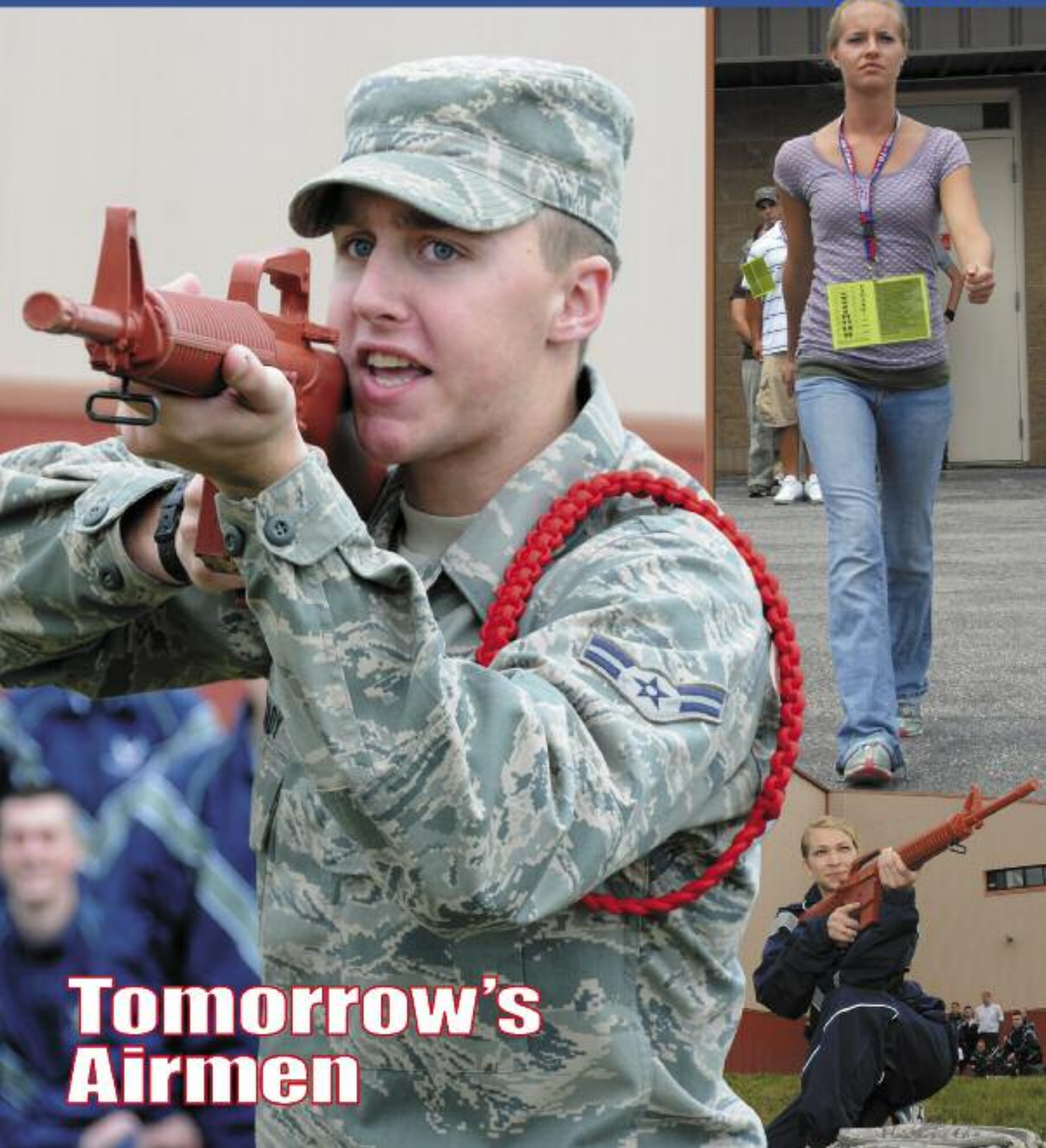


NEW HAMPSHIRE

Spring 2012

# National Guard

MAGAZINE



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The New Hampshire National Guard Magazine is a quarterly, joint publication for the soldiers and airmen serving in the N.H. National Guard, as well as their families and retirees. It is posted to the World Wide Web at <https://www.nh.ngb.army.mil>.

The New Hampshire National Guard Magazine is a commercial enterprise publication produced in partnership with the State Public Affairs Office, New Hampshire National Guard, 1 Minuteman Way, Concord, NH 03301; and AQP Publishing Inc., 8537 Corbin Drive, Anchorage, AK 99507.

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NEW HAMPSHIRE

# National Guard

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*On the cover: Top right, Airman Basic Rebekah Autrey, 157th Air Refueling Wing Student Flight, practices marching and facing movements Oct. 23, 2011, at Pease Air National Guard Base, Newington. Airman 1st Class Sarah Kenny, bottom right, and Airman 1st Class Michael McCrady, center, train on the use of small arms. Top right photo by Staff Sgt. Curtis Lenz. Bottom right and center photos by 2nd Lt. Alec Vargus, 157 ARW PA*

