

2014

In case you missed it ...

North Carolina National Guard

For more than 350 years, the North Carolina National Guard (NCNG) has protected the lives and property of our fellow citizens when called upon. It is a volunteer military force composed of nearly 12,000 citizen-soldiers and airmen who have sworn to support and defend the constitutions of the United States and North Carolina. The NCNG continues to be a ready, reliable, responsive and relevant military force of choice!

The NCNG continues to be a trusted military force at home. Throughout 2014, the NCNG participated in and led several events in support of state and federal agencies as well as fostering strong, enduring relationships with local partners from N.C. Emergency Management.

NCNG assets provide critical support at home and nationwide

North Carolina National Guard aviation, both Army and Air Force, contribute immeasurably to supporting emergency operations. Throughout 2014, these assets continued that legacy here in N.C. and nationwide.

Army aviators from the 449th Theater Aviation Brigade's 1-131st Aviation Battalion, a unit whose primary aircraft is the Blackhawk and headquartered in Salisbury, supported the North Carolina Helicopter Aquatic Rescue Team (NCHART) during three search and rescue missions (one in Tennessee). NCHART is a specialized team comprised of N.C. Emergency Management, NCNG, State Highway Patrol, local fire fighters and first responders. NCHART is in its 10th year of operation and has conducted more than 70 rescue missions saving at least 75 stranded or injured persons.

In addition to NCHART, NCNG's Joint Force Headquarters continued to sustain command and control of domestic operations through support to civil authorities, which included 11 state active duty missions totaling 148 days with 584 Guardsmen activated. NCNG's support to local law enforcement and state and regional counterdrug and drug interdiction was exceptional in 2014. NCNG's counter-drug team supported local, state and federal authorities in over 65 missions resulting in 275 arrests and the confiscation of over \$23 million in drugs and property.

Also in the domestic operations arena, the 42nd Civil Support Team, a highly trained unit designed to assess suspected weapons of mass destruction

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The N.C. National Guard's leadership was crucial in a drill to prepare for possible hurricane emergencies.



(chemical, biological, radiological or other) and offer advice to civilian responders on appropriate actions and facilitate the arrival of additional state and Federal military forces. In February, the 42nd supported Charlotte authorities in a suspected chemical dumping incident. The unit supported multiple large-scale events across the state, to include: the Men's and Women's U.S. Open Championships, multiple NASCAR races including the Coca-Cola 600, Cherry Point Air Show and the U.S. Africa Leaders Summit, in Washington, D.C.

The North Carolina Air National Guard's (NCANG) 145th Airlift Wing, based at Charlotte-Douglas International Airport, participated in a high level airport major accident response exercise, for the second year in a row. The exercise involved elements NCANG and 142 first responders from 14 different local, state and federal agencies. The 145th also executed, for the second year in a row, command and control responsibilities in support of the 2014 western wild fire season in California, Arizona and Wyoming.

Training for civil support, missions broad

The NCNG is a trusted and proven military force overseas. NCNG welcomed home many Air and Army units that were deployed overseas in various locations from Afghanistan to Egypt. Over 130 soldiers from the 514th Military Police Company, based in Rocky Mount, returned from Afghanistan; over 260 soldiers of 5/113th Field Artillery, based in Louisburg, returned from a Multinational Observer Force mission in the Sinai Peninsula between Egypt and Israel. Over 160 Soldiers in the 211th Military Police Company, based in Clyde, returned home from a year long deployment to Afghanistan. They were welcomed home by the citizens of Haywood County with a patriotic parade down Main Street.

The 145th Airlift Wing executed multiple deployments

The 105th Military Police Battalion became North Carolina's enduring Rapid Reaction Force mission.

by ISIS.

