



NORTH DAKOTA GUARDIAN

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Digital photos should be 300 dpi, if possible.

On the Cover



C-21 aircraft await their final departure from the N.D. Air National Guard, Fargo, May 6. North Dakota will soon be the only state in the U.S. without a manned Air National Guard flying mission.

Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Wing

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GUARD POSTS

Dispatches from the N.D. Guard Family

GUARDING THE NATION

The mission of the U.S. Air Force is to fly, fight and win ... in air, space and cyberspace. After 66-plus years of supporting and executing manned aviation, May 6, 2013, may become a historical marker for the beginning of the end of manned flying missions for the N.D. Air National Guard. That's the date that the first of eight C-21 aircraft transferred out of the Hooligan inventory. The remaining seven C-21s will likely be gone by August, with no follow-on manned flying mission officially destined to become programmatic reality for the Air Guard.

This change means elements of the 119th Wing will then embark on a mission evolution from the air domain to cyberspace, which is much more than simply getting to the next chapter in the Hooligan history book. We are to begin an entirely new epic about how the Happy Hooligans will continue guarding the nation, and we have a historic opportunity to help write the book.

The core Air Force intelligence targeting mission has deep roots, but the specific nature of the new Hooligan mission that is about to emerge remains somewhat mysterious. The 119th Wing will stand up an Intelligence Targeting Group with a cyber focus. Merriam-Webster and other dictionaries relate the term "cyber" specifically to computers and computer

networks. When breaking down the name "Intelligence Targeting Group," one may conclude the mission will be conducting intelligence analysis in order to derive the most effective methods to degrade, disrupt or destroy potential enemy targets in the cyber realm.

Think for a moment about how computers have become an integral component of the many infrastructure elements that enable militaries as well as cities and countries to function in a civil fashion or, alternatively, in defiance of international will. Computer networks may be the crucial enabler for a nation or nonstate actor to harass or instigate conflict against another country, or to attack the vital interests of the United States and our allies.

The potential for destruction and chaos are limitless and can be accomplished without fielded forces. In April 2013 at the Worldwide Threat Assessment address to Congress, James Clapper, director of national intelligence, described cyber-attack as the top threat to national security. Thus, it is essential for the U.S. to develop the means to protect our own computer networks as well as cultivate the ability to hold any potential target at risk of kinetic or non-kinetic attack. Intelligence analysis and targeting are vital to this capability. In short, the United States must be able



LT. COL. DARRIN K. ANDERSON

119th Intelligence Targeting Group Commander

to precisely and rapidly inflict the desired effect on enemy systems, whatever that system may be.

Although the loss of our manned flying mission and transition from the air domain to the cyberspace domain is exceedingly difficult to fathom, our new mission truly enables the Hooligans to continue guarding the nation in the most relevant of ways — against an ascending and pervasive threat to our national security.

I ask every Hooligan to help support each other through these turbulent times, but also to critically think about what your role could be. Take personal responsibility for your own destiny and proactively prepare for the transition.

As we watch Hooligan C-21s depart home station for the last time, it is appropriate to reflect on the accomplishments of the past, but also imperative to embrace the opportunities of the future.

N.D. Air National Guard enlisted personnel interested in cross-training into the Intelligence Targeting Group mission should visit with Master Sgt. Tanya Augdahl in the Recruiting and Retention Office to receive a briefing on the process. Members interested in intelligence officer positions should consult Senior Master Sgt. Barb Anderson in the Force Support Squadron.



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Wing

Maj. Jason Newham and 2nd Lt. Brandon Balkowitsch, both of the 119th Wing, pilot a C-21 aircraft down the taxiway as they prepare to take off at Hector International Airport, Fargo, May 6. The aircraft is making its final departure from the N.D. Air National Guard, as the unit begins a mission conversion. Remaining aircraft will be leaving over the next few months, with the final aircraft scheduled to depart in September. It will be the first time without a manned flying mission in the unit's 66-year history.

WELCOME REPRIEVE

AFTER YEARS OF ALL-OUT FLOOD FIGHTS, GUARD MEMBERS THANKFUL TO BE NEEDED LESS

*By Sgt. 1st Class David Dodds
141st Maneuver Enhancement Brigade*

N.D. National Guard Soldiers and Airmen have gotten pretty good at fighting floods. They should. They've got plenty of real-world experience in recent years.

N.D. Guardsmen have helped local, state and federal agencies battle severe river and overland flooding every year but one since 2009.

In that time, the Guard has committed more than 126,000 work days toward flood responses in Wahpeton, Fargo, Grand Forks, Drayton, Pembina, Bismarck-Mandan, Minot, Burlington and Sawyer. Those are the more familiar battlegrounds in what has seemingly been a nearly two-decade-long campaign against Mother Nature's high-water wrath.

Veteran flood fighters, many still in the Guard, remember other years, too, such as 2006, when the governor activated 50 Soldiers to haul dirt and emplace more than 14,000 sandbags to combat spring flooding that year. And during the spring of 1997, more than 2,300

members of the N.D. National Guard were activated for blizzard and flood duty. At the time, it was the largest in-state activation to date in North Dakota history.

Given all that, N.D. citizen Soldiers and Airmen don't necessarily mind a year when a potential record flood fight didn't materialize.

That looks to be the case in 2013, and the break is welcome.

1st Sgt. August W. Honeyman, the top enlisted Soldier in the 815th Engineer Company, based in Edgeley, is a veteran of several past Guard responses to flooding, as are many Soldiers in his ranks.

On April 27, Honeyman and about 170 members of the 815th were alerted to provide a Quick Reaction Force for this year's flood fight in Fargo and surrounding Cass County. When they got the call, projections for near-record flooding, rivaling memorable events in 2009 and 2011, were all but certain.

Three days later and several lowered crest projections, Honeyman says only about 30 Soldiers were on duty, with the rest of the unit — about 140 Soldiers — on standby. Those activated were keeping

SINCE 2009, THE GUARD HAS COMMITTED MORE THAN 126,000 WORK DAYS TOWARD FLOOD RESPONSES IN WAHPETON, FARGO, GRAND FORKS, DRAYTON, PEMBINA, BISMARCK-MANDAN, MINOT, BURLINGTON AND SAWYER.

busy by maintaining equipment, practicing their response drills and waiting. But, after years of working knee-deep in floodwater in the thick of the fight, he said, the troops weren't complaining.

"We'd rather be waiting than wading," he quipped.

But Honeyman was quick to add, if the time came when they were needed, his Soldiers would be well trained, highly motivated and ready.

If called upon by the Cass County Emergency Operations Center, Honeyman and his Soldiers could use their high-water navigating Light Medium Tactical Vehicles to haul sandbags and equipment or rescue anyone stranded by floodwaters. The QRF team comprised a day and night shift, passing the baton at 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. each day.

