



# NORTH DAKOTA GUARDIAN

Volume 8, Issue 7

August 2015



## FIELD DAYS

Airmen Ramp Up Training at Camp Grafton PG. 10

TELLING THE GUARD STORY  
Unit Public Affairs Representatives  
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### 12 Band Camp

The North Dakota National Guard Child and Youth Program, in conjunction with the 188th Army Band, hosted a four-day camp last month in Fargo, North Dakota. The event aimed to broaden military youths' musical horizons while focusing on life skills, such as resiliency, communication, teamwork and leadership.



### 13 Training Abroad

Soldiers with the 815th Engineer Company (Horizontal) conducted annual training in March at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center in Hohenfels, Germany, which is the largest U.S. Army training installation outside the U.S. During the three-week event, the unit built, fixed and expanded training areas.



# NORTH DAKOTA GUARDIAN

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North Dakota Governor  
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Phone: 701-333-2195 Fax: 701-333-2017  
Digital photos should be 300 dpi, if possible.

## On the Cover



Members of the 219th Security Forces Squadron are airlifted by North Dakota Army National Guard Black Hawk helicopters and inserted into a training scenario July 14 at Camp Gilbert C. Grafton (South), near Devils Lake, North Dakota.

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

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# VIEW FROM THE TOP

## A MESSAGE FROM THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

### MAINTAINING A VIGILANT FORCE



Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk

North Dakota Adjutant General

**W**e are very fortunate to live and serve in North Dakota, a state with a rich history of supporting our military. We have a great relationship within our state and the communities. Although this is our way of life, we must remain vigilant and cognizant of our surroundings at all times.

The events in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, remind us that threats are not limited to deployment. Tragic things happen right in America's back yard. The North Dakota National Guard and the Department of Defense are constantly monitoring and analyzing threats to our region and stand ready to respond, if necessary.

The force-protection measures we use on our installations are in place to protect us while at work. Once we leave our installations, it is up to you to protect yourself and your family from local threats. Whether you're home or attending an outdoor activity, stay vigilant and don't hesitate to report suspicious activity to local authorities.

The North Dakota Department of Emergency Services just launched a local campaign, which states, "If you see something, say something." This began as a national campaign that raised public awareness about the indicators of terrorism and the importance of reporting suspicious activity to local law enforcement.

To report suspicious activity, contact your local law enforcement agency. Describe specifically what you observed, including:

- Who or what you saw.
- When you saw it.
- Where it occurred.
- Why it's suspicious.

Being vigilant doesn't stop at physical protection. We need to be aware of our information protection as well. We need to constantly be thinking about operational and informational security. With so much information

and communication being done online, it is easy to forget our adversaries are looking there, too, waiting for us to post information that will help their cause.

As a general rule, when you're online, think about what you're posting. Never broadcast private information or any contact information. Understand each site's privacy policies and settings and be aware that they are both subject to chance. Pay close attention to these changes, and notice if any information that once was private will be shared. Also, look for additional settings that might allow you to take more control of your privacy.

Social networking sites often collect sensitive information beyond what you openly share — where you are, what interests and advertisements you react to and what other sites you've visited (e.g. through "Like" buttons).

The U.S. military's ongoing fight against terrorism makes it even more important to be aware of the threat of danger. By remaining vigilant and taking precautions, we can continue to protect ourselves, our families and our communities against local threats.

The safety of our National Guard, our communities and our families is paramount. ■



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

Staff Sgt. Kellynn Fosse, of the 119th Security Forces Squadron, checks a unit member's identification card at the gate of the North Dakota Air National Guard Base in Fargo, North Dakota, Jan. 9, 2015, prior to allowing the vehicle on base.

# Airmen Excel at Leadership Course

Story and photos by Senior Master Sgt. David Lipp, 119th Wing



Instructor Tech. Sgt. James Richey, of the Chief Master Sgt. Richard L. Etchberger Airman Leadership School, right, evaluates Senior Airman Joseph Manning, of the 119th Civil Engineer Squadron, June 25 during the stationary portion of the drill-testing phase of Airman Leadership School at the N.D. Air National Guard Base in Fargo, North Dakota.

The 119th Wing training office hosted an Airman Leadership School in-residence class for the second year at the North Dakota Air National Guard Base in Fargo, North Dakota. The class was held May 28-July 1 in conjunction with the Chief Master Sgt. Richard L. Etchberger Airman Leadership School (ALS), which is held at the Grand Forks Air Force Base, North Dakota.

Last year's class was the first time an Air Force active-duty instructor taught the class in Fargo simultaneously with active-duty students at the Etchberger ALS at the Grand Forks base. This year, the junior enlisted members attending the course in Fargo achieved another first by becoming the first class having all its attendees pass the summative course testing.

Tech Sgt. James Richey has been teaching the course for nearly 3 years and has never had a class with all of the students passing the summative objective and performance testing. The test covers all of the concepts taught during the 5-week course.

ALS is designed to prepare junior enlisted members for leadership roles as they become noncommissioned officers.

According to the course handout, lessons are divided into five units of instruction providing students the knowledge, understanding and skills necessary to succeed as supervisors in the military environment. It covers topics, such as military standards and responsibilities, Air Force history, communication principles, management

practices, writing and speaking skills and various leadership techniques.

Air National Guard members throughout the country have the option of doing the coursework through distance-learning programs without attending any actual classroom studies. But, attending the classroom course allows them to interact with an instructor and other students as they practice applying what they read in the text.

Two N.D. Air National Guard members, Staff Sgt. Matthew Fraase, of the 119th Logistics Squadron, and Staff Sgt. Michelle Brekken, of the 119th Wing, were selected for top honors in the class this year.

Fraase was recognized with the John L. Levitow Award, which is awarded to the top graduate at each level of professional military education, including ALS. There is only one winner in each class.

"I owe all the credit for the award to my classmates because it was a team effort," Fraase said.

