 combat support missions and logged more than 12,200 flight hours. The unit operates two combat air patrols that fly around the clock, every day of the year.

The Wing also can be called upon during natural or man-made disasters in the United States to perform command-and-control duties and to provide full-motion video of the affected

areas to government agencies including the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security and California Department of Transportation. The Wing’s MQ-1 Predator remotely piloted aircraft can fly for more than 20 hours at a time, providing unparalleled surveillance of a disaster area.

“We have made great strides forward this year in developing our capability to provide civilian authorities with assistance in disaster-response,” said 163rd Commander Col. Randall R. Ball. “Tier 1 security forces are trained and equipped for immediate action, and plans to utilize our extensive Regional Training Site for joint reception, staging and onward integration [of troops] are maturing.”

The 163rd Reconnaissance Wing’s Predators were used in multiple disaster-response scenarios in 2012, including an earthquake exercise and a hurricane scenario. In Grizzly Field Exercise 2012, which simulated an earthquake in Southern California, the 163rd provided full-motion video of the area of destruction via cameras mounted on two Predators, and in the U.S. Northern Command exercise Ardent Sentry, the Wing tested its ability to provide video feeds as well as still images.

“We now have two exercises under our belt integrating the Predator into the national airspace, which will allow the future integration of full-motion video into disaster-response enterprises,” Ball said.

STATE MILITARY RESERVE





The California State Military Reserve is an all-volunteer force established to support the Soldiers and Airmen of the California National Guard. Among other duties, the State Military Reserve, which is under the exclusive control of the governor, assists civil authorities during domestic emergencies and supports the mobilization and demobilization process of the National Guard.

The California State Military Reserve (CSMR) has served California for the past 72 years, providing a trained, disciplined and ready force of Soldiers and Airmen to support the California National Guard. The CSMR is 1,149 members strong and continues to recruit personnel with a goal of reaching 3,000 members who share the Guard's motto, "Always Ready, Always There."

Regional Support Command–South

The largest concentration of CSMR personnel is found at Joint Forces Training Base (JFTB), Los Alamitos, where there are three CSMR units: Regional Support Command–South and its subordinate units the Installation Support Command and the Center for Military History Southern Headquarters. All 16 full-time members of the JFTB Fire Department are also CSMR members.

The Installation Support Command provides armed security personnel to augment the full-time security force for the Base and its Training Site Detachment throughout the year; performs administrative, public works, public affairs, logistics and communication duties; and supports chaplain activities at JFTB, while also offering full-time support during emergencies.

ISC troops participated in security training with the Base's full-time security staff in June and are capable of providing Red Cross-certified CPR and first aid training to National Guard units and other organizations. The ISC is also working to establish a section that will



support the Los Alamitos Army Airfield on the Base. Its Soldiers will be trained in Airfield operations and refueling procedures.

Members of Regional Support Command–South also assisted Guard units at the Long Beach Readiness Center in 2012, including performing maintenance on tactical vehicles and preparing the Readiness Center polling location for the November election. In addition the Command initiated a beautification project at the Readiness Center, which included installing drought-tolerant plants.

Recognizing the need to expand the CSMR recruiting footprint, the Regional Command established a home for a new CSMR unit at the readiness center in Lancaster, which was renamed in honor of fallen CNG Soldier Sgt. Carlo F. Eugenio in September. Recruiters also put their military training to work in 2012 by serving as first responders to two major medical emergencies.

Troop Command

Among other duties, CSMR Troop Command Soldiers augment the California Army National Guard Trial Defense Service and support the California Military Department's Youth and Community Programs Task Force. The CSMR's

Change of Command

Brig. Gen. (CA) Timothy E. Albertson is the new commander of the California State Military Reserve, effective Jan. 5, 2013, succeeding Brig. Gen. (CA) Roland Candee. A 20-year veteran of the Army National Guard and Army Reserve, his record includes a 2004 deployment to Iraq and an assignment in Washington as the senior reserve component medical adviser to the deputy assistant secretary of defense for health affairs.



Trial Defense Service Detachment handled three appeals of courts martial in 2012 and assisted in representing defendants in numerous other courts martial. The Detachment also provided training on criminal defense issues and procedures for Army National Guard attorneys.

