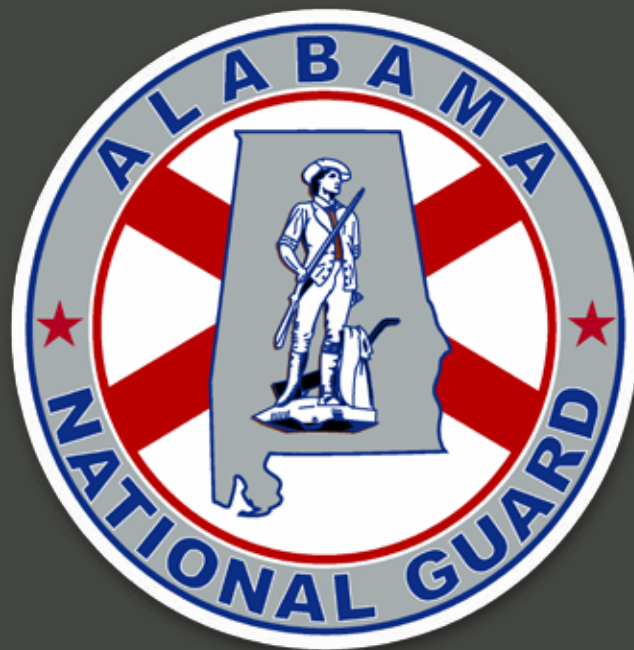


# Governor of Alabama



Dr. Robert Bentley

# Adjutant General Alabama National Guard



Major General Perry G. Smith

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# The Adjutant General of Alabama



In compliance with the provision of the Code of Alabama 1975, Section 31-2-67, I am submitting this annual report for the period October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015. This report will familiarize you with the challenges and accomplishments of the Soldiers and Airmen of the Alabama National Guard in fiscal year 2015.

We are striving to be a premier organization of Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen who are ready, in war and peace, to support our communities, state and nation in time of need. In order to be that, we need to attain and remain "Top 5" status in all performance metrics across the two services; and we need the Army Guard to retain "Large State"

The Alabama National Guard continues to pursue our mission as the only organization in the U.S. military charged with both a federal and a state mission of producing units ready to conduct full-spectrum operations to support and defend our fellow citizens and the Constitutions of the United States and the state of Alabama, whenever and wherever the threat arises or the need exists.

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**We are especially vital to the state's economic health and success, bringing more than \$555 million in federal dollars to the state every year**

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status and the Air Guard to retain all its current force structure.



Members of the 131st Cavalry, Alabama Army National Guard took part in Exercise Red Dragon in June 2015, in Babadag, Romania. Red Dragon is a training exercise conducted between the 131st Cavalry, Alabama Army National Guard and the 528th Light Reconnaissance Battalion of the Romanian Land Force in an effort to build stronger ties between the American and Romanian forces. (Photo by Army Sgt. William Frye)



Airmen from the 117th Air Refueling Wing participate in Veterans Day events Nov. 11, 2015, in downtown Birmingham, Alabama. The Airmen marched in the parade and interacted with members of the community to celebrate veterans, past and present. Raymond Weeks of Birmingham, Alabama, led the first National Veterans Day Parade in 1947 in Alabama. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Jeremy Farson)

It is so critical for us to achieve these goals, because the Alabama National Guard is vital to Alabama. We are especially vital to the state's economic health and success, bringing more than \$555 million in federal dollars to the state every year. We also have more than 13,000 jobs located in Alabama – and even though some of these are part-time, they offer full-time benefits and excellent training that can be used in careers outside the Guard.

develop much better relationships with many state agencies, notably, among others, the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency, the Alabama Department of Education, and the Alabama Community College System. All of these things and more keep us at the forefront of excellence in our Army and Air Force areas of specialty, and also helps us remain always ready in times of disaster to support local authorities with our unique capabilities and expertise.

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**We realize that it is a privilege to be such a big part of who Alabama is, and we realize that with that privilege comes great responsibility**

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We realize that it is a privilege to be such a big part of who Alabama is, and we realize that with that privilege comes great responsibility. That is why we work hard to be a recognized leader in stewardship of funds, material, and the environment. One key way we strive to be a good steward is by developing partnerships to share resources and work toward common goals. We have put great emphasis on our partnership program which has helped us

As the adjutant general, I am proud to respectfully present to you the following accomplishments of the Alabama National Guard.

**PERRY G. SMITH**  
The Adjutant General

# The Dual Role of the National Guard

**The National Guard** is the only organization in the U.S. military charged with both a federal and a state mission. This unique dual-mission makes the National Guard distinctly different from the active component, the U.S. Army and Air Force Reserve and all other services which have strictly federal missions.

**The federal mission** of the National Guard is “to provide properly trained and equipped units for prompt mobilization for war or national emergency” (Title 10, United States Code). The National Guard’s state mission is “to provide trained and disciplined forces for natural disasters, domestic emergencies, or as otherwise prescribed by law” (Code of Alabama § 31-2-52).

**As commander-in-chief** of all American armed forces, the president can call the National Guard into federal service based on the needs of the nation in support of overseas contingency operations, homeland defense or other federal missions. The request for forces comes through the secretary of defense, the Departments of the Army and Air Force and the National Guard Bureau to the state adjutant general.

