

# Battle Born



Quarterly Magazine of the Nevada National Guard - Autumn 2016

## *High Rollin'*

2016 brings year of change for 152nd Airlift Wing  
Page 14

Nevada Guard unveils first official logo  
Page 10

New Bradleys signal new era, new combat team for 1/221st  
Page 16

Nevada Guard Soldiers endure historic Kuwaiti heat wave  
Page 21



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Governor Brian Sandoval  
Commander in Chief  
Nevada National Guard



Brigadier General Bill Burks  
The Adjutant General  
Nevada National Guard

# Battle Born

## Features:

Nevada Gov. relishes role as Guard's commander in chief.....2

State Partnership Program offers opportunities for Guardsmen.....5

Paternity suits deployed Nevada Army Guard Soldiers.....9

Nevada Guard unveils first official logo.....10

757th Soldier leads campaign for more perfect union.....11

421st unveils plans for success in 2017 and beyond.....12

Venerable old 'Hawk' prepares to retire.....13

Rollin' High: 2016 brings year of change for 152nd Airlift Wing.....14

New Bradleys signal new era, new combat team for 1/221st.....16

Airman's heartbreaking story drives home importance of traffic safety.....20

Nevada Guard Soldiers endure historic Kuwaiti heat wave.....21

Diversity Day delights: Can you match the country and cuisine?.....24

## Departments:

From Senior Leadership.....4

Drop Zone.....6

Deployment Roundup.....8

Historian's Notebook.....18

News Briefs.....22

Awards, Promotions, Accessions and Retirements.....25

Calendar.....29

*ON THE COVER: A C-130 from the Nevada Air National Guard flies over Lake Tahoe during an Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve "Boss Lift" in July.*

*Photo by Tech. Sgt. Emerson Marcus*

**Governor**  
Brian Sandoval

**The Adjutant General**  
Brig. Gen. Bill Burks

**State Public Affairs Officer**  
Lt. Col. Mickey Kirschenbaum

**Editor**  
Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka

**Nevada National Guard Historian**  
Tech. Sgt. Emerson Marcus

**Designer/Contributor**  
Sgt. Mike Orton

**Contributors**  
Shannon Litz  
*Gov. Brian Sandoval's Office*  
Richard Brian  
*Las Vegas Review Journal*  
Brig. Gen. Ondra Berry  
*Assistant Adjutant General, Air Guard*  
Steve Ranson  
*Lahontan Valley News*  
Maj. John Brownell  
*State Partnership Program*  
Capt. Valerie Hollenback  
*Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs*  
1st Lt. Jeremiah Trapp  
*Nevada Army Guard Medical Detachment*  
1st Lt. Justin Klatt  
*422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion*  
Master Sgt. Kap Kim  
*Combined Joint Task Force 10*  
Master Sgt. Andrew LaMoreaux  
*Oklahoma National Guard*  
Tech. Sgt. Andria Allmond  
*Pennsylvania Air National Guard*  
Sgt. Walter Lowell  
*17th Sustainment Brigade Public Affairs*  
Sgt. Christopher Andrew  
*137th Military Police Detachment*

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State Public Affairs Office  
Nevada National Guard  
2460 Fairview Drive  
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Publication of material is determined by available space and reader interest. The staff reserves the right to edit all material.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Emerson Marcus  
Gov. Brian Sandoval, right, participates in the fifth annual Remembrance Run to honor the victims of the Carson City International House of Pancakes shooting in 2011.

# Governor relishes role as Guard's commander in chief

By Steve Ranson  
Special to Battle Born

**FALLON** — Shaped by early events in his life, Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval developed a great respect for men and women who serve in the military, regardless of their branch, component or combat history.

Sandoval's grandfather earned the Bronze Star in the Pacific Theater during World War II and his father enlisted in the U.S. Air Force.

"Serving in the military was something I wanted to do, and I came close to joining while in law school," Sandoval said. "I wanted to serve in the Judge Advocate General Corps, but that didn't work out."

Sandoval said he still wonders how the course of his life might have changed if he had become a JAG officer practicing law in a military courtroom. Now, he is the commander in chief of the Nevada National Guard that includes 3,200 Soldiers and 1,100 Airmen.

"For me, it is the highest privilege and honor to be able to serve as commander in chief of our National Guard since I took office," Sandoval said.

It's a well-known fact that one of the governor's top priorities during his term is the support of Nevadans who don the uniform and serve in the military, especially the Nevada National Guard. Sandoval has vowed to make Nevada the "friendliest" state

in the Union for both military personnel and veterans.

Adjutant General Brig. Gen. Bill Burks said Sandoval takes his role seriously and shows great pride in the Nevada National Guard.

"Compared with previous governors, he is by far the most engaged governor in the last 40-plus years of the Nevada Guard," said Burks, who became adjutant general in 2009. "His best memories were when he was able to visit the troops in the theater (of operations)."

Sandoval constantly recognizes the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice. On Memorial Day weekend, he spoke at the Northern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Fernley and he presided over the dedication of the Las Vegas Veterans Memorial that features 18 larger-than-life statues.

"It is a world-class veterans memorial and it rivals anything you'll see in Washington, D.C. The statues are from every conflict from the Revolutionary War to the present. It exceeds everybody's expectations," Sandoval said.

## 2 TRIPS TO COMBAT ZONE

In early August 2011, Sandoval and three other governors traveled to Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan to see firsthand the situation in the Middle East. The body armor-clad governors flew throughout the region on C-130 Hercules transport planes and the Army ferried them aboard UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters. Sandoval kept a detailed journal of his trip, the stops and the peo-



Photo by Tech Sgt. Emerson Marcus  
Gov. Brian Sandoval examines the names and units displayed on the Nevada Guard combat veteran tribute wall at the Office of the Adjutant General in Carson City. The wall has about 2,700 names of Soldiers and Airmen who have deployed since the Gulf War.



Photo by Sgt. Mike Orton

Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval signs a series of Nevada state flags before the Nevada Army Guard's 757th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion mobilization ceremony in Reno. The 757th deployed to the Egypt in 2014.

ple he met and took both video and still photos.

One of the first units he visited on the trip was the Nevada Army Guard's 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion at Kandahar, Afghanistan. This year, Sandoval presided over another 422nd mobilization ceremony; this time the Soldiers' destination was the Horn of Africa.

"We were his first visit (after Sandoval became governor) and the first unit he pushed out the door for deployment," said retired Lt. Col. Jeff Hansen, commander of the battalion. "He cared about the families and Soldiers and said he would take care of us."

Sandoval met some Nevadans in Iraq and Kuwait during his whirlwind trip, but it was his experience in Afghanistan that left a lasting impression on the governor. After Sandoval returned to Nevada, Hansen said he and the governor would Skype and he would keep Sandoval apprised on the battalion's operations.

Although that tour occurred almost five years ago, Sandoval said he still enjoys reading his journal and looking at the photos from the trip. He said people can read articles or see news accounts of the war in Afghanistan, but until they experience it in person, they will never understand the sacrifices Soldiers and Airmen experience in such extreme conditions.

Sandoval presided over the signal battalion's mobilization ceremony in January 2011 not knowing he would be invited four months later by the Department of Defense to visit the unit at Kandahar. Sandoval quickly accepted the invitation to see the Nevada Soldiers.

"At Kandahar, it was very exciting any time we saw someone from back home. That was great," Hansen said. "We would tell the commander in chief what we were doing. We presented a flag to him that had flown over Afghanistan."

Likewise, Hansen said Sandoval presented the governor's coin to as many soldiers as possible.

Maj. (then Capt.) Mike Bordallo commanded Company B, 189th General Support Battalion Aviation in Afghanistan in 2012. Sandoval spoke at the company's deployment and attended the unit's demobilization ceremony after it returned in 2013.

"He has been very supportive and shows up to support us," Bordallo said. "You couldn't ask for a better governor."

Sandoval was impressed by the aviators' ability to work in adverse conditions for long hours each day. Sandoval said the aviators' work

ethic inspired him every day and spurred him to ensure troops receive their earned benefits once they returned home.

"He is very humble," Bordallo said of the governor. "He lets the men and women receive the accolades and lets us do our jobs. His presence says a lot of him as governor. It means a lot to Soldiers."

Likewise, Maj. (then Capt.) Curt Kolvet remembers a drizzly, breezy Saturday morning four years ago when Sandoval wished the 593rd Transportation Company success on their Afghanistan deployment.

"He impressed a lot of Soldiers and actually cares," said Kolvet about the 2012 mobilization ceremony. "He supports the military and the Guard and he takes his role seriously. He has done a fantastic job as far as my Soldiers and I are concerned."

The governor's second trip to Southwest Asia in 2014 took him to Afghanistan. He traveled throughout the country and met with military personnel from Nevada as well as other states.

"In all my experiences, every Soldier I interacted with was proud to serve his or her country," Sandoval said.

### PERFECT ATTENDANCE RECORD

Since he took his oath of office after winning the 2010 gubernatorial election, Sandoval has not missed a Nevada Guard mobilization or demobilization ceremony. Although about 15 percent of the Nevada Army Guard is already deployed, Sandoval realizes many more mobilizations are on the horizon before his term ends in 2018. Nevada Army Guard commander Brig. Gen. Michael Hanifan holds the governor in high esteem.

"In my opinion, he is the best commander in chief in the nation," Hanifan. "In his heart, he appreciates everything we're doing."

Hanifan said he knows Sandoval was devastated in September 2011 when a gunman fatally shot three Guardsmen and a civilian at the IHOP restaurant in Carson City before taking his own life. Sandoval was the first to console the state's Guardsmen as well as shocked citizens.

Hanifan said that tragic event still weighs heavily on the governor.

"When we have our memorial run annually to remember the deceased Guardsmen, the governor shows up unannounced and participates out of respect. He considers it the proper thing to do," Hanifan said. ■



Photo by Master Sgt. Kap Kim, Combined Joint Task Force 10

Gov. Brian Sandoval meets with Soldiers with ties to Nevada at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, in 2014. During his stint as governor, Sandoval has traveled to the combat zone twice to see the conditions in Southwest Asia.

# Micro-inequities: The ‘small stuff’ can have huge effect on work place



By Brig. Gen. Ondra Berry  
Assitant Adjutant General, Air Guard

### CARSON CITY—

Whether we're aware of it or not, our actions (or lack thereof) provide feedback for those in our lives every day. Many times, we are not conscious or attentive to the feedback we provide through our subtle messages to others.



Everything we do has an impact on those around us. Sometimes we should sweat the small stuff, especially in a leadership role. Some of the messages we send could be so minor that one would believe they are insignificant. In a worst case scenario, you may be oblivious to the fact you are sending a negative message.

Our daily routines include many “micro” behaviors. Many of these micro-behaviors are subconsciously performed, but they can make a HUGE impact on others. These behaviors may also include micro-inequities that may appear in our personal lives as well as at the work place. Micro-inequities describes subtle, negative messages we send to others that make people feel devalued, discouraged or excluded.

If micro-inequities prevail in the work place, employees will likely become disengaged, discouraged and withdrawn. If this happens, it limits an organization's

production, creativity and ability to reach our full potential. Instead of encouraging people to do their best work, micro-inequities break coworker ties and discourage teamwork.

Here are some examples of micro-inequities that occur daily:

- Checking a cell phone while in a meeting or conversing
- Interrupting someone in a conversation
- Rolling your eyes
- Sighing loudly
- Avoidance and excluding
- Dismissive gestures
- Sarcastic tones
- Different judgment for similar conduct
- Ridiculing accents or peculiar speech patterns

Some micro-inequities can have an even more significant impact. For example:

- Failing to give credit where it is due
- Making jokes about a certain group of people
- Confusing a person's ethnicity
- Favoring a certain gender, age, race, or religion over another
- Dismissing the idea of one employee only to embrace it when paraphrased by another

Despite our best efforts to develop policies and initiatives that encourage diversity and inclusion, we sometimes use micro-inequities to build walls in order to keep others out. Micro-inequities are a result of assumptions that we subconsciously make about others.