In addition the CSMR Judge Advocate General Section provided legal assistance statewide, including working cases involving landlord-tenant disputes, employment issues, divorce settlements, bankruptcy, debt collection and mortgage relief.

Public Affairs

The CSMR provided public affairs support for the National Guard throughout the year while

also handling the CSMR's own public affairs. Among other assignments, public affairs specialists at Regional Support Command–South were tasked with covering civil-disturbance training at JFTB in January. At the same time, members of the CSMR's 1st Military Police Battalion supported the civil-disturbance training by playing the roles of rioting citizens.

Other public affairs activities included participating in a February training event with the Army National Guard's Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 185th Armor Regiment; supporting a June graduation for JFTB security personnel; and covering a September graduation for the Army National Guard's Officer Candidate School at

Camp San Luis Obispo, Calif.

Regional Support Command–South also launched a public affairs website in 2012 and established a presence on the U.S. military’s Defense Video and Imagery Distribution System, or DVIDS, website. Regional Support Command–South photographers also produced many images throughout the year that were published in the California Military Department’s Grizzly Newsmagazine and other military media.

Regional Support Command–North

Experts from the CSMR’s Regional Support Command–North trained and certified more than 200 Cal Guard Soldiers in the Combat Lifesaver Course in 2012, while the Command’s Small Arms Training Team provided weapons instruction and qualification for more than 1,000 Soldiers. Additionally more than 100 members of the Command participated in a search-and-rescue exercise in October to ensure it can provide a trained and ready resource for civil authorities.

In addition to its regular duties in support of the Guard’s 223rd Military Intelligence Battalion and 1113th Transportation Company, the Regional Command’s 1st Special Troops Battalion in 2012 took the lead in supporting the 49th Military Police Brigade’s recently certified Homeland Response Force, which covers all of Federal Emergency Management Agency Region IX, including three states and multiple U.S. territories. The CSMR’s 2nd Special Troops Battalion, meanwhile, provided instruction in a variety of military specialties for Guard Soldiers.

California Center for Military History

The California Center for Military History is headquartered in Sacramento with a Southern Headquarters at JFTB, Los Alamitos. CSMR historians for the Center are also stationed at Camp San Luis Obispo and Camp Roberts. Among other activities, the Center completed museum upgrades, conducted training, added personnel and compiled oral and written histories in 2012.

Air Support Command

Air Support Command is a joint force of CSMR Airmen and Soldiers supporting Air National Guard and California Military Department missions. All CSMR Airmen have previously served in the Air Force, Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard. Air Support Command troops currently work with the California Air



National Guard’s 129th Rescue Wing, 146th Airlift Wing and 163rd Reconnaissance Wing, and the Command plans to dedicate units to support the California Air National Guard’s other two major organizations — the 144th Fighter Wing and the 162nd Combat Communications Group — in the near future.

Joint Force Headquarters

At the National Guard’s Joint Force Headquarters (JFHQ) in Sacramento, the CSMR Communications Section works with the Guard’s Directorate of Information Management to maintain and provide network operations, emergency and tactical communications, and automation support activities.

