



2017  
**ANNUAL  
REPORT**



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# LEADERSHIP

## State Officials



*The men and women of the West Virginia National Guard are a cost-effective, proven force recognized throughout the Nation as one of the best military organizations.*

## Statement from The Adjutant General

Dear Governor Justice:

I am pleased to provide you with the 2017 Annual Report of the Adjutant General. It has been another successful year for the West Virginia National Guard, filled with unique opportunities, challenges and rewarding outcomes.

Over the past year, the men and women of the West Virginia National Guard have demonstrated the organizational motto of "Mountaineer Pride Worldwide." Our involvement throughout the state this year has left a positive impact on the communities in which we live and serve. We have supported such events as Bridge Day, the Special Olympics, the Presidential and Gubernatorial inaugurations, and hurricane recovery efforts among many others events. Through continued training, we remain vigilant and ready to assist at a moment's notice when our citizens need us most. In addition, we continue to seek innovative approaches to impact the great state of West Virginia through our programs focused on economic development and growth.

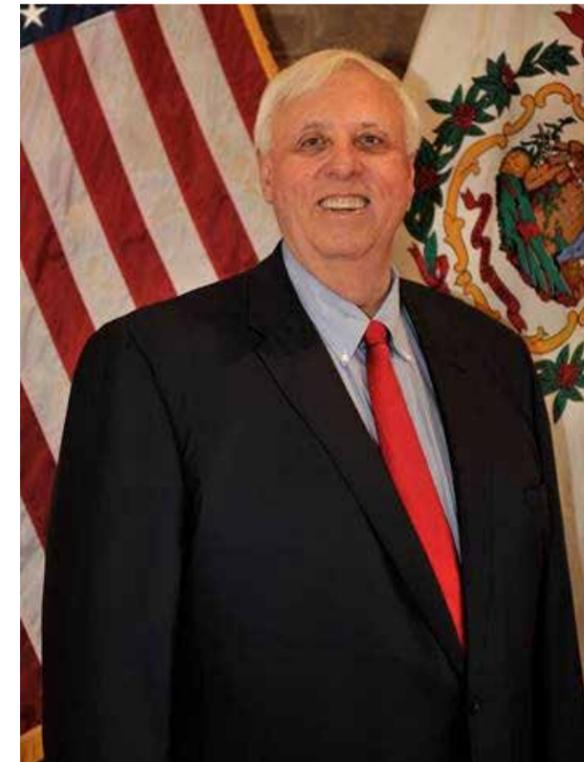
The brave men and women of the West Virginia National Guard supported the Global War on Terrorism through deployments around the world in 2017, impacting strategic national defense objectives. At home, we focused on protecting our State and Nation through homeland defense missions in West Virginia and beyond.

The 6,400 men and women of the West Virginia National Guard are a cost-effective, proven force recognized throughout the Nation as one of the best military organizations. Your leadership and support, as well as that of our legislators and communities, will allow us to continue to perform as an organization of excellence!

The West Virginia National Guard is proud to serve the great state of West Virginia. We are thankful and proud to serve our communities and thank you and the citizens of West Virginia for the outstanding support to our Guard members and their families.

Respectfully,

JAMES A. HOYER  
Major General, WVARNG  
The Adjutant General



**Jim Justice**  
Governor  
Commander-In-Chief, WVNG

The West Virginia National Guard is authorized and governed by Article 1, Chapter 15 of the West Virginia Code and is constituted as both a state and federal force by authority of the National Defense Act approved June 3, 1916.

The National Guard is a reserve component of the Army of the United States and the United States Air Force. In time of peace, the National Guard is a state force, controlled by the Adjutant General as the principal military representative of the Commander-in-Chief, the Governor. The Governor has



**Jeff Sandy**  
Secretary  
Military Affairs and Public Safety

the power to order the West Virginia National Guard into the active service of the State and to cause them to perform duty such as he shall deem proper.

The National Guard is equipped and paid by the federal government and must meet organizational and training standards to qualify for federal recognition. When Congress declares a national emergency and authorizes the use of armed force requiring troops in excess of those in the active forces, the President of the United States may order the National Guard into

the active military service of the United States.<sup>1</sup>

*1 West Virginia Blue Book 1996, p. 98, Holmes, D. E. and Lilly, K. C., Chapman Printing, Huntington, W.Va.*

# LEADERSHIP

## Senior National Guard Leaders



**JAMES A. HOYER**  
Major General  
Adjutant General/Joint Forces Commander



**HARRISON "H.B." GILLIAM**  
Brigadier General  
Director, Joint Staff



**RUSSELL A. CRANE**  
Brigadier General  
Commander/Assistant  
Adjutant General - Army



**PAIGE P. HUNTER**  
Brigadier General  
Commander/Assistant  
Adjutant General - Air



**STEVEN P. OWENS**  
Chief Warrant Officer 5  
State Command Chief

# LEADERSHIP

## Senior Enlisted National Guard Leaders



**JAMES L. ALLEN**  
Command Sergeant Major  
Senior Enlisted Leader



**PHILLIP R. CANTRELL**  
Command Sergeant  
Major  
Army National Guard



**JAMES M. DIXON**  
Command Chief  
Master Sergeant  
Air National Guard

# WEST VIRGINIA NATIONAL GUARD YEAR IN REVIEW

- JITEC CBRNE Battalion ensured readiness of National Guard domestic CBRN response units by conducting 64 total missions training over 12,046 Soldiers and Airmen.
- The CBRNE Battalion supported multiple missions in support of the hurricane relief efforts in Virginia at the National Guard Coordination Center (NGCC) augmenting the Adaptive Battle Staff and by traveling to Louisiana, Georgia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands as Joint Enabling Teams (JET) and Joint Assessment Teams (JAT).
- Det. 1, Co. B, 1/224th Security and Support Aviation Battalion flew over 1,115 hours supporting 142 counter narcotics missions which facilitated law enforcement eradicating 74,000 marijuana plants, and seizing 3,873 grams of cocaine, 6,657 grams of heroin, 6,618 grams of methamphetamine, 518 grams of crack cocaine and 188 arrests. The illegal drug and assets were valued at more than \$1 billion.
- Eighteen Airmen deployed to three locations in response to Hurricanes Harvey, Maria, and Irma and aircrews from the 167th Airlift Wing flew 24 C-17 Globemaster III aircraft sorties delivering 287.2 short tons of cargo and 114 passengers to the islands.
- A team of five Airmen from the 130th Airlift Wing communications flight deployed to Puerto Rico for more than 30 days with the Joint Incident Site Communications Capability (JISCC) to support recovery operations following Hurricane Maria.
- The 130th AW flew four sorties carrying 6.59 short tons of cargo and 16 passengers for Hurricane Maria relief.
- The two STARBASE programs provided 140 academies serving a total of over 3,500 students in Kanawha, Berkeley and Jefferson Counties.
- More than 100 members of the 130th Airlift Wing deployed to Southwest Asia and Al Udeid, Qatar in support of contingency operations.
- The 130th Airlift Wing completed construction of a new \$3 million installation access point project which provides critical force



## SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The 1/150th Cavalry Regiment sent fifteen Soldiers to participate in Operation Agile Hunter in Moldova. This joint training was to further develop the Moldovan Army's ability to conduct both mechanized and dismounted reconnaissance operations.
- 150th Cavalry Regiment had six enlisted Soldiers compete in the U.S. Army's Gainey Cup competition. The team placed eleventh overall out of twenty U.S. teams and four international teams and were the second ranked team within the National Guard.
- C Co., 1/150th Assault Battalion flew a cumulative 1,362 flight hours in support of seven separate joint operations and two internal training events.
- The 197th Regiment (RTI-WV) trained 395 National Guard and Reserve Soldiers from 30 states with a graduation percentage of 91 percent, a nine percent increase versus last year.
- Camp Dawson Training Center reached a significant milestone during 2017 with a record 174,941 personnel utilizing the diverse capabilities on the installation.

protection enhancements to better secure the installation and its personnel.

- The WVARNG Medical Detachment set a new national benchmark in medical readiness at greater than 94 percent, while maintaining the #1 ranking of all 54 states and territories for the majority of the year.
- The West Virginia Swift Water Resuce Team, comprised of more than 50 National Guard Soldiers, Airmen and volunteer firefighters from Glasgow and Clendenin, achieved FEMA Level 2 status.
- The 167th Airlift Wing successfully completed C-17 Globemaster III conversion.
- The 167th Airlift Wing boasts the best strength management program in the ANG: 109.8 percent end strength and 94.16 percent effective manning.
- In 2017, the Motorcycle Safety Program conducted 17 rider safety courses which resulted in 69 members trained in the Basic Riders Course, 18 in the Advanced Riders Course, and 5 in the Rider Coach Preparation Course.
- 2/19th Special Forces Group deployed to Europe in support of the European Reassurance Initiative.

# ECONOMIC Impact 2017

**Total 2017 West Virginia National Guard Economic Impact**  
**\$367,937,864**

*West Virginia received \$19 in federal funding for every state dollar invested during Fiscal Year 2017.*



### 130th Airlift Wing, Charleston, W.Va.

Military Pay and Allowances	\$25,107,046
Civilian Payroll	\$16,779,800
Goods & Services	\$5,794,378
Capitalized Fuel	\$2,173,084
Military Construction Payments	\$0
Star Base	\$323,511

**Total for Air Guard (Charleston):**  
**\$50,177,819**

### 167th Airlift Wing, Martinsburg, W.Va.

Military Pay and Allowances	\$24,526,856
Civilian Payroll	\$27,167,940
Good & Services	\$9,877,491
Capitalized Fuel	\$8,316,520
De-icing Fluid	\$44,780
Military Construction Payments	\$0
Star Base	\$380,000

**Total for Air Guard (Martinsburg):**  
**\$61,952,287**

### State Investment

Pay & Benefits	\$5,023,731
Good & Services	\$7,007,338
Construction	\$1,822,166
Education	\$4,094,641

**Total for State**  
**\$17,947,876**

### Other Fiscal Year 2017

Centralized Federal Contracts (estimate)	\$30,335,671
Armory Rentals	\$412,778
3 Year AML Grant	\$358,908

**Total for Other:**  
**\$31,107,357**

### West Virginia Army National Guard

Military Pay and Allowances	\$93,224,286
Civilian Payroll	\$32,851,000
Good & Services	\$80,677,239

**Total for Army Guard:**  
**\$206,752,525**



# A Global Force for good

The West Virginia National Guard supported operations at home and abroad in 2017, providing humanitarian support, homeland defense, defense support to civil authorities (DSCA), and Soldiers and Airmen for contingency operations around the globe.

The National Guard is a global force for good, capable of projecting power and delivering freedom in support of our national defense strategies.

Since September 11, 2001, the West Virginia National Guard has been engaged in the Global War on Terrorism. Each year since, the men and women of the West Virginia Army and Air National Guard have deployed in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom, Inherent Resolve and numerous other training exercises in locations such as Africa, Europe and Korea.

Through our State Partnership Program with Peru, the West Virginia National Guard has engaged in state-to-nation partnership building capabilities with the Peruvian Army and Air Forces. Multiple interactions have taken place to enhance or expand homeland defense and natural disaster response for Peru, as well as develop training opportunities between West Virginia and Peruvian forces.



**425+**

Deployed in 2017

The West Virginia Army and Air National Guard deployed around the world in support of our Federal mission, the Global War on Terror, and humanitarian and natural disaster missions.

**110**

DSCA Events

Defense Support to Civil Authorities (DSCA) included providing West Virginia National Guard personnel or assets for events such as parades, community engagements, training, etc.

**432**

State Active Duty

The West Virginia National Guard provided Soldiers and Airmen to assist communities in activities such as natural disaster response, extreme weather, recovery operations, etc.

# Joint Force Headquarters

Maj. Charles S. McCann  
1st Sgt. Steven V. Starcher

Joint Force Headquarters is comprised of 220 Soldiers and Airmen, including WVNG leadership. The unit is based in Charleston and has operations in Camp Dawson, Buckhannon, Williamstown and Eleanor.

