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# Oregon Sentinel

VOL 6, ISSUE NO. 3

MARCH 2008

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE OREGON NATIONAL GUARD

## Oregon Guard unit responds during Anthrax hoax 102nd CST joins task force in effort to protect local community

Story by  
Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy,  
Oregon Military Department  
Public Affairs Office

One of the newer units in the Oregon National Guard worked closely with local first-responders and civilian emergency agencies during an incident in Albany, Ore., Mar 3.

Members of the Oregon National Guard's 102nd Civil Support Team were called to the Linn County Courthouse located at 300 SW 4th Ave. in Albany, after workers found two envelopes containing a suspicious white powder.

Initial tests found the samples to be a sugar-like substance. Samples were sent to a laboratory for final analysis, said an FBI spokesperson.

One envelope was located outside the rear of the building near an air-conditioning unit, and another envelope was located in an office inside the building. Local authorities cordoned off access to the building, shutting down surrounding streets.

Lt. Col. Steve Ferrell, 102nd CST Commander, said the unit's frequent training with simulated anthrax scenarios over the past several years has adequately prepared them to assist first-responders during the incident.

See **SKILLS** on PAGE 6



Photo by Staff Sgt. Nicholas Lopez,  
Oregon Military Department

Staff Sgt. Jarrell E. Rysavy of the Oregon National Guard's 102nd Civil Support Team, prepares to enter the Linn County Courthouse in Albany, Ore., on March 3, 2008, where workers discovered two envelopes containing a suspicious white powder



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs Office

Albany firefighters and members of the Linn-Benton Regional Region-5 HAZMAT team watch as two Staff Sgt. Jarrell E. Rysavy and Sgt. Joseph K. Plueard, both of the Oregon National Guard's 102nd Civil Support Team, make their way toward the Linn County Courthouse in Albany, Ore., on March 3, 2008. Two envelopes containing a suspicious white powder were discovered by workers, prompting evacuation of the building.

## Command Chief Master Sgt. of the ANG visits Oregon

Prepared by Sentinel Staff



Photo by Kay Fristad, Oregon Military Department

At the Invitation of Oregon's State Command Master Sergeant, the Command Chief Master Sergeant of the Air National Guard Richard "Dick" Smith spoke at the Oregon National Guard Senior Enlisted Conference, 14-16 March 14-16.

The conference, held at Salishan Lodge, in Glen Eden Beach, Ore., was attended by senior enlisted members from the Oregon Army and Air National Guard. About 80-100 Oregonians attended the event.

During his speech, Smith reminded Oregon's senior enlisted Soldiers and Airmen of the importance of Family in the career successes of both traditional and full-time guardsmen.

Smith, who is from Mansfield, Ohio, has been a drill-status guardsman for more than 30 years. He has served as the Command Chief Master Sgt. of the Air National Guard since 2004.

## Oregon's 41 IBCT prepares for deployment, changes leadership

Prepared by Sentinel Staff

**SALEM, Ore.** – One of the largest Oregon Army National Guard units recently saw changes in its leadership.

Col. Daniel Hokanson took over as commander of the 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team during a change of command ceremony at the 17th Street Armory Auditorium in Salem, Ore., March 8.

Hokanson replaced Col. David Enyeart in front of Soldiers from the six Battalions of the 41st Brigade, who represent approximately 3,500 troops.

The change of command comes about a year before the scheduled deployment of the 41st IBCT to Iraq. It will be the largest deployment of Oregon Soldiers since World War II.

Enyeart said three days into joining the 41st Brigade his daughter was born. Citing how much has changed over the years he was with the brigade, he pointed out that today was his daughter's 26th birthday.

"In these 26 years I raised a child and the brigade raised a leader," he said.

"The sense of pride and accomplishment I have for the brigade cannot easily be put into words," said Enyeart, who served twice as the Deputy Commander of Combined Joint Task Force Phoenix in 2004-05 and 2005-06.

Hokanson assumes command of

the brigade with valuable operational and homeland security experience, having served in Operations Just Cause and Enduring Freedom. He also led a nationally-recognized search and rescue program, and spearheaded the Military Air Rescue Team's inception in the state of Oregon, building a model for other states' National Guard organizations to follow.

"Many of the sons and daughters before us today have answered our nation's call, and most will be called upon again," Hokanson said. "They will be the next generation in the legendary reputation established by Soldiers of the 41st Division and Brigade who served our state and nation in past conflicts and in times of need," he said

The 41st IBCT is scheduled to deploy to Iraq in spring of 2009.



Col. Daniel Hokanson, commander of the Oregon Army National Guard's 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team.

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## The Oregon Military Department

State Commander in Chief  
Governor Theodore R. Kulongoski

Adjutant General  
Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees

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State Command Sergeant Major  
Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas R. Moe

State Command Chief  
Chief Master Sgt. Rodney R. Smith

## Oregon Sentinel Editorial Staff

State Public Affairs Officer  
Maj. Michael S. Braibish  
michael.s.braibish@mil.state.or.us

Deputy Public Affairs Officer  
Kay F. Fristad  
kay.f.fristad@mil.state.or.us

Editor in Chief  
Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy  
nick.r.choy@mil.state.or.us

Contributing Writer  
Kimberly L. Lippert  
kimberly.l.lippert@mil.state.or.us

Contributing Photographer/Writer  
Master Sgt. Thomas L. Hovie  
tom.hovie@or.ngb.army.mil

Information Manager  
Staff Sgt. Daniel T. Quitugua  
daniel.quitugua@us.army.mil

Contributors  
115th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment  
142nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs  
173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs  
Unit Public Affairs Representatives

Editorial Offices  
c/o Oregon Military Department  
Attn: Editor, Oregon Sentinel  
P.O. Box 14350  
Salem, Oregon 97309  
503-584-3917

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## COMMENTARY

## Traditional Guardsmen form backbone of National Guard



Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees,  
Adjutant General,  
Oregon Military Department

Our National Guard roots run deep – so much so they predate the history of the United States. In the early days of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, the able-bodied men were summoned together to provide for the common defense and welfare of their growing village.

This community based force defended the lives and livelihood of their community against the dangers found in Europe's New World, and they ultimately helped win the Revolutionary War, giving birth to our nation.

Known as the Minutemen, the militia of the Revolutionary War symbolize the National Guard as we know it today: citizen-

soldiers and airmen with one hand on their plows and the other on their muskets: ready, relevant, reliable.

Though times have changed, we share a common purpose and common threads with our forbearers. Like the militia of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, the Minutemen, and the militia and Guardsmen who served in the Spanish-American war, World Wars I and II, and beyond, we have committed to serving our state and nation. The backbone of the National Guard always has been and always will be the traditional Guardsman – one hand on the plow, the other on the musket.

Earlier this month we bid farewell to two of our traditional Guardsmen who should rightly hold their heads high – two shining examples of how important traditional Guardsmen are.

Brig. Gen. Raymond C. Byrne, Jr., retired March 8 after more than 37 years of service. In uniform, he served as the Acting Adjutant General, Commander of Land Forces, and Army Assistant to the Adjutant General.

Yet many more Oregonians knew him as Mr. Byrne – a middle school teacher in Springfield, Ore. In this civilian job, he taught young minds about the world around them, and he led citizen-soldiers and airmen as they played their part in the unfolding his-

tory of our world.

We also said goodbye to Lt. Col. Dan Hendrickson, who led the 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry during their deployment to Iraq. While deployed to Baghdad, he and the battalion ensured the safety of the Iraqi people through their first elections.

At home, Hendrickson protects citizens as the Community Services Division Commander of the Corvallis Police Department. The division he oversees comprises dozens of uniformed police officers and is the backbone of the CPD.

Both of these men are part of the composite history of the National Guard – they represent the core, the backbone of our service: traditional Guardsmen straddling the civilian and military worlds, always ready, always relevant, always reliable.

Though we shall miss them, we along with our state and nation, can take comfort knowing they led well, and new leaders will step forward from the ranks of traditional Guardsmen to fill the gap.

We are fortunate and blessed to have had their leadership, their example, and the legacy of the citizen-soldier and airmen which they sustained.

Farewell, Gen. Byrne and Col. Hendrickson—we are honored to have served with you.

## Guardmembers should join our professional organizations

Every, or almost every, profession has a professional organization that allows members of a profession to come together to promote the profession, present ideas to better the profession and to present a face to the public.

There is an expectation that if you are member of a profession that you will be a member of the professional organization of your peers. Lawyers have the bar associations, doctors have the medical associations, industries have their associations.

We in the National Guard are members of a profession. The Profession of Arms.

There are several professional organizations dedicated to supporting servicemen and women.

The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) is dedicated to promoting the status, welfare and professionalism of enlisted members of the National Guard by supporting legislation

that provides adequate staffing, pay, benefits, entitlements, equipment and installations for the National Guard.

Non-Commissioned Officers Association (NCOA) was established to enhance and maintain the quality of life for noncommissioned and petty officers in all branches of the Armed Forces, National Guard and Reserves.

The Association of the United States Army (AUSA) is a private, non-profit educational organization that supports America's Army - Active, National Guard, Reserve, Civilians, Retirees and family members.

We need to support our professional organizations by becoming members of whatever association that you choose. EANGUS, NCOA, AUSA are all fine organizations who are working for you and your benefit.

Your membership is important because that is what provides them with a voice that gets listened to, both locally and nationally.



State Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas R. Moe,  
State Command Sergeant Major,  
Oregon Military Department

All these organizations share a common theme: being the voice for all components of Army and Air service. They are your legislative representation **which** acts on your behalf on issues that affect you and your family.

They foster the public support of the Army's role in national security and provide professional education and information programs to the force.

## General's speech inspires Oregon JAG officer

By Lt. Col. Dan Bunch,  
173rd FW Staff Judge Advocate



Gen. David Petraeus, Commander,  
Multi-National Force, Iraq, speaking  
during a visit there.

I recently completed a six-month tour in Iraq as a member of the Law and Order Task Force.

I hope, with this article, to convey the importance of unique and rewarding opportunities in our military legal community, and excite you about deployments; You are needed over there!

The LAOTF mission is de-

signed to build Iraq's judicial and law enforcement capacity while promoting justice.

The LAOTF is strategically located in the Rule of Law Complex, east of the International Zone across the Tigris River. No one in country calls it the "Green Zone".

Members of LAOTF live and work on Forward Operating Base Shield, a small and exceptionally secure compound lying within the ROL Complex, which can be accessed only through armed check points. The complex includes Baghdad Police College, Rusafa Prison and Rusafa Court.

The complex is one component of an evolving and expanding rule of law effort in Iraq. The effort is not new—but it is receiving emphasis from our nation's leaders.

The Rule of Law mission in Iraq, known as the "most important objective" there, has now matured into a focused and well-funded effort which is a top priority for the multi-national coalition.

Shortly after arriving in Baghdad, I attended the rule of law conference in the IZ, where I heard a speech by Gen. David Petraeus, Commander, Multi-National Force, Iraq. He discussed

the importance of establishing the ROL in Iraq, and the key roles of JAG personnel.

In all candor, I was surprised to find Petraeus at a rule of law conference, and curious why he would speak to a room full of attorneys about our legal jobs in Iraq.

After listening to his speech and working for six months in Iraq, I now understand why Petraeus met with us.