Sgt. 1st Class Gary D. Anderson, a platoon sergeant with the 815th, used the long days and the lull in flood fighting to build unit cohesion — a challenge for Guard units since they typically only meet once a month and two weeks each summer.

"For me, the biggest thing is that this provides the time and opportunity for our guys to practice working together as a team," Anderson said.

Capt. Alan J. Roehrich, a 12-year member of the N.D. National Guard, is in his first flood fight this year, but he holds a vital role as liaison officer between the Cass County Emergency Operations Center and the National Guard.

Roehrich serves as Cass County Sheriff Paul Laney's principle contact on all things related to the National Guard in the flood fight. He said that one of the big things learned in past flood responses was the importance of having liaisons for all agencies in the flood fight to communicate with each other quickly and effectively.

"Sheriff Laney is a huge advocate for the liaison system," Roehrich said. "He has seen the necessity of it and how important that role is for him to get the information he needs as well as to get information out."

Roehrich said there were so many "unknowns" going into this year's flood response compared to years past that it was difficult to provide spot-on projections. This forced the Guard and civil agencies to plan for the worst based upon the best information available and adjust as projections were updated.

With such an unpredictable flood, the

N.D. National Guard performed a delicate balancing act to ensure just enough troops were on hand to protect people's property.

Sgt. Maj. Ken Schuldheisz, in the Tactical Operations Center of the 141st Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, which supplied the bulk of troops for this year's flood fight, said that, at its peak, there were about 75 Soldiers and Airmen on flood duty. That compares to 600 Soldiers and Airmen at one time in eastern North Dakota in 2011, and 2,304 in 2009.

When flood preparation was still ramping up this year, Schuldheisz said, there were 15 traffic control points manned by members of the 191st Military Police Company, allowing smooth navigation for trucks hauling dirt and sand for emergency levees. In floods past, Fargo was dotted with TCPs from one end of the city to the other as high water created a maze of closures and detours.

QRFs were equally sparse this year compared to past years. Schuldheisz said that one QRF location was set up this year in a Cass County workshop near the fairgrounds in West Fargo. In past years, as many as four QRF sites were needed at any time throughout the county.

Another hallmark of past efforts was the joint nature of Guard flood fights, with hundreds of Army Guard Soldiers serving shoulder to shoulder with hundreds of Air Guard personnel. Much of the levee patrolling, in the past, was handled by the

Air Guard.

Schuldheisz said that plans were in the works to bring members of the Air Guard on duty this year for levee patrols, but it was never needed.

That's not to suggest that there was no Air Guard presence this year in the flood fight.

As usual, Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, a public affairs supervisor for the 119th Wing, was covering this year's effort from the beginning with his signature photography that has made him and fellow public affairs specialist, Master Sgt. Eric A. Johnson, a videographer, nationally-recognized military journalists and award winners.

Lipp and Johnson are known for their stunning visual reflections of natural disasters and the Guard's responses to them, from floods to tornados to hurricanes. The duo, along with their N.D. Army National Guard Visual Information counterparts, took second place nationally among Department of Defense journalists in 2009 for "Guardians by Air by Land," a video and photo documentary of the 2009 flood fight.

They also were touted as the best DoD journalists in the nation for their coverage of the 2011 North Dakota floods.

"I'm just honored to be able to document the quality work that the N.D. National Guard does and is known for," Lipp said. "It's great to see people working together and coming together as a community." ■



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Wing

Spc. Derek Smoot, of the 191st Military Police Company, N.D. Army National Guard, walks on a temporary clay flood levee April 28 in Fargo. Smoot is in place to prevent civilians from unintentionally damaging the flood protection levees along the Red River.

fr INTERACT WITH US!

See more photos at
<http://bit.ly/2013flood>.

More flood-related news:
N.D. Guardsmen Coordinating with
Area Agencies to Support Cavalier
Visit <http://1.usa.gov/Z312hK>.

HAIL THE NEW STATE CHIEF

Guard Honors Jundt Upon Retirement, Welcomes Sizer

By Sgt. 1st Class Amy Wieser Willson, Joint Force Headquarters

After 42 years of service to his state and nation, Chief Warrant Officer 5 David Jundt stepped into retirement last month. Since April 2005, he has served as the senior warrant officer in the N.D. National Guard. As he left the military, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Shelly Sizer stepped up to the role of the state command chief warrant officer.

"As we gather here today, we're recognizing nearly 80 years of combined experience between these two leaders. Their service to our state has been astounding," said Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk, N.D. adjutant general, during a Change of Responsibility ceremony at the Raymond J. Bohn Armory in Bismarck. "While we will miss Chief Jundt's leadership, we could not have found a better new state command chief warrant officer than Chief Sizer."

Jundt enlisted in the N.D. Army National Guard in 1971 as a construction equipment mechanic with the former 816th Engineer Support Equipment Company. He served in various maintenance roles in different units and rose to the rank of sergeant first class before becoming a chief-warrant officer 2 in October 1985. He was one of the last Guardsmen to receive a direct appointment as a warrant officer. Before being named the state's second-ever state command chief warrant officer, he served with the Command Maintenance Evaluation Team, known as the COMET.

Beyond his career as a traditional Guardsman, Jundt also served full-time in the Guard from December 1988 until his retirement as a federal technician in March.

"There are so many people to thank for my longevity and success in the N.D. Army National Guard," Jundt said. "Thanks to the great support of my fellow Soldiers and my family, I've truly enjoyed my military service. It has been an honor to serve in this great organization."

Jundt's wife, Jan, was honored during the ceremony for her service as a military spouse.

Sizer enlisted in 1978, serving in the personnel section of the former Headquarters and Headquarters Company of the 141st Engineer Combat Battalion in Valley City. She advanced to the rank of staff sergeant before transferring to the former Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment of the 231st Engineer Battalion in Bismarck, where she was promoted to the rank of warrant officer 1. She served at the Regional Training Institute in Devils Lake, before returning to Bismarck in 2000. She was deployed from 2009-10 as part of a peacekeeping mission in Kosovo.

Sizer, who has served 18 years as a full-time federal technician with the Guard, is the resilience, risk reduction and suicide prevention manager for the N.D. Army National Guard. ■

Photos by Sgt. Jonathan Haugen, Joint Force Headquarters



(Left) Chief Warrant Officer 4 Shelly Sizer addresses attendees May 4 during a Change of Responsibility ceremony at the Raymond J. Bohn Armory in Bismarck. The change of responsibility means Sizer will become the first woman to fill the state command chief warrant officer role. Warrant officers are considered the Army's technical experts in work, training and education. (Above) Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk, N.D. adjutant general, presents Chief Warrant Officer 5 David Jundt with the Legion of Merit for his 42 years of service May 4, during Jundt's retirement ceremony at the Raymond J. Bohn Armory in Bismarck.

