

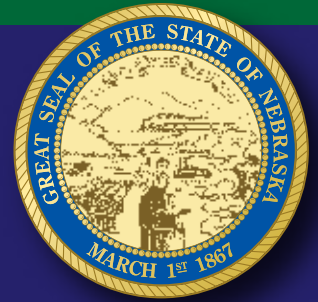
NEBRASKA MILITARY DEPARTMENT

NEBRASKA NATIONAL GUARD & NEBRASKA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

READY
& ABLE

TO
FACE
THE
FUTURE

ANNUAL REPORT 2015



‘Prepare and deliver combat ready forces in defense of our nation and stand ready to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the state.’

*— Nebraska Military Department
Mission Statement*



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Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jason Melton

Left Right Left: Members of the Nebraska National Guard color guard bring forward the flags as part of the 2015 Inaugural Ball for Gov. Pete Ricketts, Jan. 10, at the Pinnacle Bank Arena in Lincoln, Neb. Nebraska Guardsmen supported Rickett's inaugural ball by serving as members of the color guard, honor cordon, escort officers or part of the planning cell.

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NEBRASKA MILITARY DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2015

The 2015 Nebraska Military Department Annual Report was produced by the staff of the Nebraska National Guard Public Affairs Office with significant support from the Nebraska Emergency Management Public Information Office, 111th Public Affairs Detachment, 155th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs office, 92nd Troop Command, 67th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade, 209th Regiment (Regional Training Institute), 155th Air Refueling Wing and 170th Group, the U.S. Property and Fiscal Office, and the State Support Services Division. The opinions expressed in this document are those of the Nebraska Military Department and not necessarily those of the Department of Defense. For additional information, please contact Lt. Col. Kevin Hynes at kevn.j.hynes.mil@mail.mil or 402-309-8390.

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INTRODUCTION

2015 presented many challenges, opportunities

It is with deep pride that I present to you the Nebraska Military Department's 2015 Annual Report. This report details all that the men and women of the Nebraska Army and Air National Guard, Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and the Nebraska Military Department accomplished during what was a busy and transformative year.

For the Nebraska Military Department, 2015 was partially about learning more about how we can and will support Governor Ricketts and his administration's major priorities, to include decreasing regulations and property taxes while also growing Nebraska. It was also about responding to several state emergencies, including the May flooding period. 2015 was also about overcoming a number of challenges, including shortfalls within our extremely important state tuition assistance program, and working with Nebraska governmental leaders, fellow agencies and our state's business and education leader, to solve them.

For the Nebraska Army National Guard, 2015 was about supporting those Soldiers and families involved in several deployments overseas to the Middle East, while also preparing and setting the stage for the largest transformation of our Army Guard force structure in a generation.

For the Air National Guard, 2015 was about continuing to meet and exceed the Air Force's requirements, while also logging a record 5,100 flying hours. It was also supporting those Airmen and their families involved in several major deployments overseas.

For the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, 2015 was about working to effectively prepare for, respond to, recover from and mitigate against disasters in Nebraska ensuring that all stakeholders and communities are ready for any hazard while also meeting Governor Ricketts' goals on performance metrics in conjunction with continuous process improvement strategies for state agencies.

The Nebraska Military Department was ready for these challenges and it is my distinct pleasure to report that through the work that was accomplished this year, the Nebraska Army and Air National Guard, the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and the Nebraska Military Department as a whole are now well-positioned to meet whatever additional challenges 2016 might bring. That could not have been done without the support and assistance of our local, state and federal governmental leaders, and the citizens of the State of Nebraska.

Today's Nebraska National Guard and Nebraska Military

Department are the most accessible and capable force in its history. Since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, more than 10,000 Nebraska National Guard Soldiers and Airmen have been activated to support missions both overseas and here in the United States. This is an amazing fact considering that the vast majority of our state's nearly 4,600 Soldiers and Airmen are "traditional" National Guardsmen, meaning they typically train a minimum of 39 days a year, yet sustain high levels of readiness that enables our nation's combatant commanders to call upon our forces for global missions at any time.



Today, our Nebraska Army National Guard Soldiers operate out of 27 Army National Guard readiness centers located in 22 Nebraska communities, while our Nebraska Air National Guard Airmen serve on two bases. Many of these facilities

are newly constructed, while others have been significantly improved, enabling our Soldiers and Airmen to better train at home, which in turn lessens the time they must spend away from their families and civilian employers.

That is particularly important considering that when Nebraska National Guardsmen aren't on federal active duty, these service members remain in Nebraska with ready and accessible assets available to local authorities during emergency situations. This enables the Nebraska National Guard to leverage its federal military resources to assist the governor of Nebraska and local civilian authorities in responding to disasters or homeland security events through coordination with our Nebraska Emergency Management Agency. This is an important and economically smart capability that only the Nebraska National Guard can bring.

Just as our 2014 Annual Report did, this annual report begins with a sincere thank you to our fellow Nebraskans and Americans. Thank you for putting your faith in this organization. It is through your efforts that we have accomplished what we have. And it is through your continued faith that we are able to continue our training and preparations so that we can truly be ready when our state or nation calls.

With that, I present to you the 2015 Nebraska Military Department Annual Report...

Maj. Gen. Daryl Bohac
Nebraska Adjutant General and
Director of the Nebraska Emergency Agency



2015 HONOREES

2015 Nebraska State Employee, Supervisor of Year



State Employee of the Year
Tonya Ngotel
Nebraska Emergency Management Agency



State Supervisor of the Year
Edward Rafferty
Nebraska Air National Guard Fire Department

2015 Outstanding Airmen of the Year



Enlisted Airman of the Year
Staff Sergeant Kenneth M. Morrison
155th Security Forces Squadron



NCO of the Year
Tech. Sgt. Eric J. Streeter
238th Combat Training Squadron



First Sergeant of the Year
Master Sergeant Ryan E. Buck
155th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron



Senior NCO of the Year
Master Sgt. Jeramy J. Viet
155th Civil Engineer Squadron

2015 Soldier, Noncommissioned Officer of the Year



Enlisted Soldier of the Year
Sgt. Scott Kuzminski
Troop C, 1-134th Cavalry Squadron



NCO of the Year
Staff Sgt. Jason Winer
209th Regional Training Institute

2015 TIMELINE

STATE MISSION

The State Mission of the Nebraska National Guard is to provide trained and equipped organizations to protect life and property, and to preserve peace, order, and public safety. Nebraska National Guard troops are called to state active duty to execute missions within the state when authorized by the governor.

While the Adjutant General of Nebraska serves as the senior military officer in charge of the Nebraska National Guard, this officer also serves as the State Emergency Management director. To assist the adjutant general with the day-to-day operations of the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), an assistant director is appointed.

In the event of a disaster or emergency, local government responds using local resources. When these resources are deemed inadequate and state resources are required to cope with the situation, local officials can contact NEMA day or night. NEMA assesses the disaster and makes a recommendation to the governor on whether a state declaration is needed. If the governor declares a state emergency, state resources – to include the Nebraska National Guard – can be used within certain restrictions to provide assistance.

NEMA also supports other state agencies and local governments with training and education programs, public information, disaster recovery assistance, and disaster planning. In addition, NEMA coordinates state and federal emergency planning and disaster recovery, and homeland security operations in support of the state's homeland security director.

LATE JANUARY

Approximately 30 Nebraska Air National Guard Airmen assigned to the Lincoln-based 155th Air Refueling Wing returned home following their deployments to the Middle East. The Airmen are members of the Nebraska Air National Guard's 155th Operations and Maintenance Groups.



FEBRUARY 14

Approximately 45 Soldiers of the Nebraska City-based 192nd Law and Order Detachment were wished farewell as they were mobilized for an overseas mission in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel.

MARCH 5

Nebraska National Guardsmen and state emergency management officials participated in a day-long virtual table top tornado response exercise at the state emergency operations center located in the Joint Force Headquarters building.



MARCH 16-20

Nearly 200 Soldiers and Airmen of the Nebraska and Iowa National Guard's emergency response team operated with Puerto Rico National Guard during Operation Borinqueneer Response 2015 in Puerto Rico.

APRIL 4-18

Forty-eight members of the Nebraska Air National Guard's 155th Air Refueling Wing traveled to Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, for hands-on, job-specific training with their active Air Force counterparts.



APRIL 14

Lt. Gen. Timothy Kadavy, former adjutant general of Nebraska, was promoted to the rank of lieutenant general and sworn in as the 20th director of the Army National Guard in Washington, D.C.



MAY 7

Camp Ashland, a Nebraska National Guard training site, was hit by heavy rains and flash flooding, causing approximately \$3 million in damage to repair over 50 buildings on Camp Ashland.



MAY 7

20 Nebraska Army National Soldiers were put on state active duty to provide assistance, flood evacuation and traffic control points to the town of Dewitt after it was hit by major flash floods.

MAY 18

Six Army National Guard members flew Gov. Pete Ricketts and other state officials in support of the flooding in southeast Nebraska.



2015 TIMELINE



MAY 29

Nearly 100 Soldiers assigned to two Nebraska Army National Guard helicopter units and several detachments were wished good luck prior to the start of their overseas missions in support of Operation Enduring Freedom-Spartan Shield during two separate sendoff ceremonies in Lincoln and Grand Island, Nebraska.

JUNE 10

Three Nebraska Army National Guard organizations were honored by the U.S. Army chief of staff during a ceremony for the annual Combined Logistics Excellence Awards program in Washington, D.C.



JULY 4

The Nebraska National Guard's new museum was dedicated during a ceremony in Seward, Nebraska.



JULY 20-24

The Nebraska National Guard's Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosives Enhanced Response Force Package participated in Patriot 15, a National Guard domestic operations exercise, at Volk Field, Wisc.

JULY 21

Gov. Pete Ricketts authorized Maj. Gen. Daryl Bohac, Nebraska adjutant general, to take whatever measures deemed appropriate to include arming of additional personnel to ensure that Nebraska National Guard facilities and personnel remain safe.

AUGUST - DECEMBER

One UH-72A and two pilots from the Nebraska Army National Guard supported border operations in Texas.



AUGUST 27-30

Maj. Gen. Daryl Bohac, Nebraska adjutant general, challenged the Lincoln-based Joint Force Headquarters and its staff to work from alternate work sites and still be able to perform normal tasks while also supporting multiple emergency situations.

SEPTEMBER 19

Around 230 Airmen from the 155th Air Refueling Wing were officially welcomed home from deployments that took place in the Middle East, Europe and the Pacific from July 2014 until August 2015.

OCTOBER 28

The 72nd Civil Support Team deployed to Red Willow, Neb., to investigate a suspicious substance.



NOVEMBER 1

Around 10 Soldiers assigned to the Omaha-based 195th Forward Support Company (Special Operations) (Airborne) Army Special Operations Forces Support Operation (ASPO) team were wished farewell before the start of an overseas deployment.

FEDERAL MISSION

The Federal Mission of the Nebraska National Guard is to provide United States combatant and geographical commanders with trained and equipped units ready for a national emergency or war, in accordance with U.S. Department of Defense plans. Troops are called to federal service for national defense missions, either in the United States or abroad, when authorized by the president.

The Nebraska National Guard is made up of the Nebraska Army National Guard, which consists of approximately 3,500 Soldiers in units located in 23 communities across Nebraska, and the Nebraska Air National Guard, which is made up of slightly less than 1,000 Airmen located either at the Nebraska National Guard Air Base in Lincoln, Neb., or with the active Air Force's 55th Wing at Offutt Air Force Base.

NOVEMBER 17

Gov. Pete Ricketts and Maj. Gen. Daryl Bohac, adjutant general of Nebraska, announced the major restructuring of the Nebraska Army National Guard. The Lincoln-based 67th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade will be replaced by a maneuver enhancement brigade, impacting roughly 1,100 Soldiers from different units across the state.

DECEMBER 9

The Nebraska National Guard is informed that it has been selected for one of seven new Army National Guard cyber protection teams being fielded by National Guard Bureau.

DECEMBER 17

Around 60 Nebraska Army National Guard Soldiers assigned to the 2-135th General Support Aviation Battalion were welcomed home to Nebraska following overseas deployments.

DECEMBER 21

Approximately 45 Soldiers of the Nebraska City-based 192nd Law and Order Detachment were welcomed home from a 10-month deployment to the Middle East.