In 2014 subordinate units of the 105th Military Police Battalion, based in Asheville, assumed the role of North Carolina's enduring Rapid Reaction Force mission. Over 400 Soldiers trained in various support to local law enforcement drills such as: crowd control, traffic control, civil infrastructure security, helicopter movement and insertion, escort operations and much more

More than 190 citizen-soldiers of the 1-120th Infantry Regiment, based in Wilmington, deployed to the Middle East to support Central Command's Operation Spartan Shield. The operation was a mission designed to foster partnerships with the Kuwaiti Land Forces to work toward collaborative training and sharing opportunities. Engineers of the 621st Survey and Design Team, 505th Engineer Battalion, based in Charlotte, also deployed in support of Operation Spartan Shield. The 621st will be responsible for providing construction geodetic surveys, prepare detailed construction plan drawings, and execute quality assurance and quality control.

Support in community events

As a part of the Adjutant General's Campaign Plan, NCNG prides itself in being an active participant in community events from Murphy to Manteo. NCNG soldiers and airmen reside in all 100 counties of our state and provide continuous support for local and state events in the communities in which they serve.

In 2014, the NCNG at all levels of command, supported over 160 community outreach events such as; parades, color guards, displays, flyovers, national anthem soloists, university sporting events, guest speaker requests, outreach for families in need, road races, and so much more.

The 60th Troop Command's 440th Army Band provided a strong and consistent connection between the NCNG, community organizations and the citizens of our state and performed in 47 events from dedications to memorials and parades.

NCNG participated in the State Fair with static displays and a Bradley Fighting Vehicle during the fair's first Military Appreciation Day parade. The 130th Maneuver

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Military Heritage Day was among community events supported by the Guard, along with Gov. Pat McCrory.

Enhancement Brigade, based in Charlotte, and the 113th Sustainment Brigade, based in Greensboro, supported the American Legion World Series with static displays, color guards and Soldiers over the summer. Over 75 Soldiers and Airmen supported NASCAR's Bank of America race in Charlotte, providing displays, escort personnel and security check attendants.

The NCNG remains dedicated to maintaining positive relationships through community outreach events and engagements at the local and unit level in order to further our involvement in the communities in which we serve.

NCNG's Education and Employment Center (EEC) is an initiative that positively affects local communities by getting veterans hired; in this case, N.C. Guardsmen. In 2014, the EEC was able to assist 647 NCNG service members in finding employment with companies across North Carolina, Virginia and South Carolina. Two Guardsmen were hired by DPS through the EEC. Another community-oriented effort is to work with partners to have military skills converted to civilian certifications. In doing so, NCNG service members are able to seek employment in fields such as auto mechanics, commercial driving and local law enforcement. The first pilot program was completed this summer with eight Guardsmen passing the Automotive Service Excellence



Right, a major from the Botswana Defense Force liaison to the State Partnership Program learns about N.C. Emergency Management.

exam for diesel mechanics. These soldiers can now apply for jobs in that field.

Maintaining strong bonds with partners overseas

While NCNG units sustained a strong presence here at home, they also maintained strong bonds with the countries of Botswana and Moldova through North Carolina's State Partnership Program (SPP).

In years past, the NCNG has been an influential and useful tool in SPP. As state partners, the countries of Botswana, located in Southern Africa, and Moldova in Eastern Europe participated in programs in the areas of civilian to civilian, business to business and military to military collaborations.

In all, the NCNG participated in 64 engagements this training year (29 in Moldova and 32 in Botswana and three in other African countries). Missions ranged from humanitarian support and education initiatives to research, technology and entrepreneurial development. These missions were performed while maintaining close military unit relationships between nations.

The NCNG was involved in numerous humanitarian collaborations in Moldova, such as the Humanitarian Mine Action (HMA) program, which provided for joint collaboration with Moldova's medical services and first responders on best practices for initial aid to those injured by unexploded ordinance, and also work with medical professionals on dental programs.

In addition, senior military and government leaders from Botswana met with North Carolina business, government, wildlife and military personnel. The NCNG fostered their relationship by sharing how North Carolina executes interagency Emergency Support Operations. Botswana food service specialist observed tested methods for food service and sanitation in a field environment. The NCNG is working diligently with both countries in developing and starting each country's first non-commissioned officer's academy.

The North Carolina National Guard will continue to foster enduring relationships with their SPP partners in order to support U.S. objectives, as well as future development and growth with their allies overseas. ▴