"I was not surprised that he (Fraase) received the Levitow award because of the great work that he does in our office every day," said Senior Master Sgt. Valerie Buchholz, Fraase's supervisor in the 119th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

The students apply their instruction through interactive course activities involving realistic scenarios addressing a number of issues, such as suicide prevention, substance abuse, stress management, sexual assault prevention and response, and identifying personal and work related concerns in their fellow



Senior Airman Amanda Wagemann, of the 119th Wing, right, leads a group of Airmen through the marching phase of drill testing at Airman Leadership School June 25. The training aims to prepare Airmen for leadership roles within the Air National Guard.

Airmen so they can help them find support from the right organization.

“I think we all got a lot more out of the course than we expected and I would highly recommend people do the course in-house because of the hands-on experience, with things like public speaking and the group interaction,” Fraase said.

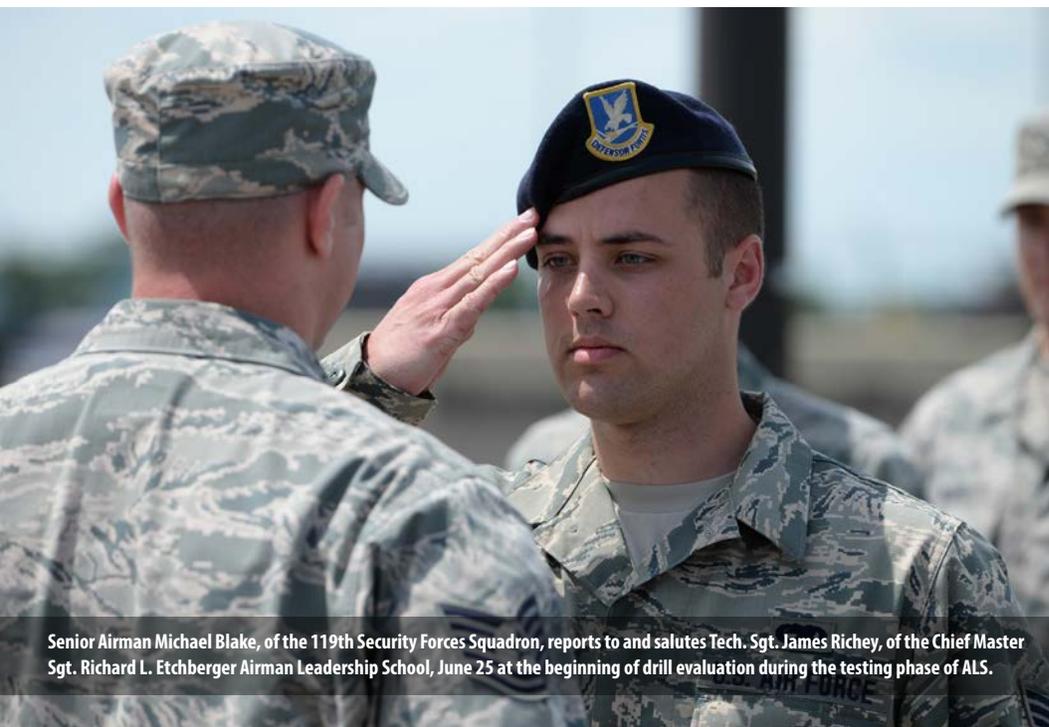
Staff Sgt. Michelle Brekken received the Richard L. Etchberger leadership award, which is presented to the student who demonstrates the highest degree of excellence as a leader in the class. Two students from each class are nominated for the award — making a total of four — and one is selected by the commandant upon completion of an interview process.

“I got to meet a lot of people I didn’t

know before I took the course and by the end, we all became very good friends,” Brekken said.

The idea of hosting an instructor at the Fargo base for the course, rather than have eleven students travel to the Grand Forks base, has proven to be a good cost-saving idea that came about through conversations between Senior Master Sgt. Jeff Miller, the 119th Wing noncommissioned officer-in-charge of training at the 119th Wing, and the Etchberger ALS Commandant Master Sgt. Aaron Holmes.

“We have a great partnership with the Airman Leadership School up in Grand Forks, and we have a good track record of cost savings and student success hosting the course in Fargo,” Miller said. ■



Senior Airman Michael Blake, of the 119th Security Forces Squadron, reports to and salutes Tech. Sgt. James Richey, of the Chief Master Sgt. Richard L. Etchberger Airman Leadership School, June 25 at the beginning of drill evaluation during the testing phase of ALS.

# Sounds of the Jungle: As the U.S. Goes to War, Bruschwein's Unit Readies for Combat in the Pacific

## Part 2 of 3 of a Historical Series

By Capt. Jeff Hoffer,  
N.D. National Guard Historian

*As Japanese fighter planes carried out their attacks on Pearl Harbor, 1st Lt. Harold Bruschwein can see the bombers from his post in Oahu. Assigned to anti-sabotage duty as commander of Company A, 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, he recounts confusion among his ranks on the fateful day of Dec. 7, 1941.*

With the inspection over, Bruschwein was on his way to headquarters when a Soldier from his company stopped to inform him about a phone call from the battalion commander. Bruschwein was instructed to send his truck to get extra ammunition, as his company was under attack. Bruschwein recalls being confused in those moments.

"I was anti-sabotage duty and I was concerned," he said. "What was my duty? Am I on anti-sabotage duty? Do I go on beach defense, or what?"

Fortunately, the Japanese never attempted a landing, and Bruschwein's company continued their pre-attack role until further orders were received. This kept his men "quite busy, because things were showing up." These "things" took the form of American anti-aircraft shells that had fallen back to earth — usually in and around Honolulu — after being fired at the attacking Japanese aircraft.

"There was this explosion, and one of my patrols headed out to check it out. It wasn't sabotage. One of these anti-aircraft shells being shot at the Japanese was coming down and exploding in the middle of a street or on a corner someplace." Bruschwein said. "That kept us busy for the rest of the day. After that, we spent a lot of time getting things organized and ready for the next steps."

In the aftermath of the attack, there was widespread devastation, accompanied by disbelief and shock. Smoke and flames blanketed the harbor where numerous American ships were sunk or in the process of sinking, and all on fire.

While Hawaii's population was concerned about further Japanese attacks, Bruschwein said there was no panic.

"We still had enough military where we had an orderly operation," he said. "It was a busy spot for the military, with all that military material in Honolulu. About the only thing moving was military transportation."

