

TENN. ARMY NATIONAL GUARD HELPS GRANT A LITTLE BOY'S WISH

THE VOLUNTEER STATE GUARD

M A G A Z I N E

ON THE MOVE

WITH THE 118TH MPAD



**Six overseas missions in two years and
recruiting Soldiers to embark on more**



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THE VOLUNTEER STATE GUARD

M A G A Z I N E



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**TENNESSEE
SNAPSHOT**

AIR ASSAULT TRAINING

TRP D 1-230th ACS conducts an air assault training mission with DET 1 TRP E 2-278th ACR from the TNARNG Armory in Livingston, Tenn., to LZ Sharp at VTS-Tullahoma on Oct. 18, 2014.

PHOTO BY: CW2 Emily Wiest



TENNESSEE
SNAPSHOT

VETERANS DAY 2014

Governor Bill Haslam greets CW5 Robert V. "RV" Davis, the Tennessee National Guard's Command Chief Warrant Officer during the Veteran's Day Ceremony held on November 10, 2014 at the Tennessee Tower Plaza in Nashville.

PHOTO BY: Lt. Col. (Ret) Niki Gentry



ANGIE JOHNSON

TENNESSEE AIR NATIONAL GUARD

**TENNESSEE
SNAPSHOT**

MAJOR LEAGUE VOCALS

Tennessee Air National Guard Tech. Sgt. Angie Johnson belted out "God Bless America" during the seventh inning stretch at the World Series the night of October 28, 2014.

PHOTO BY: MAJ (Ret) Randy Harris



TENNESSEE
SNAPSHOT

PRESIDENT POLK WREATH LAYING

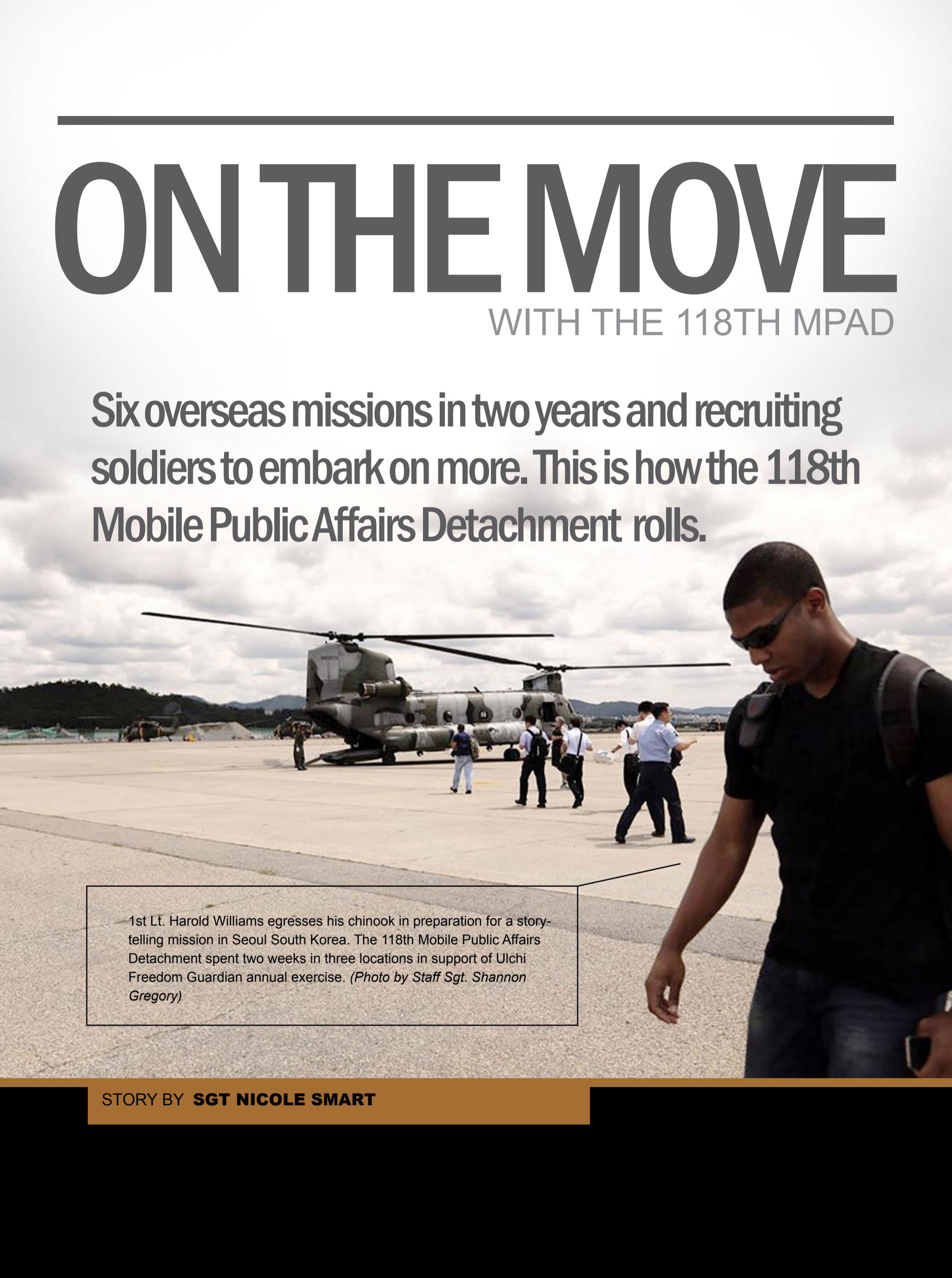
Brig. Gen. Don Johnson, Assistant Adjutant General, Air and Chaplain Maj. Mark Phillips preside over the wreath laying ceremony at the gravesite of President James K. Polk on November 1, 2014 at the state capitol in Nashville.

