

INDIANA GUARDSMAN

JUN 2016

An Indiana National Guard Publication



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Front cover: Indiana National Guard Spc. Mark Smalls with Troop C, 1st Squadron, 152 Cavalry Regiment loads a 60 mm mortar round at Camp Atterbury, Indiana, Saturday, March 5, 2016. Photo by Sgt. Evan Myers

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The *Indiana Guardsman* is an unofficial publication authorized under the provisions of AR 360-1, and is published by the Headquarters, Indiana National Guard. It is distributed without charge to the members of the Indiana Army and Air National Guard. All material submitted for publication should be addressed to:

Indiana National Guard Headquarters
Public Affairs Office
ATTN: Guardsman Magazine
2002 South Holt Road
Indianapolis, IN 46241-4839

Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of the Indiana National Guard, the Department of the Army and the Department of the Air Force.

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TAG inducts newest Indiana National Guard officers



Indiana National Guard 2nd Lt. Joseph Presnell, center, a 38th Infantry Division human resources officer, holds a saber and plaque indicating his achievements, second distinguished honor graduate, in Officer Candidate School Class 64-16, Sunday, April 3, 2016. Indiana's Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Courtney P. Carr, right, and Col. Rodney Babb, Indiana Regimental Training Institute commander, flank Presnell.

TAG visits Slovakia, meets USAREUR commander



A Slovak soldier checks Maj. Gen. Courtney P. Carr's blood pressure while training at one of the world's premier live-agent training facilities in Slovakia in March. Carr met with Slovak armed forces leadership and Lt. Gen. Ben Hodges, U.S. Army Europe commander while in Eastern Europe.

"I am honored to be in Slovakia with our state partner and with the commander of U.S. Army Europe," said Carr. Indiana and Slovakia have been training and trading best practices with each other for more than 20 years as part of the National Guard's State Partnership Program. For more on the Hoosier, Slovak partnership in this issue, see page 9.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Runser



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. John Chapman

U.S. Air Force tactical air control party Airmen with the 181st Intelligence Wing, 113th Air Support Operations Squadron visually acquire aircraft.

Hoosiers control Arizona skies

By Senior Master Sgt. John Chapman
181st Intelligence Wing Public Affairs

GILA BEND AIR FORCE AUXILIARY FIELD, Ariz. — Airmen from the 181st Intelligence Wing, 113th Air Support Operations Squadron, honed their skills during an exercise in February.

The 12 tactical air control party Airmen conducted live, close-air support training at the Barry Goldwater Range to maintain their combat mission ready status and equipment training. The TACP Airmen spent many hours in the field coordinating air support missions, which guided attack and fighter pilots to targets in the tactical range complex.

To find their targets, the joint terminal attack controllers provided the pilots with GPS coordinates, laser markers and target “talk-ons.” During night operations, the

Airmen used a laser-pointing device that could only be seen by the pilots wearing night vision goggles.

“This exercise provided the opportunity for our joint terminal attack controllers and TACP members to obtain valuable training that isn’t possible on our local ranges in Indiana. This included the directing and controlling of over 24 live 500-pound bombs that were delivered from our fellow Hoosier squadron of A-10s from Fort Wayne. In addition, this was the first time for many of our members to work with the F-35 Lightning II in a close-air support role,” said Lt. Col. Chris Snider, the commander of the 113th ASOS.

During the weeklong deployment, TACPs were trained on mission preparation and scenario generation, high frequency beyond line of sight radio communications,

technical vehicle navigation systems, day and night targeting equipment, day and night close-air support, said the 113th ASOS chief joint tactical air control - instructor.

By the end of the exercise, the TACP Airmen had accomplished more than 150 different close-air support controls.

The Airmen also coordinated the release of Mark-82 high-explosive unguided bombs, 2.75 white phosphorus rockets, training bombs and shooting of 30 mm and 20 mm training rounds.

During their 12-hour days, the TACP Airmen, some who are former combat veteran Soldiers, worked with U.S. and foreign partners that were flying F-16 Fighting Falcons, A-10 Thunderbolt IIs, F-35 Lightning IIs and C-130 Hercules aircraft that were flown from Luke and Davis-Monthan Air Force Bases in Arizona.