Bruschwein also recalled that, while the mood was tense in Hawaii, "People on the west coast (of the United States) were the ones who were scared. We continued our anti-sabotage patrols, but nothing else happened. People who lived there (in Hawaii) were quite loyal to the U.S., that we knew of."

Months after the Pearl Harbor attack, Bruschwein's division — the 25th Infantry Division — saw changes in how the Army prepared its men for war.

"One of the things that changed was that, before, troops were trained in the U.S., then shipped overseas to units. Instead of that, they'd just send us recruits and say, 'you train them.' So, then we had to be able to do the very initial training of troops," he said.

During the late summer of 1942, Bruschwein and the rest of his regiment were first sent to Australia, where they received further training, then Guadalcanal, where they arrived in December 1942 after spending three weeks aboard ship. Once there, Bruschwein's division joined the 1st Marine Division and the North Dakotans of the 164th Infantry Regiment. The

Soldiers and Marines had already engaged the Japanese during the previous months in bitter combat while defending Guadalcanal's Henderson Field, an American-held, heavily-contested airstrip that the Japanese wanted back.

"The Marines and the 164th Infantry did a terrific job on Guadalcanal," Bruschwein said. "Morale was high, and they were happy to see us, too. Especially the Marines. They had been there since August 7, 1942, and the Marines especially were beat up. They were a ragged looking bunch.

"Aside from the enemy, there were a lot of wounds, disease and sickness — everything from jungle rot to malaria and dengue on Guadalcanal."

Supply was another issue. "We were short of everything on Guadalcanal. Ammunition, food, medical supplies, you name it, we were short.

"We had ideas about what combat would be like. We just wanted to get in there, do our job and get the business over with. There wasn't any sitting around waiting," Bruschwein said.

Bruschwein also remembers Guadalcanal's jungle and the effect it had on the comfort of his men.

"You were always wet. It would get so warm that you'd sweat until you were soaked. Then, you'd start to dry off and it would rain and you'd be wet again," he said. "The Japanese would send planes over, night after night, and bomb. We called them 'Washing Machine Charlie' for the sound their engines made. Their bombing usually wasn't accurate, but I think their goal was just to keep us awake and on edge. One night, they came over and we shined spotlights on them. Suddenly, there was a stream of tracers that cut through the night air from



Contributed photo

**Harold Bruschein, bottom left, in the field with officers of his battalion during the Guadalcanal Campaign in 1943.**

behind a (Japanese) bomber, and that bomber just exploded. One of our night fighters got him. I remember the men cheering like they were at a football game.”

It was during the Guadalcanal Campaign that Bruschein learned the mettle of the enemy, and gained a memory of an event he wishes never happened. During a firefight with Japanese troops, his best friend and executive officer joined him and others around a map when an unseen Japanese sniper took aim. There was a shot, and ‘Mac’ fell dead.

“It was my life within six inches. I don’t know why I survived and he didn’t,” Bruschein said. “That’s something you never forget.”

Newspapers found their way into Guadalcanal, “The Stars and Stripes” being among them, which Bruschein got his news from while in combat. Radio programs also were a popular

diversion when not out on the front line or running a patrol into Japanese-held territory.

“The latest information always came out of Japan by air. We used to listen to Tokyo Rose. It was propaganda, but she had the best news and music of all,” Bruschein said. “Something would happen, some little incident on the front lines, and Tokyo Rose would be talking about it. She’d tell you all about what would happen and give the news from the front lines.” ■

*In the final installment of this historical series, Bruschein continues to recount his experiences at Guadalcanal, including run-ins with the jungle’s animal inhabitants. He also would brush shoulders with then-Navy lieutenant and future President John F. Kennedy. Bruschein, a recipient of the Silver Star, concludes his experiences by reflecting on life at war and the impact his service has had on him decades later.*

# SHARP SHOOTERS

## Guardsmen Compete in State Marksmanship Competition



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

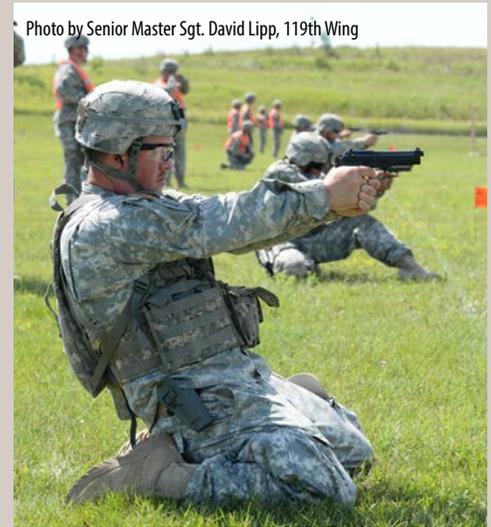


Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David Lipp, 119th Wing

Spc. Tyrel Hoppe, of the 817th Engineer Company, shoots a pistol at the annual North Dakota National Guard Adjutant General's Combat Marksmanship Match July 12 at the Camp Grafton rifle range near Devils Lake, North Dakota.

More than 60 Soldiers and Airmen unloaded a barrage of rifle, pistol and shotgun rounds at silhouetted targets posted downrange on the firing complex at Camp Grafton's southern training area last month. The North Dakota National Guard shooters competed in a number of individual and team contests July 10-12 during the 2015 Adjutant General's Combat Marksmanship Match.

When the winners were announced during the final day of competition, four shooters from the Jamestown-based 817th Engineer Company again came out on top as the best overall team, with the highest

aggregate score from multiple shooting matches. They are Sgt. Evan Messer, of Mandan, North Dakota; Spc. Bryce Solie, of Fertile, Minnesota; Sgt. Jordan Gehlhar, of Lauderdale, Minnesota; and Sgt. Andrew Maley, of Enderlin, North Dakota. This is the 31st year in a row the Jamestown unit has secured first place at the state match.

In individual competition, Sgt. Tyler Goldade, of Jamestown, North Dakota, who serves with the 815th Engineer Company (Horizontal), was named the best overall marksman, or "top gun." He was followed by Messer, who came

in second place, and Spc. Tyrel Hoppe, who took third. Hoppe, of Horace, North Dakota, also serves with the 817th Engineer Company (Sapper).