PHOTO BY: SSG Edgar Castro

ON THE MOVE

WITH THE 118TH MPAD

Six overseas missions in two years and recruiting soldiers to embark on more. This is how the 118th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment rolls.



1st Lt. Harold Williams egresses his chinook in preparation for a storytelling mission in Seoul South Korea. The 118th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment spent two weeks in three locations in support of Ulchi Freedom Guardian annual exercise. *(Photo by Staff Sgt. Shannon Gregory)*

STORY BY **SGT NICOLE SMART**

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – One specialized unit, two years, six overseas missions, and 20 Soldiers with a passion for telling stories. The 118th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment prides themselves on their globe trotting in search of military stories. Adventure awaits for this close-knit unit of 20, split between print journalists and broadcast journalists and they are looking for a few good Soldiers to join their team for future missions.

Reflecting on some of those experiences as they prep for upcoming missions, many of the MPAD's soldiers said the experiences they have gained during their ODT missions have been invaluable to their careers.

“Our mission on a broad level is to tell the military’s story,” said Sgt. Jim Boyd, broadcast journalist. “We do that at a troop level but our global reach means that we work with American troops and allied troops in other countries, that cross-cultural training is invaluable,” he said.

1st Lt. Harold Williams went to Guatemala from March to June in 2012 as part of a two-man-team who stayed for the duration of the mission as others cycled through for weeks at a time. Williams had the opportunity to travel back and forth across the Central American country, which gave him a lot of real-world experience in the field and a lot of cultural experience as a bonus.

“Being in a public affairs role, we had the opportunity to cover everyone there,” he said. “We had a chance to see the country as we captured our stories, more of the country than the commander. It made things exciting and fresh.”

Having the opportunity to interact with other units in Guatemala was a highlight of Williams’ trip. His team attached to a Missouri Guard unit who welcomed the duo as if they were neighbors from back home.

“It’s not about where you are from, it’s about being a Soldier,” Williams said. “We get the opportunity to travel a lot, take part in a lot of unique missions and become cultured along the way.”

The workload is high and the deadlines are short but the team always finds a way to infuse enjoyment and humor into their missions. Candid stories and photos often accompany mission work upon arrival home and bonding memories are shared.



TOP: A Soldier speaks to children at *Beyond the Horizon 2012*, a joint foreign military exercise in Honduras to provide humanitarian services. (Photo by Sgt 1st Class Walter E. van Ochten)

RIGHT: Sgt. 1st Class Walter E. van Ochten takes a photo during *Beyond the Horizon 2013*, in Colon, Panama (Photo by Capt. Sarah Harris)



“I’ve been in the military a long time and Germany was the best mission I’ve been on during my entire career,” Boyd said.