MEET YOUR NEW MONSIGNOR

By Staff Sgt. Eric Jungels, N.D. National Guard Public Affairs



Photos by Staff Sgt. Brett Miller, N.D. National Guard Visual Information

(Top) Monsignor Chad Gion is sworn in and commissioned as a first lieutenant for the N.D. National Guard by Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk, N.D. adjutant general, at Raymond J. Bohn Armory April 30 in Bismarck. (Bottom) Monsignor Chad Gion speaks to friends, family and members of the N.D. National Guard after being commissioned as a first lieutenant in the N.D. Army National Guard. Gion will serve as a chaplain for the N.D. National Guard's Bismarck-based 1st Battalion, 112th Aviation Regiment (Security and Support).

N.D. NATIONAL GUARD COMMISSIONS CATHOLIC MONSIGNOR CHAD GION

The N.D. Army National Guard welcomed a Catholic chaplain to its ranks in a ceremony at Raymond J. Bohn Armory, April 30.

Monsignor Chad Gion was sworn in and commissioned as a First Lieutenant. He will serve as a chaplain assigned to the N.D. National Guard's Bismarck-based 1st Battalion, 112th Aviation Regiment (Security and Support).

"This is a wonderful day for the N.D. National Guard," Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk, N.D. adjutant general, said. "It's been seven years since we've had a Catholic chaplain in the N.D. Army National Guard."

Sprynczynatyk noted that, with about one-third of the state's Soldiers identifying as Catholics, Gion's service is especially appreciated.

"It's important that we can strengthen our Guardsmens' faith, so that they are spiritually fit and ready to serve our state and nation in any capacity that they are called," Sprynczynatyk said. "Chaplains are truly a combat multiplier — a source of comfort for the troops and their families."

Gion said he was happy to join the Guard, which he will consider his "fourth parish." Gion, who has been serving N.D. parishes since his ordination in the summer of 2002, also serves Spirit of Life in Mandan, St. Anthony in St. Anthony, and St. Martin's in Huff.

"The responsibility of serving as a chaplain in the N.D. National Guard is something I've been considering for a long time," Gion said. "I'm happy to finally be here. When Soldiers are in need, or if they would like help in spirit or direction, chaplains are there for them. The N.D. National Guard is committed to the spiritual wellbeing of its Soldiers."

The Army and Air National Guard chaplaincy provides religious support to Guardsmen and assists commanders in ensuring the right of free exercise of religion for all of their members. ■

DEEP SKIES SHARP EYES

AIR DEFENSE SOLDIERS PRIMED FOR NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION MISSION

By Staff Sgt. Eric W. Jensen, Joint Force Headquarters

Photos by Staff Sgt. Brett Miller, 116th Public Affairs Detachment

A UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter operated by the N.D. Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 112th Aviation Regiment began levitating off a landing pad at Camp Grafton Training Center in late April, floating into the sky's overcast morning haze like a giant, black apparition. Once it ascended, activity on post grew more frenzied. Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 188th Air Defense Artillery Regiment scrambled toward their Avenger air defense systems at sites scattered across the training facility. Determinedly, the air defenders began a series of crew drills to practice engaging aircraft. The maneuvers were part of a battalion-collective, six-day exercise named "America's Shield."

The moniker is appropriate, since the ADA Soldiers are now beginning a yearlong deployment stateside to protect the airspace around the National Capital Region in Washington, D.C., as part of Operation Noble Eagle. The mission is part of a larger collaboration with Department of Defense agencies that operate as an Integrated Air Defense System there. In preparation for the mission, the 1-188th went through a rigorous three-week training period at Camp Grafton that culminated with the "America's Shield" exercise.

"What exercise America's Shield is designed to do is to establish that confidence for the Soldiers in their abilities as air defenders, and also get that confidence in and knowledge about the equipment they're using," said Lt. Col. Jon Erickson, 1-188th commander.

For the battalion, it was a chance to knock off some of the rust after participating in overseas missions throughout the years. The 1-188th happens to be the most-deployed N.D. National Guard unit in the Global War on Terrorism, with 10 different



Spc. Derek Nelson, team gunner, left, and Sgt. Andrew Dozhier, team chief, for the 1st Battalion, 188th Air Defense Artillery Regiment practice air defense crew drills April 23 with the man-portable air-defense system at Camp Grafton Training Center near Devils Lake.



Spc. Robert Klettke, team gunner, and Sgt. Tad Thompson, team chief, practice air defense crew drills April 23 with the man-portable air-defense system at Camp Grafton Training Center near Devils Lake. The Soldiers spent three weeks at camp to prepare for a National Capital Region defense mission with their unit, 1st Battalion, 188th Air Defense Artillery Regiment.

mobilizations in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. But, they've completed those missions in a variety of configurations that don't involve typical air defense proficiencies, including roles as security forces and Rapid Aerostat Initial Deployment and Sentinel Radar operators. The Soldiers, however, have had no problem rediscovering their expertise.

"We did lose some of that knowledge base in air defense over the years while completing OEF and OIF missions. We knew that and when we started our training plan a year ago for this mission, we focused on the basics first," Erickson said. "During our annual training in June last year, we really focused on the air defense fundamentals — like visual aircraft recognition and crew drills — just rebuilding the foundation."

Fortunately, the unit's ranks are stacked with experience. More than half of the more than 200 Soldiers deploying to the nation's capital have mobilized for other Guard missions during their careers. Three of them, in fact, are on their fourth deployments. For the Soldiers who are deploying for the first time, they know they can count on their noncommissioned officers' expertise and look forward to a high level of mentorship.

Spc. Brennan Johnson, a gunner for one of the 1-188th's Avenger teams, first drilled with the 1-188th in November of last year. This will be his first deployment. Johnson volunteered immediately after returning to the unit from his Advanced Individual Training, which he completed to become an air defense Soldier.

"I'm pretty excited. It's a great opportunity and I'm just lucky I got on (the mission)," he said.

Erickson said the younger Soldiers will have a tremendous amount of responsibility during the deployment, and is confident in their abilities. Typically, an Avenger team chief is 21 to 22 years old, while gunners are 19 or 20.

"Definitely, it's an honor. It's a high-visibility area," said Sgt. Tad Thompson, an Avenger team chief. "There's a lot of pressure to perform our jobs at the optimum level and to be able to do everything really well. This whole training event (at Camp Grafton) is getting us prepared for that."

To create realistic, effective training for its Soldiers, the 1-188th brought in some help. North Dakota's Civil Air Patrol provided most of the live aircraft for the exercise in addition to the Black Hawks flown by the 1-112th Aviation Battalion. Twenty-eight members of the 263rd Army Air and Missile Defense Command from Anderson, S.C., which supports all Army Air Defense Artillery under U.S. Army North, coordinated and developed the construct of "America's Shield."