To foster a culture of diversity and inclusion we must each become aware of the assumptions we make about others. Becoming self-aware is the first step to eliminating micro-inequities.

Take the time to reflect on your own behaviors. Here are some questions to think about that can help you become more self-aware:

Do I make people feel devalued, disengaged or excluded? What can I do to make people feel more valued and included? How well do I listen? What can I do differently to recognize the excellent performance of others?

Micro-affirmations are the antidote for micro-inequities. They are the small gestures that provide positive feedback to coworkers.

Here are some examples of micro-affirmation:

- Acknowledge others when you see them
- Don't interrupt
- Make eye contact
- Be engaged
- Give a person complete attention when he/she is speaking
- Be curious. Ask questions and invite input

The Nevada National Guard prioritizes diversity and inclusion. Let's work hard each day to create a culture of experiences that we all can be proud to share. Be aware of your interaction with others and any assumptions you might make.

Always ask yourself: How can I make everyone feel valued and included? ■

# State Partnership Program offers opportunities for Guardsmen

By Maj. John Brownell  
State Partnership Program Director

CARSON CITY — Airmen and Soldiers often ask me, “Why did Nevada get a partnership with Tonga and how can I participate in the program?”

It’s easy to see why there is so much interest in our partnership when the Nevada National Guard boasts an award winning program that has received international recognition from the Red Cross and the Federal Asian Pacific American Council for its work with the Kingdom of Tonga and the Oceania region.

On April 11, 2014, Nevada and Tonga signed a Declaration of Partnership through the National Guard’s State Partnership Program. The declaration kicked off a series of mutually beneficial exchanges between Nevada and Tonga highlighting many of the similarities between the Silver State and the island nation.

Nevada and Tonga share many connections, not only through the makeup of their communities, but through their governments and economic interests as well. We share similar renewable energy goals and see small business development



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka

Tech. Sgt. Josh Leggett, left, and 2nd Lt. Lewis Roberts sit alongside the Nevada Air Guard’s 192nd Airlift Squadron sticker displayed at Friends Cafe in Nuku’Alofa, Tonga, during a recent State Partnership Program exchange. Nevada has conducted almost 30 exchanges since the state partnered with Tonga in 2014, and has conducted 13 exchanges in 2016 alone.

and tourism as the forefront of economic growth. Additionally, Tonga helps Nevada with its Title 32 mission by providing opportunities for exposing Guardsmen to Pacific Island nations, which is part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency Region IX requirement. Nevada is also home to the sixth largest population of Tongans in the United States.

Militarily, Nevada and Tonga share interests in humanitarian assistance/disaster response, professionalization of military forces and defense support to civilian authorities, and Nevada meets every aspect of National Guard Bureau’s definition for the “whole of society approach” to emergency preparedness. This means that Nevada has multiple invested community organizations that work together to prepare for unpredictable dangers or threats capable of affecting multiple locations progressively over time. Tonga’s

pacific island location makes it prone to severe storms where disaster relief is essential to minimize damages and asset loss. Nevada has shared its processes and procedures with Tonga to improve its emergency measures.

The Nevada Guard also benefits from this partnership in a multitude of ways. Tonga offers the opportunity for Nevada Guardsmen to train, equip and organize in response to its Title 10/32 missions. Nevada is aligned to FEMA Region IX, which includes Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada and the Pacific Islands. So, even though Nevada is a landlocked state that does not have many opportunities to familiarize itself with operations in a tropical setting, our partnership with Tonga offers Nevada Guardsman an opportunity to practice its domestic mission in a tropical, pacific island environment.

Commanders and Guardsman are the key to a successful program. There are many opportunities for exchanges, small unit training and operational discussions in Tonga, but before joining an exchange there are some basic things that any interested party needs achieve beforehand.

(TONGA, page 27)



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka

Nevada Guardsmen stand shoulder to shoulder with members of the Tongan military aboard a Tongan Pacific-class patrol boat during an exchange that took place last spring.

# DROP ZONE



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Andria Allmond, Pennsylvania Air National Guard

**MAUSTON, Wis.** — Senior Airman Christina Lucas, a 152nd Airlift Wing administrative technician, has fake blood applied to her neck as part of exercise PATRIOT North 2016 at Mile Bluff Medical Center. Lucas and others spent time posing as injured bystanders for the purpose of training emergency response teams and other medical and military personnel.



Photo courtesy 1st Lt. Jeremiah Trapp

**FORT HUNTER LIGGETT, Calif.** — From left, Staff Sgt. Allison Bailey, Sgt. 1st Class Tara Pushkin, Maj. Monique Phipps and 1st Lt. Jeremiah Trapp take a break in the shade during the Nevada National Guard Medical Detachment's 2016 annual training. The Med Det trained as part of a Combat Support Hospital, commonly known as a "cash" which acts as a modern field hospital that can be transported in containers by air or ground transit.



Photo by 1st Lt. Justin Klatt, 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion

**BUJUM BURA, Burundi** — Sgt. Corey Metzker, center, and Spc. Richard Taylor, far left, of the 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion, share lessons learned and best practices with Burundian National Defense soldiers this summer. The African Data Sharing Network communications package provides a dynamic intelligence sharing platform for the African Union Mission in Somalia's troop contributing countries.





Photo by Sgt. Walter Lowell, 17th Sustainment Brigade Public Affairs

**CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait** — Sgt. Angelica Musumeci, left, a distribution and knowledge management non-commissioned officer assigned to the 17th Sustainment Brigade, maneuvers around defenders from Kuwait Ministry of Interior (police) soccer team with help from a blocking teammate during a friendly soccer game at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. The U.S. team beat the Kuwait team 5-4. For more details on the soccer game, see page 8.



Photo by Tech Sgt. Emerson Marcus

**LAHONTAN STATE RECREATION AREA, Nev.** — An Airman with the 152nd Operations Group sits in a rescue basket during water survival training at Lahontan Reservoir this summer. The 152nd conducted the training with a Search and Rescue crew from Naval Air Station Fallon.

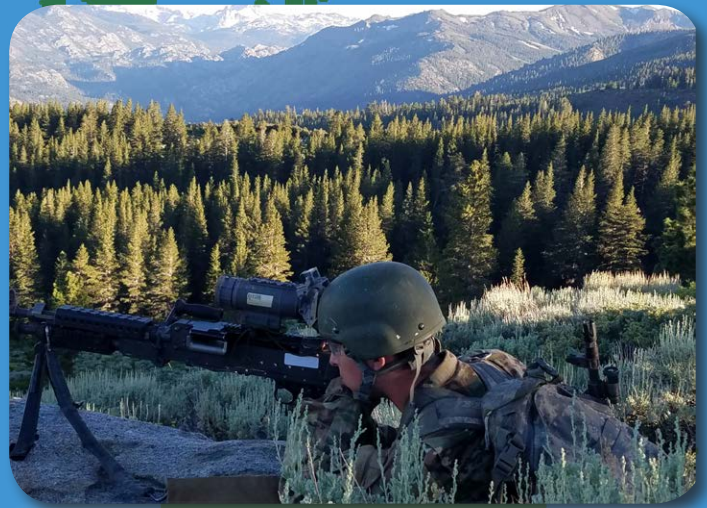


Photo courtesy Staff Sgt. Craig Kenison, 609th Engineer Company

**MARINE CORPS MOUNTAIN WARFARE TRAINING CENTER, Calif.** — During annual training, Pvt. Franco Kameron Scott of the 609th Engineer Company pulls security while mock enemy prisoner of war teams search for opposition forces after a simulated ambush in July.

# DEPLOYMENT ROUNDUP



20 percent of force  
deployed around the globe

Photo by Shannon Litz, Gov. Brian Sandoval's Office  
Gov. Brian Sandoval address the 485th Military Police Company at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Stead, Nev., this summer.

## Staff reports

**BUJUMBURA, Burundi** — Soldiers in the 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion supporting the Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa communications team recently worked with a Burundian National Defense Force's communications unit to exchange information concerning installing, operating and maintaining the newly refurbished African Data Sharing Network Satellite Terminal here this summer. About 40 422nd Soldiers deployed to the Horn of Africa in January.

The ADSN is a tactical platform that allows intelligence information to be shared between the African Union Mission in Somalia's Troop Contributing Countries. In addition to Burundi, the Troop Contributing Countries included Kenya, Djibouti, Ethiopia and Uganda. The ADSN allowed all the countries to share intelligence information.

During the 10-day exchange, communications Soldiers worked with about 15 members of the Burundian National Defense Force to recount lessons learned and show best-practice videos produced in cooperation with CJTF-HOA's combat camera unit.

The visit marked the first time in nearly 8 / **BATTLE BORN** / Autumn 2016

a year that CJTF-HOA troops visited Burundi and the exchange provided the initial chance for communication troops to share ADSN best practice techniques and tips with their AMISOM partner.

In addition to the Horn of Africa mission, Company B of the 422nd has about 140 Soldiers in Kuwait on a nine-month mission to ensure continuous communications for allied forces in the region. Company B Soldiers are dispersed to 12 different locations in the country where they are responsible for the engineering, installation and maintenance of the communication networks in the region.

The Horn of Africa signal Soldiers return in December. The Kuwait Soldiers return in March of 2017.

## 485th MP Co. begins CENTCOM duty

The 485th Military Police Company, the lone Nevada Army Guard military police unit stationed in northern Nevada, held its deployment ceremony at the Army Aviation Support facility in Reno in August to begin its nine-month mission to support Central Command with customs and border clearance duties.

The unit includes about 120 military policemen. This is the second deployment in unit history for the 485th, which was deployed in Afghanistan in 2012.

The unit's Soldiers are set to be dispersed throughout the region. The CENTCOM countries where 485th Soldiers are likely to work include Kuwait, Qatar and United Arab Emirates.

## 137th MP Co. packs up

After a long string of uninterrupted departures, one Nevada Army Guard unit is finally returning home: the 137th Military Police Detachment. About 40 Soldiers in the Henderson-based unit are set to return to the Silver State in October after having spent nearly a year in Afghanistan. While deployed, the unit provided garrison law and order operations support, including at Bagram Air Field.

(Roundup page 26)



Photos courtesy of 137th Military Police Company  
Sgt. Christopher Andrew with the 137th Military Police Company holds an illuminated projectile round while on deployment in Afghanistan. Andrew and the rest of the 137th are set to return home from their year-long deployment to Southwest Asia later this fall.



# Paternity suits deployed Nevada Army Guard Soldiers

Photos courtesy of Ramirez and Holm families

Left: Spc. Julio Ramirez, a wheeled vehicle mechanic currently deployed in the Middle East with the 17th Sustainment Brigade, holds his newborn daughter, Isabella, on June 8. Ramirez's daughter was born earlier than expected, so he scrambled home from the Middle East in order to attend the birth. Right: Sgt. Sean Holm, a chaplain's assistant who's currently deployed in the Middle East with the 17th Sustainment Brigade, holds his daughter, Adeline, while on paternity leave. Holm wasn't able to make it back to Nevada in time for his daughter's arrival on April 24, but he was able to take a break from his mission to care for the newborn while his wife recovered.

**By Sgt. Walter Lowell**  
**17th Sustainment Brigade**

**CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait** — Even with today's advances in communication technology, it's difficult to be away from home serving on a military deployment.

That's especially true for fathers who are thousands of miles away anticipating the birth of their first child. That scenario is what four Nevada Army Guard Soldiers deployed to the Middle East with the 17th Sustainment Brigade experienced in the last few months.

"My girlfriend just called me and told me we are having a baby," said Spc. Julio Ramirez, a wheeled vehicle mechanic with 17th SB.

Ramirez originally arranged to go on leave to return to Las Vegas for his daughter's birth this summer, but he learned that the doctor would be inducing labor a few weeks earlier than expected. He frantically finished the paperwork needed to send him home just in time to see the birth of his daughter, Isabella, on June 8.

### **First impressions**

Staff Sgt. Kevin Reed, an information technology specialist with the brigade, had barely arrived overseas when his daughter, Ave, was born February 17.

Sgt. Sean Holm, a chaplain's assistant, made it home to see his daughter, Adeline, one day after her birth on April 24.