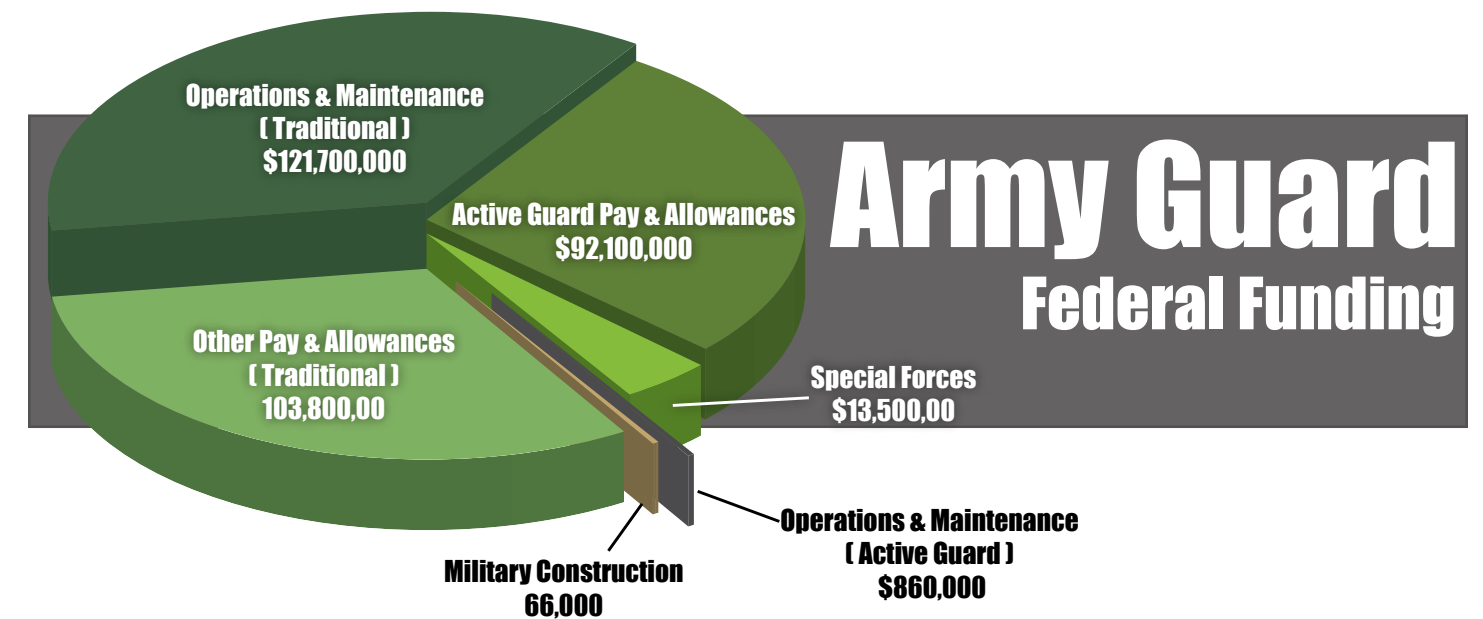
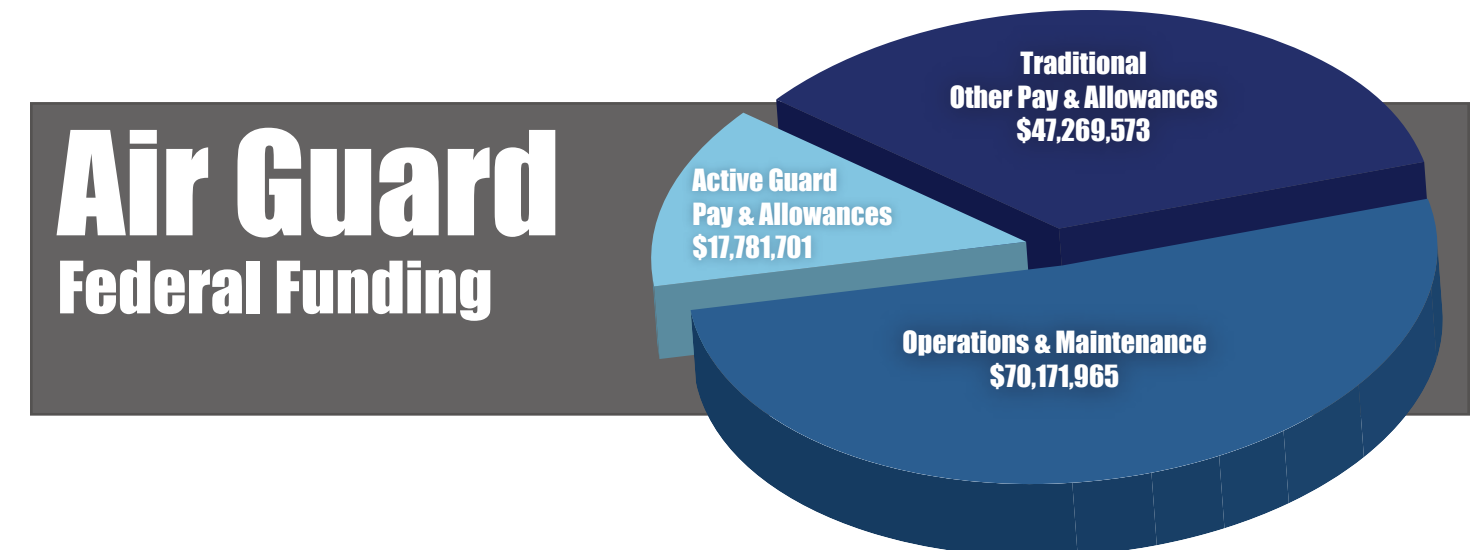
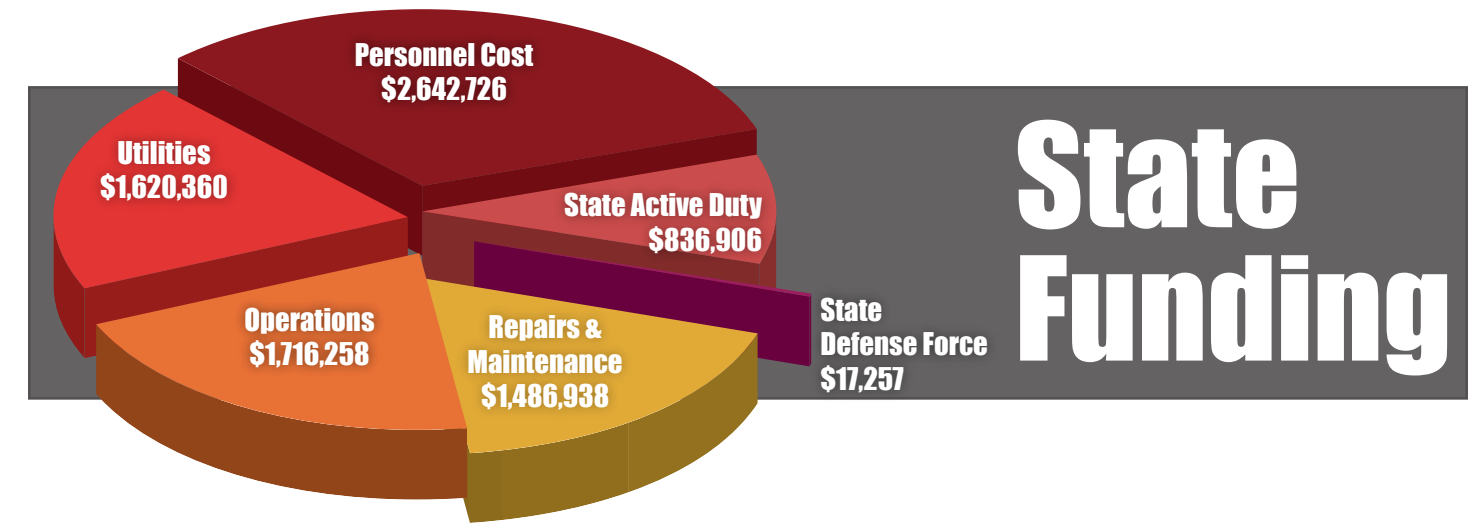
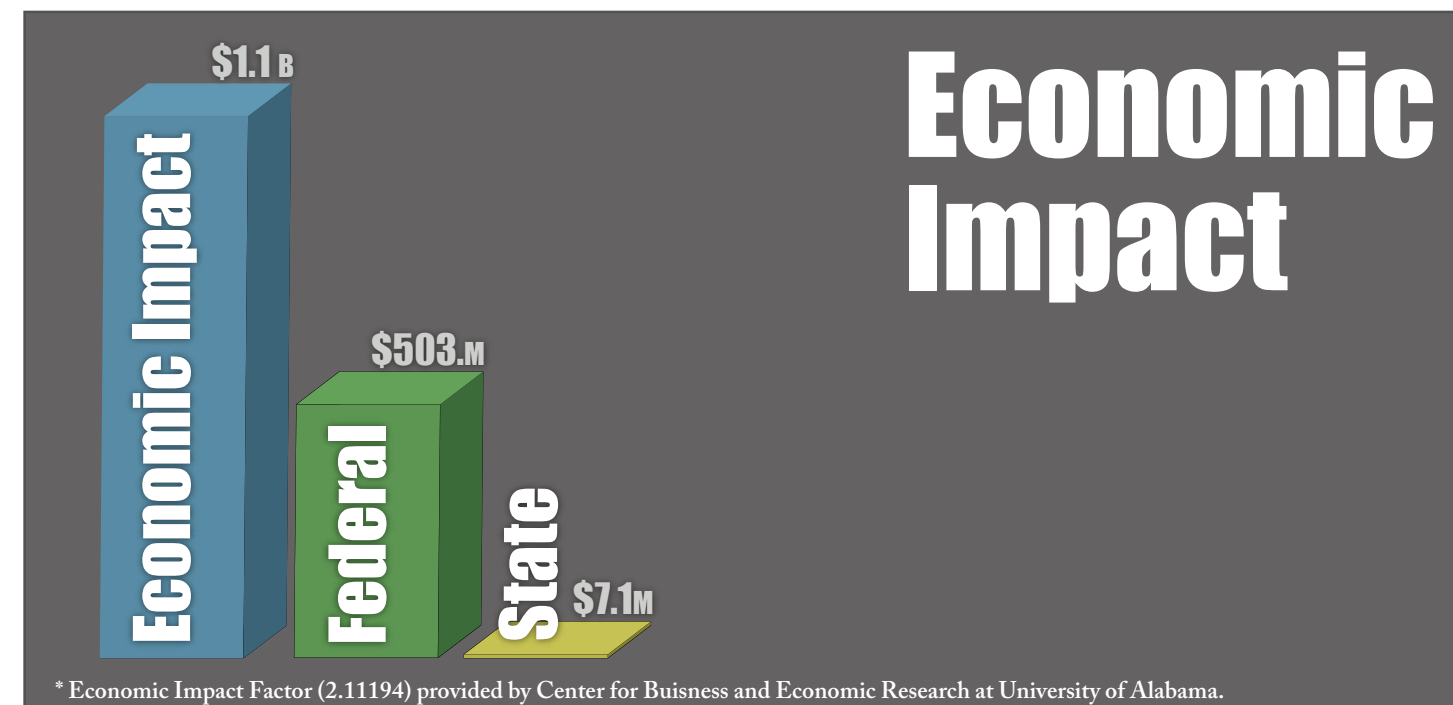
**The governor of Alabama** serves as commander-in-chief of the National Guard in the state. The governor, through the adjutant general, calls individuals, elements or entire units to state active duty based on the needs of the state. The National Guard can provide emergency relief, rescue and recovery support after disasters such as floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, wildfires and snow or ice storms. The Guard can also provide maintenance of public services such as power generation, water purification, security and traffic control. This support is provided at the request of the Alabama Emergency Management Agency with the approval of the governor.