North Dakota also was joined by the 1362nd Training Support Battalion from Fort Bliss, Texas. The 1362nd provided observers and controllers who took the 1-188th through the same certification and validation procedures it would need to master before deploying to the National Capital Region. Later, the air defense Soldiers would travel to Fort Bliss for their final certification.

"We are coming out of this exercise (America's Shield) at a very high level of efficiency. It's good to do this fairly close to when we mobilize. These skills are perishable, so now when we go to Fort Bliss, we have sustained that training proficiency," Erickson said before the unit left for training in Texas. "When we get down there (Fort Bliss) and get into our culminating training event, it will be similar to this. It will run a little bit longer, and it will be 24/7. We'll simulate engaging live aircraft of all different types. Fort Bliss is the final test for us before going to the National Capital Region. America's Shield was like the pre-test, and we passed the pre-test with flying colors."

Once the unit reaches Washington, D.C., it will replace an ADA battalion from the Florida Army National Guard. While a year is a long stretch of time for any deployment, the Soldiers are enthusiastic for what the mission will bring.

"It's going to be a good experience. We're still in the states, and we still have that connection with family and friends," said Spc. Josef Kerr, an Avenger team gunner. "However, it's (Washington, D.C.) far away enough where you still get that deployment experience. For me, I haven't been out in the big cities or out of state a lot, so it's going to be good to experience something different, something new." ■

MILITARY POLICE SOLDIERS BLACK OUT BOHN ARMORY

Story by Spc. Lucas Zabka and photos by Spc. Kimberly Stensaker, Detachment 2, 191st Military Police Company

Detachment 2 of the 191st Military Police Company, Bismarck, recently conducted a two-day training session on Military Operations in Urban Terrain, or MOUT. The training began in the “crawl” stage by viewing a PowerPoint presentation on the most basic room clearing and fire team movement techniques. This was continued with a “walk” phase that began to incorporate hands-on practical exercises, including open “glass” houses constructed of engineer tape. The exercise began to build team cohesion as well as a better understanding of why certain techniques are used in MOUT.

After a thorough explanation and plenty of repetition, the MPs began moving on to the “run” phase. This culminated in a full-tempo mission that was achieved by blacking out the Bohn Armory. The teams were then outfitted with night vision goggles.

Second Lt. Laura Kleihauer, of Minot, briefed the mission order to the team leaders, who then briefed their teams, and the mission began. There was a lot of emphasis on 360-degree security at all times. This was enforced by role players acting as oppositional forces who monitored from the shadows and ambushed during a security breach to alert Soldiers to weak areas.

“My goal was to ensure a thorough familiarization through mass repetitions,” Sgt. Benjamin Peterson, an instructor from Bismarck, said of the exercise. “This was going to be achieved

by starting at the smallest basic level in the classroom, then going through ‘glass’ houses, which would roll into dry-fire training with the lights on. This would then move to a final objective of a lights-out mission clearing a block of rooms proficiently.”

Once the mission was completed, teams sat down to talk to some new faces as well as more seasoned members of the unit. Pfc. Kyle Sneed and Pfc. Samantha Burghart, both of Bismarck, are the newest Soldiers in Detachment 2, and the teams found it interesting to get their perspective of the training. Their knowledge and thoughts, just like that of more senior team members, will be incorporated in future training exercises.

While attending Basic Combat Training, Sneed and Burghart had minimal MOUT training. They also had little training with night vision goggles. Both found the new equipment training helpful, as well as the team-building portion of the exercise. By breaking down into squads, they were able to train with the same Guardsmen with whom they will regularly work. They also expressed greater confidence in using the new equipment, which allowed them to better focus on the mission rather than its operation.

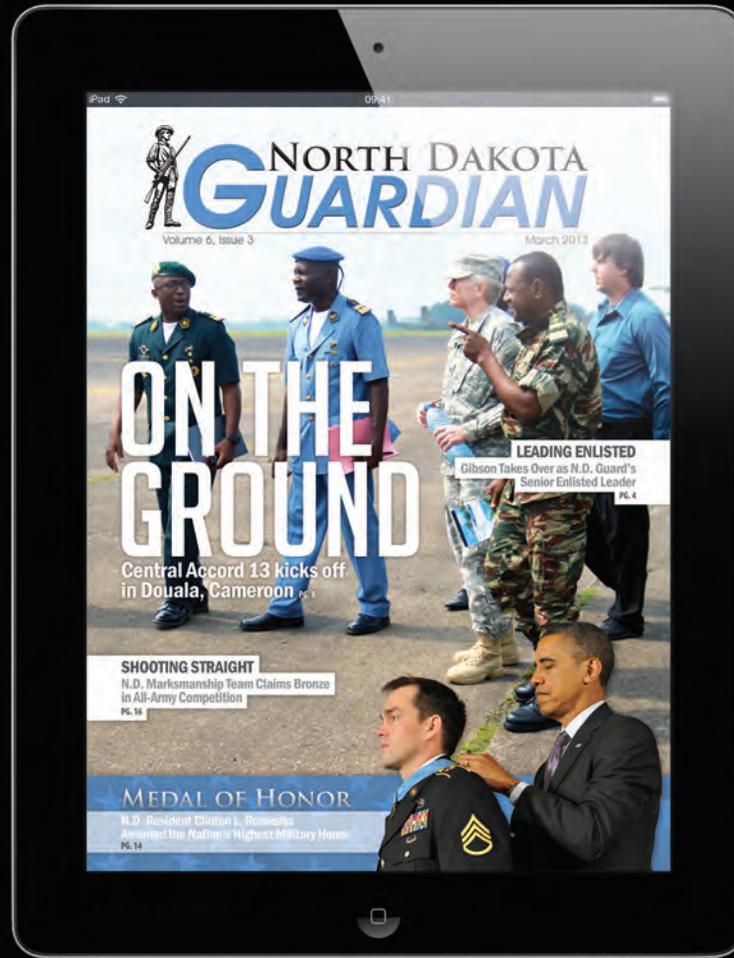
Based on the discussions, plans for future training began to develop, with ideas to expand the level of training, including more oppositional forces and moving the training outdoors. ■



SUBMISSION
UPAR
OF THE MONTH

Soldiers of the Bismarck-based Detachment 2 of the 191st Military Police Company, conduct drills and practice movement and clearing techniques during a two-day training session on Military Operations in Urban terrain, or MOUT, at Raymond J. Bohn Armory in Bismarck. The training culminated in a full-tempo exercise requiring night vision goggles in the blacked out armory.

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Tech. Sgt. Adam Krueger, of Fargo, runs the Lincoln National Guard Marathon May 5, in Lincoln, Neb., as part of the N.D. National Guard Marathon Team. (Photos courtesy of Nebraska National Guard)

LINCOLN MILES

N.D. Guard Team Competes in Nebraska Marathon

N.D. National Public Affairs

Six members of the N.D. National Guard covered a cumulative 157.2 miles in a matter of hours last month as they represented the state in the Lincoln National Guard Marathon.