JFHQ-WV provides command and control over all Army and Air Guard units in the state.

Its mission is to provide trained, equipped and ready forces to deploy for federal and state missions.

JFHQ-WV performs unique and complex functions, ranging from federal deployments to state emergency response to local community support.

## JFHQ Staff Sections

• **Personnel** – manages promotions, awards and decorations, civilian education assistance, recruiting and retention incentive benefits, family support programs, and security clearances.

• **Intelligence** – provides intelligence assessments, estimates and other intelligence products and advises the Adjutant General and other senior leaders in support of the decision-making process by providing situational and threat awareness.

• **Operations and Training** – monitors readiness levels of units for federal/state missions, issues guidance and funding for

training, manages military support to civilian authorities and state disaster response.

• **Logistics** – manages food service programs, property accountability and supply systems, and develops guidance for maintenance activities and transportation planning.

• **Strategic Doctrine, Plans, Training & Exercises** – assists the Adjutant General in developing and implementing policy, plans and strategy related to federal, state and homeland security missions.

• **Information Operations** – manages a network of more than 1,800 computers; national leader in fielding mobile incident site communications systems.

• **Resources** – In conjunction with the respective WVARNG and WVARNG staffs, this section is responsible for coordinating submission of the funding documents, contracts, grants and other requirements to acquire necessary resources to support the departmental goals and objectives.



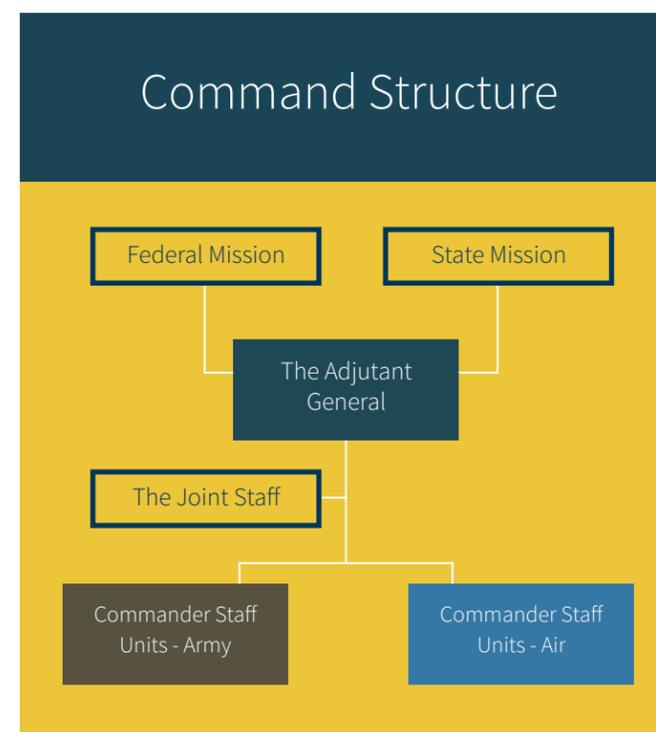
## West Virginia National Guard Command Structure

When in a federal status, the National Guard is commanded by the President through the Department of Defense. National Guard units are commanded by the Governor through the Adjutant General during peacetime and for state and federal (Title 32) missions (see chart).

Overviews of each Army and Air Guard units are found in the following pages.

Each unit is supported by a staff at the state and unit levels. The state staff mirrors the functional staffs of the Army and Air Guard and serves as a liaison and support agency for units.

In addition, the Joint Staff is a coordinating agency that operates in an intergovernmental, interagency



environment to establish the vision for the West Virginia National Guard and to resource and manage state response and other special mission activities. Staff functions and an overview of their accomplishments are outlined on the following pages.

# West Virginia Army National Guard

## Our Vision:

Joint Base West Virginia, home of Citizen-Soldiers at their best. Creating opportunities for men and women to live and raise their families in West Virginia and serve the national mission.

*Montani Semper Liberi | Mountaineers are Always Free!*



# 60

Units and detachments operating in communities around the state make up the West Virginia Army National Guard.

# 4,206

Soldiers comprise the West Virginia Army National Guard across the state.

# 2,000

Full-time staff members consisting of AGR, federal technicians and state employees.

# 111th Engineer Brigade

**Col. David P. Shafer**  
**Command Sgt. Maj. Chad L. Montgomery**

The 111th Engineer “Black Diamond” Brigade provides command and control for three battalions. The brigade includes the 1092nd Engineer Battalion located in Parkersburg, W.Va., the 771st Troop Command Battalion located in Charleston, W.Va. and the 772nd Aviation Troop Command Battalion located in Williamstown, W.Va. The 111th Engineer Brigade patch is red and white and are the colors traditionally used by engineer units. The tower symbolizes the brigade’s mission. The black diamond signifies military consistency to the nation, in times of war and peace, and the rich coal resources of the state. The powder horn signifies the 111th Engineer’s heritage as “minutemen for freedom.”

The 111th Engineer Brigade stayed busy during 2017 to support our state in the recovery from natural disasters. The Brigade continued to support the recovery operations in the counties that suffered so much during the historic flooding that took place in 2016. Soldiers from the Brigade led the effort of demolition of flood damaged homes. The Brigade also provided dump truck support to the West Virginia Conservation Agency assisting in stream dredging in Rainelle. The Brigade was on hand to help the citizens of our state in several northern counties due to the severe storms that hit the northern panhandle. During state emergency duties, units of the brigade flew numerous missions, provided our engineer equipment to remove debris and assisted local agencies delivering essential needs to families in the affected areas.

The unit continues to prepare for future mobilizations. The Brigade conducted our annual training by supporting many major events to enhance our state. During the 2017

Boy Scout Jamboree and the Special Focus Disaster Training event, Dawson Storm, the Brigade providing construction engineer, aviation and mission command support to ensure success of the events. The 111th also provided community support through Innovative Readiness Training programs. These programs benefit both the community and the unit by providing valuable training opportunities to our Soldiers while completing various construction projects at a significantly reduced cost. The projects worked during 2017 included Mason County 4-H, Hurricane City Park, Holley River State Park, Capitol High School, and the Doddridge County RV Park.

The 111th Engineer Brigade stands ready to respond in support of combat operations abroad or responding to emergencies within West Virginia.



## 771st Troop Command Battalion

**Lt. Col. Mark A. Merritt**  
**Command Sgt. Maj. Earl L. Layton**

The 771st Troop Command Battalion is headquartered at the Dunbar Armory located in Dunbar, W.Va. The 771st TCBN provides mission command to seven subordinate entities positioned throughout West Virginia. These units include the 153rd Public Affairs Detachment, 249th Army Band, 620th Signal Company, 753rd Explosive Ordnance Disposal, 1257th Transportation Company, 1935th Contingency Contracting Team, and the 3664th Support Maintenance Company. The 771st TCBN is able to provide a diverse array of functions, skill sets, and services throughout the state.

In addition, the 771st provides mission command to the WVNG’s Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP), which spans two brigades and is prepared to assist local, state and federal agencies in the event of a CBRNE incident. During 2017, the CERFP provided standby consequence management support to the Presidential Inauguration and the Presidential address to congress.

# 153rd Public Affairs Detachment

The 153rd PAD is an 10-member detachment that provides support to units in the WVNG in joint and multinational operations. Throughout 2017, the 153rd PAD covered dozens of missions across the country and abroad.

In May alone, six Soldiers participated in Exercise Eager Lion in Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, U.S. Central Command's largest military exercise in its area of responsibility; two Soldiers supported Vigilant Guard in the U.S. Virgin Islands (U.S. Northern Command's natural disaster response exercise); and two Soldiers provided public affairs support at Camp Dawson to the Department of the Army and the Department of Justice's Raven's Challenge Interoperability Exercise, an annual, interagency, counter improvised explosives device exercise. This translated to 100 percent of the PAD being engaged in interagency operations simultaneously. The 153rd PAD has been invited back to support Eager Lion in 2018.



Other missions included The National Boy Scout Jamboree, Dawson Storm, Fit Camp, Gold Star, Best Warrior Competition, Kids Kamp/ Youth Leader's Camp, Vigilant Guard New Mexico, Winston P. Wilson Small Arms Championship, St. Thomas Infrastructure, Hurricane Harvey and Maria response team, and Air Assault, Pathfinder and Master Rappel courses, to name a few. The unit bid farewell to Capt. Emmett Schneider and welcomed Capt. Adam Speece as the new commander. The 153rd stands at 100 percent strength in all categories.

# 249th Army Band

The year 2017 was another busy year for the 249th Army Band, as the unit continued to maintain high operational tempo in support of numerous missions across the state. Providing support for both the Army and Air National Guard, the 249th continues to find new ways to promote the image, readiness, and effectiveness of the West Virginia National Guard.

In January, the 249th Army Band supported the Gubernatorial Inauguration of Governor Jim Justice, the 36th Governor of West Virginia and Commander-in-Chief of the West Virginia National Guard. The inaugural ceremony holds special significance for the 249th, as the unit has cultivated a tradition of supporting its Commander-in-Chief at this event. In July, the 249th Army Band participated in the National

Boy Scout Jamboree at the Summit Bechtel Reserve near Beckley, W.Va. The 249th, along with many other elements of the West Virginia National Guard, functioned in many roles for the scouts at the 2017 Jamboree and was able to perform for multiple events and audiences throughout the two week event.

The year 2017 also saw the departure of the 249th Army Band's commander, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Siobhan Cleek. Warrant Officer 1 Jeremiah Bennett assumed command of the 249th in September, after completing the Band Master Course at the Armed Forces School of Music.

# 620th Signal Company

The 620th Signal Company has a mission to provide 24-hour operational Command, Control, Communications, Computer, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) signal systems network to a supported Maneuver Enhancement Brigade (MEB), Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB), and/or Sustainment Brigade (SB) which includes deploying, installing, operating, and maintaining these systems.

During 2017, 620th Signal Company Soldiers participated in a Vigilant Guard (HYDRA TEAK) exercise with the 648th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade (MEB) at Ft. Stewart,

Georgia in April. The 620th Soldiers also participated in first responders' appreciation day at Mason Dixon Elementary School by providing a military vehicle display. In July, the 620th provided radio retransmission equipment and vehicles in support of Boy Scouts of America Summit Reserve at the 2017 National Boy Scout Jamboree, and provided Soldiers to the 111th Engineer Brigade to provide communications support during their Annual Training. In June, the 620th Signal Company welcomed Capt. Emmett Schneider as the new unit commander, and in August, the unit welcomed 1st Sgt. Dan Kirby as the new unit First Sergeant.

# 753rd Explosive Ordnance Disposal

The 753rd Ordnance Company has a mission to reduce or eliminate the hazards of munitions and explosive devices.

In the past year, the 753rd EOD conducted extensive training on explosive ordnance disposal operations to include render safe and disposal procedures for conventional munitions, improvised explosive devices (IED), and chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive incidents.

In November, Soldiers of the 753rd EOD conducted extensive training at the Center for National Response with a focus on tactical Counter-IED operations and sensitive site exploitation. In February, training was conducted on unexploded ordnance (UXO) missions and EOD team response actions.

In May, the 753rd EOD participated in Raven's Challenge at Camp Dawson. This was a large multi-agency training

event focusing on IED-Defeat that included bomb disposal teams from federal, state, local law enforcement and joint military EOD commands. In August, 753rd conducted weapons training at Fort A.P. Hill, Va., that included qualification with individual and crew-served weapons as well as advanced tactical engagement training.



# 1257th

## Transportation Company

Throughout the year, the 1257th Transportation Company was called on to provide haul support on a regular basis. In June, the unit conducted a transportation rodeo, utilizing over 40 pieces of unit equipment to include: Light/Medium Tactical Vehicles, High Mobility Multi Wheeled Vehicles, fuel distribution vehicles, and maintenance/recovery vehicles. This training exercise demonstrated the two main capabilities of the Light Medium Truck Company, the capability of moving both material and personnel as well as utilizing cargo trucks for small bulk shipments, personnel movements, and unit relocations.