2015 TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

PERSONNEL

Traditional National Guard.....	3,873
<i>Includes 577 full-time Military Federal Technicians</i>	
Active Guard Reserve Title 32	533
Active Duty Title 10.....	21
Total Military Personnel	4,400
 Federal Civil Service Technicians	 30
 State Personnel Serving Army National Guard.....	 49.5
State Personnel Serving Air National Guard.....	66
State Personnel Serving Both Army & Air National Guard	18
State Personnel Serving NEMA.....	17
Total State Employees	150.5
 State Employees.....	 132.5
<i>87 employees are 100% Federal funded</i>	
<i>28.5 employees are funded by a combination of Federal/State resources</i>	
Total Personnel	4,545.5
 Annual Federal Payroll.....	 \$138,391,095
 State Employee Payroll (by source of funding)	
State General Funds	\$2,287,269
State Cash Funds.....	\$260,723
Federal Funds.....	\$8,310,024
 Annual Employee Payroll Total	 \$10,858,016
 Military Department Total Payroll.....	 \$149,249,111
 Soldier and Airmen Benefits	 \$41,271,888
 Estimated Value of Indirect Jobs Created.....	 \$51,174,626

FEDERAL RESOURCES

Annual Appropriated Resources (non-payroll)	Equipment and Assets	\$1,208,974,356
Operational Funds.....	\$21,541,446	
Military Construction.....	\$1,219,390	Real Property
Total	\$22,760,836	\$1,074,821,213

STATE RESOURCES

Operations

State General Funds	\$2,011,747
State Cash Funds.....	\$349,556
Federal Funds.....	\$22,330,454



ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ECONOMIC IMPACT

PAYROLL BY NEBRASKA CITIES (FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2014 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2015)

Lincoln	\$ 31,055,200	Wayne	\$ 576,684
Omaha	\$ 11,183,539	Aurora.....	\$ 574,446
Kearney	\$ 2,730,561	North Platte	\$ 556,008
Grand Island	\$ 2,196,583	La Vista.....	\$ 475,110
Gretna	\$ 1,692,812	Scottsbluff	\$ 471,142
Bellevue.....	\$ 1,533,185	Raymond	\$ 462,103
Wahoo.....	\$ 1,522,946	Chadron	\$ 415,235
Seward.....	\$ 1,290,496	York	\$ 358,259
Norfolk	\$ 1,256,427	Denton	\$ 356,559
Ashland.....	\$ 1,035,584	Nebraska City.....	\$ 350,322
Hickman	\$ 1,023,054	McCook	\$ 333,572
Papillion	\$ 982,600	Syracuse.....	\$ 327,216
Hastings	\$ 978,662	Elmwood	\$ 300,200
Fremont	\$ 926,036	Clay Center.....	\$ 270,983
Waverly	\$ 915,298	Broken Bow.....	\$ 265,035
Elkhorn	\$ 895,285	Other Cities	\$ 13,761,793
Beatrice.....	\$ 717,870		
Firth	\$ 635,933	<i>Total Nebraska Cities</i>	<i>\$ 83,590,156</i>
Gering.....	\$ 582,023	Other States	\$ 2,229,572
Columbus	\$ 581,394		
		Total Payroll	\$ 85,819,728

APPROPRIATED RESOURCES

GROSS ANNUAL PAYROLL*

Traditional Guard	\$ 28,012,506
Active Guard Reserve Title 32	\$ 29,414,780
Federal Civilian	\$ 28,392,442
Total Payroll	\$ 85,819,728

*Total Payroll does not include payroll data from mobilized Soldiers.

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

Facilities Programs	\$ 15,996,693
Environmental	\$ 627,476
Training System Support.....	\$ 1,299,227
Telecommunications / C4IM Service.....	\$ 747,600
Security Guards	\$ 746,400
Electronic Security System	\$ 242,550
Distributive Learning	\$ 199,000
Antiterrorism	\$ 84,800
Total	\$ 19,950,104

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

Equipment and Supplies	\$ 7,106,972
Facilities maintenance and utilities	\$ 3,749,164
Fuel/POL	\$ 2,518,863
Information Technology.....	\$ 956,621
Travel, Training, and GSA.....	\$ 897,506
Medical and Dental.....	\$ 247,971
Printing/Postal.....	\$ 118,747
Other.....	\$ 116,877
Total	\$ 15,712,721

Total Appropriated Resources
\$ 121,482,553



ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ECONOMIC IMPACT



Photo by Staff Sgt. Heidi McClintock

Good Form: Sgt. Scott Kuzminski, Troop C, 1-134th Cavalry Squadron (Reconnaissance and Surveillance), knocks out push-ups during the Army Physical Fitness Test portion of the 2015 Nebraska Army National Guard Best Warrior Competition, March 20.

EQUIPMENT AND ASSETS

Ground vehicles.....	\$217,198,270.47
Aircraft	\$277,144,302.82
Communication equipment	\$65,363,764.07
Firefighting, rescue, safety & support equipment	\$119,947,493.30
Information technology equipment	\$22,836,259.33
Clothing and equipment	\$21,498,748.13
Weapons	\$10,498,147.57
Furniture	\$ 1,255,609.71
Total	\$735,742,595.40

SUMMARY OF PERSONNEL

Traditional National Guard.....	3,033
<i>Includes 327 full-time Military Federal Technicians</i>	
Active Guard Reserve Title 32	371
Active Duty Title 10	21
Total Army National Guard Strength	3,425
Federal Civil Service Technicians	27
State Employees	49.5
<i>32 Employees are 100% Federally funded</i>	
<i>17.5 Employees are Federal/State combined funded</i>	
Total Personnel	3,501.5

BENEFITS & INCENTIVES

Post 9/11 GI Bill (eligible maximum benefit)	\$ 25,206,240
Montgomery GI Bill (eligible benefits)	\$ 8,779,008
Montgomery GI Bill Kicker (eligible benefits) ...	\$ 1,999,200
Federal Tuition Assistance	\$ 764,538
State of Nebraska Tuition Assistance	\$ 628,423
Bonuses	\$ 818,125
Student Loan Repayment Program	\$ 406,190
Total Benefits & Incentives	\$ 38,601,724

REAL PROPERTY

Land Managed.....	6,192 Acres
Facilities	1,993,804 Square Feet
Total Land & Facilities Value.....	\$671,110,213

(All net land and facilities decreased due to divestments during the FY. Grand Island and Fremont Armories were closed and over 100 igloo bunkers at GTS were excessed.)

ESTIMATED VALUE OF INDIRECT JOBS

TYPE OF PERSONNEL	# OF BASE JOBS	MULTIPLIER*	INDIRECT JOBS
Traditional Guard	3,033	0.16	485
Active Guard Reserve Title 32	371	0.41	152
Active Duty Title 10	21	0.41	9
Federal Civilian	354	0.55	195
State Employees	49.5	0.55	27
Contractors	35	0.55	19

Total Indirect Jobs 887

Estimated Dollar Value of Jobs \$ 37,440,270**

**Source AFMAN 65-506*

***Total Indirect Jobs multiplied by average Lincoln, Nebraska salary as reported by the United States Department of Labor, http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_30700.htm#00-0000.*



AIR NATIONAL GUARD ECONOMIC IMPACT

PAYROLL BY NEBRASKA CITIES (FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2014 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2015)

Lincoln	\$ 23,400,920	Bennington	\$ 240,998
Omaha	\$ 6,701,632	Palmyra.....	\$ 235,427
Papillion	\$ 3,885,408	Prague.....	\$ 230,769
Bellevue.....	\$ 2,897,505	Roca.....	\$ 229,221
Raymond	\$ 763,778	Hickman	\$ 227,730
Waverly	\$ 658,881	Beatrice.....	\$ 220,864
Milford	\$ 640,175	Pleasant Dale.....	\$ 216,775
Gretna	\$ 625,748	Crete	\$ 215,526
Plattsmouth.....	\$ 467,141	Herman	\$ 213,511
La Vista.....	\$ 462,039	Denton	\$ 183,210
Elkhorn.....	\$ 448,233	Ralston.....	\$ 168,059
Seward.....	\$ 414,811	Valparaiso	\$ 159,952
Sterling	\$ 353,614	David City	\$ 159,110
Firth	\$ 350,086	Other Cities (less than \$150,000).....	\$ 3,896,459
Fremont	\$ 342,335		
Cedar Creek.....	\$ 315,806	<i>Total Nebraska Cities</i>	\$ 50,371,384
Malcolm	\$ 292,380		
Ashland.....	\$ 261,732	Other States	\$ 2,199,982
Garland.....	\$ 246,281		
Kearney	\$ 245,268	Total Payroll.....	\$ 52,571,366

APPROPRIATED RESOURCES

GROSS ANNUAL PAYROLL

Traditional Guard	\$ 24,679,918
Active Guard Reserve Title 32	\$ 11,341,310
Federal Civilian	\$ 16,550,138
Total Payroll	\$ 52,571,366

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

Fire Protection	\$ 2,738,800
Facilities Operations and Maintenance	\$ 1,168,800
Security Guards	\$ 457,100
Total	\$ 4,364,700

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

Flying Program.....	\$ 551,036
Supplies and Equipment.....	\$ 1,415,256
Operational Travel	\$ 976,723
Education & Training Travel.....	\$ 528,157
Other Services	\$ 349,871
Base Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 1,909,267
Communications.....	\$ 87,603
Environmental	\$ 10,812
Total	\$ 5,828,725

Total Appropriated Resources
\$ 62,764,791

AIR NATIONAL GUARD ECONOMIC IMPACT



Photo by Senior Airman Marshall Mauer

Keeping A Low Profile: Lt. Col. Katie Millwood, a pilot with the Nebraska Air National Guard's 155th Air Refueling Wing, fends off mosquitoes and opposition forces while navigating through the woods during a survival exercise, June 6.

EQUIPMENT AND ASSETS

Aircraft	\$ 414,900,000
Support equipment	\$ 21,036,607
Vehicles	\$ 10,301,181
Aircraft spare parts	\$ 7,429,572
Mobility equipment	\$ 6,604,790
Warehouse inventory	\$ 5,707,687
Mobility assets	\$ 3,515,488
Information technology assets	\$ 3,441,400
Munitions	\$ 295,036
Total	\$ 473,231,761

SUMMARY OF PERSONNEL

Traditional National Guard.....	840
<i>Includes 206 full-time Military Federal Technicians</i>	
Active Guard Reserve Title 32	135
Total Air National Guard Strength	975
Federal Civil Service Technicians	3
State Employees	66
<i>55 Employees are 100% Federally funded</i>	
<i>11 Employees are 75% Federal/25% State combined funded</i>	
Total Personnel	1,044

BENEFITS & INCENTIVES

Montgomery GI Bill (eligible benefits).....	\$ 1,039,344
Montgomery GI Bill Kicker (eligible benefits)	\$ 743,400
State of Nebraska Tuition Assistance	\$ 200,695
Bonuses	\$ 684,000
Student Loan Repayment Program.....	\$ 2,725
Total Benefits & Incentives	\$ 2,670,164

REAL PROPERTY

Land	
Owned	97 Acres
Leased.....	17 Acres
Total	114 Acres
Facilities	356,035 Square Feet
Total Land & Facilities Value.....	\$403,711,000

ESTIMATED VALUE OF INDIRECT JOBS

TYPE OF PERSONNEL	# OF BASE JOBS	MULTIPLIER*	INDIRECT JOBS
Traditional Guard	840	0.16	135
Active Guard Reserve Title 32	135	0.41	56
Active Duty Title 10	1	0.41	0
Federal Civilian	206	0.55	113
State Employees	66	0.55	36
Contractors	4.5	0.55	2

Total Indirect Jobs 342

Estimated Dollar Value of Jobs \$ 13,734,356**

*Source AFMAN 65-506

**Total Indirect Jobs multiplied by average Lancaster County, Nebraska, salary as reported by the United States Department of Labor.