"It's amazing to have your first child

and (experience what I felt) the first time I held my little girl," Holm said. "Every time I held her, it was amazing."

"It was definitely an experience," said Staff Sgt. Bryan Jovel, an automated logistical specialist with the 17th and father to Brooklyn, who arrived into the world on April 15. "I felt anxious because the moment we were preparing for was coming. At first, I was taken a bit aback once the delivery started happening. Honestly, I felt like passing out.

"When the baby arrived I was overcome with some weird emotion, a mix of relief, happiness and responsibility. I saw my baby and realized at that moment that — no matter what — she's a part of me and she's now here."

### **Joy despite sleepless nights**

Holm said arriving a day after the birth was beneficial because he was able to assist his wife with the care of his daughter right after the delivery. Arriving early would have decreased his time with Adeline.

Neither Holm nor Reed said they got much rest while on paternity leave.

"I thought the Army would prepare me for sleep deprivation, but it's nothing like having a newborn," Holm said.

"I didn't get a lot of sleep," Reed said. "Newborns are up when they want to be and eat when they want to eat. I get a whole lot more sleep here (in Kuwait)."

All of the new fathers were grateful that

they had their friends and family to lend a helping hand with the newborns.

"They wanted to give us some alone time for the first couple days," Holm said. "None of them realized that I also needed help. There was so much work and so little sleep."

### **Staying connected while abroad**

Reluctantly and inevitably, the 17th's Soldiers eventually had to return to the Middle East after their paternity leave concluded.

"It was hard to leave my wife and newborn baby," Holm said. "I knew I had to come back here. I don't get to go home until the mission out here (in Kuwait) is done."

Reed said he uses any chance he gets to talk to his daughter.

"I get to video chat with them all the time," Reed said. "I get to watch her grow up. She is growing fast. It's hard being away from them, but with technology, it's as if you're right there with them."

"I keep in touch with my wife using Facebook messenger every day," said Jovel. "I video chat with them periodically on Facebook."

Reed said he is looking forward to a milestone in his daughter's life.

"I'll be there for her first birthday, which will be awesome," Reed said.

Ramirez said patience is the key when awaiting the ultimate reunion with his girlfriend and daughter.

"You have to take it one day at a time," Ramirez said. ■

# Nevada Guard unveils first official logo

By Capt. Valerie Hollenback  
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

**STEAD, Nev.** — A 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion administrative officer and amateur graphic artist, 1st Lt. Adonis Palustre, added a very visible award to his portfolio in August when his submission was named the top entry in the Nevada National Guard's logo contest. Palustre's submission is now the official overarching emblem of the Nevada National Guard.

The emblem, officially recognized by the Department of the Army's Institute of Heraldry, is the first all-encompassing, military-branch neutral logo in the Nevada Guard's 155-year history.

Adjutant General Brig. Gen. Bill Burks spearheaded the contest to design the initial Nevada Guard logo after seeing the North Carolina National Guard emblem earlier in the year. Like the Tar Heel state's National Guard emblem, Burks sought an easily-identifiable emblem for the Nevada National Guard. He proposed the contest — open to all Soldiers and Airmen — that Palustre eventually won.

"I wanted a thoughtful design that incorporated various aspects of the state and Nevada National Guard to serve as a branding tool that will be widely displayed," said Burks, who awarded Palustre a plaque in August to recognize his achievement.

Palustre, 27, of Sparks, submitted three designs to the contest. After review, one of his designs was chosen and forwarded to the Institute of Heraldry.



Photo by Capt. Valerie Hollenback  
First Lt. Adonis Palustre stands with his reward for winning the Nevada National Guard's logo contest.

Palustre said he intended to create a design that incorporated many Nevada symbols. In his original design, he included 17 stars to represent the 16 counties that compose Nevada and Carson City. The 17 stars increased to 36 stars to signify the fact Nevada was the 36th state to join the Union. He also added the mountains to denote the most mountainous state in the country and "Battle Born," which appear on the state flag.



Above: The new, official Nevada National Guard logo has 36 stars to represent Nevada becoming the 36th state, blue and yellow-gold like the Nevada state flag and snow capped mountains - Nevada means snowfall in Spanish. Below: The original logo 1st Lt. Adonis Palustre submitted to the Nevada National Guard Public Affairs Office for the state's Guard logo. Only a few items were added to further represent the Guard and the Silver State.

Two larger stars on the emblem represent the Air Guard and Army Guard, Palustre said. A minuteman representing the National Guard is also prevalent in the design.

Palustre said he began drawing at a young age. He continued to draw and design art during his academic career at the University of Nevada, Reno, where he studied International Affairs and even submitted a design for the university's bookstore in 2011.

Palustre was excited to contribute a piece of artwork to the Nevada Guard that will likely be exhibited for decades.

"I wanted to leave a lasting mark on the Nevada Guard," Palustre said. ■

60% OF VOTE

NEVADA

304 Technicians



**Brent  
Peden**



**WINNER**

# 757th Soldier leads campaign for more perfect union

By Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka  
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

**CARSON CITY** — Forget about the Republican nominee for the 2016 presidential election who thumped his closest rival by more than 16,000 votes in the Nevada caucus. Disregard the Democratic presidential nominee who outpaced her primary competitor by more than 5 percent in the polls.

Arguably the most effective campaign in Nevada this spring was run by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Peden, 35, a platoon sergeant and logistics specialist in the 757th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion. Within recent months, the amateur labor organizer successfully stumped for a Federal Labor Relations Authority election that resulted in new representation for the Nevada Army Guard's roughly 300 military technicians.

Until the newly-installed union, the Laborers' International Union of North America, holds its initial chapter election, Peden is the interim state union representative.

Peden, an equipment specialist techni-

cian at the Combined Support Maintenance Shop in Carson City when not on military duty, said he became disgruntled with the previous technicians' union, the Association of Civilian Technicians, last year and began to approach alternative unions for potential representation.

"Seeking a change for a new union was an avenue for me to take in an attempt to improve hundreds of Soldiers' lives versus trying to help a few dozen as a platoon sergeant," said Peden, who joined the Nevada Guard in 2004. "I can only directly affect 30 Soldiers as a platoon sergeant. But as the union representative, I can – hopefully in a positive manner – affect nearly 300 Soldiers' lives."

In fact, Peden was ACT's northern Nevada vice president last fall when he began disagreeing with ACT policies and investigated other representation options. In October, he began gathering signatures requesting a union vote and quickly reached the minimum required for the election.

"In my opinion, unions are similar to a bad relationship: You don't just stay in one forever because that's what you've always done," Peden said. "You have to seek other

opportunities."

Ben Banch, the full-time business manager and secretary/treasurer for LIUNA National Guard Local 1776, said he's rarely seen an organizer as motivated as Peden.

"I like working with people who can get things done, and Brent gets it done," said Banch from the Local's headquarters in Louisiana. "He has a natural grasp and knack for the labor relations field. He does his research, has confidence and has definitely showed his motivation to create change."

Peden said LIUNA was the lone union out of the four he contacted that was receptive to the idea of representing the Nevada Army Guard technician work force. Peden campaigned on behalf of LIUNA for the union election in March-April conducted by the FLRA that resulted in LIUNA replacing ACT by the slim margin of 30-27 votes. The vote did not affect Nevada Air Guard technicians, as they continue to be represented by ACT. In addition to Nevada, LIUNA now represents military technicians in nine other states.

(Union, page 27)



# 421st unveils plans for success in 2017 and beyond

Photo by Sgt. Mike Orton

Maj. Gen. Glen Moore, the Deputy Commanding General for the U.S. Army National Guard Training and Doctrine Command, right, speaks with Master Sgt. Robert Jester, with the 421st Regional Training Institute, while observing an advanced leader course at North Las Vegas Readiness Center. Moore was on site to advise the 421st on how to best prepare for the One Army School System the Army is currently implementing.

## By Sgt. Mike Orton Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

**LAS VEGAS** — In 2014, the National Guard Bureau placed the Nevada Army Guard's 421st Regional Training Institute on probationary status for failing to meet national standards. Nevada's RTI lost its ability to issue graduation documents to students who attended courses in Nevada — essentially nullifying its mission and purpose for existence.

Two years have passed and the 421st is now poised to become a National Guard "Center of Excellence" for the 25 series military occupational specialty.

Clearly, a lot has changed in two years.

Maj. Gen. Glen Moore, the Deputy Commanding General for the U.S. Army National Guard Training and Doctrine Command, visited the RTI earlier this week to discuss the 421st's vision for the future and how the transition from The Army School System (TASS) to One Army School System (OASS) will help the 421st achieve its goals.

Under TASS, active duty Soldiers generally attend training at active component schools and reserve component Soldiers attend reserve component schools. OASS aims to change that by restructuring which schoolhouses are authorized to teach certain MOSs and leadership courses, said Col. Mark Boll, Chief of Staff for the U.S. Army National Guard Training and Doctrine Command.

"Eventually, we want to have about 30 percent of active component Soldiers attending reserve component schools versus the seven percent we have now," said Sgt. Maj. Steve Bishop, Sergeant Major for the U.S. Army National Guard Training and Doctrine Command. "One Army School System is going to bring all Army components to the same level of training while simultaneously streamlining how Soldiers receive that training."

"One Army School System has forced National Guard units to take a look at themselves, evaluate what kind of product we're delivering to our Soldiers and work to eliminate courses going unfulfilled,"

Moore said. "Active components schoolhouses aren't going away and RTIs aren't going away, but it just makes sense to adjust course loads based on demand. It is hard to justify all the courses the National Guard was teaching when we have courses at about 25 to 40 percent capacity, on average, instead of 60 to 75 percent."

Implementing OASS means some reserve component RTIs will have to reduce the amount of certifications they offer and others will have to increase, Boll said. The 421st recently eliminated 31B military police and 88M motor transport operator MOS training from their curriculum, and now focuses solely on offering 25U and 25B MOS and leadership training.

"Why would we authorize an RTI to teach a course when they are only teaching one a year for 20 students and 200 miles away another RTI is teaching five courses a year with 40 students in each class?" Boll said. "In an example like this, and there are many real world examples just like it, it just makes sense to take the one course away

(RTI, page 27)



Nevada Army Guard Black Hawk UH-60A No. 7923305 takes off to support a 1/168th Aviation mission in July. The oldest Black Hawk in the Nevada Army Guard was built in 1979 by the Sikorsky Aircraft Company and has served in the U.S. Army since 1981. After more than 35 years of service, it entered the Army Black Hawk Exchange and Sales Transaction program in August.

## Venerable old 'Hawk' prepares to retire

Photos and story by Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka  
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

**STEAD** — Mirroring the path of many Soldiers who began their careers in the 1980s, the Nevada Army Guard's oldest Black Hawk helicopter is set to retire from the military and transition to civilian life this autumn.

Black Hawk UH-60A No. 7923305 (nicknamed 305) was built in 1979 by the Sikorsky Aircraft Company and has served in the U.S. Army since 1981. After more than 35 years of completing countless transportation, evacuation and fire suppression missions over the course of 5,466 flying hours, it will enter the Army Black Hawk Exchange and Sales Transaction program and be sold either back to Sikorsky or a top civilian bidder.

Although it sounds like an unglamorous final chapter for the venerable aircraft, No. 305's divesture in the BEST program assists the Army in the long run as it creates more room for new airframes in its aviation inventory. Unfortunately for the Nevada Army Guard, 305's replacement is nowhere on the horizon and the state's total number of Black Hawks will decrease from eight to seven.

Although it's one of the oldest in the Army, No. 305 was a fairly recent addition to Nevada's rotary-aviation fleet. When C Company, 1/168th Aviation (Medical Evacuation) returned to Nevada from Afghanistan following its fifth combat deployment in 2014, the unit left its helicopters in the combat zone for its replacement unit.

Upon the 1/168th's return,

the Army replaced the unit's shortfall with ancient Alpha model helicopters No. 305 and No. 346. No. 346 also entered the Army in 1981 and is just five months younger than No. 305. No. 305 and No. 346 are two of three Alpha models in the Nevada inventory; its other five are newer Lima models. In the near future, No. 346 will follow No. 305 into the BEST program.