During July, the company provided support to the Boy Scouts of America Jamboree by transporting over 13 tons of ice, 27 water buffalos, 19,000 gallons of potable water, 400 pallets of food items, and 2 tons of tents and building materials to sustain the two-week operation. Additionally, the unit joined forces with 30 personnel from the active component Inland Cargo Transportation Company (ICTC) to form a joint distribution force driving over 21,000 miles and hauling over 700 pallets of miscellaneous items to sustain the Boy Scout Jamboree.

Throughout the year, the 1257th motor vehicle operators obtained valuable drivers' time, increased knowledge of vehicle handling and capabilities, and re-evaluation for vehicle driving and licensing. Combining this valuable training as well as the two main capabilities of the Light Medium Truck Company ensures the 1257th Transportation Company can provide transportation area support for the movement of bulk cargo, containers, and personnel to units supported throughout the state of West Virginia, the continental United States, and overseas.



# 1935th

## Contingency Contracting Team

The 1935th plans for and coordinates all contracting functions at the brigade level. Throughout the year, the 1935th works in support of the United States Property and Fiscal Office full time contracting office as a surge capacity. During 2017, the 1935th Contingency Contracting Team not only assisted the USPFPO Contracting office in awarding contracts totaling \$30.4 million dollars, but also assisted the USPFPO contracting office during end of year procurement processing to ensure leadership goals and projects were accomplished.

In addition to the support provided to the full-time USPFPO, the 1935th directly supported the 2017 Boy Scouts of America National Scout Jamboree by successfully awarding and administering a total of 10 sustainment support and supply contracts totaling \$1.94 million. These contracts included the temporary sustainment support contracts for Base Camp Victory and Base Camp Tech which provided the housing and subsistence for over 1,000 dual status personnel. The accomplishments of the 1935th directly contributed to a successful mission in support of the 2017 Boy Scout National Scout Jamboree.

# 3664th

## Support Maintenance Company

The 3664th Support Maintenance Company (SMC) is located at the Eleanor Armory in Red House, W.Va. The 3664th SMC consists of four platoons including Headquarters, Electronics, Automotive and Armament, and Ground Support Equipment. The 3664th SMC holds a variety of military occupational specialties that are essential to supporting maintenance operations to all units in the West Virginia Army National Guard.

In January and March 2017, the 3664th welcomed Maj. Ellis as the Company Commander and 1st Sgt. Scott Dixon as the first sergeant. In addition to new leadership, several Soldiers

from around the state volunteered to mobilize with the 3664th SMC.

The unit's training priority in 2017 has focused on training requirements for pre-mobilization. In April 2017, the unit traveled to Fort Pickett, Va., for individual weapons and crew served weapons qualification. In August, maintenance evaluations occurred at Camp Dodge, Iowa, resulting in a score of "Trained," demonstrating a strong understanding of Global Combat Support System-Army (GCSS-A) and maintenance operations. The unit also conducted training in sling load operations, vehicle recovery, and pre-mobilization tasks such as land navigation and individual movement techniques.





## Det. 3, Co. B

### 642d Aviation Intermediate Maintenance

The unit is located in Wheeling, W.Va. and is assigned 18 Soldiers. The 642nd AVIM provides aviation field and limited sustainment maintenance to aviation units organic to the Army Aviation Support Facility #2. In addition to supporting

the Boy Scouts of American Jamboree in 2017, the unit provided flood support to the community of Follansbee, W.Va.

## Co. C, 1/150th Assault Battalion

Company C, 1/150th Assault Battalion is located in Wheeling, W.Va. with 87 assigned and two attached Soldiers and equipped with eight UH-60A+/L Blackhawk helicopters. The unit provides assault aviation operations with civil support capability augmentations. Mission capabilities include: personnel movement, sling load, rappel, fast rope insertion/extraction (FRIES), helocast, paradop, and hoist. This diverse mission set proves the Co. C, 1/150th to be one of the most uniquely qualified aviation units in the Army National Guard.

perform both close to home, across W.Va., and as far away as Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The unit performed 123 missions, directly supporting state initiatives that ranged from VIP movement to tactical support of high-profile operators. During the course of these missions, the unit has developed strong relationships with major Army and Air Force Special Operations Command assets who continue to request support on a basis of confidence-in-ability. Annual training was conducted in conjunction with the 2017 National Boy scout Jamboree in Beckley, W.Va. The unit provided air movement and quick reaction force (QRF) capabilities as well as refuel capabilities.

Over the past year, the unit flew a cumulative 1,362 flight hours in support of seven separate joint operations and two internal training events. These events and operations saw the unit

## 772nd Troop Command (Aviation)

**Lt. Col. Anne S. Perella**  
**Command Sgt. Maj. John D. Edwards**

The 772nd Aviation Troop Command is located in Williamstown, W.Va. with 11 units comprised of flight companies and detachments for maintenance, logistics and operations support. The 772nd trains and operates as a General Support Aviation Battalion Headquarters and is prepared to become a combat battalion headquarters if the opportunity arises.

The units consist of nearly 300 Soldiers, 21 helicopters, and one fixed wing aircraft. The organization provides robust aviation assets to help support state and federal missions while still meeting all department of the Army training requirements. The capabilities available consist of an Air Assault Company, Medical Evacuation Company, Security & Support Battalion, and an

Operational Support Airlift Detachment. During 2017, the entire organization provided critical domestic support and vital training. Some notable missions included supporting the 2017 Boy Scouts of America Jamboree, an inaugural Pathfinder, Air Assault, and Rappel Master mobile training team, and the Operational Support Airlift Detachment currently serving a nine-month deployment in support of Task Force Cesar in Afghanistan.



## Co. C, 2/104th

### General Support Aviation Battalion

Company C, 2/104th General Support Aviation Battalion, an aeromedical evacuation (MEDEVAC) company, is located in Williamstown, W.Va. The unit consists of two Forward Support Medical Evacuation teams and three supporting detachments. Over 80 Soldiers maintain and operate the eight assigned UH-60L and HH-60L Black Hawk helicopters.

swift-water rescue training on the Cheat River, provided MEDEVAC training for the 328th Medical Detachment out of Pittsburg, and performed several real-world search and rescue missions for state emergency response agencies.

In late October, Company C, 2/104th was informed the unit has been selected to receive modernized H-60M helicopters.

Company C's federal mission is to provide MEDEVAC support in the Division's area of operations. The state mission is to provide aeromedical evacuation and search and rescue capability to the governor and state citizens in times of emergency.



Company C, 2/104th spent the first couple of months resetting after its return from a yearlong deployment to Kuwait, Iraq, and Afghanistan. The unit quickly reintegrated with its rear detachments and immediately began training for its support of the National Scout Jamboree. By mid-summer, the men and women of Company C, 2/104th had already conducted aeromedical

## Det. 1, Co. B, 1/224th

### Security and Support Aviation Battalion

Company B, 1/224th is located in Williamstown, W.Va. with 47 assigned and two attached Soldiers and equipped with five UH-72A Lakota helicopters. The total hours flown this year is 1,633. Annual training was conducted in conjunction with the 2017 National Scout Jamboree in Beckley, W.Va. The unit provided critical command and control aircraft in support of the operation in addition to aircraft operations and refueling capabilities.

in support of state operations. The 224th encompasses the W.Va. Counter Drug Aviation Section as well, which supports 37 local and federal law enforcement agencies 365 days a year. The unit flew over 1,115 hours supporting 142 counter narcotics missions which facilitated law enforcement eradicating 74,000 marijuana plants, and seizing 3,873 grams of cocaine, 6,657 grams of heroin, 6,618 grams of methamphetamine, 518 grams of crack cocaine and 188 arrests. The illegal drug and assets were valued at more than \$1 billion.

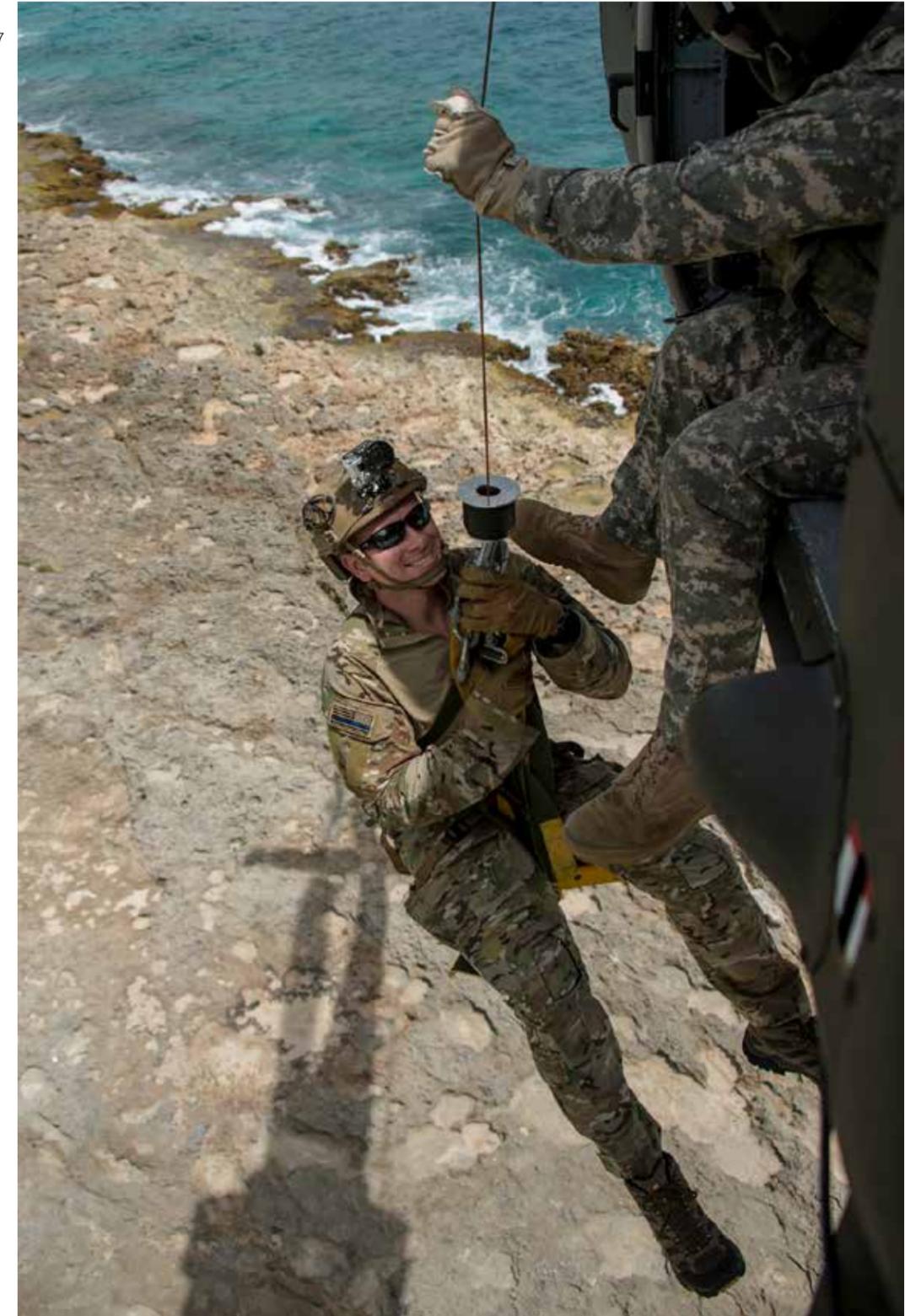
The unit supported 97 Joint Operation Center (JOC) missions as well as multiple state active duty missions

## Det. 28

### Operational Support Airlift Command

Detachment 28 is located in Williamstown, W.Va. and has 11 assigned Soldiers. The unit deployed to Afghanistan in March 2017 for a nine-month rotation in order to stand up the CEASAR II Electronic Warfare Program with two C-12R airplanes.

Working for Combined Special Operations Air Component – Afghanistan (CJSOAC-A), Det. 28 air crews flew 228 combat sorties totaling 845 combat hours (April – October 2017) in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel. The Detachment also received a C-12V airplane in September.