The youngest and newest member of the team, Staff Sgt. Adam Walsvik, 25, led the N.D. Guardsmen, finishing the 26.2-mile marathon course in 3 hours, 6 minutes. The 7-minute-mile pace was fast enough for him to be named an alternate on the elite All-Guard Marathon Team. The national team is comprised of the 40 fastest men and 15 fastest women from across the entire National Guard, along with a crew of alternates to fill openings during the next year's marathon schedule.

"Having the opportunity to run the Lincoln Marathon representing the N.D. National Guard with my fellow teammates and coach was an awesome experience," Walsvik said. "My goal next year is to hopefully break 3 hours and make the All-Guard Team."

Capt. Jerod Tufte, 38, finished his second Lincoln Marathon in 3 hours, 14 minutes. Tufte represented



Members of the N.D. National Guard Marathon Team include (back row, from left) Staff Sgt. Adam Walsvik, of Hazen; Tech. Sgt. Adam Krueger, of Fargo; Capt. Robby Meland, of Bismarck; Capt. Jerod Tufte, of Bismarck; (front row, from left) Capt. Jackie Pekarek, of Fargo; Sgt. 1st Class Amy Wieser Willson, coach, of West Fargo; and Staff Sgt. Brekka Carlson, of Bismarck. (Photo courtesy of Nebraska National Guard)



HAVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO RUN THE LINCOLN MARATHON REPRESENTING THE N.D. NATIONAL GUARD WITH MY FELLOW TEAMMATES AND COACH WAS AN AWESOME EXPERIENCE

— STAFF SGT. ADAM WALSVIK, 25

Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Amy Wieser Willson, N.D. National Guard

Staff Sgt. Adam Walsvik, of Hazen, smiles as he runs the Lincoln National Guard Marathon May 5, in Lincoln, Neb. He's running his first Lincoln Marathon as a member of the N.D. National Guard Marathon Team.



Capt. Jackie Pekarek, of Fargo, runs the Lincoln National Guard Marathon May 5, in Lincoln, Neb. It's her second Lincoln Marathon as a member of the N.D. National Guard Marathon Team. North Dakota's women's team came in close together with Staff Sgt. Brekka Carlson, 30, finishing in 4 hours, 13 minutes, and Pekarek, 44, running in at 4 hours, 16 minutes. N.D. National Guard members qualify for the state team based on the top four marathon times from the previous year for men and women in both the Army and Air National Guard.

Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Amy Wieser Willson, N.D. National Guard

the Guard this past year on the All-Guard Marathon Team, competing in races in Santa Barbara and Alabama to showcase the athleticism and patriotism of Guardsmen.

Rounding out the men's team were a couple of four-time Lincoln Marathon veterans: Tech. Sgt. Adam Krueger, 32, finished in 3 hours, 29 minutes, and Capt. Robby Meland, 29, finished in 3 hours, 43 minutes.

North Dakota's women's team came in close together with Staff Sgt. Brekka Carlson, 30, finishing in 4 hours, 13 minutes, and Capt. Jackie Pekarek, 44, running in at 4 hours, 16 minutes. It was Carlson's third full marathon finish at Lincoln and Pekarek's second.

Pekarek and Krueger both serve in the N.D. Air National Guard while Walsvik, Tufte, Meland and Carlson serve in the N.D. Army National Guard.

"A lot can go wrong over the course of 26.2 miles, but the team did a fantastic job of bringing together their training and perseverance to achieve some great times this year," said Sgt. 1st Class Amy Wieser Willson, who coached the 2013 team after having competed on the state and All-Guard Teams the past two years. "We have some very experienced runners who are sharing their knowledge and lessons learned with the younger members for even greater success in the future."

N.D. National Guard members qualify for the state team based on the top four marathon times from the previous year for men and women in both the Army and Air National Guard. For more information, contact Maj. Russell Wolf, N.D. National Guard competitive sports coordinator, at russell.j.wolf.mil@mail.mil. ■

GUARDIAN

Snapshots

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Brianna Helbling performs the National Anthem during the May 27 Memorial Ceremony ceremony at the N.D. Veterans Cemetery, near Mandan.

Photo by Bill Prokopyk,
N.D. National Guard Public Affairs



Col. Robert Becklund, N.D. National Guard chief of staff for Air, gives opening remarks as the master of ceremonies for the May 27 Memorial Day ceremony at the N.D. Veterans Cemetery, in Mandan.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Brett Miller,
116th Public Affairs Detachment



Graves at the N.D. Veterans Cemetery, near Mandan, Memorial Day, May 27.

Photo by Bill Prokopyk,
N.D. National Guard Public Affairs



Dan Russell, foreground, performs "Taps in Echo, with Dillon Parker during the May 27 Memorial Day ceremony at the N.D. Veterans Cemetery, near Mandan.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Brett Miller,
116th Public Affairs Detachment



N.D. National Guard Military Funeral Honors team members render the cannon salute during a May 27 Memorial Day ceremony at the N.D. Veterans Cemetery, in Mandan.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Brett Miller, 116th Public Affairs Detachment



The N.D. National Guard Honor Guard stands at attention while Taps is played at the Memorial to the Fallen in the Global War on Terrorism Induction Ceremony May 22 at Fraine Barracks, Bismarck.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Brett Miller, 116th Public Affairs Detachment



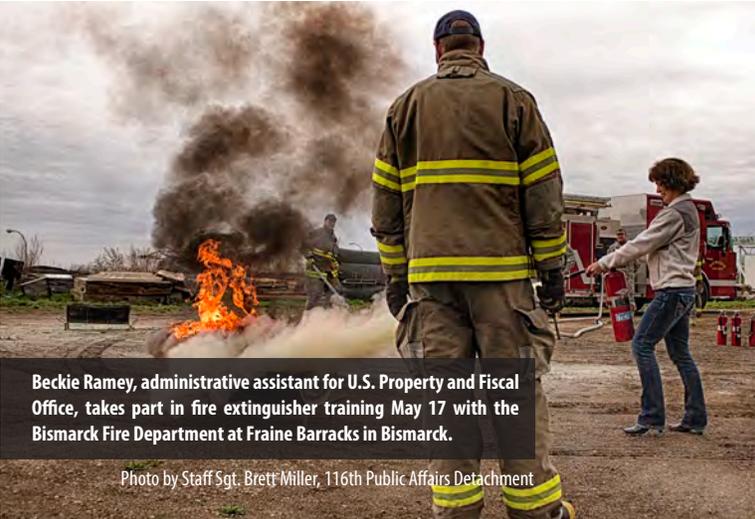
Members of the Linde family lay flowers on the Memorial to the Fallen in the Global War on Terrorism during an Induction Ceremony May 22 at Fraine Barracks, Bismarck. Sgt. 1st Class Darren Linde 41, of Devils Lake, was killed in action in Afghanistan on Dec. 3, 2012.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Brett Miller, 116th Public Affairs Detachment

Lt. Col. Michael Holly, the N.D. National Guard director of military support/deputy operations officer, left, discusses flood fighting logistics with visiting military members from Ghana, Africa, April 24 at the Cass County tactical operations center, Fargo. The Ghanaian military members are visiting the N.D. National Guard organization as part of a partnership between the African country of Ghana and the N.D. National Guard. Since 2003, the N.D. National Guard has developed a professional relationship with Ghana as part of the National Guard Bureau's State Partnership Program. This program aligns states with partner countries to encourage the development of economic, political and military ties. The Ghana military members are particularly interested in how the Joint government agencies fight the floods in the Red River Valley, because they also experience regular flooding in Ghana. One objective of the N.D. SPP is to help the Ghanaian military gain traction and visibility among the people and government leaders of Ghana as a trained and ready response capability.

