As I reflect on the year 2018, I am reminded of just how critical a well-prepared military is to the peace and prosperity of our citizens. We live in a time of unprecedented electronic connectivity, while at the same time, we are seeing more emotional disconnection as a society. Intelligent conversation about differences has evolved into open hostility against those who do not share our views on social issues. As Americans, this should concern us all. As American Warriors, we should take note of it and ensure that we fulfill our obligation to protect and defend those Constitutional rights of security, safety, and of free speech for all of our citizens, whether we agree with them or not. As an organization, we exist for one purpose: to deter, and if necessary, defeat the enemies of the United States. We exist to protect our citizens, and what hurts one, hurts all. With this in mind, we should plan diligently to be ready as individuals and as units should our nation need to call upon us to defend our borders and our way of life. In our communities, we should provide a stable example of what a citizen Soldier or Airmen should be. Both in and out of uniform, we represent the United States and should act with professionalism and dignity.

This past year has seen some tremendous opportunities unfold. As one of 11 states that have shown great potential for future growth, the Utah National Guard will expand by 600 positions over the next few years. This is in direct relation to your superior performance over a sustained period of time. Our performance and our reputation for excellence continues to define us as an organization.

Command Sgt. Maj. Eric Anderson and I recently returned from a troop visit to the Middle East. We visited with members of the 65th Field Artillery Brigade; 300th Military Intelligence Brigade; and 2nd Battalion, 211th General Support Aviation Battalion. While each one of these formations had varied missions, they were all suffering from challenging physical conditions, to include temperatures that soared to 148 degrees. We found these great Americans to be in good spirits, excited about their respective missions and totally committed to excellence. In every case, their chains of command were very proud of these Soldiers and the amazing contribution of excellence they were taking to the fight. These Utah units are successful because their officers have character and vision, and their noncommissioned officers have the pride and grit to lead them with excellence.

Change is inevitable, but misery is optional. With the right attitude, and the proper preparation, we can look forward to the future with confidence and with optimism. What lies ahead will certainly be an adventure; full of challenges and opportunities, but together we can overcome any obstacle and accomplish any mission.

I’d like to express my sincerest thanks for your outstanding performance over the past year. Through worldwide deployments, wildland firefighting and flood prevention preparations, you have performed with excellence. May God continue to bless you and your families.
For the Utah National Guard Noncommissioned Officer Corps, 2018 was a year of change. The Army turned its eye to the particular challenges and necessities of its new, all-volunteer force by taking a step back and reinventing itself for the 21st century. Senior leadership identified a modernization vision, rooted in six key priorities that will bring new vehicles, aircraft, gear, and other advanced technology for the force over the next 10 years. The Department of Defense is relooking how they view service members today; treating them now the same way they would a professional athlete, getting them the right treatment more efficiently, thus getting them back in the fight sooner. The NCO Corps transformed from the old Noncommissioned Officer Education System to the new and improved Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development System. The new sequential and progressive system focuses on building leaders capable of facing multi-domain and multidimensional threats to the U.S. by preparing NCOs to deal with near-peer competition, counterinsurgency or unconventional warfare, cyber activity, man made and natural disasters.

The Utah Army and Air National Guard showed commitment to working with our allies and partners in sharing responsibility for our common defense. Our State Partnership Program with Morocco displayed interoperability in a joint environment through participation in 18 training events that enhanced our military capabilities in bilateral relations, security cooperation priorities, as well as Africa Command’s (AFRICOM) new Strategy/Combatant Command Campaign Plan. One of the highlighted events for the NCO Corps was a first-ever joint NCO engagement discussing development and training at various NCO academies as well as senior NCO engagements with AFRICOM, U.S. Army Africa Command (USARAF), and U.S. Air Africa Command (USAFAC). The Utah and Moroccan relationship continues to be the flagship example of a successful State Partnership Program.

Utah continues to focus on the right priorities for the Army and Air National Guard; to fight and win our nations wars while supporting our state and local governments in time of need. The Utah National Guard asked its members to deploy again overseas, all the while fighting fires and dealing with floods on the home front. During 2018, Utah focused on joint, multi-domain, high-intensity conflict, irregular warfare, modernization, and leadership. Also, 2018 brought increased readiness priority and training opportunities to select units in the Utah Army and Air National Guard focusing on strategic near peer threats. Utah increased training focus on personnel, maintenance, operations, equipment, and ordinance resulting in a more lethal and ready force. The Secretary of Defense James Mattis promised “to never send America’s sons and daughters into a fair fight.” The senior leaders of the Utah National Guard showed unwavering commitment to our warfighters by focusing on increased training proficiency in lethality and readiness and are grateful for the sacrifice and investment of all our service members and their families.
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**On the Cover**

Bravo team, 151st Communications Flight pausing for a photo in front of the Red Hooke Armory in St. Croix after Hurricane Irma and sheltering in place for Hurricane Maria.
I am humbled and grateful to have been selected by Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton as the 6th Utah National Guard Command Chief Warrant Officer this past year. The UTNG is thankful for the great leadership received from our outgoing CCWO, Chief Warrant Officer 5 David Lucero and wish him well in his retirement.

It was a momentous year for the Warrant Officer Cohort as we celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the establishment of the Warrant Officer in the Army. We celebrated this tremendous occasion with a dedication of the Warrant Officer Memorial, 5K Run, and a Warrant Officer Dinning Out. Thank you to everyone who contributed to make these events a wonderful success.

On a more serious tone, we deployed many of our brothers and sisters into harms way, through multiple deployments of Utah units. They are continuing to perform their assigned missions exceptionally and honorably. Let’s always keep them in our minds, hearts and prayers.

We greatly increased the readiness of individuals and units of the Utah National Guard, a causation of a world full of increasing threats. This year we asked our Soldiers and Airman to train more often and tougher than ever before, and they did so outstandingly. We will continue to ask for more.

This past year we started to make changes in the way we will fight. General Milley has stated we are at a strategic inflection point; we will not only need to be able to conduct stability operations and fight terrorists but also be able to fight and defeat a near-peer competitor. This will require noncommissioned officers, warrant officers, and officers to perfect their combat roles and be exceptional leaders, able to navigate the battlefield with minimal guidance. In the near future, due to emerging threats, we will be trained on new equipment and doctrine to increase readiness and lethality. Get ready!

Additionally, with some angst, we were introduced to the Army Combat Fitness Test. Train for it, improve personal fitness and enjoy the process. This will greatly improve individual readiness.

I am grateful and in awe for all you do. I’m thankful for the support of your families and employers. Remember to take care of your families and brothers and sisters in arms. Keep up the exceptional work.
Serving as the headquarters for the Utah Army and Air National Guard, Joint Forces Headquarters consists of senior National Guard state leadership and joint directorates that advise and support the Utah governor, as well as the president of the United States with trained and ready forces from units throughout the state. Supporting both wartime missions and domestic operations, JFHQ provides trained professionals in areas of personnel, intelligence, training and operations, supply and maintenance, communications, and finance.

During February drill, JFHQ experienced a change in leadership, when Maj. Gloria Parks relinquished command to Maj. Nancy Pettit. Pettit brings with her a wealth of knowledge and experience that will allow the unit to continue supporting its state and federal missions. Another significant leadership change occurred with the retirement of Brig. Gen. Dallen Atack from his position as assistant adjutant general, which he served honorably in for six years. Atack relinquished the AAG responsibilities to Col. (P) Tyler Smith, who on August 1, was promoted to the rank of brigadier general. In his new role as AAG, Brig. Gen. Smith oversees six major subordinate commands in the Utah Army National Guard, and is second in command of the Utah National Guard. The men and women of JFHQ and the Utah National Guard wish Parks and Atack well in their future endeavors.

In December, JFHQ participated in joint exercise Yama Sakura, which involved several components of the U.S. Armed Forces as well as countries throughout the Asia-Pacific region. The JFHQ officers and NCOs that participated in this major exercise received numerous accolades for their performance and represented the Utah National Guard in a positive light. The Soldiers that comprise JFHQ continue to train to respond to any federal and state mission.
The G1 underwent significant changes as it was reorganized under four separate branches: The Mobilization Readiness Branch manages all personnel actions relating to mobilization and readiness; the Personnel Service Branch completes all personnel actions throughout the Soldier’s career; the Medical Branch manages Soldier health records, line of duties, and incapacitation programs; and the Directorate Leadership and automation team is responsible for all personnel automation systems including the SIDPERS interface system, also known as SIBx. G1 continues to be a major contributor nationally, consistently being recognized for creativity and innovations in Soldier personnel support.

This year, Family Programs launched the Utah National Guard Service Member and Family Support application, called UTNG Family. The app is designed to provide immediate information via hand-held device. Family Programs also added a Personal Finance counselor and three Citizen Soldier for Life counselors to provide needed financial education and assist with the new military Blended Retirement System. These counselors are available to help navigate any confusion or misinformation regarding the new system.

Utah’s Strong Bonds program continued to rank in the top three nationally as one of the best programs designed to bring couples together to educate and build relationships. Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve and our employment specialist provided service members and their families support through employment awards and job fairs. Family Programs continued to look for innovative ways to improve and increase capabilities for families.

The primary mission of the 151st Force Support Squadron was to conduct domestic operations encompassing family readiness, Yellow Ribbon, Honor Guard, force management, base training and education, food, lodging, fitness, recreation, and mortuary affairs. This year 75 percent of the 151st FSS full-time technician force conducted upgrade training. The 41 members continually demonstrated “service before self” and excellence in all it did to provide top-quality customer service to the Utah Air National Guard and their families.
The goal of the Utah National Guard Joint Intelligence Directorate is to provide trained, equipped, and ready intelligence Soldiers, Airmen, and civilians. Intel experts conduct expeditionary, dispersed, and decentralized intelligence operations that enable timely and informed decision making for commanders and the U.S. intelligence community, in both domestic or wartime operational environments.

Col. Shahram Takmili serves as the J2 director. The J2 Directorate is responsible for providing oversight of all state intelligence activities in order to ensure the proper handling of U.S. person’s information in accordance with U.S. laws and DoD regulations. The J2 provides timely and relevant all-hazards intelligence and shared situational awareness to National Guard leadership, commands, and civil authorities responding to natural or man-made disasters or emergencies.

Lt. Col. Cody Strong serves as the director of the Utah Army National Guard G2 Intelligence and Security Directorate. In Fiscal Year 2018, the Joint Intelligence Strategic Plan for FY18 to FY22 was updated in order to integrate and synchronize lines of efforts between the UTNG and its intelligence partners. Additionally, the G2, in coordination with the Construction Facilities Management Office and the Utah Regional Operations Center, developed a renovation plan for the first floor of the Draper Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility that will be executed in FY19.

In December 2017, the UTNG hosted the ARNG G2 Intelligence conference at Camp Williams where representatives from all states and territories gathered to address intelligence issues impacting the Army National Guard.

In August 2018, G2 began coordinating future support to the Southwest Border Mission by working with the NGB J2, Customs and Border Patrol, and the Texas National Guard to enable a “reachback” capability to support the mission from Draper, Utah. In September 2018, the UTNG coordinated directly with the Air National Guard G2 providing them additional staff to support hurricane-relief efforts as a result of Hurricane Florence.

The G2 is organized into two branches, the first, G2 Intelligence Support and Integration Branch, consists of Special Security Office, Draper Joint Reserve Intelligence Center, and Utah Foundry Platform. The SSO manages all National Guard Sensitive Compartmented Information Facilities throughout Utah. The Draper JRIC provides support to the intelligence community, and consists of National Guard and Reservist units and personnel, as well as external agencies with various missions. The Utah Foundry Platform provides Human Intelligence and Signal Intelligence training to both active duty and Reservist National Guard Soldiers. The second branch, G2 Counterintelligence and Security Programs Branch, primarily manages the state Security Programs to include Information Security, Industrial Security, Personnel Security, Security Education and Training Awareness, and Threat Awareness Reporting Programs.

The G2 has closely worked with the 902nd Military Intelligence Group to establish a field office at Camp Williams, Utah. The G2 continues to enhance readiness by working directly with commanders, security managers, and Soldiers to address security-clearance issues, and to improve security-incident reporting.


During Fiscal Year 18, the Utah National Guard supported wartime missions, overseas exercises, domestic operations, and training. It deployed forces as part of named operations across the globe in every Combatant Command’s Area of Responsibility. Deployment locations include Iraq, Afghanistan, Jordan, Bahrain, Korea and Kuwait, to name a few. Since Sept. 11, 2001, the UTNG has deployed more than 17,000 personnel to wartime missions, many service members deploying more than once.

UTNG Soldiers provided Overseas Deployment Training support to numerous worldwide training events and Joint Chief of Staff exercises. Overall, 694 Soldiers were sent to 42 different countries to fulfill 114 different Combatant Command requirements. Some of the significant exercises supported include Yama Sakura and Orient Shield in Japan, Key Resolve in Korea, Beyond Horizons in El Salvador, African Lion in Morocco, United Accord in Ghana, Justified Accord in Uganda and multiple Joint Combined Exchange Training Special Forces engagements.

Select Soldiers participated in a NATO exchange program by attending training events in the United Kingdom and Denmark while hosting allied Soldiers during training events held in Utah. These overseas training and support events provided UTNG Soldiers exciting and challenging opportunities to demonstrate and validate collective and individual proficiency while also providing culturally unique international experiences.