In order to fulfill this unique **dual mission**, the Alabama National Guard relies on resources provided by Congress, the Department of Defense, the National Guard Bureau, the governor of Alabama and the Alabama Legislature.

# Economic Success

The Alabama National Guard is key to Alabama's economic health and success.

- Executed 29 projects totaling \$12.8 million (\$9.3 million federal funds and \$3.5 million state funds) for repair, maintenance, and modernization of current facilities.
- Executed \$13.8 million of federal funding for master planning, facility services, and base operations services.
- The Alabama National Guard United States Property and Fiscal Office obligated more than \$20 million of federal funds in acquiring a full range of sustaining supplies and services.
- Obligated \$4 million in federal funds to local Alabama small businesses for provision of food, lodging, and fuel.
- Managed 168 unit property accounts, which includes 150,387 items on hand with a total asset accountability of \$1.75 billion in federal property.
- Facilitated the fielding and distribution of more than 1,050 new equipment items to units with a value of \$98 million.
- For fiscal year 2015, the federal government will reimburse the state of Alabama in excess of \$32 million in funds spent to support the Alabama Army National Guard through the Master Cooperative Agreement and Military Construction Cooperative Agreements, and in excess of \$5.7 million in funds spent to support the Alabama Air National Guard.



# Top 5 Employer

**The Alabama National Guard is one of the top 5 employers in Alabama.**

- The Alabama National Guard has consistently ranked as one of the top 10 states providing Soldiers and Airmen to fill federal missions; since 9/11, the Alabama National Guard has mobilized 19,021 Soldiers and 5,466 Airmen in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom, New Dawn, Enduring Freedom, Noble Eagle, and NATO Kosovo and others.
- The Alabama National Guard Facilities and Maintenance Office manages 192 state employees at a minimal cost to the state, and an 84 percent federal reimbursement of \$5.7 million for facility operations and maintenance.
- The Alabama National Guard supports local communities, employers and employees with contracts for routine maintenance of facilities in excess of \$5 million.
- The Montgomery GI Bill benefited more than 1,200 Guardsmen. 256 Guardsmen received GI Bill Kickers, a program that encourages qualified applicants and Soldiers to enlist into critical military jobs and units and applies only to specific critical military occupational specialties and certain deployable units. The Post 9/11 GI Bill has benefited 2,164 Alabama National Guard Soldiers and more than 8,900 eligible dependents.
- During fiscal year 2015, the Incentive Office issued 756 enlistment, reenlistment and officer contracts bonuses totaling more than \$8 million.
- The Soldier and Family Support Division consists of a staff of 50 professionals dedicated to the well-being of Soldiers and their families.



Firefighters from the Civil Engineering Squadron practice fighting structure fires as part of their annual training at the 117th Air Refueling Wing, Sept. 19, 2015. The firefighters used a travel trailer and other equipment to simulate structure fires caused by propane gas. According to Master Sgt. Brian Garvich, their main strategy in fighting these fires was to utilize the 'two-in, two-out' policy, which mandates that firefighters never enter a building alone during a rescue mission. Two firefighters act as a team entering the structure and another two-person team is waiting outside the hazard, dedicated to rescuing those inside, should they need it. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Jeremy Farson/Released)

## National Guard Strength

### Workforce

Duty status - Federal	Army	Air
Traditional/Part Time	8,812	1,579
Active Guard	952	193
Military Technician	676	502
<b>Total Soldiers and Airmen</b>	<b>10,440</b>	<b>2,274</b>

### Duty status - State

State Employees - Full Time	179	62
State Employees - Part Time	67	0
<b>Total Workforce</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>62</b>

### Education

Service	High School Only	Some College	Four Year Degree	Masters Degree	Doctoral Degree
Army	70.5%	10.1%	14.7%	4.7%	.5%
Air	8.2%	71.5%	14%	4.8%	1.5%

### Ethnicity/Race

Service	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
Army	67.2%	31.1%	1.6%	.1%
Air	71.6%	24.3%	1.9%	2.2%

### Gender Ratio

Male	Female
81.7%	18.3%
81.3%	18.7%

# Stewardship

**The Alabama National Guard is a leader in stewardship of funds, material, and the environment.**

In fiscal year 2015, the deputy chief of staff for logistics issued 978 pieces of new, modern equipment valued at more than \$98 million to Army Guard units in the state.