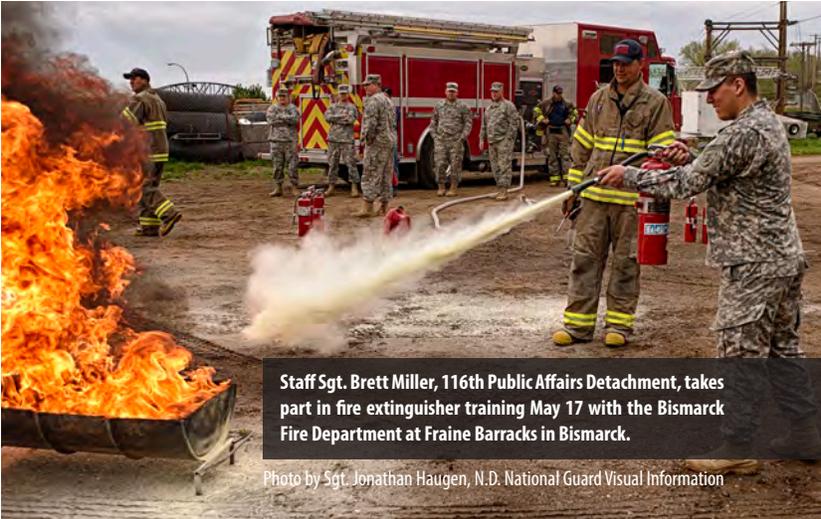


Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Wing



Beckie Ramey, administrative assistant for U.S. Property and Fiscal Office, takes part in fire extinguisher training May 17 with the Bismarck Fire Department at Fraine Barracks in Bismarck.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Brett Miller, 116th Public Affairs Detachment



Staff Sgt. Brett Miller, 116th Public Affairs Detachment, takes part in fire extinguisher training May 17 with the Bismarck Fire Department at Fraine Barracks in Bismarck.

Photo by Sgt. Jonathan Haugen, N.D. National Guard Visual Information

N.D. National Guard VOLUNTEER AWARDS

Story by Sgt. 1st Class Billie Jo Lorius, N.D. National Guard Public Affairs



The N.D. National Guard and Joint Family Program recognized volunteer award winners during National Volunteer Week in late April, thanking many volunteers that enable the accomplishment of critical missions. Families of the Year in the N.D. Army and Air National Guard also were announced, with awards presented May 5 in Fargo. A number of volunteers were recognized for their service, as well, in these separate categories: Volunteer of the Year, Extra Mile, Community Purple, Gold Award, Youth Volunteer and Youth Development.

“I congratulate our award recipients this year,” said Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk, N.D. adjutant general. “I also thank you for the support you give to our Soldiers, Airmen and communities on a consistent basis. If it were not for that support, we wouldn’t be able to carry out our state and federal missions as effectively as we do. We are all part of a larger Guard Family, working and serving together.”

Two Guard families were recognized for the time and energy they have expended helping others. **Maj. Mike and Emily Mallory, of Fargo**, were named *N.D. Air National Guard Family of the Year* and **Sgt. 1st Class Kristel and Shane Amundson, of Reiles Acres**, were named *N.D. Army National Guard Family of the Year*.

Both families contributed greatly to the Guard through volunteerism both in the Guard family as well as within their communities. The Mallory family, which includes two children, juggles their volunteer time in between the shift work that Mike performs at the 119th Wing. Mike is an active member of his church and mentors youth in the community through the soccer club, teaching skills of sportsmanship, teamwork and discipline. Emily also is a soccer coach and den leader as well as in a leadership role with the Airman and Family Readiness Program.

The Amundson family is active in their community and Shane has been the treasurer for the 191st Military Police Company Family Readiness Group for the past three years. Kristel works full-time for the 231st Brigade Support Battalion as a human resources non-commissioned officer. The Amundsons also are very active in their community. They volunteer at their church, to help area homeless, and for the Salvation Army. Shane is the president of the Reiles Acres Planning and Zoning committee.

Toni Anderson, Williston, was named *Volunteer of the Year*, which is presented to one volunteer that shows outstanding and exceptional service to the family program. Toni has been a lead member of Family Support for the 818th Engineer Company for more than a decade and volunteers her time with the Family Readiness Group by leading several events.

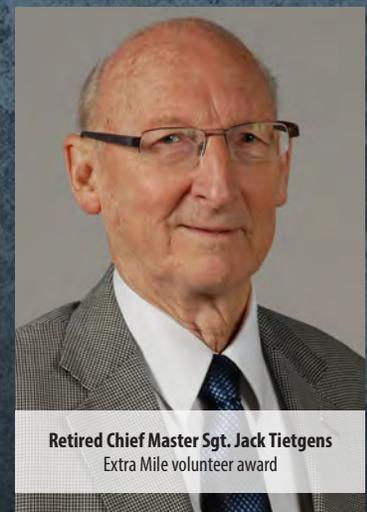
Retired Chief Master Sgt. Jack Tietgens, Fargo, was given the *Extra Mile volunteer award* for outstanding and exceptional service to the family program by continuing to serve the Guard



Maj. Mike and Emily Mallory Family
N.D. Air National Guard Family of the Year



Elizabeth Somdahl
Youth Volunteer award



Retired Chief Master Sgt. Jack Tietgens
Extra Mile volunteer award

Photos by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp

through volunteering. He keeps the N.D. Air National Guard retirees highly involved and informed and as a result the group is a close knit team. He organized and coordinated volunteer email service for retirees beginning in 2005 and continues today, serving 465 retirees.

Lure 'em for Life organization was awarded the *Community Purple award*, which is given to a community group or organization that best exemplifies the true meaning of the purple concept by working with both Air and Army Guard activities. Lure 'em for Life partnered with the N.D. National Guard Child & Youth Program (CYP) to hold a three-day fishing camp for Army and Air Guard Youth ages 8-15 in Garrison to teach children about fishing and life skills associated with the pursuit of sports and recreational activities — particularly self-discipline, perseverance, decision making and resiliency. A group of 19 dedicated Lure 'em for Life volunteers worked diligently to help plan and organize this camp with the CYP staff.