Despite its advanced age, Nevada aviators said they had no complaints – or trepidation – about flying in the state's oldest Black Hawk. During July's Army Guard drill weekend, No. 305 was averaging about three hours aloft per day.

"The age of the 'bird' has no effect on its performance," said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Michael Guerra before a training flight over Plumas County, Calif. "All of the helicopters are maintained to specific standards. It might require more maintenance, but it's definitely reliable."

In fact, Sgt. 1st Class James Silva, the UH-60 maintenance supervisor, said No. 305 faces a demanding schedule before making

its last military flight to Redstone Arsenal, Ala., sometime in late summer. Because it will never have to take another maintenance phase 'rest' in its career, the 1/168th is free to fly No. 305 as many hours as it wishes before its retirement.

Silva, 48, himself a combat Veteran who first entered the military in the 1980s, said he realizes helicopters are just inanimate objects but he will miss the workhorse Alpha model Black Hawks when they finally disappear forever.

"Those were some well-maintained helicopters," he said. "A lot of Soldiers have put their heart and soul into their maintenance in order to keep them flying." ■



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka

Sgt. 1st Class James Silva, a UH-60 maintenance supervisor, bids farewell to Nevada Army Guard Black Hawk UH-60A No. 7923305 before it heads to Alabama to enter the Black Hawk Exchange and Sales Transaction program. The aircraft recorded 5,466 flying hours during its 35-year career.



# High

## 2016 brings year of change for 152nd Airlift Wing

By Tech. Sgt. Emerson Marcus  
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

More than 35 years after “Airman Magazine” dubbed the 152nd Airlift Wing the “High Rollers of Reno” the nickname seemingly fits better than ever.

Morale is high as recent accomplishments in the last year roll in.

Here’s a roundup of accomplishments with insight and updates on where the unit stands today.

### MAFFS

By now, many in Nevada know the 152nd Airlift Wing received the U.S. Forest Service’s Modular Airborne Fire Fighting System’s nationwide mission.

But when will the 152nd start firefighting mission on its own?

The answer: it depends on the amount of firefighting experience the aircrews get. That experience on actual wildland fires began Aug. 3 when the 152nd activated for the Pioneer Fire in the Boise National Forest.

“The actual drops have been challenging and exhilarating,” said Lt. Col. Tony Machabee, acting 152nd Operations Group commander and the first member of the unit to co-pilot a MAFFS mission. “It’s a great feeling to see your immediate results whether we are dropping a protective line

of retardant between the fire and someone’s property or dropping ‘mud’ (retardant mix) directly on flames leaping from the tops of trees in an effort to slow the fire’s progress.”

By the beginning of September, the Air Expeditionary Group — the MAFFS group comprised of all four units flying the mission — flew 142 sorties, 125.5 flight hours, dispensing 337,409 gallons and more than 3.5 million pounds of retardant on 165 drops. Most of that was on the Pioneer Fire, which burned more than 100,000 acres in Idaho and continued burning at the time this story went to print. AEG crew also fought fires in Oregon and the Rock Hill Fire in central Nevada.

With Nevada aircrew augmenting Colorado and Wyoming units flying the mission, this fire season effectively started the 152nd’s co-pilot certification clock. Co-pilot certification could be completed as soon as next year when the unit would then move on for further certification as aircrew commanders. Once that certification is complete, they would then be certified as flight instructors and could begin the process of training in-house — ready for autonomous firefighting missions.

The other units involved in the mission are: the 146th Airlift Wing, California Air National Guard; the 153rd Airlift Wing, Wyoming Air National Guard and the

302nd Airlift Wing, Air Force Reserves.

“Nevada crews have fully embraced the MAFFS mission and are committed to getting full up as quickly and safely as possible,” said Col. David Herder, deputy AEG commander. “They have been stepping in to get training with the other units whenever possible. They have been a welcome addition to the MAFFS community.”

### Inspection and Awards

While MAFFS generated the wing’s largest headlines in the previous year, the unit experienced several other accomplishments, from being awarded its eighth U.S. Air Force Outstanding Unit Award in December 2015 to passing its inaugural Unit Effectiveness Inspection, or UEI as part of the new Air Force Inspection System last March.

One of the unit’s keys to success in each of these accomplishments was the unit’s dedication to continuous process improvements, or CPI, said Col. Karl Stark, 152nd Airlift Wing commander.

“CPI is really about taking the time to identify the real problem and then provide a practical, sustainable solution to that problem and verify that solution is the right solution,” Stark said. “The most important thing is involving your Airmen to provide efficient solutions to everyday problems and making those solutions stick.”



# Rollin'



Photo by Tech Sgt. Emerson Marcus  
A 152nd Airlift Wing C-130 flies over Lake Tahoe on July 15.

One example of this was the Medical Group, which increased 152nd Airlift Wing medical readiness from a ranking of 70th out of 92 medical groups nationwide to third in the nation. Additionally, the group received five of the 152nd Airlift Wing's nine overall strength markings in the UEI. "We really have a hardworking group of young kids who are very proactive," said Chief Master Sgt. William Moore, the group's superintendent.

Simple changes led to big results, Moore said. Senior Airman Sabrina Peña suggested the group use a white board updated daily that displayed group goals. They also started daily morning meetings.

"We now give everyone a chance to talk and see what we need to focus on that day or week," said Peña, who is near completion of her Lean Six Sigma Black Belt certification through the Nevada National Guard's CPI office. "It's really helped."

Overall, the 152nd received a rating of effective for the UEI, including a highly effective rating for the commander's inspection program.

## Modernization

Perhaps the most visible change at the wing was the upgrade in its fleet with new aircraft and a new "High Rollers" tail flash.

The unit acquired six C-130 H3 models and two H2.5 models earlier this year in its second fleet upgrade since the 152nd converted to C-130 aircraft in 1996.

These models are about a decade newer than the previous C-130 H2 models

with nearly 10,000 fewer flight hours and new wing boxes. They include upgraded avionics with digital flight instruments and fuel gauges.

Other upgrades in the operations group included the approval in August of a \$9.6 million renovation to the operations building.

Additionally, the maintenance group received new inspection stands to help maintain the planes. The equipment, known as isochronal inspection stands or ISO stands, allow for thorough examinations of the entire aircraft. The unit received the old stands in 1996.

"This is a high performing unit," Stark said. "Over the years, the competitive nature of our business in the military has forced us to look deep into our own organization to make sure that we are being as efficient as we can, and that we are making the most out of the resources that we are given. I think, ultimately, because we've taken that charge the result of that has brought more opportunities our way for the High Rollers." ■



Photo provided by MAFFS Air Expeditionary Group  
Lt. Col. Tony Machabee co-pilots over the Pioneer Fire in the Boise National Forest on Aug. 6 during the 152nd Airlift Wing's first Modular Airborne Fire Fighting Systems activation.

# New Bradleys signal new era, new combat team for 1/221st



Photo illustration by Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka

Four of the 14 Bradley Fighting Vehicles stored at the Clark County Armory are parked for annual training use for the 1/221st Armored Reconnaissance Squadron. The squadron received a total of 45 Bradleys this past summer; 31 were shipped to the squadron's training ranges in Idaho.

## By Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

**LAS VEGAS** — After 20 years of a close partnership with the active duty's 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in neighboring California, the Nevada Army Guard's 1/221st Armored Reconnaissance Squadron is entering a new era in its history this autumn as it joins the 116th Cavalry Brigade Combat Team headquartered in Idaho.

In November, 1/221st Soldiers will cease to wear the patch of the 11th ACR and begin donning the patch of the massive 116th CBCT that spans four states and includes more than 3,000 Soldiers. The 116th is the lone cavalry brigade combat team in the National Guard and is the largest organization within the Idaho National Guard and oversees battalions in Oregon and Montana.

Although the 1/221st will no longer have the distinction of being the only reserve-component armor squadron assigned to an active-duty combat arms unit, the transition to the 116th promises lucrative incentives.

The 1/221st is set to expand from about 420 Soldiers to more than 650 Soldiers and the squadron will receive \$280 million worth of new armored vehicles, including 45 Bradley M2A3 Fighting Vehicles and 14 16 / **BATTLE BORN** / Autumn 2016



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka

A 1/221st Armored Reconnaissance Squadron Bradley Fighting Vehicle crew pulls a mock injured driver to safety during the crew drills portion of instruction during the squadron's annual training in July. About 100 Bradley crewmen participated in the training.

MIAI AIM-SA tanks, to equip itself for its new mission. The squadron's previous fleet of 26 Bradleys will be decommissioned.

"As the armored reconnaissance squadron for the brigade, it is our job to find then enemy and then call in the rest of the brigade to kill the enemy," said 1st Sgt. Michael Davis of Alpha Troop. "We will be growing tremendously. The Bradleys we are receiving are the current, most advanced model available in the Army."

Within the state, the companies composing the 1/221st will change their nomenclature and one will change location. Lima Troop, formerly headquartered in Yerington, will move to Las Vegas and become Alpha Troop. India and Kilo troops will become Bravo and Charlie companies respectively and remain in Las Vegas. Delta Company will be established this winter to operate and maintain the squadron's tanks when they arrive in January. The squadron's headquarters and headquarters troop will remain in southern Nevada and field four spec-



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka

Spc. Timothy Evans, 25, of Las Vegas, left, pulls a simulated casualty from a Bradley Fighting Vehicle while conducting crew drills during the 1/221st Armored Reconnaissance Squadron's annual training in July.

cial BFIST-model Bradleys. Within a few months, all Nevada cav Soldiers will be housed at the Clark County Armory.

Clear evidence the transition to the 116th was in high gear could be seen during the 1/221st's mid-summer annual training session, as about 100 Bradley crewmen trained on the first shipment of 14 30-ton behemoth Bradleys parked behind the Clark County Armory. (The remainder of the Bradleys will likely be shipped directly to Idaho for Nevada Soldiers' use on the Orchard Combat Training Center; it's unlikely all 45 Bradleys will ever be at the Clark County Armory at one time.)

Fielded by the Army since 1982, Bradley Fighting Vehicles are armored personnel carriers that can also defeat opposing vehicles and personnel with its weapons systems. Each Bradley is armed with a 25 mm Bushmaster cannon, a M240 coaxial machine gun and a tube-launched, optically-tracked, wire-guided (TOW) missile launcher with a range of 3,750 meters.

Instructors from U.S. Army TACOM Life Cycle Management Command based

in Fort Hood, Texas, as well as active-duty Soldiers from the Fort Benning Bradley New Equipment Training Team were on hand to assist the Bradley crewmen as they were introduced to their new \$4.2 million vehicles.

"We train the Soldiers on the most advanced vehicles built to defeat the enemy," said retired Master Sgt. Louis Santiago, a TACOM training specialist. "The new Bradleys feature better sight systems and computer systems. Their systems are able to track friendlies as well as enemies, and an internal screen shows the battlefield. These Bradleys process all available information into a first-round hit on the enemy."

When the cavalry's 14 tanks arrive in January, it will mark the first time since 2006 that the Nevada Army Guard has fielded tanks in its arsenal. Each M1A1 AIM-SA tank is worth \$6 million and features state-of-the-art electronics and software to accurately fire its 120 mm main gun. Each M1A1 is also armed with a M240 machine gun and a .50 caliber machine gun.

"The upgrades take the guesswork out of destroying the enemy," Santiago said. "Remember the days when it took a three-round burst to hone in on the enemy? Now it's one round."

Santiago said the crewmen's training included much more than just learning how to drive and steer the new Bradleys. He said TACOM instructors were also teaching classes in sighting systems, fire control, navigation skills, diagnostics, crew drills, communications and battlefield identification in addition to basic Bradley maneuvering.

"Learning to drive a Bradley is only about 10 percent out of everything one needs to learn," Santiago said.

About the only thing that hindered the instruction during the annual training was the prevalent 115 degree weather. Otherwise, the Bradley crewmen found the new vehicles to be Soldier-friendly.