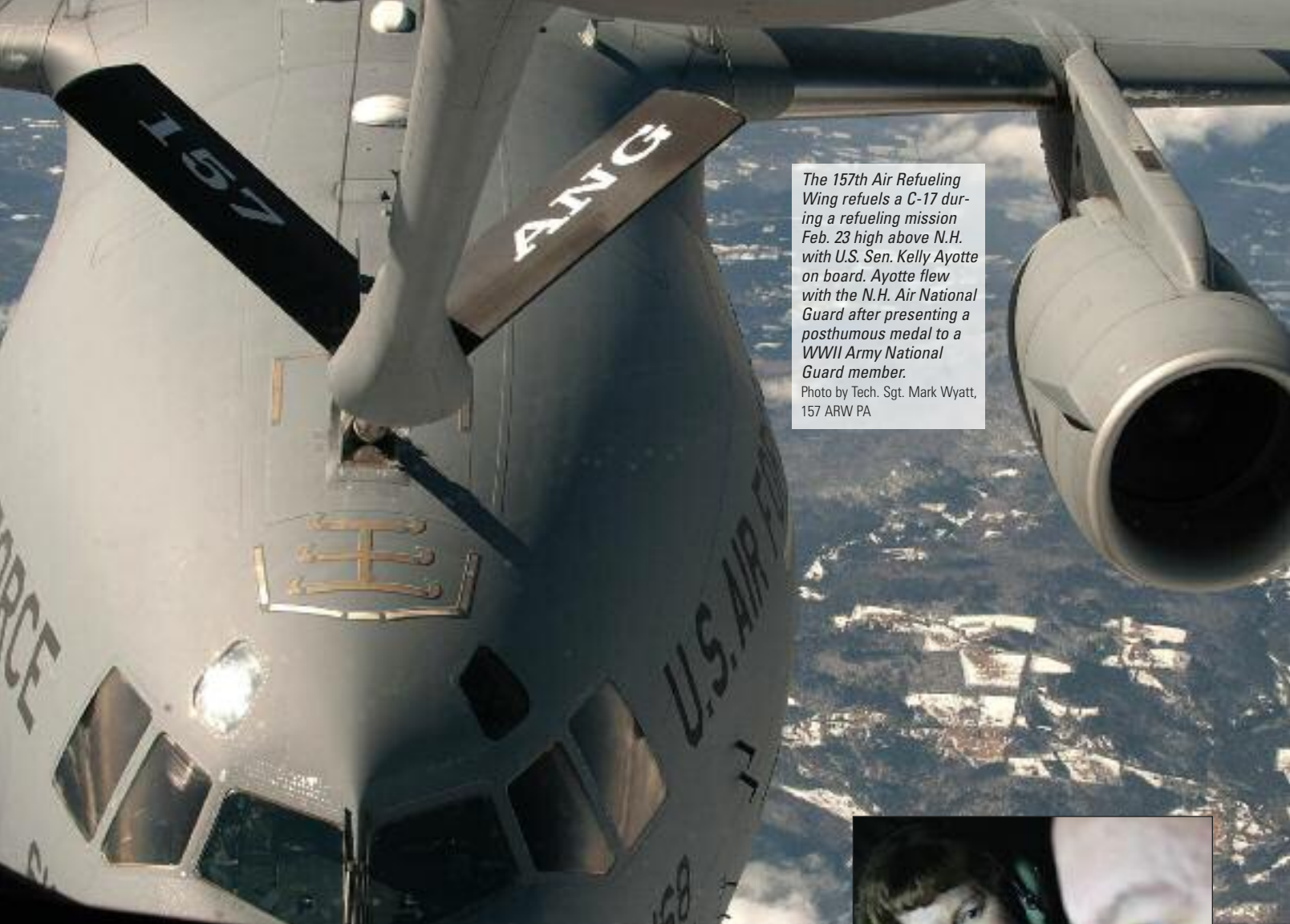


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*The 157th Air Refueling Wing refuels a C-17 during a refueling mission Feb. 23 high above N.H. with U.S. Sen. Kelly Ayotte on board. Ayotte flew with the N.H. Air National Guard after presenting a posthumous medal to a WWII Army National Guard member.*  
Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Wyatt, 157 ARW PA

## Senators help bolster Wing's prominence

*By Tech. Sgt. Mark Wyatt, 157 ARW PA*

U.S. Senator Kelly Ayotte, R-N.H., visited Pease Air National Guard Base Feb. 23 to award a posthumous Bronze Star Medal to a World War II veteran's brother and to fly with the 157th Air Refueling Wing on a refueling mission high above New Hampshire and Vermont.

A month earlier, fellow New Hampshire Senator Jeanne Shaheen, D-N.H., rode on a refueling mission. Both expressed their support to help the 157th Air Refueling Wing acquire the KC-46A, the new model refueler that would replace the 50-year-old KC-135.

Awarded the Bronze Star was Philip Sangenario, who was an Army National Guard private and among the first paratroopers to parachute into Normandy,

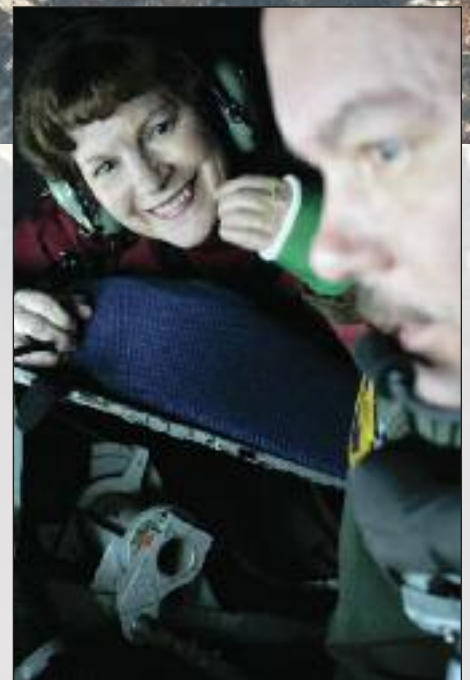
France, on D-Day, June 6, 1944, as a member of the 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division.

Receiving the medal on his behalf was his brother, John Sangenario, who worked tirelessly with the senator's office to honor his brother's service and sacrifice during World War II. Philip passed away in 1991.

"This is righting an injustice that needs to be righted," said Ayotte. "Can you imagine the courage it took to jump from that plane on D-Day, not knowing what would happen?"

Ayotte thanked wing personnel who participated in the ceremony and said their presence was important to it.

"Thank you for hosting this ceremony; it really means so much to have the military here and involved in it," said Ayotte.



*New Hampshire Sen. Jeanne Shaheen observes as Chief Master Sgt. Anthony Cassella refuels an EC-130J Commando Solo from the 193rd Special Operations Wing, during a routine air-to-air refueling mission over Pittsburg, Dec., 2011. The air refueling tanker is a KC-135R Stratotanker stationed at Pease Air National Guard Base, New Hampshire. Cassella is assigned to the 157th Operations Group, N.H. Air National Guard.*  
Photo by Tech. Sgt. Aaron Vezeau, 157 ARW PA



After the ceremony, the senator received a wing mission brief by Col. Paul Hutchinson, the 157th Air Refueling Wing commander, who discussed the success of the New Hampshire Air National Guard.

Not unfamiliar with that success, Ayotte was clear in her appreciation for what the Guard accomplishes every day.

“Let me be clear – we could not have fought in Iraq; we could not have fought in Afghanistan; we could not have been involved in Libya without the Guard and Reserve,” said Ayotte, who sits on the Senate Armed Forces Committee.

Recognizing the value of state partnerships, as the New Hampshire National Guard has with El Salvador, Ayotte agreed that it’s critical in the communication process with other countries.

“Those military to military relationships make such a difference for us and our ability to communicate with other countries,” said Ayotte. “These countries have respect for the United States military.”

Hutchinson also stressed the strategic significance of Pease ANGB, and he expressed hope that the Air Force would recognize the significant contributions



*U.S. Sen. Kelly Ayotte stands next to John Sangenario and his wife, Jeannie, during a posthumous medal decoration presentation Feb. 23 for his brother Philip, a World War II veteran. Philip Sangenario was an Army National Guard private who was among the first paratroopers who parachuted into Normandy, France, on D-Day, June 6, 1944, as a member of the 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Wyatt, 157 ARW PA*

the 157th ARW have made to national security when basing the KC-46A.