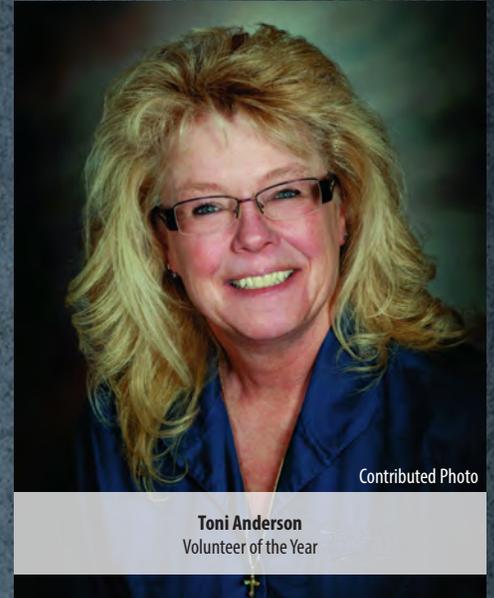
Nancy Griffin, Rugby, was awarded the *Gold Award* for showing long-term, consistent and dedicated support to volunteering with the Family Program and

volunteering within her community. Nancy drives from Rugby to Camp Grafton, a 65-mile one-way drive, to participate and consistently volunteers for additional duties to support the military or families. Nancy co-founded the 2012 Rugby Relay for Life team that raised money for cancer awareness in memory of Sgt. 1st Class Jason Gleason, who died of cancer in 2011.

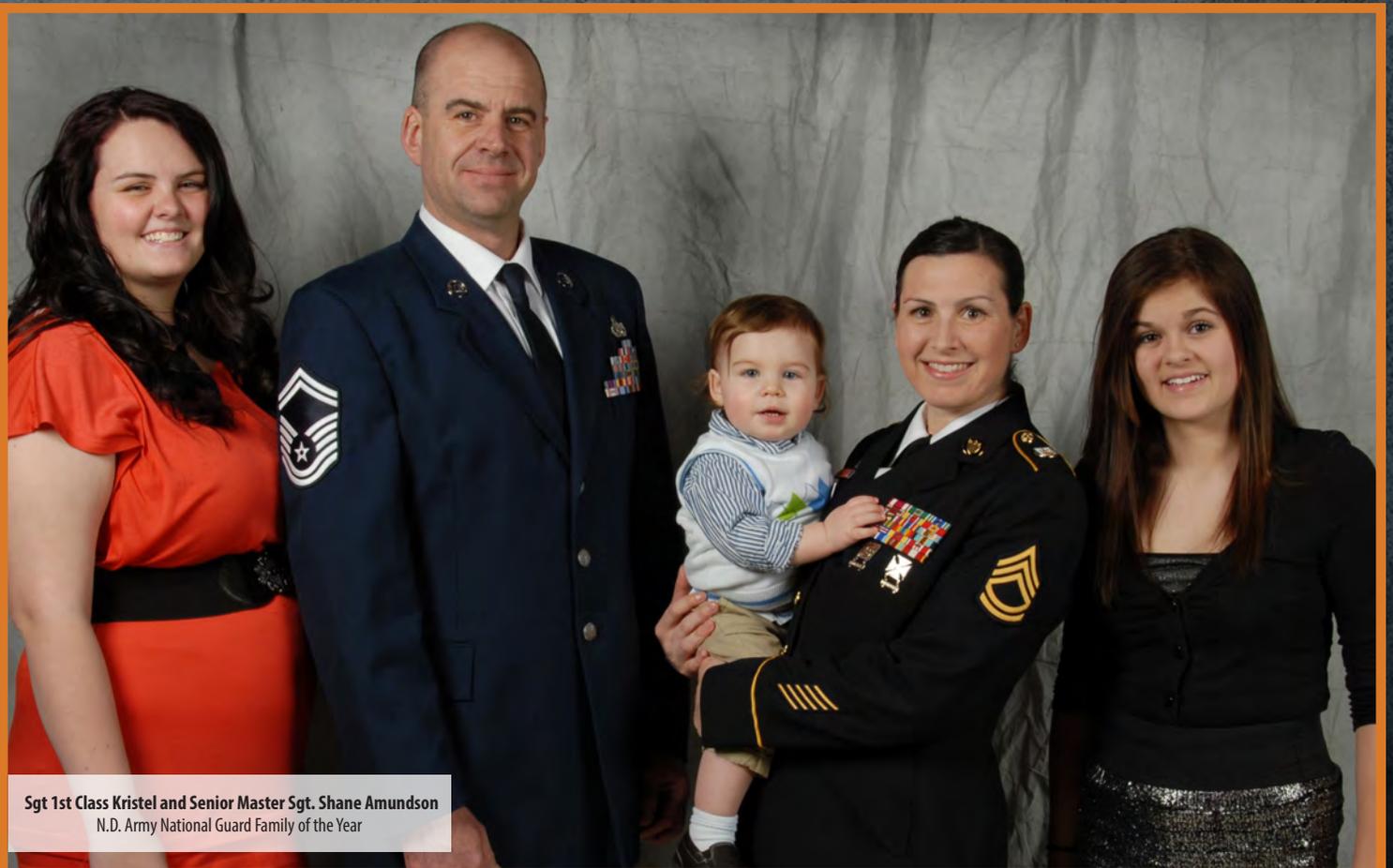
Elizabeth Somdahl, Moorhead, Minn., was given the *Youth Volunteer award*, which is awarded to National Guard military youth 15-17 years old who exhibits exemplary commitment to and support of the Family Program and involvement within their school and community. Elizabeth is an active member of the Fargo Military Youth Council and as such has volunteered for the Ronald McDonald house. She has volunteered for Operation Military Kids for an event using the mobile tech labs for youth that were going through deployment. There have been multiple other youth events that she has participated in and she continues to volunteer whenever the Youth Council is needed.

First Lt. Catherine Peterson, Bismarck, was given the *Youth Development award*

for making a significant impact in the development and support of the youth program. Peterson has been involved with the Bismarck Youth Council for the past year by providing assistance in coordinating and facilitating the councils. She assists the youth in discussions, education and community involvement events and always volunteers to help. ■



Toni Anderson
Volunteer of the Year



Sgt 1st Class Kristel and Senior Master Sgt. Shane Amundson
N.D. Army National Guard Family of the Year

Community Honors ADA at Alerus Center Send-off

More than 1,000 family members, friends and supporters of the N.D. Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 188th Air Defense Artillery Regiment filled the Alerus Center in Grand Forks April 28. They were there to send off about 200 Soldiers with the unit who will be helping to protect the nation's capital for the next year.