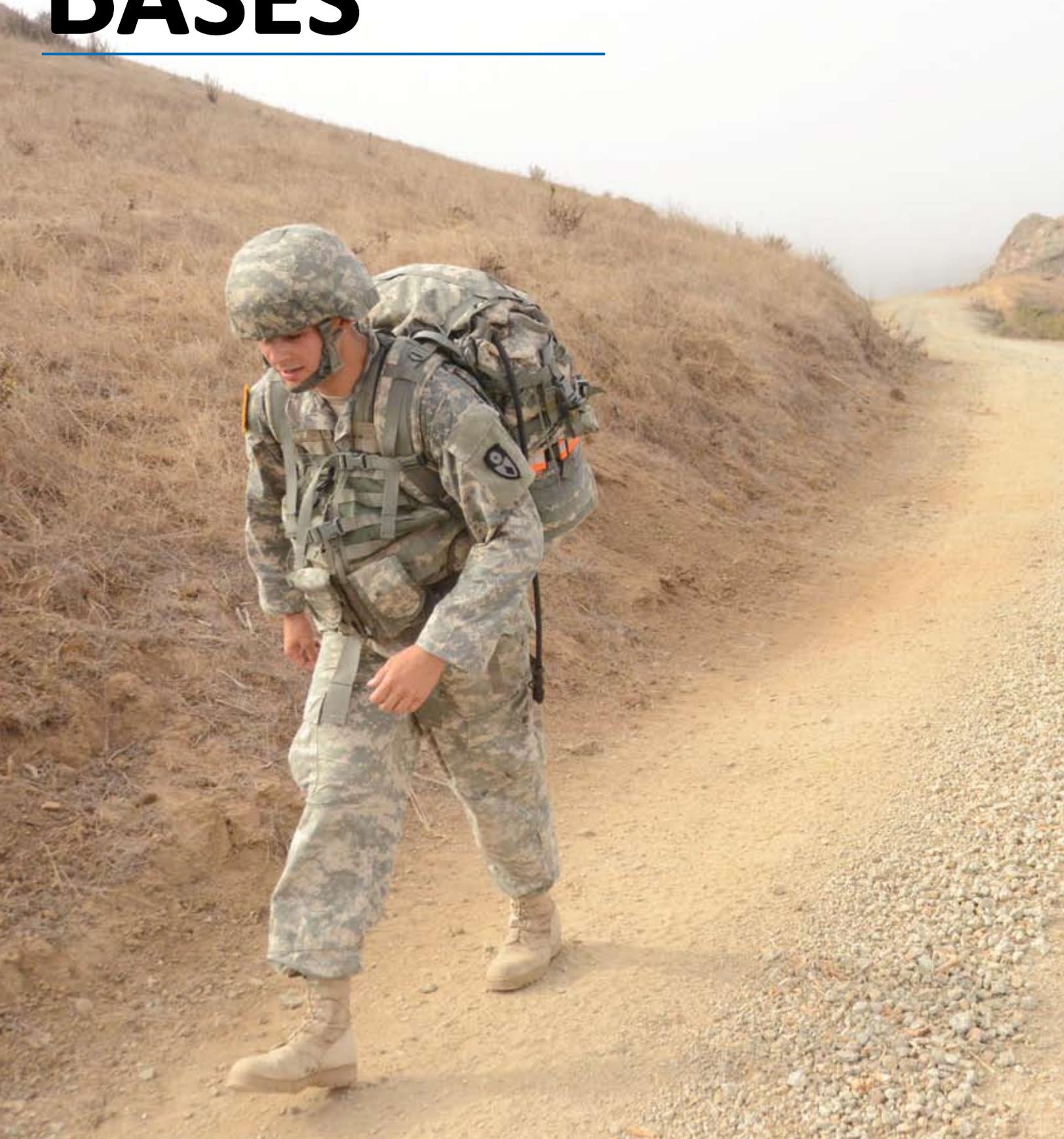
CSMR members were involved in many operations associated with the Incident Commander’s Command, Control and Communications Unit, or IC4U, in 2012. Among other activities, they trained Guard Soldiers to use the IC4U and developed a 40-hour operator certification course for the Unit, which can link up with a satellite to enable wireless Internet, phone connections, radio communication, air-to-ground communication and video encoding. CSMR members also deployed to Fort Hunter Liggett, Calif., in October to support IC4U operations at the joint-service Soaring Angel exercise hosted by the CNG’s 129th Rescue Wing.

The CSMR team from JFHQ also provided communications-platform development support to the Madera County Sheriff’s Department in 2012. The CSMR Communications Section may see its efforts refocused toward training CNG elements statewide in 2013 rather than augmenting the Cal Guard IC4U unit.

The CSMR Operations Section at JFHQ is responsible for training CSMR personnel and developing training courses so CSMR members can meet the CNG’s needs. CSMR civil affairs personnel support the National Guard Operation Ready Families Program and provide statewide assistance to units that are dealing with deployments.

