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Dear Governor Justice:

I am pleased to provide you with the 2018 Annual Report of the Adjutant General. It has been another tremendously successful year for the West Virginia National Guard, filled with unique challenges, new opportunities and rewarding outcomes.

Over the past year, the men and women of the West Virginia National Guard have demonstrated “Mountaineer Pride Worldwide” in each and every endeavor. Our men and women stepped up to every challenge presented to them at the local, state and national level. In addition to training and equipping our forces for rapid mobilization in the event our country calls upon us, the Soldiers and Airmen of the West Virginia National Guard supported such events as hurricane recovery efforts, flooding response and international partnership building in Peru, Qatar, Africa and the Baltic states. In addition, these men and women assisted their state by augmenting correctional officers, overseeing recovery efforts from the 2016 flood, supporting drug prevention efforts in their communities and assisting in the state’s economic development and diversification through programs such as Patriot Guardians. Through continued training, we remain vigilant and ready to assist at a moment’s notice when our citizens need us most. We will continue our quest to establish innovative approaches for economic development and growth that positively impact the great State of West Virginia.

The brave service members of the West Virginia National Guard supported overseas contingency operations through deployments and training engagements around the world over the last year, enhancing the Nation’s national defense strategy. At home, we focused on protecting the homeland through training, education and strategic partnerships that impact the safety and security of West Virginia and beyond. Our Mountaineer ChalleNGe program continues to assist at-risk youth in achieving success and being able to positively impact our state.

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, allows us to continue to perform as a model organization of innovation and excellence!

The West Virginia National Guard is proud to serve the great State of West Virginia. We are thankful to our communities and the citizens of the Mountain State for their unwavering support to our National Guard members and their families.

Respectfully,

JAMES A. HOYER
Major General, WVARNG
The Adjutant General
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 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. ¹

LEADERSHIP

Senior National Guard Leaders

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

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

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

CHRISTOPHER S. WALKER
Brigadier General
Chief of Staff
WVANG

JAMES M. JONES
Colonel
Director, Joint Staff

RONALD L. HYPES
Chief Warrant Officer 5
State Command Chief
LEADERSHIP

Senior Enlisted National Guard Leaders

PHILLIP R. CANTRELL
Command Sergeant Major
Senior Enlisted Leader

JAMES D. JONES
Command Sergeant
Major
Army National Guard

JAMES M. DIXON
Command Chief
Master Sergeant
Air National Guard
SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- All West Virginia Army and Air National Guard units met and exceeded end strength with more than 100 percent manning. The 167th Airlift Wing continues to boast impressive strength management with 110 percent manning.
- The Recruiting and Retention’s Final Formation Program (FFP) resulted in the state achieving 98.4 percent of its re-enlistment mission and has become a model program throughout the nation.
- The Medical Detachment ensured the WVANG remained nationally ranked in the top four percent for medical readiness with a greater than 93 percent medical readiness rating.
- In 2018, Camp Dawson Training Center supported the training of the second largest number of personnel ever, totalling over 161,000 personnel trained for the year.
- The AITEC CBRNE Battalion ensured readiness of National Guard domestic CBRN response units by conducting over 64 missions training more than 9,422 Soldiers and Airmen.
- The CIP Battalion conducted 99 total critical infrastructure assessments, including 88 IVP collections, provided 606 C-IED courses, and trained 7,470 personnel directly involved in the protection of critical infrastructure and key resources throughout the nation.
- The West Virginia Swift Water Rescue Team attained the necessary training and certification to identify as a FEMA Type 1 swift water/flood search and rescue team in June.
- The WVNG – Qatar partnership was formally established in May marking the second partner nation for the WVNG.
- 1st Lt. Emily Lilly, a platoon leader with Charlie Troop, 1st Squadron, 150th Cavalry Regiment, became the first female National Guard Soldier to graduate from the U.S. Army Ranger School in Ft. Benning, Ga.
• The 249th Army Band travelled to Lima, Peru in July where they became the first ever foreign group to participate in the changing of the guard at the Peruvian Presidential Palace.

• The West Virginia National Guard Drug Prevention Support program supported has supported 60 meetings with state-wide community and education stakeholders and over 100 coalition activities such as mentoring sessions and book readings in 16 counties reaching more than 4,900 students.

• The Horizontal Construction Schoolhouse at the 197th Regional Training Institute was chosen by Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. to host a pilot instructional program for the Horizontal Engineering Course, which will take nation-wide effect in the near future.

• Maintainers at the 130th Airlift Wing maintained an 89 percent Mission Capable Rate for 2018 on the C-130H Hercules.

• The 167th Civil Engineering Squadron was awarded the Brigadier General Archie S. Mayes Award which recognizes the Air Force Civil Engineer Engineering Flight that most excelled in providing facility products and services of exceptional quality to base customers.

• The West Virginia National Guard Mountaineer ChalleNGe Academy (MCA) received the exemplary partnership award for student-centered support from The Education Alliance during the 2018 West Virginia Education Summit.

• Soldiers and Airmen from across the state provided electoral security assistance to the West Virginia Secretary of State and the West Virginia Office of Technology’s Information Security Office during the 2018 midterm elections.

• The West Virginia National Guard welcomed a full-time Dietician into its ranks, the first of its kind in the Army National Guard.

• Detachment 1, Company B, 1-224th Security & Support Aviation Battalion flew over 473 hours supporting 118 counter narcotics missions which facilitated law enforcement eradicating 56,709 marijuana plants, and seizing 308.5 pounds of bulk marijuana, 14,091 grams of cocaine, 1,923 grams of heroin, 469 grams of fentanyl, 5,024 grams of methamphetamine, 741 grams of crack cocaine, 2,461 pills of illicit pharmaceuticals and 246 arrests.

DEPLOYMENTS, READINESS AND OVERSEAS SUPPORT

• Det. 28 Operational Support Airlift returned home from a nine-month deployment in support of Task Force Cesar in Afghanistan where they successfully stood up the CEASAR II Electronic Warfare Program with two C-12R airplanes and flew 228 combat sorties totalling 845 combat hours in support of Operation Freedom’s Sentinel.

• The 1092nd Headquarters Battalion deployed three companies to Germany and Poland as part of a multinational joint training exercise for NATO and U.S. Army engineers that supports Atlantic Resolve, a demonstration of the United States’ commitment to the collective security of Europe.

• In August, the 1st Squadron, 150th Cavalry Regiment participated in the 30th Armored Brigade Combat Team’s (ABCT) XCTC rotation at Ft Bliss, Texas, where they necessary training and fired TOW-2B Aero anti-tank missiles for the first time since converting to a cavalry squadron.

• 22 Soldiers from the 156th Military Police Law and Order Detachment deployed to Afghanistan for nine months under Area Support Group-Afghanistan and conducted 24-hour operations on both Bagram Air base and Kandahar with the additional responsibility of serving the outlying forward operating bases.

• The 1st Battalion, 201st Field Artillery Regiment participated in Operation Northern Strike, a joint, multi-national, combined arms training event held at Camp Grayling, Mich. with 5,000 participating Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors and Marines.

• Our special operators concluded deployments to the Republic of South Korea, the European Theater, Nepal and Bangladesh. All missions were an extremely valuable opportunity to broaden U.S. influence and continue to further build relationships.

• 216 members of the 130th Airlift Wing and 75 members of the 167th Airlift Wing deployed in support of contingency operations around the globe.

• More than 100 1257th Transportation Company Soldiers provided support to 17,000 U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers as a part of Operation Cold Steel II exercise. They were the only National Guard unit supporting the exercise for transportation missions.

• The 1935th Contingency Contracting Team (CCT) organized and participated in the first ever National Guard independent contingency contracting teaming event at Camp Atterbury, Ind. Their training platform is expected become the building block upon which all NG CCT’s teams will base their mission essential task listing (METL) training in the future.
Total Direct 2018 West Virginia National Guard Economic Impact

$361,044,669

Indirect Economic Impact*

$547,524,241

*based on a multiplier used in the 2017 West Virginia University study on the economic impact of the WVARNG. Not inclusive of all indirect impact calculations and is only an estimate.

West Virginia received $25 in federal funding for every state dollar invested during Fiscal Year 2018.

WVNG Employment

2,025

Full-Time Active, Guard and Reserve (AGR), Federal Technician and Military Authority personnel employed through the WVNG.

130th Airlift Wing, Charleston, W.Va.

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Total for Air Guard (Charleston):

$55,650,247

167th Airlift Wing, Martinsburg, W.Va.

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Total for Air Guard (Martinsburg):

$72,689,589
### West Virginia Army National Guard

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**Total for Army Guard:**

$219,059,422

### State Investment

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<td>Construction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
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**Total for State:**

$13,645,411
The West Virginia National Guard supported operations at home and abroad in 2018, 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 the Korean Peninsula.

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

549
Deployed in 2018
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.

86
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, and other key events.

121
State Active Duty
The West Virginia National Guard provided Soldiers and Airmen to assist communities in activities such as natural disaster response, extreme weather, counterdrug operations and other state emergencies.
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.
Joint Forces Headquarters

Maj. Christina Hardy
1st Sgt. Jeffrey Beane

Joint Forces 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 WVANG 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
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!_
Units and detachments operating in communities around the state make up the West Virginia Army National Guard.