Homegrown by Heroes

Agribusiness initiative helps Hoosier veteran farmers

By Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Lowry
Indiana National Guard Public Affairs

The Adjutant General of Indiana, Maj. Gen. Courtney P. Carr, and the Indiana National Guard’s Commander in Chief, Governor Mike Pence, spoke at the Indiana State Department of Agriculture’s Indiana Grown Homegrown by Heroes initiative at the Indiana War Memorial in Indianapolis.

Homegrown by Heroes gives Hoosiers a new, tangible way to support their veterans and locally grown products.

“The partnership between Indiana Grown and Homegrown by Heroes will create many opportunities for our veterans, especially in rural communities. The connection between our Citizen-Soldiers and farming is enduring. It goes back to our roots as a nation,” said Carr of the initiative.

The ideal figure for the minuteman, the Citizen-Soldier, is a farmer, with one hand on the plow and one holding a musket, said Carr. He also mentioned other National Guard, agricultural connections specifically the Indiana National Guard’s myriad agribusiness development teams that deployed to Afghanistan and helped local farmers there.

Pence also spoke at the launch and reiterated the symbolic nature of the National Guard statue.

“This is an initiative about putting down the musket and taking up the plow. We want to commend each and every one of you for being a part of this. We are very, very



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Lowry

Cadel Thomas Crowl, Elias Donker, Ted McKinney, Jim Brown, Sara Creech, Gov. Mike Pence, Zach Morris, Maj. Gen. Courtney P. Carr and Jesse Andrews pose for a photo at the Indiana Grown Homegrown by Heroes launch at the Indiana War Memorial in Indianapolis, Monday, Feb. 29, 2016.

proud of agriculture in the Hoosier State,” said Pence.

One of the five farmers who attended the ceremony, Sara Creech, also spoke.

“Farming, as a career choice, is becoming increasingly popular as a way for our communities and our veterans to lead lives. There is something special about being able to work with the land and the animals that is so healing. Being able to work with your hands and help create something that is beautiful and helps nurture life that is so amazing,” said Creech.

“It’s a way to say thank you for your service, and we support you as Indiana

veterans and farmers,” said Creech of the Indiana Grown Homegrown by Heroes initiative during her speech.

To be eligible for the Indiana Grown Homegrown By Heroes logo, the producer must meet all Indiana Grown membership criteria, as well as the following:

- Have veteran, active duty, National Guard or Reserve member of the U.S. armed forces status, without regard to age or era of duty;

- Provide a copy of their Department of Defense Form 214 or equivalent

- Have characterization of service of honorable or general under honorable conditions

- Provide a letter of support from their commanding officer or designated representative attesting to their service under honorable conditions if they are an active duty member; and

- Maintain 50 percent or greater veteran ownership of their business or operation and 50 percent or greater veteran management control.

“This is an initiative about putting down the musket and taking up the plow. We want to commend each and every one of you.”

— Gov. Mike Pence
Indiana National Guard commander in chief

Mortarmen fire rounds downrange



Photo illustration by Sgt. Evan Myers



Photo by Sgt. Evan Myers

Indiana National Guard Soldiers, mortarmen with Troop B, 1st Squadron, 152 Cavalry Regiment, adjust their weapon system before refiring at Camp Atterbury, Indiana, Saturday, March 5, 2016.

Indiana National Guard Spc. Mark Smalls Troop C, 1st Squadron, 152 Cavalry Regiment uses a brush and a cleaning lubricant to clean the 60 mm M225A1 mortar system at Camp Atterbury, Indiana, Saturday, March 5, 2016.



Photo by Sgt. Evan Myers

Spc. Mark Smalls and Spc. Jordan Addison, mortarmen with Troop C, prepare their weapon system for firing at Camp Atterbury.



Photo by Sgt. Evan Myers

Indiana National Guard Soldiers, mortarmen with Troop B, 1st Squadron, 152 Cavalry Regiment, adjust their weapon system before refiring at Camp Atterbury, Indiana, Saturday, March 5, 2016.