In February 2015, the Alabama National Guard was one of only four states to receive a "Noteworthy" rating during a Command Logistics Review Team Evaluation conducted by National Guard Bureau.

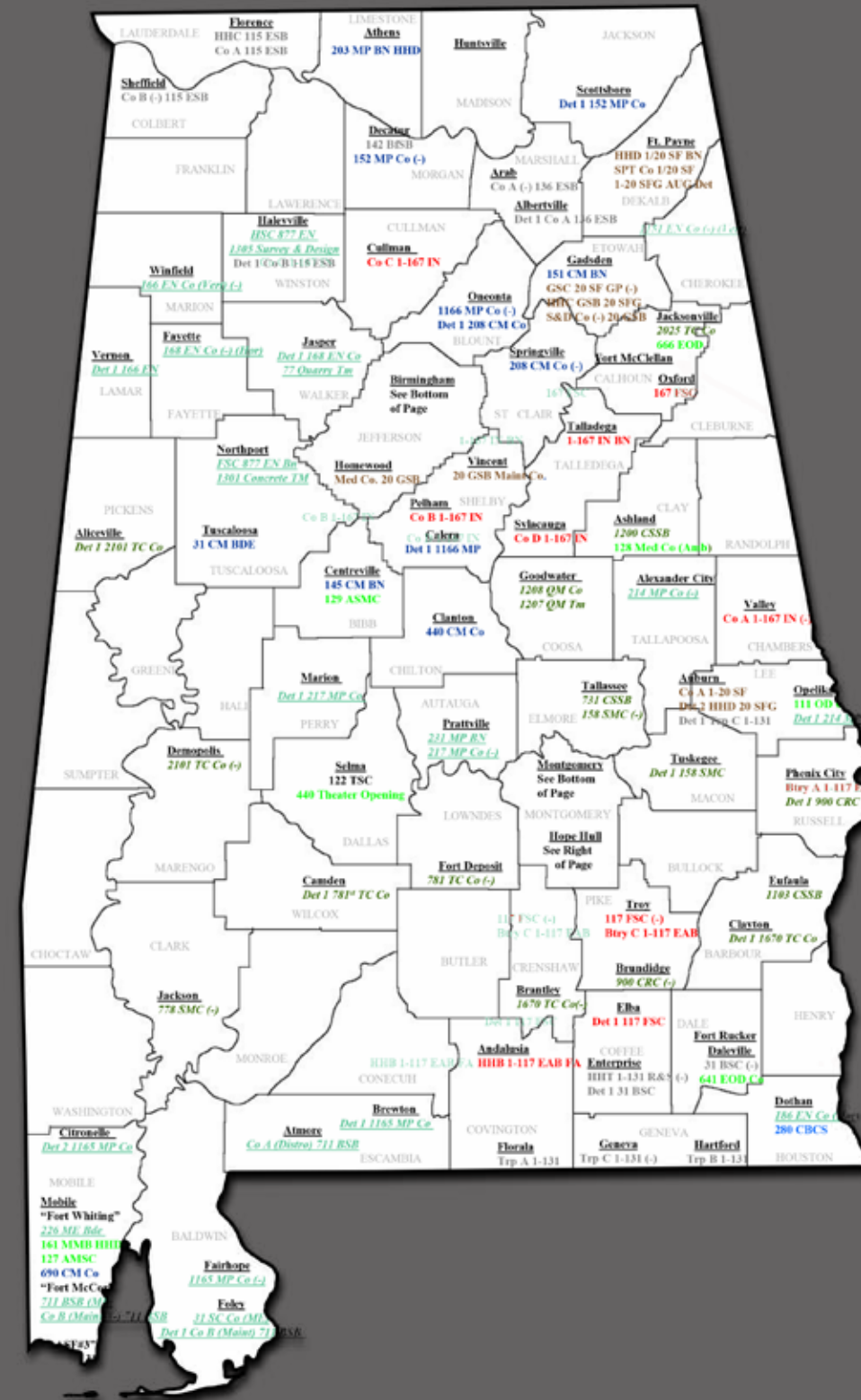
In fiscal 2015, the Personnel Readiness Division coordinated more than 207 state-level or above cases of personnel cross-leveling to increase unit readiness.

Constructed a \$7.5 million live-fire shoot house at Pelham Range. The state-of-the-art facility is the only facility in the nation with the capabilities it offers for unique training and Soldier support. The project provided numerous jobs for local contractors during construction and is a certified Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Silver rated project.

The Fort McClellan Army National Guard Training Center manages hunting and timber harvesting programs to promote a healthy and sustainable environment.



Solar panels at the Alabama National Guard Joint Force Headquarters building in Montgomery, Alabama, provide clean energy and lower utility costs.



**Huntsville**  
Johnson Road  
441 OD BN  
279 AFSB  
1109 Contract BN  
1960 Contract Tm  
1307 FHCC  
128 MP Co (CS)  
143 CM Co  
Green Cove Road  
1151 FN Co (-) (Over)  
Co C 115 ESB

**Legend**  
JFHQ  
167 TSC  
31 CM BDE  
62 Trp Cmd  
20 SF Gp  
142 HFSB  
122 TSC  
135 ESC  
226 MFB  
Air Guard

**EMTC**  
HQ EMTC  
HQ 200th Trng Rgt  
1/200 Trng BN (MP/EN)  
2/200 Trng BN (GCS)  
3/200 Trng BN (GS)  
**EM Readiness Center**  
167th TSC  
1950 Reg. Trial Det. Tm

**Hope Hill**  
1-131 AV BN  
Co E 1-131 AV  
Co A 1-131 AV  
Co D 1-131 AV  
OSAC

**Fort Rucker**  
Multi-Media Det  
Training Center - Ft. Rucker

**Birmingham**  
AFRC (S300 57th St N)  
20 SF GP  
Det 2 GSC 20 SF GP  
Det 1 S&D Co, 20 GSB  
200 CM Recon  
1-20 SFG Aug Det  
Med Det -AL  
Det 1 JFHQ (HSG, Army Staff)  
AFRC (Oxmore Rd.)  
135 ESC