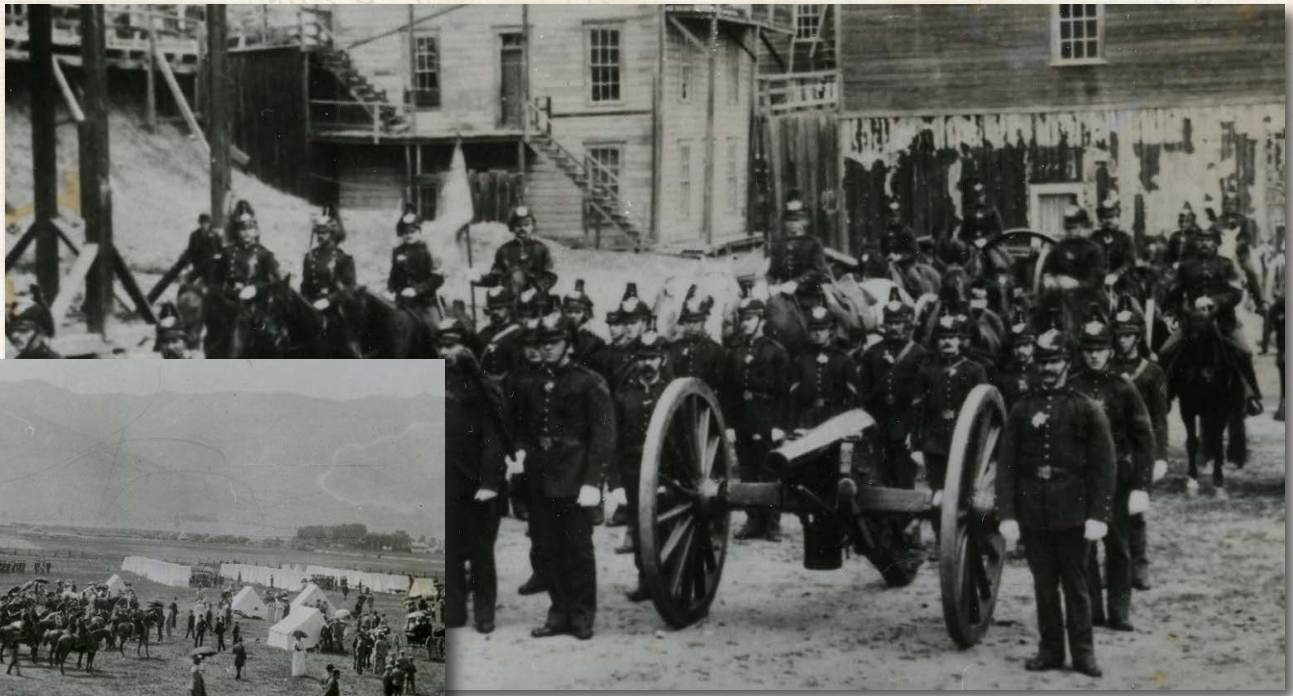
"The upgrades have made the Bradleys simpler," said Spc. Jaime Chavez, a cav scout from Bravo Troop. "The transition has not been difficult, it's been smooth." ■



Photo by Richard Brian, appear with permission of Las Vegas Review Journal

Las Vegas residents Pvt. Michael Azcunaga, 20, left, and Spc. Pedrito Castillo, 23, of the 1/221st Armored Reconnaissance Squadron train on a Bradley simulator at the Clark County Armory in July. About 100 Soldiers completed Bradley Fighting Vehicle training during the squadron's annual training this summer.

# The Comstock Guard



Photos courtesy Nevada Historical Society and Nevada State Archives  
Nevada National Guard scenes from the 1800's. Top, Battery A in Virginia City in 1891; left, Nevada Guard Soldiers camp in Carson City while training for a Spanish-American War deployment in 1898.

## Nevada Guard Soldiers prepped for battle at State Prison

Stories by Tech. Sgt. Emerson Marcus  
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

**CARSON CITY** — Sixty Nevada National Guard soldiers marched on Capitol Square in downtown Carson City and stacked arms for what newspaper reports called “war.”

Was it war? No.

But it certainly grabbed the attention of local citizens during the state’s legislative session in 1873. It also developed after a shuffling of duties among the governor’s cabinet members, including the lieutenant governor dropping his position as prison warden and becoming adjutant general of the National Guard.

The reasons for what became known as the Nevada Prison War began in 1871. Inmate Frank Clifford led the escape of nearly 30 prisoners past guards and eventually into a nearby armory where they nabbed  
18 / BATTLE BORN / Autumn 2016

pistols, rifles and about 3,000 rounds of ammunition.

Units of the National Guard, also known then as the Nevada Militia, were alerted along with regional newspapers and law enforcement. Eventually, a majority of the prisoners were returned. But two lawmen died in a gunfight with escapees at Mount Diablo Lake in California — now known as Convict Lake, the name a result of the shooting.

Nevada Lt. Gov. Frank Denver’s career in public life also became a casualty of the prison break. As lieutenant governor, Denver’s obligations included warden of the state prison in Carson City.

After the prison break, Governor Lewis R. Bradley explained in his opening remarks at the 1873 legislative session that political pressure and his own beliefs on how the prison should be run led him

to believe “a single officer, himself only answerable for the performance of his duties” in the prison “would be far more successful.”

The Nevada Legislature agreed with the governor and passed law making the prison warden an appointed position. Additionally, the Legislature changed the duties of the lieutenant governor, removing its warden obligations and adding the duties of adjutant general and state librarian to take effect after Denver’s term expired in 1875. No longer would the lieutenant governor oversee the state prison.

Until that point, the secretary of state served as adjutant general, overseeing militia rosters, officer elections and ammunition allotments for Nevada Guard units.

Additionally, new law created a state prison board of commissioners, comprised of the governor, attorney general and secre-

tary of state.

On March 13, 1873, Bradley along with Attorney General Luther Buckner and Secretary of State James D. Minor named P.C. Hyman as the new prison warden. The four men walked from the Capitol to the prison that day where they were met by a prison guard who denied their entrance based on the direction of Denver.

The "Carson Daily Appeal" reported, "Surely a Governor, with the whole military force of the state at his back and the law on his side, can't be successfully defied for any great length of time by any recalcitrant lieutenant; and of course the aid of the military must be invoked."

Denver felt slighted. He argued to remain warden based on his interpretation of the law which he felt kept him as the executive of the state penitentiary until the end of the month. Getting the remainder of that month's pay was believed to have played a major role in his desire to stay in the prison. When the governor and members of his cabinet were denied entrance, they re-

turned to the Capitol and activated the National Guard, including one of the state's three, 3-inch howitzer cannons.

The soldiers rode the V&T Railroad from Virginia City and arrived in Carson City on March 14. Under the command of Brig. Gen. C.C. Batterman, superintendent of the Gould and Curry mine and two-time candidate for governor, the governor ordered them "proceed with the forces under your command to the State Prison and to place in possession thereof P.C. Hyman, who has been appointed Warden...should you be resisted in so doing, you will proceed to enforce this order, even at the cost of life, using the force under your command to gain admission to and possession of said State Prison."

As the 60 armed soldiers approached the prison, Denver quickly responded.

"From the fact that you have a superior force in numbers," Denver wrote in a message to the National Guard, "and that if I should stand by my rights by meeting force with force, innocent blood might be shed and the convicts escape, I hereby surrender

to you...the Wardenship...and turn over to you all the prisoners and all the state property in my possession."

While the prison escape in 1871 influenced several changes in the government of the then 6-year-old state of Nevada, the prison war was more circus than war — a brief capital city visit for 60 National Guard soldiers. The newspaper said soldiers behaved admirably and, luckily, the town expressed gratitude that "no instance of excessive drinking" occurred.

In one farcical instance, though, defense of the fort took on the offensive. After soldiers stacked arms at the Capitol, a squad of boys equipped with miniature guns approached with a dog harnessed to a go cart. They possessed a stove-pipe can mounted on a packing box labelled "Denver's Artillery." One boy lit a Roman candle fixed to a stove pipe in a way that it shot waded paper from the "mock cannon."

According to the "Carson Daily Appeal," "This salute was fired under the Governor's window and his Excellency enjoyed the fun as much as any of the bystanders." ■

## Nevada Trophy: important in Army marksmanship history

The Nevada National Guard played a dazzling role in the late-19th century push to improve U.S. Army marksmanship standards.

When William C. Church, editor of the "Army and Navy Journal" and co-founder of the National Rifle Association, sought the creation of a national marksmanship competition for regular Army units, citizen soldiers of the Silver State ponied up a "a very handsome trophy, made of Nevada silver and gold, and purchased at the cost of \$500...to be offered in competition as a yearly award for the best score made in target practice by any company or battery in the Army."

C.C. Batterman, a Nevada National Guard general of Virginia City and superintendent of the Gould and Curry mine, presented the award to Church with the intention that it would be used as a "challenge trophy" passed to the winners of annual unit marksmanship competitions.

On May 14, 1881, Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman accepted the award and published "Nevada Trophy" rules in the "Army and Navy Journal." Additionally, the image of the Nevada Trophy ran on the front page of the popular armed forces pub-

lication.

The Nevada Trophy measured 7.5-inches long and 3.75-inches wide at the base and resembled a medal more than trophy. It included the Nevada coat of arms at the left of the base and the motto "Semper Paratus," or always ready. According to the newspaper report, the trophy "is noble proof of the generosity of the citizens of Nevada."

The competition was open to batteries and companies of the regular Army. Every October, the Army tasked commanders to submit reports on monthly records of best rifle firing. The company with the best aggregate score among its soldiers at 400 yards was to be named winner, with the company commander becoming the custodian of the award.

In his book *Marksmanship in the U.S. Army: A History of Medals, Shooting Programs, and Training* (2004), William K. Emerson described the Nevada Trophy as the Army's premier 19th-century marksmanship award.

"Since the army had only recently instituted firing standards and established national training policies," Emerson wrote, (History, page 27)



"Army and Navy Journal" photo

This image taken from an 1881 issue of the "Army and Navy Journal" shows the Nevada Trophy, presented annually to the U.S. Army battery or company that recorded the highest marksmanship scores from 1881-1989.

# Airman's heartbreaking story drives home importance of traffic safety



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Emerson Marcus

Master Sgt. Paul Hinen, Nevada Air National Guard recruiting and retention manager, presents a traffic safety course at Reno High in July. Hinen's father and step-mother were killed in a car accident when he was younger. He nows presents a traffic safety course more than 30 times each year.

## By Tech. Sgt. Emerson Marcus Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

**RENO** — It's a lecture that evokes tears when a photo of a gravestone reveals the names of the couple killed.

In his driver safety lecture, "One Violation from Tragedy," Nevada Air National Guard Master Sgt. Paul Hinen discusses how small traffic violations can lead to disastrous consequences — what he calls the "ripple effect" — before he examines in detail the circumstances of a 1997 vehicle wreck that killed a retired couple driving westbound on Highway 12 south of Olympia, Wash.

After a Winnebago abruptly stopped on the two-lane road, a trailing logging truck driving eastbound swerved left to avoid the immediate collision and smashed

head-on into an oncoming Dodge Caravan.

Hinen's father, Norman Hinen, and his stepmother, Alicia Hinen, were in the Dodge Caravan.

Hinen, recruiting and retention manager for the Nevada Air National Guard, has presented the traffic safety course more than 30 times this year for more than 1,500 people, including several hundred Airmen at the Nevada Air National Guard Base in Reno during the annual Wingman Day safety lecture on July 9 and 10.

Each presentation, Hinen holds back his personal connection to the two killed until the very end of the presentation. He uses first names, introducing his father, "Norman," an avid marathon runner and Vietnam War veteran who wanted to live until he was 100; his stepmother, "Alicia," an "outstanding cook and craftswoman."

Hinen uses vivid description of the car crash that took his father and stepmother's life — photos of his father stooped lifeless against the steering wheel, "his blood filling his chest cavity...the cause of death a separated coronary artery."

Hinen's audience discovers his connection to Norman and Alicia at the end of the presentation when he plays a photo slideshow that shows their gravestone and a picture of himself wearing his NHP uniform next to his father and step mother.