# 1092nd Engineer Battalion

Lt. Col. Thomas G. Cook II

Command Sgt. Maj. Mark A. Peters

The 1092nd Engineer Battalion is proudly headquartered in Parkersburg, W.Va. The 1092nd Engineer Battalion provides engineer support through assured mobility, counter-mobility, and survivability operations. 1092nd Headquarters provides mission command and control to five subordinate Engineer units positioned throughout West Virginia. These units include; the 115th Vertical Construction Company and Detachment, 119th Sapper Company and Detachment, 601st Engineer Support Company and Detachment, 821st Horizontal Construction Company and Detachment, Forward Support Company, and the 922nd Utilities Detachment.

Additionally, the 1092nd Headquarters Company hosted our Peruvian counterpart for a visit to West Virginia to build continuity and share engineering practices. The 1092nd Headquarters worked vigorously on the modification table of organization and equipment (MTOE) conversions for the 115 Vertical Construction Company and the 601st Engineer Support Company. The conversions were implemented far in advance from deadlines. In addition, the conversions were effectively implemented with minimum impact to the drilling soldiers and mission operation tempo. Also in 2017, the 922nd Utilities Detachment was stood up and completed its first annual training (AT). During fiscal year 2017, 229th Survey and Design Detachment was deactivated and the Soldiers were distributed throughout the battalion. This allowed the 1092nd Battalion to implement surveyors and design soldiers into line units strengthening the line unit's capabilities.

Across the 1092nd Engineer Battalion, the subordinate units raced to keep pace with an extremely high operations tempo. All line units were heavily engaged in construction



projects across the state while providing support to civic organizations, local municipalities and West Virginia citizens. Units provided support for the Holly River State Park, Clarksburg City softball field, Mason County Youth Center, Patriot Guardens project, Boy Scouts of America, Capital City High School obstacle course, Hurricane State Park, Doddridge County Park, and the Rainelle debris haul and clean-up.

The "Red Dragon" Battalion was called to serve during "Operation Northern Storm," providing loader-dump teams to help with flood clean-up. The battalion stands ready to execute combat operations or emergency response operations to support our nation and state.



# 1st Squadron, 150th Cavalry Regiment

**Lt. Col. Clifford S. Brackman**  
**Command Sgt. Maj. Elmer M. Harmon**

The 1/150th Cavalry Regiment is comprised of Headquarters and Headquarters Troop located in Bluefield, W.Va. and three Reconnaissance Troops: A Troop is located in Holden with a platoon stationed in Salem, B Troop is located in Red House and C Troop is located in Glen Jean. In addition to the Reconnaissance Troops, Company D of the 230th Brigade Support Battalion provides logistical support to the Regiment.

In May of 2017 the Squadron conducted its annual training period at Ft. Pickett, Va., where the primary focus was section level Bradley Gunnery. In this training, three Bradley Fighting Vehicles conduct a reconnaissance mission through a maneuver area and with the section transitioning into a live fire exercise where all three Bradley's are engaging targets. This level of training prepares the Squadron to conduct platoon level operations for its upcoming Exportable Combat Training Capability at Ft. Bliss, Texas.

Also during May of 2017 the Squadron sent six enlisted Soldiers to compete in the U.S. Army's Gainey Cup competition. This biennial competition is designed to identify the most competent and versatile Scout Squad in the U.S. Armed Forces and partnering Allies through an extremely challenging contest centered on essential reconnaissance and security tasks and skills. The 1/150th Gainey Cup team placed eleventh overall out of twenty U.S. teams and four

international teams. They were the second ranked team within the National Guard.

During August of 2017, the Squadron participated in the 30th ABCT WARFIGHTER exercise conducted at Ft. Bragg, N.C. This training placed the 1/150th staff under significant stress while performing the military decision making process which produces an operation order. Once complete, the order is uploaded into a battle simulation and the staff then performs continuous operations as the simulation is executed. The 1/150th CAV also sent fifteen Soldiers to participate in Operation Agile Hunter in Moldova. This joint training was to further develop the Moldovan Army's ability to conduct both mechanized and dismounted reconnaissance operations.



## 77th Brigade Troop Command

**Col. Michaelle M. Munger**  
**Command Sgt. Maj. Jerome X. Whelan**

The 77th Brigade Troop Command is headquartered in Glen Jean, W.Va. With an authorized strength of 1,912 Soldiers, the headquarters provides leadership, support and command and control to three diverse battalion elements with approximately 1,987 assigned Army National Guard Soldiers.

The Brigade's subordinate units are 1st Battalion, 201st Field Artillery Regiment; 1st Squadron, 150th Cavalry Regiment; 2nd Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne); 154th Military Police Company; 156th Military Police Detachment; 157th Military Police Company; and 863rd Military Police Company.

The Brigade ensures all units under its responsibility are trained, equipped and prepared to deploy in support of Homeland Defense and Homeland Security, overseas national security objectives and state emergency response.

The 77th Brigade supported numerous State and Federal missions during 2017 including severe weather State Active Duty events, the 2017 Boy Scouts of America Jamboree, the 40th Annual New River Gorge Bridge Day event and the deployment of Soldiers in support of federal missions both inside and

outside of the continental United States. Deployment of personnel in support of federal missions include the ongoing Title 10 Military Police Law Enforcement support mission to Ft. Bragg, N.C., Hurricane relief missions in the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, and the deployment of personnel in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

Continuing the longstanding traditions of the WVARNG, the units of the 77th Brigade prepared and executed missions in support of communities across the Mountain State. This support was displayed by the completion of 38 separate Military Support to Civil Authorities (MSCA) requests to multiple communities.

The 77th Brigade continues to focus on The Adjutant General's priorities and the West Virginia National Guard Strategic Vision. The 77th Brigade provides ready, relevant and well trained units comprised of citizen Soldiers and leaders who are prepared to serve in the broad spectrum of operations whenever and wherever called upon, with Mountaineer Pride, Worldwide!

# 156th

## Military Police Law and Order Det.

The 156th Military Police Law and Order Detachment located at the Logan/Holden Armed Forces Readiness Center in Holden, W.Va., conducted its annual training at Ft. Bragg, N.C. in June 2017. The unit augmented with the 503rd Military Police Battalion, provided installation access control, force protection, and law enforcement operations to the Ft. Bragg military community (approximately 40 thousand personnel). In addition to performing this training the unit conducted mobilization training preparing for deployment to Afghanistan.



# 863rd

## Military Police (Maneuver Support)



The 863rd Military Police Company (Maneuver Support) located at the Glen Jean Armed Forces Readiness Center in Glen Jean, W.Va., trained on Mission Essential Task List (METL)-specific tasks by providing Military Police Operations support during the 2017 National Boy Scout Jamboree at the Summit Bechtel Reserve located in Raleigh and Fayette Counties of W.Va. The unit also augments with local civil authorities supporting the annual Bridge Day event in Fayetteville, further

enhancing the security of the national event.

# 1st Battalion,

## 201st Field Artillery Regiment

**Maj. Brian K. Gazaway**  
**Command Sgt. Maj. Bernard J. Grenier**

The mission of the 1st Battalion, 201st (1/201) Field Artillery (FA) Battalion (BN) is delivery of safe, accurate, and responsive artillery FIRES using the M109A6 Paladin weapon system. The unit had several significant accomplishments in 2017. The unit participated in Operation Southern Storm and Operation Rainstorm 2017.

The unit Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive Enhanced Response Force (CERFP) team was sent in support of the 2017 Presidential Inauguration. Select 1/201st unit personnel supported the 2017 Boy Scout National Jamboree. The 1/201st FA BN also successfully qualified 11 Soldiers through the Air Assault Course and 5 Soldiers in the Master Fitness Course in 2017.

The 1/201st FA BN successfully executed two major training

# 154th Military Police Co. (Guard)

The 154th Military Police Company (Guard) located in Moundsville, W.Va. and Gassaway, W.Va. conducted a Crew-served Weapons Qualification Course at Ft. Indiantown Gap, Pa. in March 2017. The 154th exercised and evaluated Mission Essential Task List (METL)-specific tasks during three separate Annual Training events. First Platoon supported Ridge

# 157th Military Police Co. (Maneuver Support)

The 157th Military Police Company (Maneuver Support) Located in Martinsburg, W.Va. and Moorefield, W.Va., exercised and received an external evaluation of its Mission Essential Task List (METL) during its 2017 Annual Training event which was located at Camp Dawson W.Va. The 157th was able to

events in 2017. The unit conducted two artillery-firing exercises at Ft. Pickett, Va., in the spring and summer. The unit also completed weapons qualification training, field artillery annual certifications and other cyclical training requirements. The unit safely fired over 1,000 rounds and conducted over 200 fire missions during annual training period. During annual training the BN achieved Platoon and Battery level proficiency and then progressed towards BN level fire missions. The Soldiers assigned to CERFP conducted vigorous decontamination training throughout the year.

The 1/201st FA BN continues to train on critical warfighting skills in preparation for any assigned federal missions and any potential state active duty missions. The battalion exceeded required personnel strength during 2017. The battalion will continue to actively maintain a positive recruiting and retention program that is centered on encouraging the utilization of available WV Guard benefits, creating a challenging training environment, and Soldier Care.

Runner, an Irregular Warfare Exercise Program in February 2017. Second Platoon assisted the Ft. Bragg Provost Marshal's Office by providing Law and Order Operations support to a community of 40,000 civilian and military personnel. Third Platoon provided area security during the National Boy Scout Jamboree in July 2017.

conduct two separate crew-served weapons training events at Ft. Indiantown Gap, Pa. in March and June 2017. The 157th Military Police Company also successfully conducted a National Guard Response Force exercise validating the unit's ability to respond to civil disturbances, resulting in the unit's designation as a national response force.

# 2nd Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne)

**Lt. Col. William Gorby**  
**Command Sgt. Maj. Randy K. Martyn**

The 2nd Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne) is comprised of Headquarters Company, Support Company and Forward Support Company based in Kenova, W.Va. with three line-companies across W.Va., Ohio, and Rhode Island. Co. A is based in Middletown, R.I.; Co. B is located in Columbus, Ohio; and Co. C is based in Kingwood, W.Va.

In 2017, West Virginia Special Forces and enablers supported three Geographic Combatant Commands in the Pacific, Middle East and Europe. 2nd Battalion successfully redeployed a Company and six Special Forces Operational Detachment - Alpha (SFODA) teams from Afghanistan, while preparing to deploy two separate elements. A Company and four SFODAs deployed to the Republic of South Korea to continue support and build interoperability with Republic of South Korean Special Operations Forces. A Headquarters Detachment deployed to Europe to augment the Special Operations Command – Forward, Eastern Europe and to enhance support to our partner nations and allies across 15 European countries. A SFODA also deployed to Nepal to participate in a Joint Combined Exchange Training event as part of the Pacific Command Theater Security Cooperation Plan. The Pacific Theater has been 2nd Battalion's region of focus for the past five years in addition to supporting overseas contingency operations throughout the Middle East and elsewhere.

In addition to supporting national interests abroad, the Battalion maintains a ready posture to support the home front during natural disasters and emergencies in the state of West Virginia and across the Nation. As such, the Battalion provided a SFODA team and an enabler package to the U.S. Virgin Islands to participate in exercise Vigilant

Guard. A partnership between the U.S. Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency (VITEMA), Joint Force Headquarters-VI (JFHQ-VI) and the West Virginia National Guard, supported a natural disaster response exercise conducted in the Virgin Islands in May 2017. West Virginia National Guard SOF, Army National Guard Aviation and Air National Guard assets demonstrated capabilities to assist with disaster response and to support resource planning for future crises. Lessons learned from this exercise were shortly thereafter put to practice in the Caribbean in response to devastating hurricanes throughout the area in 2017.

Remaining highly engaged and operationally focused, 2nd Battalion Soldiers continue to maintain proficiency in irregular warfare techniques, small unit tactics, foreign language competency and

cultural skills, medical sustainment, and advanced special operations and infiltration techniques. The Battalion routinely supports irregular warfare training events within the state to assist in the preparation of other deploying units as well as foreign partners further honing the skills of the Battalion's Soldiers. The continued high operational tempo has enhanced the Special Forces tactical readiness, unit collective operational level planning, as well as state and national level mobilization and demobilization support. 2nd BN, 19th SFG(A) maintains a ready state to support state, national and global requirements and remains grateful to state leaders across W.Va, Ohio, and R.I. and national leaders for enduring support.