**Birmingham**  
AFRC (5700 East Lake Blvd)  
Co B (-) 1204 ASB (AVIM)  
Co B (-) 1-169 GSAB  
Det 1 HHC 1-169 GSAB  
Det 8 Co D 1-169 GSAB  
Det 8 Co E 1-169 GSAB  
Det 1 Co A 1-114 S&S AV BN  
117ARW  
117 IN

**Montgomery**  
SMD  
JFHQ (TAG Staff)  
JFHQ (Army Staff)  
131 MPAD  
Det 1 972 Trial Det Tm  
151 Army Band  
20 GSB FSC

**Taylor Hardin**  
62 Troop Command  
Btry B 1-117 EAB  
**Time Arc**  
22 R&R BN  
46 CST

**Dannelly Field**  
HQ AL ANG  
187 FW  
226 CCG  
232 CBCS

# Partnerships

## The Alabama National Guard develops partnerships to share resources and work toward common goals.

- During fiscal year 2015, more than 500 Soldiers from across the nation attended courses at the 200th Leadership Regiment.
- Deployed more than 1,100 Soldiers and Airmen to Romania in support of our State Partnership Program, and Operations Resolute Castle and Red Dragon. Units conducted maneuvers, completed engineer projects, and flew F-16 missions (as well as helped train Romanian pilots) alongside the Romanian military demonstrating our capabilities and commitment to our European partners and national interests in the region.
- Maintained an agreement with the City of Anniston for structural fire response and suppression on main post, including subject-related training for our building managers and evacuation coordinators, and fire extinguisher training for all employees.
- The Alabama National Guard continued working on the former Lurleen B. Wallace mental health facility in Decatur acquired in 2013. The Guard's current plan for the site is to be a regional training institute and local training center. The master plan for the site provides for the renovation and restoration of facilities to be phased over 10 years. Elements of the Fort McClellan Training Center will transition a small full-time staff to the location to manage day-to-day operations. The RTI will begin transitioning to the site in phases which correspond to the renovation of facilities. The majority of operations are planned to be online by 2023. The 160-acre site is large enough to accommodate the majority of the RTI school house training requirements while providing units in the central and northern region of Alabama a local training area to conduct company and battalion field training exercises. The Alabama National Guard is also working a partnership with the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency to use the site in order to share resources with our state partners.



Staff Sgt. Justin Mack, 1st Battalion, 117th Field Artillery (right) stands with Alabama state trooper Sgt. Thad Chandler in front of the Alabama National Guard Armory in Troy, Alabama, Feb. 9, 2015. (Photo by Army Sgt. William Frye.)



Members of the 528th Light Reconnaissance Battalion of the Romanian Land Force and the 1st Squadron, 131st Cavalry, Alabama Army National Guard, conduct a joint area reconnaissance mission during Exercise Red Dragon, June 15, 2015, Babadag, Romania. Red Dragon is a training exercise conducted between the 131st Cavalry, Alabama Army National Guard and the 528th Light Reconnaissance Battalion, Romanian Land Force, in an effort to build stronger ties between American and Romanian forces. (Photo by Army Staff Sgt. Christopher Shanley)

- Participates in the Governor's Alabama First Responder's Wireless Commission and is actively working with the commission in the development of the Alabama National Guard portion of the dedicated wireless access for first responders.
- Coordinated with the McClellan Development Authority, the City of Anniston and Department of Homeland Security on issues, progress and development of the old Fort McClellan.
- During fiscal year 2015, the Alabama National Guard Military Funeral Honors program conducted and supported 1,947 funerals. During fiscal year 2015, Funeral Honors teams performed as many as 21 military funeral honors in a single day and a yearly average of five funerals per day with multiple weeks averaging more than 10 funerals per day. During one busy month, the team conducted 187 funerals. These funerals are for veterans and retirees from all services.
- Coordinated with Eglin Air Force Base to secure new area adjacent to Duke Field for the new Eglin Training Site.
- Coordinated an annual agreement with the Alabama Forestry Commission for wildland fire response and suppression as well as prescribed burns on Pelham Range.
- Maintained partnership with Anniston Army Depot for weapons test firing on Pelham Range.
- The counterdrug program assisted federal, state and local law enforcement agencies in seizing more than 324 pounds of cocaine, 84 pounds of heroin, 10,551 marijuana plants, 92 pounds of processed marijuana, 1,507 pounds of methamphetamine, more than 184,000 illegal pills, 253 weapons, 45 vehicles and more than \$17 million in property/currency. The program also flew 219 flight hours with the LUH 72 platforms in support of the governor's state eradication plan, and located 10,551 plants during this year's eradication season, more than doubling last year's total.

# Always Ready

**That Alabama National Guard is always ready in times of disaster to support local authorities with our unique capabilities and expertise.**



Pfc. Patricia Nowell and Spc. Cary Barber, members of the Alabama Army National Guard 1670th Transportation Company Detachment 2, provide security for residents of Concord, Alabama, May 9, 2011.

- Established a fully functional continuity of operations (COOP) site in Citronelle capable of providing key IT capabilities to Alabama National Guard forces during potential disaster that may damage or destroy primary systems. The COOP will ensure leadership can continue to effectively command and control forces while conducting defense support to civil authorities missions.
- Maintain five non-tactical portable communication packages capable of providing data, Voice over Internet Protocol, or teleconference services to forces conducting defense support to civil authorities missions.
- In 2015, our 12-person Computer Network Defense Team (CND-T) participated in two national-level cyber security exercises - 2015 Cyber Shield and Cyber Guard. These exercises helped prepare our team to react to significant cyber threat incidents.
- New equipment fielded this fiscal year includes 336 pieces of dual-use equipment available to be employed for both federal and domestic missions. This equipment has enhanced unit readiness and the Guard's ability to respond to a range of events statewide.
- Executed more than 1,500 man-days (man-day = 1 service member working one day; example: 12 service members working 10 days is 120 man-days) in support of civil authorities for three state-declared winter storm emergencies, the gubernatorial inauguration and the Selma to Montgomery 50th anniversary celebration.
- Conducted the annual hurricane and winter storm training exercises, as well as the Huntsville cyber security tabletop exercise to ensure readiness for potential state emergency responses.
- The 46th Civil Support Team conducted the following missions: three no-notice responses, nine standby missions and 14 multi-agency field training exercises throughout the state of Alabama.
- 46th CST supported the gubernatorial inauguration, presidential visit to the 50th anniversary of the Selma bridge crossing, the commencement ceremony at Tuskegee University attended by first lady Michelle Obama, the 2015 Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles, California.



The 117th Air Refueling Wing received valuable training during a Counter CBRN All Hazards Management Response course, CAMR. The four day course provided a custom, comprehensive, hybrid program that allows base first responders and surrounding agencies an opportunity to train and exercise together. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by: Senior Master Sgt. Ken Johnson)





### 117th Air Refueling Wing

**Overview:** The 117th Air Refueling Wing provides quality worldwide air refueling, airlift, support, logistics, intelligence, and medical services in support of our community, state, and nation.