Establishing the rule of law in Iraq is at the heart of the Coalition effort. In many ways, it is the mission. Petraeus was not simply reading slides or giving us the standard spiel. He believes in the rule of law and is determined to accomplish it. Moreover, Gen. Petraeus needs our legal community to fulfill its mission there.

This particular speech framed my attitude throughout my deployment. I actually wish I had heard him speak before I left Oregon. I vividly remember his words and passion and I also recall the sense of pride I felt, and continue to feel, by virtue of my involvement in so critical a mission.

My initial impulse to volunteer was occasioned by a sense of duty. I felt somewhat obligated

to help. Weighed against this calling were practical concerns. I did not want to leave my family or disrupt my civilian career.

I was also keenly aware of the risks associated with such a deployment. I determined however, that the willingness to confront and to overcome these concerns distinguished me from all other professionals. We are routinely recognized for making such sacrifices, or even simply having the willingness to do so.

For perhaps the first time in our nation's history, JAGs and paralegals are participating in a conflict whose outcome largely depends on our contributions.

We are not only supporting an operation; we are the operation.

As military professionals, and as JAG and paralegals in particular, we should care about the rule of law in Iraq.

It does indeed matter, and I can assure you that you matter.

This deployment afforded me the opportunity I always desired; to contribute directly to the mission.

It was also the educational experience of a lifetime. The uber-CLE. And on a human level, I gained perspective and knowledge that will be with me the rest of my life.

## COMMENTARY

## Mentoring key to retaining members in high performance teams

By Senior Master Sgt. Max White,  
142nd Fighter Wing  
Human Resources Advisor



a mentoring program through the State Diversity Council. Then we adopted the Colaboro system of Mission Driven Mentoring. When that system was dropped for security reasons, we migrated to

the current EDP (Enlisted Development Plan) as the mechanism utilized for formal mentoring.

There are two kinds of mentoring, informal and formal. Informal mentoring is the unstructured mentoring that goes on a daily basis on our bases. I know that there are certain people who I approach to ask for advice on career enhancement, professional development, or fitness.

Certain individuals through their demonstrated trustworthiness have gained my trust. Hence, I do not hesitate to vent my emotions to them or problem solve with them. These individuals, which ideally include my supervisor, are my mentors and my wingmen.

No one is suggesting that informal mentoring be eliminated. But the problem with informal mentoring is that it leaves some people behind.

That is why formal mentoring is so important. For someone who has a trusting

relationship with their supervisor, it can serve to systematize feedback and advice. And for those who do not have someone directly in their chain of command to mentor them, it enables them to go outside of that chain of command.

The Air National Guard's Mentoring Program is now available through the Air Force Portal. All Active, Guard and Reserve members are authorized to log in to the AF Portal at <https://www.my.af.mil/>. It is there you will find the Enlisted Development Plan (EDP) under the "Featured Links" and then the "Top Viewed Careers" column under the message from our leaders.

Not only does it take only a few minutes to register; but access is available at both your base and at home. I encourage all enlisted leadership in the Oregon Air National Guard to become members.

It is important to note Airmen can not request guidance from potential mentors, unless supervisors and those willing to be mentors have registered.

The focus of the EDP is to maximize performance of our Airmen through positive mentoring relationships. It is broken down into 3 separate modules: Education and Training, Leadership, and Job Experience.

EDP allows Airmen to develop professional goals, draft a plan to achieve those goals, and track their progress in their personal journal with an embedded

calendar to keep them on task. Mentors will be able to view a protégé's progress and add comments for guidance. Data is linked to the Virtual MPF. However, other members authorized to view your plan will not have access to any Privacy Act information such as your home address and SSAN.

The EDP has direct links to appropriate AFIs, Air Force Doctrine, and other information required for career development. For instance, you can locate the minimum requirements for promotion to the next rank and outline the appropriate steps to prepare for promotion.

I must say this again: In order to effectively develop goals and a career plan for your Airmen, supervisors and mentors **must register an EDP** on the Air Force Portal. There you can work towards achieving personal goals and career objectives for the ANG as well as your civilian occupation.

Other features of EDP allow Airmen to participate in online forums open to all Air Force enlisted members and maintain a personal library. Once enrolled, supervisors and mentors can participate in all phases of an Airman's development.

Mentoring plays a huge role in enabling the Oregon National Guard to retain, develop, and utilize personnel as members of high performance teams. This is the essence of including and engaging all our Soldiers and Airmen.

## LETTERS FROM THE FRONT

## Alpha Co. 641 nears end of deployment



Alpha Company is officially 3/4 of the way through the deployment. It is a good feeling all around; the light at the end of the tunnel is showing brighter every day. That said, everyone is maintaining their focus on the mission, safety and each other.

The weather is beginning to clear up, although we have had a few dust storms already. We are seeing temperatures approaching the 90's.

Today we had a Saint Patrick's Day Barbeque; I have attached some pictures

This month we have sent 12 soldiers to the Green Zone to see the Crossed-Swords, the U.S. Embassy and over to Cp. Victory to Al Faw Palace, etc. We are sending some this week to Kuwait City on a shopping run and site seeing trip.

To date, we have flown 2,900 flight hours, moved 6.5 million pounds of cargo and transported 14,400 passengers.

All said, this company is doing an extraordinary job!

Thanks again to those of you who send news this way. The troops appreciate it! Keep the lights on back home; we'll see you in about 60 days!

Take care, God Bless,  
Maj. David R. Doran  
Commander, Alpha Co., 641 Aviation Regt. (CELTS)  
Oregon Army National Guard  
LSA Anaconda, Balad, Iraq

The Soldiers of Alpha Co. 641 AV put together a video on their deployment to Iraq. To download and view the video, visit [http://myaccount.dropsend.com/storage?folder\\_id=580640](http://myaccount.dropsend.com/storage?folder_id=580640).

Enter the user name: shaundave@aol.com and the password: a641video. Then go to "storage" on the left and download the video.

## Corrections

The phone number for the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs referenced in the news brief, "ODVA offering low-interest home loans" on Page 7, was listed incorrectly in the February 2008 issue of the Oregon Sentinel. The correct phone number for the ODVA is 1-800-828-8801.

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

## Would you like to save a tree?

In an effort to be responsible stewards of our environment, the staff of the Oregon Sentinel is offering an "opt-out" for the printed publication.

Simply contact us via phone or e-mail to have your name and address removed from the mailing list.

You can then still enjoy every issue of the Oregon Sentinel online:  
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Contact the State Public Affairs Office at: 503-584-3917  
or via e-mail at: [sentinel-editor@mil.state.or.us](mailto:sentinel-editor@mil.state.or.us)

General Membership Meeting  
EANGUS

(Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States)

There will be a general membership meeting of the Oregon Chapter of The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) to elect officers and a board of directors. All current, former and future members are invited.

April 26, 2008, 1200-1700  
Anderson Readiness Center, Room 114

The Enlisted Association of the National Guard, Oregon is dedicated to promoting the status, welfare and professionalism of enlisted members of the National Guard

## FEATURES

# “Jewel of the Pacific” celebrates 80 years of community service

Story by Maj. Alisha Hamel,  
ORNG Heritage Outreach Program

Camp Rilea, the Jewel of the Pacific, turned 80 years old in 2007.

A birthday party to celebrate the milestone was thrown during the December drill hosted by the post commander, Col. Todd Plimpton. The keynote speaker for the event was appropriate, given his love of history, Brig. Gen. Raymond Byrne.

Camp Rilea was originally known as Camp Clatsop, and was leased in 1927, with construction and improvements beginning right away.

Under the leadership of Maj. Gen. George A. White, Oregon's Adjutant General at the time, federal funds and federal programs such as the Works Progress Administration and Civilian Conservation Corps helped build some of the infrastructure still utilized at the post today.

More land adjacent to Camp Clatsop was purchased in the 1930s and the post became a very important training site for the Oregon National Guard.

By 1941 the post had over 700 acres and boasted accommodations for 4,600 troops in 4- and 8-man tent frames. Later, these tents were improved by adding wooden walls, metal roofs and oil fired stoves.

During World War II, Camp Clatsop was the initial mobilization station for the 249th Coast Artillery. The U.S. Army continued to use it throughout the war as an extension of Fort Stevens.

A variety of army units such as the 37th Infantry Regiment used it as a training and staging base.

After World War II Camp Clatsop was the site for the 1948 encampment of the newly reorganized units from the Oregon Army National Guard.

In the following years it became the primary training site for Oregon Army National Guard air defense (anti-aircraft) units. Oregon Air National Guard radar and communications units also trained at Camp Clatsop.

In 1959 Camp Clatsop was renamed Camp Rilea to honor Maj. Gen. Thomas E. Rilea.



Oregon's air defense units were disbanded in 1972 and Camp Rilea had a brief period of reduced use. In 1975 the camp was partly revitalized for use by a variety of military units not just the Oregon National Guard.

In the mid-1980s there was a major expansion of Camp Rilea's facilities and roles. Under the leadership of Oregon's Adjutant General at the time, Camp Rilea became a training site meeting a variety of modern military training needs. It featured modern troop housing, state-of-the-art firing ranges and 30 specialized training sites.

Starting in 1990, Camp Rilea began hosting a number of civilian and school programs. These included national cross country track events, Naval Sea Cadet training, high school soccer meets, high school and grade school tour groups, football and band camps, and historical re-enactments.

Camp Rilea also became an important training site for federal, state, county and municipal law enforcement agencies. Since 1998 Camp Rilea has been used as a "Theater Specific Individual Readiness Training Site" for National Guard, U.S. Army Reserve, and Regular Army units being sent overseas.

At the start of the 21st century, Camp Rilea's facilities supported infantry squad training, airborne, air assault and amphibious training, operations in urban areas, Special Forces and Ranger training, combat engineer training, leadership training and training for peacekeeping operations. The Oregon Military Department leased



Photos courtesy of Camp Rilea

Camp Clatsop (now Camp Rilea), in the 1930s. Above left: Camp Rilea today.

over 350,000 acres of nearby forest land to support training for units up to brigade strength (about 4,000 soldiers). Also, a number of military units from other countries also trained at Camp Rilea, including Canada and Great Britain, utilized the site for training.

Camp Rilea has become an integral part of Clatsop County.

"The Soldiers of Camp Rilea are our Little League coaches, part of our Chambers of Commerce and involved in so many other ways," said Oregon Senator Betsy Johnson. "They are part of our community, and part of the civic fabric of Clatsop County."

Camp Rilea is now a combined arms facility with Army and Air Force tenant units that work cooperatively to provide world class training and recreational facilities to many military and civilian entities.

"The cost of maintaining a large active component will drive the country to reliance on the National Guard and facilities such as Camp Rilea," said Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, Adjutant General for

the Oregon National Guard.

"The future is full of promise for our primary training center," Rees added.

When the winter storm of 2007, called Hurricane Winds 2007 by the Clatsop County Emergency Operations center hit the Oregon coast, Camp Rilea became an important part of the rescue effort, emergency personnel said. And according to Dr. Sonny Park, even saved lives.

"By bringing in and hooking up your emergency generator to our kidney dialysis facility, many lives were saved," wrote Park in a letter to the Oregon National Guard. "I appreciate the professionalism and efficiency of the Oregon National Guard, who made this happen. I commend all who were involved," he added.