Concurrently, the State Partnership Program, saw a changing of the guard as Maj. Brandon Smith, the SPP coordinator, turned the reins over to Lt. Col. Dustin Carroll in preparation for retirement. Additionally, Maj. Sam Campbell completed his tour as the Bilateral Affairs Officer in the U.S. Embassy in Morocco, handing over duties as the BAO to Maj. Will Biesinger. Nonetheless, these officers were able to facilitate the completion of more than 29 separate events in the Kingdom of Morocco with the support of more than 230 members from the UTNG.

Separately, the Joint Directorate of Military Support coordinated and managed several training and domestic operational missions in FY18. They managed seven fire-suppression missions consisting of more than 200 flight hours, 1,095 buckets of water equating to more than 500,000 gallons and more than 1,000 man hours. In addition, the UTNG conducted aerial search-and-rescue missions, conducted support operations during Hurricane Irma and Maria and various 85th Civil Support Team operations. As a result, the UTNG remains relevant having supported the state of Utah with nearly 1,500 man hours of operational support.

FY18 was also a great year for Individual Training. The UTNG schools program acquired 1,208 course reservations, which translated into more than 1,080 graduates. With the addition of the Master Leader Course to the enlisted promotion system, Utah again led the way with 25 graduates from this challenging course.

The Military Honors team continued to be an active member of the local community. During FY18, the Honor Guard performed more than 52-high-profile events, including the opening of the State House and Senate events. The Military Funeral Honors team also conducted more than 850 military funerals across the state. This team upholds the most professional of appearances to ensure that an honorable and positive service is presented as part of what is often the last image the family will have of the military and their loved one.

Lastly, 2018 marked the reactivation of the 118th Transportation Company, stationed in Spanish Fork, adding relevance and capability to the force.
Fiscal Year 2018 provided numerous opportunities for the J4 to execute its mission of providing sustainable logistical readiness to the Utah Army National Guard thus enabling Soldier preparation for Decisive Action.

The J4 oversaw Annual Senior Logistics Training, Food Service Operations Course, Quarterly Supply Sergeants Training, and UTARNG Sustainment Organizational Inspection Program and Commanders Supply Discipline programs.

The UTARNG Supply Management program successfully transitioned to the new eFLIPL system to ensure consistency in Financial Liability Investigation of Property Loss (FLIPL) processing for the foreseeable future.

The J4 oversaw the mobilization and demobilization of multiple UTARNG units to include 2nd Battalion, 211th Aviation which became the first unit in recent years to mobilize its equipment directly to port. The J4 also assisted 1st Battalion, 145th Field Artillery to provide a training set of Paladin and support vehicles to Fort Bliss, Texas in support of the mobilization of the 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team.

The J4 assisted units with major training events outside Utah to include a War Fighter for the 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, Headquarters Company as well as multiple rotations for state aviation units at the National Training Center.

The Parachute Rigger Technicians of the regional Aerial Delivery Logistics Facility earned an “Excellence” during its CSDP inspection from the 1st Special Forces Command G4 while continuing its record of 100 percent safety in support of airborne operations throughout the western U.S. The Technician Riggers also hosted and oversaw a successful Jump Master Course for Soldiers from all over the Special Forces community.

The Surface Maintenance Management team continued its mission to maintain the equipment of the UTARNG through the Combined Support Maintenance Shop, Unit Training Equipment Site, and multiple Field Maintenance Shops.

The SMM team remained busy with the addition of field-replaceable unit requirements. This forced the SMM to continually look for ways to improve its maintenance management process. At the 5th annual Mechanic of the Year competition, Donald Kuhlman from FMS #2 won. The contest was a grueling one-day exercise which challenged the competitors through written and computer-based exams and hands-on exercises. FMS #7 won the “Top Shop” award for the state. Master Sgt. Richard Ivory, Sgt. 1st Class Cole Carpenter, Sgt. 1st Class Charles Gubler, and Sgt. 1st Class Bevin Jones were awarded the Samuel Sharpe Award 2018 due to their demonstration of integrity, moral character, and professional competence within the Ordnance Corps.

The SMM team was highly involved in assisting UTARNG units prepare for the Command Logistics Review Team. The maintenance organizations throughout the state did very well on the inspection with only minor deficiencies.

The Defense Movement Coordinator office and the J3 cosponsored two Mobile Training Teams which instructed the Unit Movement Officer Courses for 50 Soldiers trained as UMOs in June and August.

The DMC lost Sgt. Justin Luther to a new career at Hill Air Force Base. The J4 also said goodbye to Lt. Col. Ronald Jonas and Command Sgt. Maj. Kayle Smith, who we offer our sincere thanks and best wishes for the future.
The G6 is the principal advisor for Command, Control, Communications, Computers and Information Management services. The mission of the G6 is to provide Information Technology support to the Utah Army National Guard, enhancing readiness and mission accomplishment; protecting the network from unauthorized, inadvertent, or malicious damage.

Key services provided by the G6 include network and infrastructure support, communication security, mail/postage services, Freedom of Information Act requests, Army Records Information Management System oversight and training, installation printing, photographic production, telephone services, Distance Learning capabilities, mobile device management, IT customer service, and radio services.

In an effort to create efficiencies and a more secure network the Army has pursued many initiatives the past year. Both the Helpdesk and the Network Operation Center have kept very busy trying to facilitate changes to the network, software, and circuits, all while maintaining the highest level of availability and services possible to the workforce.

The Tactical Communications Team plan and implement programs to enhance unit and state tactical and domestic-response-communication capabilities. The team added three new permanent repeaters, one each in Summit, Davis and Utah Counties to better support unit training and domestic operations. Radio over IP technology was implemented to bring radio signal from Summit County to Draper. The team began piloting the FIRSTNET new first responder communication capability. The team continues to support unit training and preparation through assistance visits, the creation of communication documents to support mobilizations and by the creation of the mission command page on GKO as a resource for Soldiers to turn to for signal training and reference.

The Visual Information Office produced more than 3,000 books and 1,500 presentation boards for various military operations, archived tens of thousands of documents and pictures, and provided more than 2,000 DA Photos for military members of all services.

Soldiers from the G6 supported African Lion 2018 communications academics mission with three instructors to train Moroccan Army Signal Soldiers on various network security practices. Training topics included network device security, cryptography, and incident response. The team wrapped up each day with practical exercises to ensure the students understood the material and were able to implement the skill. Overall, the mission was successful in building relationships with Moroccan Army and U.S. Marine Corps partners in Africa.

The G6 finished out the year hosting both the National Guard Bureau Director of Information Management Workshop and the Annual UTNG Signal Workshop. The DOIM workshop provided a great opportunity to showcase Utah as G6 personnel from around the country met to discuss a variety of IT topics.

In a similar fashion the SIGNAL work shop provided an opportunity for Soldiers from units in both the Army and Air Guard to collaborate and to receive valuable hands-on training ranging from cyber security to satellite communications. The Utah Chapter of the Signal Corps Regimental Association presented Utah Soldiers with regimental awards. Recipients were: Capt. Denver Lee, Capt. Chad Marden, Master Sgt. Kenneth D. Jansen, Master Sgt. Craig Pace, Sgt. 1st Class Justin Tripp, 1st Sgt. Wayne Austin Jr., and Staff Sgt. Tyson Small. Tripp was also recognized for his dedication and contribution to the Signal Corps by volunteering to train communications Soldiers throughout the state. He was presented with the Signal NCO of the year sabre. 🏳️‍🌈
The Directorate of Aviation & Safety administers all aviation operations and safety programs within the state. The Directorate had a very successful year with an extremely high-operational tempo and very low accident rate. The aviation program this year flew in excess of 7,200 flight hours, deployed 2-211th General Support Aviation Battalion, the 1-211th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion completed two National Training Center rotations, and the state hosted an AH-64D Aircraft Qualification Course. In addition to all of those operations, the Army Aviation Support Facility managed hundreds of flight hours conducting firefighting missions for one of the most active forest fire seasons experienced in our state’s history. The UTNG integration with the Lakota unit and the drug eradication efforts throughout the state continued at a high level this year and has continued to build stronger relationships with partner agencies. The best news for DAS is the C-12 Aircraft and personnel are returning in October 2018 from a very successful deployment to the Horn of Africa.

In May 2018, the Directorate changed leadership with Col. Greg Hartvigsen moving on to a new position in Arizona and Col. Ricky Smith assuming control of the Directorate. Additionally the Directorate has restructured and added several highly skilled personnel to the team that will allow for efficient and effective execution of its current processes. As aviation continues to grow in demand and level of active operations throughout the year, the concerns for the safety of aircrews and maintenance of equipment continues to be at the forefront of the DAS office.

The 1-211th ARB received a Notification of Sourcing this year to deploy in the spring of 2020 to Afghanistan. While the Directorate experienced higher levels of funding and manning in aviation this year, it anticipates that every bit of that increase will be needed to meet the forecast demands for aircraft operations. This year the Directorate sent a near record number of aviators to flight school and in return anticipates the need to conduct readiness-level progression for the return of 24 aviators from flight school in 2019. Aviation personnel recognize that Joint Force Headquarters and Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton have given exceptional support and been very proactive in helping aviation meet the real-world mission that has provided for our nation’s freedom and safety here at home.
The Construction Facilities Management Office recently experienced a change, passing the weight and responsibilities of facility readiness for the Utah Army National Guard from Col. Tyler Smith to Lt. Col. Vince Wolff. Smith was promoted to brigadier general and appointed as the new assistant adjutant general for the UTARNG.

Wolff has been with CFMO for more than 15 years and has served in a variety of positions including resource manager, plans and programs manager, and deputy. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the table as the new CFMO director. Other changes to the CFMO office include appointing Maj. Branden Clark as the new deputy and Capt. Keith Sestak as the Plans and Project manager.

Regardless of changes, the CFMO mission remains constant; which is to provide the best facilities for the UTARNG Soldiers in order to meet both federal and state missions.

The UTARNG recently acquired 30 acres of land from Manti City, by trading the old Manti Field Maintenance Shop that was relocated to Mt. Pleasant. The new Manti property is located on the southeast side of Manti and will serve as the future home of the Sanpete County Readiness Center.

The Combined Support Maintenance Shop recently received an upgrade to its old and failing paint booth. The new 1,200-square foot, state of the art, modular-paint booth comes complete with an additional 145-square foot, paint-mixing room and a dedicated heating ventilation and air conditioning system.

The Draper facility now enjoys 10 new electric vehicle charging stations and the first in the UTARNG. Each station provides 40 amp and 7.2kW making it possible for the GSA Fleet’s current electric vehicles to receive a full charge in two hours. CFMO plans to expand its electric vehicle charging network to Camp Williams and other readiness centers throughout the state.

CFMO is constantly striving to increase energy resiliency and has installed back-up generators at the Logan, Ogden, and St. George Armories.

Over the last 12 months CFMO has managed more than 100 projects. The successful completion of these projects was made possible through valuable support from the State Military Department, Division of Facility Construction Management, and State Building Board. The CFMO greatly appreciates their assistance in meeting its mission.
The Human Resource Office continued to improve several programs designed to enhance the overall well-being of the Utah National Guard’s full-time force, such as supervisor training, Utah National Guard federal service awards, annual health benefits fair, new employee in-processing/briefings, overhaul of personnel instructions and regulations, Army Active Guard and Reserve Tour Continuation Boards, as well as employee supplemental training.

During Fiscal Year 2018, HRO implemented the National Defense Authorization Act 18 guidance of converting all Title 32 Non-Dual Status technicians, and 12.6 percent of Army and Air National Guard Dual Status Technicians, to Title 5 employees. Along with these conversions, HRO continued to focus on providing a variety of services including: hiring, staffing, benefit services, position management and classification, and on-the-job injury services.

The HRO saw many personnel changes over the past year. Lt. Col. Mike Czipka, deputy HRO, accepted a new assignment as the administrative officer for the 19th Special Forces Group. Sgt. 1st Class Danielle Armantrout accepted a warrant officer position with 97th Troop Command. We wish these Soldiers continued success in their new assignments. The HRO then welcomed Lt. Col. Gerald Williams as the new deputy HRO, Sgt. 1st Class Dan Brown as the Active Guard Personnel administrative assistant, as well as, Mrs. Teshia Williams as the new technician administrative assistance. Col. David Osborne remains the director of HRO, and is also currently serving as the Region VII Human Resources Advisory Committee Chair.

The HRO continues to emphasize a philosophy of transparency and customer service in its efforts to offer quality personnel services to the more than 2,500 Active Guard Reservist, Federal Technicians, DoD civilian employees, Active Duty Operational Support, and state employees employed by the Utah National Guard. Additionally, HRO is part of the Joint Diversity Executive Council. The UTNG uses JDEC to invite, include and inspire its workforce for the greater good. HRO is committed to ensure that all work-related needs of the Utah National Guard full-time force are met in order to maintain maximum efficiency, and a high-level of dedication and morale. The HRO is pleased to serve the needs of all UTNG employees, and looks forward to implementing other changes and programs that will benefit the full-time force of the UTNG. 🇺🇸
The Utah National Guard State Military Department, commonly referred to as the SMD, is the budget and accounting office responsible for the state of Utah funds and property of the UTNG. The state resource manager or finance director, serves on the secondary staff of the adjutant general and supervises the day-to-day operations of UTNG-SMD.

The SMD supports the adjutant general and the dual federal and state mission readiness of the units, Soldiers, and Airmen of the UTNG. Through the best possible customer service, SMD provides timely, accurate, and efficient procurement, budgeting, and accountability of UTNG state resources in compliance with Utah and federal laws and regulations.