NEBRASKA MILITARY DEPARTMENT & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY ECONOMIC IMPACT

STATE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2014 - JUNE 30, 2015

544 NATIONAL AND STATE GUARD

	General Funds	Cash Funds	Federal Funds	Total
Salary	\$ 1,263,309	\$ -0-	\$ 5,210,561	\$ 6,473,870
Benefits	\$ 263,280	\$ -0-	\$ 1,677,554	\$ 1,940,834
SOS Temp Services-Personnel.....	\$ 5,000	\$ -0-	\$ 32,000	\$ 36,655
Utilities.....	\$ 474,122	\$ 8,250	\$ 1,885,412	\$ 2,377,984
Repair & Maintenance-Real Property.....	\$ 1,214,100	\$ 70,000	\$ 10,064,135	\$11,348,235
Supplies.....	\$ 62,025	\$ 59,723	\$ 1,323,502	\$ 1,415,715
Equipment - Non-Capitalized	\$ 4,465	\$ 20,000	\$ 78,660	\$ 103,125
Contract Services	\$ 245,101	\$ 28,600	\$ 4,856,010	\$ 3,696,425
Miscellaneous Operations Expense	\$ 156,200	\$ 454,911	\$ 1,639,025	\$ 3,706,600
Travel Expenses	\$ 26,696	\$ -0-	\$ 86,912	\$ 113,610
Machinery & Equipment.....	\$ 250,000	\$ -0-	\$ 15,510	\$ 250,000
Vehicles (Supplies/Equipment).....	\$ 10,954	\$ -0-	\$ 32,836	\$ 43,790
Miscellaneous Capital Outlay/Fixed Assets.....	\$ 14,200	\$ 4,850	\$ 256,716	\$ 290,776
	\$ 3,992,452	\$ 646,334	\$ 27,158,833	\$31,797,619

548 TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

	General Funds	Cash Funds	Federal Funds	Total
Government Aid	\$ 678,391	-0-	-0-	\$ 678,391

545 NEBRASKA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

	General Funds	Cash Funds	Federal Funds	Total
Salary	\$ 585,590	\$ 204,810	\$ 1,074,748	\$ 1,865,148
Benefits	\$ 175,505	\$ 55,913	\$ 347,161	\$ 578,579
SOS Temp Services-Personnel	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
Utilities	\$ 17,500	\$ -0-	\$ 17,500	\$ 35,000
Repair & Maintenance-Real Property.....	\$ 9,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 7,750	\$ 19,250
Supplies.....	\$ 34,360	\$ 108,004	\$ 26,280	\$ 168,644
Equipment - Non-Capitalized.....	\$ 5,000	\$ 10,947	\$ 28,504	\$ 44,451
Contract Services.....	\$ 34,360	\$ 1,100	\$ 29,788	\$ 65,248
Miscellaneous Operations Expense.....	\$ 649,208	\$ 94,156	\$ 1,654,354	\$ 2,397,718
Travel Expenses	\$ 41,461	\$ 29,200	\$ 42,061	\$ 112,722
Machinery & Equipment.....	\$ -0-	\$ 101,785	\$ -0-	\$ 101,785
Vehicles (Supplies/Equipment).....	\$ 2,650	\$ 2,478	\$ 2,050	\$ 7,178
Miscellaneous Capital Outlay/Fixed Assets.....	\$ 203,346	\$ -0-	\$ 201,958	\$ 405,304
Government Aid	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	\$ 7,304,418	\$ 7,304,418
	\$ 1,757,980	\$ 610,893	\$ 10,736,572	\$13,105,445

192 GOVERNOR'S EMERGENCY FUND

	General Funds	Cash Funds	Federal Funds	Total
Government Aid	\$18,741,636	\$ 478,302	\$ 57,917,804	\$77,137,742

JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Adjutant General

Maj. Gen. Daryl L. Bohac

Deputy Adjutant General/

Assistant Adjutant General, Army

Brig. Gen. Richard H. Dahlman

Assistant Adjutant General, Air

Brig. Gen. Keith A. Schell

Army Land Component Commander

Brig. Gen. Kevin D. Lyons

Army National Guard Chief of Staff

Col. Brett W. Andersen

Joint Staff Chief of Staff

Col. Wendy K. Johnson

Army National Guard

Command Chief Warrant Officer

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Teresa A. Domeier

Army National Guard

State Command Sergeant Major

Command Sgt. Marty L. Baker

Air National Guard

State Command Chief Master Sergeant

Command Chief Master Sgt. Mark G. Forster

Other Notable Nebraska National Guard Officers

- Lt. Gen. Timothy Kadavy, Director, Army National Guard
- Maj. Gen. Richard J. Evans III, Mobilization Assistant to the Deputy Commander, U.S. Strategic Command
- Maj. Gen. Judd H. Lyons, Military Deputy to the Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan
- Maj. Gen. Michael D. Navrkal, Commander, 35th Infantry Division (Currently assigned to the KSARNG)



Location

Lincoln, Nebraska

2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

◆ Successfully planned and conducted a major Continuity of Operations (COOP) exercise in September involving members of the Nebraska National Guard's and the Nebraska Military Department's Army, Air, Joint, State and Nebraska Emergency Management Agency staffs. The exercise involved cutting power and communications within the Joint Force Headquarters building and then moving the staffs to alternate work sites in Grand Island and Lincoln to coordinate and provide support to several major simultaneous state emergencies.

◆ Members of the Nebraska National Guard's Army, Air and Joint staffs coordinated and delivered a proposal for a new Cyber Protection Team that was accepted by National Guard Bureau in December. The new Nebraska Army National Guard Cyber Protection Team will be fielded as part of a larger team stationed in Nebraska, Arkansas and Missouri.

◆ The Nebraska Army National Guard and subordinate unit staffs developed a plan to transition the 67th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade into a new maneuver enhancement brigade. The transformation – which will take place over a three-year period – involves approximately one out of three Nebraska Army National Guard Soldiers and will bring significant new capabilities, such as engineering and military police units, to Nebraska.

◆ Members of the Nebraska National Guard's Army and Air staffs successfully planned and coordinated support for the deployments of Nebraska Army and Air National Guard



Photo by Lt. Col. Kevin Hynes

By The Numbers: (From left) Sgt. 1st Class Scott Kennec, Sgt. Jacob McCormack and Warrant Officer Alisha Kelly demonstrate the steps they took to shut down the Nebraska Military Department's computer network during the September Continuity of Operations exercise.

personnel to overseas missions in support of combatant commanders.

◆ Provided cadre members for Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets participating in the Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency program in Europe.

◆ The Nebraska National Guard and the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency successfully coordinated the state active duty deployment of Nebraska Army National Guard Soldiers to Dewitt, Neb., following major flooding in May.

◆ Members of the Nebraska National Guard and Nebraska Military Department successfully supported the inaugural activities for new Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts in January.



JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS



Photo by Lt. Col. Kevin Hynes

Planning Conference: Members of the Nebraska Army and Air National Guard discuss potential National Guard missions during an October 17 Joint Operation Center exercise. The JOC exercise focused on potential missions that the Nebraska National Guard might face following a major snowstorm in Nebraska.

- ◆ The Nebraska National Guard officially dedicated the new Nebraska National Guard Museum in Seward, Neb., on July 4.

- ◆ Members of the Nebraska National Guard supported the annual 2015 Lincoln/National Guard Marathon in May. The annual event brought runners from across the nation to compete for spots on the All Guard Marathon Team.

- ◆ The Nebraska National Guard Joint Force Headquarters staff successfully supported both the annual state marksmanship matches and “Thunder Run” race in August.

- ◆ The Nebraska National Guard’s Joint staff coordinated the deployment of 200 members of the Nebraska National Guard’s (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High Yield Explosive) Enhanced Response Force Package, or CERFP, to Puerto Rico in March in support of Operation Borinqueneer Response 2015. The exercise was sponsored by National Guard Bureau and U.S. Northern Command. The CERFP also deployed to Volk Field, Wisc., in July in support of the Patriot 15 exercise.

2016 PRIORITIES/GOALS

- ◆ Establish a standing Joint staff for conducting joint domestic operations, many of whom will serve on the staff as an additional duty, who will be called upon in the event of a Joint Operations Center activation.

- ◆ Establish a formal training program for the Joint staff, who will be the target audience joint operations training events throughout the upcoming year.

- ◆ Complete all Continuity of Operations (COOP) plan

revisions and updates using outcomes and findings from the 2015 COOP exercise.

- ◆ Create a training scenario for the 2017 COOP exercise, using 2016 as a planning year for the following year’s exercise.

- ◆ Begin long-term planning for the 2019 Vigilant Guard exercise that will be hosted by the Nebraska National Guard.

- ◆ Compete and be selected for a new State Partnership Program country.

- ◆ Provide support to the Nebraska National Guard’s (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High Yield Explosive) Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP), and 72nd Civil Support Team resulting in a success evaluation in 2016.

- ◆ Establish Nebraska National Guard Joint Task Forces in support of the upcoming “Guardians of Freedom” Open House/Air Show and the Boy Scout Jubilee.

- ◆ Enhance counterdrug aviation support operations.

- ◆ Implement the Nebraska Military Department’s Strategic Plan.

- ◆ Continue to provide support to those Nebraska National Guard Soldiers and Airmen - and their families and employers - deploying in 2016.

- ◆ Implement plans for the transformation of the 67th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade into a maneuver enhancement brigade, and the new cyber protection team.

92ND TROOP COMMAND



Commander

Col. Lynn M. Heng

Senior Enlisted Leader

Command Sgt. Maj. Richard D. Cruickshank

Headquarters Location

Lincoln, Nebraska

Subordinate Units

*110th Multifunctional Medical Battalion
126th Chemical Battalion
734th Transportation Battalion*

*72nd Civil Support Team (CST)
Medical Detachment
Training Center Command*

Communities with 92nd Troop Command Armories or Readiness Centers

<i>Ashland</i>	<i>Lincoln (Penterman, East</i>	<i>O'Neill</i>
<i>Broken Bow</i>	<i>Campus)</i>	<i>Sidney</i>
<i>Chadron</i>	<i>McCook</i>	<i>Scottsbluff</i>
<i>Columbus</i>	<i>Mead</i>	<i>Wahoo</i>
<i>Hastings (Greenlief Training Site)</i>	<i>Norfolk</i>	<i>Wayne</i>
<i>Kearney</i>	<i>North Platte</i>	<i>York</i>
	<i>Omaha (South Omaha RC)</i>	

2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

♦The 110th Multifunctional Medical Battalion continued to expand its yearly Medic Squad Challenge. In FY 15, the challenge involved participants from the 313th Medical Company (Ground Ambulance) as well as medics from the 1-134th Cavalry. The goal is to continue to expand the challenge by inviting medics from the Nebraska National Guard, U.S. Army Reserve and surrounding states to participate, making Nebraska a premiere hub for medical training.

♦The 313th Med. Co. sent two candidates to test for the Expert Field Medical Badge at Fort Dix, N.J.

♦The 126th Chemical Battalion/Nebraska National Guard Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High Yield Explosive Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP) completed a four-day domestic operations exercise in Puerto Rico with the Puerto Rico CERFP, seven federal agencies and 16 state agencies to ensure the preparedness for a catastrophic event. This event was highly beneficial for the Nebraska Army and Air National Guardsmen in the aspect of deploying outside of Nebraska and stretching their capabilities, both physical and mentally, while allowing the team to finetune its processes.

♦Throughout the summer the 734th Transportation Battalion was responsible for hauling a combined 92 loads of equipment for the 67th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade and the Iowa Army National Guard's 2-134th Infantry Brigade Combat Team. These support missions to Camp Ripley, Minn., and Fort Polk, La., were paramount to the success of two major training events for these brigades.

♦The 734th Trans. Bn. also completed 15 transportation support mission to customers internal to the state, saving the



Photo by Spc. William Schneider

Sunset: Soldiers of the 734th Transportation Battalion work together to tie down a Humvee to the back of a truck bed platform during the Oct. 15-18 truck rodeo. The truck rodeo promoted teamwork and training for the Soldiers of the 734th Transportation Battalion.

Nebraska Army National Guard the cost of hauling equipment over 12,000 miles while also enriching the training experience for more than 70 Soldiers.

♦734th Trans. Bn. Soldiers made a positive impact in their communities by participating in parades, community clean-ups and armory open house events within Nebraska. Additionally, the battalion had 34 Soldiers who volunteered to speak during Veterans and Memorial Day services in 2015.