Soldiers comprise the West Virginia Army National Guard across the state.
The 111th Engineer “Black Diamond” Brigade provides command and control of three battalions; 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 engineer mission. The black diamond signifies military constancy 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.”

During 2018, the 111th Brigade’s concentration was on training Soldier tasks and command post operations. The brigade prepared and deployed the 3664th Maintenance Company to Kuwait and prepared the 821st Engineer Company, 753rd Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Co. and the 1935th Contracting team for future deployments. The Brigade was on hand to support the citizens of our state in several northern counties in response to the severe storms that hit the northern panhandle. During this state emergency, units of the 111th conducted numerous search and rescue missions, provided engineer support by removing debris, and assisted local agencies delivering critical supplies to families in the affected areas.

The 111th Engineer Brigade continually prepares for future mobilizations and this year the 111th conducted annual training at Camp Dawson, W.Va. The Brigade conducted a command post exercise that focused on developing staff procedures in a decisive operation environment. Simultaneously, the 111th provided community support projects through the Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) program. The IRT program benefits both the community and the unit by providing valuable real-world training opportunities to our Soldiers while completing various construction projects at a significantly reduced cost.

Projects conducted during 2018 included the State Police Range in Institute, Hurricane Park Access road, Winfield Locks and Dams access road and the Donel C. Kinnard Memorial State Veterans Cemetery. The 111th Engineer Brigade stands ready to respond in support of combat operations abroad and to all emergencies within West Virginia.

ESSAYONS – LET US TRY
The 771st Troop Command Battalion (TCBN) 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, 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.
153rd
Public Affairs Detachment

The 153rd Public Affairs Detachment (PAD) is an eight-member team that provides support to units in the WVNG in joint and multinational operations.

Throughout 2018, the 153rd PAD covered dozens of missions across the country. A contingent travelled to Arkansas to cover the Winston P. Wilson Championship and the Armed Forces Skill at Arms Meeting, conducted by the National Guard Marksmanship Training Center. Other missions included Fit Camp, Gold Star Family Weekend, Best Warrior Competition, Camp Conley/Youth Leader’s Camp, Beeline March Anniversary Ruck March, and the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) National Conference.

The 153rd PAD remains a highly-requested and high-performing public affairs detachment, and is gearing up to support several overseas training exercises and The World Scout Jamboree in 2019.

249th Army Band

The 249th Army Band highly values representing the West Virginia National Guard to the public, and the unit does this in a variety of performances and community events. The unit performed many missions, from formal ceremonies to telling the story of the West Virginia National Guard to the public in concert.

In November, the 249th held its annual All State Band Masterclass. This event is open to all high school band students across the state, and especially those wishing to prepare for the West Virginia All State Band audition. Students spend the day with members of the 249th Army Band and attend a short concert, receive personal instruction in a masterclass setting, learn new practice techniques, and generally improve upon their musical skills. Both the 249th Army Band and the community benefit from the unit’s continued relationship with music education in the state.

In July, members of the 249th spent time in Peru, one of two West Virginia state partnerships. While there, they became the first ever foreign group to participate in the changing of the guard at the Presidential Palace. The group also performed for the American Independence Day party in Lima, Peru, held by Ambassador Krishna R. Urs. The group had the opportunity to build great relationships for the state partnership program conducting English language and
cultural exchange classes, participated in joint events with Peruvian military, met and conducted interviews with public officials, played concerts in multiple Peruvian cities, and even partnered with local police for a community event aimed at inspiring young people to improve and enhance their lives.

753rd Explosive Ordnance Disposal

753rd Ordnance Company (EOD) has a mission to reduce or eliminate the hazards of munitions and explosive devices. During 2018, the 753rd EOD has focused on preparation for an upcoming deployment to Afghanistan in early 2019 to conduct EOD operations in theater. Multiple training events and schools educated and refreshed basic Soldier skills, EOD techniques and procedures, and advanced skill sets to prepare for our theater of operations.

In May, the 753rd EOD participated in a Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) rotation in Fort Polk, La. This exercise focused on EOD asset integration within a higher unit, working in a field environment, and coordinating with higher units for support while responding to explosive threats in the area. While at JRTC, 753rd EOD Soldiers trained on tactical engagements, route clearance and improvised explosive devices (IED).

In March and July, 753rd EOD Soldiers attended training held by the ATF and FBI's Homemade Explosives (HME) units. These training events gave Soldiers hands-on exposure to HME processes and uses in real-world scenarios.

In September and November, the 753rd conducted multi-day training events. Training focused on IED operations, x-ray use, hand-entry procedures, and post-blast analysis of explosive incidents. Soldiers also received training on newly fielded MATV response vehicles. Soldiers also completed deployment training requirements of land navigation, hand-held detectors, and Combat Life Saver.

Throughout the course of the year, multiple Soldiers attended Mountain Warfare and Pathfinder training. These courses focused on tactical and technical operations in mountain environments, establishing helicopter landing zones, and other advanced Soldier skills. These Soldiers returned with additional skill identifiers to reflect their training.

Our Soldiers were active in community events as well. For Christmas 2017, several Soldiers and their families participated in Wreaths Across America by laying Christmas wreaths on graves in Arlington National Cemetery. In November, one Soldier ran the 2018 New York City marathon and 16 Soldiers completed the EOD 133 workout honoring the 133 EOD techs killed in action since 9/11. Further, our unit has multiple full-time law enforcement officers serving their communities in their civilian capacities as well.
1257th Transportation Company

More than 100 1257th Transportation Company (TC) Soldiers provided support to 17,000 U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers as a part of Operation Cold Steel II exercise held March 8 through 23, 2018, at Fort Knox, Ky. They were the only National Guard unit supporting the exercise for transportation missions and utilized their time at Fort Knox to conduct annual readiness training to prepare for their wartime mission. Soldiers used 60 different pieces of unit equipment to include light medium tactical vehicles (LMTV), Humvees, fuel distribution vehicles and maintenance and recovery vehicles to demonstrate the two main capabilities of an Army Light Medium Truck Company.

The 1257th TC conducted 45 haul missions to include moving 978 pallets of food and bottled water, 98 containers, two standard automotive trailers, 19 military refrigerated container systems, 34,000 gallons of fuel, 876 Soldiers, 23 sensitive items, and provided four Soldiers for driving buses around Fort Knox for the training audience. Vehicle operators obtained valuable drivers’ time, increased knowledge of vehicle handling and capabilities, and earned re-evaluation for vehicle driving and licensing. The skills gained by the Soldiers during training ensured they can perform their mission of moving both material and personnel as well as utilizing cargo trucks for small bulk shipments and unit relocations throughout West Virginia and beyond.

In September, Soldiers assisted the 821st Engineers in transporting over 50 urban terrain vehicles from Fort Bragg, N.C. and Fort Campbell, Ky., to Nitro, W.Va., traveling over 1,700 miles, in five days.

1935th Contingency Contracting Team

The 1935th Contingency Contracting Team (CCT) plays a key role in assisting with coordination and execution of all contracting functions at the brigade level. Throughout 2018, the 1935th CCT worked in supporting the United States Property and Fiscal Office (USPFO) full time contracting office as a surge capacity. During the year, the Team not only assisted the USPFO Contracting office in awarding contracts totalling $23.7 million dollars, but also assisted during end of year procurement processing to ensure all needs of the West Virginia National Guard were executed.

Furthermore the Team assisted the USPFO with helping it meet its small business goals, and not only did they meet their goal of 60 percent of all dollars spent with small businesses, they beat it by spending 85 percent of all dollars with small business.

In addition to the support provided to the full-time USPFO, the Team worked towards playing a more vital role as a mobile CCT to provide contracting support throughout the state of West Virginia and/or abroad in meeting its Mission Essential Task List (METL) requirements. They also equipped themselves to be prepared to mobilize for any emergency to provide contracting expertise the state may need. This will allow the team to be more flexible in the way it is deployed to meet an array of different contingency contracting situations.
The Team also organized and participated in the first ever National Guard independent contingency contracting teaming event at Camp Atterbury, Ind. and cross trained with CCTs from Wisconsin, Indiana and Ohio. The 1935th CCT organized the training scenarios around assigned METL tasks and ensured that any team going through this training in the future would be able to be formally assessed on the CCT METL. According to 1st Army evaluators for this training, the 1935th accomplished this task by not only developing and participating in a training that will support an upcoming deployment but should be instrumental in helping other National Guard CCTs accomplish their future mission as well. This training platform is expected to become the building block upon which all NG CCTs teams will base their METL training in the future.

Most recently, the 1935TH attended the Army Contracting Command’s CCAS (Contingency Contracting Administrative Services) training at Redstone Arsenal in Alabama to further expand training for future deployments. The training focused directly on preparing the team contingency operations and provided unique scenarios and insight from the unit who the 1935th CCT will be replacing one their future deployment.

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. The unit’s training priority in 2018 was focused on training requirements for mobilization. In April 2018, the unit travelled to Fort Pickett, Va., for individual and crew served weapons qualification and the final evaluation by 120th Infantry Brigade. The unit went on Title 10 orders in June and moved to Fort Hood to complete the required training for mobilization. In July, the unit took over the mission from the 3637th SMC supporting the Central Command Area of Responsibility. Since then the 3664th SMC has been providing maintenance and recovery support to units on an area basis, as well as calibration and repair of general purpose and selected special purpose test, measurement, and diagnostic equipment in support of Operation Spartan Shield/Operation Inherent Resolve.
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 consisting 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, Aeromedical Evacuation Company, Security & Support Company, Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Detachment, and an Operational Support Airlift Detachment.