"It's always fulfilling to see the enthusiasm and professionalism our marksmen bring to this event. It's a weekend for competition, but also for building camaraderie amongst fellow shooters, and also between members of the Army and Air Guard," said Brig. Gen. Al Dohrmann, North Dakota deputy adjutant general, who attended Sunday's awards ceremony. "Marksmanship fundamentals are important aspects of our military training, and it's important that our units see the value in sending their Guardsmen to the Adjutant General's Combat Marksmanship Match each year."

According to match planners, this year's state competition saw the most participation from units across North Dakota in almost a decade. And the experience level of each marksman varies. Teams are required, per military marksmanship competition regulations, to be comprised of two veteran shooters and two novice shooters. Tech Sgt. Josh Von Bank said since most Soldiers and Airmen get basic marksmanship training, there's tremendous value in attending shooting matches through the N.D. National Guard's Marksmanship Program.

"A lot of our shooters are able to (perform) at a level in competition that is very advanced. We have a very high level of shooting and coaching ability here (at the competition). And we're failing if we're not taking that expertise back to



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

Tech. Sgt. Charles Welle, of the 119th Wing, carries his target upon completing a pistol event July 12 at the annual North Dakota National Guard Adjutant General's Combat Marksmanship Match at Camp Grafton South rifle range near Devils Lake, North Dakota.

the units. That's why you want maximum participation at events like this, where every unit is able to send somebody — hopefully two old, two new — to continue to build the state's marksmanship program.”

Novice shooters are introduced to movements and techniques typically not used during yearly unit marksmanship training and qualifications. They also shoot weapons they may not be familiar with. One of the competition's matches, the “3-Gun Match,” incorporates shotgun firing. The firearm normally is used by combat engineers for breaching doors and barricades. Shotguns have been used in previous Combat Marksmanship Matches, but this year, competitors were introduced to the newer M26 Modular Accessory Shotgun System, or MASS. The M26 was a change from using the Mossberg 500, and each competitor, veteran and novice, received an informal class about the new weapon system before reaching the firing line.

“The ‘3-Gun’ puts them in a position where they have to reload, use different positions, different weapon systems, their heart rates are up, and under induced stress positions, (they) need to be able to effectively engage targets, all at pretty close range,” Von Bank said.

To be eligible to shoot in the N.D. National Guard's Marksmanship Program, Soldiers and Airmen just need to have an interest in shooting. Messer said new members usually are identified at the unit level. In addition to an enthusiasm for marksmanship, potential new members also are approached to compete based on their annual qualification scores. Messer said participation in marksmanship competitions helps them improve their skills, but also require commitments for practice outside of scheduled training.

“Everybody's progressing very well. The new shooters, who have just joined the program, are learning a lot. And it's showing at the unit level, and I'm hearing it from other units,” he said. “It's about dedication. It takes a little more than just a regular drill weekend to do this.”

Sgt. Tina Heth, of the Minot-based 164th Engineer Battalion, is one of those new shooters. She learned about the competition during her unit's drill weekend training last fall. There, the Soldiers practiced on a portable marksmanship training tool that uses light beams for hitting circular targets. Heth and another unit member got the top



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

Sgt. Evan Messer, of the 817th Engineer Company, shoots a pistol at the annual North Dakota National Guard Adjutant General's Combat Marksmanship Match. Messer took second place in the over-all individual top gun at the contest, having the second best average finish in combined events among this year's contestants.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Eric W. Jensen, Joint Force Headquarters

Brig. Gen. Al Dohrmann, North Dakota deputy adjutant general, left, presents an award plaque July 12 to members of the 817th Engineer Company's (Sapper) marksmanship team for their first place finish during the 2015 Adjutant General's Combat Marksmanship Match. The team members are, from left, Sgt. Jordan Gehlhar, Sgt. Andrew Maley, Sgt. Evan Messer and Spc. Bryce Solie.

scores and were asked to compete at the state match.

“There's a lot of skill to this. I need a lot more practice to be at an actual competitive level. I have a ton of respect for these guys (veteran shooters) that go to the national-level competition,” Heth said. “There's a lot of time put into this. It's a lot of fun, though.”

Winners from the state competition now will advance to the regional competition Aug. 20-23 at Camp Guernsey, Wyoming. From there, they'll

compete at the national level next spring at the 45th Annual Winston P. Wilson Championship at the National Guard Marksmanship Training Center in North Little Rock, Arkansas.

“Everybody comes into the state competition trying to knock each other in the nose, but then after that, this is a North Dakota thing. And the idea is, that when we go down to Winston P. Wilson, we're there to crush it and win it. And we're getting there,” Von Bank said. ■

# Security Forces Training Evolves at Camp Grafton Training Center

Story and photos by Senior Master Sgt. David Lipp,  
119th Wing

The 219th Security Forces Squadron (SFS) expanded its annual training activities this summer, to include a North Dakota Army National Guard helicopter airlift, along with several other new training events at the Camp Grafton Training Center, near Devils Lake, North Dakota.

More than 100 219th SFS members joined members of the 119th Medical Group, N.D. Army National Guard aviators, and members of the 119th Launch and Recovery Element to create a unique training opportunity, incorporating participation in various land and air roles.

They started training by inserting into the scenario via helicopter, traveling from the Camp Grafton Training Center to the post's training area about 50 miles to the south. This is similar to what the squadron might be asked to do at the Minot Air Force Base missile field complex to respond to a potential launch facility breach.

While the security personnel were moving by helicopter, remotely piloted aircraft (RPA), which were operated from the Grand Forks Air Force Base, North Dakota, by 119th Launch and Recovery Element personnel, were monitoring simulated opposing forces on the ground and providing training surveillance information. The training is beneficial for the RPA operators, and the interaction is cutting-edge for personnel on the ground.

"Joint training also allows our Airmen to experience new things that, as a squadron, we are unable to provide, but which the joint training environment offers. This is invaluable, as our Airmen can experience a wide variety of possible scenarios in a training environment for the first time, rather than during an actual mission," said Lt. Col. Tad Schauer, 219th Security Forces Squadron commander.

In addition to the unique interaction between the training elements, the 219th experienced the gas chamber, rappel tower, hand-to-hand combatives, leadership reaction course (LRC) training, weapons qualification and military operations on urban terrain (MOUT) training.