♦In 2015 the 734th Trans. Bn. developed the first Prairie Steel Truck Rodeo, an event that brought together battalion Soldiers, civic leaders and community employers. The event allowed each company to compete in a truck driving competition showcasing the Soldiers' training while also giving them an opportunity to learn about employment and benefits.

◆The state overall medical readiness for FY15 was 87 percent, which is 2 percent higher than the mandated National Guard Bureau requirement. In an effort to meet the adjutant general's guidance of readiness and having a force that is medically available to both the state and the nation, the Med. Det. commander increased the state goal to 90 percent. The Med. Det. worked with each major subordinate command to identify MRC 4 Soldiers (those who need a PHA due to not having completed one, or Soldiers who are past 15 months since their last PHA) and scheduled them to complete their PHA.

◆In FY15 the Med. Det. increased their NG6H funding from \$100,000 in FY14 to \$939,000. The NG6H funds are used for routine PHAs, dental screening, immunizations, etc. The requested and approved budget increase from NGB was made in an effort to overcome pending fiscal constraints and to continue to strive toward the goal for a 90 percent medical ready force. To aid in this endeavor, the Med. Det. is purchasing a hearing and dental trailer, which will enable the detachment to conduct remote operations and conduct PHAs.

2016 PRIORITIES/GOALS

◆**Recruiting and Retention efforts to retain the force.** The 92nd Troop Command will continue to be innovative in ways to get potential recruits to its units and sell them on the total experience of being part of the Nebraska National Guard. It will also ensure that it does what is necessary, from aggressive training to staying engaged with each Soldier, to ensure that it is maintaining a strong and highly trained force moving forward.

◆**Force Structure transition.** The 92nd Troop Command will work hard to manage the transition of force structure within Nebraska. The new structure provides a variety of new opportunities and the organization wants to ensure that it makes the transition to new specialties a positive experience with minimal turbulence.

◆**Taking care of Soldiers and their families.** The 92nd Troop Command realizes that every Soldier and their family could experience difficult times throughout the year. The organization wants to ensure that it has the support system in place to provide the necessary resources and assistance.

◆**Support the State mission.** The 92nd Troop Command will continue to make sure that it is trained and the proper equipment is available to complete the organization's state mission if called up to do so. It is a vitally important part of what the organization does to ensure that it can assist the citizens of Nebraska when a man-made or natural disaster puts them in peril.

Citizen-Soldier Spotlight: *Staff Sgt. Brenda Dutcher*

Brenda Dutcher enlisted in the Nebraska Army National Guard on Aug. 25, 2009, and attended basic combat training at Fort Jackson, S.C. After completing advanced individual training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., she joined the 1075th Transportation Company in York. In July 2011 transferred to the 1074th Transportation Company in Sidney before transferring back to the 1075th Trans. Co. in Columbus in 2015. She currently serves as her unit's career counselor, environmental compliance specialist, facility on-scene coordinator, prevention leader, weight control officer, and physical fitness test noncommissioned officer.



To those who know Dutcher, it's no surprise that she has taken on so much responsibility during her military career. Community service is something she takes to heart.

Brenda Dutcher and her husband Andy of rural Humboldt have been married for 27 years. They have four children and six grandchildren, which she has the pleasure of babysitting almost every day. They own and operate Briar Rose Dairy with the help of their daughter, son and their son's wife. They milk 100 cows, raise 100 replacement heifers and feed 75 steers. They also farm 580 acres where they grow corn, soybeans, sorghum, alfalfa and rye.

Dutcher is the founder and leader for Ranch Hands 4-H club in Richardson County, for which in 2010 she received "The Heart of 4-H Award." She tutors for both high school and college students in math and English, is a member of the American Legion and has helped with the flag folding ceremony at the Martin Lutheran Church Memorial Day Service for the past three years. Dutcher also helps with the Color Guard ceremony for the Pawnee County Memorial Day Service.

Dutcher is a member of LEAD 35, sponsored by the Nebraska Agricultural Leadership Council to prepare and motivate men and women for more effective leadership. Through this program she travels across the state, nationally and internationally. She is also a member of Dairy Farmers of America, the Pawnee County Farm Bureau, serves on the Southeast Nebraska Rural Economic Development Committee, and is a member of Faith Lutheran Church where she has taught Sunday and Bible School and sings in the church choir.

Dutcher has passed her spirit of volunteerism and service, too. All four of her children serve in the Nebraska and Kansas National Guard.

67TH BATTLEFIELD SURVEILLANCE BRIGADE



Headquarters Location
Lincoln, Nebraska

Subordinate Units
*Headquarters and Headquarters Company,
67th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade (BfSB)*
*1-134th Reconnaissance and Surveillance
(R&S) Squadron*
*1-376th Security & Support (S&S) Aviation
Battalion*
*402nd Military Police (MP) Battalion
(Internment and Resettlement)*

*250th Military Intelligence (MI) Battalion
with the California Army National Guard
aligned with Brigade*
1167th Brigade Support Company (BSC)
234th Network Support Company (NSC)

Commander
Col. Richard A. Gray

Senior Enlisted Leader
*Command Sgt. Maj.
Wilfred J. Uhing*

Communities with 67th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade Armories or Readiness Centers

Beatrice
Grand Island
Hastings

Lincoln
*Mead (formerly Fremont or
Seward)*

Nebraska City
Omaha

2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

◆ Participated in the Warfighter exercise at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., where the brigade staff validated its ability to integrate with the I Corps in a simulated combat environment.

◆ Participated in an eXportable Combat Training Capability (XCTC) exercise at Camp Ripley, Minn., which enabled the brigade's subordinate units, including those brigade elements based in California, to receive realistic training in a simulated field combat environment.

◆ Along with participating in the Warfighter exercise, members of the brigade's 1-134th Cavalry Squadron received an external evaluation of their squadron mission essential task list during the Minnesota XCTC while also conducting training needed to increase its readiness for future overseas missions. The 1-134th Cavalry also conducted three airborne parachute jumps during 2015.

◆ The brigade's 402nd Military Police Battalion trained 500 National Guard Reaction Force members in support of the state's defense support to civilian authorities mission while also increasing lines of communication between the battalion's active and reserve component partners at Fort Leavenworth, Fort Riley, Fort Bragg and the 540th Military Police Reserve Component.

◆ The 402nd Military Police Battalion also provided mission command support to the Nebraska City-based 192nd Law and Order Detachment and teams from the Omaha-based 195th Forward Support Company (Special Operations) (Airborne), both of which deployed into the Central Command area of



Photo by Spc. William Schneider

Leap of Faith: Soldiers from the 195th Forward Support Company (Special Operations) (Airborne) jump out of a CH-47 Chinook helicopter as it flies 1,500 feet above "Husker Drop Zone," Sept. 12.

responsibility during 2015.

◆ The brigade's 1-137th Aviation Battalion (Security and Support) provided mission command support to Grand Island's Company B, 2-135th General Support Battalion, and elements of Lincoln's Company C, 2-135th General Support Aviation Battalion, both of which deployed into the Central Command area of responsibility during 2015. The 1-137th Aviation Battalion (Security and Support) also deployed aircrew and aircraft from the organization's Company A to the southwest border in support of operation there in 2015.

◆ The brigade's 234th Network Support Company conducted a successful brigade communications exercise to test the organization's communications capabilities prior to the 67th BfSB's XCTC exercise.

67TH BATTLEFIELD SURVEILLANCE BRIGADE

2016 PRIORITIES/GOALS

♦The 67th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade will shift its focus to transitioning into a new maneuver enhancement brigade, while the brigade staff will continue to refine the organization's standard operating procedures to ensure the brigade is able to meet both its state and federal missions within the required Army Force Generation timeline.

♦The 1167th Brigade Support Company will focus on individual Soldier tactical training while also supporting the brigade's and unit's transition to the new force structure.

♦The 234th Network Support Company will focus upon its transition to a number of new communications and equipment systems.

♦The 1-134th Cavalry Squadron will focus on mission readiness training that will include squadron gunnery and a long range surveillance live fire event. The 1-134th Cavalry Squadron will also focus upon overall Soldier wellness, to include family and employer support, through integrated events designed to tell the Nebraska Army National Guard story, while also ensuring that families and employers have the necessary resources and information to support the organization's mission. The squadron will also focus upon the upcoming transformation and stationing plans.

♦The 402nd Military Police Battalion will focus on the upcoming transition, which will grow military police capabilities in Nebraska, while also continuing to reintegrate those Soldiers from Nebraska City-based 192nd Law and Order Detachment and the 195th Forward Support Company (Special Operations) (Airborne) after their overseas deployments. The 402nd Military Police Battalion will also continue to maintain training authority of the Nebraska National Guard Reaction Force in the state while also working to increase community-based partnerships throughout Nebraska, particularly within western Nebraska.

♦The 1-137th Aviation Battalion (Security and Support) will focus on reintegrating those Soldiers from the Grand Island-based Company B, 2-135th General Support Aviation Battalion, and Lincoln's Company C, 2-135th General Support Aviation Battalion, from their overseas deployments while providing support to the remainder of Company C, 2-135th GSAB, which is expected to deploy overseas this year. The battalion will also focus on increasing its mission essential task list readiness through participation in the upcoming Patriot Exercise while also integrating the new Aviation Combined Arms Tactical Training (AVCATT) into the battalion's and companies' training plans. The 1-137th Aviation Battalion (Security and Support) will also execute flight operations on the Southwest Border with Nebraska Army National Guard aircraft and crews.

Citizen-Soldier Spotlight:

Sgt. 1st Class Andrew Filips

Bloomfield, Neb., native Sgt. 1st Class Andrew Filips has served in the Nebraska Army National Guard for 12 years.

Filips' service in the Nebraska Army National Guard includes a 22-month deployment with the 1-167th Cavalry Squadron in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2005-06, during which he deployed as a forward observer. However, due to mission demands, he soon stepped into the role of gunner for a majority of the deployment, putting the needs of his unit first. Filips deployed again in 2010-11 with the 1-134th Cavalry Squadron to Afghanistan as a platoon sergeant in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Notably during that deployment, he was evacuated to Germany due to illness, however sought to return to his unit in Afghanistan to complete his mission, demonstrating a great sense of duty and selfless service. Most recently, Filips has been selected to act as the first sergeant for the 1-134th Cavalry Squadron's Headquarters and Headquarters Troop because of his outstanding leadership and values.



Despite the demands of his National Guard service, Filips has built a successful career as a deputy sheriff with the Knox County Sheriff's Office in Center, Neb. He has served as a school resource officer, serving as an active role model for the students of his community. His role as a school resource officer demonstrates the trust and esteem his community holds of him. This role required him to take on the mentally draining and challenging task of working with abused and neglected children. He regularly gave presentations and interacted with students as part of an ongoing drug and alcohol abuse prevention program. He is also a federal agent with the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Filips is a recognized community leader. He is active in various community organizations and is a frequent speaker to students and various other organizations, such as the Boy Scouts, on civic duties and the role of law enforcement. He has led safety training both locally and in surrounding communities to include conducting an annual Bicycle Rodeo where he interacted local citizens and provided bicycle helmets and safety training to the kids in attendance.

Perhaps in his most important roles, though, Filips is a father to two young children and a husband. He is also an active member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion.

209TH REGIMENT (REGIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE)



Commander
Col Curtis L. Abendroth

Senior Enlisted Leader
Command Sgt. Maj. Monte Kerchal

Subordinate Units
*1/209th Battalion
(Noncommissioned Officer (NCO)
Academy)*

*2/209th Battalion
(Officer Candidate School (OCS)
Warrant Officer Candidate School (WOCS))*

*3/209th Battalion
(88M Military Occupational Speciality
Qualification (MOSQ))*

Headquarters Location
Camp Ashland, Nebraska

2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

◆For the third time in a row, the 209th Regiment (Regional Training Institute) received the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command's (TRADOC) highest rating: Institution of Excellence. This evaluation process takes place every three years and evaluates all Army schools and academies against Army Enterprise Accreditation Standards, which determine quality training. Less than 5 percent of institutions are given this designation, and even fewer institutions obtain and maintain this level of excellence for such a long time period.

◆The 209th Regiment (Regional Training Institute) provided the active Army with highly qualified cadre who instructed the Warrior Leaders Course for deployed active duty Soldiers in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility.