The 117th Air Refueling Wing received valuable training during a Counter CBRN All Hazards Management Response course, CAMR. The four day course provided a custom, comprehensive, hybrid program that allows base first responders and surrounding agencies an opportunity to train and exercise together. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by: Senior Master Sgt. Ken Johnson/Released)

- Executed a flying program comprised of 6,328 flying hours; 4,873 hours in direct support of overseas combat operations, an overall increase of more than 200 percent since fiscal 2009.
- Successfully completed a large-scale counter Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear All Hazards Management Response exercise which validated the wing's ability to respond to a weapons of mass destruction situation and execute effective command and control as well as deploy the wing's mobile triage, public health, bioenvironmental, and patient decontamination system, also known as the 976 package. This event included participation from our partners in local agencies such as Jefferson County Emergency Management Association.
- Participated in Global Thunder 15, a nationwide nuclear response exercise, by providing training and serving as a "deployed" location for exercise participants. It was the first ever exercise of its kind in the KC-135 community. Involvement included providing passenger air lift with 117th ARW aircraft, receiving multiple exercise aircraft carrying passengers and cargo, and hosting 121 active duty exercise players.
- Continued to support Operation Noble Eagle; an alert mission that began after 9/11 and provides a 24/7 response capability to diffuse any threat against the sovereignty and security of the United States.
- Received the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, which cited the 117th for "providing quality worldwide air refueling, airlift, support, logistics, intelligence, and medical services in support of our community, state, and nation," and "participating in Operations Enduring Freedom, Noble Eagle, and Deep Freeze, Air Force Expeditionary Contingency deployments, and a multitude of domestic operations."



### 187th Fighter Wing

**Overview:** The 187th Fighter Wing provides the state and nation with a superior F-16C+ Aviation Package, RC-26B Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance platform, and expeditionary combat support functions organized, trained, and equipped for rapid world-wide combat deployment, domestic relief, and law enforcement operations.



A two ship formation of F-16 Fighting Falcons from the 187th Fighter Wing maneuvers during a training mission over southern Alabama, Nov. 4, 2015. (Air Force photo by Jim "Hazy" Haseltine)

- The 187th Fighter Wing is formally petitioning to acquire the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter. The F-35 will be awarded to two Air National Guard wings in the nation in the latter part of 2016.
- Deployed 150 Airmen to Romania for two weeks to support the State Partnership Program, during which the unit flew 64 exercise missions with the Romanian Air Force and helped train 20 Romanian pilots to transition to F-16s.
- The RC-26 counterdrug program saw a 78 percent increase over last year's tempo, with more than 334 flying hours. The unit also supported a Drug Enforcement Agency operation in Puerto Rico that resulted in \$83 million worth in drug seizures.
- Answered a short-notice call from Air Combat Command to send 8 F-16s and 120 maintainers to Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, for 30 days to support the Air Force Weapons Instructor Course. Enabled class of 12 students to graduate on time and without degradation to training.
- Deployed 15 Security Forces Airmen to Kuwait for six months and six to Romania for three weeks. The Airmen provided protection to more than \$300 million in assets.
- Awarded \$2.6 million in contracts, with \$1.4 million of the total to Alabama vendors. Spent \$504,000 on Government Purchase Card transactions to Alabama vendors. Completed more than \$16 million in construction for new fuel cell facility, squadron operations facility, and upgraded base perimeter security.

# Air National Guard

## Major Command Updates



### 226th Combat Communications Group

**Overview:** The 226th Combat Communications Group, headquartered in Montgomery, exercises mission command of several subordinate signal units in order to provide command, control, and communications and computer support capabilities.

- The Eagle Vision detachment in Huntsville provided satellite imagery support for more than 15 natural disasters, including floods, wildfires, tornadoes and hurricanes in 11 states and three countries (Mexico, Guatemala and Paraguay), and other events worldwide. The unit worked closely with the Space and Missile Defense Command on Redstone Arsenal in fielding new applications which gives emergency personnel timely access to near real-time satellite imagery for disaster response.



Master Sgt. Rusty Reaves and Senior Airman Justin Demmings preparing the Eagle Vision Zodiac Antenna for the Panamax exercise at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, in support of a U.S. Southern Command joint exercise. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. David Couch)

- The 226th, with support from the 232nd Combat Communications Squadron and the 280th Special Operations Communications Squadron, deployed Airmen and scores of assorted tactical radio communications equipment in support of the 187th Fighter Wing for Exercise Dacian Viper 2015, providing communications services to approximately 150 personnel during a State Partnership Program exercise with Romanian military forces.
- Continued development of defensive cyber capabilities through joint exercises and training events with the Alabama, Kentucky, and Tennessee Army and Air National Guard. Headquarters and squadron members were recognized for outstanding efforts in both Cyber Shield and Cyber Guard national exercises.
- Supported alternate network operations security center for Air Force Central Command client and server equipment upgrades.
- Provides support to the Alabama National Guard joint operations center by augmenting the Joint Force Headquarters hurricane response exercise.

**Right:** A KC-135R Stratotanker sits in a heavy fog on the flight line at the 117th Air Refueling Wing, Birmingham, Alabama, April 1, 2015. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by: Senior Master Sgt. Ken Johnson/Released)



**Left:** A two ship formation of F-16 Fighting Falcons from the 187th Fighter Wing maneuvers during a training mission over southern Alabama, Nov. 4, 2015. (Air Force photo by Jim "Hazy" Haseltine)

**Right:** Senior Master Sgt. David Keller, 99th Air Refueling Squadron chief boom operator, receives a wet reception after his final flight in a KC-135R Stratotanker at the 117th Air Refueling Wing, Birmingham, Alabama, Jan. 30, 2015. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Ken Johnson/Released)





### 20th Special Forces Group (Airborne)

**Overview:** 20th Special Forces Group (Airborne) Headquarters is an operationalized organization based in the continental United States, which provides planning, execution and logistical support on a daily basis to forward deployed elements in four separate theaters. Within the supported theaters, the 20th SFG(A) provides capability and capacity development while liaising with host-nation military and U.S. country teams.

- 20th SFG(A) currently shares workspace and provides information technology automation service to the 117th Intelligence Squadron, Alabama Air National Guard.
- State Partnership Program with Romania engagement lead planner.
- 20th SFG(A) deployed a Special Forces company to Northern Iraq in support of Operation Inherent Resolve and Special Operations Command Central.
- Group managed enduring operations in four theaters, U.S. Southern Command, U.S. Central Command, U.S. Africa Command, and U.S. European Command.
- 20th SFG(A) deployed a Special Forces company to develop, advise and assist four partner nations' security forces in Central Africa while supporting the embassy country strategy and the Theater Special Operations Command mission.
- Beginning in fiscal year 2015, the 20th SFG(A) provided counter threat finance instruction support in a partnership with U.S. Southern Command, leveraging the civilian skills of two 20th SFG(A) Soldiers.
- The 20th SFG(A) Special Operations Recruiting Detachment proactively engages the five active component Special Forces groups' leadership and installation transition offices. Through this engagement, the recruiting detachment has increased unit readiness while saving the Alabama National Guard more than \$2 million in schools and training funding.