Ayotte then traveled out to the flight

line to participate in the two-hour refueling mission of a C-17 cargo aircraft from Dover Air Force Base. ❖



*U.S. Sen. Kelly Ayotte stands with, left to right, Senior Master Sgt. Glenn Starkweather, Maj. John Czachor, Master Sgt. Gary Howard and Maj. Jason Denton after her flight which refueled a C-17 high above New Hampshire Feb. 23. Ayotte flew with the N.H. Air National Guard after presenting a posthumous medal decoration to the brother of a WWII Army National Guard member. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Wyatt, 157 ARW PA*



# 54TH TROOP COMMAND welcomes new leadership



“Leadership should be an honor,” said Mikolaities. He quoted the Civil War hero Joshua Chamberlin in saying, “I consider an officer’s first duty is to look after the welfare of his men.”

The new commander’s battalion consists of eight subordinate units composed of combat arms, as well as support units. These units contain about 540 personnel, with soldiers whose jobs range from infantrymen to musicians. Mikolaities said that he hopes to carry the key concepts of maintaining high levels of training, standards and professionalism over from his experience in the Special Forces, but that he needed to assess the battalion before instituting any major changes.

“We are a force multiplier,” said Mikolaities. “If we are to do our nation’s calling, we must be prepared to win as an operational force. ❖

*Lt. Col. Gregory Blackwell, outgoing commander of 54th Troop Command, receives the colors from Command Sgt. Maj. Gregory Noyes in a transfer of authority ceremony during the battalion’s change of command in Concord, Jan. 8. Blackwell relinquished command to Lt. Col. David Mikolaities (at right). Photo by 1st Sgt. Mike Daigle, Deputy State PAO*

*By Sgt. Brian W. Gordon, 114th PAD*

The beginning of a new year symbolizes change and for 54th Troop Command, New Hampshire Army Guard, it came in the form of a new battalion commander.

The battalion gathered in a hangar at the Army Aviation Support Facility to witness the transfer of authority from Lt. Col. Gregory Blackwell to Lt. Col. David Mikolaities.

Blackwell served as the commander of the 54th since 2009. He now assumes the duties of the training branch chief at the Joint Forces Headquarters and will later attend the Army War College.

“To the soldiers of the 54th Troop Command – be proud of all that you have accomplished in the past two years,” said Blackwell. “Although I am not ready to leave command, I do so knowing that I have done my best to assist the soldiers of the 54th Troop Command to become trained, technically and tactically.”

Brig. Gen. Craig Bennett, commander of the NHARNG, lauded Blackwell’s leadership and welcomed Mikolaities to his new post.







Command Sgt. Maj. Jerry Rouleau prepares the colors of the 3643rd Brigade Support Battalion for a transfer of authority between Lt. Col. James Challenger, outgoing commander, and Lt. Col. Robert Stuart, incoming commander, at the Manchester armory, Jan. 7. Photo by Maj. Greg Heilshorn, State PAO

## NEW COMMANDERS

The first drill of a new year for the New Hampshire Army National Guard was underscored by six change of command ceremonies from brigade to company level, Jan. 7 and 8.

### **COL. THOMAS SPENCER**

took command of the 197th Fires Brigade from Col. Peter Corey, who led the largest single deployment of N.H. citizen-soldiers since World War II in support of Operation New Dawn in 2011.

### **LT. COL. ROBERT STUART**

took command of the 3643rd Brigade Support Battalion from Lt. Col. James Challenger.

### **LT. COL. DAVID MIKOLAITIES**

took command of 54th Troop Command from Lt. Col. Greg Blackwell.

### **CAPT. TYLER CHAMBERLAIN**

took command of Alpha Company, 3643rd BSB, from Capt. Adam Burritt.

### **CAPT. DAVID DEVOY III**

took command of the 744th Forward Support Company, 3643rd BSB, from Maj. Steven Hall.

### **1ST LT. THOMAS PUFKI**


took command of Bravo Company, 3643rd BSB, from Capt. Tyler Chamberlain.

*Col. Peter Corey, outgoing commander of 197th Fires Brigade, addresses his troops for the final time during a change of command ceremony Jan. 8 at the Manchester armory.*

Photo by Maj. Greg Heilshorn, State PAO







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# Dunkelberger receives her star

By Tech. Sgt. Aaron Vezeau, 157 ARW PA

Brig. Gen. Gretchen Dunkelberger was promoted during a ceremony with family and friends Feb. 4 at Pease Air National Guard Base, Newington.

Dunkelberger's daughters, U.S. Air Force Academy Cadet 4th Class Molly and Cadet 3rd Class Katy, pinned the one-star rank insignia and helped unfurl and present Dunkelberger with her one-star flag.

Dunkelberger thanked the members of the 157th Medical Group for their support and let them know that her promotion is a result of her being able to sit on their shoulders, that all the hard work they put in has made them the premier medical group in the Air National Guard.

"As a second lieutenant, my dream was to one day be the chief nurse of the U.S. Air Force," Dunkelberger said. "My career took a turn with motherhood, but I was still able to do the next best thing!"

She spent seven years as the 157th Medical Group commander, but was not ready to retire. "There were several 157th Medical Officers ready for advancement, and I did not want to hold them up," she explained. "So when the Air National



Cadet 3rd Class Katy Dunkelberger, left, and Cadet 4th Class Molly Dunkelberger pin brigadier general stars on their mother, Brig. Gen. Gretchen Dunkelberger, Pease Air National Guard Base, N.H., Feb. 4. Maj. Gen. William N. Reddel III, the Adjutant General of the N.H. National Guard, looks on. The cadets are assigned to the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colo. Photo by Staff. Sgt. Curtis J. Lenz

Guard assistant to the 59th Medical Wing commander position opened up, I applied and was chosen. It was a three-year tour. As I completed the three-year tour, the ANG assistant to the chief nurse of the U.S. Air Force became vacant. It seemed like I could fulfill a dream!"

Dunkelberger is currently assigned to Joint Force Headquarters, New Hampshire National Guard, and is serving as the Air National Guard assistant to Maj. Gen. Kimberly A. Siniscalchi, assistant Air Force surgeon general, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Rosslyn, Va. ❖

## SOAKING IT IN



Master Sgt. Jeff Trudeau stands at parade rest prior to the playing of the national anthem before the Frozen Fenway college hockey game at Fenway Park on Jan. 7. Airmen from the New Hampshire Air National Guard participated in the on-field activities before the start of the hockey game. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Wyatt, 157 ARW PA





Senior Airman Sean Welch, left, instructs Airman Adrienne Taylor on a mock M-4 rifle during defensive fighting position drills, Pease Air National Guard Base, New Hampshire, Oct. 23, 2011. Welch and Taylor are assigned to the 157th Air Refueling Wing Student Flight at Pease. Photo by Air Force Staff Sgt. Curtis J. Lenz, 157 ARW PA

## Student flight, student bright

By Tech. Sgt. Angela Stebbins, 157 ARW PA

The New Hampshire Air National Guard saw two of its newest recruits achieve success while attending basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in September 2011.