Fifteen CSMR chaplains and seven chaplain assistants deployed throughout California in 2012, providing extensive support to CNG Soldiers, Airmen and their families. Among other contributions, they delivered 25 death notifications, supported 44 funerals, conducted 561 counseling sessions and assisted in 15 suicide interventions.

TRAINING BASES





No principle is more important or overarching to the California National Guard than the readiness of its force. Our Soldiers and Airmen continually prepare, train and refine their skills at training bases around the state to serve as a quick and effective force for the state and nation, both at home and overseas.

Camp Roberts

Marking the end of an era, Camp Roberts began a three-phase demolition project in December by flattening the first of many World War II-era buildings set to be torn down at the California National Guard's leading training base. As part of the multimillion-dollar project, more than 600 buildings have been slated for demolition during the next few years.

"The post first opened to be one of the U.S. Army's major training installations where Soldiers trained for combat around the world," Maj. Gen. David S. Baldwin, the adjutant general of the Cal Guard, said Dec. 10. "We've since been using Camp Roberts as our premier training base here in California to prepare Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors and Marines of this generation to go fight the war on terror in Iraq and Afghanistan."

Nestled between San Luis Obispo and Monterey counties in Central California, the 43,000-acre Camp began its mission as a training center in March 1941 during a surge in the number of forces training for WWII. Since the Guard took over Camp Roberts in the 1970s, troops have suffered through infrastructure setbacks and spent time in dilapidated buildings, Baldwin said.

"They were originally built as temporary buildings in the '40s," said Col. (CA) Walter Goodwater, the facilities and engineering project manager for the CNG. "They were only supposed to last until about 1950."



Removing the uninhabitable structures will make way for new facilities and infrastructure for the service members who come through Camp Roberts each year. More than 200,000 man-days of skills training take place annually at Camp Roberts, which offers a multitude of training facilities, classrooms, ranges and equipment for a wide variety of weapons and collective training exercises.

“We’ve always had a vision of making this installation the premier training base for National Guard Soldiers from around the country,” Baldwin said.

Before demolition could begin, a special-purpose landfill was built on Camp Roberts to store all the tainted wood. Construction of the landfill began in 2011, and the site now occupies 85 acres on the post.

“We did a lot of testing, and we found that none of [the wood] is sustainable,” said Col. Barbara Nuismer, Camp Roberts’ garrison commander. “The lead-based paint used was thinned with gasoline and it’s permeated the wood.”

All of the metal in the buildings and their con-



We’ve always had a vision of making this installation the premier training base for National Guard Soldiers from around the country.”

– Maj. Gen. David S. Baldwin
*The Adjutant General,
California National Guard*

crete pads will be recycled, however. Once all the materials and debris have been removed, the sites will be allowed to return to a natural state with the intent of enhancing the aesthetic and environmental appearance of the post.

The demolition is expected to cost \$12 million and be completed in three phases. Phase one will take down 251 buildings and cost an estimated \$4.2 million; phases two and three will knock down and clear the remaining buildings at a cost of nearly \$8 million. The demolition is a sign of what is to come, opening the way for many improvements at Camp Roberts and also

benefitting local businesses and creating jobs.

Among the construction projects on the base are a \$2 million dining facility built by a Santa Maria company, which was completed in 2012; a \$12 million Combined Arms Collective Training Facility being built by a California-based company, which is set to be finished in June 2013; and a \$4.6 million tactical unmanned aerial systems facility, which is expected to be completed in September 2013.

In addition a \$3 million solar energy facility was finished in May 2012 by San Jose-based Nanosolar following 32 months of planning and four months of construction. The 5-acre, 1-megawatt solar energy farm is expected to power the entire base, at least during non-peak power-usage hours, for up to 25 years, greatly increasing the post’s cost-efficiency and lessening its environmental impact.

“We are [also] working on upgrading our utilities on post. Just phase one is \$21 million, again awarded to a local company,” Nuismer said. “That project will go through February 2015.”

Camp San Luis Obispo

Camp San Luis Obispo, or Camp SLO, was founded in 1928 and occupies 5,100 acres in California’s Central Coast area. The cantonment area at Camp SLO can house 1,200 service members under normal conditions and 2,000 under emergency conditions.