The N.D. Guardsmen will be supporting Operation Noble Eagle as they collaborate with other Department of Defense agencies as part of the integrated air defense system designed to protect the airspace around the National Capital Region. It's the 10th deployment since 2004 that calls upon Guardsmen from the battalion. Despite that, this will be the first deployment for about half of the Soldiers.

Lt. Col. Jon Erickson commands the unit and Sgt. Maj. Wallace Keller serves as the senior enlisted leader. Together, they have nearly 55 years of military experience.

The unit, which is headquartered in Grand Forks with batteries in Bismarck and Fargo, has Soldiers from 27 different North Dakota communities as well as 12 cities in neighboring states. The deploying group includes a number of family



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Amy Wieser Willson, Joint Force Headquarters Chaplain (Maj.) Corey Bjertness, chaplain for the 141st Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, addresses the audience April 28 at the Alerus Center in Grand Forks. More than 200 Soldiers with the 1st Battalion, 188th Air Defense Artillery Regiment are embarking on a yearlong mission to Washington, D.C.

members who will be serving together, including three married couples and four pairs of siblings.

See more photos online at <http://bit.ly/ADAsend-off> and <http://bit.ly/NCRdeparts>. ■

— By Sgt. 1st Class Amy Wieser Willson
Joint Force Headquarters

Campbell Earns 'Top Grad' at Basic Military Training

Airman 1st Class Trisha Campbell, 119th Wing, graduated from the Air Force's Basic Military Training (BMT) at the top of her class, placing 1st out of 742 new Airmen.

Campbell, 36, of Fargo, had been told she was too old to successfully complete BMT, but she silenced critics by becoming one of Lackland Air Force Base's most distinguished graduates this spring. Her hard work and determination led to high physical fitness and written exam scores, and her leadership acumen put her ahead of other trainees.

A full-time accountant and real estate developer, Campbell said she had always wanted to join the Air Force, but that she had spent the past 16 years raising kids.

"With the kids grown, I took the opportunity to go," Campbell said. "I also wanted to go to law school, and I thought it would be great to serve in the Guard at the same time."

Another recent BMT graduate from the 119th Wing, Airman 1st Class JulieAnn Bischof, 29, of Bismarck, was the only female graduate in her class to earn all four (of a possible four) merit ribbons, in part, by obtaining honor graduate status and qualifying "expert" with the M-16 assault rifle.

Bischof, a student at University of Mary in Bismarck, graduated BMT with a class of about 890 other Airmen.

Campbell and Bischof continue a tradition of excellence for N.D.'s 119th Wing, which is home to many BMT honor graduates. ■

— By Staff Sgt. Eric Jungels
N.D. National Guard Public Affairs



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Amy Wieser Willson, Joint Force Headquarters 1st Sgt. Joshua D. Entzel (center), of Bismarck, places a streamer on the guidon for the N.D. Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 188th Air Defense Artillery Regiment during an April 28 ceremony at the Alerus Center in Grand Forks. The streamer designates the battalion as a "Meritorious Unit" for its accomplishments in Afghanistan in 2006-07. Unit member Spc. Douglas J. Eagon, of Baker, Mont., holds the flag during the ceremony. Also observing the presentation are (back row, from left) Gov. Jack Dalrymple, Sen. John Hoeven, Rep. Kevin Cramer and Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk, N.D. adjutant general.

Air Defense Soldiers Earn 'Meritorious' Award

More than six years after its return from a mission to Afghanistan, Battery A of the 1st Battalion, 188th Air Defense Artillery Regiment finally received tangible proof of one of the highest unit awards the Army can bestow — the Meritorious Unit Award.

The unit served in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in 2006, supporting operations to train and enhance the capability of the Afghan National Police and Border Police.

An award announcement from the Department of the Army reads that the unit's "ability to provide training partnership and combine operations throughout Afghanistan was vital to the security of the Afghan people and contributed to the overall success of Combined Joint Task Force 76." ■

— By Sgt. 1st Class David Dodds
141st Maneuver Enhancement Brigade



Photo by Sr. Airman Meshach Simon, 737th Training Group Col. Deborah Liddick, 737th Training Group commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Kenneth Williams, 737th Training Group superintendent, recognize Airman 1st Class Trisha Campbell, from the 331st Training Squadron, Flight 308 as the "Top Graduate" for her graduating class. The honor goes to the one Airman who has surpassed all others in the challenges of Air Force Basic Military Training. Campbell scored a 96 percent on her end-of-course test and completed the 1.5-mile run in 10 minutes, 55 seconds, in addition to 57 sit-ups and 40 push-ups during her physical fitness test.

Chaplain's Corner:

THE LEAST OF US IS ONE OF US

By Chaplain (Capt.) Brock A. Sailer
231st Brigade Support Battalion

**“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”—
Matthew 25:40**

These cutting words of Jesus are enveloped in the words he will share with those that he accepts, for they took care of the needy, the sick, the imprisoned, all in a poor state. It is cutting because I am not sure I always show concern for “the least of these.” After some reflection, I believe “the least of these” to be whoever is in a lowly state in your given context, those people who have the least amount of power or influence. It is those whom it is

acceptable to disregard, ignore, insult and mistreat with none to defend them. They are the scapegoats.

This scripture drives the point home that we should not be fooled into worldly thinking that these lives are somewhat less valuable than the rest. It is so tempting to make a myriad of excuses about how they should know better, how they should not have gotten themselves in their predicament, or how they brought it upon themselves. We are not given a valid excuse for not helping “the least of these.”

I was watching a documentary recently on the training to be an Army Ranger.

Early in this elite training, the Soldiers were paired with a “Ranger buddy.” They went through endless obstacles late into the night. If your buddy failed, you failed with them, and vice-versa. Also, many of the Soldiers’ “pass” or “fail” depended on peer evaluations. I find it interesting and refreshing that one of the elite forces in our military has grasped and put into practice the concept of taking care of everyone to whom you are connected. If everyone is buying into the concept, there is never a noticeable “least of these,” for everyone is concerned for each other’s success. ■



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Army Wieser Willson, N.D. National Guard Public Affairs

Chaplain (Capt.) Brock Sailer, 231st Brigade Support Battalion, N.D. Army National Guard, visits with Burundi Army Maj. Hebron Baramo about military religious support Feb. 23 during Central Accord 2013 at the Cameroon Air Force Base, Douala, Cameroon. About 750 military members from the United States and Central Africa took part in the U.S. Army Africa aerial resupply and medical readiness exercise.



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Wing

Sgt. 1st Class Donald Nagle, conductor of the N.D. Army National Guard's 188th Army Band, salutes during an "Armed Forces Medley" arrangement at a West Fargo High School performance, West Fargo, April 21. The mission of the 188th Army Band is to provide music throughout the full spectrum of military operations and to instill in Soldiers the will to fight and win, to foster the support of citizens, to promote national interests at home and abroad, and to entertain audiences.