The team of four arrived in Germany and started work immediately. With a list of stories to cover and interviewees to contact, the small team stayed very busy during their three-week period and published numerous stories that were sent to a U.S. audience and were also translated into German for the local audience.

“We were located on a base right in the middle of the city,” said Sgt. Jess Williams, photojournalist. “We were just a few steps away from the culture and the sights and saw many of them when the work day was over,” he said.

A few months later another small team of five traveled to Japan to cover a yearly bi-lateral exercise known as Yama Sakura. They were visiting just one year after a tsunami rocked the small island and caused mass destruction and it became another storytelling avenue. When the team experi-

enced an earthquake of their own an interesting perspective was gained that allowed them to infuse their stories with personal experiences.

“It was ironic that we were in Japan covering the tsunami and then experienced an earthquake while we were there; it put everything into perspective and made things a little more real,” Williams said. “I was able to put myself into their shoes, put more understanding into my stories, and tell them more naturally,” he said.

1st Lt. Justin McQueen, began his career in the 118th MPAD as an enlisted Soldier where he became a broadcast journalist. As his career progressed, McQueen spent time in another unit and came back to the 118th MPAD where he now leads the group he once served with.

“This is a unit where I’ve been both



118th MPAD's overseas mission locales (since 2012)

enlisted and an officer and some of the best NCOs I've seen reside here," he said. "They are upstanding individuals who bring a lot of civilian knowledge and experience."

Those NCOs will tell you that as you take part in more missions, you become better at contingency planning. Although mistakes happened and things rarely go according to plan, beautiful things come from those experiences. And for this passionate group

of storytellers, armed with pens, cameras and microphones, they wouldn't have it any other way.

"This is a very unique unit in relation to the rest of the Tennessee National Guard," McQueen said. "We have a lot of opportunities here if you want to see the world."

Those opportunities come often for members of the MPAD, and they are looking to add to their team.

"We're a close-knit group and we're looking for good Soldiers to assist us as we go down range on our next mission," 1st Lt. Williams said. "If you enjoy a challenge, you'll love it."

Williams said those who are willing to be part of the spotlight must be ready for everything. "This is a high visibility job that makes an impact but your mistakes are magnified as well," he said. "It's a perfect job for a go-getter who is looking to make a difference."

For those interested in joining this close-knit group who will teach you everything you need to know, contact 1st Sgt. Joe Allen at 615-313-2693 for more information. With school and mission opportunities in addition to the wealth of knowledge you will find in the unit, Allen is looking for a 110 GT score, eligibility for a SECRET clearance and rank of E4 and above.

To find out what you have in store with this unique mobile group, find stories and photos from each of their missions on the 118th DVIDS page: <http://www.dvidshub.net/unit/118MPAD#> and on the 118th Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/118th-MPAD/510505028970286>

- SGT NICOLE SMART



Opening ceremony of Yama Sakura 63, a bilateral training exercise held twice a year with members of the Japanese Ground Self Defense Force (JGSDF) and the U.S. military. (Photo by Sgt. Jess Williams)



BRIG. GEN. TERRY ETHRIDGE

The Tennessee Military Department congratulates Brig. Gen. Terry A. Ethridge, the Director of the Joint Staff for the Tennessee National Guard, and his family upon the occasion of his retirement in October 2014. Brig. Gen. Ethridge was commissioned in the United States Army through the Reserve Officer Training Corps program at Middle Tennessee State University in 1978. He served in numerous leadership positions prior to becoming the Director of the Joint Staff in 2011.

Ethridge deployed to Afghanistan in 2009 and served as a Regional Corps Advisory Group Commander.

He also served with great distinction in the field artillery and aviation branches, while providing outstanding support to both the Army and Air National Guard personnel he led during his tenure as the Director of the Joint Staff. The Military Department expresses tremendous gratitude for his selfless dedication and lifelong service to the Soldiers and Airmen of the great state of Tennessee.