◆The 2nd Battalion, 209th Regiment (Regional Training Institute), graduated five Soldiers from its Warrant Officer Candidate School and five Soldiers from its Officer Candidate School in 2015. An additional Soldier graduated from the Accelerated Officer Candidate School. OCS and WOCS are the primary means by which the Nebraska Army National Guard develops and produces officers and warrant officers.

◆The 209th Regiment (Regional Training Institute) and the Camp Ashland-based Training Center Command dealt with historic flooding, May 7-9, when a major thunderstorm caused significant flooding on a Salt Creek tributary that filled a significant portion of Camp Ashland with up to three-foot of flood water, damaging approximately 50 buildings.

◆The 209th Regiment (Regional Training Institute) was honored at a Pentagon ceremony on June 10 when it was presented with the prestigious U.S. Army Supply Excellence Award.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Heidi McClintock

New Gold Bars: James Ethier receives his rank as a newly commissioned second lieutenant from his wife and daughter during the Officer Candidate Class 58 graduation, held Aug. 8 at Camp Ashland, Neb.

2016 PRIORITIES/GOALS

◆The primary goal coming off of the tri-annual TRADOC evaluation is to maintain the level of performance that afforded 209th Regiment (Regional Training Institute) the designation of Institution of Excellence. This will be accomplished by continuing to evaluate the organization's systems, practices and personnel to the same stringent level used during the formal evaluation process.

◆The Army is adding additional training requirements for all senior noncommissioned officers beginning in 2017, designated as the Master Leader Course or MLC. The 209th has been identified as a potential location to teach this class based upon Camp Ashland's location, facilities and costs. If selected, the education of instructor personnel will take place in 2016 and the 209th RTI will receive the training support package associated with this course in order to begin teaching in 2017.

170TH GROUP



Commander
Col. Mark A. Hopson

Senior Enlisted Leader
Chief Master Sgt. Tyrone F. Bingham

Subordinate Units
170th Operations Support Squadron
238th Combat Training Squadron

Headquarters Location
Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska

2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

◆ Airmen of the 170th Operations Support Squadron were involved in the active Air Force's 55th Wing's recent Unit Effectiveness Inspection, achieving extremely positive results in the Executing the Mission category.

◆ Members of the 238th Combat Training Squadron repopulated the Air Combat Command's largest field training unit by increasing Air National Guard presence by more than 50 percent. This includes Nebraska Air Guardsmen serving as the chief of scheduling and three members in the vice commander, director of training and assistant director of operations shops. Additionally, Nebraska Airmen served an average of 15 – 20 percent of operations support shifts.

◆ Lt. Col. John O'Neill directed a team in coordinating, validating and directing test flight missions for the RC-135 RIVET JOINT aircraft. The efforts guaranteed on-time delivery of three aircraft for the 55th Wing at Offutt Air Force Base. Additionally, Senior Airman Matt Vondrasek of the 170th Operations Support Squadron became the first Nebraska Air National Guardsman to attend Airman Leadership School in residence at Offutt Air Force Base with the active Air Force's 55th Wing. Vondrasek was the Distinguished Honor Graduate.

◆ Two members of the 238th Combat Training Squadron were chosen to brief the director of the Air National Guard on the RC-135 mission. Additionally 238th Combat Training Squadron provided initial cadre pilots for Controller Pilot Data Link Communications and long transpacific flights to validate the new capability and avionics upgrade to the RC/TC-135 aircraft fleet.

◆ The 170th Operations Support Squadron completed over 2,000 manpower augmentation days and annual training days in 2015, despite being manned with 32 Airmen. Additionally, the squadron's Aviation Resource Management team of three personnel worked alongside the active Air Force's 55th Operations Support Squadron and managed over 1,900 records



Pioneer: Tyrone F. Bingham is promoted to the rank of chief master sergeant by Col. Mark Hopson during an Oct. 17 ceremony at Offutt Air Force Base. Bingham is the first African-American Airman to be promoted to the top enlisted rank in the Nebraska Air National Guard.

and over \$6 million of entitlement pay for all aviators at Offutt Air Force Base and U.S. Strategic Command.

2016 PRIORITIES/GOALS

◆ The 170th Operations Support Squadron will work to increase support to the 55th Intelligence Squadron's new mission sets; 170th Operations Support Squadron intelligence analysts will provide invaluable support to a new and demanding 24/7 mission. The squadron will provide increased manpower to the 55th Operations Support Squadron Weather and Airfield Management offices.

◆ The 238th Combat Training Squadron will continue to request and utilize more manpower augmentation for drill status Guardsmen to continue to showcase the squadron's value to the 55th Wing. The 238th Combat Training Squadron will also continue to communicate with Air Combat Command and National Guard Bureau to legitimize the squadron as a Total Force Initiative unit while also validating its doctrine and other plans.

155TH AIR REFUELING WING



Commander
Col. James "Bob" Stevenson, Jr.

Senior Enlisted Leader
Chief Master Sgt. Douglas Lierz

Headquarters Location
Lincoln, Nebraska

Subordinate Units

155th Missions Support Group

155th Maintenance Group

155th Operations Group

155th Medical Group



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jason Melton

Guiding The Boom: Staff Sgt. Luciana Jarzynka, a KC-135 Stratotanker boom operator assigned to the Nebraska Air National Guard, skillfully guides a KC-135R Stratotanker's refueling boom toward a NATO E-3A Sentry over northern Germany during a training mission, Dec. 2.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Mary Thach

Passenger Services Training: Staff Sgt. Blake Reistroffer, a member of 155th Air Transportation, reviews a program used to check passengers in for flights at the Osan Air Base passenger services counter, April 13. Members from the 155th ARW traveled to Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, for hands-on, job-specific training, to integrate with active duty counterparts, April 4-18.

2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

◆ Nearly 30 percent of the 155th Air Refueling Wing deployed for more than 30 days during the 2015 Fiscal Year, supporting operations in multiple countries within the U.S. Central Command and U.S. Pacific Command areas of responsibility. The deployments included aircraft crews, maintenance specialists, security forces personnel, personnelists and medical technicians.

◆ The 155th Air Refueling Wing passed a major compliance inspection conducted by the Air Mobility Command inspector general with an unprecedented zero marginal or unsatisfactory findings in any area.

◆ The 155th Air Refueling Wing completed a record 5,211.4

flight hours, exceeding the old record by more than 500 hours. This marked the fourth record year in the last five years.

◆ The 155th Air Refueling Wing maintained 100 percent manning throughout the unprecedented operations tempo.

◆ The 155th Air Refueling Wing hosted the organization's first-ever Domestic Operations Capabilities demonstration for community leaders and county emergency managers. The demonstration enabled the organization to display the various emergency support capabilities that the 155th ARW has available in Nebraska.

◆ The 155th Air Refueling Wing earned its 12th U.S. Air





Photo by Staff Sgt. Mary Thach

Fired Up: The University of Missouri trained 25 firefighters from the 155th Fire Department on a mobile simulated aircraft trainer in Lincoln, Neb., on June 6. The mobile simulated aircraft training team travels to airports around the United States to train and re-certify airport firefighters.

Force Outstanding Unit Award for the work it completed and the accomplishments it made during the period of Sept. 1, 2012, through Aug. 31, 2014.

2016 PRIORITIES/GOALS

- ◆ The 155th Air Refueling Wing will strive to recruit and retain needed Airmen to maintain the organization's manning levels at or above 100percent.
- ◆ The 155th Air Refueling Wing and the Nebraska National Guard will host with its community partners, the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce and the Lincoln Airport Authority, the 2016 Guardians of Freedom Open House/Air Show featuring the U.S. Navy Blue Angels Demonstration Team. The May 7-8 event will support the organizations' recruiting objectives while reinforcing community-based support and involvement through the demonstration of military capabilities used in the defense of the United States and Nebraska.
- ◆ The 155th Air Refueling Wing is currently tasked to support deployments for U.S. Central Command and U.S. Pacific Command at unprecedented levels requiring the involuntary mobilizations of multiple members within multiple specialties. These deployments will pose a challenge to meet and prepare for given budget uncertainties caused by the Federal Government's continuing resolution extensions, which will limit training dollars for Airmen qualifying in new specialties.

Citizen-Airman Spotlight: *Staff Sgt. Kris Bousquet*

As a member of the Nebraska Air National Guard's 155th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Staff Sgt. Kris Bousquet serves as the crew chief for KC-135R Stratotanker No. 62-3529, a KC-135R that was temporarily assigned to 155th Air Refueling Wing and arrived in Lincoln "in pretty bad shape." Bousquet was intermittently and then regularly assigned to No. 62-3529 where he worked aggressively to eliminate the aircraft's chaotic condition. Bousquet consistently demonstrated a determination to resolve the aircraft's discrepancies and return it to mission capable status.



As a traditional, part-time Airman, Bousquet constantly demonstrates uncommon management ability, initiative to seek and find solutions, team spirit inclusive of all personnel, high integrity, and a clear understanding of the mission. This was particularly evident during a deployment to the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility where he was assigned as the consolidated tool kit technician. During this 60-day tour, Bousquet managed and trained two personnel on data entry with a 40 percent increase in capability. He also maintained "an eagle-eye focus" on over 100 tool box inspections, and conducted etching and de-etching on over 600 tools. While deployed Bousquet utilized available assets to repair 15 launch kits, which saved the U.S. Air Force \$1,200 in replacement costs, while also taking responsibility as vehicle control noncommissioned officer (VCNCO) where he was responsible for maintaining 25-plus vehicles, achieving an 87 percent fully mission capable (FMC) rate.

Bousquet additionally participated as a Nuclear Operational Readiness Exercise alert crew chief in all exercises conducted in preparation for a 2014 inspection, during which he was recognized by the Air Mobility Command inspector general team for Best Overall Crew.

Bousquet's community and volunteer activities include being a participant in Camp Coholo 2015 for Children's Hospital of Omaha. He has helped plan activities for children with cancer, worked as a camp counselor for kids, which allowed them to be in a carefree and fun environment. He is a founder and organizer of Fight to Cure Leukemia and has helped organize "Biscuit's Annual Nut Fry" to raise funds for cancer research at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. As a Knights of Columbus participant in the Tootsie Roll drive and Fish Fry, he has helped raise funds for Special Olympics. He is also a Special Olympics volunteer.

NEBRASKA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (NEMA)



Director
Maj. Gen. Daryl L. Bohac

Assistant Director
Bryan Tuma

Location
Lincoln, Nebraska

Mission
The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency is charged by state statute

to reduce the vulnerabilities of the people and communities of Nebraska from damage, injury and loss of life and property resulting from natural, technological or man-made disasters and emergencies. The agency works with local emergency managers, other state agencies, federal partners, disaster relief agencies and nongovernment organizations to respond to disasters and emergencies in Nebraska.

2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

◆ Gov. Pete Ricketts has emphasized performance metrics in conjunction with continuous process improvement strategies for state agencies during 2015 and the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency identified three performance metrics associated with its mission requirements to support the emergency management community:

❖ The Governor's Emergency Fund provides fiscal support to government entities and communities during emergencies or times of disaster. NEMA's goal is to maintain a \$5 million balance in the fund, which represents a ready cash reserve available to address emergency issues. NEMA identified a \$1 million balance as the cut-off to stop payments from the fund.

❖ NEMA monitors the number of local emergency management officials who have participated in its Basic Academy. By 2015, 81 percent of local emergency management officials had completed this training program.

❖ Significant effort has been directed to community outreach. NEMA has implemented a performance metric to monitor agency contacts across the state.

◆ The agency met a significant milestone this year by achieving re-accreditation, for another five years, from the Emergency Management Accreditation Program.

◆ The agency also underwent an internal reorganization effort in the past year. The response and recovery section was restructured into two different sections. The recovery section will focus primarily on public assistance and hazard mitigation. The operations section was formed to better position the agency for response requirements and to emphasize planning, training and exercise issues to support the response mission.