About 98 percent of UTNG’s funding is federal to support the federal mission. Of the $320 million federal budget, about $67 million was spent by the state of Utah and reimbursed through cooperative agreements. The governor requests and the State Legislature appropriates state funding for UTNG administration, operations and maintenance, and tuition assistance.

The administration program provides funding for the offices of the Adjutant General, Assistant Adjutant General, Public Information Officer, and Military Family Life Counselors.

The UTNG Operations and Maintenance Account supports 535 buildings in 22 communities throughout Utah, plus Camp Williams, and the Roland R. Wright Air National Guard Base. Most UTNG buildings are state owned.

The State Tuition Assistance program supports the UTNG recruiting and retention mission.

SMD works closely with The Adjutant General, Assistant Adjutant General, and Construction Facilities Management Office on legislative initiatives. In 2018, the Legislature provided an additional $300,000 for the design of the Nephi readiness center, and enacted the West Traverse Sentinel Landscape Act. This act establishes a coordinating committee and the West Traverse Sentinel Landscape fund for the purpose of preserving compatible use of the land around Camp Williams.

SMD plays an active role in domestic operations, processing pay and accounting for and reimbursing costs. In 2018, UTNG Army Aviation units provided wildland fire suppression support within the State of Utah in State Active Duty status.

The UTNG enjoys broad support from the citizens of Utah and its elected representatives. This reflects its respect and appreciation for your service and its trust in the Soldiers, Airmen, and leaders of the UTNG.
The mission of the United States Property and Fiscal Office for Utah is to support the mission of the adjutant general for Utah, and the Utah National Guard units, Soldiers, and Airmen by ensuring accountability and proper use of federal resources. The USPFO is committed to ensuring all units of the Utah Army and Air National Guard have proper resources and equipment to perform their role in support of national defense or contingency operations. The USPFO closely monitors authorizations for procuring equipment and ensures fiscal responsibility of appropriated funds.

The USPFO is comprised of Internal Review, Purchasing and Contracting, Supply and Services, Resource Management, Data Processing, Grants Officer and 151 Comptroller Flight.

Internal Review provides professional audit services that prevent fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement by ensuring that strong internal management controls are in place and effective.

Purchasing and Contracting provides contracting support across the full spectrum of military operations enabling maximum flexibility to the UTNG throughout the world and wherever the mission may demand through the management of contracts and the Government Purchase Card program.

Supply and Services provides logistical support, oversight, training and accountability in the areas of ammunition, transportation, property management, material management, warehouse and central issue facility operations.

Resource Management provides financial support and fiscal accountability to all units and members of the UTNG.

Grants Officer Representative provides stewardship of federal funds provided to the UTNG to support construction, maintenance and operations of National Guard resources used throughout the state of Utah.

Data-Processing Installation provides oversight, management, and accountability of the federal fiscal and personnel information systems.

The 151st Comptroller Flight works closely with the USPFO to manage the budget, travel, accounting, military pay, and quality assurance sections of the Utah Air National Guard.

The 71 person strong staff of the USPFO works hard every day to support each member of the UTNG, both Army and Air. Each section within the USPFO works with units to ensure they have all of the requisite equipment and resources necessary to train, deploy, and achieve their mission goals. USPFO also has many Soldiers who stand ready to deploy whenever needed. In fact, in the last 12 months, five USPFO staff members deployed with their units, in support of contingency operations overseas.

The USPFO works in close partnership with Utah’s State Military Department staff to support any mission directed by the governor, in support of domestic emergency response.

Task Force Pirate with Utah’s 2nd Battalion, 211th Aviation, establishes its fourth and final Tactical Assembly Area at an old Forward Operating Base at the National Training Center in California, August 2018.
The Natural Resource Program initiated a plan to thin fire fuels within and around native plant communities. The thinning removes surrounding ladder fuels and thins dense stands of Gambel Oak and Utah Juniper to increase biodiversity. While the primary aim is, first, to increase wildlife habitat diversity and quality and, second, to protect native vegetation from wildfire, it also reduces wildfire hazard on the landscape and improves Soldier access for dismounted training.

Natural Resource Program also started surveys for rare pollinator species and initiated two pollinator gardens. Pollinators are declining worldwide and the subject of recent emphasis from DOD and elsewhere. The surveys allows us to know what we might have to manage down the road if a species gets listed for federal protection and to mitigate potential impacts to training well ahead. The pollinator gardens used volunteer labor, including contributions by two youth groups and an Eagle Scout project, to construct paths, plant flowering plants and build and place habitat boxes for bat and bee.

Environmental Resource Management in 2018 completed the remedial action phase of the Wood Hollow Munitions Response Site, clearing the way for hundreds of acres of privately-owned lands adjacent to Camp Williams to be used for various other purposes, including mining, residential, commercial, and open-space uses. The multi-year project investigated more than 1,200 acres and provided munitions clearance on more than 300 acres, including the removal of more than 80 live-artillery rounds from training that likely took place prior to World War II.

The use of risk-based investigative and clearance methods allowed the project to meet the needs of projected future land use while meeting safety standards and using available funding in an efficient manner. The project also resulted in the development of a new detection technology suitable for steep terrain and high magnetic interference geology.

As a result of these achievements the project won the Environmental Security Award for Installation Environmental Restoration at both the National Guard and Department of Army levels.
The Utah National Guard State Partnership Program had another banner year of diverse and rewarding engagements with the Kingdom of Morocco’s Royal Armed Forces (FAR). The SPP’s purpose is to cultivate and promote enduring relationships of trust and confidence with Morocco’s military while bolstering U.S. defense security goals.

Lt. Col. Dustin Carroll directed the partnership this year and the SPP welcomed home Maj. Sam Campbell and his family from his two-year assignment at the U.S. Embassy in Morocco. Replacing Maj. Campbell is Maj. Will Biesinger as the new in-country coordinator. The SPP staff also welcomed Sgt. First Class Stacey Olson who brought needed talent to the team.

In total for 2018, UTNG participated in 35 SPP events with the Moroccan FAR. Brig. Gen. Dar Craig and Sgt. First Class Pat Brown took part in a wreath laying ceremony and spoke at a Moroccan university to commemorate Operation Torch. Brig. Gen. Tom Fisher and other UTNG senior leaders traveled to Morocco for the annual senior leader visit to conduct high-level discussions with senior FAR leaders and to observe the Utah-Morocco disaster preparedness exercise Maghreb Mantlet.

The Medical Command sent more than 50 personnel for a Humanitarian Civic Assistance mission providing 8,000 patient encounters for medical and dental care in a Moroccan military field hospital. Other significant humanitarian assistance missions included Humanitarian Mine Action (de-mining), Disaster Planning and Preparedness events, and another medical event where UTNG medical providers trained Moroccan military and civilian providers on emergency medicine and disaster response casualty care. Brig. Gen. Tyler Smith and UTNG’s command warrant and senior enlisted leaders attended a foundational exchange to foster the importance and value of enlisted professional development. UTNG participated in Exercise African Lion, taught Military Intelligence fundamentals and Cybersecurity, sent team leaders for cadet cultural missions, held another youth exchange, sent Special Forces to train in Moroccan mountains, and hosted Moroccan senior leaders in Utah.

Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton headed the Military Cooperation sub-committee at the Defense Consultative Committee meeting held at the Pentagon with the Moroccan Chief of Defense. Col. Scott Burnhope served as the head of the U.S. delegation for the Country Cooperation Meeting to coordinate all current-year U.S. military events. Brig. Gen. Dar Craig traveled to Nigeria to accompany the Moroccan delegates at the Army Africa’s Land Forces Summit. Col. Ryan Ogan accompanied the Moroccan Air Forces Inspector General to the Air Forces Africa talks in Germany. All these events highlight the important role Utah plays in security cooperation and the value of our Moroccan partnership to the U.S. at the national level.
The Homeland Response Force provides disaster response for FEMA Region VIII, consisting of Colorado, Montana, North and South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. The HRF trains to respond within six hours to natural or man-made disasters. Utilizing urban search-and-rescue, mass decontamination, and medical-response elements, supported by communication and security elements, helps the HRF save lives.

This year, the HRF participated in training events in Alaska, Idaho, Missouri, and Montana involving more than 200 Soldiers and Airmen. Additionally, there were four collective-training events involving more than 2,000 troops, including a National Guard Bureau-evaluated Deployment Readiness Exercise that tested the HRF’s ability to rapidly deploy all 587 personnel to a disaster event.

In November, 20 personnel traveled to Idaho Falls, Idaho to participate in a Table Top Exercise. The purpose was to plan for a future disaster-exercise event at the Idaho National Laboratory involving a scenario in which a resulting earthquake would cause one of the reactors to melt-down and disperse large amounts of radiation.

In February, 20 Soldiers and Airmen augmented the Region X, HRF in Alaska. The collective-training event focused on a disaster response in an arctic setting. During the exercise however, a real-world oil spill occurred. HRF personnel were able to apply the many years of training to respond and run the initial part of the response until local emergency management crews were on-site.

In March, the HRF sent 20 personnel to support the Montana Vigilant Guard exercise that are meant to simulate real-world natural disasters to improve collaboration efforts. This helps with emergency preparation, coordinate response, recovery management, and share state and National Guard resources. For this event, Soldiers and Airmen focused on radiation and hazardous materials training and collapsed structure rescue.

In May, as a prerequisite to an external evaluation, the HRF conducted a Deployment Readiness Exercise and collective-training event. Also, more than 50 Soldiers were sent to Missouri to participate in a Special Focus Exercise. The exercise, New Madrid Seismic Zone, was a multi-agency exercise testing the ability of Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives (CBRNE) enterprises and first responders to deploy to a simulated 7.7 magnitude earthquake, along the New Madrid Seismic Zone in eastern Missouri. HRF units worked with member of the Missouri National Guard, Task Force 1 (urban search-and-rescue team), and state and local emergency-management agencies.

As the HRF transitions into the upcoming training year, the units will look to increase their knowledge and capabilities by supporting regional and national-training events. Also, culminating of three years of training and preparation, the HRF will validate its craft to the National Guard Bureau, the adjutant general, and Utah’s governor, through an external evaluation. The external evaluation, administered every three years, will test and validate the HRF’s ability to provide CBRNE mission command, search and extractions, decontamination and medical-response elements supported by communications and security elements.
Chief Warrant Officer Chris Bradford co-pilots a Black Hawk over the Dollar Ridge Fire near Strawberry Reservoir in Duchesne County. Two Black Hawks flew for 18 days, dropping 800 buckets of water with approximately 369,600 gallons of water.

The 1457th Engineer Battalion loses the 118th Sapper Company and the 624th Engineer Company was reflagged as the 116th Engineer Vertical Construction Company carrying on its lineage.

A Civil Support Team member monitors the air at the base of a lava flow from the Kilauea volcano, June 1.

The 1st Battalion, 145th Field Artillery deploys more than 100 Soldiers to United Arab Emirates, Oct. 1, 2017.

The 65th Field Artillery Battalion deployed 130 Soldiers to the Middle East, March 26, 2018.


Staff Sgt. Mike Martin, a medic with 2nd Battalion 211th Aviation is lowered on a hoist as the UH-60 Black Hawk hovers for the night rescue mission in Maple Canyon, Freedom, Utah, Sept. 15, 2018.
Over the past couple of decades, the National Guard has transitioned from a strategic reserve force to an operational reserve force with an ever increasing demand for trained, properly equipped, and ready forces. One doesn’t have to look beyond the Utah Army National Guard to be convinced of that claim. The Utah Army National Guard is engaged in many missions across the globe and in Utah that range from combat operations to search-and-rescue and wildfire response. This year we mobilized and deployed 531 Soldiers to participate in operations globally that support the war effort. Soldiers are operating in various countries throughout the Middle East and other areas maintaining the superior reputation of the Utah Army National Guard.

The depth of experience and expertise found in the Utah Army National Guard is second to none. In addition to wartime missions, 834 Soldiers participated in overseas exercises, training events, and international exchanges in 42 different countries. Deployments continue with no signs of slowing down. The current operational tempo and emerging threats underscores our duty to ensure readiness remains our number one priority.

The state mission load was extremely engaged this year. The fire season kept Black Hawk crews busy, dropping 1,144 Bambi buckets on various fires throughout the state. Black Hawk search-and-rescue missions saved stranded climbers in Maple Canyon, rescued an injured hiker in the Uintahs and assisted in the recovery of a downed aircraft near Elko, Nevada. The 85th Weapons of Mass Destruction—Civil Support Team responded to several incidents continuing to provide a vital capability to the governor and first responders of the state of Utah. The support given by the Utah Army National Guard epitomizes the value of the citizen Soldier where communities are benefited by the service of women and men in uniform.

The Utah Army National Guard is a community-based organization. With a membership of more than 5,500 Soldiers, it utilizes armories, airports and training sites in 24-strategic locations throughout the state. The organization consists of nine major commands: 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 65th Field Artillery Brigade, 97th Aviation Troop Command, 97th Troop Command, 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, 300th Military Intelligence Brigade, 640th Regional Training Institute Regiment, Utah Training Center—Camp Williams and Medical Command. Each command consists of selfless leaders and highly trained Soldiers, many of whom have been deployed in support of combat operations.

High marks are the standard for the Utah Army National Guard in every critical metric used by National Guard Bureau in assessing the 54 states and territories. Achieving these results demonstrates the professionalism and dedication of its members. This organization provides tremendous opportunity for young people to be part of something larger than themselves where they can learn job skills, earn a college education, and gain valuable life experiences. Membership means living the Army Values and being affiliated with an organization that is committed to excellence, providing a climate where all enjoy mutual respect and dignity while serving this great nation and the communities in which we live and love.