During 2018, the entire organization provided critical domestic support and value added training to our interagency partners. Some notable missions included supporting Military District Washington, extensive support for Ridge Runner and Special Forces Command, along with medical evacuation (MEDEVAC) support enabling the Army Interagency Training and Education Command (AITEC) Swift Water Rescue Team to achieve Level 1 FEMA Certification. Additionally, the fixed wing detachment, Det. 28 Operational Support Airlift, returned home from a nine-month deployment in support of Task Force Cesar in Afghanistan.
Det. 3, Co. B
642d Aviation Intermediate Maintenance

The Detachment 3, Company B, 642d Aviation Intermediate Maintenance unit is located in Wheeling and is assigned 15 Soldiers. The 642nd Aviation Intermediate Maintenance provides aviation field and limited sustainment maintenance to aviation units organic to the Army Aviation Support Facility #2. The unit attended annual training at the Theater Aviation Sustainment Maintenance Group (TASMG) in Groton, Conn. This opportunity was unique, in that junior Soldiers were exposed to high level battle damage assessment (BDA) and repair, production/quality control functions, airframe and component repair, and maintenance support activities.

Co. C, 1-150th Assault Battalion

Company C, 1-150th Assault Battalion is located in Wheeling, W.Va. with 90 assigned Soldiers and equipped with eight UH-60A+/L Blackhawk helicopters. The unit provides assault aviation operations with civil support capability augmentation. Mission Essential Tasks include: personnel movement, sling load, rappel, fast rope insertion/extraction (FRIES), helocast, parado, and hoist. This diverse mission set allows the unit to be one of the most uniquely qualified aviation units in the Army National Guard.

Over the past year, the unit flew a cumulative 1,246 flight hours in support of seven separate joint operations and two internal training events. These events and operations saw the unit perform both close to home, across West Virginia, and as far away as Fort Bragg, N.C. 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 a strong relationship with major Army and Air Force Special Operations Command assets who deliberately request the 150th by name. Annual training was conducted at Camp Dawson, W.Va. and Wheeling, W.Va. and focused on a variety of the Mission Essential Tasks in preparation for federal and state support.
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 Platoons and three supporting detachments. Over 80 Soldiers maintain and operate the six assigned UH-60L Blackhawk helicopters.

Company C, 2-104th’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 citizens of West Virginia in times of emergency.

Company C, 2-104th conducted post-mobilization reset/refit after its deployment to Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan, and quickly reintegrated with its rear detachment to begin training aircrews.

During this year’s annual training, Company C, 2-104th focused on Defense Support to Civil Authorities (DSCA) mission training. Of particular note, the unit conducted swift water rescue training on the Cheat River with members of the Army Interagency Training and Education Center (AITEC). This partnership enabled AITEC to achieve FEMA Level 1 Swift Water Rescue Certification. The unit also performed multiple real-world search and rescue missions for state emergency response agencies and flew over 800 hours this fiscal year.
Det. 1, Co. B, 1-224th

Security and Support Aviation Battalion

Detachments 1, Company B, 1-224th Security and Support Aviation Battalion 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. The unit provided critical command and control aircraft in support of the operation in addition to aircraft operations and refueling capabilities.

The unit supported 97 Joint Operation Center (JOC) missions as well as multiple state active duty missions in support of state operations. Det. 1, Co. B, 1-224th 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 drugs and assets were valued at more than $1 billion.

Det. 28

Operational Support Airlift Command

Detachment 28 Operational Support Airlift Command (OSAC) is located in Williamstown, W.Va. and has 11 assigned soldiers. The unit returned from deployment to Afghanistan after a nine-month rotation where they successfully stood up the CEASAR II Electronic Warfare Program with two C-12R airplanes.

Working for Combined Special Operations Air Component – Afghanistan (CJSOAC-A), Detachment 28 air crews flew 228 combat sorties totaling 845 combat hours in support of Operation Freedom’s Sentinel. Post deployment, the unit received a C-12V airplane and continue to conduct progression on the new airframe.
The 1092nd Engineer Battalion is headquartered in Parkersburg, W.Va. Since the Korean conflict, the 1092nd Engineer Battalion has provided engineer support through assured mobility, counter-mobility, and survivability operations to its country and the great state of West Virginia. The 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 (HCC) and Detachment, Forward Support Company, and the 922nd Utilities Detachment.

Additionally, the 1092nd Headquarters Battalion has deployed three companies (821st, 115th & 119th) to Germany and Poland over the last year as part of a multinational joint training exercise for North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and U.S. Army engineers that supports Atlantic Resolve, a demonstration of the United States’ commitment to the collective security of Europe. This allows NATO allies and U.S. Soldiers to build partner capacity by serving and working side-by-side with one another, as well as other NATO engineers, to build training capabilities in various areas of NATO’s eastern-member states. The training missions afforded to WVARNG Soldiers during this exercise enhances interoperability and forges creative solutions to common engineering problems.

The 1092nd is in the planning stages of deploying the headquarters portion of the Battalion to Romania to be the lead command and control element for five different companies during 2019. The bottom line is this is quality training at multiple levels, enhancing the overall readiness of the unit and the West Virginia National Guard as a whole.

Across the 1092nd Engineer Battalion, the subordinate units raced to keep pace with an extremely high operational tempo. All line units were heavily engaged in Focused Readiness training across the state and overseas while providing support to civic organizations, local municipalities and West Virginia citizens. Units provided support for the W.Va. State Police Academy, providing horizontal construction efforts to assist in expanding rural communication networks in Upshur and Randolph counties, Mason County 4-H, Boy Scouts of America and support two state activations for flood relief; one in
Marshall and one in Wetzel County. Later this year, the 821st HCC will deploy overseas in order to support the Central Command (CENTCOM) Area of Responsibility. The Battalion stands ready to execute combat operations or emergency response operations to support our nation and state.
The 77th Brigade Troop Command is located in Glen Jean, West Virginia. The headquarters provides leadership, support, command and control to three combat arms and combat support battalion elements and four separate companies with approximately 1,917 Soldiers assigned from across every corner of West Virginia.

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

The 77th Brigade supported state and federal missions during 2018 to include Defense Support to Civil Authorities (DSCA) in the form of:
- Personnel support to the W.Va. Department of Corrections
- Civil affairs in support of the W.Va. State Police and Huntington Police
- Severe weather State Active Duty events
- National Guard Bureau sponsored consequence management scenario training
- The 41st Annual New River Gorge Bridge Day event
- Military Police Law Enforcement support mission to Ft. Bragg, N.C.
- Deployment of personnel in support of the Global War on Terrorism

Continuing the long standing traditions of the WVARNG, the units of the 77th Brigade prepared and executed missions in support of communities across the Mountain State. This year, military support was provided to 43 events across the state, from Bluefield to Martinsburg, W.Va.

The 77th Brigade continues to focus on The Adjutant General’s priorities and the West Virginia Army 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.

The 1st Squadron, 150th Cavalry Regiment (1-150th CAV) is comprised of Headquarters and Headquarters Troop located in Bluefield, W.Va., three reconnaissance troops and one armor troop. A Troop is located in Holden, W.Va. with a platoon stationed in Salem, W.Va. B Troop is located in Red House, W.Va. and C Troop is located in Glen Jean, W.Va. D Troop is the Squadron’s armor troop. It is part of the North Carolina National Guard and is stationed in Sanford, N.C. In addition to the reconnaissance troops, Company D of the 230th Brigade Support Battalion provides logistical support to the Squadron.

In November, the Squadron trained at Hobet local training area for the first time. At Hobet, in November 2017 and January 2018, the Squadron refined its skills in conducting quartering party operations, occupying assembly areas, and conducting route and area reconnaissance. In February, the Squadron conducted Gate 3 Table III (dry-fire) gunnery at Hobet, concluding the Squadron’s prerequisite gates to live fire.

In March of 2018, the Squadron conducted Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicle (IFV) and Abrams tank crew gunnery at Ft.
Pickett, Va. During this training, IFV and tank crews, three and four Soldiers respectively, engaged targets while moving and stationary. This training laid the foundation for IFV and tank section gunnery at Ft. Pickett, Va. in May. During section gunnery, three IFVs or two tanks conducted a reconnaissance mission under live fire conditions. This required the section leader to maneuver his or her section while directing fires to ensure all sectors were covered and all targets were successfully engaged. This training prepared the Squadron to conduct platoon, troop and squadron level missions during Exportable Combat Training Capability (XCTC) Rotation 18-06 at Ft. Bliss, Texas.