Airman 1st Class Matthew Prugger and Airman 1st Class Jamie Anthony both received the prestigious award of honor graduate from their flights upon graduation from BMT.

In order to be selected as an honor graduate, an individual must have exceeded the standards for basic training by a large enough margin to be in the top 10 percent of their flight. An honor grad must have demonstrated excellence in all phases of training, academic and military training, and must pass rigorous fitness training and testing standards.

Anthony also graduated from BMT with the Thunderbolt fitness award. Most important, she received the highest recognition of the squadron's top graduate from among more than 660 trainees, earning the "First Airman" award.

Prugger and Anthony are just two of the latest examples of recruits returning to the 157th Air Refueling Wing after graduating from BMT with honors.

During the last few years, the unit has developed a winning formula for cultivating talented and motivated personnel. The combination of recruiting some of the best candidates coupled with a new and improved student flight program here is preparing and training these recruits better than ever.

"I was in the student flight at Pease for three drill weekends," Anthony said.

"I feel I was better prepared because student flight set us up to understand the dynamic of chain of command and respect in general."

Staff Sgt. Constantia Athanasiou, the assistant noncommissioned officer in charge of student flight, went through the program not long ago herself. She describes the experience as different from how it is structured today.

"I went through student flight seven years ago, and back when I went through, it was nothing like it is now," Athanasiou said. "We came in for roll call, were checked off as present, and once in a while we might have done some group physical training here and there, but mostly, I would go straight to my gaining unit where I was going to work after BMT and tech school to do some on-the-job training."



Currently the NCOIC of student flight, Tech. Sgt. Vinton Wallace joined the unit about four years ago and immediately got to work with Master Sgt. Craig Poirier on changing the structure. Wallace said the two of them discussed ways in which they could bring student flight to a new level. He said Poirier was extremely supportive of his exploring any options for improvements, allowing him the flexibility needed to research and implement the changes and letting him run with it.

Wallace was soon able to attend a student flight training seminar hosted by Lackland's Guard liaison office. The seminar was focused on what the Guard could do to improve the quality of time, training and support to new trainees. He returned later for a five-day military training instructor orientation program where he shadowed the instructors from 3 a.m. until 9 p.m. every day for a week.

Wallace said this helped him understand what basic training is like today, what the instructors expect and look for in the trainees in order to better prepare the new recruits at Pease for basic and set them up for success from the beginning of their military careers.

Poirier and Wallace decided that the most important change they could implement immediately was to take full ownership of all new recruits in student flight, no longer allowing them to leave the student flight office after roll call to go to work with or train with their gaining unit as done in the past.

They agreed that it did not make sense for these new recruits to work within their career field units until they were fully trained, completing both basic and their technical training schools. They were able to better train and prepare the new recruits for their schools at student flight to reduce the rates of those being recycled or washed out during the basic training process.

Athanasίου also attended the week-long MTI shadow program at Lackland with Wallace.

"We went for the purpose of understanding what basic is like now and what is expected of the recruits today," said Athanasίου. "We received firsthand experience of being there for a week to see exactly what they do. Now we regularly stay in touch with these current and

former MTIs to see what has changed and keep us up to date on the program."

"We set up schedules for both days of drill, utilizing the entire drill to implement our training programs," said Wallace. "I think that is why we have such a high honor grad rate, because before they leave

**"The time frame these trainees spend in student flight only makes them better prepared to handle the challenges of basic training."**

**— Master Sgt. Ronald Connary**

here, they know all of their memory work like the Airman's Creed, the Air Force song, history, M-16 training, customs and courtesies, and the rank structures."

"We've also implemented a rope program where recruits that have been here for more than four to five drills can also start to learn leadership roles, marching flights like a dorm chief, with a red rope, yellow rope and two green ropes," Wallace continued.

Airman 1st Class Michael J. McCrady is a member of our student flight who has gone through his basic training but is now waiting on his tech school as a "split-option" trainee. He said in comparing himself with others when he went through basic training, he felt a step above the others due to his training here.

"A lot of kids in my flight were also Guard, but had different student flights where they would show up do a roll call, and that was it, so they did not even know facing movements. I had done ROTC before as well, but when I came here, I was actually presented with more of the basic training attitude so when I went I knew what to do and how to act," said McCrady, now a red rope. He assists the student flight instructors with marching the student flight or helps with training

drills while he awaits his tech school training.

"We always have four ropes here, and we like to have those split-option trainees fill these roles when they come back here waiting to go to tech school," said Athanasίου. "They can help us teach the others by sharing what they have just learned at basic, too.

"The training changes from drill to drill. We add on each and every time, and we never do the same thing twice," said Athanasίου. "Yesterday, we showed them different shooting positions and went over how to handle the M-16 and other weapons. Today, we took their bags outside and piled them up as if they were sandbags to work on doing defensive fighting positions using M-16 and M-4 molded plastic guns."

Team work is the other area Wallace and Athanasίου focus on for training.

"Just from them doing their PT, I have seen such a tremendous change in the students, starting from the 'I'm in it for myself' mentality to them showing complete team build-

ing skills," Athanasίου said. "Now, if they see somebody lacking, they really try to help each other out. They had their mile-and-a-half run today, and we had a few people straggling. The entire flight went back to get the last few, not one, two or three – it was the entire flight, close to 50 students, and all of them went back to get those last few four or five and bring them to the finish line."

Wallace credits much of the student flight trainee success to the quality airmen coming into the unit from recruiting.

"In recruiting, our team is looking for only the best and brightest to be part of the New Hampshire Air National Guard," said Master Sgt. Ronald Connary, recruiting office supervisor. "The time frame these trainees spend in student flight only makes them better prepared to handle the challenges of basic training. Our Student Flight Program is one of the best in the country, and Tech. Sgt. Wallace and Staff Sgt. Athanasίου are the first step in molding these trainees into tomorrow's airmen."

"I feel extremely privileged to be able to have a hand in molding these high-speed airmen at the beginning of their military careers," said Wallace. ❖



*A blindfolded basic trainee in the Salvadoran military's artillery brigade breaks down her M-16 during a demonstration Jan. 28 for a visiting group of N.H. National Guardsmen. The soldier is part of the brigade's first, all-female basic training class. It took her less than a minute to complete the task.*  
Photo by 1st Sgt. Mike Daigle, Deputy State PAO





# Fostering a deeper connection

By Maj. Greg Heilshorn, State PAO

The New Hampshire National Guard delivered 36 retrofitted computers to a grammar school and women's shelter in El Salvador this past weekend as part of its long-standing partnership with the Central American country of nearly 7 million people.

Donated by the University of New Hampshire's chemistry department, the computers were given to the Dr. Salvador Mendieta School in San Jose Villanueva, La Libertad and the Ciudad Mujer Project in San Salvador by a group of senior leaders from the N.H. Guard that included the adjutant general, Maj. Gen. William Reddel III.