Members of the Alabama National Guard's 20th Special Forces Group performed a static line jump from a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter in Northeast Alabama.



### 31st Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Brigade

**Overview:** The 31st Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Brigade is a multi-faceted major command in the Alabama Army National Guard. The 31st CBRN Brigade consists of two chemical battalions (145th and 151st), one of which is responsible for the CBRN Enhanced Response Force Package mission, and one Military Police battalion (203rd). With this capability, the 31st CBRN Brigade is postured to

- support both its wartime mission and defense support to civil authorities mission. Because of the brigade's unique capabilities, it can respond to defense support to civil authorities missions within Alabama and throughout the continental United States.
- 31st Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Chemical Brigade headquarters acted as Task Force Operations as part of a nationwide tiered response framework for major chemical, biological, radiological, chemical, or high-yield explosive incidents.
  - Provided military police support to troop rotations in Romania and Germany.
  - Activated 62 Soldiers from three units in support of civil authorities during winter storms.
  - 115 Military Police Soldiers completed a National Training Center rotation.
  - Conducted Armored Security Vehicle live-fire at the Alabama National Guard's training area at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida.



Alabama National Guard units from around the state, along with civilian first responders, took part in a Vigilant Guard exercise, March 9, 2015, at Pelham Range in Anniston, Alabama. The purpose of the exercise was to simulate responding to a real-world catastrophic event. (Photo by Army Sgt. William Frye.)



An Alabama National Guard Soldier trains alongside civilian first responders during the Vigilant Guard exercise, March 9, 2015, at Pelham Range in Anniston, Alabama. The purpose of the exercise is to simulate responding to a real-world catastrophic event. (Photo by Army Sgt. William Frye.)



### 62nd Troop Command

**Overview:** The 62nd Troop Command has a presence in 13 armories throughout the state. The 62nd Troop Command's is comprised of more than 1,700 Soldiers in its subordinate units: 1st Battalion, 167th Infantry; 1st Battalion, 117th Field Artillery; and the 151st Army Band.



Members of the 1st Battalion, 117th Field Artillery conduct live-fire exercises at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, June 2015.

- Mobilized units of the 1st Battalion, 167th Infantry and 1st Battalion, 117th Field Artillery in response to extreme winter weather throughout northern Alabama. Units conducted defense support to civil authorities operations in two regions supporting the Alabama Emergency Management Agency.
- Conducted a consolidated annual training event in June 2015 involving more than 1,300 Soldiers, 100 pieces of rolling stock, and multiple live-fire exercises. This culminating event concluded a two-year training plan. The 62nd partnered with the 1-131 Aviation for sling-load operations and air assault missions, synchronizing forces and achieving training standards.
- The 62nd Troop Command is preparing to welcome two new units in fiscal 2016: a new infantry battalion, 1st Battalion, 173rd Infantry, and a long range surveillance company, Company E, 173rd Infantry.



### 122nd Troop Support Command

**Overview:** Primary capabilities of the 122nd Troop Support Command include passenger and cargo air movement, reconnaissance, search and rescue, and rescue hoist operations. Major ground support equipment consists of wreckers, fueling apparatus, aviation ground power units, generators, cranes, forward repair systems, standard automotive tool sets, portable aircraft maintenance shelters, and various other trucks and trailers. The 122nd's subordinate units consist mainly of aviation assets from Birmingham, Hope Hull, and Mobile. The command operates 18 UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters, six CH-47 Chinook helicopters, and four UH-72 Lakota helicopters.

- During fiscal year 2015, the 122nd returned approximately 65 personnel of B Company, 1-169th General Support Aviation Battalion from Afghanistan where it deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Using CH-47 Chinook helicopters, the unit performed 833 combat missions while supporting both the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions, as well as special operations and coalition forces. With just six aircraft, B Company flew more than 2,200 combat hours and moved 11,500 passengers and three million pounds of cargo, performing supply and direct assault missions.
- Training and operational missions included insertion and extraction of ground forces; static line and military free fall airborne operations; and training in bambi bucket firefighting operations, external load operations and hoist operations.



A Company, 1-131st Aviation Regiment aviators perform air assault mission training with a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter in Hope Hull, Alabama, Oct. 17, 2015.

- Detachment 1, A Company, 1-114th Aviation Battalion (Security and Support) flew 605 hours in support of its military and defense support to civil authorities missions. These missions included command and control, communication flights, limited air movement and aerial reconnaissance in order to support homeland security and defense requirements. Additionally, the unit supported the Alabama National Guard Counter Drug program by flying 102 hours in direct support of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. The unit also completed rescue hoist validation training to greatly enhance its ability to respond to state support missions. This unit's UH-72A Lakota helicopter is equipped with an infrared and day video camera, downlink system, search light, rescue hoist, and advanced communications systems.



## 135th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary)

**Overview:** On order, 135th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) conducts mission command of all assigned, attached, and units under its operational control, and provides sustainment planning, guidance, and support to forces in an area of operation. The ESC also conducts mission command of task organized units in support of a state or national response to mitigate the effects of natural and/or man-made disasters.



Lt. Col. Andrew Davis of the 1200th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion assumes command of the 1st Support Battalion of Task Force Sinai in the Sinai Peninsula, Egypt, July 14, 2015. (Photo by Army Sgt. Jamilia Murphy.)

- The 135th's new commander, Brig. Gen. Sylvester Cannon, was selected to concurrently serve as the Deputy Commanding General-Army National Guard to Combined Arms Support Command at Fort Lee, Virginia. This gives the Alabama National Guard an inside view of upcoming doctrine and developments within the sustainment warfighting function.
- The 135th ESC conducted the first ever major command (MACOM) multi-echelon annual training period in the history of the Alabama Army National Guard at Fort McClellan, Alabama, in August 2015. Every level of command (detachment to MACOM level) took part in the successful mission.
- The 1670th Transportation Company and 2101st Transportation Company participated in Combat Training Center rotations in 2015. The 1670th went to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California, and the 2101st went to the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, Louisiana. Both units received laudatory comments from the maneuver units they supported.
- The 1200th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion deployed to the Sinai Peninsula in Egypt to provide support to all troops supporting the international multi-force observer mission. The 1200th has been operating within a dynamic and changing operational environment from two separate locations in Sinai.
- In 2015, the 135th provided mission command and support to three separate winter weather disaster operations in support of the Alabama Emergency Management Agency and the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency. The 135th ESC also supported local community organizations by supporting the National Veterans Day Parade, speaking at the University of Alabama – Birmingham (UAB) Leadership Symposium, and by participating in the National Veterans Day 10K Ruck Challenge (placing 2nd overall).