◆ NEMA, along with local, state and federal partners, responded to severe storms, tornadoes, straight-line winds,



Photo by Jodi Fawl

Preparedness: Nikki Weber of the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency's Preparedness Section participates in the September Continuity of Operations exercise, which included testing alternative communication methods, such as the state radio system.

flooding, avian flu and fire. NEMA staff have been working in cooperation with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), at a joint field office (JFO) in Lincoln, to coordinate the recovery from the federally-declared disaster, DR-4225, involving severe weather and floods in May and June. Governor Ricketts also signed a state of emergency declaration

NEBRASKA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (NEMA)

Getting The Word Out: The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency's Public Information staff work together at the Joint Information Center for Fort Calhoun Nuclear Station during an exercise there.



Photo by Jodi Fawl

Important Training: The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency's annual TERREX involved a shale crude oil shipment incident and local communities' ability to respond.

to address an avian influenza outbreak in Nebraska's poultry sector. While the Nebraska Department of Agriculture took the lead on the response, NEMA conducted coordination meetings of state agencies as outlined in the State Emergency Operations Plan.

- ◆ A single engine air tanker (SEAT) was deployed to the Nebraska panhandle during the late summer. While 2015 proved to be a relatively slow year for wildfire activity across the state, the aircraft was deployed to a large grass fire near Whitney, on Sept. 15.

- ◆ Exercises play an important role in making sure emergency managers are ready for any disaster. This year's exercises included:

- ◆ A four-day continuity of operations exercise with the Nebraska Military Department designed to test the agency's ability to work from remote locations;

- ◆ The annual TERREX exercise, which focused on a shale crude oil response with seminars and tabletop exercises allowing local responders to walk through a response to a shale oil rail incident, should it occur in their community; and

State Employee Spotlight:

Brent Curtis

When Nebraska Emergency Management Agency program specialist Brent Curtis went to Pilger, Neb., during the days following the devastating twin tornadoes of June 16, 2014, he not only saw a



northeastern Nebraska town devastated by the unbelievable forces of nature, he also saw a very real need within the community... a need that he knew he could help fill.

Along with working at the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency as a program specialist, Curtis also works as part-time bookseller at the Barnes & Noble Southpointe book store in Lincoln. One day, while visiting with residents of Pilger, Curtis learned that Wisner-Pilger's entire middle school library had been destroyed, including its more than 2,700 books.

Returning to Lincoln, Curtis helped set up a book fair to assist in the rebuilding of the book collection books for the middle school and elementary students of the Wisner-Pilger school district who had used the library before the storm. Curtis, a veteran of 20 years of emergency management service that has taken him to the scenes of other tornadoes, flood, fires and ice storms, managed to help rebuild the library's collection through his efforts.

Chad Boyer, superintendent of Wisner-Pilger schools, told a reporter from the *Norfolk Daily News* that he and the two communities were extremely glad to receive the help.

"Our middle school was built in 1909, so we'd amassed a substantial collection of books for fifth- and sixth-graders," said Boyer. "This also affects our elementary students since books are moved between the two collections."

"These students have been through so much," Boyer added. "Literature for this age is paramount, not only to their education, but in strengthening their interest as lifelong readers."

- ◆ A hostile-action-based exercise with the Ft. Calhoun Nuclear Power Station allowed NEMA to practice a response to a terrorism event with local law enforcement.

2016 PRIORITIES/GOALS

- ◆ The staff of Nebraska Emergency Management Agency will continue to work to effectively prepare for, respond to, recover from and mitigate against disasters in Nebraska ensuring that all stakeholders and communities are ready for any hazard in 2016.

ARMY NATIONAL GUARD TRANSFORMATION

Force structure transformation a 'game-changer'

Governor Pete Ricketts and Maj. Gen. Daryl Bohac announced the first major restructuring of the Nebraska Army National Guard in 20 years during a news conference held at the Nebraska National Guard's Joint Force Headquarters on Nov. 17.

Nearly one in three Nebraska Army National Guard Soldiers will be affected by the changes, which include an expansion of missions led by the Nebraska Army National Guard in central and western Nebraska.

The changes impact roughly 1,100 Nebraska Army National Guard Soldiers located in units

across the state in 16 Nebraska communities. The changes are part of a much larger reorganization taking place nationally across the Army National Guard affecting numerous states.

"Today is the beginning of an exciting new era for the Nebraska Army National Guard as it undergoes its largest force restructuring in roughly 20 years," said Governor Ricketts. "These changes will dramatically increase military occupational specialty training opportunities in the western and central regions of our state. Congratulations to Major General Bohac and his entire team as they pursue these new missions."

In Nebraska, the biggest change will involve the Lincoln-based 67th Battlefield Surveillance (BfSB) headquarters, which like other similar battlefield surveillance brigades, is being deactivated along with a number of its subordinate units. The Nebraska BfSB will be replaced by a maneuver enhancement brigade and similar supporting units.

The changes will affect units in Lincoln, Omaha, Beatrice, Columbus, York, Hastings, Kearney, Grand Island, Mead, O'Neill, Broken Bow, North Platte, McCook, Sidney, Scottsbluff, and Chadron. According to Guard officials, the changes are the largest in Nebraska since a similar transformation of the 67th Infantry Brigade (Mechanized) into the 67th Area Support Group in the mid-1990s. That transformation involved the transitioning of infantry, armor and artillery battalions into logistical and transportation units.

The major changes to Nebraska Army National Guard units, which will occur over the course of roughly three years, currently include:



Photo by Spc. Anna Pongo

Public Announcement: Maj. Gen. Daryl Bohac and Gov. Pete Ricketts address the media during a Nov. 17 press conference announcing the transformation of the 67th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade into a maneuver enhancement brigade.

- ◆ The transition of the Lincoln-based 67th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade into the 67th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade;
- ◆ The addition of a new engineer battalion headquarters in Columbus;
- ◆ The replacement of the Kearney-based transportation battalion headquarters with a brigade support battalion headquarters;
- ◆ The transition of Kearney's transportation company into distribution support and field maintenance companies;
- ◆ The transition of the transportation company in Chadron and Scottsbluff into a military police company. Scottsbluff

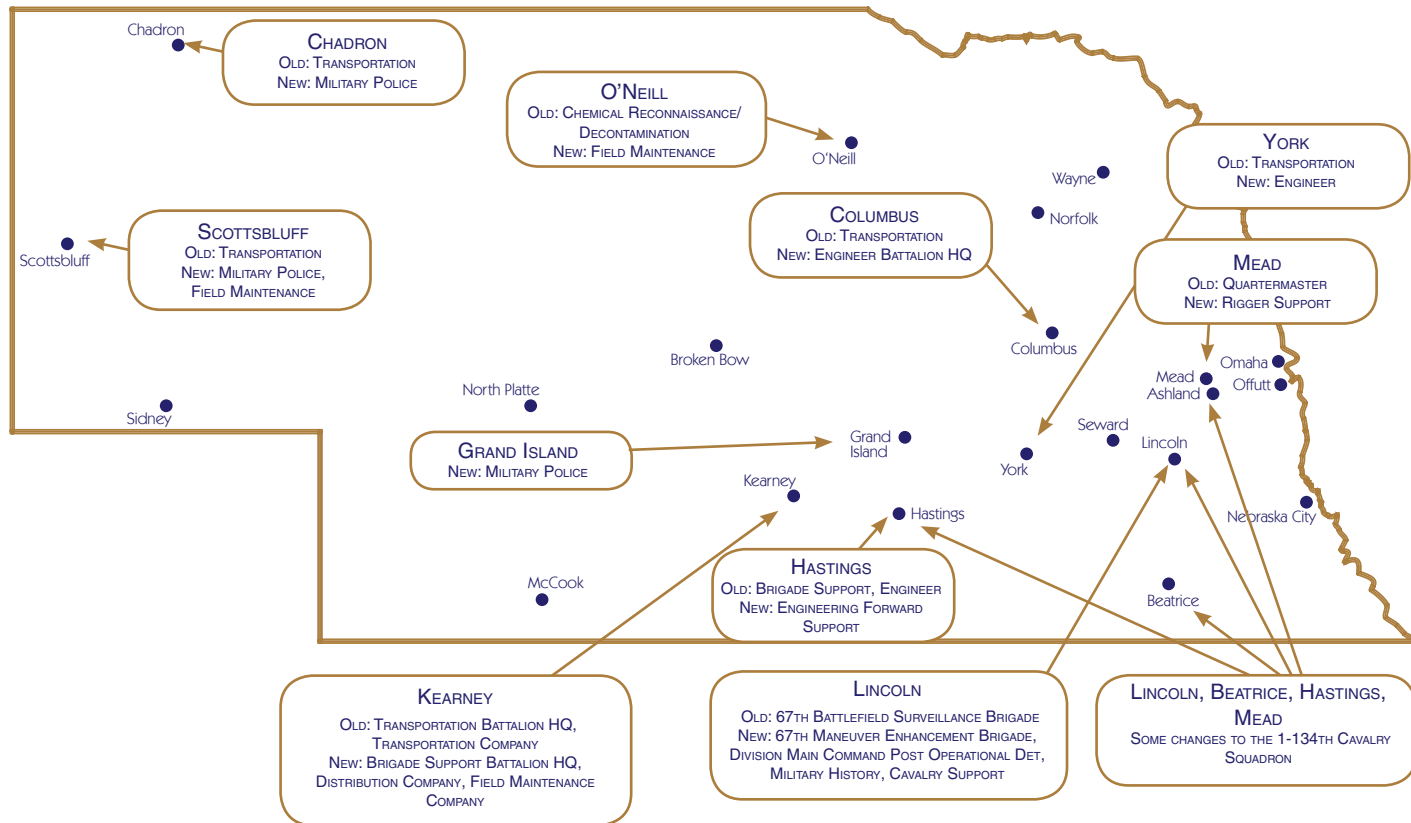
will also see the addition of a new field maintenance company detachment;

- ◆ The transition of O'Neill's chemical company detachment into a field maintenance company detachment;
- ◆ The addition of a new military police company detachment in Grand Island;
- ◆ The transition of York's transportation company detachment into an engineer company detachment;
- ◆ The addition of a new division main command post operational detachment and a Military History Detachment in Lincoln;
- ◆ The deactivation of the Mead-based Detachment 2, 165th Quartermaster Company, with the remaining Rigger Soldiers reorganized into the 515th Rigger Support Team at the Mead Training Site;
- ◆ Some slight changes to the Lincoln, Hastings, Mead, and Beatrice-based 1-134th Cavalry Squadron with the addition of a new cavalry support company in Lincoln;
- ◆ The transition of an engineering detachment and a brigade support company detachment in Hastings into a new Engineering Forward Support Company.

According to Bohac, the force structure changes gave Nebraska the rare opportunity to look at the way it is currently stationed and reorganize itself to provide greater opportunities for Soldiers to receive training and promotion opportunities closer to home.

"This realignment is an opportunity to provide our current Soldiers and those who are interested in joining our ranks better

ARMY NATIONAL GUARD TRANSFORMATION



opportunities for personal and professional growth from the time they enlist until the time they retire without having to travel extensively from their hometown communities,” said Bohac.

“This is particularly evident in the central and western areas of the state where for the last 20 years, Nebraskans who lived west of Kearney only had the opportunity to serve in our transportation companies.”

Following the realignment, new military police, field maintenance and a distribution companies will all be located in central and western Nebraska. These will be joined by the remaining two transportation companies, giving Nebraskans living in these communities more choices than they ever had before. Bohac said the realignment will, in turn, dramatically enhance the Nebraska Army National Guard’s response readiness for state and national emergencies.

“It’s good for the Soldiers and it’s good for the state,” he said. “We believe that this realignment will increase satisfaction within the Soldiers serving in these units, which will in turn improve our reenlistment rates as well as our capabilities and readiness.”

No armory or readiness centers are expected to be closed by this announcement, although Bohac did say that the changes may affect the number of Soldiers stationed at each of the individual facilities slightly as units are realigned and Soldiers retrained for their new missions.

According to Guard officials, the changes were set to begin in



Photo by Lt. Col. Kevin Hynes

Brigade Formation: Lt. Col. Craig Strong, deputy brigade commander, salutes senior leaders during the 67th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade’s change of command ceremony.

early January and are expected to take approximately three years to complete.

CYBER PROTECTION TEAM

New cyber protection team to help Nebraska attract, retain 'cutting edge' tech capabilities

The Nebraska National Guard received some good news Dec. 9 when it was informed that National Guard Bureau had selected the state as one of 23 that will host seven new Army National Guard cyber protection teams. The Nebraska Army National Guard will be partnering with Missouri and Arkansas in stationing the 39-Soldier team.