KARA LOFTON / WVPB

## Medical Detachment

**Col. Stephen C. Eshenaur**  
**Master Sgt. Daniel Evans**

The West Virginia Army National Guard Medical Detachment ensures the medical readiness of every West Virginia Army National Guard Soldier by providing annual medical and dental evaluations, administering required immunizations, audiograms, and behavioral health screenings. Another pivotal role of the unit is following up with injured and ill service members to ensure they receive the necessary care to remain deployable assets for the Guard.

The Medical Detachment is located in South Charleston and also provides medical services at Camp Dawson. Over the past year, the WVARNG set a new national benchmark in medical

readiness at greater than 94 percent, while maintaining the number one ranking of all 54 states and territories for the majority of the year.

Over the past year, members of the Medical Detachment partnered with state, federal, and Boy Scouts of America personnel to support the National Scout Jamboree 2017. Medical Detachment members assisted with medical planning, preventive medicine, and emergency stabilization care and emergency transport on-site at the Summit Bechtel Reserve for injured Scouts, civilians, and DoD personnel, under the Joint Task Force-National Scout Jamboree. This was a significant

effort that augmented the Scouts' existing medical resources and resulted in one or more life-saving interventions, along with care of hundreds of Scouts and visitors.

The Medical Detachment provided a wide array of training to the WVARNG, to include the annual Combat Medic Sustainment Course, CPR and AED instruction to over 700 full-time Guard personnel, Combat Life Saver courses, Tactical Combat Casualty Care courses, Field Sanitation courses, Hearing Conservation courses, and Medical Administration courses. These courses

enabled medical and non-medical personnel to gain invaluable skills in order to save lives, prevent the development and spread of disease, and to sustain the Guard force.



KARA LOFTON / WVPB

# Camp Dawson

## Training Center

Lt. Col. Russell B. Nestor  
Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffery Wales

Camp Dawson Training Center reached a significant milestone during 2017 with a record 174,941 personnel utilizing the diverse capabilities on the installation. These capabilities include a Regional Training Institute, which trains Soldiers in engineering skills, a vertical engineering unit, field maintenance shop, Youth Challenge Academy, and an engaging environmental department. Additionally, Camp Dawson maintains positive and beneficial relationships with key community agencies such as local law enforcement and emergency service organizations.

Some notable and significant events hosted at Camp Dawson during 2017 included an inaugural Air Assault, Pathfinder, and Rappel Master Mobile Training Team, a Special Focus event, Dawson Storm, and a Gold Star Family weekend. The MTT training helped prepare over 300 Soldiers to become proficient in airmobile operations. The Special Focus Event conducted a full-scale all-hazards exercise in Preston, Monongalia, and Kanawha counties. The operation incorporated Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) response with local, state, and regional civilian partners. This successful exercise helped those participating train, develop, and refine domestic

response functions.

The annual Gold Star Family weekend honored over 200 family members who lost loved ones performing their military service.

Camp Dawson improvements and modernization continued in 2017 totaling over \$2.5 million :

- One troop barracks was renovated which modernized the hot water system, HVAC, lighting, latrine and emergency exit requirements.
- Six buildings received new roofs extending their utilization.
- One training area received expanded utilities to help prepare for future expansion.

National Guard units and Soldiers also performed several projects that further expanded the installation capabilities; a 100' x 100' tactical vehicle gravel parking area, obstacle course upgrades, rappelling slant wall expansion, and two UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter mock fuselages.



## Fixed Wing Army Aviation Training Site

**Lt. Col. Kevin C. Hazuka**

**1st Sgt. Matt L. Poling**

The West Virginia National Guard Fixed Wing Army Aviation Training Site operates out of the Clarksburg, W.Va. airport and is the U.S. Army's premier fixed wing training site. We are staffed by 25 AGR Soldiers, four Title 10 Soldiers, 15 maintenance contractors, and two caretakers.

The U.S. Army's Training and Doctrine Command has awarded the FWAATS with a 3rd consecutive "Learning Institution of Excellence" award. Our mission and student output is a major contributing factor in the North Central Regional Airport maintaining an active control tower.

The FWAATS has become a multi-compositional solution for a national surveillance support mission; assisting with on call surveillance support for the national intelligence community.

The FWAATS instructs courses in multiple air frames to include: all variants of the C-12 and C-26 aircraft. The FWAATS C-12 section is the sole source for an updated special electronics intelligence deployment training package. FWAATS staff qualify

the pilots and crew in the aircraft and mission package. The entire crew then conducts their pre-deployment collective training at the FWAATS.

Since 2001 FWAATS has trained over 3,000 Army aircrew members from all states, territories, reserves, active component, and conducted all TF-ODIN and TF-CEASAR qualifications and pre-deployment collective training.

The FWAATS is also the sole source for the U.S. Army's Fixed Wing Instrument Flight Examiners course. This course is taught in all C-12 and C-26 variants and is specialized for the fixed wing community. The C-12 and C-26 sections also support JOSAC missions when not teaching students and all sections continue to deploy throughout the world supporting Army initiatives.

The FWAATS is a highly agile and adaptable fixed wing training site that has, at the Army's request, quickly developed multiple training programs in non-standard and new aircraft. The FWAATS continually stands poised to take on its next challenge.

## Special Operations Detachment - Europe

**Col. David Wortman**

**Command Sgt. Maj. James Craig**

The Special Operations Detachment-Europe (SOD-E) is based at Camp Dawson and is tasked with supporting the United States Special Operations Command-Europe (SOCEUR). This is a theater-level mission in which SOD-E members play an integral role. Thanks to its ability to deploy on short notice and serve as a command and control element of Special Operations Forces

(SOF), the SOD-E has supported numerous overseas missions. In addition to its overseas responsibilities, the SOD-E is also tasked with conducting operations in support of federal and state-declared emergencies.

This year, the SOD-E focused on achieving effects in

support of SOCEUR's theater campaign plan objectives. The unit did this through participation in security cooperation events with select European nations in order to improve these partners' capabilities to conduct command and control, planning, and medical operations in support of Special Operations. These events directly supported SOCEUR objectives while improving the SOD-E's own skills.



Individual SOD-E members also filled critical positions in support of SOCEUR. These included a senior leader at SOCEUR headquarters, liaisons at U.S. embassies in four

SOCEUR

priority

countries, a

liaison officer in the Nation's capital, intelligence analysts, and a training coordinator at the premier U.S. training facility in Germany.

The SOD-E is organized into 10 sections that form the backbone of a Joint Special Operations Task Force (JSOTF). These sections are command, personnel, intelligence, operations, logistics, plans, communications, force protection and aviation, legal, and medical. When employed as a JSOTF, the SOD-E receives augmentation from the Army and other branches of the U.S. military, as well as partner nations, in order to form a fully functional staff.

## Recruiting & Retention Command

**Lt. Col. Dena M. Lentz**

**Command Sgt. Maj. James D. Jones**

The Recruiting and Retention Command (RRC) is the primary advisor to the Adjutant General and senior leadership of the West Virginia Army National Guard (WVANG) on the three tenets of strength management: enlistment, retention, and attrition. The RRC develops, implements, and monitors the State Strength Maintenance Program based on guidance from National Guard Bureau and state leadership.

The WVANG end strength mission for Fiscal Year 2017 was 4,177. We accomplished 104 percent of our end strength mission with an actual End Strength of 4,206. Personnel readiness enables the WVANG to perform its state, federal and community missions by providing relevant and capable

assets for the broad spectrum of operations in support of homeland defense/security, overseas national security objectives, and partnering with communities for state emergency response.

Retaining qualified Soldiers with years of knowledge and expertise in the WVANG allows the organization to maintain a high level of proficiency. The RRC continued its pursuit of excellence in retention through the Final Formation Program (FFP) resulting in the state achieving 105.74 percent of its reenlistment mission. The FFP provides Soldiers and their families with valuable information pertaining to benefits that are available to them while they are a member of the

WARNG and after they transition to civilian life. Our FFP has become a model program for other states. During Fiscal Year 2017, numerous states from across the nation visited us during our FFP taking back valuable tools to their home states to improve their retention rates.

The attrition management tenet is accomplished through the Recruit Sustainment Program (RSP). Our three RSP locations prepare new Soldiers with the skills necessary to complete Basic Military Training (BMT) and Advanced Individual Training (AIT). Our Soldiers attend Basic Training knowledgeable in wearing of the uniform, Drill and Ceremony, and basic Soldier skills. This pre-training increases their success at Active Duty training and produces Citizen Soldiers that are ready to meet the State and Federal missions required for the WVARNG.

The recruiting force is proud to represent the WVARNG in our communities and educate our citizens on the benefits and opportunities of the WVARNG. During 2017, we continued our partnerships with the West Virginia Secondary Schools Athletic

Commission, WV Military Connection, Workforce WV, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), Department of Veterans Assistance, and JROTC/ROTC programs at various high schools and colleges. These partnerships are invaluable investments in helping citizens and Soldiers reach their educational goals and improving West Virginia's work force.



# 197th Regional Training Institute

**Col. James McHugh**  
**Command Sgt. Maj. George Arnold**

The 197th RTI is located in Preston County at Kingwood, W.Va., along the Cheat River at Camp Dawson. In Training Year 2017, the 197th Regiment (RTI-WV) trained 395 National Guard and Reserve Soldiers from 30 states with a graduation percentage of 91 percent. This shows a continued growth from TY-16 of 36 Soldiers, and an increase of nine percent in graduation rate.

The 197th Regiment offers the following Courses: Noncommissioned Officer Education System (NCOES), Military Occupation Specialty (MOS), Officer Candidate School (OCS), Combat Lifesaver Course (CLC), Company Level Pre-Command Course (CLPCC), Army Basic Instructor Course (ABIC), and Small Group Instructor (SGI).

Training Year 2017 was challenging with the additional MOS Courses: 12N10 Heavy Equipment Operator, 12W10 Carpentry and Masonry Specialist. The 197th Regiment also cross leveled instructors giving versatility and flexibility to the number of courses and Soldiers that can be trained simultaneously. Not only was the 197th busy at Camp Dawson, but one 12N Instructor supported South Carolina RTI's with 12N10 MOS-T Schools. The NCOES School and MOS 12N, 12W received full accreditation in our three year accreditation process.

Sixty years have come and gone for the Officer Candidate School (OCS). From the old West Virginia Military Academy to the current 197th Regiment, the outcome is always the same: outstanding young leaders for the West Virginia National Guard. OCS Class 59 graduated two Officer Candidates and OCS Class

60 currently has four officers who will be commissioned in September 2018.

The 197th RTI supported or hosted multiple state events to include the Gold Star Event, Regional and State Best Warrior Competition, EPS Boards, State APFT Events, first-ever West Virginia-run Air Assault/Pathfinder/Rappel Master, Fit Camps (to include the upcoming Master Fitness Course) and others.



# West Virginia Air National Guard

### Our Vision:

A professional, mission-ready military force prepared for the future, ready and fully capable of meeting all present and future missions of nation, state and community.

*Montani Semper Liberi | Mountaineers are Always Free!*



2

Flying units in the supportive communities of Charleston and Martinsburg.

2,156

Airmen make up the part-time and full-time Air National Guard force.

130th AW

C-130 Flying hours: 2,997  
Tons of cargo airlifted: 2,371  
Passengers transported: 9,996  
Maintenance man hours: 29,091

167th AW

C-17 Flying hours: 3,502  
Tons of cargo airlifted: 5,029  
Passengers transported: 4,690  
Maintenance man hours: 55,025

# 130th Airlift Wing

**Col. Johnny Ryan**  
**Command Chief Master Sgt. Kevin Cecil**

The men and women of the 130th Airlift Wing, located on McLaughlin Air National Guard Base in Charleston, W.Va., strive to achieve the unit's vision of "returning to our special operations heritage." Over 1,100 men and women fulfill the unit's mission of organizing, training, equipping, and deploying a force capable of conducting effective and sustained operations as tasked. National and state challenges are met on a daily basis as a result of becoming a part of the active duty component under the direction of the President of the United States during wartime, national emergencies, and serving the State of West Virginia, under the command of the Governor during peacetime and state emergencies.