In October of 2017, the 19th SFG(A) commander was requested by the 1st Special Forces Command (SFC) commanding general to have 19th SFG(A) participate in Warfighter 18-04 as a training audience based on the unit’s prior performance in WFX16. With an abnormally short window to prepare (especially as a National Guard unit), the unit mobilized to Fort Bragg, N.C., in March, establishing a Forward Operating Base adjacent to 1st SFC’s FOB, in 11 Military Shelter Systems containing the whole of the group command, primary staff, SIGDET, MID, and mayor’s cell. The unit was acknowledged by the higher command in several pertinent areas: speed and intensity of establishing the FOB; facilitating, innovating, and even mentoring the higher command’s intelligence in Collection Management and Targeting; the analog and digital tracking of the battlefield for current operations being “far ahead of anyone we’ve seen; and successfully providing Radio over Internet Protocol allowing the Joint Operations Center to communicate with the Special Operations Task Forces, where higher was not able to do the same.

The HHC, 19th SFG(A) was also identified as a Focused Ready Unit in conjunction with emerging requirements and threats on the Korean Peninsula. This designation added several reportable readiness requirements to both National Guard Bureau and 1st SFC. The unit held weekly virtual teleconferences with subordinates and 1st SFC identifying and rectifying readiness, training, and equipment shortfalls. The overall posturing by the U. S. Military preparing for war, facilitated the eventual diplomatic process between the two Korea’s and the United States of America; ultimately preventing armed conflict.

The opportunity to be a training audience at another Warfighter Exercise helped the unit increase knowledge and capability and showed our Active Duty peers and superiors that the National Guard is just as proficient and – in several aspects – more than capable. HHC 19th SFG(A) looks into the next fiscal year ready to accomplish any and all tasks to engage our enemies and help win our nation’s wars.

Special Forces Soldiers conduct transition skills on the 9mm range during Special Forces Advanced Urban Combat Course. Soldier uses personal decontamination kit following masking procedure.

Special Forces Soldiers ruck five miles during a drill weekend at Camp Williams. Soldiers zero their M4’s on a 25 meter range during annual weapons qualification at Camp Williams, Utah.
First Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne), headquartered at Lehi, Utah, is spread through the nation and is comprised of elements from Texas, Utah, and Washington. This year, members of the battalion actively participated in missions worldwide in support of Special Operations Command, U.S. ambassadors, state governments, and other governmental agencies. Elements of the battalion received numerous accolades for their contributions to state and national security priorities. First Battalion remained fully engaged throughout the year conducting numerous overseas deployments while increasing readiness through stateside trainings and exercises.


The 19th SF Battalion Support Company led by Capt. Patrick Murray and 1st Sgt. Marcelino Romero and Delta Company, 19th SF Forward Support Company led by Capt. Jed Christensen and 1st Sgt. Kyle Harrison supported many of the operational deployments within the battalion and in particular deployed to the Republic of Korea in Support of Alpha Company during their Special Operations Command Korea rotation. Additionally, the BSC and FSC conducted a Special Forces Basic Combat Course–Support to enhance their combat readiness.

This year Group Support Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne) actively supported the three Special Forces Battalions (1st, 2nd and 5th) within the Group. The Utah Test and Training Range culminated by deploying HHC, Alpha, and Bravo Companies to the Sustainment Training Center in Camp Dodge, Iowa for Annual Training.

Headquarters, Headquarters Company led by 1st Lt. Robert Ferguson and 1st Sgt. Phillip Countryman conducted Mission Command training including staff operations in the field for preparation of the GSB’s Sustainment Training Center rotation. The Mission Command Training Team at Camp Dodge gave accolades to HHC of GSB as being the fastest unit to implement doctrinal training, in the practical exercise, and performing advanced utilization, of the Command Post of the Future System.

Lt. Col. Jeff Bruce relinquished command to Lt. Col. Richard (Bruce) Roberts. The Battalion welcomes Roberts back to the unit and thanks Bruce for his excellent leadership and guidance.

Alpha Company (Distribution), led by 1st Lt. Jessica Carrillo, and 1st Sgt. Gordon Shute excelled at the following operations and training: aerial delivery, parachute rigger, water purification and distribution, fuel distribution and transportation support. During the GSB’s rotation to the Sustainment Training Center Alpha Company dropped numerous, cargo-bundle parachutes and supported five airborne operations. The Rigger Platoon conducted 22 out-of-state support missions for 19th Group units. It also supported GSB as a whole by packing 1,983 MC-6 parachutes, 450 Ti1-R parachutes, and 1,100 RA1 parachutes and supported Fort Bragg for three months.

Bravo Company (Maintenance), led by Capt. Nicholas Blackham, and 1st Sgt. Dustin Boyack conducted: Command Maintenance Evaluation Team Inspections, armorer, electronic maintenance, engineer, support across the spectrum of Army Systems and Special Operations Forces specific equipment. The Bravo Company (Engineer Section) repaired the Camp Williams Jump Tower, remodeled the Officer Club restrooms, completed a new storage system for the Dive Sustainment Team, designed and built a containerized mobile Tactical Operations Center. Bravo Company excelled at the Sustainment Training Center receiving high praise from the cadre and leadership. The 19th Group was one of the highest ranked brigade-level units in the state on the COMET and Command Logistics Review Team inspections thanks to the training and expertise of Bravo Company’s maintenance personnel, and was the first SOF Support Unit to pioneer the use of the Global Combat Support System Army Program to purchase SOF Specific weapons parts.

Charlie Company (Medical), led by 1st Lt. Dallin Peterson and 1st Sgt. Thomas Lawrence had a busy year supporting and training troops. A team of medical providers, medical logisticians, preventative medical Soldiers, and the only veterinarian in the Utah Army National Guard trained more than 50 Special OPS medics during three, non-trauma modules located in West Virginia, North Carolina, and Colorado. Topics included emergency medicine, evacuation in austere environments, dental injections, tooth extractions, physical therapy, meat processing, and fast-water filtration techniques. Five Charlie Company Soldiers were awarded the distinct honor to present trainings at the annual Special Operations Medical Association Conference. Charlie Company supported airborne operations, Special Forces schools, unit training events, and Physical Health Assessments for 19th Group.

Left to right: Bravo Company, GSB Soldiers conduct rappel training at Camp Dodge, Iowa during July Annual Training. Alpha Company, GSB Riggers rig a door bundle with a cargo parachute during March drill at Browning Armory, Ogden.
Group Special Troops Company, 19th Special Forces is a specialized support company with Soldiers holding Military Occupational Specialties, and rank structure necessary to operate a Special Operations Brigade-level Headquarters. It includes: Signal Detachment, Military Intelligence Detachment, Chemical Detachment, Advanced Skills Detachment, and the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Detachment. The GSTC held a change-of-command ceremony in July, welcoming in Maj. Steven Flores while thanking Capt. Eric Jones for his dedicated service. The Company also bid farewell to its Senior Enlisted Leader, Sgt. Maj. Charles Gerhauser, who retired from the Army in September.

The 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne) commander tasked GSTC to prepare and mobilize in support of Warfighter 18-04 to Fort Bragg, N.C., and establish a Forward Operating Base. The unit was acknowledged by the higher command for the speed and intensity of establishing the Forward Operating Base; facilitating, innovating, and mentoring the higher command’s intelligence. Collection management, targeting, analog and digital tracking of the battlefield were noted as far ahead of anyone they had seen. The GSTC successfully provided Radio over Internet Protocol allowing the Joint Operations Center to communicate with the Special Operations Task Forces where higher was not able to do the same.

The GSTC, was also identified as a Focused Ready Unit in conjunction with emerging requirements and threats. This designation added several reportable readiness requirements to both National Guard Bureau and 1st SFC.

The UAV section returned 22 Soldiers from Operation Inherent Resolve in Syria, where they operated the remote-controlled planes for Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance and Direct Action efforts. The ground commander in Syria singled out the UAV section during a briefing to the commanding general as the best he’s ever worked with. The team was responsible for engaging in 290 direct-action, combat missions with hundreds of enemy and more than two dozen, high-value targets killed.

Ten Soldiers from the MID returned home from Special Operations Joint Task Force in Kuwait where they performed CM and analytical roles in the prosecution of Islamic State of Iraq and Syria targets. The team processed 1,000 intelligence information reports helping commanders determine operational and strategic courses of action for the government of Iraq. Another four Soldiers from intelligence supported missions on behalf of the National Guard Bureau’s hurricane response, providing analytical assessment of weather, infrastructure, resources, and relief-troop staging. Their reports were used daily in the chief of National Guard daily assessment brief.

GSTC’s Advanced Skills Detachment trained 118 Green Berets from both 19th and 20th SFG(A) in the following specialties: Special Forces Advanced Urban Combat, Special Forces Sniper Course Level II, Total Military Breachers Course, Accuracy First Long Range Marksmanship, Arch Angel, and multiple Joint Terminal Attack Controller courses.

The CHEMDET participated in a VALEX with 19th SFG(A)’s 190th Chemical Reconnaissance Detachment based in Helena, Montana. Both elements were evaluated on biological and chemical proficiency at Dugway Proving Ground during a two-week training and evaluation event—which included full Mission Oriented Protective Posture-4 gear and comprised multiple night and day scenarios.
Soldiers from both the 65th Field Artillery Brigade and 1-121st Field Artillery Regiment participated in a HIMARS live-fire in Kuwait, Sept. 27, 2018.

Capt. Lars Moleni plans with his Egyptian counterparts during Bright Star 2018 at Naguib military base, Egypt.

65th Field Artillery Brigade Target Acquisition Platoon Soldiers continue to support Operation Inherent Resolve.

The 65th Field Artillery Brigade “America’s Thunder” conducted a successful training year, deploying and redeploying multiple units within the organization, as well as continuing to participate in several training exercises with in the continental US.

The 1st Battalion, 145th Field Artillery, “Big Red” and 2nd Battalion, 222nd Field Artillery, “Triple Deuce,” look forward to the brigade returning home in the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2019, to take over the planning and executing of all the exercises. Both battalions planned and executed Fleet Synthetic Training–Joint (FSTJ 18-72), FST-J 19-1, CPX III (WFX 19-2), Violet Storm, WFX 19-2, as well as their own collective exercises.

The 65th FAB began the training year preparing for a nine-month deployment in the Central Command area of responsibility. Senior members of the brigade traveled throughout the Arabian Peninsula meeting with the host nation’s leaders and building upon the relationships that the 75th FAB had fostered.

Soldiers from the 65th FAB, participated in Bright Star 2018, a multilateral exercise held at Mohamed Naguib military base, Egypt. Bright Star was designed to build on the United States’ strategic relationship with Egypt that plays a leading role in counterterrorism, regional stability, and efforts to combat the spread of violent extremism.

In 2018, Soldiers served as liaison officers and both observer controllers and as a training audience, serving as opposition forces. A challenge they faced was overcoming language barriers to accomplish the task. The brigade also participated in Tropic Thunder exercise in United Arab Emirates, and Air and Missile Defense Exercise (AMDEX) in Qatar.

Capt. Lars Moleni plans with his Egyptian counterparts during Bright Star 2018 at Naguib military base, Egypt.

Thirty Soldiers with the Jordan Armed Forces and 65th Field Artillery Brigade pose for a photograph in An Zarqa Jordan, during the Noncommissioned Officer Development Seminar Aug. 15, 2018. The seminar was part of ongoing efforts by the 65th FAB to strengthen relationships with Middle East nations.

The 65th Field Artillery Brigade Target Acquisition Platoon Soldiers continue to support Operation Inherent Resolve.
The 1st Battalion, 145th Field Artillery, “Big Red” conducted a successful training year deploying and redeploying multiple units within the organization, as well as continuing to participate in several training exercises with in the continental U.S.

The 1-145 FA planned and executed pre-mobilization training to prepare Echo Battery for the Certification Exercise prior to its deployment. Echo Battery deployed in June to the Arabian Peninsula, replacing Delta Battery, 1-145 FA, which deployed last October. Both battery’s conducted Security Force Operations in the Central Command’s Area of Responsibility while also being able to work on their artillery skills.

In March, the 145th FA participated in joint training, having participated in Fleet Synthetic Training–Joint with the Navy’s 7th Fleet in San Diego, California. The unit worked alongside Navy and Marine service members synchronizing movement of forces across the battlefield.

The 1-145th FA Soldiers and officers offered Lt. Col. Steven Fairbourn their best wishes as he relinquished command of the battalion to Lt. Col. Erick Wiedmeier at the end of Annual Training in May at Camp Williams, Utah. The battalion welcomed home nearly 100 Soldiers from Delta Battery in July, after their nine-month deployment.

In August, the 1-145th FA’s Enhanced Response Force Package staff and decontamination team participated in a Homeland Response Force collective exercise. The exercise demonstrated the battalion’s ability with 95 Soldiers from the Decontamination Company and 16 Soldiers as a command-and-control element for the HRF. Its ability to perform decontamination and command and control during a homeland response need will be evaluated early in Training Year 2019. Soldiers from both the 1-145 FA and 2-222nd FA participated in exercise Violet Storm. The exercise combined the live-fire capabilities of the Paladin and F-35 Lightening II, demonstrating the lethality of the combined arms.
The 2nd Battalion, 222nd Field Artillery, “Triple Duce” conducted a successful training year continuing to participate in several training exercises with in the continental US.