Photo by Sgt. Evan Myers

An Indiana National Guard Soldier prepares a 60 mm mortar round for firing.



Photo by Sgt. Evan Myers

Mortarmen from Troop B adjust their weapon system.

Guardsmen devote day to safety

By Cadet Grace Begovich
38th Infantry Division Public Affairs

Indiana Army National Guard aviators met at the Indiana War Memorial Sunday to discuss safety within the aviation community.

Safety and standard are so important to aviators that they carve one day out of the year for it.

“I want to commend you for the truly outstanding safety record and your continued commitment to safety,” said Maj. Gen. David C. Wood, commanding general of the 38th Infantry Division. “The Army’s mission, number one, is readiness, and safety promotes readiness.”

Wood spoke highly of the aviation Soldiers, and as an aviator himself, he spoke about understanding the key of safety in flight. Included in safety are unexpected threats that a pilot must mitigate during a flight. Wood communicated tips and tricks for pilots to remain calm in trying situations.

The day involved many speakers from different walks of life in support of the military’s mission for a safe country in more ways than just flying an aircraft. The day included topics ranging from fly time for pilots to active-shooter threats and involved many speakers including Wood, Brig. Gen. Ronald A. Westfall, and Robert E. Taylor.

“When everybody thinks aviation, they think safety and my hat’s off to you for dedicating an entire day for safety,” said Westfall, the Indiana National Guard director of joint staff.

During his comments, Westfall mentioned that aviation incidents over the past three years are the lowest they’ve ever been. He said the two times pilots are most likely to be in an accident, during acts of indiscipline and compliance.

“It is definitely a culture within the aviation community when it comes to safety,” said Westfall.

Safety doesn’t just fall under flying for aviation Guardsmen; it is present in their civilian life as well. Following the Executive Order #15-07 in August 2015, the Indiana National Guard has authorized the arming of properly permitted service members.

“Awareness is known to warfighters more so than it is to civilians, and you need to lead the way because we are in a different era,” said Taylor, the Indiana National antiterrorism coordinator and an Air Force veteran.

Taylor’s stories from his aviation experience translated into how National Guardsmen need to take safety seriously in normal events throughout their life. Whether Soldiers are walking through a mall, watching a movie at the theater, or going to the grocery store; Soldiers should be on alert for the safety of their community.

“Seeking an aviation career in the National Guard has set a higher skill set and a higher standard than I’ve seen,” said 1st Lt. Terrance D. Ward, with the 2-238 General Support Aviation



Maj. Gen. David C. Wood, 38th Infantry Division commanding general, speaks about safety within Army aviation at the Indiana War Memorial.

Battalion and a graduate of Purdue University with a degree in professional flight.

Ward, 28 and an Indianapolis resident, comes from a robust military background; he followed his father and grandfather’s footsteps by joining the Army.

Ward’s interest in aviation translates into his civilian career as well, where he is an airport director. He has myriad accomplishments under his belt, which has helped him notice the higher skill set and standard that the Army has provided for him.

By designating a day to replay events from previous years and celebrating their achievement of continuing to uphold standards, proves that safety is always on the aviation community’s mind.



Indiana Army National Guard 1st Lt. Terrance Ward, right, Indianapolis, listens to speakers at the National Guard Safety Conference held at the Indiana War Memorial, Sunday, March 13, 2016.



Col. Philip N. Eskew Jr. promoted to brigadier general in the IGR.

IGR gets new deputy

By Capt. Terry Heifetz
Indiana Guard Reserve Public Affairs

Indiana Guard Reserve Col. Philip N. Eskew Jr., an Indiana University trustee and alumnus, will now serve the state of Indiana in a new role, as a deputy commanding general in the Indiana Guard Reserve, Indiana’s state defense force.

Eskew has been a member of the Indiana Guard Reserve since 2001. Eskew was the first physician in the IGR and developed a medical unit capable of assisting the Indiana National Guard and the citizens of Indiana in the event of natural or manmade disaster.

“I hope to have the opportunity to actively implement and evaluate this process and develop it even further,” Eskew said. “The bottom line is that I volunteer and give back because I have been given so much. This is one way of doing that.”