Flying airlift and aeromedical evacuation missions within the United States and overseas continues to be the focus of the 130th Airlift Wing. These missions are carried out utilizing eight, C-130 H3 aircraft. The wing also maintains an RC-26B aircraft as part of a detachment; which flies intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance missions in support of national and state directives.

Wing personnel proudly deployed in direct support of state, Air Force, and joint missions. In 2017, more than 100 members supported contingency missions to Southwest Asia and Al Udeid, Qatar.

The 130 AW had 68 members supporting domestic operations in 2017. A large multi-state training event focusing on domestic operations, emergencies and natural disasters was widely successful in training Airmen throughout the State. In addition, the 130 AW also provided support to the disaster relief in Puerto Rico after Hurricane



Maria by transporting equipment, supplies and personnel into and out of the island. Additionally, 130th Communications Flight personnel provided assistance through utilization of our JISCC Kit (communications trailer), providing overall communications support throughout Puerto Rico.

Diverse flying opportunities are provided by 130th AW RC-26B crews working within the State Partnership Program to assist and train the Peruvian military. RC-26B members are able to assist their Peruvian counterparts with instruction in reconnaissance, tactical deployment of aircraft and night-flying techniques. Continued expansion of our SPP with Peru will include all aspects of aircrew training, intelligence cycle, air/ground communication and operations and the importance of maintenance functions. Additionally, RC-26B crews

routinely support local, state, and federal law enforcement partners. In November, 2017 the 130 AW hosted a base tour for Maj. Gen. Gregorio C. Mendiola, Peruvian Air Force Assistance Defense and Air Attaché.

Throughout 2017, the 130th AW continued to support its members and community partners through a variety of Yellow Ribbon and Strong Bonds Events for deploying and returning personnel and their families, National Guard Day at the State Legislature, Night at the Power Park for Veteran support, Armed Forces Day events, Veterans Day events, and hosted both Mountaineer ChalleNGe Academy students and local school students. In addition, the 130 AW hosted Youth Resiliency Workshops, Retirement Round-



Ups, College Prep Night, and Commissary Sales for member support. Wing personnel traveled to Camp Dawson and directly supported the Gold Star Families and Kids Kamp Weekend events, which recognized the sacrifices endured by so many West Virginia families and children. As part of an annual initiative, wing personnel once again supported the WV Special Olympics, which took place in Charleston in June.

The 130th AW provided the West Virginia Civil Air Patrol with meeting facilities on McLaughlin Air National Guard Base throughout the year. It is also home to the STARBASE Academy, which has provided science, technology, engineering and math opportunities to fifth graders from across Kanawha County. The STARBASE Academy engaged 1,568 students from 32 local area schools.

The wing completed construction of the new installation access point project. The new gate project was federally funded with over \$3 million of military construction funds and provides critical force protection enhancements to

better secure the installation and its personnel. Even with the high operations tempo and a variety of operational challenges, the 130th AW remains extremely safety-oriented. Wing membership stands at 109 percent and its accomplishments add value to our state and nation. Whether it is on foreign soil or in West Virginia, the men and women of the 130th Airlift Wing are “Always on Mission.”



# 167th Airlift Wing

**Col. Shawn Perkowski**  
**Command Chief Master Sgt. David Stevens**

The 167th Airlift Wing, based in Martinsburg, W.Va., operates eight C-17 Globemaster III aircraft. The mission of the 167th Airlift Wing is to provide Citizen-Airmen for rapid global mobility to support and defend the nation and the state. Manned at 109 percent, 992 personnel are assigned to the Wing.

Aircrew logged 3,502 hours of flight time and 992 sorties, hauling 5,029 tons of cargo and 4,690 passengers. The 167th's maintainers completed more than 55,025 man hours to keep the mission flying. Twenty-one home station check aircraft inspections and seven refurbishments were completed, totaling 9,565 maintenance man-hours. The small air terminal processed more than 1600 passengers, 740 tons of cargo, and provided fleet service for 622 aircraft; they handled 766 aircraft this year.

Three Ravens, specially trained members of the 167th Security Forces Squadron, deployed in support of Operations Inherent Resolve and Freedom's Sentinel. During their deployment, they flew a combined total of 12 missions, accumulating 350 flight hours while moving 1.2 million tons of cargo and 500 personnel. The 167th Security Forces Squadron also supported the state's Gubernatorial Inauguration in January, providing security details in Lewisburg and Charleston. Additionally, the 167th defenders provided security for base personnel and critical resources totaling over \$1 billion.

In March, the 167th AW conducted a mobility exercise, processing 200 Airmen for a simulated deployment. The exercise provided an optimal training opportunity for newly assigned work center personnel and prepared unit



members for upcoming real-world deployments.

Despite not having a unit training assembly in July, the month proved to be a busy one for the 167th AW with Airmen participating in several West Virginia National Guard initiatives around the state. Sixty-one Airmen from the wing deployed to the southern part of the state for three weeks to provide assistance at the Boys Scouts of America's 2017 National Jamboree at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in Glen Jean, W.Va. Sixteen unit members supported the special focus event, Dawson Storm, based at Camp Dawson, W.Va., July 20-25. The 167th AW led the Sentry Storm exercise conducted July 18-28. Eighteen C-17 Globemaster III sorties flew various missions including training flights for the 167th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron.

Twenty-eight members of the 167th Medical Group partnered with members of the 101st Medical Group for an Innovative Readiness Training event at the Turtle Mountain Indian Reservation in northern North Dakota in July. IRT's build mutually beneficial civil-military partnerships, providing training and readiness opportunities for military members while addressing public and civil needs. Airman saw 120 patients, conducted facility inspections and surveys in the community and assisted with the Turtle Mountain Days community celebration.

A celebration of retirement service was held in September for Maj. Gen. Eric Vollmecke. He was formerly a pilot and commander of the 167 Airlift Wing, he went on to serve as



the West Virginia Assistant Adjutant General for Air and then as the Deputy Director for Political-Military Affairs-Africa for Strategic Plans and Policy for the Joint Staff at the Pentagon. Sixty-eight Airmen assigned to the 167th Airlift Wing assisted with hurricane recovery efforts after three major storms devastated areas in Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Airman assisted at home station, preparing federally-funded medical equipment and supplies that were transported to Florida and Puerto Rico. Nearly 20 Airmen deployed to the 165th Airlift Wing in Savannah, Ga., which operated as a hub for Air National Guard cargo and passengers going into Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Aircrew flew eight C-17 missions, transporting personnel and equipment from around the country in support of the recovery efforts.

The 167th Inspectors General office provided numerous augmentee inspectors for several major command inspections throughout the year. The 167th IG also provided inspection support to three other Air National Guard units. Supporting the inspections at other units provided valuable

networking opportunities and strengthened the 167th's own programs.

Building community relationships remained a priority for the Wing throughout the year. Base tours were provided to 16 groups and numerous individual tours were given to members of the community. The 167th Fire Department responded to nearly 185 off-base emergency calls. At least 15 Airmen volunteered time each week with local students as STARBASE 2.0 mentors or as Education Elevators.



# WVNG Homeland Defense Joint Task Force

Consisting of:  
Joint Interagency Training & Education Center (JITEC)  
35th Civil Support Team (WMD)  
CBRNE Enhanced Response Force Package  
Center for National Response Memorial Tunnel  
Critical Infrastructure Protection Mission Assurance Analysis



# Joint Interagency Training & Education Center

**Lt. Col. Marc R. McCreery**  
**Command Sgt. Maj. James D. Fleaming**

The Joint Interagency Training and Education Center (JITEC) is the National Guard Bureau's lead for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and high-yield Explosives (CBRNE) and Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) training. The JITEC is an active National Guard unit supporting training and education utilizing a cadre of military and civilian subject matter experts for homeland defense and civil support activities. The JITEC training and operational capability is based at three locations in West Virginia: Camp Dawson near Kingwood; the St. Albans Armory; and the Center for National Response near Gallagher. The JITEC's core CBRNE capabilities lie within the CBRNE Battalion, led by Maj. Walter Hatfield and Command Sgt. Maj. James D. Phillips II, and the Center for National Response, which operates the Memorial Tunnel Training Complex.

The CNR is a multiple-purpose and versatile training facility. Originally a 2,800 foot, two-lane interstate highway tunnel, it is now a unique training facility that provides several scenarios: post-blast rubble event, subway station and train mishaps, weapons of mass destruction laboratories, highway hazardous material incident, a cave and a bunker complex, a confined space emergency egress trainer and an over 5,000 acre training range. The CNR staff conducts full scale exercises throughout the United States and its territories for military and civilian first responders utilizing Mobile Training Teams.

In Fiscal Year 2017, JITEC CBRNE Battalion ensured readiness of National Guard domestic CBRN response units in 54 states and territories by conducting 64 total missions training over 12,046 Soldiers and Airmen.

The CBRNE Battalion conducted six CBRN Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP) External Evaluations (EXEVAL), four Homeland Response Force (HRF) EXEVALs, 13 Collective Training Events (CTE), six Special Focus Events (SFE), the Boy Scout Jamboree, 10 Weapon of Mass Destruction Command

Post (WMD-CP) Courses, 10 Mass Casualty Decontamination Courses (MCDC), 15 Search and Extraction (S&E) Basic Courses, Casualty Assistance Support Element (CASE) Basic Courses, S&E Mobile Training Team (MTT) Courses, and some Title 10 missions.

The CBRNE Battalion also supported multiple real world missions in support of the hurricane relief efforts in Virginia at the National Guard Coordination Center (NGCC) augmenting the Adaptive Battle Staff. Members of the CBRNE BN traveled to Louisiana, Georgia, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands as Joint Enabling Teams (JET) and Joint Assessment Teams (JAT) to assist in the overall assessment of the areas affected by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Maria, and Nate relief efforts.

When the CBRNE BN was not on mission or developing their skills, the military and civilian contractors gave back to the community by donating time, money, and food. Members supported the Pumpkin House in Kenova, W.Va. as a community service project where several hundred pounds of canned and dry goods along with \$3,000 were donated to support the local food pantry. The Pumpkin House is a main attraction during the Ceredo-Kenova Fall Festival and it is estimated that up to 30,000 people visit the house every year.



# Critical Infrastructure Protection Battalion

**Lt. Col. Christopher J. Brown**  
**Senior Master Sgt. George E. Saunders**

The JITEC provides critical infrastructure security and resilience assessments to the Department of the Army (HQDA), United States Coast Guard (USCG), and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) through its Critical Infrastructure Protection Battalion. As the lead entity for this National Guard effort, the CIP Battalion is responsible for assessment, quality assurance, methodology development, and team member training. JITEC's CIP Battalion is also responsible for a myriad of prevention and preparedness training in support of the Department of Homeland Security and their Office for Bombing Prevention. During 2017, the CIP BN provided program support to the DHS through employment of Airmen and Soldiers providing regional analysts to 9 of the 10 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Regions.

Programs are diversified and support the distinct requirements of each partner agency. The DHS is supported through three major efforts: Infrastructure Visualization Platform (IVP) Program, responsible for conducting an imagery capture while considering viewpoints from hostile targets and civil response; Office for Bombing Prevention (OBP) Mobile Training Team

(MTT) tasked with provide training and support to both the public and private partners that fall within the 16 sectors of critical infrastructure as determined by the DHS, focusing on Counter IED (C-IED) Support for National Special Security Events (NSSE) and Special Event Assessment Rating (SEAR) events; and the FEMA Regional Analysts supporting DHS Regional Directors in infrastructure analytics.