Details about the size and location of the Nebraska portion of the team is not available at this time. The CPT is expected to begin forming in Fiscal Year 2018 and become mission capable by Fiscal Year 2019.

According to Nebraska Army National Guard officials, the organization is excited to host one of the CPTs, which bring a number of important and highly coveted capabilities into the state. "Cyber is an emerging (military occupational specialty) in the Army," said Brig. Gen. Richard Dahlman, Nebraska deputy adjutant general and assistant adjutant general, Army. "It's a cutting-edge technology and a cutting edge profession. And it is very popular with new Soldiers."

"You can pick up a newspaper any day and you will read stories about various entities that are under some form of cyber attack," Dahlman said. "Cyber (protection) is here to stay, so we're excited to grow this capability as the nation grows this capability."

That need to grow the nation's ability to defend its critical cyber infrastructure was the impetus behind the need to build Guard cyber protection teams. The cyber mission analysis, mandated by the 2014 National Defense Authorization Act, specified that Army National Guard CPTs would conduct defensive cyberspace operations for under-resourced cyber requirements and possess the capability to support the Defense Department's Defense Support of Civil Authorities or homeland defense missions in Title 10 or Title 32 status, if authorized, and support other appropriate state missions determined by the governor in state active duty status.

The teams consist of highly-trained Soldiers experienced in network and systems support, computer incident response, advanced systems forensic concepts, network investigations, network penetration testing and cyber-based counter-intelligence.

Along with the Nebraska, Missouri and Arkansas announcement, National Guard Bureau also announced its plan to activate additional cyber units split between 20 other states.

The need for cyber protection capabilities, say National Guard



Photo by Lt. Col. Kevin Hynes

Keeping An Eye On The Network: Sgt. Jacob McCormack conducts a system check on the Nebraska Army National Guard computer network. The new cyber protection team will bring in many new high-tech capabilities into the Nebraska Army National Guard force structure.

leaders is only going to grow. Dahlman agrees. "We already have a level of cyber capability in Nebraska with our current network defense team. The CPT will only enhance our capabilities and allow us to become even more capable."

That's part of the reason why CPTs are so coveted, said Dahlman. Nebraska was among dozens of states that prepared application packets detailing why each would be a good fit for a cyber protection unit. "I believed we had a great packet. We have great engagement with our state corporations and universities and there was great enthusiasm within the cyber intelligence community in Nebraska," he said. "But I was also hesitant because I knew every other state had a great packet with similar strengths."

"Still, I was hopeful that we would do well," he said.

Dahlman said that when news came out that Nebraska had been selected, state leaders were extremely excited, especially when they found out that they would be teamed with Missouri and Arkansas.

"I think that our teaming with Missouri and Arkansas is going to be a great strength," he said. "In fact, I think we're going to surpass all expectations and that this will be a great partnership that's going to endure for a long time."

STATE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Nebraska-Czech Republic partnership continuing to pay significant dividends

The Nebraska National Guard marked its 22nd year of partnering with the Czech Republic military through the National Guard's State Partnership Program in 2015.

The Nebraska and Texas National Guard were first matched with the Czech Republic on July 14, 1993, through the SPP, which was initially designed to help newly emerging democracies in central and eastern Europe prepare for potential membership into the North American Treaty Organization.

The State Partnership Program began, and has continued, as an innovative Defense Department security cooperation program conducted through Combatant Commands, matching a National Guard state/territory organization with a partner country's military or equivalent constabulary. It was designed to strengthen defense relationships with friendly and allied nations, and to share responsibilities for promoting peace and security. The SPP has fostered interoperability between U.S. and partner country forces, exchanges of lessons learned and best practices, and long-term enduring relationships between National Guard Soldiers and Airmen and their partner country counterparts.

From the beginning, the SPP has been a low-cost, small footprint program, yet one of high impact designed to deliver enduring results. It is a proven security cooperation tool, unique in its capitalization of the National Guard's Citizen-Soldier/Citizen-Airman experience and broad military-civilian skills. SPP core activities consist of various planning security engagements conducted over the course of a year and approximately five to six subject matter exchanges and small unit exchanges that focus on areas of mutual interest such as noncommissioned officer development, aviation safety and maintenance, force planning, contingency planning, disaster response and humanitarian relief.

The result of this enduring partnership is readily apparent as the Czech Republic military has become a major and significant contributor to coalition operations around the globe, often capitalizing on its inherent skills and capabilities that have been further strengthened through its partnership activities with the



Photo by Lt. Col. Kevin Hynes

Checking Out A Hind Helicopter: Brig. Gen. Richard Dahlman, Nebraska National Guard deputy adjutant general and assistant adjutant general, Army, takes a look at the cockpit of a Czech Republic Air Force Mi-24 Hind helicopter gunship during a senior leader visit to the Czech Republic in June.

Nebraska and Texas National Guard.

In 2015, the Nebraska/Texas/Czech Republic partnership focused on many of these common areas. Along with a senior



Working Together: National Guard and Czech Republic explosive ordnance disposal technicians learn from each other during an exercise in the Czech Republic.

leader visit to the Czech Republic in June, SPP activities included military police force protection, cyber defense exchanges, combat survival subject matter expert exchanges, an engineer bridge exchange, an F-16/JAS-39 simulator exchange, EOD Skill development Joint Terminal Attack Controller/Joint Fires Observer (JTAC/JFO) skills sustainment, Company Command team exchanges, Aviation Mission Planning and Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear/Sampling and Identification of Biological Chemical and Radiological Agent (CBRN/SIBCRA) skills development.

2016 also looks to be busy as well as the Nebraska National Guard is looking forward to hosting a visit by the Czech Minister of Defense to Nebraska later this year while also participating in a number of military-to-military engagements that will focus on special forces, cyber defense operations, deployment interoperability, professional military development with NCOs and disaster management.

(Historical Source: *The National Guard State Partnership Program: Forging and Maintaining Effective Security Cooperation Partnerships for the 21st Century*, 2014, National Guard Bureau.)

OPERATIONAL TEMPO

Deployments continue for Nebraska Soldiers, Airmen

If there's been a single constant over the past two decades it's the fact that extended deployments are a very real part of the lives of Nebraska National Guard Soldiers and Airmen, and their families. In fact, 2015 marked both the 25th Anniversary of the 1990 mobilizations and overseas deployments of the Nebraska Army National Guard's 24th Medical Company (Air Ambulance) and Detachment 1, 1267th Medical Company (Air Ambulance), for Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm — the first mobilizations and overseas combat deployments of Nebraska Army National Guard units since World War II — as well as a continuation of current Army and Air National Guard deployments in support of American and Coalition efforts overseas.

Since 1990, the Nebraska Army and Air National Guard have been mobilizing and deploying units and select individuals almost constantly for operations ranging from "Deny Flight" missions over Iraq and the former Yugoslav Republic and peacekeeping missions in the Balkans during the 1990s, to the more recent combat and combat support missions in Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, and Syria of the 2000s.

And that operational tempo did not slow down in 2015. More than 300 Soldiers and Airmen deployed in support of U.S. efforts around the globe. These deployments included nearly 30 percent of the Nebraska Air National Guard's 155th Air Refueling Wing, who deployed for more than 30 days supporting operations in multiple countries within the U.S. Central Command and U.S. Pacific Command areas of responsibility. The deployments included aircraft crews, maintenance specialists, security forces personnel, personnelists and medical technicians.

The deployments included two teams from the Omaha-based 195th Forward Support Company (Special Operations) (Airborne), who deployed to the U.S. Central Command Area in support of U.S. Special Operations forces operating there. It also included the deployment of 45 Soldiers from Nebraska City's 192nd Law and Order Detachment who deployed to the Middle East from February – December where they provided military police at a base in Kuwait.

Also deployed were Companies B, C, D and E, 2-135th General Support Aviation Battalion, from Lincoln and Grand Island, Neb., who spent roughly six months at various locations in the Middle East. The Soldiers assigned to Grand Island's Company B were responsible for utilizing their CH-47 Chinook helicopters to provide for the aerial movement of troops, supplies and equipment for maneuver, and supporting the U.S. Military and allied operations. The members of Lincoln's Company C utilized their UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters to conduct aeromedical evacuation support operations. The Soldiers from

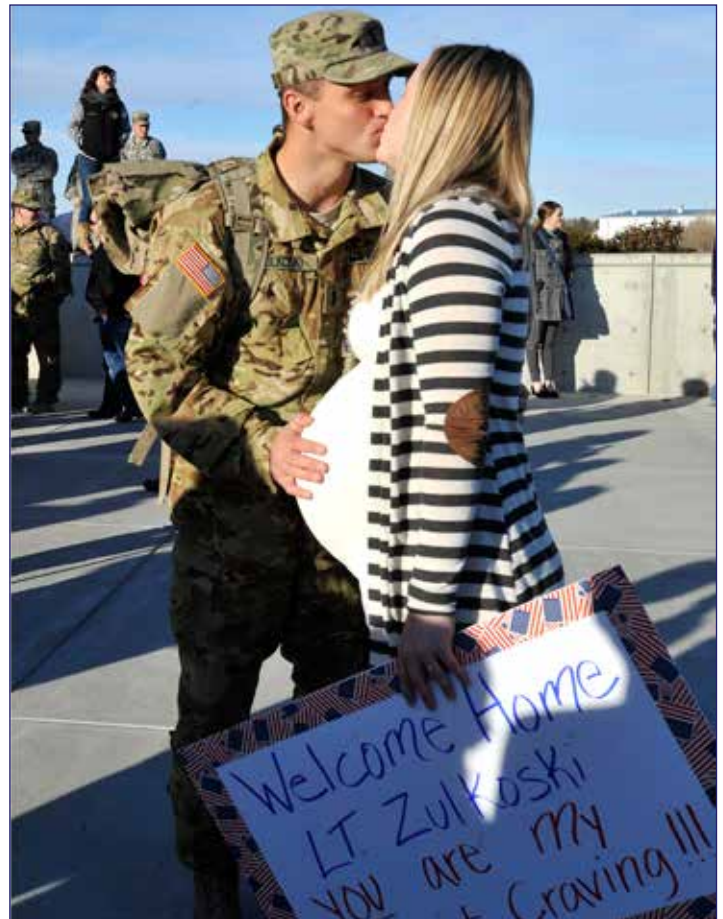


Photo by Lt. Col. Kevin Hynes

Holiday Homecoming Craving: Nicole Zulkoski receives a well-earned kiss and early Christmas present from her husband, 1st Lt. Derek Zulkoski, moments after he and approximately 60 other Nebraska Army National Guard Soldiers from the 2-135th General Support Aviation Battalion stepped off a bus at the Joint Force Headquarters in Lincoln, Neb., after a six-month overseas deployment, Dec. 17.



Bird Overhead: A CH-47 Chinook from the 2nd Battalion, 135th General Support Aviation Battalion, maneuvers into position during sling load training, Sept. 24, in Al Jaber, Kuwait.

Companies D and E were responsible for providing maintenance and fuel support.

That operational tempo won't be ending soon, either. In 2016 approximately 200 Nebraska National Guard Airmen and Soldiers are expected to deploy. This includes around 130 Airmen from the 155th Air Refueling Wing, who will be deploying during the first half of the year to bases located within the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility. They will most likely be followed by additional Airmen who will be deploying to additional locations later in the year.

The Nebraska Army National Guard also expects to continue to support overseas commitments in 2016, to include a deployment of Soldiers from Company C, 2-135th General Support Aviation Battalion.

Organization focuses on community support

When the Nebraska Military Department published its strategic plan in 2015, it identified community support as one of its enduring priorities.

“Our role of providing homeland defense incorporates the responsibilities of engaging and partnering with our local community leaders. We will continue to leverage and create community-based partnerships by “telling our story” and reflecting those values and professional traits that the Nebraska Military Department represents. We need to continue working with federal, state, and local agencies to market National Guard members as highly skilled civilian employees.”

Community engagement and outreach has long been a priority of the Nebraska Military Department and the Nebraska National Guard. The organization is, at its heart, community-based and designed to recruit and retain Soldiers, Airmen and civilian employees from the local communities who are available to serve wherever and whenever their communities or nation need them. To accomplish this, the support of Nebraska communities is crucial to the success or failure of the organization.