Camp SLO underwent several significant renovations in 2012, and one of the most important was the groundbreaking of a new state-of-the-art facility for Field Maintenance Shop 19, which is planned for completion in November 2013. FMS 19’s existing structure was built 1942, and the new facility is expected to greatly improve the shop’s ability to perform its mission. As part of the \$8 million dollar project, the structure is expected to attain a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design 3.0 Silver Rating, as determined by the U.S. Green Building Council. It will be the first structure on Camp SLO to meet the LEED criteria.





Camp SLO is also in the final stages of a multi-year effort to upgrade the installation's warehouses. When finished, all 18 of the structures, which were built in 1942, will have new concrete docks with roll-up doors, standing seam roofs, metal siding and electrical and high-speed fiber-optic networks.

The base also has made extensive upgrades to its firing ranges. Range A, which is used for M-16 training, recently received two new enclosed bleachers, a state-of-the-art classroom and a dining facility. The firing points were also improved through grading and the application of decomposed granite to ensure efficient drainage, which has made training safer and more efficient.

Range D, another M-16 qualification range, has been expanded from 15 to 35 firing lanes. Additionally, new structures on the Range include an ammunition-breakdown building and a bleacher enclosure, which will allow all-weather usage.

Other base improvements in 2012 included building a facility in the Kilo-1 training area to house the Humvee Egress Assistance Trainer. Kilo-1 is also the site of 12 stations for training on Army Warrior Tasks as well as the location of the Engagement Skills Trainer-2000, a virtual system that simulates weapons-training events.

The base's Temple Conference Center and Officers Club also were renovated, gaining a modernized kitchen and enhanced lounge area. Additionally the recreational vehicle area on the installation underwent extensive upgrades, including new restrooms and showers, a re-

vamped road network and upgraded utility systems that include power, water and sewer hookups for all sites.

Joint Forces Training Base Los Alamitos

Joint Forces Training Base (JFTB), Los Alamitos, is the premier military installation in Orange County and the busiest National Guard installation in California in terms of both military usage and community engagement. Several events in 2012 took advantage of JFTB's location and large training area to benefit the military and local law enforcement agencies, and to cultivate a strong community presence in Southern California.

JFTB is heavily involved in the state's Defense Support of Civil Authorities and Joint Reception, Staging and Onward Integration missions. This includes regularly hosting exercises and missions both on JFTB's Los Alamitos Army Airfield and in the Base's training areas. The Airfield boasts the longest runway in Orange County and is the busiest military airfield in the area, frequently opening its doors for training and real-world missions.

The Base's training schedule in 2012 included various Special Operations aviation missions; a Warfighter Information Network Tactical exercise; the Coast Guard and Air Force Reserve's disaster-preparedness exercise Patriot Hook; and the United Harbors exercise hosted by the CNG's 9th Civil Support Team and multiple law enforcement agencies, involving National Guardsmen from across the country. Additionally more than 20 law enforcement agencies including the U.S. Postal Inspection Service trained security forces on the JFTB's Military Operations on Urban Terrain site, a training area

that utilizes old military housing structures.

Annual community events such as the Race on the Base, the 4th of July Spectacular and the Wings, Wheels and Rotors Expo attracted thousands of local visitors in 2012, with an estimated 35,000 people turning out for the ever-growing Expo alone. The Base also supports its community as the training home for the U.S. Women's Water Polo team, which won the Olympic gold medal in 2012.

"We have an interesting dynamic here that is as much rooted in our military engagement as it is with our community cooperation," said Lt. Col. William Mayhue, the Base's deputy commander. "We proactively lean forward in readiness and preparation for any crisis that should occur in California. At the same time we provide support to various civilian authorities and engage our local and federal elected officials in both community and security fronts."

The cooperative nature of the Guard's JFTB is also evident in its list of tenants, which includes units of the Marine Corps, the Army Reserve, the Air Force Auxiliary, the California Emergency Management Agency, the Federal Aviation Administration and the Cal Guard's Sunburst Youth ChalleNGe Academy, which offers a military-style academy for high school dropouts and at-risk students.