The gas chamber training utilizes a controlled concentration of CS (orto-chlorobenzylidene-alononitrile) gas, more commonly known as tear gas, and is done to emphasize the importance and effectiveness of chemical gear worn by the Airmen. This gives them confidence in the event that they need to use their protective equipment in a real chemical attack.

"When we come to Camp Grafton, we step out of our comfort zone of missile field security and step into the realm of combat readiness training. It brings new challenges to our people as far as communication and mission execution," said Master Sgt. Cody Chick, the 219 SFS noncommissioned officer-in-charge of training.

The LRC training encourages participants to think, react and work as a team to solve problems in a determined period of time. The use of the LRC can build self-confidence and trust within the squadron as the personnel use effective communication to accomplish obstacle mission goals using limited resources.

The MOUT building structures offer great training for the security forces members to practice entering, clearing and securing buildings. The weapons range at Camp Grafton's southern training

area provides everything the Airmen need to achieve their annual weapons training requirements for their career field.

"The new bubble helmets we are using with the simmunitions training in the MOUT village and MATCH (modular armored tactical combat house) reduce fogging and provide more realistic training. The unit members are seeing our training continue to expand and evolve each year, and they really seem to be enjoying the training," Chick said.

"Each year, we look for new ways to improve our training and challenge our folks with different scenarios and tasks. This year, we were excited to work closely with North Dakota Army Aviation (units), as well as the different entities from the 119th Wing," said Chief Master Sgt. Mike Schreiner, 219th SFS manager.

"The number one goal of the North Dakota National Guard is to provide trained and ready units and leaders. In today's resource-constrained environment, joint training is a fiscally responsible method of meeting the TAG's (North Dakota adjutant general) goal of ensuring our units are prepared and trained while developing leaders," Schauer said. ■





Above: Members of the 219 Security Forces Squadron are airlifted by North Dakota Army National Guard Black Hawk helicopters and inserted into a training scenario July 14 at Camp Gilbert C. Grafton (South), near Devils Lake, North Dakota.



Left: From left, Staff Sgt. Alejandro Conejo, Staff Sgt. Shawn McElyea, Staff Sgt. Erik Foss and Senior Airman Geaquari Carlisle, all of the 219th Security Forces Squadron, collaborate to navigate their way through a leadership reaction course (LRC) July 15 at Camp Grafton Training Center. The LRC encourages participants to think, react, work as a team and solve problems within a determined period of time.

Top right: From left to right Staff Sgt. Alex Conejo and Senior Airman Shareen Mendiola, of the 219th Security Forces Squadron, remove their gas masks as they exit a training gas chamber, which uses a controlled concentration of CS (orto-chlorobenzylidene-malononitrile) gas, more commonly known as tear gas, as Master Sgt. Cody Chick holds the door July 15 at Camp Grafton Training Center.



Bottom right: From right, Senior Airman Derek Timmons and Tech Sgt. Michelle Grant, both of the 219th Security Forces Squadron, examine a map and plot a course to a training destination during a training scenario July 14 after being airlifted from Camp Grafton Training Center to the post's training area, about 50 miles south.

# MUSIC TO THEIR EARS

## Army Band Hits Right Note with Military Youth

*Story and phot by Spc. Kristin Berg,  
116th Public Affairs Detachment*

College campuses relatively are quiet during the summer, but the classrooms of North Dakota State University's Askanase Hall in Fargo, North Dakota, last month were filled with the sounds created by the second Military Youth Music Camp.

The four-day camp was a collaborative effort by the North Dakota National Guard Child and Youth Program and the 188th Army Band. It aimed to broaden military youths' musical horizons while focusing on life skills, such as resiliency, communication, teamwork and leadership.

"This camp allows students to really flourish and have a free opportunity to make music and to make great friends that (they) will hopefully have for a lifetime," said Warrant Officer 1 James Landman, 188th Army Band commander.

A wide range of music fundamentals were taught during the camp, including an introduction to military music, songwriting, performance technique and performance presentation. The 15 youth participants were placed in groups based on the instrument they play and their level of experience. Once the staff assessed the abilities of each student, they divided the campers into ensembles and selected appropriate music.

"The one-on-one time really gives you a chance to learn your instrument better," said Dylan Moser, a 12th grade youth participant. "It's a perfect mixture of serious musicians and fun."

Youth participants and band members worked in three musical groups: a woodwind ensemble, a brass ensemble and a rock music combination. At the conclusion of the event, a concert for families and friends was held at Askanase Hall.

The Military Youth Music Camp is a unique concept for the National Guard. Sgt. Christopher Hanson, 188th Army Band member and camp coordinator, says as far as he knows, the 188th Army Band is the first Army band in the country to offer a camp like this.

"There are a lot of (Army) bands that do one-day workshops, but as far as an actual in-residence camp, we were the only ones who have tried it," he said. "We think of it as an opportunity to engage in educational outreach in a field of service that we love. This is something we had been talking about in concept for a number of years. It was never something that we seriously considered until a few years ago."

Hanson optimistically pitched the idea to the band's higher headquarters at 68th Troop Command and North Dakota Adjutant General Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk. Hanson was surprised by the immediate support that the idea received. The band's dream began to take shape. They worked to create a curriculum and organized the logistical aspects of the camp.

A big focus for Army bands is to be relevant and to reach out to the community. This camp was a way for the 188th Army Band to do just that while sharing their talents and skills. The 188th Army Band and the Child and Youth Program already are making plans for a camp next year.

"One of the most fundamental things we can do as an Army band is to support our Soldiers and their families," Landman said. "This is a wonderful opportunity for us to support everybody. I think this camp is a really awesome opportunity for us and I hope to do it for as many years as it's possible."

The camp, which primarily focuses on music, offers other benefits to youth participants. The squad leaders keep the youth busy with evening camp activities that help to foster new friendships. N.D. National Guard recruiters facilitate a Reality-Oriented Physical Exercises, or R.O.P.E.S., course for leadership training and the youth tour the Bluestem Center for the Arts and visit the Thunder Road the amusement park, both in Fargo.