TRAINING

OUTSIDE THE BOX

Unique MEDEVAC training with local hospital, police, fire and EMS hosted at historic training site.

Story and Photos by SGT NICOLE SMART

COMBINING ASSETS IN CATOOSA

Tucked away in the Georgia mountains, the historic Catoosa training site owned by the Tennessee Army National Guard sits quietly and unassuming. It was awake and bustling Oct. 30, during the first-of-its-kind joint-agency MEDEVAC training. This unique training exercise organized by Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth Duncan, was different on many fronts - a civilian aircraft was used, civilian pilots led the training and the Angel EMS Life Force helicopter made a special appearance on the new landing zone (LZ) marked that morning.

“We are responsible for the safety of those on the training site so it’s better to prepare for injury than to hope it doesn’t happen,” As NCOIC of the Catoosa training site, Duncan takes training and safety seriously.

During a recent conference Duncan attended, MEDEVAC training was the topic of discussion. Without military air assets in the Catoosa area, Duncan got to work designing a solution that included his 15-Soldier team, Catoosa County firefighters, Life Force pilots, EMS and police.

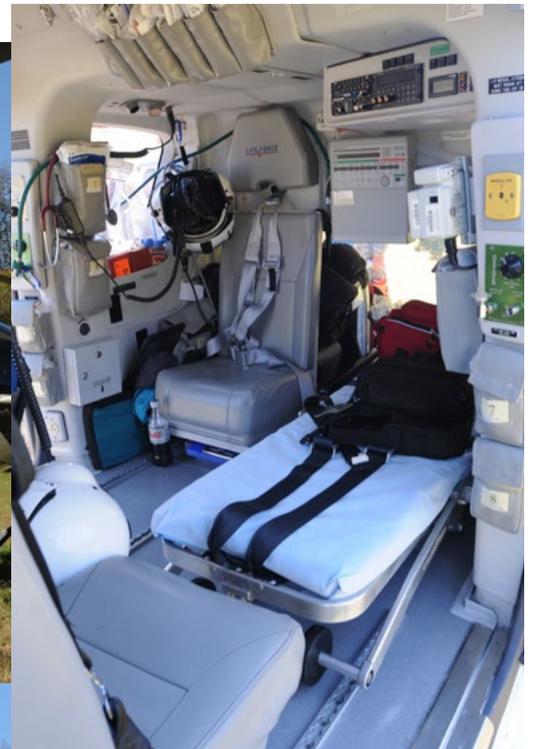
“We don’t have any military assets to provide MEDEVAC training so we teamed up with local forces and Life Force,” said Duncan. “We’re going over how to place a LZ the way they like it, find alternate LZ locations, and how to package a casualty. That is the primary goal. The secondary goal is to put faces to names because we don’t want to meet for the first time during an emergency.”

TRAINING BEGINS

The day of training began in the classroom led by Glen Suskind, Life Force paramedic. His focus areas were history, safety and important statistics. Civilian Air Medical got its start after the Vietnam War and took off in the 80s, which is also when Life Force was established. Looking to do a few flights a month, the crew ended their first year with more than 700 transports to Erlanger Hospital. They offer service within a 20-minute flight range on both sides of the Tennessee/Georgia border and their pilots hold dual certification to provide care in both states.



TOP LEFT: Life Force pilots land at the Catoosa training site.



TOP RIGHT: Inside the EC-135 helicopter.



RIGHT: Tenn. National Guard with Erlanger Hospital Life Force, Catoosa County Fire, EMS and Police.

In true Southern hospitality fashion, and to show their appreciation for the training opportunities, the hosting Soldiers paid out of their own pockets to provide breakfast for the training event. Bagels, donuts, juice and coffee lined the two long tables. Everyone had a hearty breakfast that morning before heading outside for the second half, hands-on portion of the training.

“The goals for today were hands on training for the Soldiers, face-to-face interaction with the agencies and follow on training with different scenarios in the future,” said Duncan.

Emergency vehicles and their corresponding team members lined the known distance range and 33 trainees from all agencies stood along the side as they watched the Life Force bird make its landing. Shortly after the four pilots made their introductions, the group quickly began climbing in and peering around the aircraft to get a closer look. They looked like curious kids as they bobbed and weaved in and out of the open doors.