The 2-222nd FA focused on individual training and crew and section certifications. In November, Soldiers and officers of the battalion wished Lt. Col. Shawn Fuellenbach good luck in his future deployment with the 65th Field Artillery Brigade and welcomed Maj. Cody Workman into his new command.

Members of the 2-222nd FA participated in this year’s Best Warrior Competition at Camp Williams, Utah. Spc. Eric Armijo took first place in the enlisted category; First Sgt. Jason Mellor took first place in the senior, noncommissioned-officer category; and 1st Lt. Daniel Vanbeuge took third place in the junior-officer category. In March, each battery conducted individual-weapons training and qualification, as well as crew-served weapons familiarization at Camp Williams. The 2-222nd FA conducted Fire Direction Center and Paladin section certifications, focusing on crew-level drills, preparing the battalion for its first live fire of the year in April at Dugway Proving Ground. Soldiers were excited to be back in and around the “guns” again as they ramp up for live fire and annual training.

The 2-222nd FA participated in FSTJ 19-1 the Navy’s with 7th Fleet in San Diego, California. The unit worked alongside Navy and Marine service members synchronizing movement of forces across the battlefield.

The 2-222nd FA conducted its artillery live-fire tables, convoy training, and unit operations during annual training in June at Dugway Proving Ground. Annual training was a great success and all rounds were fired safely and accurately. The training didn’t stop after Annual Training as the battalion continued to be busy for the Triple Deuce, as it planned and participated in exercise Violet Storm, a joint live fire with fighter squadrons from Hill Air Force Base. The vision for Violet Storm is to create a joint, multi-spectrum training environment that facilitates real-world coordination and integration of kinetic effects from surface, rotary wing, and fixed-wing assets to synergize and mass firepower on the battlefield. The exercise combined the live-fire capabilities of the Paladin and the F-35 Lightening II, demonstrating the lethality of the combined arms. 🎯
The 97th Aviation Troop Command’s year has been highlighted by a surge in operations for all of the units within the command. One of the most notable events was a unique opportunity to hold the Apache Aircraft Qualification Course in Utah, through the use of a Mobile Training Team. The course graduated nine students (three Utah Army National Guard, five National Guard, and one Active Duty) and flew more than 680 flight hours.

For the units under the command of the 97th AVTC it is notable that the 2nd Battalion, 211th General Support Aviation deployed to Iraq and has been assigned one of the most complex mission assignments we have seen yet and is an indicator of the versatility required of our future deployments. They have been split between five countries and are conducting expeditionary deployments to remote locations for short periods of time.

The 1st Battalion, 211th Attack Reconnaissance received a Notification of Sourcing for deployment during the spring of 2020, and is expecting to conduct similar operations as it will be assigned as a Task Force Headquarters during that time period. The 1-211th ARB also participated in two National Training Center rotations this year and had very high accolades for its outstanding performances. The readiness of both of these great aviation battalions has never been at a higher level.

Detachment 4, C Company, 641st Aviation Battalion (C-12 Aircraft) is deployed to the Horn of Africa and expected to return in October of 2018. They have also had a non-conventional deployment where they were intentionally directed to wear civilian clothes for the duration of the rotation and were frequently placed in Temporary Duty Status. These types of changes to our operational-mission set have become the norm and bring an interesting dynamic to the future of aviation operations.

Rear Detachment, 2-211th GSAB has been exceptionally active during the battalion’s absence and has lead the domestic support operations in firefighting in multiple fires across the state of Utah. The fires this year include the Trout Creek Fire, Bald Mountain Fire, Rose Canyon Fire, Coal Hollow Fire, Middle Creek Canyon Fire, Dollar Ridge Fire 1, Dollar Ridge Fire 2, and finally the Camp Williams Fire in the impact area. Additionally the 1st Battalion, 112th Aviation (Lakota aircraft) unit continues to support drug eradication and assist in emergency management operations throughout Utah.

The 97th AVTC continues to stand ready to deploy its units in both state and federal missions. Aviation in Utah is expected to continue to grow in both force structure and capabilities as it proves to be an asset to the state and nation.
The 1st Battalion, 211th Attack Reconnaissance, “Air Pirates” made many important contributions this year to the Army, Utah National Guard, Department of Defense agencies, and community. The 1-211th ARB supported more than 15 aircraft transfers throughout the states and active duty in more than four other countries, dozens of static displays and flyovers, and still focused on internal requirements and training.

Besides the unit’s own training requirements, the 1-211th ARB was able to assist other aviation and ground assets throughout the DoD to accomplish theirs. The 1-211th ARB participated in more than four events that each spanned more than a two-week period throughout the year. In the Utah Test and Training Range assisting Tier 3 units become more integrated with Army Attack Aviation. This also included “Violet Storm” that was sponsored by the Air Force and gave the unit the opportunity to work with other airframes to include the F-35 and B-1B Lancer. This has greatly enhanced the unit’s ability to integrate with the DoD in a combat environment.

U.S. Forces Command also agreed with the AH-64D Apache Longbow National Guard units that there was a need to train National Guard pilots that could not be accommodated by the Active Duty at Fort Rucker, Alabama. A mobile training team was sent to Utah to teach an almost five-month AH-64D pilot qualification course. The MTT was supported by 1-211th ARB personnel and required to produce five aircraft a day, as well as the required aircraft for daily mission training.

The highlight for the unit this year was two rotations to the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, California. In May, the 1-211th ARB was able to send a company-plus sized element to support another aviation Task Force.

In August, the rest of the 1-211th ARB was able to participate as the Task Force Headquarter comprised of Apaches, Black Hawks, Medevac, Chinooks, and Air Traffic Controllers. Both rotations were extremely successful and tested the unit’s metal during a difficult and challenging terrain and combat scenario.

Finally, the unit had a change of responsibility in January, welcoming aboard Command Sgt. Maj. Shawn Earl. Earl has already refocused the unit’s military bearing. In July, the unit was able to have a change of command and welcomed Maj. Jon Richardson as the new battalion commander. His professionalism has already been felt and appreciated in the unit and the 1-211th ARB looks forward to his time as commander.

The 1-211th ARB continues the tradition of high-operations-temp events, professional training, and hard work. The Air Pirates look forward to the year to come and the opportunities that it will bring with it, and thanks those that have come before and forged the unit into what it is today.
Over the course of the last year, 2nd Battalion, 211th General Support Aviation has experienced a busy year that ran the full gamut of its capabilities. The battalion’s operations consisted of events ranging from cross-organizational training to deploying in support of Operation Inherent Resolve and Operation Spartan Shield. Each quarter of the fiscal year seemed to bring new challenges that the Soldiers of the 2-211th GSAB readily took on and completed with overwhelming success.

October of 2017 brought great and varied opportunities for the 2-211th GSAB as it began preparations to deploy. Cross-training with not only other units from within the state, but sending its aircraft maintainers to Corpus Christi Army Depot, 2-211th ensured its readiness across the spectrum of operations that it could support. Working with an engineer, medical, and logistic-centric units, 2-211th demonstrated its multifaceted capabilities repeatedly. Additionally, 2-211th GSAB crewmembers conducted a harrowing and lifesaving hoist rescue on Kings Peak after a hiker was injured at an elevation of more than 11,500 feet.

As 2018 rang in, events for the battalion shifted focus to preparing its Soldiers for mobilization. Events such as individual weapons qualification, crew-served weapons qualification, and continued individual level training gained the primary attention of the battalion leadership. In addition to completing deployment requirements, the battalion concurrently prepared to stand one of the most arduous inspections completed in the Army, the Forces Command Aviation Readiness Management Survey. Both the mobilization and ARMS are significant events when stood alone, but when combined on parallel timelines, it created a great challenge for the battalion.

April 2018 not only brought spring weather, but also the final preparations for the battalion. Pre-mobilization training and validation was completed and the ARMS inspection was successfully passed with the highest marks of any aviation unit in the State of Utah. Finally, in June 2018, almost 300 members of the battalion boarded aircrafts destined for Fort Hood, Texas in anticipation of the largest challenge that stood ahead of them.

At Fort Hood, the 2-211th GSAB combined with members from over seven additional states and 21 units under Task Force Warhorse. Deployed to over five countries and multiple locations, Task Force Warhorse currently provides rotary-wing aviation support for Operations Inherent Resolve and Spartan Shield. Soldiers have again accepted one of the most complex mission in the current theater of operations and continues to excel. TF Warhorse, being no stranger to accepting challenges, continues to strive and carry its legacy forward.
The 97th Troop Command continues to train and stand sentry for our state and nation by leading a major command comprised of units with a wide range of capabilities and two distinct missions: The Homeland Response Force and the Disaster Preparedness Program.

The HRF trains to respond within six hours to natural or man-made disasters in order to save lives and mitigate suffering using the following skill set: urban search and rescue, mass decontamination, and emergency medical care. HRF response elements are supported by communication and security elements, all of which are provided by units throughout the Utah Army and Air National Guard. The HRF participated in training events in Alaska, Idaho, Missouri and Montana involving more than 110 Soldiers and Airmen. Additionally, there were four collective-training events involving more than 2,000 troops, which included a National Guard Bureau-evaluated Deployment Readiness Exercise.

The 23rd Army Band provides music throughout the full spectrum of military operations and instills in our Soldiers the will to fight and win, foster the support of our citizens, and promote our national interests at home and abroad. In Fiscal Year 2018, the band continued it’s already stellar reputation by supporting 70 events, with a total of more than one-million listeners through broadcast and live performances.

The 85th Weapons of Mass Destruction—Civil Support Team continues to keep our communities safe through continuous training and education, building relationships with local and regional partners, and supporting local and regional events. The team is ready year-round to deploy anywhere, and at any time. The team provided 27 stand-by missions to various regional events, 14 unique training events, and seven real-world incidents.

The 128th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment continues a full schedule of events, supporting 17 training and real-world events throughout the region, while providing National Guard brand management, print and video journalism, and various other graphic design products to support operations.

The 144th Area Support Medical Company continuously hones Soldier skills and patient care in a variety of field settings. This year, the unit trained extensively in field settings, while preparing for patient care and transport in a chemically contaminated environment. They also supported the annual Yama Sakura exercise in Japan.

The 174th Cyber Security Team conducts Defensive Cyberspace Operations on military networks to support mission requirements as identified by DoD or state leadership which may or may not be bounded by simple network enclave boundaries. The area of operations may include portions of many networks, but not the entirety of said networks.

The 653rd Trial Defense Team defends those who defend America and serves as the leader of the western trial defense region, consisting of Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. This year, the TDT assisted 47 new clients and oversaw six Administrative Separation Boards.

The 1993rd Contingency Contracting Team remains ready to deploy at a moment’s notice to support procurement and contracting operations anywhere around the world, while assisting the Utah National Guard with required contracting actions.
The federal mission of Army Bands is to provide music throughout the full spectrum of military operations and instill in our Soldiers the will to fight and win, foster the support of our citizens, and promote our national interests at home and abroad. Utah’s 23rd Army Band responded to requests to support local military installation activities and the adjutant general’s ongoing public relations program throughout the state of Utah.

The main performing component of the band is the concert band. This group trains to perform community concerts and provides music to inspire, educate and entertain. Additionally, the 23rd Army Band, along with Army bands around the world, is fielding smaller Music Performance Teams to better support military and civilian ceremonies and events with music, by being more mobile. Music Performance Teams are training to independently provide all of the necessary musical protocol functions needed to support military events and perform at ceremonies.

During 2018 training year, the 23rd Army Band provided support for more than 70 events with a total listener and viewership of approximately 1.1 million people. The Concert Band provided 12 concerts at events on Veterans Day, Armed Forces Day at the Gallivan Center with the Choral Arts Society of Utah, and Freedom Festival at the Marriott Center, as well as the Pioneer Days events and other community concert series.

The large ceremonial and parade functions are filled by the ceremonial band, seen this year in ceremonies at Tooele Army Depot, Fort Douglas, and in five parades: Days of ’47 parade in Salt Lake City, Veterans Day parade in Ogden, Bountiful Handcart Days Parade, Ute Stampede Mammoth Parade, and the Orem Summerfest Parade.

Other performances included holiday concerts in West Jordan, St. George and Richfield, and concerts in Bountiful, Midvale, and Salt Lake City. The stage band and rock band, along with the unit’s brass quintet supported over 30 events.

The unit’s brass quintet, 5-Star Brass, is among the busiest of the unit’s MPTs, supporting many military and civilian events, including changes or command/responsibility, high-profile retirement ceremonies, Honor Flight events, and others. The band also provided support to other community events with Jazz combos, buglers, and vocal performers.

Members of the 23rd Army Band competing on the Guard marksmanship teams traveled to Arkansas to participate in the Winston P. Wilson Championship National Guard shooting competition and returned home with awards. The unit also had the top-selected Soldiers, Spc. Stephen Mills, and senior noncommissioned officer, Sgt. 1st Class Lisa Blodgett, compete in the Best Warrior Competition this year.

The Soldiers in the band continue to maintain military standards in common tasks, fitness and marksmanship training, through completion of professional development courses. Throughout the year, unit members increased their skills as musicians and leaders.
The 85th Weapons of Mass Destruction—Civil Support Team continues to keep our communities safe through nonstop emergency response training and education, building relationships with local and regional partners, and supporting local and regional events. The team is ready year-round to deploy anywhere, and at any time to support hazardous material or explosive related incidents. Under the leadership of Lt. Col Chris Caldwell and 1st Sgt. Brett Campbell, the team was on-hand, as backup for 27 stand-by missions to various regional events, 14 scenario-based training events, and seven real-world incidents.