"For many of our Guardsmen, teachers, students and civic leaders, the experience of participating in the partnership has been life-changing," Reddel said. "They are learning about a different culture. They are learning different ways to see and do things, and they are realizing how much in common we share."

Founded 12 years ago in a friendly, professional exchange of military expertise between the N.H. Guard and the Salvadoran Armed Forces, the partnership has flourished to include civic, educational and business opportunities. The partnership averages 10 to 15 events or exchanges annually and is one of 65 state-nation partnerships under the National Guard's State Partnership Program, which began 20 years ago as a way to engage former Warsaw Pact countries.



Maj. Sgt. Nolasco, left, and 1st Maj. Sgt. Ramirez, Salvadoran Air Force NCOs, explain the maintenance records of a Huey helicopter to Salvadoran Air Force Col. Mena, Maj. Gen. William Reddel III and Brig. Gen. Carolyn Protzmann during a visit to El Salvador in January. Photo by 1st Sgt. Mike Daigle, Deputy State PAO

As part of the weekend visit to El Salvador, the N.H. Air Guard's 157th Air Refueling Wing participated in the Ilopango Air Show with one of the state's premiere military aircraft, the KC-135 Refueler.

"We look forward to growing our partnership over the next decade, and

finding new ways to foster deeper connections that eventually become self-sustaining," Reddel said. "In military-speak, we call it 'nation-building,' which is just another way of saying we all live in the same world, and we never know when we are going to need their help, or when they are going to need our help." ❖



A Salvadoran Army second lieutenant leads the artillery brigade's first all-female basic training class during a demonstration Jan. 28 for a visiting group of N.H. National Guardsmen. While female enlisted soldiers are new to the brigade, female officers have been part of the organization for several years. Photo by 1st Sgt. Mike Daigle, Deputy State PAO



New Hampshire National Guard Command Sgt. Maj. John Nanof hands a soccer ball to a student at the Dr. Jose Mendieta School in San Jose Villanueva, La Libertad, El Salvador, on Jan. 27 as Maj. Gen. William Reddel and Maj. Gen. Mark Sears look on. The three were members of a group of senior leaders visiting El Salvador as part of the NHNG State Partnership Program with El Salvador. The visit also included the donation of 36 computers to the school and a women's shelter. Photo by 1st Sgt. Mike Daigle, Deputy State PAO



# New Hampshire Air Guard on display at Salvadoran air show

Story and photo by Sgt. 1st Class, Jon Soucy, NGB-PA

As aircraft buzzed overhead, and an announcer's voice echoed, Airman 1st Class Joy DeWitt, a life support equipment specialist with the New Hampshire Air National Guard's 157th Air Refueling Wing, answered another question about the Wing's equipment.

For DeWitt, talking about aircrew equipment wasn't new, but the setting – an air show in El Salvador – was.

Members of the Wing, including DeWitt, recently took part in the Ilopango Airshow as part of the National Guard's State Partnership Program, which builds relationships between the National Guard in the states and territories and partnered nations worldwide.

For DeWitt, who enlisted a little more than a year ago, being in El Salvador was an exciting experience.

"This is my first trip in general with the Air Force, so I didn't know exactly what to expect," she said. "I'm loving it. It's a great time."

Airmen manned a static display area that featured equipment used on aircraft and also provided several low-altitude passes with a KC-135 Stratotanker.

"Here, we're showing those attending the air show the equipment that the pilots use in case of an emergency, such as the life rafts," said DeWitt. "We're even showing the helmets they wear when they fly."

"Meeting everybody is my favorite part. They're all smiles, and it's great to see those that come by the booth."

For others that worked the display, the connection they made with the children who visited the booth was one of the highlights of being at the air show.

"They put the helmet on and some may think, 'Hey, I could be a pilot. I could fly an aircraft,'" said Air Force Tech. Sgt. James Gainey, also a life support equipment specialist. "They sparkle once they put the equipment on, and they start asking questions about the Air Force and flying. They start telling you about how they want to do stuff like that when they get older."

Taking part in the air show, talking with visitors, and working with civilian aviation authorities and the Salvadoran Air Force was one way the airmen were able to expand on and build relationships. ❖



Air Force Tech. Sgt. James Gainey, a life support equipment specialist with the 64th Air Refueling Squadron, talks with visitors at the Ilopango Air Show in Ilopango, El Salvador, Jan. 28. Members of the 157th ARW took part in the air show as part of the State Partnership Program, which pairs up National Guard units with foreign nations as a way to build relationships and fosters greater mutual cooperation. The unit provided a static display of survival equipment and did several flyovers in a KC-135 Stratotanker.



P H A N T O M P R O D U C T S

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## Battling the elements: Canadian and U.S. Forces team up for winter warfare training

By Sgt. Lance Wade, 36th CBG HQ Public Affairs

The Basic Winter Warfare Course provides soldiers with the experience of operating in cold weather environments.

The training teaches survival scenarios which include first line medical treatment, constructing improvised shelters,

cold-weather hygiene, navigation, camouflage and concealment, snowshoeing and skiing.

When asked what the highlights of working with the Canadians were, Staff Sgt. Jason Kovarik from 237th Military Police Company from Concord, N.H., said, "The training has been great! We did a lot of hands-on making improvised shelters. We're also putting our winter clothing to good use and adopting the seven-layer system." The seven-layer system is a protective clothing system developed by the U.S. Army designed to protect soldiers in temperatures ranging between +4 and -51 degrees Celsius.

A total of 23 candidates from the 36th Canadian Brigade Group included members from The Halifax Rifles, The Prince Edward Island Regiment, 1st (Halifax-Dartmouth) Field Artillery Regiment, RCA (1st Fd Regiment), 36th Combat Engineer Regiment, 725th Communications Squadron, 1st Battalion, The Nova Scotia Highlanders (North) and 3rd Intelligence Company. The training consisted of a two-day theory portion held at the Canadian Coast Guard College



Among reservists from the 36th Canadian Brigade Group, Staff Sgt. Daniel Mankiewicz, of the New Hampshire National Guard, helps carry equipment during the section challenge, which tested their newly acquired survival skills during the Basic Winter Warfare Course held in Sydney, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, on Jan. 28, 2012. Winter warfare training allows hands-on use of survival techniques in cold climate conditions. In this year's training, five soldiers from the New Hampshire National Guard joined forces with 23 reserve personnel from the 36th Canadian Brigade Group units for the six-day course on Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia. Photo: Sgt Lance Wade, 36 CBG HQ Public Affairs





Army reservists from the 36th Canadian Brigade Group and the New Hampshire National Guard pose during the Basic Winter Warfare Course conducted in Sydney, Nova Scotia, from January 23-28. Photo: Sgt. Lance Wade, 36 CBG HQ Public Affairs



Staff Sgt. Daniel Mankiewicz, of the New Hampshire National Guard, and a reservist from the 36th Canadian Brigade Group celebrate their victory after their team won the section challenge as part the Basic Winter Warfare Course in Sydney, Nova Scotia, Jan. 28, 2012.