Eskew has already given a lot to Hoosiers, as a doctor and teacher, Rotary Club organizer and Carmel school board member. He received a Sagamore of the Wabash in 1996 and the St. Vincent Hospital Distinguished Physician Award in 2000.

“I enjoy teaching and mentoring others as well as helping others achieve their goals,” Eskew said.

Indiana Guard Reserve Brig. Gen. Hal Grigdesby said Eskew has already contributed so much to the state of Indiana that this new position will only strengthen his legacy.

“From organizing the move of St. Vincent hospital to its current location, to mentoring dozens of residents and medical students, Phil has proven he can accomplish big things,” Grigdesby said. “Now, we’re sure he’ll help the IGR be ready for whatever Hoosiers may face in the future.”

The Indiana Guard Reserve is a community-based military organization that supplements the Indiana National Guard within the state of Indiana. For more information about the IGR, visit in.gov/igr.

Intel partnership

Hoosiers, Slovaks trade best practices

By Col. Brent Richards
Indiana National Guard Strategic Plans and Initiatives

Soldiers in the Indiana National Guard from multiple intelligence units and disciplines traveled to Slovakia as part of the first of many expected meetings to familiarize the Slovak Army with how the Indiana National Guard prepares for intelligence missions.

Even though the Hoosier Guardsmen and Slovakia’s Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance Battalion are separated by more than 4,800 miles, it didn’t take long to find out that they train and prepare for missions similarly.

“While the trip was short, it was apparent on the final day that both groups had benefited from the trip. There were obvious linkages that helped to build the foundation for a long-term partnership and friendship between Indiana and Slovak intel warriors,” said Maj. Shawn R. Eaken, the Indiana National Guard’s international programs director.

Though the Indiana National Guard has had a working relationship with the Slovak armed forces for more than 20 years, this is the first time intelligence has been discussed.

The Guardsmen used this time to discuss the current capability of their respective cyber elements and exchange intelligence collection methods.

“Although we live so far away from each other, we actually share the attitude in supporting and protecting all in need,” said a Slovak captain who prefers to remain anonymous.

“Thus sharing lessons learned or best practices becomes crucial in getting more and more effective to preserve our countries as safe place for our citizens. It is a privilege to have the opportunity to share and cooperate with such professionals as Indiana National Guard has and further cooperation is very welcomed,” he said.

The two groups spent three days going over collection management methods, asset allocation, and sharing lessons learned from both sides.

The National Guardsmen also shared methods on how the National Guard supports local civilian authorities during flooding and other domestic crisis.

With the success of this initial meeting, the desire to continue with this program is mutual, said

Maj. Chris Silbaugh, the Indiana National Guard’s deputy intelligence officer, who also said he had high hopes for deepening the Hoosier, Slovak partnership.

“This event is the start of a new branch within our partnership with Slovakia. This is an excellent opportunity to share lessons learned and serves as a means for us to continue sharing best practices that all can learn from in the future,” said Silbaugh.

219th Engineers change commanders



Indiana Army National Guard Col. R. Dale Lyles, right, receives the colors of the 219th Engineer Brigade from Brig. Gen. Michael J. Osburn, during a change of command ceremony at Camp Atterbury, Indiana, Sunday, Feb. 28, 2016. Lyles assumed command from Col. David N. Vesper who had helmed the brigade since April 2015.

Photo by Chief Warrant Officer 2 David W. Elmore

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Re-enlisting, recommitting



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class David Bruce

Sgt. Joshua Vogel, Jeffersonville, Indiana, re-enlists into the Indiana National Guard as Maj. Gen. David C. Wood, 38th Infantry Division commanding general, administers the oath of enlistment in Indianapolis, Sunday, Feb. 21, 2016. Vogel, a charter pilot, is a 38th Sustainment Brigade signal support systems specialist in the Guard and is planning to attend officer candidate school.

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Soldiers with 20th Special Forces Group practice building insertion and room-clearing techniques at Muscatatuck Urban Training Center near Butlerville, Indiana, Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2016. Beginning in September, Soldiers with Company A, 2/20th Special Forces Group will call the Hoosier State their home. Photo by Master Sgt. Brad Staggs