During August of 2018 the Squadron participated in the 30th Armored Brigade Combat Team’s (ABCT) XCTC rotation at Ft. Bliss, Texas. The XCTC rotation saw the Squadron complete gunnery tables to the platoon level for all reconnaissance and armor platoons. The culminating gunnery event for the Squadron was a Combined Arms Live Fire Exercise (CALFEX). During the CALFEX the Squadron coordinated the echeloning of fires that included 155mm artillery, 120mm mortars, AH-64 Apaches firing 30mm cannons and 2.75 inch rockets, M1A1 Abrams Tanks, and M2A2 ODS-SA Bradley IFVs. Upon conclusion of the CALFEX the Squadron fired TOW-2B Aero anti-tank missiles for the first time since converting to a Cavalry Squadron. The Squadron’s gunnery cycle was followed by force on force maneuver training during which the Squadron was evaluated on Mission Essential Tasks (METs) at troop level. The troops were evaluated by First Army Observer Controllers and upon completion, the troops were validated in their ability to conduct all required tasks satisfactorily.
1st Battalion, 201st Field Artillery Regiment

Maj. Brian K. Gazaway
Command Sgt. Maj. Nicholas Lambruno

The 1st Battalion, 201st Field Artillery Regiment (FA BN), known as ‘The First West Virginia’ due to its military lineage which pre-dates nationhood, achieved superior results throughout 2018. The 201st is a self-propelled field artillery unit. Major equipment includes the main weapon platform, the M109A6 Paladin Howitzer, ammunition carrier, command post, recovery vehicle and a fleet of wheeled vehicles of varying sizes for hauling personnel, equipment, and supplies.

The unit is capable of operating autonomously on the battlefield in support of maneuver units. Unique to the Paladin is increased battlefield survivability due to the unit’s ability to “shoot, move, and communicate” quickly, never staying in one place for too long. The unit is able to fire 155mm high explosive rounds, which weigh approximately 96 pounds each, up to 30 kilometers away. The Battalion provides a maneuver commander with specific capabilities for use against an enemy combatant, such as precision munitions, battlefield illumination, smoke screens, minefield emplacement, and massing of fires at the platoon, battery, or battalion echelon.

The goal for the year was to posture the unit at a high level of readiness. The unit achieved this goal by focusing on personnel and equipment readiness and training proficiency. Training in the first quarter built foundational competencies at the individual level and included a collective training event at Fort Pickett, Va. to complete weapons qualification and yearly health screenings. Units also held holiday family readiness events in December, which allow Soldiers to share their National Guard experience with their families. In March, the unit conducted a live fire exercise at Fort Pickett to complete section qualifications and train in austere environments as it snowed during the operation. All remaining training was directed at training proficiency for our yearly annual training.

For annual training in 2018, the Battalion travelled to Camp Grayling, Mich. to participate in Operation Northern Strike, a joint, multinational, combined arms training event. Conducted in August, the exercise was a huge success for the 201st. They exceeded training proficiency goals for the year as observed by First Army observers and the 197th Field Artillery Brigade out of New Hampshire. The exercise director, the Adjutant General of Michigan, was extremely impressed with the professionalism and efficiency processing missions. The unit conducted fires in support of both Marine and Army maneuver
units and coordinated those missions with air assets to simulate operations on today's battlefield. The Battalion's efforts throughout the year, which culminated in Operation Northern Strike, enabled the unit to meet or exceed all readiness goals for the year and positioned the unit to accept any future assigned missions.

Since its inception as a volunteer militia on Feb. 17, 1735, the 201st FA BN has responded time and again to the community, state, and nation's calls during times of need. Today, the battalion embraces its great and honored legacy through community outreach, response to state duty events, and aggressive training for future federal missions. This year marks the 284th anniversary and the Soldiers of the ‘First West Virginia’ stand ready with the battalion motto, ‘YES SIR!’
The 1st Squadron, 150th Cavalry Regiment has command responsibility for two military police companies - the 156th Military Police Law and Order Detachment and the 863rd Military Police Company (Maneuver Support). The 156th MP Co. is located at the Logan/Mingo Armed Forces Readiness Center in Holden, W.Va. Its primary mission is to provide technical supervision, planning, employment, and support coordination for police operations. It provides the administrative and technical expertise to operate forward military police law enforcement activities in support of combatant commanders.

In January of 2018, the unit deployed 22 Soldiers to support Operation Freedom’s Sentinel in Afghanistan. These Soldiers operated under Area Support Group-Afghanistan and conducted 24 hour operations on both Bagram and Kandahar Air Base with the additional responsibility of serving the outlying forward operating bases. The 156th MPs issued over 1,000 citations, confiscated numerous articles of contraband and were responsible for the removal of 50 civilians from theater of operations accused of criminal activity. The unit served in Afghanistan for nine months and returned home in September 2018.

The 863rd Military Police Company (Maneuver Support) is located at the Glen Jean Armed Forces Readiness Center in Glen Jean, W.Va. Its primary mission is to provide Military Police support to an assigned area of operation and be able to execute all of the Military Police functions in support of a combatant commander.

In 2018, the 863rd Military Police Company provided 62 Soldiers to support maneuver operations for the 48th Infantry Brigade Combat Team during rotation 18-07 from May 1 to May 28, 2018 at the Joint Readiness Training center located at Ft. Polk, La. The realism of these JRTC rotations are unmatched anywhere in the world and are designed to prepare our Soldiers to fight and win in combat.

The 863rd Military Police Company also provided 13 Military Police Soldiers to operate Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) simulators during warfighter exercise 18-05 located at Ft. Hood, Texas, where the primary mission was to provide intelligence data to the ground commanders of the exercise. In addition to participating in these training rotations, the unit also began training to increase readiness for follow on operations in 2019.
154th Military Police Co. (Guard)

The 201st Field Artillery Battalion has command responsibility for two military police companies - the 154th Military Police Company and the 157th Military Police Company. The 154th Military Police Company (Guard) located in Moundsville, W.Va. and Gassaway, W.Va., supported the Georgia National Guard by participating in an exercise at the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, La. They operated as opposition forces during the exercise gaining valuable experience. They also sent some teams to support the 201st during Operation Northern Strike, providing invaluable static and mobile security assets as well as expertise. The company made significant gains throughout the year in unit strength and personnel readiness.

157th Military Police Co. (Maneuver Support)

The 157th Military Police Company (Maneuver Support) located in Martinsburg, W.Va. and Moorefield, W.Va., continued its role as a vital force by achieving outstanding readiness and training outcomes in 2018. Assigned special readiness requirements during the training year, the unit responded by overcoming all training obstacles and is ready for future missions.

A Company and four Special Forces Operational Detachment-Alpha (SFOD-As) concluded a deployment to the Republic of South Korea, where they continued operations to build interoperability with the Republic of South Korea Special Operations Forces. The Headquarters Detachment redeployed from the European Theater, where it augmented Special Operations Command Forward – Eastern Europe in conjunction with 10th Special Forces Group. Both missions were an extremely valuable opportunity to broaden U.S. influence and continue to further build relationships with NATO Partners. Company B simultaneously trained, deployed and redeployed from Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Poland, and Germany, where they expanded actions under Special Operations Command Forward – Eastern Europe. In addition to contingency operations throughout Europe, The Pacific Theater has been 2nd Battalion, 19th SFG’s region of focus for the last six years. One SFOD-A deployed to Nepal and another to Bangladesh to participate in Joint Combined Exchange Training events as part of the Pacific Command Theater Security Cooperation Plan.

The Battalion also participated in an Unconventional Warfare Digital Battle Lab with the Special Operations Mission Training Center at Camp San Luis Obispo, Cali. The Digital Battle Lab afforded the Battalion staff a unique opportunity to stress established battle drills and exercise staff processes. This was done by conducting mission command activities and overseeing multiple teams conducting unconventional warfare in a denied environment and foreign internal defense in a semi-permissive environment. The lessons learned from this year’s battle lab enhanced the Battalion’s capabilities, continuity and readiness.

2nd Battalion, 19th SFG continues to support their State mission by providing trained and ready Soldiers to assist law enforcement and medical first responders during natural disasters and as directed by the Governor. While remaining operationally engaged, 2nd Battalion Soldiers maintain proficiency in unconventional warfare.
techniques, foreign language and cultural skills, medical sustainment, and infiltration techniques. The Battalion routinely supports Ridge Runner training events within the state to assist other deploying units’ preparation, as this training also improves operational techniques for organic mobilizations. The continued high operational tempo has enhanced the Special Forces skill sets of members within the Battalion and has been a successful, collective endeavor by leaders from the West Virginia, Ohio and Rhode Island Army National Guards.
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 continued in its excellence in sustaining medical readiness, maintaining a medical readiness rate of greater than 93 percent for the entire fiscal year. This medical readiness rate consistently ranked in the top four states and territories nationally.

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 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. Furthermore, the Medical Detachment conducted numerous Medical Soldier Readiness Program (SRP) events, in order to screen deploying units and ensure the medical fitness and suitability for each deploying Service Member.

The West Virginia Army National Guard Medical Detachment remains poised and ready to meet the medical demands of all units and Soldiers. Our performance and dedication ensures a medically deployable and medically ready force to meet the Nation’s combat needs.
Camp Dawson
Training Center

Lt. Col. Russell Nestor
Command Sgt. Maj. Christian Morrison

In 2018, Camp Dawson Training Center supported the training of the second largest number of personnel ever totaling over 161,000 personnel trained for the year. The Training Center continues to provide a vast array of capabilities, which includes a Regional Training Institute (RTI) and event center which supports housing for over 500 personnel and a classroom environment that can support the training of over 1,000 personnel simultaneously. Additionally, the Training Center supports such tenant organizations as the 197th RTI which teaches military occupational specialties primarily in the engineering field, the Mountaineer ChalleNGe Academy, Military Funeral Honors, AITEC, and a robust environmental section as well as many others.