"The soldiers at Camp Rilea are all heroes. They have always answered 'yes' to all the requests and figured out how to do the paperwork later," Senator Johnson said.

"They save lives," Johnson added.

"The relationship with Camp Rilea and the community was good before the storm. It is off the charts now."

## TAG XO recipient of national award

Prepared by Sentinel Staff

An Oregon Army National Guard officer has been awarded the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award for 2007.

Capt. Wyatt W. Welch, the Executive Officer for Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, the Adjutant General, Oregon Military Department, will receive the award in Washington, D.C. in May, 2008.

The General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award recognizes company grade officers in the U.S. Army, Army Reserve and Army National Guard who demonstrate the ideals for which MacArthur stood - duty, honor and country. The award promotes and sustains effective junior officer leadership in the Army.

Welch said he is honored and humbled to represent the Oregon Army National Guard at this year's ceremony. He added that he is honored to join a very small group of leaders from Oregon who have received the award during its 21-year history.

Previous recipients from Oregon include: 1987 recipient Col. Kimberly Wilson (Deviliss), 1997 recipient, Col. Todd Plimpton, 2000 recipient, Lt. Col. William Edwards, and 2001 recipient, Lt. Col. William Prendergast.

"I'm humbled because I'm not quite sure I see in myself what others see to put me in a position of such esteem and recognition," Welch said. "My thanks to everyone that played a part for their mentorship and guidance which resulted in my receiving the award."

Welch thanked the Soldiers with who he has served, saying without their support and assistance, he could not have achieved the prestigious recognition.

For a list of the other recipients for 2007, visit [www.armygl.army.mil/macarthur/default.asp](http://www.armygl.army.mil/macarthur/default.asp).



Capt. Wyatt W. Welch

## Camp Rilea by the Years:

1925 – State of Oregon purchases 363.5 acres

1927 – Site developed as a training facility for the Oregon National Guard. Named Camp Clatsop.

1930s – Expansion of Camp Clatsop infrastructure.

1940 – Oregon National Guard is activated for WWII.

– 249th Coast Artillery is mobilized and housed at Camp Clatsop.

1942 – Japanese sub shells Fort Stevens.

– Shells land just outside the northern edge of Camp Clatsop

1948 – Earthquake damages some of Camp Clatsop's buildings.

– Encampment held of the newly reorganized Oregon Army National Guard units.

1959 – Camp Clatsop renamed Camp Rilea in honor of Maj. Gen. Thomas E. Rilea.

1969 – Brig. Gen. Fred Rosenbaum hosts first "Camp Rosenbaum"

1970s – Camp revitalization, first sewer system installed

1972 – Oregon Air Defense units disbanded

1980s – 116th Air Control Squadron assigned to Camp Rilea.

– Troop housing, multi-weapon ranges and specialized training sites built.

– Camp Rilea begins hosting civilian and civic events.

1990s – State Police become a permanent tenant. ORNG develops Battle Simulator and Engagement Skills Training Center.

1997 – Checkpoint Charlie, rappel tower built.

1999 – Checkpoint Saudi, ROPES course completed.

2001 – ROPES Leadership Course completed.

2007 – Severe winter storm hits Camp Rilea and Clatsop County



## NEWS

## Education prevents sexual assault

Story by Lt. Col. Marilyn Woodward,  
Oregon Military Department Safety Officer

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The theme in 2008 is, "Prevent Sexual Assault: Ask, Act, Intervene!" The theme works hand in hand with the National Guard's launching of the 'Bystander Intervention' training this year.

Awareness training began almost four years ago, and the second phase of training is Intervention. It focuses on the relationship of alcohol and sexual assault and other issues that increase the risk of assault.

Most sexual assaults are perpetrated by persons we know, not strangers. All of us need to learn the behaviors and signs of a possible sexual assault situation.

Sexual Assault Response Coordinators and Victim Advocates are scheduling bystander intervention training throughout the year so everyone can discuss and improve their knowledge to prevent these crimes.

Help keep your Guard professional and respectful to all persons.

For more information, contact any of the personnel listed below.

### Oregon National Guard SARC's:

JFHQ – Lt. Col. Marilyn Woodward, 503-584-3931

82 Brigade – Maj. Ricardo Gloria, 503-557-5911

142 FW – Maj. Misti Mazzia, 503-335-4510

173 FW – Capt. Lucas Ritter, 541.885.6198

### Victim Advocates:

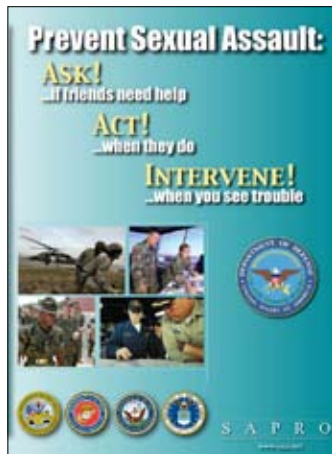
JFHQ – Staff Sgt. Stacey Lyman, 503-584-3943

82 Brigade – Sgt. 1st Class Todd Ginther, 503-584-3212

173 FW – Senior Master Sgt. L. Morehouse, 541-331-3210

142 FW – Maj. Bryan Walden, 503-281-0406

142 FW – Staff Sgt. Anne Kyle, 503-698-4286



## 37-year 'Soldier's Soldier' retires



Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski (right), and Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, Adjutant General, Oregon National Guard, (back), award Brig. Gen. Raymond C. Byrne, Jr. with the Oregon Distinguished Service Medal, during his retirement ceremony at the Anderson Readiness Center in Salem, Ore., Mar. 2, 2008.

Story and photo by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy,  
Oregon Military Department Public Affairs Office

About 200 Soldiers, Airmen, coworkers, family and friends, gathered in Salem, Ore., to bid farewell to an individual many referred to as a "consummate individual" and a "Soldier's Soldier."

Brig. Gen. Raymond C. Byrne, Jr., Assistant Adjutant General, Oregon National Guard, was honored in an official retirement ceremony held at the Anderson Readiness Center on Mar. 2, 2008.

The ceremony was attended by current and retired senior leaders of both Oregon's Air and Army National Guard, civic leaders and business owners, and Oregon's Governor, Ted Kulongoski, who said Byrne's approach to leadership reflected his approach to life.

"He has a humility and a heartfelt concern for the troops and their families under his command," Kulongoski said.

Kulongoski highlighted the general's military career, which began in 1971 as an enlisted Soldier. The Governor paid special attention to the period beginning in Oct. 2003, when Byrne was appointed as Acting Adjutant General—where he supervised, managed, and oversaw the entire Oregon National Guard until Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees assumed the post in mid-2005.

While at the helm of the Oregon National Guard, Byrne oversaw several high-profile overseas deployments of Oregon Soldiers, and the start of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission's investigation into the possible shutdown of the Portland Air Base.

Part of his responsibility also included being responsible to the President of the United States and stipulations given by Congress concerning use of federal funds and National Guard resources.

Kulongoski commended Byrne for his steadfast leadership and direction.

"I will always be grateful to his service to the nation and to Oregonians," he said of Byrne.

Like the 41st Separate Infantry Brigade, a unit Byrne had commanded previous to his tenure at Joint Forces Headquarters in Salem, Ore., Kulongoski said Byrne made a lasting impact on the people and the units he commanded.

"He left every unit better off than when he found them," the Governor said.

Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, Adjutant General, Oregon National Guard, praised Byrne's accomplishments in the military as well as in his civilian life. Byrne spent nearly 37 years as a traditional National Guard Soldier, and more than 21 years as a middle school teacher.

"(Byrne) reinforces my belief that traditional guardsmen are the treasure of the United States," Rees said. "Individuals who are successful in their civilian life carry that wealth of knowledge into the military."

Byrne, who holds a Bachelor of Science in anthropology and a master's degree in curriculum and instruction, both from the University of Oregon, said he holds education as a high priority in his life. He would often quote page and verse from the many books he read.

According to Jim Willis, Director of the Oregon Department of Veteran's Affairs, Byrne brought a wealth of knowledge—both intellectual and military to the organization.

"And you didn't want to get into a contest about history with (Byrne)," Willis said jokingly during his speech.

All those who spoke about Byrne highlighted his devotion to taking care of people, whether they were in uniform or not. Both Kulongoski and Rees commended Byrne for his work with families of deployed Soldiers through the Family Readiness Groups and his work with veterans through the Oregon National Guard Reintegration Team.

Byrne thanked several coworkers by name, and quoted several passages from favorite books during his speech. He thanked all the Soldiers, Airmen and their families for their service to the state and the nation, taking a reflective look back at his career and the people who touched his life.

"Retirement ceremonies for the military are a good time to reflect on all the people you've met and all the places you've been," Byrne said. "It (gives you a chance) to kind of wrap up your life in the military."

He said he looked forward to enjoying the company of family and friends during his retirement in the McKenzie River Valley, where he is a resident, but has offered his assistance to the Oregon National Guard, if needed.

"I've told General Rees that I'd be willing to help out on whatever he needs help on. I'm tied to this organization, both time-wise, but also emotionally. You just don't walk away from that," Byrne said.

Pfc. Anita Vandermolen of the 115th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment contributed to this article.

## ATTENTION GUARD FAMILIES

# Family Reintegration study

Are you a **Guard member** who has recently returned from the global war on terror?

Or are you a **family member** of a Guard member who has recently returned from the global war on terror?

### Join a study on Family Reintegration

*Help us improve services for families who are dealing with issues related to post deployment.*

All potential participants (18 years and older) are welcome. If you choose to take part in this research, you will be asked to participate in a focus group interview with a study investigator (if you prefer, you can elect to be interviewed in private.) The interviews will last about one and one-half to two hours and you will be given a \$20 gift certificate for your time.

For more information, please contact the research team at **503 494-7721** or **famguard@ohsu.edu**.

Principal investigator: **Deborah Messecar, R.N., Ph.D.**

This research is sponsored by the Triservice Nursing Research Program, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. However, the information or content and conclusions do not necessarily represent the official position or policy of, nor should any official endorsement be inferred by, the Triservice Nursing Research Program, The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, the Department of Defense, or the U.S. Government.

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## FEATURES

## Spring a time for organizing, not 'stressing out', organizing expert says

Story compiled from DoD and NGAUS news services

**NEW HAVEN, CT** – There is something about the spring air that motivates even the worst procrastinators to dust off the cleaning supplies and begin organizing their home or office space. However, once the yearly ritual begins, many people can describe how they feel in one word, "Overwhelmed!"

"That's because they think being 'organized' means being rigid, sterile or perfect," explains Organizing Guru Rosemary Chieppo, author of the handbook "Clutter, Chaos & the Cure." Chieppo, who says her style "is more Rachael Ray than Martha Stewart," defines organized as being able to find what you need, when you need it.

"It ain't rocket science," Chieppo defiantly proclaims. "Organizing just means having a place for everything and making sure everything is in its place."

Chieppo's unconventional approach stresses that clearing physical clutter clears the clutter in the mind, "Spring is all about renewal, so there's no better time to reorganize your home and

reinvigorate yourself." Although her new handbook ranges from guidelines for knowing when to throw out important papers to maximizing kitchen space, Chieppo offers the following five general tips for simplifying spring organizing when the "must-do-mood" hits:

- Start with small tasks so you can indulge in the victory of completion. "Most people feel defeated before they start, so this mindset is going to keep you motivated."