JFTB also frequently hosts local and federal elected officials and other dignitaries for tours, meetings and events. In 2012 the Base welcomed a group from the Pentagon comprising more than 50 foreign attaches and their spouses, and it twice hosted a delegation from the Korean group Friends of Korean War Veterans.

2012

A LOOK BACK





Familiar missions in 2012 included Cal Guard deployments to Afghanistan and calls to battle wildfires statewide. Less common developments included a new Guard employment program, the end of the Southwest border mission and the certification of the 49th Military Police Brigade Homeland Response Force.

Every year brings different missions and developments for the Cal Guard, and 2012 was no different, with service members showing their skills and talents in a wide variety of roles.

January

Civil Reunion

Members of the 146th Airlift Wing Civil Engineering Squadron were reunited with their families following a six-month tour at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, where the unit maintained the expeditionary legal complex and Camp Justice, including constructing two buildings.

February

Homeland Security Guard

The National Guard closed Operation Phalanx, a four-state effort to curb the smuggling of people, drugs, weapons and cash over the Southwest border. From Aug. 24, 2010, through Feb. 4, 2012, about 260 CNG members were assigned to seven U.S. Border Patrol stations, manned eight entry identification team sites and collected and analyzed intelligence. Their efforts contributed to the seizure of 110 tons of marijuana and the arrest of 6,662 individuals.

Protecting Several States and Territories

Following two years of intense training, the 49th Military Police Brigade Homeland Response Force earned certification as the key military operations element covering about one-tenth of the country for the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The approximately

570-member Homeland Response Force combines a command-and-control element, a battalion headquarters, a security company and a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and high-yield explosive enhanced response force package to respond to any incident involving an airborne pathogen, "dirty bomb," nuclear detonation or other dangerous contaminant in FEMA Region IX.

March

Operation Enduring Freedom

More than 120 Soldiers of the 1072nd Transportation Company and 649th Military Police Company departed California for a yearlong deployment to Northern Afghanistan, where the 1072nd Soldiers were tasked to haul personnel and equipment for coalition forces with the MPs providing security.

General Praise

Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr. and the California National Guard promoted Col. Sylvia R. Crockett to the rank of brigadier general in a ceremony at the state Capitol in Sacramento. Crockett, who serves as director of strategic communications for the state's Military Department, is the first Latina general officer in the Cal Guard's history.

Hire Power

The Cal Guard and Speaker of the State Assembly John Perez introduced the Work for Warriors (WFW) program, which works to refine job-seekers' resumes and interviewing skills, and also seeks out employers that value characteristics Guardsmen bring to their jobs and establishes relationships that lead to interviews and job opportunities. WFW has so far placed more than 325 Guard members in full-time jobs.

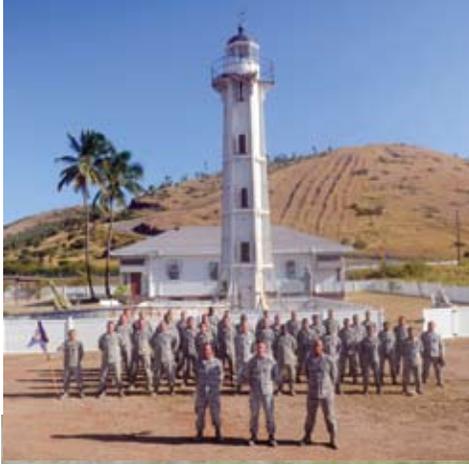
Best Hiring Practices

The California Military Department was recognized by the State Personnel Board Office of Civil Rights for the Department's efforts to hire people with disabilities and to provide upward mobility for employees in low-paying occupations. The CMD's representation of employees with disabilities was 14 percent in 2012, exceeding the Board's goal of 13.3 percent.

April

Bridge Authority

The Redding-based 132nd Multi-Role Bridge Company deployed to Afghanistan, where it was the only U.S. Army bridge unit in the country. The 132nd was charged with emplacing, inspecting, repairing and removing all bridges in the theater as well as conducting bridge recon-



naissance and supporting other engineering projects throughout Afghanistan.

Kuwait Mission

The 140th Chemical Company assumed responsibility for the Camp Arifjan Zone 6 Camp Command Cell in Kuwait, with a mission of maintaining and improving the living conditions for its Soldiers.