Camp Dawson continues to maintain mutually beneficial relationships with local community agencies such as law enforcement and emergency services, economic development and the department of education. Some notable events hosted in 2018 included Garrison Command Leader’s Course, Training Center University, Ravens Challenge, and Gold Star Families weekend. The Garrison Command Leader’s Course and Training Center University brought together the command teams and garrison support staff from National Guard Garrison Training Centers from all over the country for policy development and professional development training. Ravens Challenge is an annual interagency counter improvised explosive device (IED) exercise that focuses on interoperability capabilities between public safety bomb squads (PSBSs) and military explosive ordinance disposal (EOD) units in operational environments. The annual Gold Star Families weekend honored over 200 family members who lost loved ones performing their military service.

Camp Dawson continued efforts toward infrastructure improvements and modernization completing over $3.5 million in projects for the year. Projects included:
- Barracks renovation to include heating and air conditioning of one entire barracks.
- Five buildings received new roofs as part of the roof replacement cycle.
- Road resurfacing to areas of need.
- Fire alarm upgrade and camera installation to the hotel.
- Underground utilities ran on Volkstone Training Area.
- Building exterior painting.

Camp Dawson enters 2019 ready to support another high volume training year with plans for continued infrastructure improvements and modernization.
The Fixed Wing Army National Guard Aviation Training Site (FWAATS) operates out of the North Central West Virginia (Benedum/Clarksburg) Airport and is the U.S. Army’s only military-operated fixed wing training site. The Unit’s military training flights and student throughput are major contributing factors to the airport maintaining its active control tower. Full-time staff and tenant Units include 25 Active Guard Reserve (AGR) Soldiers, three Title-10 Soldiers, 15 maintenance contractors and two state employee facility caretakers.

Since 2001, the FWAATS has trained over 3,000 Army aircrew members from all states, territories, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Army Reserves, and the Active Duty Army. The FWAATS instructs courses in multiple air frames, including all variants of the C-12 Huron and C-26 Metroliner aircraft, and is the sole source for the U.S. Army’s Fixed Wing Instrument Flight Examiners (IFE) course. This course is taught in all C-12 and C-26 variants and is specialized for the fixed wing community. Other courses include the C-12/C-26 Aviator Transition Course, the Instructor Pilot Standardization and Qualification Course, the Maintenance Test Pilot (MTP) Course, and C-12R Recurrent Training Course. The FWAATS trained a total of 90 students during FY 2018.

In the past, the FWAATS has conducted all Task Force Observe Detect Identify and Neutralize (TF-ODIN) qualification and pre-deployment collective training and continues to conduct all Task Force Communications Electronic Attack Surveillance and Reconnaissance (TF-CEASAR) qualifications and pre-deployment training for both rated and nonrated aircrew members. The FWAATS also provides a multi-component solution for its tenant Unit’s national surveillance support mission by providing aircraft and/or aircrews for training and real world mission sets on multiple occasions.

The FWAATS routinely supports the state’s shared responsibility to maintain a professional presence in the local community and was pleased to support the Honor Flight Network and more than 70 World War II, Korea and Vietnam Veterans upon their return to the North Central West Virginia Airport on September 15, 2018. Several Soldiers from the Unit were on-hand to salute and welcome returning veterans as they deplaned at the airport terminal.

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. In 2016, the US Army’s Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) awarded the FWAATS its 3rd consecutive “Learning Institution of Excellence” award, and looks forward to an opportunity to earn its fourth when it undergoes its triennial Total Army Schools System (TASS) reaccreditation again in May of 2019.

The FWAATS also has a habitual support relationship with the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command (INSCOM), supporting numerous Aerial Sensor Operator (ASO) training courses each year and supports Operational Support Airlift Activity (OSA-A) and Joint Operational Support Airlift Center (JOSAC) missions as directed, and when available.
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). The SOD-E provides SOCEUR, the United States Army Special Operations Command (USASOC), and the WVNG with a highly-experienced formation capable of commanding and controlling full-spectrum special operations or augmenting existing special operations staffs. SOD-E members are professional commissioned and Non-Commissioned Officers who leverage their broad, unique capabilities and experience to provide uncommon value as individuals or as a unit. In addition to its overseas responsibilities, the SOD-E is also tasked with conducting operations in support of federal and state-declared emergencies. 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, aviation, legal, and medical.

In 2018, 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 and support to a biennial SOCEUR-led exercise titled Trojan Footprint. This exercise served to evaluate the responsiveness of NATO and partner SOF to quickly assemble and work together, providing lessons to take into future exercises and planning. These events directly supported SOCEUR objectives while improving the SOD-E's own skills. Individual SOD-E members also fill critical positions in support of 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 Recruiting Retention Battalion (RRB) is the primary advisor to the Adjutant General and senior leadership of the West Virginia Army National Guard (WVARNG) on the three tenets of strength management: recruiting, retention, and attrition management in an ever-changing operating environment. The RRB develops, implements, and monitors the State Strength Maintenance Program based on guidance from the National Guard Bureau and state leadership.

The WVARNG ended Fiscal Year 2018 with an end strength of 4,127 Soldiers, or 103 percent of authorized positions. Personnel strength and unit readiness enables the WVARNG to perform its federal, state and community missions by providing relevant and capable assets for the broad spectrum or operations in support of homeland security, overseas national security objectives, and domestic operations in support of state disasters.

Retaining qualified Soldiers with years of knowledge and expertise in the WVARNG allows the organization to maintain a high level of proficiency. The RRB continued its pursuit of excellence in retention through the Final Formation Program (FFP), resulting in the state achieving 98.4 percent of its re-enlistment 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 WVARNG and after they transition to civilian life. Our FFP has become a model program for other states. During 2018, 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 Combat Training (BCT) and Advanced Individual Training (AIT). Our Soldiers attend BCT knowledgeable in wearing of the uniform, drill and ceremony, and basic Soldier skills. The 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 2018, we continued our partnerships with the W.Va. Military Connection, Workforce W.Va., 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 workforce. The RRC has also grown in size in 2018, adding 12 additional recruiting positions for a total of 52 production recruiters stationed throughout the state to engage the public and assist our citizens in becoming a member of the West Virginia Army National Guard.
The 197th Regiment (Regional Training Institute) had another busy year in 2018. The Regiment welcomed Lt. Col. Patrick Reese as the incoming commander, as well as Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Peters as the Regimental Command Sergeant Major.

The implementation of the One Army School System has created new opportunities for the 12N30 Horizontal Engineer Course as they integrated their first active duty Soldiers into the classroom. The horizontal construction schoolhouse was also chosen by Fort Leonard Wood, MO to host a pilot instructional program for the horizontal engineering course. This new program will take nation-wide effect in the near future.

The Regiment also began construction of a new building near the current 12W10 course. This new facility will be used to house several classrooms and give the Regiment space for growth in the future. In addition, the RTI supported vertical engineering courses for mobilizing units in order to training and prepare them for their wartime mission.

The Officer Candidate School (OCS) Program completed its sixtieth class this year with graduates commissioning in September.

As the Regiment welcomes the new leadership and embraces the dynamic environment of Soldier training, it continues to lead change in the training environment and looks forward to the coming challenges and growth in the near future.
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!
Flying units in the supportive communities of Charleston and Martinsburg.

2,155
Airmen make up the part-time and full-time Air National Guard force.

130th AW
C-130 Flying hours: 2,535
Tons of cargo airlifted: 1,114
Passengers transported: 5,623

167th AW
C-17 Flying hours: 3,477
Tons of cargo airlifted: 4,021
Passengers transported: 4,689
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.” Manned at 103 percent, the 1,100 men and women assigned to the Wing consistently 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 RC-26B aircraft as part of a detachment, which flies intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) missions in support of national and state directives. This year, the 130th Airlift Wing named one of their C-130 aircraft “Pride of West Virginia” as an example of their dedication to the state and the unwavering support received year after year. Aircrew logged 2,535 hours of flight time of which 1,209 were combat flying hours and 1,112 sorties, hauling 1,114 tons of cargo and 5,623 passengers. Maintenance personnel maintained an 89 percent Mission Capability Rate for 2018. Wing personnel proudly deployed in direct support of state Air Force, and joint missions including 216 members who supported Air Expeditionary Force (AEF)/contingency missions to Kuwait, Qatar, Iraq, Jordan, Niger, Burkina Faso, Afghanistan, South Korea, Abu Dhabi, Africa, Uganda, and Germany. Diverse flying opportunities are provided by the 130th RC-26B crews working within the State Partnership Program (SPP) 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. RC-26B crews routinely support local, state, and federal law enforcement partners.

In October, the 130th conducted a mobility exercise, processing 180 Airmen and 51 increments of cargo 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.

Building community relationships remained a priority for the Wing throughout the year. The 130th Airlift Wing 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, the Greenbrier Classic, youth resiliency workshops, retirement round-ups, college prep night, and Commissary sales. Wing personnel also
participated in numerous color guard events and parades, and directly supported the Gold Star Families and Camp Conley 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 W.Va. Special Olympics, which took place in Charleston in June. In addition, 30 Airmen provided support to the Presidential State of the Union address in Washington, D.C.

The 130th also hosted the “Salute our Veterans and First Responders” Air Show in October. More than 140 Airmen, the Yeager Airport, the Army, Navy and Marines, the Golden Knights, and many other volunteers came out to put on an amazing show which included more than 32 vendors, 35 static displays, 16 flying demonstrations, and six ride opportunities. In total, the Air Show proudly saw over 32,000 community supporters in attendance.