In its essential support for real-world dangers, the CST supported the Island of Hawaii in its continuing environmental struggles with volcanic eruptions, explosive-ordnance-disposal emergencies, and the ongoing fight with clandestine, synthetic-substance manufacture throughout the state.

For stand-by missions, the CST served at Brigham Young University and the University of Utah football games, Real Salt Lake soccer games, and the Utah Monarch’s. Additionally, it aided the National Football League, St. George and Salt Lake City Marathons, NASCAR at Talladega Motor Speedway, Sundance Film Festival, Country Jam, Stadium of Fire, Hill Air Force Base Airshow, and Governor’s Day just to name a few.

In March and April, the CST participated in a joint HAZMAT exercise with the 11th CST from Maine National Guard and Utah’s Iron and Washington counties emergency management specialists, as well as a large-scale joint exercise with multiple National Guard CST units at the Idaho National Laboratory, Twin Falls, Idaho.

In August, the CST traveled to Saipan in the North Marrianas Islands and participated in the Konfitma exercise. The event involved several CST units throughout the United States, working alongside local first responders on the island. The units trained on Weapons of Mass Destruction, surveillance, unlawful pharmaceutical labs and radiation dispersion.

In September, the CST participated in a local HAZMAT exercise in St. George, Utah, with the focus being on remediation of unlawful clandestine labs and general all hazards WMD emergencies with Utah’s Task Force One.

Finally, the unit finished out a very successful training year protecting the Soldiers and patrons at Governor’s Day on Camp Williams.
The 128th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment had a high-operational tempo throughout Utah and beyond, covering unit training, community relations events, and supporting the state public affairs mission.

Under the leadership of the Commander, Maj. Ryan Sutherland and 1st Sgt. Brock Jones, the MPAD supported the annual Veterans Day Concert, Military Ball, Governor’s Day, Best Warrior Competition, Panther Strike, Freedom Academy, Homeland Response Force drills, Disaster Preparedness Program, Emery County all-hazards exercise, the 222nd Field Artillery Battalion Violet Storm live-fire exercise, and covered the Pole Creek-Bald Mountain Fire in Utah County.

In May, Staff Sgt. Lally Laksbergs traveled to Columbia, Missouri to provide public affairs support for the New Madrid Seismic Zone exercise with Federal Emergency Management Agency Region Eight Homeland Response Force of Utah, and Region Seven HRF of Missouri. The event showcased a joint effort between the National Guard, and state and local emergency responders to respond to a large-scale earthquake in eastern Missouri.

Also in May, Sgt. James Dansie and Sgt. Nathaniel Free traveled to the Kingdom of Morocco in support of the Utah National Guard’s State Partnership Program, Disaster Preparedness Program and Operation African Lion. During the exercise, Dansie and Free documented joint and combined operations between the U.S. Marine Ground Task Force, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Navy, Moroccan armed forces, and Spanish Marines. The MPAD team also documented the first ever, live-fire B-52 Stratofortress exercise in Morocco. Additionally, there were F-16 Fighting Falcon air-ground-fire missions, and sea-to-land fire missions with Moroccan and the U.S. Navy battle groups.

In August, the MPAD covered the combined and joint, all-hazards exercise in Emery County with troops from the Kingdom of Morocco and Utah National Guard service members. In a post-exercise award presentation, the MPAD’s Pfc. Johnson was presented an award and gift from Brig. Gen Mohamed Laamiri, senior army officer of the Royal Moroccan Armed Forces, for her diligent public affairs coverage of the event.

In a final closeout of the training year in September, the MPAD conducted an external evaluation of its capabilities by an outside evaluator, while simultaneously covering Governor’s Day, the Military Ball, and the Pole Creek-Bald Mountain Fire in Utah County.

Top Down: The 128th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment Soldiers conduct Small Arms Preliminary Marksmanship Instruction prior to Weapons Qualification at Camp Williams, Utah. The 128th MPAD conducts virtual-lanes training on the Virtual Battlefield Space 3 at Utah Training Command, Camp Williams. Members of the 128th MPAD conduct Neurological, Biological, Chemical training during Annual Training.
The 144th Area Support Medical Company works tirelessly to hone Soldier skills and patient care in a variety of field settings. This year, under the leadership of Lt. Col. Christensen and 1st Sgt. Perkins, the unit trained extensively to support its state and federal missions, while receiving sustainment training on trauma assessment and treatment, triage and patient evacuation.

In December, Soldiers traveled to Japan to provide medical support for the annual Yama Sakura exercise. Yama Sakura is a joint and combined event with many elements of U.S. Forces and the Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force. The exercise rotates each year to one of the five Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force regional armies. Yama Sakura is centered on joint planning, coordination, and interoperability of ground-based elements of the U.S. and Japan security alliance involving more than 5,000 total forces.

In May, the 144th ASMC participated in a combined annual training with the 128th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment. During the training period, the unit medics worked in a simulated, chemically contaminated environment testing all the members’ basic Soldier skills while treating patients in chemical suits. Additionally, unit members set up a decontamination line and conducted training for chemical recognition, triage, treatment, trauma, and patient transport.

With a successful training year now in the rear view mirror, the 144th will continue to develop its leaders, build upon its successes, provide outstanding patient care, and support the Utah National Guard through exercises and training!
Detachment 3, 174th Cyber Protection Team consists of a 39-person Cyber Security Force. The 174th CPT’s task is to sustain cyber security superiority against national, state and asymmetric threats within friendly cyberspace while conducting Defensive Cyberspace Operations on military networks. These networks support mission requirements as identified by the Department of Defense or state leadership, which may or may not be bounded by simple network enclave boundaries.

The Area of Operations may include portions of many networks, but not the entirety of said networks. In its inaugural year, the 174th CPT stood up under the leadership of Capt. Brandon Morris.

Though only in its first year, the 174th CPT made its mark not only locally, but nationally as well, participating in training events all over the country. Events included, the Cyber Common Technical Course, Certified Intrusion Analyst course, network security training conferences, Digital Forensics Analyst course, and Elastic Rapid Operator Collection Kit course.

This year’s highlights include a prestigious individual victory by 1st Lt. Hyde, in the National Certified Intrusion Analyst Competition. Hyde beat out more than 100 competitors to win the grueling individual event. Also triumphant in two separate team events, under the National Cyber Net Wars competitions, the 174th CPT held its own winning out against more than 1,000 participants.

Right: Det 3, 174th Cyber Protection Team Activation Ceremony in October 2017 at Camp Williams, Utah.

Cyber Protection Team conducting Black Hat training during Cyber Shield 2017.
The 653rd Trial Defense Team defends those who defend America and serves as the leader of the western trial-defense region, consisting of Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Utah and Washington. This year the TDT assisted 47 new clients and oversaw six Administrative Separation Boards. In a significant change of leadership, the TDT welcomes Lt. Col. Dygert as the incoming commander. The outgoing commander, Lt. Col Waldron, will accept a promotion and transferring to the Army Reserve.

In August, the TDT hosted the National Trial Defense Team Leadership Symposium at Camp Williams. The two-day event brought together all eight Trial Defense Regions across the Army National Guard for a senior leader-led event, which highlighted changes to the military legal community, Judge Advocate career field and provided opportunities for career progression and mentorship to junior Judge Advocates. This year’s symposium welcomed high-level leadership from the Chief of the Army National Guard TDT, Brig. Gen. Robert Huston and the U. S. Army Trial Defense Service Chief, Col. Corey Bradley, as well as Chief of Office of Complex Investigations Col. Van Eck.

In another highlight for the unit, Staff Sgt. Cocheagus was selected to attend the prestigious Defense Council and Paralegal 201 course at Los Alamitos, California. The DCP 201 is an advanced case-based advocacy course. Cocheagus was one of 30 legal professionals selected out of the 54 National Guard states and territories. Also at the course, Cocheagus was publicly commended and coined by the Assistant Adjutant General of California, Maj. Gen. Matthew Beevers for her skill and dedication to the profession.

In April, TDT Soldiers attended the Combined Regional Training Event in Tampa Bay, Florida. Topics included current issues and training throughout the military legal defense career field.

The 653rd Trial Defense Team, defending those who defend America and serves as the leader of the western trial-defense region, consisting of Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Utah and Washington. This year the TDT assisted 47 new clients and oversaw six Administrative Separation Boards. In a significant change of leadership, the TDT welcomes Lt. Col. Dygert as the incoming commander. The outgoing commander, Lt. Col. Waldron, will accept a promotion and transferring to the Army Reserve.

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In Training Year 2018, the 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade received the mission of Focused Readiness. As a Focused Readiness Unit, the 204th MEB faced the task of increasing readiness in order to be able to deploy on very short notice. Led by brigade commander Col. Paul Rodgers and Command Sgt. Maj. Tracy Cartwright, the brigade focused its training efforts on preparing for the possibility of contingency operations throughout the world. Rodgers emphasized that every officer and Soldier in the brigade needs to be proficient in all of the Army Tasks and Battle Drills.

Training highlights this year included multiple field exercises, four brigade-wide communications exercises, and annual training at Camp Williams, Utah; Fort Leavenworth, Missouri; Fort Carson, Colorado; and Kenitra, Morocco.

The 204th MEB Headquarters and Headquarters Company focused training on command post operations and finding a balance between agility and survivability. In order to meet these goals, the 204th trained with new equipment—expanded-vans and box trucks which connected to each other to form a command post large enough to accommodate the full brigade staff while also retaining ability to be displaced and reestablished very quickly. HHC Soldiers conducted several field exercises in which they practiced “jumping” the TOC from one location to another, quickly and efficiently. The culmination of the training was a Warfighter Exercise with the 4th Infantry Division Headquarters (Active Duty) at Fort Carson.

The 115th Engineer Facility Detachment spent drill weekends doing premobilization training to deploy to Central Command in support of Area Support Group – Kuwait as a public works element for U.S. facilities in Kuwait. The 115th Engineers mobilized in September 2018 for a year-long deployment and reported to Fort Bliss, Texas for validation before moving overseas.

The 217th Brigade Signal Company participated in all of the brigade-wide, field-training exercises and supported HHC, 204th MEB during Warfighter 18-4 exercise with the 4th Infantry Division. The 217th BSC’s support was key to the MEB’s success at WFX 18-4. WFX 18-4 was a combined exercise with the 3rd United Kingdom Division and was the first time that Common Operating Picture was directly shared with a coalition partner. The 217th BSC’s computer operators pioneered the set up and operation of Mission Partner Environment network that shared the COP with all WFX 18-4 participants.

The Soldiers of the 204th MEB worked tirelessly in pursuit of excellence during Training Year 2018, and they continue to live up to the words of the brigade motto: “Solidarity in Purpose.”

Utah National Guard Soldiers huddle at the starting line for the sixth annual Thode Ruck March at Camp Williams, Utah, June 10. The 204th MEB sponsors the 10K march commemorating Sgt. 1st Class James Thode who was killed in action in December 2010.
The 489th Brigade Support Battalion completed another successful training year in 2018, providing logistics support to the 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade and subordinate units.

The 489th BSB had new leadership this year as Lt. Col. Woodrow Miner took command of the battalion. A major event for 2018, was the announcement of the 118th Transportation Company that will be standing up next fiscal year. This new unit will fall under the 489th BSB and will consist of approximately 170 Soldiers located in Spanish Fork, with a Detachment in Blanding. The majority of the new Soldier will be Motor Transport Operators 88M and Wheeled Vehicle Mechanics 91B. The 118th Transportation Company will carry the name and honor the traditions of 118th Sapper Company and the 118th Assault Float Bridge Ribbon Company. The command is honored to continue the 118th heritage, and wish success to the new company.

Annual training took place at the Sustainment Training Center and Mission Command Training Center at Camp Dodge, Iowa. Soldiers from the Headquarters Company participated in the Military Decision Making Process and the event culminated with the staff being evaluated by the MTC trainers. The staff sections had to keep notional running estimate and respond to multiple operational injects from the MTC trainers. The battalion staff was able to track all mission and respond to and exercise and test internal Tactical Operations Center battle drills. These injects challenged multiple areas of logistics planning to included future planning and forecasting for all major classes of supply and reactive to an expanding division support area. Soldiers were also trained on specific systems that included, Command Post of the Future, Call for Fire Simulator, and Operational Logistics Planner.

Alpha Company, 489th BSB Soldiers executed day- and low-visibility, sling-load operations, water purification, supply support activity, and drivers training with logistical package ground deliveries. It also established a Tactical Operations Center and was able to refine company-level standard operating procedures and battle drills.

Soldiers of the 489th BSB made a significant and positive impact on local communities where its armories and families are located. The 489th BSB provided Color Guard support to several events, a static display for Governors Day, vehicle support for the Wells City Parade, gathered products for Scouting for Food, supported the Fountain Green Lamb Day Parade, and participated in the Davis County Annual Flag retirement Ceremony.
The 1457th Engineer Battalion performed exceptionally in 2018 by providing superior engineer support to the 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade and the state of Utah. The battalion focused on increasing readiness, warfighting capabilities, and lethality to meet the demands of today’s complex and uncertain operational environment.

The battalion executed a challenging training plan in 2018 which culminated in Annual Training at Camp Williams focusing on the warrior basics of shoot, move, communicate, and survive while operating in austere conditions. The Soldiers conducted tough and realistic training which replicated battlefield conditions in extreme weather.