"I think this opens up the eyes of the youth to what programs are available through the North Dakota National Guard," said J.J. Fankhanel, N.D. Child and Youth Program lead coordinator. "It's not just your typical military, in the sense of going to the field and those kinds of things."

"I love working with the youth," said Mandy Malo, N.D. Child and Youth program coordinator. "I think it's a very enriching program. Seeing the instructors and what they are doing with the program is incredible." ■

To learn more about upcoming events, follow the office's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/NDNGCYP>



Staff Sgt. Timothy Knabe, of the 188th Army Band, explains a note combination to Seth Benson July 10 during the Military Youth Music Camp in Fargo, North Dakota. The four-day camp was a collaborative effort by the North Dakota National Guard Child and Youth Program and the 188th Army Band.



# Engineer Unit Conducts International Training

By Spc. Lyndsey Erker,  
815th Engineer Company (Horizontal)

*The Joint Multinational Readiness Center (JMRC) near Hohenfels, Germany, is the largest U.S. Army installation outside the U.S. In March, the North Dakota Army National Guard's 815th Engineer Company was given the opportunity to conduct their annual training at the JMRC, where they spent three weeks building, fixing and expanding training areas there.*

*The unit's missions included clearing two drop zones for the 82nd Airborne Division and constructing a soccer field that will be used to host international cultural exchange events in the future. Spc. Lyndsey Erker reflects on her experience:*

When our company arrived at Hohenfels in early March for annual training, we immediately began our first task, which was dispatching all of the equipment we needed for our missions. Then we headed back to our barracks to get settled in for three weeks at Hohenfels.

Formation came early the next morning, but all 84 soldiers were up and ready to start our missions. First Platoon started their first mission of creating a multinational soccer field out of a ravine. They started by picking up 50 years of accumulated garbage, which included glass bottles, copper and concertina wire, meal wrappers, paper, cans, discarded blank ammunition, smoke grenades and more. After the area was clear of hazards, the platoon began removing rocks, boulders, tree branches, tree stumps and shrubs.

The senior operators were able to remove the stumps while providing drivers' training to young Soldiers. Next, the group stripped and stockpiled the excess material to haul off site. Fortunately, the weather was favorable, with only one day of light rain, as the Soldiers cut and graded drainage ditches to the desired level. Once that was accomplished, a culvert was placed to help create a walkway to enter the soccer field.

First Platoon's experienced operators faced a particularly surprising obstacle during their mission: a landmine. All work was

immediately shut down and personnel were evacuated to a nearby parking lot for several hours. A cordon was set until the landmine was cleared by the JMRC safety office. It turned out to be a training mine, but the JMRC safety officer noted that response and cordon by the 815th was perfectly executed. The mission then continued as planned and, although time did not allow for the application of topsoil, the 815th was two months ahead of JMRC's schedule.

Meanwhile, Second Platoon and the Equipment Support Platoon covered a lot of land. Their mission was to clear two drop zones for the 82nd Airborne Division in preparation for a brigade airborne operation. The drop zones, Hohenfels and Hohenberg, expand across 617 acres and 432 acres, respectively. Soldiers with the two platoons began by marking objects that needed to be removed in order for the 82nd Airborne to land safely. They marked large boulders, old World War II tanks, rocks, unexploded ordnance and anything else they thought could be dangerous. The rocks and large boulders were stockpiled to be moved off site and an explosive ordnance device team cleared the ordnance. The mission was complete after Second Platoon cleared the sites of 2,756 tons of rock, five tank hulls and hundreds of pieces of ordnance.

During the drop zone mission, the Equipment Support Platoon was tasked to a new site for another mission. They worked to improve a drainage site by removing and relocating a culvert and installed a low-water crossing to eliminate drainage across a road. After fixing the drainage issues, the Soldiers then used their equipment to eliminate some berms and graded the terrain to follow the natural runoff.

Throughout the 815th's annual training period, Soldiers were able to apply their knowledge and skills to accomplish all their tasked missions while gaining valuable experience. ■



Contributed photo

Soldiers with the 815th Engineer Company (Horizontal) gather for a group photo in March upon completion of their three-week annual training held in Hohenfels, Germany.

# A DAY IN THE LIFE OF AN ENGINEER

Photo by Spc. Blane Jensen, 816th Engineer Company (Horizontal)



Sgt. Chad Good, of the 816th Engineer Company (Horizontal) removes large rocks near a bridge's launch site last month in an effort to clear a path for a boat ramp at Camp Grafton, near Devils Lake, North Dakota.

Photo by Sgt. Prairie Reinbold, 957th Engineer Company



Soldiers of the 957th Engineer Company (Multi-role Bridge) conduct hands-on training last month on the dry support bridge launcher at the Raymond J. Bohn Armory in Bismarck, North Dakota.

Photo by Sgt. Prairie Reinbold, 957th Engineer Company



Photo by Sgt. Prairie Reinbold, 957th Engineer Company



Sgt. Michael Moore and Sgt. Ashley Perlichek, both with the 957th Engineer Company, perform crane operation familiarization training last month during their annual training in Bismarck.

Soldiers of the 957th Engineer Company practice crane control, technique and operation last month during their annual training in Bismarck.



Photo by Spc. Blane Jensen, 816th Engineer Company (Horizontal)

Spc. Levi Guthmiller and Spc. Austin Haugen, both of the 816th Engineer Company, attempt to recover equipment from a mire pit last month during their annual training at Camp Grafton.

# GUARDIAN

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Photo by Spc. Blane Jensen, 816th Engineer Company (Horizontal)

Spc. Christopher Leavitt, of the 816th Engineer Company (Horizontal), dumps fill material to build a berm last month during the unit's annual training at Camp Grafton Training Center near Devils Lake, North Dakota.



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

Col. Kent Olson, 119th Wing commander, right, accepts a check from Bill Tuff, the quartermaster for the West Fargo, North Dakota-based Post 7564 VFW, June 30 at the North Dakota Air National Guard Base in Fargo. The donated funds were raised during the annual Remember Our Serving Soldiers, or ROSS, event held in West Fargo.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Brett Miller, Joint Force Headquarters

Capt. Nicolette Daschendorf, of the 231st Brigade Support Battalion Logistical Support Element (BSB LSE), hugs her children July 21 upon her arrival at the Bismarck Airport after a nearly yearlong deployment overseas.