Photo: Sgt. Lance Wade, 36 CBG HQ Public Affairs

followed by a four-day outdoor practical exercise.

What is it like working with the New Hampshire National Guard? Bombardier Oliver Johnson from 1st Fd. Regiment responded, “Working with the Americans was a great experience. They operated on common ground. It didn’t matter what the rank – getting the task done was a team effort.”

New Hampshire National Guard, Staff Sgt. Daniel Mankiewicz said, “The Canadians’ tolerance for cold weather survival is high! These guys take it a step

further, and the instructor’s knowledge has been paramount – it’s kept us motivated.”

The Basic Winter Warfare Course provided 36 CBG soldiers the opportunity to operate and train with their U.S.

counterparts in an effort to develop their interoperability skills and build strong ties. This type of training between our countries assists in further preparing our soldiers for deployments at home and abroad. ❖



Sgt. Dave Standing from Cape Breton Highlanders and Staff Sgt. Jason Kovarik from the 237th Military Police Company, New Hampshire National Guard, attempt to start a fire using the bow drill method as part of the survival training on the Basic Winter Warfare Course in Sydney, Nova Scotia, on Jan. 28, 2012.

Photo: Sgt. Lance Wade, 36 CBG HQ Public Affairs





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— Janet O. Dallas, TX

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Family L/12





## Desert holdovers return

*Photos: Staff Sgt. Whitney Hughes, 114th PAD*

*Top: Pfc. Ema Donlagic, far left, an automatic logistical specialist with the 744th Forward Support Company of the New Hampshire National Guard, waits with the family of Spc. Tiffani Cotting, an automated logistical specialist with Bravo Company, 3643rd Brigade Support Battalion, of the 197th at the Manchester Airport. Donlagic and Cotting's family awaited Cotting's arrival home Feb. 28 after she voluntarily chose to extend her tour of duty in support of Operation New Dawn.*

*Left: Staff Sgt. Timothy McCollough, a petroleum supply specialist with A Company, 3643rd Brigade Support Battalion of the 197th Fires Brigade, New Hampshire National Guard, holds his wife's hand as he is greeted by other members of the NHNG at the Manchester Airport Feb. 29. McCollough and eight other Soldiers from the 197th returned home from Kuwait after they voluntarily chose to extend their tour of duty in support of Operation New Dawn.*

*Bottom: Tiffani Cotting, automated logistical specialist with B Company, 3643rd Brigade Support Battalion of the 197th Fires Brigade, New Hampshire National Guard, meets her nephew for the first time at the Manchester Boston Regional Airport Feb. 29.*





# Civil engineer wins Truman Scholarship



Senior Airman Brooks Payette during a visit to Washington, D.C.

*Story and photo by  
Tech. Sgt. Mark Wyatt, 157  
ARW PA*

A New Hampshire Air National Guard civil engineer and senior at the University of New Hampshire has been selected as a 2011 Truman Scholar, a prestigious national award that provides \$30,000 for a graduate education.

Senior Airman Brooks Payette was competitively selected as one of 60 recipients who were awarded the scholarship last year while a junior at the school. Payette com-

peted against 602 applicants from 264 colleges and universities around the country.

Scholarships are given to those who demonstrate outstanding leadership and commitment to public service.

Payette, a nontraditional student majoring in political science, is the first UNH student to be awarded funding from the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation, established in 1975 as a memorial to the 33rd president.

The scholarship is awarded to college juniors with exceptional leadership potential who are committed to careers in government,

nonprofit or advocacy sectors, education or elsewhere in public service.

It is governed by a 13-member board of trustees headed by former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, who says the foundation “serves as a gateway for America’s public service leaders” and “does a remarkable job of identifying future change agents.”

Eight board members are appointed by the U.S. president, including a state governor, a city or county chief executive, a federal judge, a state judge, a representative of higher education and three members of the public.

The competitive selection process requires a strong record of public service, as well as a policy proposal that addresses a particular issue in society. Payette’s proposal, addressed to the U.S. Department of Education, urges an increase in physical fitness activities in schools to address and combat childhood obesity.

Payette, a civil engineer with the 157th Air Refueling Wing Civil Engineer Squadron since 2008, transferred to UNH in 2009 after a six-year break from education.

“To say receiving the Truman Scholarship is an honor is an understatement. This selection puts me in an inspiring association of people who have made a difference in public service,” said Payette. “What makes it even more special is being the first UNH recipient ever. In a way, I feel like it is something I can give back to a university that has provided so many opportunities for me.”

Payette will attend the Truman Summer Institute this summer.

After completing further education, the Berlin native plans to work in the area of public education with a focus on children’s health, specifically addressing childhood obesity. ♦

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# Training at Rush University

By Lt. Col. Stephanie Riley and  
Tech. Sgt. Kevin Weller, 157 MDG

The 157th Medical Group from Pease Air National Guard Base, Newington, recently sent a group of nurses, medics and a respiratory therapist to a training course at Rush University in Chicago. Course attendees included 58 Army and Air personnel divided into three groups. The three groups rotated through didactic and hands-on training platforms including mass casualty, live tissue lab and cadaver lab. Approximately 38 of the Army trainees who attended the course were platoon medics in need of “Just-in-Time” training prior to an upcoming deployment.

Each class was taught by board certified emergency medicine physicians, and training was not for the faint of heart. According to Maj. Alyn Theriault, chief nurse for the 157th MDG, the days began early in the morning with classroom didactic training or skills review in the lab.

The evenings involved hospital rotations at various Level I trauma centers throughout downtown Chicago in addition to ambulance ride-alongs with Chicago Fire Department paramedics. Rush University partnered with local trauma hospitals in Chicago, such as Mount Sinai, which routinely sees traumatic injuries as a result of shootings, stabbings and other serious mechanisms of injury.

The cadaver lab portion of the training focused on life saving procedures including venous cut down, needle decompression, chest tube insertion, advanced airway intubation and cricothyrotomy. The live tissue lab included intraosseous access, multiple suturing techniques, needle decompression, chest tube placement, thoracotomy procedures and suturing of a beating heart. The skills stations focused on advanced airway techniques such as intubation and cricothyrotomy, in addition to long board positioning, spinal motion restriction, and extrication techniques. Each portion of the training had a strict standard ratio of five students to one physician, which made for consistent hands-on training experience taught to an appropriate level for the participants.