The DHS effort is comprised of 42 Airmen and Soldiers from West Virginia and 12 other States. The USCG Port Security and Resilience Assessment (PSRA) Team provides vulnerability assessments to mitigate risk and enhance

security within ports by combining potential threat scenarios with vulnerability assessments to understand the port's overall security status, and where responsible commanders and leaders should invest limited security resources. With a

14 person WV National Guard team, PSRA has 3 focus areas: Area Maritime Security Assessment (AMSA), Maritime Security Risk Assessment Model (MSRAM) validation, and Special Project / NSSE support across 54 States and Territories. The HQDA Critical Infrastructure Risk Management team is responsible for providing vulnerability assessments for identified Tier I Army assets located in the 54 States and Territories.

The focus of the nine-Soldier team mission is to provide assessments which addresses an all-threat and all-hazards environment, DoD and non-DoD risks, and cascading downstream effects on mission essential facilities. The CIP BN also employs Drill Status Guardsmen (DSG) to accomplish vulnerability assessment on WV National Guard facilities and intra-state assets from an all-threat and all-hazards perspective in order to give commanders the most reliable and cost effective measures to address identified vulnerabilities such as the Bechtel Summit Reserve and FOB Eleanor.

During 2017, the CIP battalion conducted 120 critical infrastructure assessments, provided 604 C-IED courses (face-to-face and virtual), and trained 10,403 personnel involved in the protection of critical infrastructure and key resources throughout the country. In the year ahead, the JITEC anticipates a very similar mission schedule and will continue to conduct some of the best training available for the Soldiers and Airmen of the National Guard and civilian first responders throughout the country.

## CBRN Enhanced Response Force Package

**Lt. Col. Mark A. Merritt**  
**Command Sgt. Maj. Earl L. Layton**

The 35th Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP), consists of 203 service member both Army and Air that are prepared to assist local, state, and federal agencies in consequence management (CM). The unit has six functional areas that bring CBRNE capabilities packaged to incident commanders in the areas of Command and Control (C2), Mass Casualty Decontamination (DECON), Search and Rescue (S&E), Communications (Joint Incident Site Command Communications – JISCC), Medical and the Fatality Search and Extraction (FSRT). The team can be deployed in its entirety or modularized depending on the type and magnitude of the incident or CBRNE threat.

In 2017, the 35th CERFP missions involved standby missions for the Presidential Inauguration, Presidential Address to the

Joint Session of Congress and the West Virginia Gubernatorial Inauguration. The 35th CERFP had two major collective training events which were the Special Focus Event, Dawson Storm, in July and Capital Shield in September. Additionally,

the 35th CERFP participated in Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) meetings across different counties within the state of West Virginia to include Cabell-Wayne, Upshur, Mason, and Fayetteville and participated in the Cabell-Wayne radiation exercise in September.

Throughout the year, the 35th CERFP collaborated with other agencies to include the District of Columbia Fire Emergency Management Service (DCFEMS), Title 10 CBRNE response element (CBIRF), 33rd CST from D.C., 35th CST (WV), and other state response agencies in an effort to plan, coordinate and collaborate CM support. The 35th CERFP also has 16 personnel that are members of the West Virginia Swift Water Team.



## Civil Support Team (WMD)

**Maj. Gina M. Nichols**  
**1st Sgt. Jeremy B. Litchfield**

The 35th Civil Support Team (Weapons of Mass Destruction) is located in St. Albans, W.Va. The mission of the CST is to support civil authorities at a domestic Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear or High Yield Explosive (CBRNE) incident site by identifying unknown agents or substances, assessing current and projected consequences, advising on response measures and assisting with appropriate request for additional state and federal support.

The 35th CST consists of 22 full-time Army and Air National Guard members assigned to 14 different specialties. The CST adds value to the community by providing unique military capabilities, expertise and technologies to assist civil authorities in preparing for and responding to a CBRNE event. The 35th CST is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to the Governor for rapid deployment for response operations to enhance local and state capabilities by either ground, rail, or air movement.

In 2017, the 35th CST completed over 90 missions to include standby mission support, assist missions, exercises and training events. In January 2017, they supported the State of the Union Address (SOTUA) in Washington, D.C. While there, the team conducted active monitoring within the National Capital Region (NCR) ready to respond. Coordination with agencies such as the Metropolitan Capital Police, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Secret Service, DC Fire and Emergency Management Services, the 33rd CST as well as seven other CSTs across the nation was

made to construct rapid response teams and a CBRNE Task Force to ensure the highest level of response for this event. Coordination and planning of like events are vital to securing the NCR and minimizing threats.



The 35th CST conducted multiple training lanes with the WV-CERFP, numerous CSTs, and Army North. The team also participated in regional exercises with local, state, and federal agencies to include a Special Focus Event held at Camp Dawson exercising FEMA Region 3 response capabilities. The 35th CST remains trained, equipped, and always committed to excellence to be a leader among the 57 Civil Support Teams across our nation and its territories. The 35th CST continues to provide Defense Support to Civil Authorities (DSCA), as well as the homeland defense mission, living by their motto, "READY, ALWAYS READY!"

# Special Programs & Activities

## Facilities Management Office

The Construction and Facilities Management Office supports the West Virginia Army National Guard by constructing and maintaining all facilities and training areas owned by the state of West Virginia. The CFMO oversees the Environmental Program, Electronic Security Program, and the Sustainable Range Program (SRP). The WVARNG's Master Plan for facilities development includes a capital investment strategy (Facilities XXI) and the Readiness Center Transformation Master Plan (RCTMP) which recommends the location of future facilities based on force restructuring initiatives, recruiting objectives, changing demographics, distribution of units, and the condition of existing facilities.

Over this past year, the CFMO has worked on various types of projects. A Builder Program was implemented to forecasts life cycle updates and repairs of buildings and components. The WVNG Joint Operations Center and State Emergency Operations Center were moved into the Charleston Joint Force Headquarters Armory. A conversion from propane to natural gas has been completed at the Wheeling AASF2 facility and a new HVAC system was installed at the Williamstown AASF1 facility. Currently the CFMO is in the process of standing up a new FMS facility at Rock Creek and recently awarded the design for the Camp Dawson 12H30 Building. Last but not least, the CFMO has designed a Master Plan/Flood Mitigation for the Camp Dawson

## Employer Support of the Guard & Reserve

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve was established in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve component members and their civilian employers. ESGR is the lead Department of Defense organization for this mission. The West Virginia State Committee is comprised of 34 volunteers from all parts of the State who strive to support employers and service members. ESGR has continued to focus on promoting employment opportunities to West Virginia's military through its partnership with the West Virginia Military Connection Network.

site and hosted the 2017 CFMO 102 course for all 54 states and territories to attend.

The CFMO currently provides maintenance to 48 readiness centers, field maintenance shops, and aviation facilities. The CFMO also provides maintenance for the Camp Dawson Training Site which houses 92 facilities to include an airfield, maintenance shops and the Mountaineer Challenge Academy.

Over the past eight years the CFMO has completed 19 construction projects at an estimated \$282.8 million dollars. With one project selected for 2022 and five new construction projects competing for funding over the next five to 10 years, The Adjutant General's vision of Joint Base West Virginia will continue to improve Soldier readiness and infrastructure.

### Short-Range Planning (2017-2023)

- Parkersburg Readiness/Education Center – \$24 million
- Martinsburg Armed Forces Reserve Center – \$20.9 million
- JFHQ Readiness Center – \$14.3 million
- RTI/Camp Dawson Dining Facility Expansion - \$12.6 million
- Transient Training Company Headquarters Building at Camp Dawson – \$3.7 million

This year's Bosslifts continued the outreach to both Leadership Kanawha Valley and Leadership Monongalia courses culminating with orientation flights on C-130 aircraft. These Bosslifts, along with many briefings to local Rotary groups, focused on providing employers of each group an understanding and value of the National Guard and Reserve to our nation's defense along with educating them on their rights and responsibilities under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA).

This year ESGR also conducted a Bosslift for the Martinsburg area employers in appreciation for all of their support in the transition to the C-17. This Bosslift included an orientation flight which enabled the employers to see firsthand how their support has aided that transition. ESGR also continues to recognize employers who go above and beyond in their

## STARBASE

West Virginia STARBASE, located at McLaughlin Air National Guard Base in Charleston, and STARBASE Martinsburg, located at Shepherd Field Air National Guard Base in Martinsburg, are DoD outreach programs for elementary and secondary school students and have become integral partners in education with the local school systems and communities.

In Fiscal Year 2017, West Virginia STARBASE has provided 56 academies and an afterschool mentoring program at a Title I middle school, serving a total of over 1,400 students in Kanawha County. STARBASE Martinsburg has provided 84 academies and one mentoring program, serving a total of over 2,100 students in Berkeley and Jefferson Counties. In addition, West Virginia STARBASE and STARBASE Martinsburg have or will provide STEM education activities to an additional 500 students from Clay, Kanawha, Mercer, Putnam, Berkeley and Jefferson counties through special programs and camps.

In Fiscal Year 2018, West Virginia STARBASE is projected to provide 71 academies and six mentoring programs, serving a total of

support of service members. This year CDI Corporation, Cross Lanes, JENNMAR, Martinsburg, and WV Supreme Court, 28th Judicial Circuit, Summersville were awarded the Pro-Patria award for the most exceptional service to their military employees.

approximately 1,900 students, and STARBASE Martinsburg is projected to provide 90 academies and two mentoring programs, serving a total of approximately 2,800 students.

STARBASE academies, mentoring programs and camps are specifically designed to develop student awareness of and excitement about the critical subjects of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). The STARBASE academy curriculum includes 25 hours of outstanding STEM instruction for elementary school students (typically fifth graders), and the STARBASE after school mentoring programs provide excellent hands-on learning activities that allow middle school students to develop and apply STEM skills to real world situations. In addition to the academies and mentoring programs, STARBASE programs also provide special STEM education opportunities for a variety of children through camps and other outreach activities. The academies and mentoring programs have become extremely effective in fostering positive relationships between the local communities and the military.



## Family Programs

The WVNG Family Programs Office supports mission readiness of service members and their families through 12 Service Programs. Our Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program provided three weekend training events.

Our family assistance reported 195,732 instances where service members and/or their family members were supported via phone, emails, briefings and/or personal contacts.

Our Child and Youth Program reportedly conducted 39 events with 2,923 kids, 459 adult volunteers who assisted with 4,118 hours. Activities included day camps, holiday events, leadership development, life skills training and retreat weekends supporting social, emotional and academic needs.

Our Survivor Outreach Service supports events for Gold Star Families that include Churchill Downs, Motorcycle Ride for the Fallen, Survivor Day on the River, Christmas decorating for the Gold Star tree at the Capital, Brantley Gilbert Concert, and a tree planting ceremony, along with our Gold Star Weekend Retreat. Overall attendance was reported at 2591 with 913 from W.Va.

## Child Development Center (CDC)

The West Virginia National Guard Child Development Center is in place to support military readiness by reducing the conflict between a Guard member's mission and parental responsibilities. The CDC is an integral part of the National Guard mission by providing high-quality care and early education to all children in attendance.

The WVNG CDC received its official Department of Defense Certification, as well as national accreditation status with the National Association for the Education of Young Children in 2016. It is the only child care facility in Kanawha County to have an accredited program, as of December 2016.

The staff at the CDC are trained and kept up-to-date on current best practices to implement in their classrooms. There are six classrooms that accommodate children between the ages

Our Tricare representative reportedly worked 3,850 family cases, and briefed office managers meetings with 350 in attendance. Our Personal Financial Counselor reportedly conducted 1,319 face to face meetings with service members and their spouses for their financial needs, attended numerous events with briefing of 1,961 service members.

Our family readiness support assistants reportedly attended 357 commander meetings and trainings; provided 42 family trainings and briefed 1,491 Family Readiness personnel.

Our Chaplains reported they conducted three Strong Bonds events for families, couples and single Soldiers members. Additionally, we supported briefings and attendance for WV Military Association, Substance Abuse Prevention, Job Fairs, Red Ribbon, Final Formation, conferences and SRP's.