Photo by Chief Warrant Officer 4 Kiel Skager

The North Dakota Army National Guard's most recent officer candidates take the Oath of Office August 15 upon commissioning as second lieutenants during a ceremony held at Camp Grafton Training Center near Devils Lake, North Dakota.

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



Training cadre instructor Staff Sgt. Christopher Larson, of the 119th Civil Engineer Squadron, left, provides operating instruction for connecting hydraulic lines of an asphalt mill to a skid steer loader for visiting members of the 121st Air Refueling Wing, from front to back, Staff Sgt. Shane Hatfield, Master Sgt. Philip Murray and Staff Sgt. Wade Baron, August 14 at the North Dakota Air National Guard Regional Training Site in Fargo, North Dakota. The Regional Training Site is one of five contingency training locations in the U.S. used by Air National Guard and U.S. Air Force personnel in the civil engineer career fields. It hosts wartime mission training, as well as proficiency training, on construction practices, utility support, emergency services, maintenance and repair of base infrastructure.

Photo by Spc. Alisha Thacker, 769th Engineer Detachment (Survey and Design)



Sgt. Cody Dravlund, left, of the 769th Engineer Detachment (Survey and Design) performs range safety operations while Sgt. Justin Jacob, of the 164th Engineer Battalion Headquarters conducts familiarization training with an M320 grenade launcher last month at Camp Grafton Training Center near Devils Lake, North Dakota.

## Share your photos!

Submit your photos to be considered for inclusion in the N.D. Guardian!

Email high-resolution photos to Sgt. Jennifer Joyce, N.D. Guardian editor, at [jennifer.m.joyce2.mil@mail.mil](mailto:jennifer.m.joyce2.mil@mail.mil).



## Secretary of the Air Force Visits Happy Hooligans

Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James visited members of the 119th Wing last month at the North Dakota Air National Guard base in Fargo, North Dakota. James' visit included meetings with Guard leaders and elected and civic officials, followed by an all-staff meeting that was attended by North Dakota Air National Guard members.

James used the visit to update the members of the 119th Wing on her top three priorities.

"My three highest priorities are: one, taking care of people; two, striking a balance between readiness today and modernization for tomorrow, which means ensuring our aircraft and our Air Force across the board can handle today's challenges and are preparing for what lies ahead; and third — in this time of significant financial constraint — making every dollar count, which means being efficient and ensuring that we act as good stewards of our taxpayers' dollars," James said.

As the 23rd Secretary of the Air Force, James was appointed by the President of the United States and is responsible for the affairs of the Department of the Air Force, including the organizing, training, equipping and providing for the welfare of its nearly 664,000 active duty, Guard, Reserve and civilian Airmen and their families. She also oversees the Air Force's annual budget of more than \$139 billion.

During the visit to Fargo, James met with Gov. Jack Dalrymple and Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk, adjutant general for the North Dakota National Guard, Col. Kent Olson, 119th Wing commander, as well as local civic leaders.

"The 119th Wing has a long-standing record of excellence and Secretary James' visit today is a valuable opportunity for her to see firsthand the tremendous contributions that the North Dakota Air National Guard makes to our nation's defenses," Dalrymple said.

James had an opportunity during the visit to Fargo to learn more about the challenges and successes that that Airmen of the 119th Wing, also known as the Happy Hooligans,

have experienced throughout evolving missions within the state and across the globe.

"Our Airmen continue to strengthen important intelligence capabilities here and abroad," said Col. Kent Olson, 119th Wing commander. "Members of the 119th Wing stationed stateside remain engaged in overseas contingency operations as they support remote piloted aircraft overseas. The unit's surveillance and reconnaissance operations make up some of the most important and relevant missions in the entire Air National Guard today."

Over the last couple years, Guard forces have also taken a much larger role in missile field security. The 219th Security Forces Squadron, stationed at the Minot Air Force Base, has taken over security for the entire northern sector of one of the nation's three missile fields. Side-by-side, active-duty and North Dakota Air National Guard Airmen protect 150 launch facilities and corresponding missile alert facilities for the Minuteman III Weapons System across a vast area in northwestern North Dakota. ■

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



Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James is greeted by Col. Kent Olson, 119th Wing commander, and Command Chief Master Sgt. Kevin Muehler (right), senior enlisted leader of the 119th Wing, July 21 at the North Dakota Air National Guard base in Fargo, North Dakota.

# Chaplains' Corner:

## Crazy Glue Spirituality

By Chaplain (Col.) John Flowers,  
119th Wing

I'm ancient enough to remember a commercial for a product called Crazy Glue. It showed a man in a hard hat. The hard hat was Crazy Glued to a steel beam, and the man was hanging from the hat. Crazy Glue promised a miracle solution for anything broken. Just stick the pieces together and in a few seconds it would be fixed forever. I don't know about you, but Crazy Glue never quite worked out for me.

Crazy Glue was popular because it offered a quick, easy solution. Our culture is all about demanding quick and easy. Does anyone remember what it was like to actually crank a car window open? How about manually lifting a garage door? Remember the Stone Age when you had to physically get out of your chair, walk over to the TV and manually click to change the channel? In our house, the knob broke off (the Crazy Glue failed) and we had to use a pair of pliers to change the channel. Remember when you had to warm up leftover spaghetti in a pan on the stove? And if you weren't paying attention, it would burn?

Society has given us so many wonderful

conveniences. But, convenience comes with a spiritual price. We begin to expect God to act on our cue, but God is not our servant who jumps when we ring the bell.

It's becoming more and more difficult to remember that, in spiritual growth, there is no instant solution. The spiritual wisdom of the ages has a lot to say about perseverance, endurance and faithfulness. It doesn't say anything about short cuts, instant gratification or quick fixes.

Perseverance implies effort exerted, hardship endured and patience cultivated.

Do you wish you could snap your fingers and make everything different? Or take a pill and wake up with a better life? I hate to disappoint you, but there is no Crazy Glue solution to life's difficulties. There is no short cut to spiritual maturity. There is no seminar you can go to, no book you can read, no CD you can buy, no program to plug into that will make things different. That's the bad news.