The 1457th Battalion staff from Headquarters and Headquarters Company conducted several command post exercises to simulate military decision-making and battle staff operations during large-scale combat operations.


Last year, 2nd Lt. Jeremiah Cowan, platoon leader, 116th Engineer Construction Company won Utah Junior Officer of the Year during the Best Warrior Competition.

The 1457th Engineer Battalion are resolute in their commitment to their state and nation and stand ready to serve.
The 4th Infantry Division Main Command Post Operational Detachment’s major focus was training with the 4th ID. The detachment supported multiple exercises throughout the year at their headquarters in Fort Carson, Colorado. With approximately 90 Soldiers, the MCPOD’s mission is to outfit the 4th ID headquarters with critical capabilities. The MCPOD includes individual and small-team elements in occupations such as flight operations, fires control, human intelligence, logistics, sustainment, engineering, human resources, public affairs, counter-intelligence and signal support.

The MCPOD Soldiers worked hand-in-hand for annual training with the 4th ID to outfit the headquarters with critical capabilities during the division’s “Warfighter” validation exercise. This exercise certifies division staff for deployment as a tactical headquarters. Soldiers with the Utah National Guard were awarded the patch of the 4th ID’s shoulder sleeve insignia in place of their 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade patch, April 2, 2018.

The MCPOD includes individual and small-team elements in occupations such as flight operations, fires control, human intelligence, logistics, sustainment, engineering, human resources, public affairs, counter-intelligence and signal support.

The Soldiers of the MCPOD worked tirelessly in pursuit of excellence during Fiscal Year 2018, and continues to live up to the words of the brigade motto: “Solidarity in Purpose.”
Headquartered in Draper, Utah, the 300th Military Intelligence Brigade (Linguist) consists of five military intelligence battalions totaling more than 2,000 Soldiers in six different states – Utah, Washington, California, Florida, Illinois, and Massachusetts. The 300th MI provides language and intelligence support to the Army and the greater intelligence community. Its military intelligence specialties include Human Intelligence (HUMINT), Signals Intelligence (SIGINT), and Counterintelligence (CI). When called on by the governor, the 300th MI deploys in support of state contingencies.

In 2018, the brigade deployed five Utah units supporting real-world operations with 42 Soldiers deployed to Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, and several other locations to provide support in HUMINT, CI, and other military intelligence disciplines. The brigade currently has Soldiers deployed to Iraq supporting HUMINT and CI, and to Fort Meade, Maryland, supporting Cyber Command (Task Force Echo), and is preparing to mobilize approximately 30 Soldiers in support of the Southwest Border Mission.

In September, the 300th MI was tasked to provide intelligence support to National Guard Bureau in response to Hurricanes Florence. Ten Soldiers deployed to Washington D.C. to provide much needed support in intelligence analysis and assessment for the Army National Guard Response Center and FEMA.

With more than 10 percent of the brigade’s 900-plus Utah Soldiers deployed to a theater of war, stateside Soldiers remain actively engaged through ‘Reach’ operations and training. Reach operations allow the brigade Soldiers to apply their language and intelligence skills to the warfight while remaining at home station. This year, approximately 30 percent of the brigade’s Utah Soldiers were engaged full time in Reach or intelligence training support, greatly enhancing overall readiness.

During 2018, Soldiers in the 300th MI maintained proficiency in more than 50 foreign languages, with more than 150 Soldiers performing training in Djibouti, Thailand, Japan, Malta, Morocco, Korea, El Salvador, Mongolia, Ghana, Malaysia, and India to assist as interpreters, translators and intelligence professionals in a variety of Joint-Chiefs-of-Staff military exercises. This continues the 300th MI’s proud and distinguished support to the Army’s combined and joint commands, most major commands, and many of the nation’s intelligence agencies operating throughout the world.

In March, the brigade hosted its 29th annual Language Conference titled “Defining the Intel-Linguist.” The event was attended by 480 members of the intelligence community. The highlight of the conference was the introduction of the Polyglot Games, a competition where linguists tested their language skills in a variety of real-world scenarios.

In June, 300th MI, hosted the annual military intelligence exercise Panther Strike at Camp Williams. This year, 695 Soldiers participated from 14 different states, as well as 39 Soldiers from Canada, 16 Soldiers from the United Kingdom and one Australian Soldier. The exercise transitioned to a full conventional exercise with a peer-to-peer focus.
The 141st Military Intelligence Battalion (Linguist) consists of a headquarters detachment and five military-intelligence companies stationed in Draper, Orem, and St. George. The battalion provides language and intelligence support to the Army, with linguists capable of communicating in 32 different languages while maintaining trade-craft skills in Human Intelligence, Signals Intelligence, and Counterintelligence.

In March, the 141st MI deployed 16 Soldiers to Kuwait in support of Operation Spartan Shield, and the 155th 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team from the Mississippi National Guard. The 141st MI mobilized Soldiers with various military intelligence occupational specialties to provide support for the regional mission.

In April, the battalion welcomed back six Soldiers who were deployed with Task Force Echo 1. Additionally, the battalion sent 73 Soldiers on overseas deployment training. These missions extended to places such as Japan, Morocco, South Korea, El Salvador, Mongolia, Ghana, Malaysia, France, Spain, and Ukraine. These Soldiers performed duties as intelligence professionals and linguists, greatly enhancing the battalions overall readiness.

Col. Lee, the commanding officer of the 501st MI Brigade, conducted a site visit and office call with Col. Joseph Green and Lt. Col. Bryan Holman on Dec. 10, 2017. During the visit the 501st MI and 300th MI Brigade developed a way forward, strengthening the relationship and regional alignment. The 141st MI executed three office calls through the year with the 501st MI at Yongsan and Camp Humphreys in South Korea.

The Foundry Program continues to provide valuable training avenues for Soldiers of the 141st MI. Five HUMINT and one CI Soldier participated in Live Environment Training while being integrated into the 501st MI’s battle rhythm and force structure. The LET helps fortify the relationships between the Active Duty and National Guard intelligence professionals, while giving Soldiers real-world training opportunities. Additionally, the battalion sent one HUMINT team and one observer controller/trainer to participate in Arirang Sentinel 2018 as a way to further align with the 501st MI.

In support of Region VIII Homeland Response Force, the battalion successfully trained 220 Soldiers in Operational Hazmat. The 141st MI has met all necessary requirements in preparation for External Evaluation provided by National Guard Bureau and Joint Interagency Training and Education Center evaluators. Throughout the year the battalion completed three collective, large-scale-training exercises with the HRF and received high praise during the Deployment Readiness Exercise.

The 141st MI strengthened its relationship and regional alignment with the 501st MI which continues to demonstrate its relevance in the intelligence community. The 141st MI is currently commanded by Lt. Col. Bryan Holman and Command Sgt. Maj. Brent Mietzner.
The 142nd Military Intelligence Battalion, headquartered in Salt Lake City, worked hard, with multiple deployments, and large-scale training events focusing on Soldier readiness utilizing basic and advanced MI skills.

The 142nd MI continued to support contingency and Combatant Command operations with three groups of Soldiers deploying across the world. In December 2017, 15 Soldiers deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Freedom Sentinel with the mission to process and analyze country-wide information. In February 2018, six CI Soldiers deployed to support a cyber mission at Fort Meade, Maryland. On April 10, 2018, one Soldier deployed to Kuwait with the 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team out of Mississippi in support of Operation Spartan Shield.

The 142nd MI continued to build relationships by consistently leveraging its strong linguist heritage and experienced MI Soldiers. More than 50 Soldiers from the battalion traveled to multiple countries across the world supporting Yama Sakura, Cutlass Express, Cobra Gold, African Lion, Key Resolve, Phoenix Express, Beyond the Horizons, Justified Accord, and United Accord as part of the Army’s Overseas Deployment Training initiatives. This training enables U.S. partnering with forces from other nations for purposes similar to training in a combined environment, improving infrastructure, or bringing much-needed medical care to low-density areas. Most often, the Soldiers of the 142nd MI support these ODT missions as linguists and provide critical translation or interpretation capabilities that help bridge communication and cultural barriers to help yield the greatest amount of success.

Additionally, the 142nd MI provided support to its Intelligence and Security Command partner the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade by sending Soldiers to support Trident Lonestar, Dragon Warrior, and future training opportunities to support Eager Lion.

The 142nd MI command and staff planned and executed Panther Strike at Camp Williams. This two-week, Five Eyes international-training exercise, used a Decisive Action Training Environment scenario against a notional near-peer adversary. Training focused on realistic intelligence training and included: interrogation operations, Human Intelligence operations, Signals Intelligence with Low-Level Voice Interceptor teams, Geo-spatial intelligence, Counterintelligence operations, analysis, and intelligence staff functions with daily briefings to a Colonel maneuver commander. Panther Strike 2018 was assessed to be “the best Panther Strike ever” by the brigade commander.

The 142nd MI supports units across the military by preparing Soldiers for future operations and training events.
The 640th Regiment Regional Training Institute, commanded by Col. Ryan King and Command Sgt. Maj. Spencer Nielsen, holds national-level recognition as an Institution of Excellence. The 640th RTI produces the highest quality instructors in the U.S. Army. Gen. Stephen Townsend, commander of U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, recognized a 640th RTI instructor, Staff Sgt. Shane Searle from 4th Battalion, 640th RTI, as the TRADOC National Guard Instructor of the Year at an awards ceremony in Fort Eustis, Virginia. August 2018. This recognition symbolizes Searle’s dedication and competence as an Army instructor and is just one reflection of the quality of leaders produced by the 640th RTI.

Fiscal Year 2018 marked the completion of another triennial TRADOC accreditation cycle. The 1st Battalion (Non-Commissioned Officer Academy), led by its Commandant, Command Sgt. Maj. Jared Gale, and 1st Sgt. Garrad Johnston successfully completed its assessment scoring more than 99 percent. The 2nd Battalion (Modular/Signal) commanded by Lt. Col. Reece Roberts and Master Sgt. Kenneth Jansen, received a score of 99.5 percent on its assessment. The 3rd Battalion (Field Artillery), commanded by Lt. Col. Jason Wilde and 1st Sgt. Shaun Harris scored a 95.8 percent assessment. The 4th Battalion (Military Intelligence) commanded by Lt. Col. David Cammack and Master Sgt. Keith Moon received an assessment score of 98.7 percent. These scores were among the best in the nation under newly refined accreditation standards.

The regiment managed more than 162 full-time certified instructors and staff, and taught more than 105 individual courses with multiple phases ranging in length from two to 12 weeks. The Regiment fully implemented both the Master Leader Course and the Joint Fires Observer Course during FY18, and maintained more than 95 percent of its courses during the One Army School System rebalancing efforts. During the 2018 fiscal year, 3,689 students graduated from Military Occupational Specialty and Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Development Courses. This number reflects 310 Active Army Soldiers, 573 Army Reserve Soldiers, and 2,806 National Guard Soldiers, 504 of which returned directly to Utah National Guard commands. These Soldiers returned to their formations ready and trained to promote and perform their military occupations in the signal, field artillery, and military intelligence fields.

This year marked another year in the Regimental history of excellence. The RTI is prepared to move forward its culture of professionalism, and its drive for individual and organizational progress. “FIRE AND SWORD!”
The 1st Battalion, Noncommissioned Officer Academy, 640th Regiment, Regional Training Institute, led by Command Sgt. Maj. Jared Gale and 1st Sgt. Garrad Johnston, continued to train and mentor the Army’s future non-commissioned officers.

The battalion led planning and development of the State Best Warrior competition, and extended its influence by participating in national and regional efforts to promote NCO training and development.

The 1st Battalion employed the services of more than 58 certified instructors during Fiscal Year 2018. Four instructors received the Army’s Master Instructor Badge, nine received the Senior Instructor Badge, and an additional 45 instructors received the Army Basic Instructor Badge.

The 1st Battalion’s mission allows these instructors to teach courses across the regiment and several of its instructors are certified to teach multiple courses. Some 1st Battalion instructors also deployed to support Basic Leader Courses taught in Afghanistan and in Kuwait.

The 1st Battalion teaches three NCO Professional Development Courses. During FY18 301 of the 312 Master Leader Course students graduated. In addition, 387 of the 361 students input for the Battle Staff NCO Course (BSNCOC), and 1,849 of the 1,848 students reserved for Basic Leadership Course completed all the graduation requirements including academic and field training objectives. Student throughput for 1st Battalion exceeded programmed seats and the battalion taught more students by sharing facilities with other battalions across the regiment and standing up non-forecasted courses to assist the Army in reducing school backlogs. Due to 1st Battalions constant state of readiness, it is the only battalion in the regiment that consistently boasts over a 100 percent graduation rate.

In addition to its high-tempo training mission, 1st Battalion extended its professional influence to the community by joining with Lehi City to complete a beautification project on Lehi City Main Street. The battalion truly prides itself in being stewards of the Army profession, living the Army Values, and maintains a culture of excellence in all it does.

Top down: Staff Sgt. Chine, 1st Battalion RTI, instructs students at Camp Williams. Soldiers with 1st Battalion, NCO, RTI conduct a leadership evaluation and medical evaluation training.
The 2nd Battalion, Modular, 640th Regiment, Regional Training Institute, commanded by Lt. Col. Reece Roberts and Master Sgt. Kenneth Jansen, built off the momentum of Fiscal Year 2017 and worked diligently to ensure its daily products and processes set the standard for its proponent and U.S. Army Signal training.