- Give your things a home at the point of their use. "Think toothbrush. You never misplace it because its home is where you use it. The same concept should be applied to just about everything else in your space."

- Group like things together. "It allows you to keep inventory of what you do have so you don't end up with 17 black turtlenecks or 67 AA batteries!"

- Don't put tall things in front of short things and don't put big things on top of little things. "Most people are visual; if they don't see something, it may as well not exist."

- Remember, organizing is an ongoing process. "Once you've done the initial work of creat-

ing a place for everything, don't sabotage your progress by falling back into old habits. Try to return each item to its designated spot as soon as you can."

One of the first concerns most people have about organizing is the amount of time it will take to complete the organizing project; to which Chieppo replies, "You think you don't have time to get organized, but you must get organized in order to have time."

The other hurdle involves mustering up the courage to say "goodbye" to things accumulated over a number of years. "I never saw a hearse pulling a U-Haul," Chieppo jokingly points out. The longtime member of the National Association of Professional Organizers states that many people tend to think of organizing only in terms of physical space like closets, pantries and papers, but adds it also has an emotional and mental side. "They don't own their stuff. Their stuff owns them. Bringing themselves to donate or discard an item of sentimental value takes a certain amount of self-reflection."

Once a person is armed with knowledge of how to organize and begins the process, Chieppo teaches that the easier the sys-



Courtesy photo

tem, the more likely they are to incorporate organizing into their daily routine, which is where the real payoff comes into play.

"Keep your life organized, she says, and you'll find more energy and clarity in every day. More importantly, next year, you can spend your time enjoying

all spring has to offer instead of cleaning!"

Rosemary Chieppo is a Connecticut author who writes for "Around the Towns" magazine and the "New Haven Register," in addition to several other regional magazines.

## Skills valuable in real-world, CST commander says



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs Office

FBI Special Agent, Craig G. Mueller, of the Portland FBI Office, (center, facing) takes custody of a sample of white powder found in an envelope outside the Linn County Courthouse in Albany, Ore., the morning of March 3, 2008.

Continued from FRONT PAGE

"Anthrax training seems to be the most common scenario," he said. "They've done it quite a few times, so they're very proficient in this type of scenario."

The CST worked closely with the Albany Fire Department, Linn-Benton Regional Region-5 HAZMAT team, the Linn County Sheriff's office, and representatives from the FBI.

"We're here to do whatever we can to support them," Ferrell said.

Two CST members donned HAZMAT suits before taking samples from the envelope located outside the building. The sample was secured, and transported to Hillsboro for analysis.

Custody of the sample was turned over to Craig Mueller, Special Agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Portland, Ore., who escorted the sample to the lab.

Linn County Undersheriff, Will McAnulty, said the inter-agency relationships are critical during incidents like this.

"We couldn't do this without all of us working together," he said. "We really appreciate all the assistance from the National Guard."

Ferrell said the CST has the distinct advantage of devoting all their training cycles to preparing for incidents like this.

"We have a luxury that most of the HAZMAT teams or fire fighters don't, in that it's our full time job to train for these things," Ferrell said.

"(In many cases), we bring skills that add to their capabilities and we're very happy to be able to do that," he added.

By early afternoon, a thorough sweep of the building found no more suspicious packages. Federal and local authorities will continue their investigation into the incident.

If convicted, the individuals who left the envelopes face possible prosecution under federal anti-terrorism laws and civil penalties and may be held financially responsible for the cost of the emergency response.

## CDC director visits Iraq

Story and photo by Sgt. Patrick Lair,

115th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment  
1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

**TIKRIT, Iraq** — (March 24, 2008) The director of the Centers for Disease Control and administrator of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, visited Tikrit, Iraq, on March 22.

Dr. Julie Gerberding spent the day visiting fellow physicians at the Tikrit Teaching Hospital and the tuberculosis clinic in Tikrit. Gerberding, on her second visit to Iraq, arrives for the United and Healthy conference sponsored by the World Health Organization, the U.S. Dept. of Defense and the Iraqi Ministry of Health. Her visit also coincides with World TB Day.

"It's really important for doctors to be able to come together and brief each other on the latest developments in science," Gerberding said of the upcoming conference. "We have a lot of opportunities to not only understand what some of the emerging health issues are but also to understand how we could collaborate together."

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, part of the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, is the primary U.S. federal facility for conducting and supporting health activities in the U.S.

"The CDC is very committed to supporting the Health Ministry in Iraq and being a very good partner," she said.



Dr. Julie Gerberding, director of the Centers for Disease Control, delivers a short speech to colleagues at the Salah ad Din tuberculosis clinic in Tikrit on March 22. Gerberding visited Tikrit to take part in the United and Healthy conference sponsored by American and Iraqi government agencies to promote health awareness in Iraq.

## THE SENTINEL WANTS YOU!

We want your stories! We want your pictures!

Submit them to:  
The Oregon Sentinel  
c/o: Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy,  
nick.r.choy@mil.state.or.us

Stories must be submitted in Microsoft Word files, with all formatting turned off. Photos must be high-resolution color JPG files, and must have an accompanying caption (also in MS Word) explaining what is happening in the picture, as well as the rank, full name, and unit of the person(s) depicted. Submissions for Letters to the Editor and Letters From The Front are preferred.

## FEATURES

## Hollywood film debut thrusts Oregon Guardsmen into spotlight

Oregonians honored at international film festival

Story and photos by  
Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy,  
Oregon Military Department  
Public Affairs Office

When Ryan Howell was interviewed by a Northwest film director after returning home in 2005 from his deployment to Iraq, he never envisioned the session would take him and his fellow Soldiers to a celebrity red-carpet screening in Hollywood.

But on March 9, 2008, that's exactly what happened.

"I never thought it would lead to this," Howell said, following the star-studded event held in Hollywood, Calif.

Indeed, Howell and some of his fellow Soldiers from the Oregon Army National Guard's 2nd Battalion, 162 Infantry figured the video would end up as a visual "yearbook" of their one-year deployment in Iraq, with a few local showings.

Instead, the award-winning documen-

tiis, the showing was as much business as it was personal.

"After I watched the movie, I just fell in love with the guys," she said. "They're a great group of people and we're so proud to have them here."

Some of the celebrities who attended the event included Ed McMahon, Cuba Gooding Sr., singer Debora Gibson, Ed Lauder, "Good Times" star, Ja'Net Du Bois, and Christopher McDonald, who is best known for the character of 'Shooter McGavin' in the movie "Happy Gilmore".

The red-carpet event was followed by a special screening of the film, and a party where the Oregon Soldiers were able to meet with and talk to some of the celebrities.



Oregon Army National Guard Soldiers who were featured in a 2006 documentary, "This is War", were honored during a Hollywood screening of the film, March 10, in Hollywood, Calif. From L to R: Ryan Howell, Sgt. Ryan Tuttle, Tonight Show co-host, Ed McMahon, Sgt. 1st Class Vincent Jacques, Staff Sgt. Chris Petersen, Rebekka-Mae Bruns, and Luke Wilson.

**It was a real honor to meet these brave men and women.**

— Ed McMahon, entertainer and military veteran, upon meeting Oregon National Guard Soldiers featured in "This is War"

tary, *This is War: Memories of Iraq*, which was well-received by local audiences in Oregon, was a big hit with the Hollywood crowd, said the film's director, Gary Mortensen.

"It was great to see the Oregon National Guard come into the city of Los Angeles and find an extremely receptive audience," Mortensen said. "It's proof that not everyone in Hollywood has a certain perspective that you could term as anti-military. There's a lot of folks down there that care about our Soldiers."

Mortensen was referring to Sgt. 1st Class Phillip "Vinni" Jacques, Sgt. Ryan Tuttle, Staff Sgt. Kris Petersen, Luke Wilson, Ryan Howell and Rebekkah Mae Bruns—Soldiers who fought alongside each other in the now infamous battles of Fallujah and Najaf, during their deployment in Iraq from 2004-2005.

The special screening of the film documenting their deployment was held during the 2nd Annual Cinema City Film Festival March 9-10, at the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza in Los Angeles, Calif. According to the event's organizer, Suzanne DeLauren-

The following evening, the Soldiers took part in a special "black-tie" awards ceremony held in the hotel ballroom. Each Soldier received a plaque recognizing their sacrifice and participation in the film.

Before leaving Hollywood, entertainer and Tonight Show co-host Ed McMahon invited the group to his Beverly Hills home. McMahon and his wife Pam gave each of the Soldiers a gift basket containing their favorite books and a signed photograph of the entertainer.

"It was a real honor to meet these brave men and women back from Iraq, back from the difficult life of war they lived through, and I'm so happy to have them here in my home and share some of my military experiences with them," McMahon said as he sat behind the large desk in his study, the walls of which are festooned with a photographic record of his many years in the military and in show business.

"They're quite a group of people that should be honored at all times," he added.

McMahon, himself a military veteran, served as a flight instructor and test pilot,



Luke Wilson points to a photo of him which was used in the cover art of the documentary, "This is War".

flying F4-U Corsairs during WWII. He was discharged as a colonel in 1966, and was soon commissioned as a brigadier general in the California Air National Guard. Not soon after, he retired from the military as his full-time civilian job of co-hosting *The Tonight Show* with friend and coworker Johnny Carson, was beginning to "take off".

"The rest, as they say, is history," McMahon quipped.

Sgt. 1st Class Phillip "Vinni" Jacques, co-founder of "Blasted Brothers" and the impetus behind the nationally-recognized Oregon National Guard Reintegration Team, was injured by an Improvised Explosive Device attack in July 2004, which killed Spc. Kenny Leisten and severely injured two other Soldiers in their vehicle.

Jacques then turned his thoughts toward members of his battalion who couldn't be with his group, calling the experience in Hollywood "awesome, but bitter-sweet".

"I am extremely humbled," Jacques said. "We're the lucky ones out of the battalion who got a chance to be here. I wish everyone we served with could be here."

Jacques said the film is powerful because there's no political agenda, and the Soldiers featured in the movie are able to relate the 'real story' of their experiences.

He thanked Mortensen and the film's executive producer, Scott Laney for the chance to tell their personal stories of what transpired 'on the ground' in Iraq.

"This is the real deal," Jacques said. "This is what happened to us—the good, the bad, the funny—it's all captured in there and to me, that's what's powerful about it."

Mortensen and Laney, founders of a local film production company, Lucky Forward Films, took a cue from what had happened to military veterans returning from Korea and Vietnam.

Mortensen said all the footage captured during those conflicts were 'distilled' through combat photographers or the news media.

"It's fascinating to be able to look at a



Staff Sgt. Kris Petersen pauses for a photo opportunity with Good Times star, Ja'Net Du Bois after the awards ceremony in Hollywood, Calif., Mar. 10.

regular infantry Soldier—an Oregon National Guardsman—who was able to take this new digital media and Velcro it to the side of his helmet and go into action," Mortensen said. "And that (perspective) is unbelievably dynamic and compelling. It tells a side and a story of warfare that's never been told before."