A FLYING ICU

The EC-135, which doesn’t currently have a military equivalent, was the item on display. The back loading doors were opened and Suskind rolled out a stretcher, giving a show-and-tell of his prized bird.

“The aircraft is kind of like a flying ICU,” he said as he showed the big features packed into the small space the aircraft has.

Specialty equipment on board and training is constantly conducted to keep the crew sharp. Pilots must have three years of EMS experience and five years of in flight medical experience before being considered for the Life Flight team as well as a 3,000 flight-hour minimum. Our pilot of the day, Mike, stopped counting at the 14,000 hour mark.

The curious bystanders had a question-and-answer session with the flight crew and had an opportunity for all to see the bird up close and personal, most said it was for the first time.



EC-135 helicopter (with no current military equivalent) was the item on display for members of the Tenn. National Guard, Catoosa County Fire, EMS and Police during the first of it's kind joint-agency MEDEVAC training.

“We learned some new things today – how to package a patient, that height and weight is a huge factor because the bird is quite small, and that EMS will show up first,” said Maj. Carter Honeycutt, Catoosa training site OIC.

With a lot of training options packed into a short time frame, Duncan used forward thinking to create a unique training opportunity that bonded his team with

“When situations happen you don’t rise to the occasion, you fall back on training.”

local emergency response teams.

“It’s a small training site with plenty of opportunity for injury so our main task is to minimize the speed bumps from the time someone gets injured to the time they get care,” Duncan said. “When situations happen you don’t rise to the occasion, you fall back on training.”

Honeycutt beamed about the humble Duncan, calling him a one-man show when setting up the training. “We have units here every weekend so it’s hard to get everyone together but we did today, and it’s important. You can never have too much training,” he said.

The joint-service training event was the first of its kind and one of many to come to Catoosa and other National Guard training sites, which include Smyrna, Milan and Tullahoma. For more information about the Volunteer Training Site in Catoosa, visit their website at catoosatrainingsite.com.

- SGT NICOLE SMART

CLEAN ENERGY

Tennessee National Guard receives Clean Energy Grant

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - The Tennessee National Guard will receive \$250,000 in the form of a Clean Tennessee Energy Grant, a program established by Gov. Bill Haslam and managed by the Department of Environment and Conservation, to replace inefficient air conditioning and heating equipment, potable gas fired storage tank water heaters, and indoor lighting and windows at several readiness centers across the state. The new highly efficient equipment is Energy Star qualified and manufactured to meet current Federal energy efficiency standards and, "will result in immediate savings to the taxpayer through reduced consumption," stated Col. Brad Bishop, Chief, Facilities Management Office for the Tennessee Military Department.

The project is expected to reduce electrical consumption by 293,432 kilowatt hours and the natural gas consumption by 2,344 British Thermal Units for a total reduction, when converted respectively, of 3,345 BTU per year. In terms of actual dollars there is an expected energy cost savings of over \$56,000 and more than \$25,000 per year in maintenance costs.

The Tennessee National Guard provided matching funds received from the National Guard Bureau as part of the overall Department of Defense budget, in order to cover the total project cost of \$523,000, and apply for the grant. Tennessee's Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Max Haston stated, "We take stewardship very seriously, especially when defense dollars are on the cutting block. In essence, we are stretching the federal dollars



Two modular Lochinvar boilers with an 81% efficiency rating, like the ones pictured above at the Lebanon Readiness Center, will replace single cast iron hot water boilers built in 1986. Lochinvar World Headquarters is in Lebanon, Tennessee.

we receive to cover the efficiency upgrades that will stretch our dollars even more."

"These facilities are used by our National Guard Soldiers for training in order to respond during times of crisis or natural disasters, thereby aiding the citizens of this great state. In addition, these facilities are part of the local communities wherein they are physically located. I'm glad we were able to secure these funds in 2014 and we're already working with the Department

of Environment and Conservation in the hopes of securing another grant in 2015," stated Col. Bishop.