The good news is that we have a God who promises to never leave us or forsake us. He promises to work in us to bring change in our lives and to work through us to bring change to the world.

Don't be disappointed if God doesn't work on your microwave timetable. God never promised to work everything out



according to your schedule. God is all about cultivation, perfect timing and patience. He is working in you to develop character, and character is a gourmet dish that can't be rushed.

May God grant us all the grace to stick to it, to follow through, to wait upon the Lord and to develop the "Fruit of the Spirit" in our lives. ■

*"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."* — Galatians 6:9

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### N.D. Guard to Host College Prep Course

The North Dakota National Guard Child and Youth Program will be hosting college preparation courses to help military youth and families pursue higher education.

"There are a lot of unknowns about college and the college entrance process," said J.J. Fankhanel, N.D. National Guard Child and Youth Program lead coordinator, who helped organize this series of college preparation events. "We hope to clear up the unknowns in an effort to make education more accessible."

The goal of the Child & Youth Program is to better the lives of military youth by supporting their social, emotional and academic needs, Fankhanel said.

The college preparation courses being held across North Dakota are open to military youth, ages 13-17, and their parents. Each event will include information about multiple topics, including resume building, the college admission process, seeking and acquiring financial aid, and how to transfer service member education benefits.

**Sept. 14 — Grand Forks Armed Forces Reserve Center**

**Sept. 21 — Camp Grafton Training Center (Regional Training Institute)**

**Sept. 28 — Bismarck Army Aviation Support Facility**

**Oct. 5 — Fargo Armed Forces Reserve Center**

Courses will be held from **6:30-9 p.m.** For more information, and to register, call J.J. Fankhanel at 701-451-6109 or email [jonathan.j.fankhanel.mil@mail.mil](mailto:jonathan.j.fankhanel.mil@mail.mil) or call Mandy Malo at 701-333-4522 or email [mandy.malo@yahoo.com](mailto:mandy.malo@yahoo.com). ■

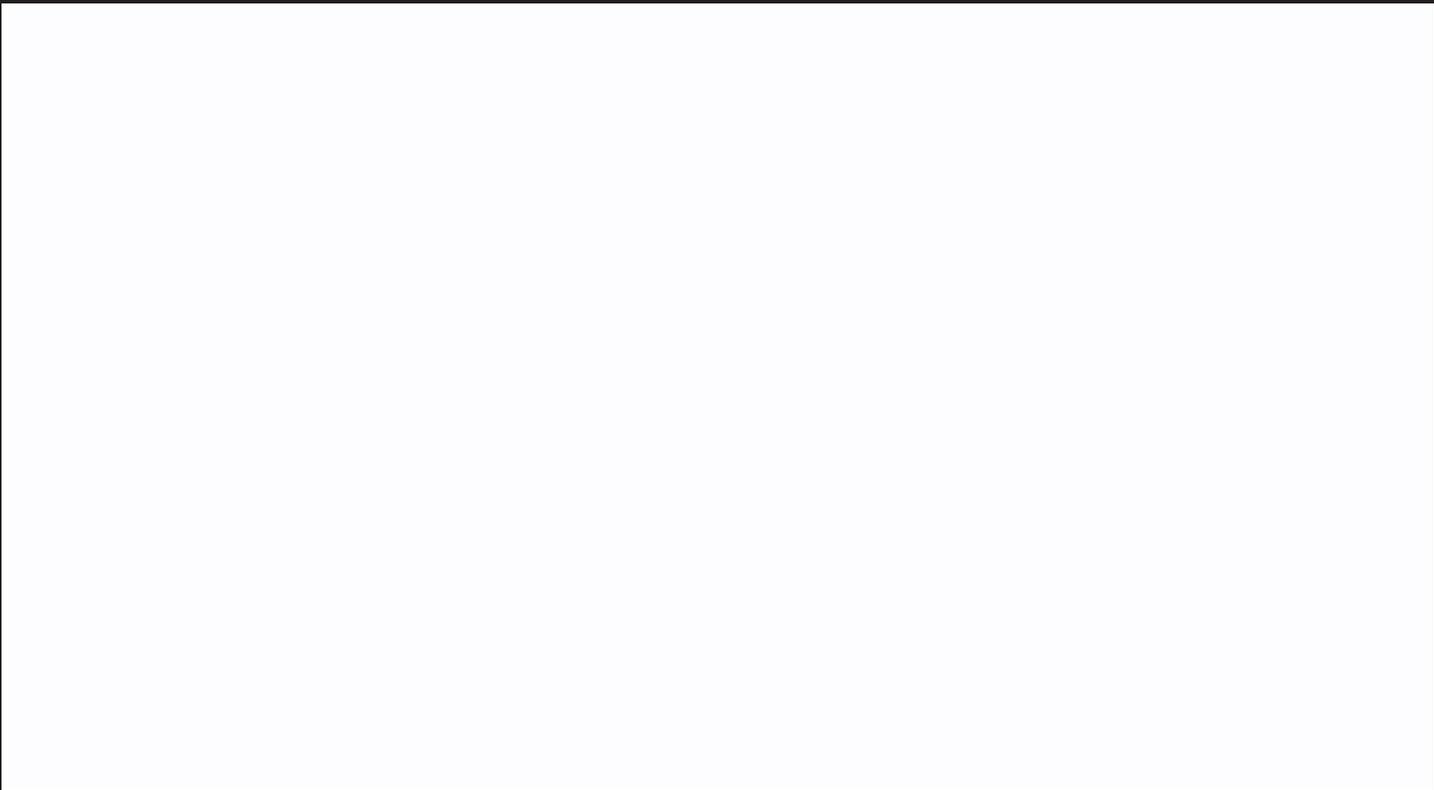


Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David Lipp, 119th Wing

Lt. Gov. Drew Wrigley, left, North Dakota Adjutant General Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk, right, and members of the 219th Security Forces Squadron (SFS) display a North Dakota flag during a send-off ceremony June 23 at the Minot Armed Forces Reserve Center, Minot, North Dakota. About 15 Airmen from the 219th SFS have departed for a six-month deployment to Southwest Asia.