The 130th 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 over 1,500 students from 35 local area schools. This year, STARBASE was able to extend their reach into Putnam County by providing additional special programs and camps. With the assistance of the 130th AW’s Facilities, STARBASE hosted the Kanawha County Schools VEX Robotics Competitions. These types of events help to build the confidence needed for individuals, who may never had considered a STEM career pathway, to explore opportunities in the STEM field.

Even with the high operational tempo and a variety of operational challenges, the 130th Airlift Wing remains extremely safety-oriented. Wing membership stands at 103 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 are “ALWAYS ON MISSION.”
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. The Wing has 1,010 personnel assigned and manning stands at 110 percent.

This past year the Wing flew 966 sorties, delivered more than 4,000 tons of cargo, and transported over 4,600 passengers. Aircrew logged more than 3,400 hours of flight time and our maintainers completed more than 627,200 man hours to keep the mission flying. Notably the wing conducted weekly aeromedical evacuation missions in support of the Combatant Commander and operations in Southwest Asia during a four month period in the spring. Our maintainers completed 19 Home Station Checks and four refurbishments totaling 581 man-hours. The small Air Terminal processed more than 1,900 passengers, 545 tons of cargo, and provided fleet service for 454 aircraft; they handled 693 total aircraft this year.

The 167th Airlift Wing supported Reserve Component Period-07 with deployments involving 76 unit members from 30 unique career fields. These airmen were deployed to 10 different locations around the world and supported a variety of missions in U.S. European Command (EUCOM), U.S. Pacific Command (PACOM), U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM), and U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM).

The Wing provided support to the country during the numerous natural disasters this year. Eighteen Airmen deployed to Georgia, Puerto Rico and the National Guard Bureau to support Hurricane Maria relief efforts.

During Hurricane Florence in September, the Federal Emergency Management Agency staged relief supplies at the 167th Airlift Wing with 70 trailers full of food, water, blankets, cots, tents and fuel stood on stand-by, ready to mobilize as needed.

This past year, the Wing was provided maintenance support for multiple foreign militaries. Two 167th maintainers spent 30 days in India to provide engine training to the Indian Air Force’s C-17 Globemaster III aircraft maintainers. These members along with four maintainers from the 172nd Airlift Wing, instructed and certified 39 enlisted maintainers and seven officers on engine removal and installation. In February, a German Air Force A400M landed at Dulles in need of repair which required hangar space; the 167th stepped up to assist. After expediting approvals to receive
the German aircraft and personnel on base, the Airbus and maintainers landed at Martinsburg. German and American maintainers worked side by side to make the necessary repairs and got the plane back in the air the next day.

The Wing focused on readiness training and conducted numerous exercises in Fiscal Year 2018. The Inspector General (IG) and the Wing Inspection Team (WIT) evaluated each function and provided critical feedback at the conclusion of each exercise cultivating a continuous learning environment and enabling our members to hone their skills.

The Logistics Readiness Squadron and Force Support
Squadron participated in an exercise that simulated a chemical attack in a forward location, testing the effectiveness of services and small air terminal personnel in managing casualties.

The Counter Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) All-hazard Management Response, or CAMR, exercises tested the Wing’s ability to respond to a CBRN incident. After several training days consisting of table top exercises, the 167th fire department, security forces squadron, bioenvironmental management and patient decontamination team participated in a full scale CAMR exercise.

In June, approximately 200 members flew to Alpena, Mich. for a deployment exercise. This allowed the Wing to train and assess their ability to position, employ, and sustain the force with concentration on the Full Spectrum Readiness operational mindset. The participating members were trained and assessed on their effectiveness in a hostile and/or contaminated CBRN environment. Members also honed job-specific skill sets in a contingency environment.

At the end of August, the Wing conducted an active shooter exercise in coordination with the Berkeley County Sheriff’s Department. This exercise enhanced the Wing’s ability to respond to an on-base emergency incident while working hand in hand with local authorities.

Two 167th Airlift Wing officers were afforded the opportunity to participate in one of several exchange programs with U.S. allies. The Military Reserve Exchange Program (MREP), established in 1985, between the U.S. Department of Defense and the German Ministry of Defense creates people-to-people ties that help sustain that alliance, while promoting professional development and cultural education for its participants. The highly selective program typically swaps 22 officers annually for the event. Two members from the 167th Airlift Wing were able to participate in the program; one was the host in Martinsburg for our German ally and the other spent two weeks in Germany learning from his German military counterparts.

The 167th Civil Engineering Squadron was awarded the Brigadier General Archie S. Mayes Award which recognizes the Air Force Civil Engineer Engineering Flight that most excelled in providing facility products and services of exceptional quality to base customers.

The 167th continued building bonds with the local community. We conducted more than 30 tours for local schools, civic groups, and community members and our members continued to volunteer for speaking engagements at schools and local civic groups. The Civil Air Patrol’s (CAP) Winchester Composite Squadron along with cadets from the CAP’s Middle East Region, United Kingdom, Canada, Netherlands, Korea, China and Australia experienced a C-17 Globemaster aircraft training flight in July. The flight was one of many activities the international cadets participated in while visiting the United States.

The Wing once again hosted an event for the West Virginia Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve in July. More than 50 employers and community leaders attended the event which culminated in a C-17 flight over the mountains of West Virginia. More than 15 members continue to volunteer in the local schools as mentors in partnership with the West Virginia Education Alliance’s Common Ground Initiative. The base Honor Guard remained active in community events participating in numerous engagements and ceremonies throughout the region. The 167th Fire Department maintained its role as a significant component of the local emergency response team, making more than 175 off-base emergency calls. They also responded to 129 on-base calls.

In August, the Wing held a change of command ceremony as the Wing said goodbye to Col. Shaun Perkowski and welcomed Col. David Cochran as the Wing commander.
WVNG Defense Support to Civil Authorities (DSCA)

Consisting of:
Army Interagency Training & Education Center (AITEC)
AITEC Critical Infrastructure Protection Battalion
35th Civil Support Team (WMD)
35th CBRNE Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP)
The Army Interagency Training and Education Center (AITEC) is the National Guard Bureau’s lead for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and high-yield Explosives (CBRNE) and Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) training. The AITEC 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 Volkstone Training Facility is a multiple-purpose and versatile training facility offering a variety of training venues to include an indoor rubble pile, confined space trainer, ropes rescue course and a recon training site that is comprised of wide area, urban and industrial search and rescue venues. Additionally, the Volkstone facility offers an equipment training facility that allows trainees to increase their skills and knowledge in areas such as detection and atmosphere equipment operation and search and rescue equipment operation.

In Fiscal Year 2018, AITEC CBRNE Battalion ensured readiness of National Guard domestic CBRN response units in 54 states and territories by conducting over 64 missions training more than 9,422 Soldiers and Airmen.

The CBRNE Battalion also supported multiple real world missions in support of hurricane and volcano relief efforts. Members supported the National Guard Coordination Center (NGCC) in Arlington, Va., augmenting the Adaptive Battle Staff. Members of the CBRNE Battalion also traveled to Puerto Rico, Hawaii, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands as part of Joint Enabling Teams (JET) and Joint Assessment Teams (JAT) to assist in the overall assessment of the areas affected by natural disasters such as the hurricanes and volcanoes occurring throughout the United States during Fiscal Year 2018.

When the CBRNE Battalion was not on mission or developing their skills, the military and civilian personnel gave back to the community by donating time, money, and food. As part of an annual tradition, the CBRNE Battalion members travel to the Pumpkin House located in Kenova, W.Va. in which they carved over 300 Jack-o-Lanterns as part of a community service project. The Pumpkin House, once visited by President Grover Cleveland, 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 to view the over 3,000 Jack-o-Lanterns that adorn the property.
Critical Infrastructure Protection Battalion

Lt. Col. Mark Houck
Master Sgt. Christian Morrison

The AITEC’s Critical Infrastructure Protection Battalion (CIP) provides critical infrastructure security and resilience assessments to Headquarters, Department of the Army (HQDA), the United States Coast Guard (USCG), and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). AITEC’s CIP Battalion is the lead entity of this National Guard effort and is therefore responsible for assessment, quality assurance, methodology development, and team member training. The CIP Battalion is also responsible for a myriad of prevention and preparedness training in support of the DHS’s Office of Bombing Prevention. Each of the subordinate programs are diversified in order to best support the distinct requirements of each partner agency.

The DHS is supported through three major efforts: The Infrastructure Visualization Platform (IVP) Program, responsible for conducting an imagery capture while considering viewpoints from hostile actors and civil response; the Office of Bombing Prevention (OBP) Mobile Training Team (MTT), tasked to provide training and support to both the public and private partners that fall within the 16 sectors of critical infrastructure determined by DHS, specifically focusing on Counter-IED (C-IED), Support for National Special Security Events (NSSE), and Special Event Assessment Rating (SEAR) rating events; and the Infrastructure Survey Tool (IST) Team, which is charged with conducting baseline surveys that Protective Security Advisors (PSAs) and other DHS employees use to assess critical infrastructure. In total, the DHS effort is comprised of 44 Soldiers, Airmen, and contractors across 15 states.

The U.S. Coast Guard 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. Supported by a 14 person West Virginia National Guard Team, PSRA has three focus areas: Area Maritime Security Assessment (AMSA), Maritime Security Risk Assessment Model (MSRAM) validation, and support to NSSEs and Special Projects across 54 U.S. states and territories.