Air conditioning and heating equipment will be replaced at seven centers, potable water heaters at two centers, lighting at three centers, and windows at one center. The projects can be started immediately and completed within six months of availability of the grant.

- CW4 NICK ATWOOD

OPEN FOR FITNESS

VTS-Smyrna opens their newly renovated fitness facility

SMYRNA, Tenn. - After 15 months of construction and several years in various planning phases the newly renovated fitness facility opened for use on Nov. 19 at the Volunteer Training Site in Smyrna, Tenn.

The renovation included an expansion of the previous facility to triple the usable workout area and increase the locker room amenities. This also included the purchase of all new equipment.

The fitness facility is open seven days a week to all members of the Tenn. National Guard and retirees. This includes FTSP, units conducting drill or annual training and those members serving in a temporary duty status for school or training. It can also be used for conferences or meetings using VTS-Smyrna or the lodging operation. - **MAJ BOBBY ROMINGER**



New equipment and more usable area are just a couple of the upgrades to the fitness facility at the Volunteer Training Site in Smyrna, Tenn.

The Volunteer Training Site in Smyrna is located at 618 Fitzhugh Boulevard, Smyrna, Tenn. 37167

1/230TH RETURNS

1/230th Air Cavalry Soldiers return home from Afghanistan

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - On November 26, the first 29 Soldiers from the Tennessee National Guard's 1/230th Air Cavalry Squadron arrived back onto Tennessee soil, returning from their nearly yearlong deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The Soldiers arrived at Nashville International Airport in two groups, the first 10 Soldiers arrived in the morning and the remaining shortly after noon. They traveled by groups to the Volunteer Training Site in Smyrna, next to the Smyrna Airport, and were greeted by a reception of family and friends welcoming them home.

After out-processing, the Soldiers traveled to their home station in Louisville, Tenn.

The remainder of the original 80 deployed Soldiers are scheduled to arrive in mid December, 2014.



BY: MAJ (RET) RANDY HARRIS PHOTOGRAPHS BY: LT COL (RET) NIKI GENTRY

CFC CAMPAIGN 2014

Joint Force Headquarters goes all out for CFC (Combined Federal Campaign) Chili Cookoff



Human Resource Office - Star Wars Theme



Tenn. Air National Guard Personnel - Carnival Theme



Personnel Department (G1) - The Walking Dead Theme

Photos by SFC (Ret) John Evans

WORLD WAR II VETERAN RECEIVES MEDAL

MG Haston presents medal to Albert Morris



Top: U.S. Congresswoman Diane Black joins Maj. Gen. Max Haston in presenting World War II Veteran, Albert Morris with the European African Middle Eastern Campaign Service Medal. Bottom: Maj. Gen. Max Haston presents World War II Veteran Albert Morris with the European African Middle Eastern Campaign Service Medal.

Photos by MAJ (Ret) Randy Harris

AIDEN'S WISH

The Tenn. Army National Guard grants the wishes of one strong little boy

I first heard of Aiden Turnbo when I got a phone call from retired Senior Master Sgt. Jim Horn, formerly of the 118th Airlift Wing in Nashville. Jim told me about a young man at his church that had been diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. Jim also told me Aiden's story.

Aidan was a "fireball" of a little boy until the age of 6 when he developed severe leg and arm pains to the point of sleepless nights and absence of school. After numerous doctor visits and blood work, he was referred to Vanderbilt Children's Hospital on October 12th, 2012, where the diagnosis was Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. He stayed in the hospital 11 days for surgery, bone marrow biopsy, spinal taps, and to start his chemo regiment. He faces a three and a half year maintenance schedule with regular chemo treatments once a month, oral chemo meds daily, and spinal taps every three months. In June of this year his blood count dropped, he developed rashes and fever, and was admitted to Vanderbilt for four days to get his blood counts regulated. Aiden's family will continue to travel to the hospital once a week for labs until he is stable with his medication. Aiden is a strong little boy who has been through more than most could bear. He will continue his oral medications and trips to the hospital for labs, chemo, and spinal taps until January of 2016.