May

Solar System Up, Barracks Down

Camp Roberts, a 43,000-acre Guard training base north of Paso Robles, opened a 5-acre, 1-megawatt solar energy farm after 32 months of planning and nearly four months of construction. The plant is expected to power the entire base, at least during non-peak hours, for up to 25 years, increasing the post's cost-efficiency and lessening its environmental impact. About six months later, in December, the base would begin a three-phase demolition project to remove more than 600 dilapidated World War II-era buildings, which will make way for new facilities and infrastructure.

June

View from Above

Fifty-eight Airmen from the 163rd Reconnaissance Wing Civil Engineering Squadron returned from a six-month tour at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, where they established a high-altitude surveillance system and accomplished several other engineering projects, completing more than 1,000 work orders.

Keeping the Peace

Nearly 60 Soldiers with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3-140th Aviation Security and Support Battalion, departed California for a year supporting peacekeeping operations in Kosovo. The 3-140th is providing administrative and refueling support to coalition units that use UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters.

July

Battling the Blazes

Soldiers and Airmen of the Cal Guard fought wildfires across California in July, August and September, saving countless homes from disaster. Guard helicopters flew 920 hours in Northern and Southern California, filling 660-gallon buckets with water from lakes and other sources about 3,000 times and dropping 1.8 million gallons on fires. In addition, Guard planes equipped with 3,000-gallon Modular Airborne Fire Fighting Systems made 93 fire-retardant drops in California, totaling 265,000 gallons.

Drug Sweep

During Operation Mountain Sweep in July and August, the Guard's Joint Task Force Domestic Support-Counterdrug joined with 14 other local, state and federal agencies to eradicate illegal marijuana grow sites and reclaim land in Northern California. The effort eliminated more than 130 marijuana grow sites on public lands in California, seizing 540,000 plants and 14 firearms and indicting 26 defendants.

August

Ruling the Road in Afghanistan

Nearly 170 Soldiers of the 756th Transportation Company returned from a yearlong mission to Afghanistan, where they performed 421 convoy missions, escorted 952 Afghan trucks, completed nearly 900 logistical movement requests that comprised more than 4,000 pieces of cargo, and moved 11,523 personnel throughout the Kabul Base Cluster.

On the Road Again

About 100 Soldiers and a dozen CH-47 Chinook helicopters from Company B, 1st Battalion, 126th Aviation Regiment, deployed for the unit's third tour in Afghanistan or Iraq since 2003. The unit is performing air-assault missions and transporting personnel and equipment throughout Afghanistan.



CNG Deployments

Total number of Cal Guard Soldiers and Airmen deployed since 9/11

Army

Iraq // 10,027
Kosovo // 3,084
Afghanistan // 2,935
Kuwait // 2,207
Guantanamo Bay, Cuba // 468
Egypt // 452
Continental U.S. // 5,053
Total // 24,266

Air

Outside Continental U.S. // 9,682
Continental U.S. // 4,363
Total // 14,045



Focus on the Family

The Guard opened a first-of-its-kind Family Wellness Center that is located in the San Diego community rather than on a military base like many wellness centers and is open to members of all branches of the military. The Center offers assistance with everything from career counseling and financial advice to tutoring for children and help with post-traumatic-stress-related family issues.

September

Mission Complete

More than 160 Soldiers of the 578th Engineer Battalion returned from a yearlong deployment to Afghanistan, where the 578th commanded Task Force Mad Dog, which included two construction companies, four route clearance companies and one forward support company. The

578th oversaw Operation Devil Hammer, the largest military construction project in the Afghan campaign, which produced nine forward operating bases and six tactical operations centers. The 578th also cleared 30,000 miles of routes, disarming more than 1,000 improvised explosive devices.

October

Suicide Prevention is Everyone's Duty

Every California Army National Guard unit conducted a full day of suicide-prevention training during their October training weekend, incorporating activities that encouraged honest personal interactions and countered the stigma associated with seeking counseling. The results were in some cases immediate, as several Soldiers inspired by the training contacted suicide-prevention representatives to express

concerns over their own mental health. The Guard is working to train a host of master resiliency trainers and resilience training assistants across the state.