Jacques echoed Mortensen's feeling that Hollywood is very supportive of their fellow Americans in uniform, but he added that through it all, he and his fellow Soldiers have remained grounded.

"We've run into some people here who have been extremely supportive," Jacques said. "It's been humbling, but we need to stay real to our cause. I'm a Soldier, that's what I do, and I'm glad to do it."

Jacques added that the film's gaining popularity has also thrust Oregon's reintegration team into the spotlight.

"The war's not over after these guys come home. If we give them a hand up instead of a hand out, its going to make this country that much stronger."

"We give them a chance to help themselves," Jacques continued. "This documentary has really helped get the word out about the reintegration team and what we're doing in the state of Oregon."

For more information about the documentary, *This is War: Memories of Iraq*, visit [www.luckyforwardfilms.com/](http://www.luckyforwardfilms.com/).

For more information on the Oregon National Guard Reintegration Team, visit [www.orng-vet.org/](http://www.orng-vet.org/), or call the 24-hour toll-free number at 1-888-688-2264.



From left to right, Staff Sgt. Kris Petersen, "This is War" director, Gary Mortensen, Ryan Howell, and Luke Wilson look over Ed McMahon's artwork in his Beverly Hills home, following a star-studded weekend event in Hollywood, Calif. The documentary, "This is War" was featured during the 2nd Annual Cinema City International Film Festival, Mar. 9.

## FEATURES

# Iraqi General: supporter of U.S. Policy, target of insurgents

Story and photos by  
Staff Sgt. Margaret Nelson,  
115th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

**Kirkuk, Iraq** – He's a high value target to extremists here.

A survivor of eight separate violent attacks: a Suicide Vehicle Bourne Improvised Explosive Device almost killed him in November. The burns left scars over 50 percent of his body; they are visible on his face and hands. His right arm was shattered. He utilizes a cane for support as metal rods hold his right leg together and a hip was also replaced.

He is Kirkuk's Emergency Services Unit Commander (a S.W.A.T.-like force of the Iraqi Police), Brig. Gen. Khattab Omer Aref Waly, referred alternately by many in the as "highly respected, and feared," depending on who you are, according to both Iraqi Security Forces and Coalition Soldiers.

In his first interview with western media, Khattab talked candidly about current topics affecting the Kirkuk Province.

"The attacks that target me and other leaders of our Security Forces are meant to disrupt our progress here," Khattab said. "The terrorists are failing."

Kirkuk City and its province have seen around a 65 percent drop in overall violence against ISF, CF, and civilians within the last year.

Khattab praises the on-going cohesive working relationships in-place with provincial, tribal, Iraq Security Forces, and Coalition Forces' leadership here.

"We are all involved in the programs that are geared toward a more secure Kirkuk from beginning to end," Khattab said.

The programs include 'Isnad' (Arabic for Support), which is still in its infancy. The program has already stood-up over 7,000 'Sons of Iraq' since its December inception in the Hawijah district—the province's sore-spot the southern region.

Another program is called Mushalaha (Arabic for Reconciliation) which has, "former fighters against the government, laying down their weapons under strict terms," according to Maj. Sean Wilson, 1-10th Mountain Division's Public Affairs Officer.

Khattab, also credits past and on-going joint ISF and CF operations which have taken the fight to the extremists. He said

his forces are attacking the terrorists at their leadership levels, and the successful capture and deaths of the top 10 key leaders of extremists' cells operating here have destroyed their command and control, causing disorganization with those that remain. He points out recent unsuccessful attacks against the ISF, and their constant presence, which instills confidence and credibility with the people of Kirkuk.

"The people see us. We are everywhere. That includes the terrorists," said Khattab, a former Peshmerga Soldier.

He agrees with news reports of al Qaeda being on the run, "They cannot hide," he added. "But, we have to keep them running."

Khattab was troubled by recent reports of a video that was found in the Diyala province showing al Qaeda training children.

"We need to identify where those children are... and rescue them or they are lost," he said. "Terrorists exist everywhere. The terrorist here; all say they are for Islam. They are lying. It's political. Each has their own agenda and they use Islam for their own purposes," he said.

Khattab also points out that as security is increased, attention has to be shifted to projects that will assist the province's outer villages where children are recruited.

"These villagers are more susceptible to the lies spread by the terrorists," he said.

He highlighted the construction of a dam in the mountains of Kurdistan which brought together foreigners with villagers there. Khattab said the bonding between both groups had uneducated villagers speaking English by the damn's completion. The project also employed the majority of the village resulting in a better economy in that area.

"We need to concentrate on building schools and medical clinics where they are needed the most," he said, praising the construction projects in Iraq.

Khattab also pointed to the new-found freedoms emerging in his country, and the learning curve his fellow Iraqis face.

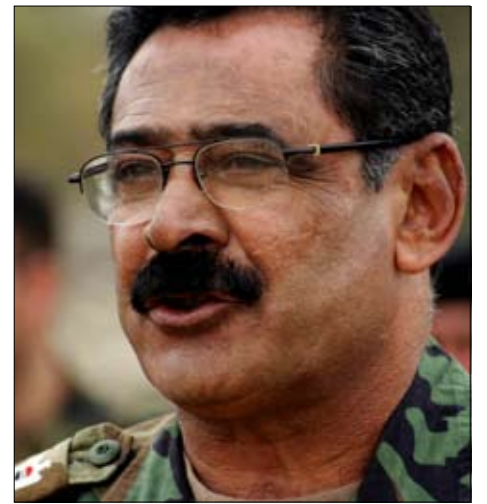
"We have lived under a dictator for a long time. We went from zero freedom to 80 percent free," he said. "We are just beginning to think for ourselves."

Khattab said that neighbors did not trust each other under Saddam Hussein's rule. "There was no freedom. We are learning to be free with all the responsibility that



Above: Kirkuk's Emergency Services Unit Commander Brig. Gen. Khattab Omer Aref Waly, (with cane), flanked by his Personal Support Detail. Three of Khattab's PSD died in a Suicide Vehicle Bourne Improvised Explosive Device attack targeting the ESU commander in Nov. 2007.

Right: "The attacks that target me and other leaders of our Security Forces are meant to disrupt our progress here," said Kirkuk's Brig. Gen. Khattab Omer Aref Waly to a gathering of U.S. and Iraqi Soldiers. "The terrorists are failing."



comes with being in control of our own destinies," he said. "That takes time to learn and understand."

As a father of five Khattab is known to be strict and disciplined, but fair.

"He does not discriminate between the various ethnic groups. He treats us all the same," said Usama, one of Khattab's personal security team members.

"I am honored to be protecting the general. I would gladly give my life for him," Usama added.

Khattab has been married to his wife, Faezah for over 31 years. They have five children; two girls and three boys between the ages, 19-29. All, but one of his family members lives, works, or attend school in Kirkuk.

"I tell my children that Kirkuk will be secure in around 10 years," he said. "(Then) we will all live in peace."

## Oregon State Police seeking officer applicants

Prepared by Sentinel Staff

As part of an aggressive and continuing effort to find men and women interested in an exciting law enforcement career opportunity, the Oregon State Police rolled out a new recruiting web site to help potential applicants learn who we are, what we are about, and understand the recruitment and testing process.

The OSP hopes to recruit an additional 100 new trooper positions in the Patrol Services and Fish & Wildlife and Criminal Investigations Divisions.

"Our commitment to the Governor and the Legislature is that the Department's high standards will not be lowered in order to hire additional troopers," said OSP Superintendent Timothy McLain. "My message to every OSP office is that recruitment is one of our highest priorities at this time as we look for new ways to let people know who we are, what we do, and how they can be an important part of our future."

McLain said an evaluation of OSP prac-



tices has led to several changes to help meet recruitment goals without reducing standards of excellence. They include:

- A completely re-tooled recruitment website at [www.OSPTrooper.com](http://www.OSPTrooper.com) specifically designed to provide important information to applicants;

- The ability to fill out an application online and immediately email it to OSP, and additional entry level testing dates to provide more opportunities in streamlining the testing process.

- A first-time Career Officer Lateral Entry Employment Program (COLEEP) to accept qualified law enforcement employees from other agencies who have a minimum of three years of full-time job experience as a sworn, paid law enforcement officer within the past six years.

The new recruitment website idea came about when Sergeant Erin Reyes, who directs the OSP Recruitment Unit, found that most recent trooper applicants learned about OSP job opportunities on the Internet. With the help of OSP recruiters, Troopers Ken Terry and Dave Randall, and creative OSP dispatcher Dina Rudesheim, the new up-to-date and relevant website was developed.

In addition to the online application improvement, the new website, [www.OSPTrooper.com](http://www.OSPTrooper.com), contains an in-depth

overview of the qualifications and testing requirements necessary to be offered a position as an OSP recruit, including video demonstrations of the required Entry Level physical testing.

"Many applicants were coming to take the physical test without proper preparation. The new website will provide information and demonstrations to help applicants understand the nature of the physical requirements, and also help in their preparation to pass that portion of the Entry Level Testing," said Sergeant Reyes. "The new website also includes special information for military personnel, and testimonials from female troopers and newly recruited lateral troopers."

New Entry Level Testing dates to provide more frequent testing opportunities and streamline the testing process were added on the following dates:

- May 3, 2008 at West Albany High School in Albany

- June 21, 2008 at Jefferson High School in Jefferson

- July 12, 2008 at Sunridge Middle School in Pendleton

- July 19, 2008 at Crater High School in Central Point

For more information about the Oregon State Police, visit [www.oregon.gov/OSP](http://www.oregon.gov/OSP).

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## RECRUITING &amp; RETENTION

## Retaining good people: It's not just about the numbers

Story by  
Spc. Sheraya Paradis,  
JFHQ Recruiting & Retention  
Command

Retention is a function of every Soldier, regardless of MOS, rank, experience or term of enlistment.

The Oregon Army National Guard's Recruiting and Retention Command (RRC) is a vital element of sustaining the strength of our organization but it is every soldier's mission to support our end strength objectives, making our state and nation stronger while improving themselves, their communities and families in the process.

Each Soldier decides to stay in or to separate from the Oregon Army National Guard (ORARNG) for different reasons, but some of the most common reasons are the basic fundamentals of life: health insurance, education, and career opportunities, most of which revolve around a lack of communication between the Soldier and his chain of command.

Our objective in the RRC is to publish in this and each consecutive edition of the Oregon Sentinel, articles of interest to better communicate some of the solutions to challenges each of us may potentially face in deciding to continue to support the Oregon Army National Guard with our service or to leave the organization. Again, the primary reason that Soldiers decide to leave the service is because they lack information; information that could be substantial in their decision making process.

Perhaps your ETS date is coming up soon. Perhaps you are contemplating what you plan to do next. Perhaps you are uncomfortable with signing again on the dotted line. Perhaps, most significantly, you are confused

and don't know who to ask for assistance.

Full time employees of the ORARNG are provided TriCare benefits, a significant part of their benefits package. However, did you realize that as an M-Day soldier, you and your family can qualify for TriCare coverage as well? For \$81 a month, less than an E-1's drill pay, a single soldier may receive full TriCare coverage, similar to coverage offered by the TriCare Standard and Extra plan.