"I generally get positive feedback," Hinen said of his presentation. "Some people go into condolence mode. It's not about getting sympathy. It's about changing people's behavior. It's about getting people to think about their driving habits. I try to take my loss and turn it into something positive."

It started in 1998, the year after the crash, when Hinen developed the presentation for a speech class he took at Great Basin Community College. He turned that into a lecture for the Highway Patrol's training academy on the importance of enforcing traffic safety laws.

"It started to evolve after I began doing more public presentations as a highway patrol supervisor in Lovelock and Winnemucca," said Hinen, who served in NHP from 1987-2006.

Hinen enlisted in the Nevada Air Guard in 1983, serving many years as a traditional guardsmen reporting one weekend a month and two weeks a year for annual training. He continues doing the lectures today as part of his community outreach as a recruiter and to promote driver safety.

"Being a driver's ed(ucation) teacher and showing videos for 20 years, you get sort of immune to it," Washoe County driver's education instructor Nick Jannis said. "You see images so many times — crashes, people dying, you just hope the kids get it. But Paul's story really brought it home. It's not just somebody else. It's something everyone can relate to...Some of the students, they have tears in their eyes after the presentation."

When Hinen first presented the lecture at Reno High, he didn't even tell Jannis that **(Traffic, page 28)**



Photo provided by United Kingdom Meteorological Office

This United Kingdom Meteorological Office radar snapshot shows the exact moment when temperatures peaked above 128 degrees last July in the Kuwait region. The areas in green show where temperatures pushed higher than 128 degrees.

**By Tech. Sgt. Emerson Marcus**  
**Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs**

**CARSON CITY** — Chief Warrant Officer 2 Gregory Backus described this summer’s record-breaking Kuwaiti heat — believed to have reached an Eastern Hemisphere high temperature mark — with a sweltering analogy.

“Imagine the hottest day in Las Vegas out on the hot pavement ... that’s about our average daily high temp,” Backus, a Nevada Army National Guard soldier and Sparks resident, said in an electronic message from Kuwait. “Then add a bunch of random humidity. It’s like getting slapped in the face with one of those hot, steamy rags they give you on a long flight.”

Backus is one of more than 250 Nevada Army National Guard soldiers deployed to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait working military logistics operations for the 1st Infantry Division. Headquartered in Las Vegas, the unit includes soldiers from around Nevada.

But while high temperatures have consistently hit the 110s in Las Vegas this summer, Kuwaiti heat beats it by at least 10 degrees — and it’s not always a dry heat.

According to Dr. Jeff Masters and historian Christopher Burt of Weather Underground, the temperature in Mitribah, Kuwait on July 21 topped out at 129.2 degrees. If verified, it would be the Earth’s hottest official temperature recording outside of Death Val-

ley, Calif., and the hottest in the Eastern Hemisphere, according to Weather Underground. The Death Valley record stands at 134.1 degrees. Tirat Tsvi, Israel, also recorded a high of 129.2 degrees on June 22, 1942. The average high temperature in Kuwait this time of year is 115 degrees, according to Weather Underground.

However, following the Kuwaiti temperature reading, the “Washington Post” reported that many dispute the Death Valley reading, taken in 1913, and suggested the Kuwaiti reading matched “the highest readings ever reliably measured anywhere in the world.”

The temperature spike was a result of a massive ridge of high pressure parked over the region, the weather service said.

“Being from Vegas, I’m familiar with heat, but this is hot on a whole new level,” 17th SB Command Sgt. Maj. James Richardson said. “I didn’t know humidity could come and go throughout the day, it’s really weird. When the wind blows from the desert it’s not too bad, but when it blows off of the coast, it’s unbelievable.”

So, how are the Nevada soldiers beating the heat?

“Basically, we make a bee line from tent to tent to make our encounters with the sauna as short as possible,” Backus said.

Richardson added: “There really is no way to beat it other than staying hydrated.”

The 17th’s 10-month deployment is set to end this autumn when temperatures will hopefully be more bearable for returning Soldiers. ■



## Nevada Guard dominates Excellence in Diversity awards

**WILL ROGERS AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Okla.** — The Nevada National Guard claimed four of the five 2015 Excellence in Diversity prizes awarded here in July at the 2016 National Guard Diversity Training and Workshop in Norman, Okla. The awards were distributed during the annual workshop aimed to help Army and Air National Guard service members develop talent management strategies within their units from a diversity perspective.

The Nevada Guardsmen accepting awards for their support of diversity and inclusion included:

- Col. JoAnn Meacham from the 152nd Airlift Wing was named top individual Air Guard service member
- Staff Sgt. Michelle Ochoa of the Nevada Army Guard's Recruiting and Retention Battalion was named top individual Army Guard service member
- The Nevada Army Guard's Recruiting and Retention Battalion was named top unit proponent of diversity and inclusion in the Army Guard
- The Nevada National Guard tied with the Vermont National Guard for top diversity and inclusion states.



Photo by Master Sgt. Andrew LaMoreaux, Oklahoma National Guard Army Gen. Frank J. Grass, Chief, National Guard Bureau, presents Army Staff Sgt. Michelle Ochoa, of Nevada, with the Excellence in Diversity award during the 2016 National Guard Diversity Workshop, Norman, Okla., in July.

The only award not garnered by a Nevada individual or entity was the top Air National Guard unit; that prize went to the 272nd Engineering Squadron from the Texas Air Guard.

By continuing to improve their diversity initiatives, states such as Nevada promise to develop the tools necessary to competitively recruit talent in a way that also matches the changing priorities of the nation's younger population.

Air Force Col. Kerry Lovely, chief of diversity for the Air National Guard and National Guard Bureau, organized the workshop. Her goal was to bring in keynote speakers who have implemented successful diversity programs, effected culture change, have had influential careers, and could be role models for the myriad of adjutants general, command chiefs and state senior enlisted advisors in attendance. ■

*Master Sgt. Andrew LaMoreaux  
Oklahoma National Guard*

### Guard pilot receives state's 2nd Defense of Freedom medal

**STEAD** — Nearly three years after his femur and pelvis were shattered by a round from an insurgent's AK-47 while piloting a civilian helicopter in Afghanistan, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Roger Capps received his long-awaited Defense of Freedom medal from the Department of Defense. The medal is awarded by the Secretary of Defense to acknowledge civilian employees killed or wounded while supporting the Department of Defense.

Although Capps' citation was signed in 2013 by then-Secretary of the Army John McHugh, Capps' receipt of the award was delayed by a maze of military and civilian bureaucracy. According to state archivist Jeff Kintop, Capps is just the second Nevadan to receive the award that was established

after 9/11. The first Nevadan to receive the award was Romeo Sebastian of Las Vegas in 2005.

The news of Capps' award was also read into the Congressional Record by Rep. Dean Heller.

Although Capps was left with a permanent limp from the 1-in-1,000 shot that traveled through an opening in his helicopter's bullet-proof flooring, he remains an active helicopter pilot in the 1/189th Aviation unit. ■



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka Chief Warrant Officer 2 Roger Capps stands by a CH-47 Chinook helicopter holding his Defense of Freedom medal he received this summer — more than three years after the award was originally signed. Capps was shot in 2013 while working as a civilian pilot in Afghanistan.

### Internal competition highlights 72nd Military Police Co.'s annual training

**LAS VEGAS** — Internal competition during the 72nd Military Police Company's annual training in July helped build cohesion and camaraderie among the Soldiers in one of the state's most-deployed units. The team spent portions of its annual training in southern Nevada and Fort Irwin, Calif.

After nearly two years of deployments, the 72nd was finally able to reunite its ranks as train as a complete unit. About 60 of the unit's Soldiers had spent time in Afghanistan on deployment rotations beginning in 2014.



The unit's leadership team of 1st Lt. Jeffrey Hopkinson, and 1st Sgt. Michael Clark used friendly competition to unite the deployment veterans and the unit's recent accessions. Competition included discovering the unit's top gunnery crews for the M1151 and M1117 weapons platforms, a Best Military Policeman contest, and a Best Warrior Competition for both Soldiers (in the ranks of specialist and below) and non-commissioned officers. The competition's goal was to build confidence and competence in all of the company's Soldiers and ingrain experience, excellence and pride in the company.

Company awards included:

- The company Soldier of the Year award went to Spc. Adam Ferman.
- The company NCO of the Year award went to Cpl. Nick Powell.
- The award for Best Military Policeman went to Ferman.
- The Top Gun Crew for the M1117 Armored Security Vehicle was Staff Sgt. Mike Espinoza (truck commander), Spc. Jonathan Armstrong (driver) and Pfc. Veronica Diaz (gunner).
- The Top Gun Crew for the M1151 Humvee gunnery was Sgt. Karina Carpenter (truck commander), Spc. Ryan Cooper (gunner) and Pvt. Bianca Zepeda (driver).

*Sgt. Daniel Moore  
72nd Military Police Company*



Photos courtesy of 72nd Military Police Company Spc. Adam Ferman, center, swept the 72nd Military Police Company's Soldier of the Year and Best Military Policeman contests held during the unit's annual training in July. Standing astride Ferman are 1st Lt. Jeffrey Hopkinson, the commander of the 72nd, left, and unit 1st Sgt. Michael Clark.

## 777th culinary specialists whip up winning Silver Chef plate

**LAS VEGAS** – It's still up for debate whether the cadence call "They say that in the Army, the chow is mighty fine" deserves an exclamation point or a question mark.

Most would agree the popular cadence

takes a jab at the dubious quality of food in the Army. After all, the military is unarguably renowned more for its unappetizing Meals Ready Eat and its coarse, colorful description of chipped beef over toast than its fine cuisine.

In an effort to improve the poor outlook on Army chow, Nevada Army Guard Staff Sgt. Vera Salazar and Sgt. 1st Class Brian Faulkner hosted the Silver Chef competition in Las Vegas in early August. For the past two years, the two have organized the annual cooking competition for the often-maligned, seldom-celebrated 92G Culinary Specialist military occupational specialty Soldiers in the state.

"Culinary specialists are by far the most underappreciated MOS in the Army," said Salazar, the Nevada Army Guard's state food program manager. "We wanted to recognize them for their hard work and dedication to the troops, because nothing upsets a Soldier quicker than messing with their money or their food. Our state's cooks are great about getting the troops' food right."

This year's Silver Chef contest featured four teams battling for the title of Nevada Army Guard's best chef: the 72nd Military Police Company and 100th Quartermaster (a multi-unit, blended team), the 150th Maintenance Company, the 777th Forward Support Company and 1864th Transportation Company.

**(Chef, page 28)**

## Green belts learn to cut waste at Lean Six Sigma Vegas course

Photo courtesy Ken Bunker, Nevada National Guard Continuous Process Improvement  
**LAS VEGAS** — Members of the Nevada National Guard pose for a graduation photo after completing a Lean Six Sigma green belt course this summer at the North Las Vegas Readiness Center. The Lean Six Sigma courses are designed to improve processes within a work environment to save money and streamline efficiencies.



# Diversity Day delights

The firehouse at the Reno Air Base was filled almost to capacity this past June during the fourth annual Nevada Guard Diversity Day celebration. A wide range of cultures and organizations provided information and food samples to all Nevada Guard Airmen and Soldiers in attendance. Some of the booths included: Women in Combat, Spain, Ireland, LGBT, Japan, Israel and more. Mexico took first place for best booth, with the Philippines taking second and Argentina taking third. Look at the photos below and see if you can match the food with it's associated culture.

Photos by Sgt. Mike Orton

Sgt. 1st Class Christina Bunker, right, the operations noncommissioned officer for the Nevada Guard's Aviation Control Element, and Sgt. Anthony Linde-meier III, left, a supply sergeant with the 1/189th Aviaition, pose with the first place trophy for their Diversity Day Mexico booth.

A



B



C



D



E



F



G



H



I



J



K



L



ANSWERS: A = Japan, B = Philippines, C = Italy, D = Argentina, E = Ireland, F = Ireland, G = Israel, H = India, I = American Indian, J = Tonga, K = Peru, L = Mexico, M = Spain.