Training expectations certainly exceeded the boundaries of many of the



Maj. Darci Rubin, 157th Medical Group, intubates a simulation mannequin at the Rush University Trauma Training Program in Chicago recently. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Kevin Weller

participants’ comfort zones. For 1st Lt. Rebecca Hegarty, a newly licensed registered nurse, performing these medical procedures was something she had never been exposed to prior to this training event.

Maj. Darci Rubin recalled her experience of having to enter an extremely rough neighborhood while treating a shooting victim with the Chicago Fire Department. Rubin worried for her own safety at the time but also felt that the situation was beneficial to her training experience.

During their rotation at a Level I trauma center, Tech. Sgt. Kevin Weller and Senior Airman Leslie Wood dealt with a 15-year-old gunshot victim who required a thoracotomy but unfortunately died as a result of his injuries. During post-mortem care, Weller and Wood were allowed to suture the thoracotomy incision closed. These types of experiences could never be simulated and are just a few examples of what Rush University has to offer individuals who may someday face similar situations in a war zone.

The last day of the training wrapped up with a mass casualty scenario where participants wore real world independent body armor as well as Kevlar helmets and were required to pack their own medic bags to be used during the simulation. The scenario involved a simulated artillery attack of a village market.

Senior Airman Alexa Schimmel said, “The simulation was very impressive.

There were loud noises, smoke, rubble and metal debris strewn all over the ground which we had to climb over and under in order to get to the victims.”

The medics had to triage, treat and evacuate casualties from a variety of different locations throughout the rubble. Information was systematically reported to the incident commander, and medevac 9-line reports were used to call for assistance and request transport. Medics were required to stabilize and continually re-triage patients while providing care under fire until help arrived.

Once the casualties were transported out of the incident site, they were sent to a combat support hospital where medics continued to provide care and manage patients. Many of the victims suffered significant injuries – for example, 20 percent second-degree burns to the face and chest requiring an emergency cricothyrotomy, which was performed by a 157th MDG member on one of the many high tech mannequins used throughout the training.

All of the 157th MDG members who attended the training came away with a profound sense of accomplishment. Many said that it was the best training they had ever been to, both civilian and military. It was strongly recommended that all military nurses, doctors and medics attend a training platform such as this at least once in their career. The skills that were mastered and the experiences gained will never be forgotten. ♦



# 12th Civil Support Team

## CONDUCTS COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING

Story and photos by Sgt. Brian Gordon,  
114th PAD

First responders, such as fireman paramedics, are used to arriving at a scene and bringing a sense of calm and control to chaotic situations. However, when they arrive on a scene and find a potential hazardous material situation, they call for help.

Where does this call end up? It lands at the 12th Civil Support Team of the New Hampshire National Guard. Within 90 minutes of being alerted to a possible chemical, biological, radiation or nuclear event, the team of 22 full-time Army and Air Guardsmen are assembled and ready to respond.

To be prepared for these types of situations, the CST constantly conducts exercises to keep their skills sharp. On Jan. 18, the 12th CST participated in one of these training exercises at the New Hampshire National Guard's Regional Training Institute in Center Strafford.

"We are the main resource for The Adjutant General and the governor for any kind of CBRN incident in the state," said Lt. Col. John Logsdon, medical officer for the 12th CST, who set up the exercise. He said that while the military has units exclusively dedicated to CBRN

operations, very few cities and towns have the resources to train and equip personnel for such events. This event was just for the unit, but the 12th CST does train regularly with local law enforcement, including the state police, FBI and DEA. They help civilian authorities deal with situations they're not prepared for.

Once the 12th CST arrived on the scene, they began setting up. They were equipped with an impressive array of vehicles, including a mobile chemical lab capable of detecting and identifying chemical, radiological and biological

agents, a mobile command post, a mobile communications center and an ambulance.

A decontamination area was set up, with a shower tent to wash off harmful substances and sealed containers to dispose of contaminated equipment.

The training area was a collection of metal Conex containers set on a hillside, configured to resemble buildings, with doors and windows cut into them and roads winding through them. A fresh layer of snow gave a peaceful air to the setting.

An initial survey team, two soldiers dressed in hazmat suits and carrying



Staff Sgt. Jeff Jordan, left, survey team chief with the 12th Civil Support Team, is assisted out of his hazmat suit by Sgt. Mathew Maguire, decontamination training NCO, during an exercise at the Regional Training Institute in Center Strafford, Jan. 18. The 12th CST trains regularly to respond to nuclear, biological and chemical events to ensure their preparation to support their state and federal missions.



Staff Sgt. Robert Mingolla, survey team chief with the 12th Civil Support Team, checks a building for hazards during an exercise at the Regional Training Institute in Center Strafford, Jan. 18. The 12th CST trains regularly to respond to nuclear, biological and chemical events.



equipment for detecting hazardous materials, was sent toward the site. Their equipment soon began picking up radiation. The team used cones to set up a perimeter around the dangerous area, returning after 45 minutes when their air tanks began running low.

The training scenario involved a series of teams mitigating or counteracting the radiation source with lead blankets before exploring the rest of the structure to discover hidden chemical labs, illegal drugs, explosives, plans for local stadiums and schedules of events. Radio and video equipment kept them connected to the command post. The soldiers took samples for the lab to analyze. Other team members coordinated with local law enforcement officials on possible evacuation zones.

Each survey team was decontaminated when they returned to the staging area, washing off their hazmat suits and putting them in bags for disposal later. They were assisted by a decontamination team member who monitored them for any remaining exposure. A medical examination preceded and followed each trip into the hazardous area.

“This was my first real decontamination experience,” said Sgt. Mathew Maguire, decontamination NCO for the 12th CST. “I’ve been a survey team member before this. It was good training. We had to adjust our equipment and procedures for the wind and cold.”

The training was kept as realistic as possible – to the extent that two team members were declared “dead” when they strayed past the perimeter marked by the first team and ended up too close to the radiation source.

“I wanted to make this exercise as difficult as I could,” Logsdon said. “In the real world, it would be extremely unlikely for anyone outside of a large nation to be



Senior Airman Stephen Dunn, survey team member with the 12th Civil Support Team, examines laboratory equipment during an exercise at the Regional Training Institute in Center Strafford, Jan. 18.

able to accumulate that much radioactive material, not to mention finding bombs, chemical and drug labs on the same site. But it’s good training.”

The exercise ended with a simulated medical emergency, in which a team member suffered an injury and had to be evacuated, cut out of his suit and treated, all while maintaining procedures for avoiding contamination of either the victim or the responders.