To include your spouse and children under full coverage, it raises to a mere \$253 a month, as compared to other health insurance costs ranging from \$280 limited coverage to \$450 comparable coverage. With the trend of rising health care costs and the often special circumstances that military personnel find themselves in, TriCare is an excellent option for consistent and reliable health care coverage, with specific experience with the military, for yourself and, or your family.

(Please see the TriCare article in the News Briefs section for more information)

Civilian education is a critical part of any Soldier's career, providing a diverse range of opportunities to gain the knowledge and experience needed to thrive as a citizen-Soldier in both public and military realms.

The most pressing concern that arises when contemplating whether or not to pursue one's educational goals is cost and funding; how will tuition, fees, and books get paid for, while still maintaining a stable life? The Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA) program is a benefit of your service that is a great option to consider if you need help with tuition costs.

The FTA will pay 100% of tuition costs up to \$250.00/semes-

ter hour or \$167.00/quarter hour, limited to \$4,500 per fiscal year to include tuition related fees. However FTA will not cover the cost of books. The benefits can be applied to receive one credential at each degree level; associate, bachelor, graduate level, and also for vocational/technical certification. To qualify, enlisted soldiers' ETS dates must be beyond the course completion date. Officers must remain in the Army National Guard for four years following the time of assistance.

The two-year scholarship offers Soldier-students around \$1,200 a month while attending school, a variable ROTC monthly stipend dependent upon status in the program, E-5 drill pay if E-4 or below, housing assistance up to \$10,000 per school year, a book stipend up to \$1,200 per school year, and the opportunity to pull from the G.I. Bill and G.I. Kicker programs. The Kicker raises to \$350 when an ROTC Reserve contract is signed. The three year GRFD scholarship provides all the same monetary benefits, excluding the option to pull a monthly stipend from a G.I. Bill/G.I. Kicker.

Career opportunities abound in the Oregon Army National Guard, regardless of whether you would like to work within the Guard full time or work as a civilian. Within the Guard there are countless career and work opportunities ranging from short-term to long-term orders, and manual to administrative work.

If you would rather look for work outside of the organization, there is the Career Transition Assistance Program (CTAP) which assists soldiers with finding excellent employment opportunities that offer strong benefits packages. The Soldiers and civilians that run the CTAP assist Soldiers with everything from writing engaging résumés, teaching proper inter-

view etiquette and techniques, to setting up the actual interviews with local employers for career opportunities that pays at least a living wage and which affords the Soldier health benefits.

Each unit in the Oregon Army National Guard is supported with a Battalion Career Counselor (BCC) whose exclusive responsibility is to assist soldiers and units in answering questions like we have discussed above. Communication and information flow are often the key determining factors to whether a Soldier re-enlists or decides to leave the organization.

Contact your chain of command and seek out your BCC to help you in your quest for information and get rid of the stress of indecision. The Oregon Army National Guard needs you and wants you to remain in the service alongside your friends and fellow patriots. Talk to one of the counselors listed below, and don't let your benefits go to waste!

*Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Dunn and Maj. Arnold Strong of Retention & Recruiting Command contributed to this article.*

2-641 BN / 1249 BN: SFC Thomas Bourgo, 971-239-8018  
Thomas.Bourgo@ng.army.mil

3-116 BN: SSG Daniel Daggett  
Phone: 541-963-4448  
Daniel.Daggett@ng.army.mil

1-186 BN: SSG John Dailey  
Phone: 541-858-0206  
John.E.Daily@or.ngb.army.mil

1-82 BN: SSG Richard Huyck  
Phone: 541-383-0954  
Richard.Huyck@ng.army.mil

2-162 BN: SFC Chris Johnson  
Phone: 503-510-2937  
Christopher.J.Johnson1@us.army.mil

2-218 BN: CPL Paul Marciniuk  
Phone: 503-335-3584 ext 1574  
Paul.Marciniuk@us.army.mil

141 BSB: SSG William Postles  
Phone: 503-280-1820  
William.Postles@or.ngb.army.mil

821 TC: SGT Mark Stocks  
Phone: 503-315-2106  
Mark.Stocks@ng.army.mil

41STB: SGT Wathena Taylor  
Phone: 503-557-5204  
Wathena.Taylor@us.army.mil

## The Eagle's Way



CW5 James Powell,  
Command Chief Warrant  
Officer  
Oregon National Guard

Did you know-Field Artillery has its own brand of Warrant Officer?

The MOS 131A, **Field Targeting Technician**, is a unique position. These experts deal with all types of targeting equipment and assets, synchronizing and coordinating the entire targeting process.

At the junior grade level (WO1 and CW2), these warrant officers may serve as Target Acquisition Platoon Leaders, Counter fire Officers, or Target Analysts.

Higher grades serve with the Brigade Combat Team, Corps, or higher echelons.

In order to become a 131A, Soldiers must be an E-6 or above, have held a 13-series MOS (B,C,D,E,F,M,P,R,S,orW) or 11C for at least five years, and served as a Section Chief or higher for at least two years. Other prerequisites apply. Preferred qualifications include six hours of college level English, six hours of college level math.

We currently have a number of Warrant Officer positions available in several different areas.

Remember, depending on the critical MOS, you may be eligible for a bonus of up to \$10,000 after becoming a Warrant Officer. Are you the soldier who wants to become a "Technical Warfighter"?

For more information, call me at 503-584-3579 to set up an appointment

We'll talk about your background and experience, and see how you fit the requirements to move forward into the Warrant Officer Corps!



CHIEFS' ADVISORY COUNCIL 2008

# SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

## \$1000.00

**Eligibility:** Applicants must be affiliated with the Oregon Air National Guard as either a member or dependent and have a GPA of 2.0 or higher.

**Scholarship Use:** Cash award will be used for tuition and books towards an undergraduate/technical program

**Selection Criteria:** Applicants must fill out a questionnaire and submit a summary of their educational goals.

Application Deadline is 31 May 2008

Mail applications to the following address:

211 Arnold Ave  
Suite 24 Bldg 211  
Kingsley Field, OR 97603

or Email applications to:  
anthony.cox@orklam.ang.af.mil

For more information contact any Oregon Air National Guard Chief



## NEWS

## Gregory assumes command of ORANG's Combat Operations Group

Story and photo by  
Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy,

Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

The former commander of the Oregon Air National Guard's 116th Air Control Squadron, headquartered at Camp Rilea in Warrenton, Ore., assumed command of the Combat Operations Group, during a ceremony at the Anderson Readiness Center in Salem, Ore., March 2, 2008.

Lt. Col. Robert J. Gregory III served in various positions within the 116th ACS before receiving his commission in 1989, and eventually taking command of the unit in 2007.

He replaces Lt. Col. Ronald G. Kessinger, who will assume the role of Air National Guard Chief of Staff at Joint Force Headquarters in Salem, Ore., a position previously held by Col. Bruce Prunk. Kessinger, a resident of Newberg, Ore., has been a member of the Oregon Air National Guard since 1986.

Gregory, who graduated from Forest Grove High School, assumes command of the COG at a pivotal time in the unit's history, including the conversion of the 244th Combat Communications Squadron, the creation, and recent federal recognition of the 125th Special Tactics Squadron, and the draw-down of the 272nd Combat Communications Squadron.

Brig. Gen. Daniel B. O'Hollaren, Commander of the Oregon Air National Guard, praised the command changes, saying the

appointment of Gregory is a natural progression for the unit.

"(Col.) Kessinger made this unit robust," O'Hollaren said. "Now it's time to really blossom the unit, and I'm excited about Col. Gregory taking over."

The COG was formed under the supervision of Brig. Gen. (Ret.) James Cunningham, former commander of the Oregon Air National Guard. The move brought together the five geographically-separated Air Guard units in the state of Oregon under one banner.

Along with the 142nd Fighter Wing in Portland, and the 173rd Fighter Wing in Klamath Falls, the COG has prepared Oregon's Air Guard units and personnel for future growth and opportunity, O'Hollaren said.

"This is a maturation of that vision," he said. "This unit is very valuable to the state from an emergency operations perspective, but also for the military from a combat control point of view," he added.

Gregory said the personnel in the COG not only possess the training, equipment and skills necessary to complete their mission of providing air combat control, but are able to assist other emergency agencies in Oregon during times of natural or man-made disaster.

He pointed to the TOPOFF-4 joint exercise and recent flood response in Oregon's coastal towns during the latter part of 2007 as evidence of how pertinent the unit's mission is here in Oregon. And with units of the COG located throughout Oregon—



Brig. Gen. Daniel B. O'Hollaren, Commander of the Oregon Air National Guard (left), presents the unit guidon for the Combat Operations Group to Lt. Col. Robert J. Gregory III, during the COG's change of command ceremony held at the Anderson Readiness Center in Salem, Ore., March 2, 2008.

Warrenton, Portland, and Klamath Falls—Gregory said the unit has the ability to respond anywhere in the state in a matter of a few hours.

"Going forward, the most important thing we need to do (in the COG) is to bring this unit's strengths to assisting the state in times of need and emergency," Gregory said.

"We're excited about the future for this organization," O'Hollaren added.

The Combat Operations Group is made up

of the 116th Air Control Squadron in Warrenton, the 270th Air Traffic Control Squadron in Klamath Falls, and the 123rd Weather Flight, 125th Special Tactics Squadron and 272nd Combat Communications Squadron in Portland, Ore.

The COG serves as the Oregon Air National Guard's ground component force, serving both the state and the nation in times of national security and homeland defense.

## ORANG's 125th Special Tactics Squadron adds weather team

Story by

Tech. Sgt. Roy Lofts,

125th Special Tactics Squadron

The Oregon Air National Guard's 125th Special Tactics Squadron recently added a new flight of Special Operations Weather Team (SOWT) members.

The six-man team will be tactically inserted into forward areas to collect raw weather and terrain data, formulate limited data weather forecasts, and report operationally focused information to the battlefield commander.

SOWT personnel further enhance the theater weather sensing strategy with their ability to train foreign nationals and develop friendly foreign weather reporting networks.

The origins of SOWT began in WWII when the OSS recruited and trained weather observers and forecasters for covert missions. Some of these weather-

men jumped into Yugoslavia and provided weather data that was used to increase the success of supply sorties to Marshall Tito's beleaguered partisans. Elsewhere other weather parachutists worked with Army Airborne and glider divisions.

Staff Sgt. Robert A. Dodson, a weatherman during WWII, jumped into Normandy with the 82nd Airborne during the D-Day invasion. The Dodson Award, which recognizes leadership and excellence by an airman in aerospace weather, is named in his honor.

The shaping of the career field over the past few years has been very dynamic. Beginning in late 2008, Special Operations Weather will gain its own AFSC, and core fundamental training will become standardized and uniform throughout the program.

The SOWT pipeline will similar to that of the Combat Control (CCT) pipeline. Trainees will

attend the Combat Control Orientation Course (CCOC), weather forecasting technical school, Airborne, SERE, Combat Control School (CCS), and Advanced Skills Training (AST).

After completion personnel assigned to the 125th STS will attend Military Free Fall, and selected individuals will attend SCUBA. Additional training opportunities include USMC Scout Swimmer, Pathfinder, USAF Arctic Survival, Mountain Warfare, and many others.

The SOWT flight of the 125th STS is still seeking individuals interested in this unique weather mission who are able to meet its intellectual, mental, and physical demands.