## 142nd Battlefield Surveillance Brigade

142d Battlefield Surveillance Brigade provides command and control of reconnaissance, surveillance, and intelligence operations in support of a division, corps, or joint task force. When deployed in an operational environment, the brigade is focused on collecting, analyzing and providing actionable intelligence, as far forward as possible.

- The 142nd's subordinate unit, Company A, 136th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, mobilized and deployed to Kuwait in support of Operation Inherent Resolve.
- The 115th Expeditionary Signal Battalion mobilized and deployed Soldiers to Romania and Bulgaria in support of Operation New Castle, the largest military construction initiative in the European theater since the end of World War II.
- The 115th ESB supported winter weather operations in northern Alabama on two separate occasions, providing relief and assistance to citizens and local agencies.
- The 142nd headquarters participated in a Warfighter exercise in Camp Atterbury, Indiana, which consisted of National Guard and active duty Army units representing 11 commands and 12 different states.
- The 1-131st Cavalry Squadron deployed 108 Soldiers to Operation Red Dragon in Romania, the largest reconnaissance exercise of conventional forces, in modern U.S. Army history. The exercise consisted of water-borne and air-assault training in and around the historic Danube River basin. The units were fully integrated with Alabamian and Romanian Soldiers, operating with both U.S. and Romanian equipment.
- The 142nd headquarters, 1-131st Cavalry Squadron, and the 31st Brigade Support Company also went to Camp Shelby, Mississippi, to participate in an eXportable Combat Training Center (XCTC) capabilities rotation. XCTC is the premier total emersion training concept incorporating live, virtual, simulation and gaming concepts, bringing the most realistic package to Soldiers and units in a regional setting or environment.
- The 115th was the first expeditionary signal battalion in the nation to successfully field and validate Warfighter Information Network-Tactical Increment 1, equipment that is the leading edge of 21st century technology, ensuring long term viability and continued excellence in the field of tactical communications.



Staff Sgt. Casey Grissett of the 1st Squadron, 131st Cavalry, Alabama Army National Guard takes part in an area reconnaissance mission during Exercise Red Dragon, June 13, 2015, in Babadag, Romania. Red Dragon is a training exercise conducted between the 131st Cavalry, Alabama Army National Guard and the 528th Light Reconnaissance Battalion, Romanian Land Force, in an effort to build stronger ties between American and Romanian forces. (Photo by Spc. William Frye)



### 167th Theater Sustainment Command

**Overview:** The 167th Theater Sustainment Command plans and executes operational support to active component forces responding to defense support of civil authorities or homeland defense contingencies in the U.S. Northern Command area of responsibility. Assigned to the Army service component command (U.S. Army North), the command participates in multiple annual exercises and coordinates sustainment of contingency operations ranging from presidential inaugurations, U.N. General Assembly meetings and political conventions to complex catastrophes such as hurricanes, earthquakes, wildfires and man-made disasters.

- The 167th Theater Sustainment Command developed an innovative rapid deployment sustainment capability in response to a need identified by Army North. This Theater Logistics Coordination Element (TLCE) concept was tested during Ardent Sentry, a U.S. Northern Command exercise during which the TSC coordinates sustainment to joint forces of the Army, Navy, Marine and Air Force.
- The TSC coordinated sustainment operations for the annual homeland defense-focused Vibrant Response exercise, supported U.S. Northern Command's Vigilant Shield exercise and provided the higher echelon control cell for the 184th Expeditionary Sustainment Command's Warfighter exercise conducted at Camp Atterbury, Indiana.
- The 111th Explosive Ordnance (EOD) Group headquarters and subordinate elements conducted extensive field training at multiple locations throughout the year to build technical skills and enhance the headquarters' ability to conduct mission command. The 111th developed strong ties with its active component counterparts and worked closely with EOD units from other states to resolve issues affecting Guard ordnance formations. One of the group's subordinate units, the 161st Medical Battalion, conducted field training for the entire battalion at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, deployed a support element to the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, Louisiana, and prepared a tailored detachment for deployment to Afghanistan.
- The 279th Army Field Support Brigade deployed a contingency contracting team to Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo, in support of peacekeeping operations in the Balkans. The 279th also placed seven personnel on Title 10 orders working at four different locations as part of the ongoing plan to achieve the certification for contracting specialists assigned to the unit. A subordinate unit, the 440th Transportation Theater Opening Element, conducted multiple field training exercises at home station and at Fort McClellan, Alabama.



Soldiers with the 877th Engineer Battalion stand in formation, June 22, 2015. Operation Resolute Castle 15 is an Army Europe-led multinational operation held at Cincu Training Center, Romania, and Novo Solo Training Area, Bulgaria. The operation included more than 1,000 Soldiers from the Alabama and Tennessee National Guard as they worked to plan, coordinate, construct and improve infrastructure for training areas. (Army Photo by Sgt. Eric Roberts)



### 226th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade

**Overview:** The 226 Maneuver Enhancement Brigade is currently the largest major command in the Alabama Army National with more than 1,800 Soldiers assigned. The brigade headquarters is located in the historic Fort Whiting, in Mobile, Alabama. Subordinate units of the command are located throughout the state from Mobile to Huntsville and from Haleyville to Opelika. The 226th conducts support area operations, maneuver support operations, and support to consequence management and stability operations in order to ensure the mobility, protection, and freedom of action of the supported force. In addition to its organizational mission, the 226th serves as mission command for a joint task force to

provide defense support to civil authorities within the boundaries of an assigned area of operations in order to mitigate and/or alleviate the effects of a natural disaster or terrorist event. The 226th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade consists of three subordinate battalions and one separate company. The battalions include the 877th Engineer Battalion, the 231st Military Police Battalion and the 711 Brigade Support Battalion. The 31st Network Signal Company is the brigade's separate company.

- During fiscal year 2015, the 226th's units conducted numerous training events that included mobilization training support, mobilization validation, command post exercises, disaster relief training and overseas deployment training.
- Various elements of the brigade participated in Operation Resolute Castle in Romania. The 877th Engineer Battalion supported by Military Police and the 31st Network Signal Company went on seven rotations in Romania, conducting partnership training with the Romanian Army.
- In early 2015, brigade units supported multiple severe winter weather missions providing recovery operations to local authorities in northern Alabama cities and counties.
- The 226th MEB as a major command achieved 100 percent strength during fiscal year 2015 and continues to work with local schools and colleges to increase membership.
- Mobilizations and deployments for the brigade in 2015 included the deployment of two Military Police companies; the 217th Military Police Company served at numerous locations throughout the Middle East and the 214th Military Police Company conducted detainee operations in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.



Pfc. Micheal Blackwelder, a carpenter with the 1151st Engineer Company, assists Romanian Soldiers with cutting support beams for an ammunition storage building Aug. 25, 2015, at Cincu Training Center, Romania. American and Romanian forces are worked together in support of Operation Resolute Castle 15. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Fredrick Varney)