Headquarters Department of the Army Critical Infrastructure Risk Management (CIRM) team is charged with providing vulnerability assessments for identified Tier I Army assets located in the 54 states and territories and across the globe. This nine Soldier team’s mission is to provide assessments which address all-threat and all-hazard environments, DoD and non-DoD risks, and cascading downstream effects on essential facilities. The CIP Battalion also utilizes traditional Drill Status Guardsmen (DSG) to accomplish vulnerability assessment of West Virginia National Guard facilities and intra-state assets from an all-threat and all-hazard perspective in order to identify the most reliable and cost effective measures addressing all identified vulnerabilities.

Throughout 2018, the CIP Battalion conducted 99 total critical infrastructure assessments, including 88 IVP collections, provided 606 C-IED courses (face-to-face and virtual), and trained 7470 personnel directly involved in the protection of critical infrastructure and key resources throughout the nation. Moving forward, AITEC anticipates a similar mission schedule and will continue to conduct high quality training for the Soldiers and Airmen of the National Guard and civilian first responders across the country.
The 35th Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive (CBRNE) Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP), consists of 203 service members, 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 2018, the 35th CERFP missions involved standby missions for the Presidential State of the Union Address, National Independence Day Parade, the MLB All-Star Game, and the U.S. District Attorney for the Southern District’s dismantling of a multiple state heroin and fentanyl distribution network. The 35th CERFP had three major collective training events which were the Vigilant Guard in Maryland, annual collective training event at Camp Dawson and the NGB external evaluation. Additionally, the 35th CERFP participated in Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) meetings and performed capabilities demonstrations across different counties within the state.

Throughout the year, the 35th CERFP collaborated with other agencies to include the U. S. Capitol Police, District of Colombia Fire Emergency Management Service (DCFEMS), Title 10 CBRNE response element (CBIRF), 33rd Civil Support Team (CST) from D.C, 35th CST (WV), and other state response agencies in an effort to plan, coordinate and collaborate Consequence Management (CM) support.
The 35th Civil Support Team (Weapons of Mass Destruction) is located in St. Albans, W.Va. The CST’s mission is to support civil authorities at a domestic Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear or Explosive incident site by identifying unknown agents or substances, assessing current and projected consequences, advising on response measures and assisting with appropriate requests for additional state and federal support.

The 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 CBRN 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 or air movement.

During 2018, the 35th CST completed more than 70 missions. In January, the team supported the United States Coast Guard by sampling the Big Sandy River during a vessel leaking hydrocarbon products into the river.

In April, the team worked with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) in support of a city wide drug enforcement operation. This event involved multiple agencies and was recognized on the federal level for being such a large scale operation.

The team also supported the Huntington Fire Department in a radiation incident where the Huntington Fire Department and Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) crews discovered an unknown radiation source within a private residence. The team was able to assess, identify, and advise the Incident Commander on how to clean up and dispose of the radiation source.

The team continues to support activities such as the PGA tournament at the Greenbrier in July, and all West Virginia University home games from August through December. The 35th CST also provided support to local first responders for various incidents including the fentanyl incident in Bluefield, W.Va., the radiation incidents in Huntington, W.Va. and Parkersburg, W.Va., and the contamination at Steven’s Correctional Facility in Welch, W.Va. The 35th CST again excelled in the Collective Training Lanes proctored by Army North in August held at multiple sites on Snowshoe Mountain, W.Va.

The 35th CST remains trained, equipped, and always committed to excellence to be a leader among the 57 Civil Support Teams across the nation and her territories. The unit continues to support the Homeland Defense mission, living by the motto…

READY, ALWAYS READY!
Special Programs & Activities

Facilities Management Office

The Construction and Facilities Management Office (CFMO) supports the West Virginia Army National Guard (WVARNG) 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.

Currently the CFMO is in the middle of a multi-facility roof replacement project, upgrading the Dunbar Readiness Center HVAC system, and was recently awarded the construction of the Camp Dawson 12H30 building. Last but not least, the CFMO is in the process of designing a redundant water and sewer system for Camp Dawson and Joint Force Headquarters, Charleston.

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 nine 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.

MILCON (2022)
- Phase II of the Buckhannon Readiness Center - $14 million
- Eleanor Armed Forces Reserve Center (Add Alternate) – $14 million
- Martinsburg Armed Forces Reserve Center – $25 million
- Parkersburg Readiness/Education Center – $20 million
- Aviation Unheated Covered Storage and Hangar Expansion - $15 million
- RTI/Camp Dawson Dinning Facility Expansion - $12.6 million
- Mailroom Shipping and Receiving Building at Camp Dawson - $2 million
- Marshall County Field Maintenance Shop – $3 million
- Fixed Wing Army Aviation Training Site - $38 million

The West Virginia CFMO hosted the 2018 CFMO 102 Training Course at Camp Dawson. Participants were invited to attend from all 54 states and territories.

Employer Support of the Guard & Reserve

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) was established in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve component members and their civilian employers. The 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. The ESGR has continued to focus on promoting employment opportunities to West Virginia’s military through its partnership with the West Virginia Military Connection Network. This year’s Bosslifts continued the outreach to Leadership Kanawha Valley, Leadership Monongalia, Harrison and Marion, along with Martinsburg area employers culminating with orientation flights on C-130 and C-17 aircraft. These Bosslifts, along with many briefings to local civic 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
The ESGR also continues to recognize employers who go above and beyond in their support of service members. This year, Toyota Motor Manufacturing W.Va. in Buffalo, W.Va.; Rubberlite in Huntington, W.Va.; and South Charleston Police Department in South Charleston, W.Va., were awarded the Pro-Patria award for the most exceptional service to their military employees. South Charleston Police Department was awarded the Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award. This was only the second time a West Virginia employer has received this prestigious award. The Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award is the highest recognition given by the U.S. Government to employers for their support of their employees who serve in the Guard and Reserve. South Charleston Police Department was selected as one of the 15 recipients from 2,350 nominations.

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 FY 2018, West Virginia STARBASE has provided 60 academies serving a total of over 1,585 students in Kanawha County. STARBASE Martinsburg has provided 91 academies serving a total of over 2,189 students in Berkeley and Jefferson Counties. In addition, West Virginia STARBASE and STARBASE Martinsburg have or will provide STEM education activities to an additional 800 students from Clay, Kanawha, Mercer, Putnam, Berkeley and Jefferson counties through special programs and camps.

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 afterschool 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 11 service programs.

Our Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program provided five weekend training events sharing information on resources and benefits to over 400 service members and families. In 2018, the Family Assistance Centers (FAC) operated out of six locations. They will be closing out the year with 225,538 instances where service members and/or their family members were supported via phone, emails, briefings and/or personal contacts. All FAC specialists have participated or implemented community events and meetings throughout the year to bridge the gap between civilians and service members and to increase collaboration with the local community partners.

Our Child & Youth Program conducted 40 events with 2,591 children and 287 adult volunteers who assisted with 3,604 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 CAO/CNO trainings, Churchill Downs, Motorcycle Ride for the Fallen, Armed Forces Day parade, Survivor Day on the River, Christmas decorating for the Gold Star tree at the Capitol, Gold Star Weekend retreat, Houston Texans hosting a Gold Star Family at the Greenbrier for their training camp, and the opening of West Virginia’s first Gold Star Mothers Office. Overall attendance was reported for these events for West Virginia were 2,531 survivors and family members.

Our Tricare representative reportedly worked 3,850 family cases and briefed at over 150 events including doctor’s office manager’s meetings with 350 personnel in attendance. Our Personal Financial Counselor conducted 1,880 face to face meetings with service members and their spouses for their financial needs and attended numerous events with briefings of over 2,480 service members. Our Family Readiness Support Assistants attended 412 commander meetings and trainings and provided 53 family trainings and briefed 1,582 Family Readiness personnel throughout the year. The WVNG Child Development Center provided service members and families with access to quality, affordable childcare in its on-site facility for more than 100 children. Our Chaplains conducted three Strong Bonds events for families and couples, which supported over 60 Soldiers and their family members.

Additionally, we supported briefings and attendance for the W.Va. Military Association, resource fairs, substance abuse prevention, job fairs, Red Ribbon, final formation, retirement briefs, conferences, On-Site Commissary sales, and Soldier Readiness Program events.

Safety & Occupational Health

The goals of the WVARNG Safety and Occupational Health Program (S&OH) are to enhance the operational force by embedding S&OH in organizational culture; Educate Service Members 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.

Motorcycle Safety, OSHA Training, and Standard Army Safety and Occupational health Inspections (SASOHI) have been the focus this year.

The WVNG Motorcycle Safety program began in 2005. Since its inception, it has trained more than 1,750 Soldiers, Airmen, service member’s families, DoD civilians and retirees. In 2018, the Motorcycle Safety Program conducted 12 rider safety courses which resulted in 81 members trained in the Basic Riders Course, 15 in the Advanced Riders Course, and 5 in the Rider Coach Preparation Course. This is an increase of 24 percent from the previous year alone.

The S&OH office has worked to coordinate individual OSHA training for our uniformed and civilian employees and will continue to do so in the future. Classes have been held at Camp Dawson, W.Va.
Standard Army Safety and Occupational health Inspections (SASOHI) were conducted at all of our facilities throughout the State. This is in an effort to ensure Safety and Occupational Health Compliance and protect our most valuable resources, our Citizen 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 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 4,360 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. Since 2013, 1,163 (84 percent) MCA graduates have earned their high school diploma.