Two of Aiden's wishes were to ride in a helicopter, and ride in a tank, and that's where the Tennessee Army National Guard came in. Lt. Col. Gene Reece, State Aviation Officer, and Lt. Col. Keith Scott, Administrative Officer of the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment jumped at the chance



Lt. Col. Gene Reece presents Aiden Turnbo with his own flight suit complete with wings. (Photo by MAJ (Ret.) Randy Harris)



Top Left - Medics check Aiden's teeth and feet to ensure he is fit to wear the Cavalry Spurs.

Bottom Left - Aiden's triumphant exit from the C12 Huron.

Bottom Right - Spc. Nathan Jones of Troop F briefs Aiden on the proper operation of the M4 Combat Assault Rifle. (Photos by MAJ (Ret.) Randy Harris)



to help. On Saturday, November 1st, Lt. Col. Reece presented Aiden with his own military flight suit, wings and cover and an Army Combat Uniform (ACU) duffle bag to carry his "stuff". Aiden, along with his mother, Kristie, and dad, Richie, then traveled to the Army Aviation Support Facility #1 in Smyrna to check out the helicopters. They were greeted on arrival by Chief Warrant Officer 5 Andy Cordray, who led Aiden through the UH-60 and HH-60 Blackhawks, LUH-72 Lakota and C-12 King Air. Aiden strapped in to almost every seat in the aircraft, experiencing the crew chief's position with gun mount on the Blackhawk

and working the clamshell doors on the Lakota. With Aiden in the pilot's seat and geared up with a flight helmet, CW5 Cordray explained how the helicopters fly and how the pilots control them in flight. From the helicopters, Aiden toured the C-12 Huron fixed wing aircraft, traveling from the cockpit to the baggage compartment. Aiden finished his day flying in a civilian helicopter and firing a sniper rifle among other weapons at a local gun range.

The next Saturday, Aiden was met by 2nd Lt. Jeremiah Giles of Troop F, 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment and introduced to several troopers readying for a tacti-

cal exercise. He then was escorted into the Squadron Tactical Operations Center where Maj. Matt Smith, Executive Officer of the 2/278 ACR and Maj. Colby Tippens, Squadron Training Officer, took charge. Second Squadron was training on the Close Combat Tactical Trainer (CCTT) at Volunteer Training Site-Smyrna, and it gave the perfect opportunity not only to experience the operation of the armored vehicles, but to also let Aiden be an integral part of both an M1 Abrams and M3 Bradley Fighting Vehicle crew.

When Aiden arrived wearing his flight suit, he was quickly outfitted with his own



THE TRADITION OF HAVING TO “EARN YOUR SPURS”

The tradition of having to “earn your spurs” reaches back to the beginning of the cavalry. When green Troopers first arrived at their new cavalry assignments they were assigned a horse with a shaved tail. This led to the nickname “Shave Tail” for newly assigned, spur-less Soldiers. These new Troopers were in need of extensive training, especially in the area of swordsmanship from atop a horse. The horse with a shaved tail was given extra space in which to operate since its rider was marked as a novice. During this phase of training the Troopers were not allowed to wear spurs because this would only serve to compound their problems. Only when they were able to prove their ability to perform with their horse and saber were they awarded spurs.



Aiden Turnbo in full Cavalry gear. (Photo by MAJ (Ret.) Randy Harris)

ACU’s, down to the boots and “boonie” hat sporting “Cav” brass and Specialist rank. After placing the rest of his “loot” (thanks, Recruiting) in his ACU backpack, Aiden was ready for his delaying action mission brief. Using a sand table, Maj. Smith briefed “Specialist” Turnbo on his mission and explained that it was critical that as the gunner on an M1 Abrams, it was his mission to not allow the bad guys to cross a designated point on the map.

After the mission brief, “Specialist” Turnbo moved to the CCTT area where he was briefed on the proper operation of the M4 Combat Assault Rifle by Spc. Nathan Jones of Troop F. After a through training period and evaluation, “Specialist” Turnbo was “promoted” to Sgt. 1st Class and imme-

diately transferred to Company H to begin his mission on the M1. “Sgt. 1st Class” Turnbo took to the Gunner and Tank Commander’s role like a duck to water. During the mission, he personally destroyed three enemy tanks and a Mi-24 HIND helicopter, in addition to numerous ground troops. Aiden then moved to the Bradley Fighting Vehicle where he crossed the line of departure and moved into a defensive position to stop the southward movement of the enemy. Aiden’s mission was successful and he came out of the Bradley in true Cavalry form, tired, hungry, but ready for the next mission.