# AWARDS • PROMOTIONS • RETIREMENTS

MOVING UP AND MOVING ON • APRIL - JULY 2016

## Legion of Merit



LTC James Walker ..... JFHQ

## Meritorious Service Medal



COL Maria Powers ..... JFHQ  
 Lt Col Kyle Cerfoglio ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn  
 LTC Alvin Bolton ..... JFHQ  
 LTC Steven Betts ..... HQ, First Army  
 MAJ Michael Bordallo ..... NVARNG Rec/Ret  
 MAJ Stacy Carter ..... 1/421st Regional Tng Inst  
 CW3 Heather Casehall ..... JFHQ  
 CSM Glen Roberts ..... NVARNG Rec/Ret  
 1SG Elizabeth Liemandt ..... 422nd Exped Signal Bn  
 MSG Harry Schroeder ..... HHC, 757th Combat Sust Spt Bn  
 MSgt Brent Breese ..... 152nd Maintenance Operations Flt  
 SFC Anthony Mendoza ..... NVARNG Rec/Ret  
 SFC Joseph Contreras ..... JFHQ  
 SFC Justin Juliot ..... 1/421st Regional Tng Inst  
 SFC Nathan Schertel ..... 150th Maint Co  
 SFC Scott Grimmett ..... NVARNG Medical Det  
 SFC Tamas Horvath ..... 17th Sustainment Bde  
 SSG Marshall Matley ..... 150th Maint Co  
 SSG Timothy Maguire ..... 1/421st Regional Tng Inst  
 SSG April Adams ..... JFHQ  
 SSG Henry Zelaya ..... JFHQ  
 SGT Tonye Larsen ..... 150th Maint Co

## Air Force Commendation Medal



TSgt Megan Castro ..... 152nd Communications Flt

## Army Commendation Medal



LTC Neil Oscarson ..... JFHQ  
 MAJ Brian Gunderson ..... JFHQ  
 1LT Amanda Willis ..... NVARNG Rec/Ret  
 1SG Troy Anderson ..... JFHQ  
 SFC Bryan Sulanke ..... 1/221st Cavalry  
 SSG Cesar Melgarejo ..... Camp Stead  
 SSG Justin Banfield ..... NVARNG Rec/Ret

## Air Force Achievement Medal



SMSSgt Rommie Brown ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn  
 SSgt Justin Perez ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn  
 SSgt Kelly Elloyan ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn  
 SrA Tyler Laczynski ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn  
 A1C Karla Capanni ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn

## Nevada Distinguished Service Medal



David Cantrell ..... CIV  
 Maj Shaun Cruze ..... NVANG HQ

## Nevada Medal of Merit



SMSSgt Shawn Marston ..... RETIRED

## Nevada State Commendation Medal



SSG Savannah Ellis ..... JFHQ

## PROMOTIONS

### COL/Col

John Kruthaupt ..... JFHQ

### LTC/Lt Col

Karen Hansen ..... NVARNG Medical Det

Kevin Remus ..... 17th Sustainment Bde

Lisa Martinez ..... JFHQ

Michael Kimbrell ..... 360th JAG Field Trial Def

### MAJ/Maj

Brett Eklund ..... JFHQ

Dana Grigg ..... 152nd Airlift Wing

Donald Crandell ..... 152nd Airlift Wing

Erik Brown ..... 152nd Airlift Wing

Frank Chavez ..... JFHQ

Geir Gabrielson ..... JFHQ

Gregory Krupp ..... 1/421st RTI

Lee Gaston ..... 1/421st RTI

Michael Schiemer ..... HHT 1/221st Cavalry

Michael Steward ..... 192nd Airlift Sqdn

Nicholas Agle ..... JFHQ

Richard Jordan ..... JFHQ

### CPT/Capt

Brian Gonsalves ..... 360th JAG Field Trial Def

Charles Lehman ..... 360th JAG Field Trial Def

Gilbert Lenz ..... HHT, 1/221st Cavalry

Mark Goulart ..... JFHQ

Nigel Harrison ..... 1/168th MEDEVAC

Zachary Taylor-Warren ..... 1/189th Aviation Co

### 1LT/1st LT

Brian Bullian ..... NVARNG Medical Det

Eric Sperry ..... 152nd Airlift Wing

Thomas Robb ..... K Troop, 1/221st Cavalry

Tyler Redden ..... 1/168th MEDEVAC

### CW4

Ben Valdez ..... 150th Maintenance Co

Earvin Chalmers ..... 17th Sustainment Bde

### CW3

Tanya Leonard ..... JFHQ

### CW2

Cody Gamble ..... 3/140th Aviation Det

### SGM/CMSgt

Rosemarie Marston ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn

### 1SG/MSG/SMSgt

Christopher Reyes ..... 152nd Maintenance Spt Sqdn

Jason Farnsworth ..... 152nd Medical Grp

Jeffrey Linton ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn

### SFC/MSgt

Christina Sweat ..... 152nd Maintenance Spt Sqdn

Christopher Jensen ..... 152nd Maintenance Spt Sqdn

Christopher Wing ..... 17th Sustainment Bde

Colleen Glynn ..... 152nd Airlift Wing

Edward Benites Jr ..... NVARNG Rec/Ret

Gary Mireles ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn

Jordan Clark ..... JFHQ  
 Lea Pope ..... 152 Maintenance Opns Flt  
 Mark Salinas ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn  
 Matthew Farley ..... 152nd Security Forces Sqdn  
 Sara Harger ..... NVARNG Rec/Ret  
 Todd Lawson ..... 152nd Security Forces Sqdn

### SSG/TSgt

Casey Dirs ..... 152nd Maintenance Spt Sqdn

James Bronneke ..... 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn

Jeremy Banfield ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn

Joseph Patchen ..... 152nd Maintenance Spt Sqdn

Julian Batz ..... K Trp, 1/221st Cavalry

Patrick Faenza ..... 152nd Force Support Sqdn

Ray Godfrey ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn

Robyn Connolly ..... 757th Combat Sust Spt Bn

Sean Melody ..... 152nd Maintenance Spt Sqdn

Simon Neugent ..... 152nd Medical Grp

Tara Broad ..... JFHQ

Travcy Varnum ..... 152 Security Forces Sqdn

### SGT/SSgt

Allen Clodfelter ..... K Trp, 1/221st Cavalry

Blair Harkleroad ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn

Blake Merl ..... HHT, 1/221st Cavalry

Brad Clodfelter ..... K Trp, 1/221st Cavalry

Brian Boyer ..... 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn

Britany Wilcoxson ..... 152nd Security Forces Sqdn

Bruce Kendall Bulaglag ..... 777th Engineer Det

Chaz Rapp ..... 17th Sustainment Bde

Chelsea Duenas ..... 152nd Force Support Sqdn

Christopher Davis ..... 72nd MP Co Det 1

Colby Gillis ..... 3/140th Aviation Det

Dane Johnson ..... 17th Sustainment Bde

Daniel Regalado ..... 152nd Medical Grp

Dylan Malla ..... 442nd Exped Signal Bn

Guillermo Fierro ..... 777th Engineer Det

Jared Stuber ..... 3/140th Aviation Det

Jon Mertz ..... 17th Sustainment Bde

Jose Gutierrez-Miranda ..... 152nd Security Forces Sqdn

Katelyn Floyd ..... 152nd Maintenance Spt Sqdn

Leah Cabusao ..... 17th Sustainment Bde

Mackenzie Perovich ..... 152nd Maintenance Spt Sqdn

Marc Cunningham ..... 17th Sustainment Bde

Nicole Munley ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn

Sadie Gagliardo ..... 152nd Maintenance Spt Sqdn

Shannon Tuiolemotu ..... 17th Sustainment Bde

Shaun Moreno Jr ..... 17th Sustainment Bde

Shelby Simone ..... 152nd Security Forces Sqdn

Sonia Lugo ..... 17th Sustainment Bde

Stephen Snyder ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn

Ty Shelton ..... 442nd Exped Signal Bn

Vincent Cargill ..... 485th MP Co

## ACCESSIONS

Garret Snider ..... 1/168th MEDEVAC

Jason Beebe ..... 1/168th MEDEVAC

Justin Michel ..... 1/189th Aviation Co

William Hayes ..... 1/189th Aviation Co

Fabian Chavez ..... 100th Quartermaster Co

Ashley Hogan ..... 150th Maint Co

Bally Xu ..... 150th Maint Co

David Welsh ..... 150th Maint Co

Eldon Hill ..... 150th Maint Co

Henry Gonzalez Aguilar ..... 150th Maint Co

Joseph Cheng ..... 150th Maint Co

Saeyuk Lee ..... 150th Maint Co

Stephany Arguello ..... 150th Maint Co

Thomas Webb ..... 150th Maint Co

Trevor Sortar ..... 150th Maint Co

Austin Bassi ..... 152 Airlift Wing

Kristine Wiley.....152 Airlift Wing  
 Ross Anderson.....152 Communication Flt  
 Kathryn Heeran.....152 Operations Spt Sqdn  
 Brent Gonda.....152 Security Forces Sqdn  
 Eric Bender.....152 Security Forces Sqdn  
 Eric Smith.....152 Security Forces Sqdn  
 Artemis Sears.....152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 Brennan Burns.....152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 Bryan Chanez.....152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 Bryce Fording.....152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 John Parker.....152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 Marco Godoy-Gomez.....152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 Todd Alba.....152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 Matthew Cunningham.....152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn  
 Benjamin Shear.....152nd Communications Flt  
 Jeffrey Sawyer.....152nd Communications Flt  
 Karina Espinoza.....152nd Force Support Sqdn  
 Corey Mathew.....152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn  
 Jovonna Puertos.....152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn  
 Anthony Winder.....152nd Maintenance Spt Sqdn  
 Eric Benton.....152nd Maintenance Spt Sqdn  
 Jordan Waller.....152nd Maintenance Spt Sqdn  
 Joseph Mazzola.....152nd Maintenance Spt Sqdn  
 Lucas Jones.....152nd Maintenance Spt Sqdn  
 Michael Finazzi.....152nd Maintenance Spt Sqdn  
 Nikul Joshi.....152nd Maintenance Spt Sqdn  
 Patrick Cattell.....152nd Maintenance Spt Sqdn  
 Alex Pack.....152nd Maintenance Spt Sqdn  
 Cody Betty.....152nd Maintenance Spt Sqdn  
 David Vong.....152nd Maintenance Spt Sqdn  
 Sara Legg.....152nd Maintenance Spt Sqdn  
 Sara O'Neil.....152nd Maintenance Spt Sqdn  
 Alain Agbadje.....152nd Medical Group

Lovell Megan.....152nd Medical Group  
 Mayra Rodriguez.....152nd Medical Group  
 Michelle Jeffries.....152nd Medical Group  
 Naomi Munch-Laclare.....152nd Medical Group  
 Thomas Thornton.....152nd Medical Group  
 Tiffany Sneed.....152nd Medical Group  
 Alexander Howe.....152nd Medical Grp  
 Riley Givani.....152nd Medical Grp  
 Sabrina Pena.....152nd Medical Grp  
 Nico Ambata.....152nd Operations Spt Sqdn  
 Alexandria Crank.....152nd Security Forces Sqdn  
 James Terry.....152nd Security Forces Sqdn  
 Jeffrey Camal.....1864th Trans Co  
 Karla Barriga.....1864th Trans Co  
 Kayla Polley.....192nd Airlift Squadron  
 Kevin Duenas.....192nd Airlift Squadron  
 Mateis Maehler.....192nd Airlift Squadron  
 Adrianna Lopez.....240th Engineer Co  
 Francisco Monroy.....240th Engineer Co  
 Ian Espinoza.....240th Engineer Co  
 Braulio Santiaguin.....277th Engineer Haul Plt  
 Sarah Moran.....485th MP Co  
 Gunther Hurt.....609th Engineer Co  
 Israel Price.....609th Engineer Co  
 Miles Antone.....609th Engineer Co  
 William Soukup.....609th Engineer Co  
 Ruby Maran.....72nd MP Co  
 Trevor White.....777th Forward Spt Co  
 Tyler Davis.....777th Forward Spt Co  
 Ibaiah Clark.....C Co, 422nd Exped Signal Bn  
 Iker Ganchequiplates.....C Co, 422nd Exped Signal Bn  
 Sergio Zamora.....C Co, 422nd Exped Signal Bn  
 Cody Adams.....HHC, 422nd Exped Signal Bn