Candidates must have a general score of 66 and an electrical score of 50 on their ASVAB test, and be able to pass the Special Tactics Physical Ability and Stamina Test (PAST). The PAST consist of an



Photo courtesy of U.S. Air Force

Staff Sgt. Jody Ball and Tech. Sgt. Rick Rohde of the 10th Combat Weather Squadron, based at Hurlburt Field, Fla. The unit is assigned to the Air Force Special Operations Command, and provides special operations weather teams for worldwide deployment.

underwater swim, surface swim, run, pull-ups, sit-ups, push-ups, and flutter kicks.

For more information please call the Special Tactics Squadron recruiter at 503-335-4056.

## Kingsley eye doctor receives national award for overseas community work

Story by Tech. Sgt. Jennifer Shirar,  
173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

**KLAMATH FALLS, Ore.** — A Kingsley Field officer received national recognition for his work in the Air National Guard.

Dr. Edwin Tuhy, a local optometrist at Klamath Eye Center, and Optometrist for the 173rd Fighter Wing, was named the Air National Guard Optometrist of the Year.

Tuhy was awarded the title in recognition for his contributions during a deployment in Bulgaria, where he performed hundreds of eye exams. Additionally, Tuhy ensures optical readiness for fighter pilots of the 173rd Fighter Wing.

"I'm thrilled to have been named Optometrist of the Year," said Tuhy. "It's an honor to be recognized for the work I've done in the Air National Guard."

The Optometrist of the Year Award recognizes a deserving Air National Guard Optometrist for performance of outstanding services on behalf of the profession and to the visual welfare of the Air National Guard.

Some of his accomplishments include spearheading a Humanitarian Assistance Visit in Bulgaria which benefited disadvantaged people in Bulgarian villages.

"We were able to perform 1,450 eye exams and hand out 1,300 pairs of glasses," said Tuhy. "This was a tremendous accomplishment for the 173rd Fighter Wing and the Air National Guard, I'm just happy I could have been involved."

In the same year, Tuhy was the lead catalyst in getting the 173rd Medical Group to participate in Coyote Crisis, a regional mass disaster exercise.

According to Tuhy the exercise served to certify 18 of the wing's medical staff in Expeditionary Medical Support, a key component to make the medical group viable for future deployments.

Tuhy said the award has not taken his focus off the job at hand, however.

"It was a great honor, but there is still a lot of work ahead for me and the 173rd Medical Group," said Tuhy. "Right now our main focus is preparing for the upcoming Health Services Inspection later this year."



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jennifer Shirar, 173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Dr. Edwin Tuhy, an optometrist with the 173rd Fighter Wing in Klamath Falls, Ore., performs an eye exam on local Bulgarian women during his deployment there in 2006. Tuhy was named Air National Guard Optometrist of the Year for his work during the deployment.

## NEWS BRIEFS

## TRICARE now available to traditional Guardsmen, families

TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) is the premium-based health plan that is available for purchase by National Guard and Reserve members who qualify. TRS coverage is similar to TRICARE Standard and Extra.

TRS services and benefits include a greater freedom in obtaining health care, worldwide availability to most National Guard and Reserve members and their families when not eligible for any other TRICARE coverage, no assigned primary care manager, and the ability to use any TRICARE certified provider.

Enrollees enjoy a five percent discount on out-of-pocket costs if using a provider in the TRICARE network, and comprehensive health care coverage including TRICARE's prescription drug coverage.

The catastrophic cap is only \$1,000.00 per family, per fiscal year. After meeting the catastrophic cap, TRICARE will pay 100% for all covered services for the rest of the fiscal year. Referrals are not required, but some care may require prior authorization, and TRICARE enrollees may receive care in a military treatment facility (MTF) on a space-available basis only.

If you have any questions about which TRICARE program you are eligible for or for more information, please contact the Oregon National Guard Tricare Benefits Counselor and Assistance Coordinator (BCAC), Felicia Tenney via e-mail at: felicia.tenney@us.army.mil or phone, 503-584-2387.

## Pendleton to host women's veteran conference in April

**SALEM, Ore.** -- Female veterans from every branch of military service and of all ages and backgrounds will converge on the new Pendleton Convention Center for the first ever Tri-State Women Veterans' Conference, April 18-19.

Co-sponsored by the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs, the conference is for female veterans from Oregon, Washington and Idaho. It will serve as both an educational tool and a celebration of the service and sacrifices of women veterans throughout history.

A variety of workshops dealing with veterans' benefits, entitlements, women's health issues and employment/job-seeking tips will be offered.

Jim Willis, the Director of the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs, and a U.S. Air Force veteran, said the conference is a unique opportunity to bring these women together and for building camaraderie among these veterans of all eras.

"Many women veterans are unaware of the benefits they earned as a result of their service. It is a vital forum for providing important veterans' benefit information. The previous conferences held in 2004 and 2006 in Oregon resulted in women veterans receiving thousands of dollars in disability compensation and other benefits," Willis said.

Several dynamic speakers will be featured including the conference's keynote speaker, Bob Welch, author of *American Nightingale—the story of Frances Slanger, Forgotten Heroine of Normandy*.

There is no charge to attend the conference however, pre-registration is required. The deadline to pre-register is March 14.

Conference check-in will begin on-site at 8 a.m. on Friday, April 18. The event will be Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to bring a copy of their DD Form 214 or other proof of military service with them to the conference.

For more information about the conference or to register you may visit the ODVA website at [www.oregon.gov/ODVA/wvc.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/ODVA/wvc.shtml) or call toll-free within Oregon 1-800-828-8801 ext. 2264 or 2090. Women veterans in Washington should call 360-725-2157, and in Idaho, 208-334-1245.

## Oregon ESGR seeking volunteers

The Oregon ESGR (Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve), is looking for volunteers to act as military unit liaisons.

Duties include maintaining contact with the assigned unit, providing the unit with resources and support relating to the ESGR, conducting annual ESGR briefings concerning Guardsmen and Reservists employment and reemployment rights under USERRA. Individuals will also provide contact information for both the National Ombudsman call center and State Ombudsmen Director for prompt resolution if an employment issue arises.

The Oregon ESGR Committee has several volunteer openings available for military unit liaisons at the Portland Air Base (PANG), Jackson Armory, Coos Bay, Ashland, Klamath Falls, Grants Pass, Medford, Forest Grove, Gresham, Camp Rilea in Warrenton, McMinnville, Hillsboro and Woodburn.

The mission of the ESGR is to gain and maintain employer support for Guard and Reserve service by recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of the law, and resolving conflicts through mediation.

For more information, contact Brig. Gen. (Ret) Bill Doctor at 503-708-3116, or visit [www.ORESGR.org](http://www.ORESGR.org).

## Recreation expo to be held in Salem

The Spring Recreation Sale and Expo is being held at the Oregon State Fairgrounds, April 18-20.

Several new items for 2008 will be showcased at the show. Items include fishing and pleasure boats, recreational water craft, all-terrain vehicles, camping equipment, RV's, and other outdoor enthusiasts' equipment.

The event is sponsored by the Oregon Employees Federal Credit Union and Steve Cain Construction Pole Buildings.

The event's hours are Noon to 8 p.m. on April 18, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on April 19, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on April 20.

The event will be held in the Jackman Long Building at the Salem Fairgrounds, located at 2330 17th St. NE, in Salem. Admission is free.

## \$6,000 state tax exemption available to Oregon Guardsmen

The deadline for filing your 2007 taxes is quickly approaching.

As a member of the Oregon National Guard you may be eligible for several tax benefits.

If you are an Oregon National Guard Soldier or Airmen on active duty in Oregon, and were away from home for at least three weeks consecutively, you may be eligible for a \$6,000 tax deduction on your Oregon state taxes.

The subtraction is available for tax years starting on or after January 1, 2001.

To claim this subtraction for tax years 2001-04, amend your prior-year returns before July 1, 2008.

It is important to note that drills and annual training time under the 3-week duration do not count towards this exemption.

One important thing to remember about the \$6,000 state tax deduction is that the military pay must have been earned on or after January 1, 2001 while inside Oregon after a change in status from Title 32 to Title 10 status.

If you are a member of the Oregon National Guard and work at the Oregon Youth Challenge Program you get a \$6,000 state tax deduction. The Oregon Military Museum at Camp Withycombe is an authorized recipient of the Oregon Cultural Trust.

If you donate \$1,000 to the Cultural Trust and also donate to one of the approved charities listed on the Department of Revenue website you get a \$2,000 tax credit.

You can find more information on military tax exemptions and credits by going to the

Department of Revenue website at [www.oregon.gov/DOR/PERTAX/military-faq.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/DOR/PERTAX/military-faq.shtml).

## Military members eligible for property exemption

Oregon residents who are on active military duty and own their own home may qualify for the active duty military service member's property tax exemption. Up to \$60,000 of the assessed value of your home may be exempt.

The 2007 Oregon Legislature changed the exemption to include qualified members serving in the military reserve and those redeployed after January 1, 2005. The new law is retroactive.

"If you filed a claim for this property tax exemption for the 2005-06, 2006-07, or 2007-08 tax years but were denied because you didn't meet certain qualifications, contact your county assessor's office," said Connie Johnston, exemptions analyst for the Department of Revenue. "You might qualify for the exemption now under the new law."

If you are serving in the Oregon National Guard or military reserve force, and ordered to federal active duty status (under Title 10) or deployed under the Emergency Management Assistance Compact on or after January 1, 2005, you may qualify for this exemption.

Your service must be at least 179 consecutive days. You may claim an exemption for each property tax year within which you served at least one day of service. If the qualified service member died while on active duty status, the occupant of the home may file for the exemption. You must file the claim form and attach the qualified soldier's DD214 and prove that you live at the deceased soldier's home. Examples of proof include your driver's license or property tax statement.

Claim forms, instructions, and more information are available on the Department of Revenue's website, [www.oregon.gov/DOR/PTD/docs/303-084.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/DOR/PTD/docs/303-084.pdf), or at your county assessor's office.

## Oregon group helps victims of Traumatic Brain Injury

Since September 11, 2001, more than 1.6 million American men and women have served in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Of these, approximately 30,000 have been wounded. According to a report released by the Army, as many as one-in-five returning Iraq veterans have suffered a traumatic brain injury. Experts say many victims do not know they have traumatic brain injury.

In the current issue of the *The Headliner* which is produced by the Brain Injury Association of Oregon—a group which provides outreach to Oregonians dealing with brain injuries—experts provide information on the 10 myths of Brain Injuries.

To read the online version of *The Headliner*, and to also see a list of support groups throughout the state of Oregon, visit [www.biaoregon.org](http://www.biaoregon.org).

## 249 RTI to host Air Assault Courses starting in June

The Oregon Army National Guard's 249 Regional Training Institute is holding speciality training courses beginning this June.

The courses, which include Air Assault, Rappel Master, and Pathfinder School, will be held at Camp Rilea, in Warrenton, Ore.

The Air Assault courses are scheduled to begin June 2, 2008. The course currently has 59 slots available.

Another course, which begins June 16, has 40 slots.

Rappel Master and Pathfinder schools

begin June 15.

For more information, contact Capt. Eric Brenner at [eric.brenner@ng.army.mil](mailto:eric.brenner@ng.army.mil).