November

957 Saves and Counting

The 129th Rescue Wing launched a successful mission to treat a ship's hand and transport him to the United States after he suffered a serious head injury on a boat 300 miles off the coast of Mexico. The November rescue was the 129th's third in international waters west of Mexico in 2012, following a March rescue 500 miles west of Acapulco and a September rescue more than 1,400 miles off the coast of Acapulco. The Wing has saved 957 lives in combat and non-combat situations since being entrusted with its search-and-rescue mission in 1975.





This is just one of the ways we will continue to honor this warrior's service and sacrifice to a grateful state and nation."

- Maj. Gen. David S. Baldwin
*The Adjutant General,
California National Guard*

December

Honoring Their Service

The Guard renamed two of its readiness centers in 2012 for Soldiers who had died in Afghanistan in 2011. In December the 870th Military Police Company dedicated its Pittsburg armory to the memory of Spc. Sean M. Walsh, who was killed by indirect enemy fire in November 2011. Previously in September, the 756th Transportation Company had dedicated its home in Lancaster to Sgt. Carlo F. Eugenio, who was killed by a suicide bomber in October 2011. "From here on, every Guardsman who trains here will know [Eugenio's] name and recall his story," Maj. Gen. David S. Baldwin, the adjutant general of the Cal Guard, said before the dedication in Lancaster. "This is just one of the ways we will continue to honor this warrior's service and sacrifice to a grateful state and nation."

In Remembrance: 2001 - Present

These members of the California National Guard paid the ultimate price during combat operations so that others may live.

Staff Sergeant
David Perry
649th MP Co.

Specialist
Michael Mihalakis
270th MP Co.

Specialist
Eric Ramirez
670th MP Co.

First Lieutenant
Michael W. Vega
Co. A, 223rd MI Bn.

Specialist
Daniel P. Unger
Co. A, 1st Bn., 185th Inf.

Staff Sergeant
Jose C. Rangel
1106th AVCRAD

First Lieutenant
Andre D. Tyson
Co. A, 579th Engr. Bn.

Sergeant
Patrick R. McCaffrey
Co. A, 579th Engr. Bn.

Sergeant
Quoc B. Tran
Det. 3, Co B, 185th Ar. Bn.

Sergeant 1st Class
Michael Ottolini
Co. A, 579th Engr. Bn.

Corporal
Glenn J. Watkins
Co. B, 1st Bn., 161st Inf.

Sergeant
Timothy C. Kiser
HHD, 340th Fwd. Spt. Bn.

Sergeant
Arnold Duplantier II
Co. C, 1st Bn., 184th Inf.

Staff Sergeant
Alfredo Silva
Det. 1, HHB, 1st Bn., 487th FA

Sergeant
Mike T. Sonoda Jr.
Det. 2, Co. D, 1st Bn., 184th Inf.

Staff Sergeant
Paul C. Neubauer
Co. D, 1st Bn., 184th Inf.

Sergeant 1st Class
Daniel R. Schiele
Det. 1, Co. D, 1st Bn., 184th Inf.

Staff Sergeant
Jerry L. Bonifacio Jr.
Co. B, 1st Bn., 184th Inf.

Captain
Raymond Hill
HHC, 1st Bn., 184th Inf.

Sergeant
Shakere T. Guy
Co. D, 1st Bn., 184th Inf.

Sergeant
Marcelino R. Corniel
Co. A, 1st Bn., 184th Inf.

Sergeant 1st Class
Isaac S. Lawson
HHD, 49th MP Bde.

Sergeant 1st Class
Rudy Salcido
1114th Transportation Co.

Sergeant
Dwayne Young
Co. C, 3rd Bn., 160th Inf.

Sergeant
Dennis Sullen
HHC, 1st Bn., 185th Inf.

Sergeant
Rhys W. Klasno
1114th Transportation Co.

Major
Rocco M. Barnes
40th Infantry Division

Sergeant
Carlo F. Eugenio
756th Transportation Co.

Specialist
Sean M. Walsh
870th MP Co.



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2012 YEAR IN REVIEW



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