“It was interesting dealing with all those different scenarios,” said Senior Airman Stephen Dunn, survey team member with the 12th CST. “I really got to refine my skills.” ❖

An advertisement for Rite in the Rain writing paper. At the top, the brand name "Rite in the Rain" is written in a cursive font, with "ALL-WEATHER WRITING PAPER" underneath and a logo to the right. Below this is a photograph of a spiral-bound notebook with a brown cover. The notebook is open to a page with handwritten notes in blue ink: "Products on GSA Schedule", "Most have NSNs", and "download the list www.RiteintheRain.com". A black pen lies across the bottom of the notebook. At the bottom of the advertisement, there is a list of products: "Field Books • Notebooks • Loose Leaf • Field Planners", "Targets • Index Cards • Covers • All-Weather Pens". Below the list are logos for BSA, GSA, and RITE GREEN. At the very bottom, it says "FEDSTRIP, MILSTRIP, AARES, Base Supply Stores &amp; Tactical Supply Outlets" and "RiteIntheRain.com".

An advertisement for the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). The top part features the VFW logo and the slogan "YOU'VE EARNED IT" in large, bold, white letters against a dark, textured background. Below the slogan, it says "Veteran Advocacy Troop Support &amp; Camaraderie". At the bottom, it provides contact information: "Learn more at www.vfw.org" and "1.888.JOIN.VFW".



# Army Promotions & Awards

## Private 2

Anthony Jacobthai Nguyen  
Jesse Aurele Therrien  
Jacob John Vanblarcom  
Brendan Patrick Oday

## Private 1st Class

Geoffrey James Holder  
Shannon Persephone Snively  
Dhaniele Elizabeth Duffy  
Christopher Killi Severance  
Derek Michael Dutcher  
Nicholas James Wrigley

## Specialist

Matthew Richard Ryan  
Brandon Scott Foskett  
Edwin Charles Kilcline IV  
Tiffani Lynn Cotting

## Sergeant

Jason Peter Siudut  
Benjamin Bernard Roberts

## Staff Sergeant

Sukari Danielle Statton  
Katie Lynn Hannigan  
Jennifer Lynn Laclaire  
Jessie Kim Jennings  
Matthew Asher Molburg

## Sergeant 1st Class

Alexander Jon Thurston

## Master Sergeant

Ian Cameron Clark

## Chief Warrant Officer 2

Nathaniel James Parker  
David Paul Breton

## Captain

Allen Joseph Corey



## Det. 18 honored for Afghanistan service

Chief Warrant Officer 4 George Munson, a pilot with the Operational Support Airlift Agency, Detachment 18, New Hampshire Army National Guard, greets Gov. John Lynch during a Freedom Salute ceremony at the Army Aviation Support Facility hangar in Concord Feb. 4. The detachment returned to New Hampshire after a one-year tour to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, where they served as pilots and system operators supplying aerial reconnaissance to ground commanders and other organizations throughout Afghanistan.

The ceremony honored the seven soldiers – and their families – of OSA Det. 18, for their yearlong mobilization in 2010-2011 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The Freedom Salute campaign is one of the largest Army National Guard recognition endeavors in history. It is designed to publicly acknowledge Army Guard soldiers as well as those who have supported them during recent military operations.

The detachment was part of a task force comprising 55 soldiers from New Hampshire, Delaware, Mississippi, Washington and Illinois who were divided between Bagram in northern Afghanistan and Kandahar in southern Afghanistan.

Det. 18 conducted around-the-clock operations, providing pilots and system operators for aerial reconnaissance. They logged more than 14,000 flight hours during 10 months of combat operations.

The task force was named the Army Aviation Association of America's Fixed Wing Unit of the Year, and nominated for the Army Meritorious Unit citation.

The other members of the unit at the ceremony were Chief Warrant Officer 4 James Ormond, Chief Warrant Officer 5 Joseph Ducey, Spc. Joshua Mclean, Spc. Ryan Broza, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Galen Collins and Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Phinny. Broza and Mclean served as aerial sensor operators; the warrant officers served as pilots, and Phinny was the rear detachment operations NCOIC. ❖



# FOUR DECADES



*Sgt. Maj. Yves Dube was awarded the Legion of Merit by Maj. Gen. William Reddel III, the Adjutant General of the N.H. Guard on Feb. 8 for his 40 years of exceptional service in the N.H. Army National Guard. The ceremony took place in the Hall of Flags, Joint Force Headquarters, Concord.*

Photo by 1st. Sgt. Mike Daigle, Deputy State PAO



## Air Promotions & Awards

### Airman 1st Class

Liza Roy, 157 Student Flight

### Senior Airman

Eric Moulton, 260 ATC  
 Justin Evans, 157 CMF  
 Sean Wood, 157 LRS  
 Josiah Kelsall, 157 MXG  
 Joshua Buco, 157 CES  
 Kelly Williams, 157 ARW  
 Brian White, 157 LRS  
 Bradley Hunt, 157 CES  
 Kyle Godfrey, 157 CES

### Staff Sergeant

Jennifer Frisina, 157 ARW  
 Russel Georgio, 157 MXG  
 Tedd Hadley, 157 MXG  
 Jason Veziris, 157 OPS  
 Marc Fillion, 157 MDG  
 Alan Roma, 157 CES  
 Raymond Miller, 260 ATC  
 Andrew Morrison, 157 MXG  
 Josef Notter, 157 MXG

### Technical Sergeant

Glen Meyers, 157 MXG  
 William Davenport, 157 MDG  
 Michael Hutchins, 260 ATC  
 Justin Webb, 157 MXG  
 Marc Coleman, 260 ATC  
 Lawrence Bower III, 157 MXG  
 Jimmy Grindle, 157 MXG  
 Robert Worcester, 260 ATC

### Master Sergeant

Robert Stewart, 260 ATC  
 Scott Dodge, 157 MXG  
 Kenneth Jones, 157 MXG  
 Martha Gladu, 157 MXG  
 Edward Welsh, 157 CES  
 David A. Poirier, 157 MXG  
 Randall Robertson, 157 MXG  
 Christopher Lemay, 157 CES

### Senior Master Sergeant

Kathleen Davis, 157 LRS  
 Michael Ploof, 157 CES  
 Michael George, 157 OPS

### Chief Master Sergeant

Michael Sullivan, 157 SFS



## Drawing inspiration from those who serve

An exhibit of paintings inspired by a U.S. corpsman is on temporary display at Joint Force Headquarters in Concord along the entrance way to the drill hall.

Laconia-based artist Elaine Morrison graciously agreed to loan her collection "War" to the New Hampshire National Guard. It includes a range of disciplines and techniques depicting scenes of combat and its effect on service members.

The corpsman, John Sofronas, is her son-in-law.

One of the pieces, "Doc," is made from gauze and tourniquets from Sofronas' medical kit. Another entitled "Drew," is a

portrait of one of Sofronas' friends, Drew Lee, whose brother Joe was the 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine platoon commander during the push for Fallujah.

Morrison is a retired special education teacher, artist and business owner from the Lakes Region. She enlisted students from her after-school enrichment program to create art to send to soldiers in Iraq, Afghanistan and Walter Reed Hospital.

The "War" exhibition, Morrison said, is her way of honoring all veterans. ♦







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