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 or www.facebook.com/wvchallenge.

The Mountaineer ChalleNGe Academy will be growing with the addition of The Mountaineer Job ChalleNGe Program (MJCP) and will be hosted on Camp Dawson. The mission of the MJCP is to provide MCA Program graduates with career and technical education leading to industry recognized certification and job placement with that trade, while maintaining the Youth ChalleNGe Program’s Eight Core Components in a quasi-military residential environment. The Program will provide career and technical education and training, career counseling and placement options.

The MJCP will operate with 50 participants per cycle (100 per year) and each class will be five and a half months long. Career and vocational counseling will be provided throughout the class. MJCP will be supported by a staff of 29. Graduates will be employment ready upon completion of the program.
State Partnership Program

The National Guard Bureau’s (NGB) State Partnership Program (SPP) 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. The Department of Defense (DoD) and NGB, mindful of the uniqueness and strengths of the National Guard’s Citizen-Soldiers, foresaw a unique opportunity to make a lasting contribution to solidifying the newly established peace by linking the state’s National Guard with the armed forces of a partner nation in a cooperative, mutually beneficial relationship. Since the inception, NGB’s SPP has successfully built 75 partnerships with 81 nations around the globe. The SPPs conduct military-to-military engagements in support of national defense strategic goals, but also leverages whole-of-society relationships and capabilities to facilitate broader interagency and corollary engagements spanning military, government, economic and social spheres.

State Partnership Program – Peru

The WVNG – Peru partnership was formalized in 1996. Due to the geographical location of Peru on the Eastern coast of South America, Combatant Command oversight falls under SOUTHCOM. U.S. Southern Command’s Theater Security Cooperation Strategy and the U.S. Embassy Integrated Country Strategy guide the activities and engagements of the program in line with stated objectives in the country and region. Over the past 20 years, West Virginia and Peru have partnered together for more than 125 engagements between the forces providing insight into regional challenges facing the Andean Ridge, especially in the areas of counter-insurgency, anti-terrorism, emergency preparedness, risk mitigation, disaster response and recovery. The partnership has matured to a point where civilian-to-civilian events will become more frequent. Our goal is to work with universities and state officials to develop future engagement opportunities and relationships. The WVNG has also established a “Skype” exchange program between high schools and elementary schools in West Virginia and Peru. In fiscal year 2018, the WVNG completed multiple engagements developing the Non-Commissioned Officer Corps and mentoring women in the military. In August, the WVNG hosted three Senior Non-Commissioned Officer from the Peruvian armed forces in Charleston, W.Va., for the 2018 Enlisted Association Conference, which was the first engagement of its kind for the WVNG. The most recent engagement was working with the maintenance sections in Peru preparing them for an upcoming peacekeeping mission to Africa. The Peru partnership has created an enduring and important working relationship that enables unique training opportunities for all involved parties.

FY18 – 27 Engagements
FY19 – 5 Engagements
The WVNG – Qatar partnership was formally established May 10, 2018, marking the second partner nation for the WVNG and the sixth SPP country in the U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) area of responsibility. Through the partnership with Qatar, the WVNG will seek to increase military and diplomatic cooperation, develop and expand defense capabilities and mutually beneficial training interactions. In addition, the two entities will work to increase interoperability of forces and deter and disrupt criminal and terrorist activities in the region.

The first meeting between the WVNG and Qatar was held in May 2018 where WVNG leadership capitalized on the opportunity to showcase the breadth and depth of experience to the Qatari delegation in multiple facets of domestic response, training, civil support, emergency response and contingency operations. We completed ten engagements in FY18 across multiple locations in the U.S. and in Qatar. In the first thirty days of FY19, the WVNG has already completed four engagements with the program to include attendance of two conferences in Doha, Qatar, in preparation for future 2022 World Cup support from the WVNG. The official signing ceremony will take place in the near future to officially commemorate the new partnership with future engagement planning currently underway.

FY18 - 10 Engagements
FY19 - 4 Engagements
CURRENT ONGOING ENGAGEMENTS:
- Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Response (HA/DR)
- Non-commissioned Officer Professional Development
- Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR)
- Engineering Planning, Deployment and Operations
- Global Peacekeeping Operations Initiatives (GPOI)
- Joint and Interagency Operations
- Aeromedical Exchanges
- Military Support to Civil Authorities (MSCA)
- Educational Exchanges

FUTURE ENGAGEMENTS:
- Special Operations Forces (SOF)
- Women in the Military Mentorship
- C-130 & C-17 Operations and Maintenance
- CBRN Operations
- Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP)
- Homeland Security and Emergency Management
- Military Reserve Component Development
- Cultural & Leadership Program (CULP)
- Civic Organization Partnerships: Rotary, Boy/Girl Scouts
- Environmental Security and Protection
- International Business Opportunities
Counter Drug

and Drug Demand Reduction

The WVNG provides veteran Soldiers and Airmen to support law enforcement agencies (LEAs) in combatting the supply reduction of narcotics. This includes Army National Guard Counterdrug Aviation Unit (WVARG/CD-AVN), Air National Guard (ANG) RC-26B fixed wing aerial reconnaissance aircraft, and intelligence/case support personnel. The agencies supported include the West Virginia State Police (WVSP), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Internal Revenue Service (IRS), United States Postal Inspection Service (USPIS), and several multi-agency drug task forces.

In 2018, criminal analysts contributed over 7,680 man-hours to investigative cases and provided analysis support to six separate agencies/task forces in multiple locations. The WVARG/CD-AVN logged in excess of 565.8 hours in support of LEAs, including supporting domestic marijuana eradication. This resulted in the seizure of over 56,709 marijuana plants with a street value in the hundreds of millions of dollars. Even with multiple deployments, both within the continental United States and outside the continental U.S., the RC-26B unit was able to fly 543.8 hours and support in the seizure of over $3.3 million worth of illicit drugs and property.

Drug Demand Reduction

Through strategic partnerships, the WVNG works with state agencies to develop anti-drug coalitions while energizing effective prevention practices focused on reaching youth in schools and communities. Specifically, the WVNG Civil Operations specialists coach anti-drug coalitions by delivering collaborative and effective strategies that create healthy citizens in West Virginia.

Through the state’s Common Ground program, the WVNG’s Drug Prevention Support program focuses on teaching attributes to youth in the state that instill leadership, civic duty, self-esteem, positive choices and drug awareness through mentorship and engagement with WVNG Soldiers and Airmen.

The WVNG has provided a team of Soldiers and Airmen who travel to schools and community events to serve as mentors and who teach American Flag folding to those in attendance. In addition, a group of WVNG Soldier and Airman volunteers visit local schools to read books to classes and serve as positive role models for the classes they attend.

The WVNG Drug Prevention Support program supported has supported 63 meetings with state-wide community and education stakeholders such as the W.Va. Dept. of Education, County Boards of Education, Local, State and Federal Law Enforcement Agencies, community organizations and faith-based organizations. In addition to key stakeholder meetings, the WVNG Drug Prevention Support team have provided more than 100 coalition activities and events in 16 counties in Fiscal Year 2018. The overall reach for the Drug Prevention Support program totals 4,900 students and community members throughout the state.
Cyber Initiatives

Over the course of the last year, the Joint Forces Headquarters Communications Directorate, or J6, assisted in the transition of former 620th Signal Company Soldiers to their new roles within the Army Interagency Training and Education Center (AITEC) by facilitating cyber training for twenty Soldiers. The Soldiers received training as Certified Incident Handlers (CIH), Certified Ethical Hackers (CEH), and Certified Security Analysts (CSA). Furthermore, each participant had the opportunity to earn an undergraduate certificate in cyber security from the University of Charleston. The overall academic pass rate was an astounding 95 percent.

Additionally, the J6 coordinated the training of an additional 25 Soldiers and Airmen in the disciplines of CIH, CEH, and CSA representing the entirety of the West Virginia National Guard.

The J6 staff has served on a commission appointed by the Governor in conjunction with the National Governor’s Association to author cyber security strategy and policy for the State’s executive branch of government that can be shared across the 54 states and territories. West Virginia was one of only four states selected for this prestigious role in shaping cyber security strategy.

Col. Patrick Chard, Lt. Col. Jody Ogle, 1st Lt. Joshua Spence, and Staff Sgt. Evan Pauley were hand selected by U.S. Cyber Command (USCYBERCOM) to assist in the development of a concept of operations (CONOP) to define any state’s National Guard support for cyber-related Defense Support to Civil Authority (DSCA) activities.

The CONOP was employed within West Virginia for both the primary and general elections as the J6 staff, augmented by Soldiers and Airmen from across the state, provided electoral security assistance to the West Virginia Secretary of State and the West Virginia Office of Technology’s Information Security Office.

Military Support to Civil Authorities

The Military Support to Civilian Authorities (MSCA) provides outreach and community support activities on behalf of the West Virginia National Guard throughout West Virginia. In Fiscal Year 2018, the MSCA office supported 86 total missions with a 97.7 percent completion rate for requests.

More than 1,200 Soldiers and Airmen supported events such as West Virginia Special Olympics, Bridge Day, Governor’s Tree Lighting ceremony, State of the State, State of the Union, National EANGUS conference, A Military Tribute at the Greenbrier, Veterans Honor Flight, Gold Star Family Weekend and more.