Smith and Tippens then called the troop to attention and began the time honored

tradition of issuing a Cavalry Trooper his spurs. In front of the troop formation, “Sgt. 1st Class” Turnbo was inspected head to toe by the Troop medic and found fit to “Spur”. In a traditional Cavalry ceremony, “Sgt. 1st Class” Turnbo was “Spurred” by Maj. Smith and Maj. Tippens making him an “official” seasoned Cavalry trooper.

“Sgt. 1st Class” Turnbo then returned to the Squadron Headquarters Assembly Area to complete his day with the Cavalry. Tired, dirty, but a very happy young man, “Sgt. 1st Class” Turnbo was then awarded the gold oak leaf designating him a “Major” of Cavalry, completing a day to remember.

- MAJ (RET) RANDY HARRIS

Author’s note: Aiden Turnbo faces a long and tough journey to beat the disease that effects his life every day. If you would like to be a part of assisting this young man and his family, go to <https://www.giveforward.com/fundraiser/r166/totally-turnbo-fundraiser-for-aiden-turnbo-s-leukemia-all-> or <https://www.facebook.com/TotallyTurnbo>.

JOIN THE AIR FORCE SERGEANTS ASSOCIATION



What is the AFSA?

The Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA) is a non-profit organization representing the professional and personal interests of nearly 111,000 active, retired and veteran total enlisted members of the United States Air Force and their families. Membership is open to Air Force Active Duty (AFAD), Air National Guard (ANG), Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC) active, retired, and veteran enlisted members of all grades.

Why should you join?

Benefits of AFSA membership are numerous and valuable. In addition to having a strong, respected voice on Capitol Hill, and an opportunity to make lasting friendships, AFSA members enjoy a wide range of member only benefits including:

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- Investment management
- College savings plans
- Low interest rate credit cards
- Discounted travel and hotel rates
- Magazine and newspaper subscription discounts
- College tuition discounts, computer discounts, mobile phone discounts
- And much more

Go to www.hqafsa.org and become a member today.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

NGAUS 2015

**137th General
Conference**



September 10 - 13, 2015 Nashville, Tenn.



Warrant Officer
Daniel Earl Cole
MEMORIAL BRIDGE

1st Lt.
Thomas Williams Jr.
MEMORIAL BRIDGE

IN DEDICATION

Two bridges in Knox County, Tenn., were dedicated in November 2014 to honor 1st Lt. Thomas Williams and Chief Warrant Officer 4 Daniel Cole. William's memorial is located at I-140 and Bluegrass Road, with Cole's placed at I-140 and Westland Drive. The two Tennessee National Guard Soldiers were tragically killed in 2011 during an aircraft training accident.

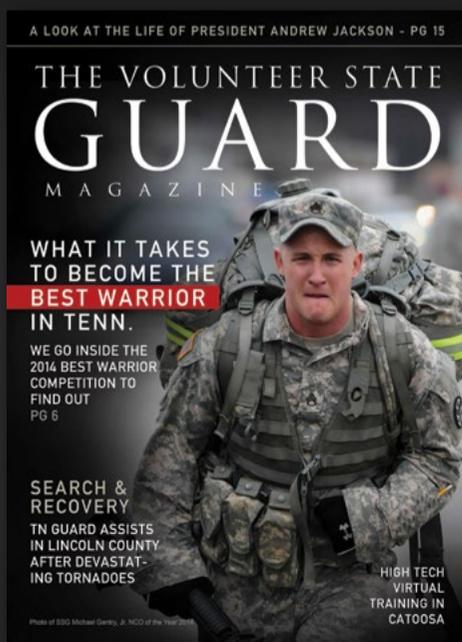
“Two of our fallen heroes now have memorials to honor their service and sacrifice that may be witnessed each day by their fellow Guard members, citizens of Tennessee and the nation.”

Major General Max Haston, The Adjutant General, Tennessee

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