## Key moves within the Oregon Guard

Oregon's Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, would like to announce several moves within the command structure of the Oregon National Guard:

- Brig. Gen. Raymond C. Byrne Jr. Retires from the Oregon Army National Guard, effective March 31, 2008.

- Col. David B. Enyeart assumes responsibilities as the Assistant Adjutant General Army, effective March 8, 2008.

- Col. Daniel Hokanson assumes responsibilities as the 41 IBCT Commander, effective March 8, 2008.

- Col. Gale H. Sears retires from the Oregon Army National Guard, effective June 30, 2008.

Lt. Col. Mark L. Rathburn appointed as OSMS General Foreman (technician position), effective June 1, 2008.

- Col. James R. Lyman retires from the Oregon Army National Guard, effective June 30, 2008.

## New TRICARE regulations require "opt-in" for members

New regulations mean that Oregon state workers with TRICARE coverage can no longer opt out of medical coverage.

If you opted out of PEBB medical coverage for 2008 because you have TRICARE coverage, please contact your payroll or benefits office to enroll in a PEBB medical plan.

## Air Guard bids farewell to 272 CBCS

The Oregon Air National Guard will encase the unit flag for the 272nd Combat Communications Squadron during a ceremony on Saturday, Apr. 5, 2008 at the Portland Air National Guard Base in Portland, Ore.

The unit will celebrate over 30 years of dedicated service to the state of Oregon and the United States.

The ceremony is scheduled to begin at 2:00 p.m. in Bldg. 375. The official ceremony will be followed by a brief social.

A celebration of the history and heritage of the 272nd CBCS will follow at 3:00 p.m. at the Kennedy School McMenamins Brewpub located at 5736 NE 33rd Ave., in Portland, Ore. Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be provided.

For more information, and for security access onto the Portland Air Base, contact Steve Rose at 503-335-4644.

## ORARNG Aviation Facility in Pendleton to hold open house

The Oregon Army National Guard will host a Community Appreciation Open House on April 16, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Army Aviation Support Facility #2 at the Pendleton Airport.

The general public, including youngsters with adult supervision, are welcome.

Visitors can tour the CH-47 Chinook cargo helicopter, a UH-60 Blackhawk Air Ambulance helicopter, and the OH-58 Kiowa observation helicopter.

There will be live water-bucket, rescue hoist, and parachute demonstrations, in addition to a climbing wall.

National Guard personnel will also demonstrate sling-load operations, fire-fighting, and counter drug demonstration.

The open house is to help Oregonians learn more about how the National Guard serves the local community.

For more information or to schedule a time to visit, call Maj. Al Gronewold at 541-276-4544.

## Airman chosen for Presidential inaugural committee



Courtesy photo

Oregon Air National Guard 142nd Fighter Wing Commander, Col. John Kent (left), with Master Sgt. Angela Angel, at the Portland Air Base on March 1.

**Story by  
Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy,  
Oregon Military Department  
Public Affairs Office**

**SALEM, Ore. -- SALEM, Ore.** — To say that Master Sgt. Angela Angel is setting her sights high is an understatement.

As the Oregon Air National Guard's Law Office Superintendent, and the Paralegal/Court Reporter for the Joint Forces Headquarters Judge Advocate General office in Salem, Ore.

Angel has garnered national recognition by receiving the Maj. Gen. Robert I. Gruber Award for Excellence in Teaching in Jan. 2008.

The Maj. Gen. Robert I. Gruber Award is an annual Air National Guard award which recognizes the performance of Air Guard JAG personnel in teaching, instructing and briefing military subjects. Angel is the first paralegal to receive this honor.

She was also credited with helping the Portland Air Base receive national recognition by the Air National Guard and the Air Combat Command, resulting in the Law Office of the Year Award for the 142nd Fighter Wing's Legal Office.

As if this weren't enough, Angel was also nominated for, and received the Maj. Gen. Chester E. McCarty Superior Performance Award for General Support in 2007.

The Maj. Gen. Chester E. McCarty Award is presented annually to Oregon Air National Guard enlisted members judged to have performed unit support functions in the most consistently superior manner throughout the preceding year.

Angel assisted the 142nd FW during their 2006 operational readiness inspection, leading to recognition by the Air Combat Command for Best Practices.

During her tenure, she was also instrumental in assisting over 2,290 Soldiers and Airmen, preparing over 460 wills and over 670 powers of attorney, garnering accolades from command at both the fighter wing in Portland and Joint Forces Headquarters staff.

As a court reporter, she recently reported 28 administrative discharge boards, a flying evaluation board, a safety investigation board, and an accident investigation board.

To top off all her accolades, Angel was recently chosen to represent the state of Oregon on the 2009 Presidential Inaugural Committee.

As the only paralegal on the committee, she will act as the law office superintendent in charge of the ethics and legal assistance program during the inauguration. Her tour in Washington, D.C. extends through April 2009.

"I'm excited," Angel said about the opportunity to serve in Washington, D.C. "It's a time in history that involves some big changes and I'm very honored to play even a small role in it," she said.

## Dept. of Army releases new field training manual



Photos by Staff Sgt. Mike Pryor, 2nd BCT, 82nd Airborne Division Public Affairs

Story courtesy of Army News Service

**FORT LEAVENWORTH, Kan.** (Feb. 22, 2008) -- The Army's new field manual for operations, FM 3-0, brings the first major update of Army capstone doctrine since the terrorist attacks of 9/11.

"This change in operational doctrine is designed to ensure that our Soldiers have the very best tools, training and leadership they need to succeed," said Lt. Gen. William B. Caldwell IV, the commanding general of the United States Army Combined Arms Center

Pfc. Jacob Jonza (left), and Sgt. Daniel Grime of Company B, 2-325th Airborne Infantry, 82nd Airborne Division, provide security for their platoon during a patrol through a business district in Baghdad's Sha'ab neighborhood Jan 15. Stability operations is elevated to the same level as offense and defense in the new FM 3-0.

at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

Gen. William S. Wallace, commanding general of the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, is scheduled to unveil the 15th edition of the field manual at the Association of the United States Army Winter Symposium in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., in late February.

"Today's Army is about half the size it was in 1970, but the U.S. military's involvement around the world has tripled since the collapse of the former Soviet Union," Wallace noted in the foreword to the TRADOC information pamphlet for FM 3-0. "The next several decades, according to many security experts, will be an era of persistent conflict that will generate continuing deployments for our Army."

Several of the key changes to the manual include; operational concept and the operational environment, stability operations construct, information-operations construct, war-fighting functions, spectrum of conflict, defeat and stability mechanisms and joint

interdependence and modular forces.

FM 3-0 institutionalizes simultaneous offensive, defensive, and stability or civil-support operations as the core of the Army's doctrine. The concept of full-spectrum operations, first introduced in the 2001 manual, still represents a major shift in Army doctrine — forces must be able to address the civil situation at all times, combining tactical tasks affecting noncombatants with tactical tasks directed against the enemy.

The Army's senior leadership has been hands-on with the creation and writing of FM 3-0.

"This manual was shaped by the senior leaders of our Army," said Lt. Col. Steve Leonard, chief, Operational Level Doctrine, Combined Arms Doctrine Directorate, and one of the lead authors of FM 3-0. "It has the flavor of combat. It has the experience of mid-grade officers who can communicate between the senior leaders and the junior leaders and noncommissioned officers. It was fundamentally shaped by senior leader engagement."

"With a manual of this importance, we made sure that what we presented to the force was something that rings true from that new Soldier coming off the street, to the most senior leader in the Army, the chief of staff," Leonard added.

## Two Oregon JAG officers awarded Bronze Stars

Prepared by Sentinel Staff

**SALEM, Ore.** -- Two Judge Advocate General officers were recently awarded the Bronze Star for significant contributions to their missions while deployed to the Middle East.

Lt. Col. Daniel J. Hill, of the Oregon Army National Guard's 41st Brigade Combat Team, was deployed to Afghanistan as a Staff Judge Advocate for Combined Joint Task Force Phoenix V from April 2006 to Dec. 2006.

For his contributions during his deployment, Hill was awarded the Bronze Star. While deployed, Hill wrote "Mentoring Afghan National Army Judge Advocates: An Operational Law Mission in Afghanistan and Beyond", which was published in the March 2007 edition of *The Army Lawyer*.

Hill is a native of Pendleton, Ore., and currently works as an Oregon State Circuit Court Judge for Umatilla and Morrow Counties.

Lt. Col. Dan Bunch, a Staff Judge Advocate with the Oregon Air National Guard's 173rd Fighter Wing in Klamath Falls, was awarded the Bronze Star for his work on the Law and Order Task Force in Iraq. (See Commentary section on Page 2 for an article Bunch wrote on the LAOTF mission).

Bunch deployed to Iraq from June 2007 through Dec. 2007.

Bunch, who received his law degree from the University of Virginia, works in his civilian position as the County Counsel for Klamath County, Ore., and teaches business law at the Oregon Institute of Technology.



Photo by Maj. Jeffrey Brown, Commander, 234 EN CO, ORARNG

## FRONT ROW SEATS

Members of the 234 Engineer Company, Oregon Army National Guard got an up-close and personal view of Vice President Dick Cheney, as he delivered a speech at LSA Anaconda, Iraq, March 18. Cheney made a surprise visit to the base to address the troops stationed there, and to talk about the progress of the war in Iraq. Standing in the front row are Oregon Army National Guard members; Sgt. Ivan Wilson, Staff Sgt. John Rowland, Sgt. Jeremy Box, Spc. Addison Meader, Spc. Rebecca Kempton, Spc. Jamie Ramirez, Spc. Jared Berkham and Spc. Blake Dornbusch.

## VA offers free medical care for returning vets

Story courtesy of [www.army.mil](http://www.army.mil)

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — Military veterans who served in combat since Nov. 11, 1998, including veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan, are now eligible for five years of free medical care for most conditions from the Department of Veterans Affairs. This measure increases a two-year limit that has been in effect nearly a decade.

"By their service and their sacrifice, America's newest combat veterans have earned this special eligibility period for VA's world-class health care," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Dr. James B. Peake.

The five-year deadline has no effect upon veterans with medical conditions related to their military service. Veterans may apply at any time after their discharge from the military -- even decades later -- for medical care for service-connected health problems.

The new provision, part of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2008 signed by President Bush on Jan. 28, 2008, applies to care in a VA hospital, outpatient clinic or nursing home. It also extends VA dental benefits -- previously limited to 90 days after discharge for most veterans -- to 180 days.

Combat veterans who were discharged between Nov. 11, 1998 and Jan. 16, 2003, and who never took advantage of VA's health care system, have until Jan. 27, 2011 to qualify for free VA health care.

The five-year window is also open to activated Reservists and members of the National Guard, if they served in a theater of combat operations after Nov. 11, 1998 and were discharged under other than dishonorable conditions.

Veterans who take advantage of this five-year window to receive VA health care can continue to receive care after five years, although they may have to pay copayments for medical problems unrelated to their military service. Copayments range from \$8 for a 30-day supply of prescription medicine to \$1,024 for the first 90 days of inpatient care each year.

For more information, visit VA website at [www.va.gov.opa](http://www.va.gov.opa).