Christine Sun.....HHT, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Kirk Mitchell.....HHT, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Lyka Ferry.....HHT, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Zachary Rodgers.....HHT, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Alexander Hernandez.....K Troop, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Brandon Willis.....L Troop, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Christopher Connors.....L Troop, 1/221st Cavalry  
 David Granillo.....L Troop, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Kimberly Villegasperez.....L Troop, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Manuel Sotelo Topete.....L Troop, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Michael Beasley.....L Troop, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Sandra Alvarez.....L Troop, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Stephani Farfan.....L Troop, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Vanelly Felix Reyes.....L Troop, 1/221st Cavalry  
 Evelyn Aguirre.....NVARNG Medical Det

## RETIREMENTS

LTC Robert Bunker.....JFHQ  
 LTC Wilson Dasilva.....757th Combat Sust Spt Bn  
 SMSgt Shawn Marston.....152nd Airlift Wing  
 MSG Harry Schroeder Jr.....757th Combat Sust Spt Bn  
 MSG James Cummings.....HHT, 1/221st Cavalry  
 MSG Fred Springer.....422 Exped Signal BN  
 MSG Thomas Sauls.....JFHQ  
 MSgt George Hritz.....152nd Airlift Wing  
 SFC David Wetters.....17th Sustainment Bde  
 SFC John Ellis.....NVARNG Medical Det  
 SFC Richard Janise.....17th Sustainment Bde  
 SSG Chris Gayle.....17th Sustainment Bde  
 SSG Marshall Matley.....150th Maint Co.  
 SPC Steven Garcia.....1859th Trans Co

(Roundup, page 8)

## Frontline support: 17th Sustainment Brigade provides weapons, ammo to Iraqis

Staff Report

**CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait** — The call to deploy to the Middle East for the more than 250 Soldiers of the Nevada Army Guard's 17th Sustainment Brigade has been extremely challenging, especially due to the fact the brigade has the incredible responsibility of supplying the weapons and ammunition used by Iraqi security forces to reclaim territory from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), including the city of Fallujah.

The brigade is about 75 percent done with its deployment to the Middle East that began in January and will conclude in late autumn.

In early 2015, about a year before the unit deployed, Col. Vernon Scarbrough, the commander of the 17th SB, learned the unit would be deployed to conduct sustainment operations under the direction of the 1st Sustainment Command (Theater), U.S. Army Central Command.

At the time, the ISF were stepping up their fight with the ISIL to reclaim territory with direct support from the 65-nation anti-ISIL Coalition. It was support that would soon be coordinated by the 17th SB, a brigade that included many inexperienced

Soldiers.

“Not too many people in the brigade had a long-standing logistics background,” said Col. John Kruthaupt, the deputy commander of the 17th SB.

The 17th SB's mission is to provide all classes of supply to theater assets. Classes of supply distributed include fuel, ammunition and other life-sustaining materials for service members.

“Our largest, [most] visible customer is

the Iraq Train and Equip Fund,” said Master Sgt. Daniel Quintana, the brigade's support operations distribution integration branch noncommissioned offer in charge.

ITEF provides the weapons, ammunition, vehicles and other supplies the ISF use to combat ISIL.

As of July, the 17th SB had supervised the movement and storage of more than \$150 million worth of ITEF supplies since its arrival. ■



Photo by Sgt. Walter Lowell, 17th Sustainment Brigade Public Affairs  
 Capt. Howard Hoover, left, and Sgt. 1st Class David Schalles of the 17th Sustainment Brigade put the finishing touches on a mural commemorating the brigade's deployment in Kuwait this summer.

**(TONGA, page 5)**

First, do you have your commander's permission? Before volunteering, be sure to check with your unit's chain of command. Second, do you have an official/military or civilian passport? Although you do not need a passport while on SPP orders in Tonga, you will

need one for New Zealand and other countries that you will travel through during the mission. Third, do you have your required overseas training completed? Pacific Command requires: AT100 (current within one year), SERE 100.b (current within 3 years), ISO-PREP (current within one year) and

Combating Trafficking in Persons (current within one year). Lastly and most important, do you have a bona fide need to go?

If you meet all these criteria, then you have met the minimum qualification to participate in the State Partnership Program. ■

**(Union, page 11)**

Peden said LIUNA offers several attractive perks including affordable dental and insurance plans for its members.

Peden said that although all technicians are bargaining union employees and are afforded grievance representation by LIUNA, a technician must pay dues in order to become an official member of the union. Union dues can be deducted from a technician's pay; currently, only 36 technicians pay the \$15 per-pay period membership dues.

"Federal employees are not forced to be a member of the labor organization," Peden said. "Unless you sign up to become

a member, no dues are deducted."

Peden said the increased number of Title 5 military technicians in the Nevada Guard work force promises to become a widely-discussed topic within the union in upcoming months. By October 2017, several dozen technicians working in Nevada Guard administrative and clerical roles who are now required to maintain membership in the National Guard (Title 32 Dual Status) will likely be converted to federally-managed civilian employees. Peden said the positions that will transition to Title 5 jobs have not been identified.

Two months into his new job, Peden

believes LIUNA is making progress toward its ultimate goal: a new collective bargaining agreement. Firm dates are set to be announced soon for LIUNA and management to hammer out a new contract to replace the one that expired in 2001.

"We are leaps and bounds ahead of where the last organization stood when it was in its infancy," said Peden, who will be the union's primary negotiator in the meetings.

"Within a few months, I hope to be able to announce we've reached a collective bargaining agreement."

For information on LIUNA, call 775-884-8546. ■

**(RTI, page 12)**

and add it to the other who is already doing more."

The 421st is certainly doing more. The unit offers six courses each year with about 18 students attending, on average, said Master Sgt. Don Welch, the 421st readiness noncommissioned officer. The 421st hopes that it can secure more classroom space in the near future to increase course and student capacity, Welch said.

The 421st is ideally located because many signal corps units in California, Arizona and Nevada are in or around Las Vegas, said Brig. Gen. Michael Hanifan, com-

mander of the Nevada Army Guard. Less expensive flight options and a partnership with Nellis Air Force Base to provide student housing and food accommodations are additional reasons the 421st is well suited as a west coast hub for signal corps training, Hanifan continued.

"If the 421st can show that they are able to provide higher capacity for classes, that they are able to help clear the backlog of Soldiers waiting for classes in big Army's system and that there is not another schoolhouse in their area teaching the same courses, then they are better suited for success in the One Army School System," Boll said.

One of the challenges the 421st and other RTIs face is attracting the Soldiers to become instructors, Moore said. A solution to this problem is to ensure that instructor positions offer additional benefits, such as promotions, even though some Soldiers are already willing to take the opposite in order to work with the 421st.

"I actually took an administrative reduction in order to take this job," said Staff Sgt. Tommy Rodriguez, an advanced leadership course instructor with the 421st. "I was working with the G6 and loved what I did, but I really enjoy seeing the impact and output of what we do here at the RTI." ■

**(History, page 19)**

"the Nevada Trophy became the centerpiece reward for unit training."

Four years prior to the creation of the Nevada Trophy, Col. Theodore Laidly wrote "Course of Instruction in Rifle Firing," which became the standard for military rifle firing and established rules for marksmanship competitions. These rules became the basis for standardizing the competition for the Nevada Trophy. At this time, the Army service weapon was the Springfield

model .45 caliber trapdoor rifle.

Unfortunately, after Troop E, 2nd Cavalry won the award in 1898, the unit went to war in Cuba for the Spanish-American War. When the Army resumed regular target practice in 1902, the trophy had been misplaced. In 1909, though, Church located the trophy and revived the competition, only this time as an individual long-range match award. In 1954, the NRA took over the trophy and awarded it in team competitions. In 1962, the trophy was lami-

nated in a plastic block and mounted on a wooden base. In 1968, the trophy became an individual award given for the best aggregate score of the Navy Cup, Coast Guard Trophy, Marine Corps Cup and Air Force matches, according to the NRA's website.

The Nevada Trophy remains in the possession of the NRA and is listed as one of the associations ongoing annual rifle firing competitions. An email sent to the NRA for more information on the Nevada Trophy was not immediately returned. ■

**(Traffic, page 20)**

the story involved the death of his father and stepmother.

"It's very powerful. I don't know how he does it," Jannis said. "I'm emotional. I knew it was coming the second time, and it was still very emotional. It's a story you don't want to tell, but the kids need to hear."

During the presentation at the base during drill weekend in July, people who've worked

with Hinen in the Nevada Air Guard for decades had never heard the story.

"I try really hard not to give away the ending," Hinen said. "I also try not to get too emotional. That is pretty difficult. Generally, I put up another slide on the presentation at the very end if I get to where I break down and can't talk anymore at the end of it. I have a summary slide that basically says everything I would say at the

end."

For Hinen, it's an almost therapeutic way to continue a legacy for his parents through the promotion of safe driving.

"Troopers have told me that the presentation impacted their career at highway patrol," Hinen said. "Many other people tell me how it made them focus more on the road. From a traffic safety standpoint, that's how we impact people's lives." ■

**(Chef, page 23)**

Sgt. Aaron Lewis and Pfc. Alea Delegero of the 777th FSC earned the coveted title this year with their presentation of tandoori chicken with Mediterranean rice followed by a coconut, apple and raisin dessert.

"It's a great thing to get cooks out of their normal realm of cooking for the masses," Lewis said. "With this competition, we can hone in on our skills, make things a little more particular and pay more attention to the smallest details. It also puts the spotlight on an MOS that usually works behind the scenes." ■

*Sgt. Mike Orton  
106th Public Affairs Detachment*



Photo by Sgt. Mike Orton, 106th Public Affairs Detachment Pfc. Alea Delegero, right, and Sgt. Aaron Lewis of the Nevada Army National Guard's 777th Forward Support Company cook a meal of tandoori chicken and Mediterranean rice with a coconut and apple dessert. The pair took first place out of four teams in the Nevada Guard's second annual Silver Chef competition in Las Vegas on Aug. 7. The other three teams included Sgt. Pamela Giordano and Staff Sgt. Jason Swnager with the 100th Quartermaster and 72nd Military Police (the only multi-unit, blended team), Staff Sgt. Darrel Hurlburt and Staff Sgt. Samuel Wright with the 150th Maintenance Company and Spc. Marco Iglesia and Sgt. James Kowalczyk with the 1864th Transportation Company. Wright and Hurlburt won last year's competition and hope to reclaim first place next year, they said. Event organizers plan to expand the competition beyond four teams to include two days of contests at the unit, then battalion and finally brigade levels.

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# CALENDAR



Federal Holiday



Nevada Holiday and History



Other Events and Functions

## October 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Columbus Day	11	12	13 U.S. Navy Birthday	14	15
16	17	18	19 1869: Sutro Tunnel under Virginia City begins construction	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 Nevada Day (observed)	29 Nevada Day Parade
30	31 Halloween					

## November 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Election Day	9	10	11 Veterans Day	12 1851: Nevada's Territorial history begins
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving Day	25 1859: Nevada's first Territorial Legislature held	26
27	28	29	30			

## December 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 1961: Tribute begins to honor lives lost aboard USS Nevada at Pearl Harbor	8	9	10
11	12	13 1867: Central Pacific Rail Road first to enter Nevada	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Christmas Day	26 Christmas Day (observed)	27	28	29	30	31

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Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka  
Staff Sgt. Alexander Millar, center, holds a 13-star American flag June 14 during the Nevada National Guard's 18th annual Flag Day celebration on Capitol grounds in Carson City. Millar and other members of the Nevada Air National Air Guard NCO Academy Graduates Association performed a Five Flag Display during the event honoring the heritage of the American flag.