Our Resilience, Risk Reduction and Suicide Prevention program has 103 Master Resilience Trainers, 198 Resilience Assistance Trainers, 379 Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) and 454 ACE-Suicide Intervention trained personnel. Additionally, the program hosted a motorcycle ride for suicide prevention as well as partnered with Prevent Suicide WV and the WV American Foundation for a suicide prevention night at Appalachian Power Park.

of six weeks to five years of age. A curriculum is utilized to ensure important milestones and learning objectives are being obtained and a Pre-K kindergarten readiness program is also incorporated for children between the ages of four to five. Meals, offered as part of the program, are sponsored by the USDA's Child and Adult Food Program. Breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack are served throughout the day. The maximum capacity of the CDC is 70 children and they currently have 60 enrolled, with several children projected to begin care within the coming months.

Families eligible for care at the CDC are members of the National Guard, active duty or reservists, DoD contractors and active duty members of all branches of military service. The CDC allows for drop-in care for out-of-area National Guardsmen who may be here for training or temporary assignments, provided

there is room within that specific classroom. Childcare rates vary based upon the total family income of the household that the child lives in most typically, the rates offered at the CDC are below average for the area.

## Safety & Occupational Health

The goals of the WVARNG Safety and Occupational Health program are to:

- Enhance the operational force by embedding S&OH in organizational culture
- Educate leaders at all levels that a well-managed S&OH program is a force multiplier to operations, training and sustainment
- Ensure S&OH principles are incorporated into planning, policy, training and operations
- Develop S&OH Plan metrics that support the goals of the WVARNG
- Implement risk management techniques to enable ready units and Soldiers

## Mountaineer ChalleNGe Academy



The Mountaineer ChalleNGe Academy (MCA) is proud to be one of the original National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Programs beginning in 1993. To date there are 40 ChalleNGe Programs nationwide and West Virginia (MCA) continues to be ranked among the best.

The MCA helps redirect the lives of teens who have fallen behind in the traditional education system. With graduates from all 55 counties, the MCA offers a safe, secure, structured training environment for volunteer youth who strive to improve their lives, enhance their futures and who are ultimately better for

The CDC is open Monday through Friday 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and is closed on federal holidays.

The WVNG Motorcycle Safety program began in 2005. Since its inception, it has trained more than 1,600 Soldiers, Airmen, service member's families, DoD civilians and retirees. In 2017, the Motorcycle Safety Program conducted 17 rider safety courses which resulted in 69 members trained in the Basic Riders Course, 18 in the Advanced Riders Course, and 5 in the Rider Coach Preparation Course. Safety and Occupational Staff also attend the six-week Ground Safety Officer Course and the Accident Investigation Course at Ft. Rucker Ala.

having the ChalleNGe Experience.

The mission of the Mountaineer ChalleNGe Academy is to train and mentor selected at-risk youth to become contributing members of society using the Model's eight Core Components in a quasi-military environment during a 22-week residential and one-year follow-up program. The ChalleNGe Academy has graduated 4,048 West Virginia teens since 1993.

Beginning in 2013, Cadets at the MCA have been able to earn their high school diploma from their home high school through the West Virginia Department of Education Options Pathway Program. This has resulted in an increase in the state's high school graduation rate. 1,163 (84 percent) MCA graduates have earned their high school diploma since 2013!

The program continues to increase public awareness, attract potential cadets and train future mentors. Applications are accepted year round and classes begin in January and July. Download an application and see the latest Academy information at [www.wvchallenge.org](http://www.wvchallenge.org) or [www.facebook.com/wvchallenge](http://www.facebook.com/wvchallenge).

# State Partnership Program - Peru

The National Guard State Partnership Program was established in 1993 in response to the radically changed political-military situation following the collapse of Communism and the disintegration of the Soviet Union. Authorities questioned how the National Guard, having provided the United States with strategic credibility during the Cold War, could continue to be relevant in an era when defense of the Fulda Gap was no longer the driving force behind America's national defense strategy. Mindful of the uniqueness and strengths of the Guard's citizen-soldiers, the National Guard Bureau foresaw a unique opportunity to make a lasting contribution to solidifying the newly established peace. Our response was the State Partnership Program (SPP).

The WV-Peru SPP was formally established in 1996 to develop mutually beneficial partnerships between the two entities. The partners were chosen based upon similarities in population size, land mass and agricultural based economies. Due to the geographical location of Peru on the Eastern coast of the South American continent, Combatant Command oversight falls under the U.S. Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM) based in Miami, Fla. NGB Program Guidance, the SOUTHCOM Theater Security Cooperation Strategy, and the U.S. Embassy Mission Strategic Plan guide the activities and engagements of the program in line with stated objectives in the country and region. SPP events must support stated objectives for funding and approval. Funding is provided through NGB, SOUTHCOM, other government agencies, private organizations and individuals when available.

Maj. Thomas E II Willis has served as the SPP Director since 2015 and completed the assignment with flying colors. Capt. Joshua Goforth has now assumed responsibility as the new SPP Director, Staff Sgt. Hector H. Guillen has served as the SPP-Coordinator since August 2016. Lt. Col Larry Boggs has now assumed the duties and responsibilities of the J3/5-7, which now has the oversight of the West Virginia SPP. Capt. Joseph



Reppert, a WV Guardsman, has a two year assignment as the SOUTHCOM Traditional Commanders Activities (TCA) Coordinator, with duty station in the U.S. Embassy, Lima-Peru.

The relationship among the key players – NGB, SOUTHCOM, US Embassy Lima, Peruvian Embassy Washington, OSD-P, ARSOUTH, AFSOUTH, SOCSOUTH and the WVNG – continues to be a multiplier in the U.S. security cooperation arena. The WVNG and Components team compliments each other in furthering the partnership objectives, vision and contributes in accordance with the Ambassador's and SOUTHCOM's theater guidance and objectives.

**CURRENT MAJOR LINES OF EFFORT:**

- Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Response
- Search and Rescue
- Medical Exchanges (Especially Flight Medicine)
- Education: School Exchanges
- Engineering: Planning, Deployment, Operations, Horizontal and Vertical Construction
- Peacekeeping
- Interagency Operations
- Military Support to Civil Authorities
- Joint Operations

**POSSIBLE FUTURE LINES OF EFFORT:**

- Mining: Environmental, Processes, Education
- Medical/Rural/Public Health Exchanges
- Military: Reserve Component Development, Professional development
- Civic Organization Partnerships: Rotary, Boy/Girl Scouts
- Environmental
- International Business

# Boy Scout Jamboree & Special Focus Events 2017



Beginning July 10, 2017, U.S. military and civilian members arrived in Glen Jean, West Virginia as part of Joint Task Force – National Scout Jamboree 2017, to support the Boy Scouts of America’s National Jamboree, which took place at the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve from July 19 through 28.

The Department of Defense has provided support to the National Boy Scout Jamboree since the Jamboree’s inception in 1931.

More than 1,400 military members from the U.S. Army, U.S. Army Reserve, along with members of the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps and U.S. Coast Guard and National Guard members from multiple states supported the event under the Dual Status Command of Brig. Gen. Russell Crane, West Virginia National Guard Assistant Adjutant General - Army.

The combined effort of these members provided logistics, security, aviation, air traffic control, weather detachment, transportation, limited medical, search and rescue, communications, ceremony and exhibit and public affairs support.

In addition to supporting the Jamboree, the WVNG hosted and lead two additional exercises in the month of July – Sentry Storm and Dawson Storm.

Sentry Storm was hosted by the 167th Airlift Wing out of Martinsburg, W.Va., July 15 through 19. Military assets from around the country trained in West Virginia in areas such as conducting C-17 aircrew, aeromedical evacuation and support services readiness training for domestic operations.

By conducting training that overlaps the timeframe of the Jamboree, Sentry Storm service members were able to also operate on standby for airlift and medical support, in case a domestic emergency event occur.

Dawson Storm took place July 20 through 25 in Preston, Monongalia and Kanawha counties. The exercise included

military and civilian emergency response units within Federal Emergency Management Agency Region III and aimed to increase interoperability not only between units within the WVNG, but also with local first responders throughout the region. Participating units took part in in real-world training scenarios to maximize their proficiency and response capabilities.

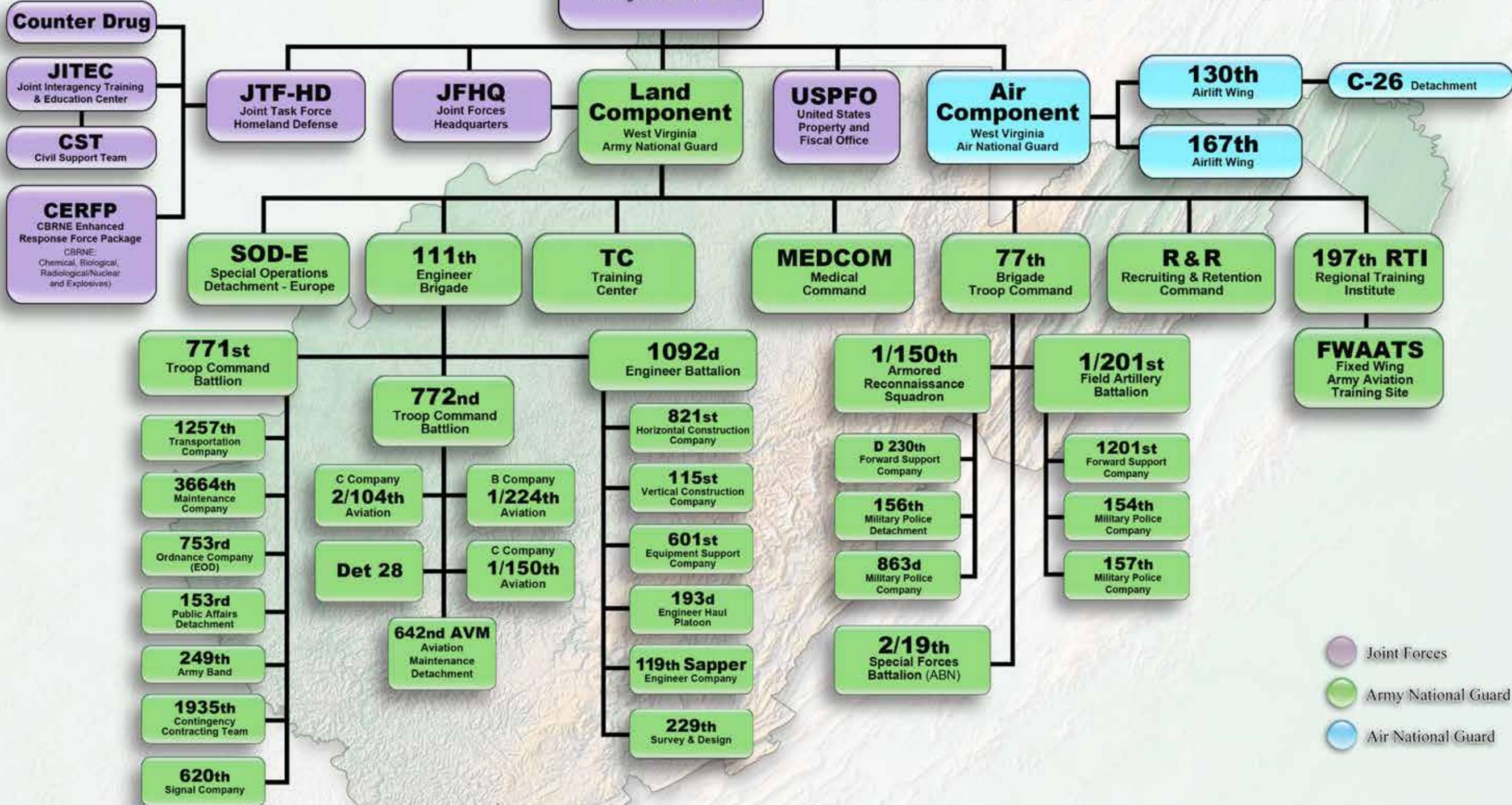




# West Virginia National Guard Organization Chart

for  
Army National Guard, Air National Guard and Joint units

**TAG**  
The Adjutant General  
West Virginia National Guard



- Joint Forces
- Army National Guard
- Air National Guard