So, it is just as critical that the Nebraska National Guard and the Nebraska Military Department maintain its connections to its local communities wherever and whenever possible.

This was definitely the case in 2015.

Throughout the year, the Nebraska National Guard conducted and participated in numerous events designed to inform local communities about the capabilities that organization can bring to a wide array of mission areas, the training that the organization constantly conducts, and the committed men and women who serve within the organization’s ranks.

These events took many shapes and forms.

For example, in early February the Nebraska Army National Guard’s 195th Forward Support Company (Special Operations) (Airborne) and Detachment 2, 165th Quartermaster Company, invited their families and members of the local community out to their parachute drop zone near Mead, Neb., to watch as



Photo by Lt. Col. Kevin Hynes

Standing Tall: Airman 1st Class Jeffrey Hadley Jr. holds one of two State Games of America torches high for the crowd to see during the opening ceremony for the State Games of America in Lincoln, July 28. The Nebraska National Guard supported the ceremony in multiple ways including color guard, the torch lighting ceremony and a “flash mob” mini-concert by the 43rd Army Band.

they conducted their first airborne operation of the year and to talk to them about the training they routinely conduct throughout the year.

Another example occurred in May when Nebraska Army National Guard Soldiers stationed in Grand Island conducted an open house at their new readiness center to show the local community how their new, state-of-the-art facility is helping them better train for a wide range of aviation-related missions.

This could also be seen in June when the Nebraska Air National Guard’s 155th Air Refueling Wing conducted its first-ever Domestic Response Capabilities Day for state and local leaders and county emergency response managers. The June 5 event was designed to show local civilian leaders how the wing’s explosive ordinance disposal team, its various patient decontamination equipment capabilities, and various squadrons within the 155th Air Refueling Wing can provide support to local and state officials when called upon by the governor.

These three events were just a few of the many major community outreach efforts the Nebraska National Guard conducted in 2015.

The organization provided significant support to Governor Pete Ricketts’ Inauguration in January, the Lincoln/National Guard Marathon in May, the national State Games of America sporting event in August, and Operation Santa Claus in December. The Nebraska National Guard and Nebraska Military Department also participated in a number of local static displays, conducted several Army and Air National Guard community leader orientation flights, and participated in numerous local community outreach activities, briefings and speaking engagements, including more than 80 such events on Veterans Day alone.

This effort will continue on into 2016 as well. Among the many events planned, the Nebraska National Guard will participate in the upcoming Lincoln/National Guard marathon and will host the May 7-8 “Guardians of Freedom” open house and air show, in cooperation with the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce and the Lincoln Airport Authority.

MUSEUM UPDATE

New Nebraska National Guard Museum building dedicated on July 4

The Nebraska National Guard couldn't have hoped for a more picturesque setting to officially dedicate its new Nebraska National Guard Museum, July 4, in Seward, Neb.

Standing beneath a breathtakingly blue sky, the sounds of distant fireworks exploding in the distance while red, white and blue bunting fluttered in the gentle early summer breeze, officials from the Nebraska National Guard, the Seward community and others officially dedicated the new Nebraska National Guard Museum building.

According to Maj. Gen. Daryl Bohac, Nebraska adjutant general, the dedication of the new museum building serves as a historic transition point as the Nebraska National Guard prepares to tell its continuing story of service and heroism to a new generation of audiences. "This is a great morning for us in the Nebraska National Guard as we dedicate the building that will house the museum," said Bohac. "It's in memory of all the Nebraskans who have served, continue to serve or will serve in support of their state and nation in times of peace, in times of natural emergencies and in times of war."

The Nebraska National Guard Museum, when complete, will be operated by the Nebraska Military Department in cooperation between the Nebraska National Guard and the Nebraska National Guard Historical Society, a private non-profit organization. Officials expect to dedicate the museum's new exhibits on July 4, 2016.

The new museum building, which is located just to the west of downtown Seward, was originally dedicated in 1956 as a Nebraska Army National Guard armory that housed a variety of units over the decades. Approximately 19 months earlier the Nebraska National Guard began to remodel the facility to house the Nebraska National Guard Museum, which had been housed in the State Arsenal Building on the Nebraska State Fair Grounds in Lincoln since the mid-1980s. The State Arsenal Building was vacated to make room for the new University of Nebraska Innovation Campus.

The renovation took place in two stages. The first stage focused on recreating storage and rehabilitation space for the museum's artifact collection. The second \$2 million phase focused on rehabilitating the main floor of the armory for the exhibits that will be created in the third phase.



Photo by Lt. Col. Kevin Hynes

Dedication Ceremony: Maj. Gen. Daryl Bohac addresses the crowd in Seward during the July 4 dedication of the Nebraska National Guard Museum building.

The new facility consists of more than 20,000 square feet of space that will be utilized for historical displays that tell the story of the Nebraska National Guard since its founding in 1854 when acting Territorial Governor Thomas Cuming issued a proclamation "recommending that the citizens of the territory organize, in their respective neighborhoods into volunteer companies," which were then formed into two regiments: one north and one south of the Platte River.

"We celebrate the 239th anniversary of our nation's founding while Nebraska National Guardsmen continue to serve overseas today in harm's way in support of our nation's continuing fight against those terrorists who wish to do us and our allies harm," Bohac said. "So, in that way, what these Soldiers, what these Airmen are doing is part of a continuing part of a continuing story that stretches back to 1854."

It's a story, said Bohac, about those "brave and committed Nebraskans" who departed their homes to serve in the Civil War, the Spanish American War, in the Philippines, the trenches of World War I, the hedgerows of Normandy and the snowy fields of Bastogne during World War II, the deserts of Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Kuwait during Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and during peacekeeping duties in the former Yugoslavia up until the current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"It's also a story about right here at home," said Bohac. "It's a story about those Nebraska National Guard members who were there when their state needed them during blizzards, tornadoes, civil strife, floods and wildfires."

"This building is their building. This building is our building. This building is your building," Bohac told the estimated crowd of 500. "It's about preserving the memory of what they did, time and time again, against incredible odds and overwhelming difficulties because their stories are our stories... because their stories are Nebraska's stories... and they deserve to be preserved."

Bohac said the new museum is an example of the power of public-private collaboration. "This building represents and what the museum will come to represent when it comes into full force over time is a great relationship between the public and private sectors... I believe that is when we're at our best."



LINCOLN'S NATIONAL GUARD AIR BASE

National Guard air base provides proven capabilities, future opportunities for nation

When discussing the Nebraska National Guard air base in Lincoln, Neb., one is tempted to use many adjectives to describe it. Historic. Bustling. Operational. Hidden Gem. Co-located with the Lincoln Municipal Airport and its nearly 1,300-foot-long runway, the Nebraska National Guard air base is all of that and much more.

For nearly seven decades, the Nebraska National Guard airbase has served a central role in Nebraska National Guard training and operational efforts. Since the establishment of the first Nebraska Air National Guard units at an old Army Air Forces facility near the Lincoln airport in 1946 and their later move to what was a U.S. Navy Reserve air base in the mid-1950s, the base has grown and increased its mission responsibilities substantially over the years.

Today, the Nebraska National Guard air base serves as the home of the Nebraska Air National Guard's 155th Air Refueling Wing – an Air Mobility Command wing that provides mid-air refueling support to American and Coalition aircraft with its KC-135R Stratotanker aircraft. The base also serves as home to the Nebraska Army National Guard's 92nd Troop Command at Penterman Armory and the Nebraska Guard's Army Aviation Support Facility No. 1, which supports the UH-60 Blackhawk and LUH-72 Lakota helicopter and C-12 fixed-wing operational support airlift missions.

The Nebraska National Guard air base also hosts the organization's Joint Force Headquarters building, which serves as the headquarters for the Nebraska Army and Air National Guard, the Nebraska Military Department, the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and a Nebraska State Patrol call center. The building also houses the State Emergency Operations Center and the Nebraska National Guard's Joint Operations Center.

The base is such a major focal point of Nebraska National Guard training and operations that it is the home to the largest single concentration of Nebraska Air and Army National Guard



Photos by Staff Sgt. Heidi McClintock

Home of the 155th Air Refueling Wing: A KC-135R Stratotanker stands on the flightline outside of the main hangar of the Nebraska Air National Guard's 155th Air Refueling Wing.

units in the entire state of Nebraska during drill weekends.

But that just tells part of the story of the importance of the Nebraska National Guard air base and its relationship with the Lincoln Municipal Airport. The air base covers 97.26 acres

of Air Force-owned property plus 16.86 adjacent acres leased by the Nebraska Air National Guard from the Lincoln Airport Authority. Additionally, the base includes 65.29 acres of Army National Guard property plus additional facilities located on 18.46 acres of property adjacent to the base. As a part of the organization's joint use agreement with the Lincoln Municipal Airport, the Nebraska Air National Guard provides the primary firefighting and emergency support to the airport and surrounding area. It also provides a major financial boost to the local and regional economies.

The base's and airport's central location – within reasonable flying distances from Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., McConnell Air Force Base, Kan., and the Iowa Air National Guard air base in Sioux City, routinely

attracts significant military air traffic into the area because of the relatively easy access to the airport's three major runways, including the massive 12,901-foot main runway that once served as a potential landing runway for the space shuttle. In 2015 alone, this equated to 12,820 military aircraft approaches into the Lincoln Municipal Airport.

Finally, the base's capabilities and access make it well-suited for numerous potential future missions to meet the evolving needs of the state and nation.



Penterman Armory: A sign designates the various Nebraska Army National Guard units that call the Penterman Armory home. The armory is one of several Army and Air National Guard facilities on the Nebraska National Guard air base in Lincoln.

OUR WAY AHEAD

As the Nebraska Military Department enters 2016, we begin it with thanks to our fellow Nebraskans for their continued faith and investments in their Nebraska National Guard and Nebraska Emergency Management Agency. Your efforts have placed us in a significantly positive position from which to meet the challenges that we will undoubtedly face during the upcoming year.

As 2015 showed, the world continues to be dynamic and ever-changing. Just a year ago, the concept of changing the levels of force protection at out storefront recruiting stations and remote armories and readiness centers wasn't really something we were thinking about, just as the emergence of ISIL and its affiliates weren't something that were part of the public lexicon at the beginning of 2014. Yet these challenges have changed the strategic environment we live in, requiring us to transform ourselves to meet it.

2016 will bring new, unexpected challenges. It is the job of the Nebraska Army and Air National Guard, Nebraska Emergency Management Agency to ensure that we're flexible enough to meet these challenges as they emerge.

And we will do exactly that.

For the Nebraska Air National Guard, the extraordinary operational tempo that we experienced in 2015 will continue and we will once again find ourselves flying a steady state of 5,100 flying hours.

For the Nebraska Army National Guard, we are beginning a two- to three-year transformation process that will enable us to reset the table throughout Nebraska and bring in exciting new opportunities and capabilities. This transformation will allow us to become bigger, faster, better and stronger, and an even more important asset for all Nebraska.

The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency will continue to think through our community engagement strategies and how we're going to take emergency management to the communities that we serve. And they are doing a great job at accomplishing just that.

When I became the adjutant general, one of my enduring priorities was the importance of community engagement. We must be a contributing part of our communities to maintain the support that we currently have and to attract Nebraska's best and



brightest to our ranks. Over the past year, the entire Nebraska Military Department force has embraced this priority and made it a significant part of our operational thoughts. I think this tells a pretty significant story about who we are and who we are striving to be: Citizen Soldiers, Citizen Airmen and Nebraskans Serving Nebraskans.

As you have seen in this annual report, the men and women of the Nebraska Military Department are extremely proud of the work that we do, the missions that we are training for, and the roles that we play at the local, state, federal and international levels. We are proud of our history, we are proud of present and we are extremely proud of what it is that we are going to attempt to become.

We also realize that we cannot do it ourselves. Our families, our communities, our leaders and our fellow citizens are all a part of this endeavor. And on behalf of our Nebraska Military Department members, I want to thank you for your continued support and investment in what I firmly believe is the best, most capable Nebraska Military Department we have ever seen.

Maj. Gen. Daryl Bohac
Nebraska Adjutant General and
Director of the Nebraska Emergency Agency