The 2nd Battalion was assessed on the updated U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) accreditation standards and achieved a 99.5 percent on its triennial proponent assessment from the United States Army Signal Center of Excellence Quality Assurance Office at Fort Gordon, Georgia. The 2nd Battalion boasts the highest assessment score across the Regiment.

The 2nd Battalion is always positioned to stand-up non-programmed courses and has a habit of picking up courses when other institutions cannot conduct a scheduled training class. The Battalion assisted National Guard Bureau in solving a problem early in the fiscal year by standing up a 25B10 course that trained 18 deploying Soldiers from New York.

During FY18 the 2nd Battalion’s 14 full-time instructors advanced their personal experience and certifications, grew in their capacity to train multiple courses, and trained 585 students in three different Information Technology Courses (25B10, 25B30, & 25U) with a 97.3 percent graduation rate. The Battalion’s instructors received one Army Master Instructor Badge and five Army Basic Instructor Badges. Sadly, 2nd Battalion cadre said good-bye to the 25U course, one of the original battalion missions, this year due to the One Army School System rebalance effort, but the battalion is positioned for future growth in other areas.

In addition, 2nd Battalion prepared six officer candidates for commissioning, taught four bus driver courses, oversaw the Regiments’ Instructor Development Program training more than 45 new instructors, and successfully implemented controls on a campus area network that allows greatly increased training effectiveness in information technology courses.

The 2nd Battalion extended its professional influence to the community with students and cadre working together on service projects that included installing carpet in a halfway house for troubled youth, and building trails.

Students with 2nd Battalion conduct a class service and trail building project.
The 3rd Battalion, Field Artillery, 640th Regiment, Regional Training Institute, commanded by Lt. Col. Jason Wilde started the year under the leadership of 1st Sgt. Shaun Harris and was the first battalion in the regiment to be assessed on the updated U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) accreditation standards. The 3rd Battalion achieved a 95.8 percent on its triennial proponent assessment from the United States Army Fires Center of Excellence Quality Assurance Office at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. After the assessment, 1st Sgt. Shaun Harris relinquished responsibility for the battalion to Master Sgt. Chris Branch. Master Sgt. Branch led 2nd Battalion through the new equipment fielding of the M119 Howitzers, the full implementation of the Joint Fires Observer Course, which had been piloted during Fiscal Year 2017, and several community engagements, parades, and distinguished visitor events.

The 3rd Battalion employed the services of 23 certified instructors during FY18, four of which were awarded the Army’s Basic Instructor Badge. The battalion teaches three Military Occupational Specialty Transition Courses (13B10, 13F10, & 13J10), and six Professional Military Education Courses (13B30, 13B40, 13J30, 13J40, 13F30, 13F40). The 3rd Battalion also teaches the Joint Fires Observer Course which produces an Additional Skills Identifier that teaches students to coordinate air to ground fires. During FY18 569 of the 574 students input for courses graduated for a completion rate of 99.1 percent.

Staff Sgt. Patrick Henrie, a 13B Instructor said, “3rd Battalion had an excellent, very busy year,” which is a great summary of the success and achievement 3rd Battalion enjoyed.

The 3rd Battalion shot 986 rounds during four successful and safe, live-fire exercises that culminated a combined training event for three Military Occupation Specialty Courses (13B, 13J, & 13F).

The 3rd Battalion hosted the first semi-annual Field Artillery Schoolhouse synchronization conference which showcased the Regiment and Battalions capabilities to Fort Sill, as well as other Regional Training Institutes across the country. The 3rd Battalion is ready to teach more courses, and more students in FY19. “BOOM, ARTILLERY.”

Students with 3rd Battalion conduct live-fire training with the M119.
The 4th Battalion, Military Intelligence, 640th Regiment, Regional Training Institute, commanded by Lt. Col. David Cammack and Master Sgt. Keith Moon, achieved a 98.7 percent on the triennial proponent assessment from the United States Army Intelligence Center of Excellence Quality Assurance Office at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. This score represents the second highest overall rating ever achieved by 4th Battalion, and the highest 4th Battalion rating achieved for the updated U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) accreditation standards.

One of 4th Battalion’s instructors, Staff Sgt. Shane Searle, was recognized by Gen. Stephen J. Townsend, TRADOC commander, as the National TRADOC Instructor of the Year for the Army National Guard at an awards ceremony in Fort Eustis, Virginia in August. The Instructor of the Year recognizes individuals who exhibit exceptional performance, communication skills, and classroom management techniques. Searle exemplifies the quality of instructors and classes offered to the total Army at 4th Battalion.

The 4th Battalion employed the services of 47 certified instructors during Fiscal Year 2018. Seven instructors received the Army’s Master Instructor Badge, and an additional 19 new instructors received their Army Basic Instructor Badge.

The 4th Battalion prides itself in setting and achieving high standards. Two 4th Battalion instructors were selected as the Utah National Guard Employees of the Month; Staff Sgt. Ryelle Snowden was selected in February, and Staff Sgt. Harrison Odell in August. In addition, the Battalion averaged a score of 270 on the Army Physical Fitness Test and challenged the entire regiment to emphasize physical fitness and lethality.

The 4th Battalion teaches three Military Occupational Specialty Transition Courses (35F10 Intelligence Analysts, 35M10 Human Intelligence Collector, and 35L20 Avionic Communications Equipment Repairer), and four Professional Military Education Courses (35F30 Intelligence Analyst, 35M30 Human Intelligence Collector, 35P30 Cryptologic Linguist, and 35CMF40 tactical military intelligence) with a completion rate of 96.7 percent. During FY18, 978 of the 1,014 students input for courses graduated. The battalion has fully implemented the Army’s transition to the One Army School System and has taught Active Army, Army Reserve, and National Guard Soldiers from across the country, greatly enhancing the readiness of the Military Intelligence community. “ALWAYS OUT FRONT”
Medical Command’s primary mission is to plan, program, provide and sustain force health protection, and medical/dental support to the more than 5,500 Soldiers assigned to Utah Army National Guard. MEDCOM is an organization of 85 medical professionals, staff and administrative support roles. The military occupational specialty 68W combat medic makes up the bulk of the Soldiers assigned to the unit.

MEDCOM received a new command team when Col. David Coates relinquishing command to Col. Charlene Dalto in February. Dalto is assisted by senior enlisted, noncommissioned officer, 1st Sgt. Joey Muramato.

A critical and highly visible mission for MEDCOM is the statewide inoculation of all UTARNG Soldiers with the influenza vaccine. MEDCOM works to have a 100 percent of Soldiers inoculated by end of the first quarter of each fiscal year. This is accomplished by sending mobile 68W teams to units in remote areas to provide immunizations to its Soldiers.

It is not uncommon for MEDCOM to participate in an Overseas Deployment Training Exercise. From April 15-28, service members from MEDCOM fell in with the Royal Moroccan Army Medical Battalion in support of a Humanitarian and Civic Assistance event, one part of a larger exercise for Africa Command’s Exercise African Lion in the nation of Morocco. African Lion is an annually scheduled, bilateral U.S. and Moroccan sponsored exercise designed to improve interoperability and mutual understanding of each nation’s tactics, techniques and procedures. MEDCOM conducted humanitarian assistance in the form of medical information and training exchange, a joint mission to foster cooperation and share knowledge of medical and dental techniques to further the relationships between the U.S. and Morocco. The services provided to the local populace of Bounaamane and outer lying smaller communities were optometry with the issuance of eye glasses and cataract surgery, E.N.T., internal medicine, general medicine, psychiatry, pediatrics, dermatology and gynecology with ultrasound capability. Dental services provided root canals, fillings, cleanings and extractions. Surgical capability consisting mostly of gall bladder removal, hernia repairs and fatty benign tumor removal, with a 14-bed recover area, x-ray, lab tests for blood panels and a pharmacy for medication distribution. Over the course of the HCA event more than 6,000 people were treated and over a thousand tooth extractions were performed.

MEDCOM continues to improve the way it engages with Soldiers and units of the UTARNG, reaching out to organizations and agencies to see how its specific skill sets can be used to serve interests of the state of Utah. MEDCOM is capable of medically responding to short-notice missions requiring rapid deployment of other Utah National Guard units needing medical processing during Soldier Readiness Processing. This has been demonstrated many of times over the course of MEDCOM’s history.

By recruiting high-quality citizens, managing attrition, and working closely with the personnel management sections at the Utah Army National Guard, the mission end-strength resulted in some units achieving more than 120 percent retention. This is the 19th consecutive year of achieving the mission milestone.

The RRB maintained its position as one of the top performing recruiting battalions across the 54 states and territories again this past year not only in recruiting and retention efforts but also in the Recruit Sustainment Program.

The RSP prepares enlistees to successfully complete initial entry training and to integrate into a unit after completing it. The UTARNG RSP was recognized as the top RSP in the nation based on factors like percentage of new recruits achieving honor graduate in training and lowest training loss/failure rate. This is a testament to the determination and dedication of the leadership, cadre and support personnel of the RSP.

With the focus of our demographic changing and becoming more social media savvy, the RRB Marketing Team saw an opportunity to adapt from traditional marketing efforts to one more in touch with today’s generation. The team conducted research and added new team members who were savvy in the social media marketing arena and who came into the organization with fresh ideas on how to tap into the very competitive market it is faced with. The RRB initiated Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram pages and partnered with influential organizations and leaders in the community to spread its message. Its targeted campaigns were focused on centers of influence through social media platforms such as parents, school leaders, former military members and others who could influence the next generation.

Finally, nothing can replace the effectiveness of the front-line recruiter. Even with a turnover of more than 25 percent of the recruiting force due to attrition, retirements and promotions, the recruiters of this battalion adapted to the challenges and performed exemplary as always. The team possesses a can-do attitude that inspires new and old to strive for the best. This attitude along with a responsive support staff guarantee the Utah Army National Guard will always be at the forefront for the state and the nation.
Army Garrison Camp W. G. Williams and the Utah Training Center successfully conducted a safety, stand-down day which included local Unified Fire Authority and Bluffdale Fire Department in 2018. Through this collaborated training, approximately 40 unit fire marshals and safety officers were able to know how to properly use fire extinguishers in the workplace. Due to the fact there is such a great safety culture at Camp Williams, the command is always looking for people to be recognized for their efforts. The safety awards program has recognized and motivated success in accident prevention and accomplishments of individuals and units in the field of safety. In 2018, Camp Williams recognized two Utah Army National Guard noncommissioned officers and Unified Fire Authority with Safety Excellence awards. These individuals and organization have made the most significant contribution to the UTC’s accident-prevention effort and Soldier readiness through risk management.

Almost every Utah National Guard Soldier has trained at Camp Williams before being deployed to the most dangerous places on earth. Camp Williams prides itself on being one of the top training centers in the nation. Readiness of each Soldier and civilian is vital to the mission on Camp Williams and because of that the better the Soldier is trained the safer they will be. Additionally, Camp Williams strives to provide for a safe work and training environment free from accidents and injuries. Fiscal Year 2018 was filled with many safety training events for civilians and Soldiers. The safety program has successfully trained 28 supervisors and employees during the Outreach Training Program Occupational Safety and Health Administration 10-hour for General Industry. This program has provided workers with the basic and advanced training about common safety and health hazards while on the job.

Unfortunately because of the constant training that occurs on Camp Williams downrange and on garrison there are many risks Soldiers and civilians face every day. Accidents and near misses still occur. The safety program effectively conducts accident investigations and trend analysis to the degree necessary which may have caused or contributed to the accident being investigated. Risk management is the basis of everyday operations and allows commanders training on Camp Williams to assign risk levels to a particular task or mission. With the great safety team of professions on Camp Williams which strive to make safety one of the Utah Training Centers top priorities with all training missions.

Utah National Guard’s Fire Department responds to a major fire incident on I-15 with the Oshkosh Striker 3000, Jan. 18, 2018.

Lt. Col. Foster, Maj. Sean Demeter, and Senior Airman Cody Larsen pose while deployed to the Middle East flying combat missions in support of Operation Inherent Resolve in 2018. More than a dozen Utah Air National Guard aircrews performed operations at this location through the year.

Below: Moroccan personnel and American military members pose during the Humanitarian Civic Assistance component of Exercise African Lion 2018 in Bounaamane, Morocco.

Over the past year, the Utah Air National Guard continued its proud tradition of extending Global Vigilance, Global Reach, and Global Power for America. More than 1,400 Airmen used their expertise to bolster state and federal priorities.

Last fall, the National Abilities Center Board of Directors selected the UTANG as the recipient of the 2017 Military Stewardship Award. Brig. Gen. Christine Burckle, UTANG commander, accepted the award on behalf of the entire organization during the annual Saluting Our Heroes luncheon. The award honors a key partner who demonstrates vigorous support for the National Ability Center’s military programs and mission. In December, Joint Force Headquarters leadership participated in the Snowball Express along with local chapters of the Air Force Association and other community partners. Military members greeted local Gold Star families at Salt Lake International Airport on their way to a holiday celebration designed to honor their sacrifice.

In January, members of the UTANG Fire Department, under the leadership of JFHQ’s Fire Chief Todd Allen, were instrumental in extinguishing a major fire in Midvale, after a double-tanker, semitrailer hauling 9,000 gallons of gasoline and 1,000 gallons of diesel fuel overturned on I-15 South. The UTANG Fire Department’s Striker 3000 was deployed in response to the accident. The vehicle can carry up to 3,000 gallons of water and 420 gallons of foam and is typically used to extinguish aircraft fires.

On March 8, Burckle served as keynote speaker for the Utah Department of Veterans Affairs annual Women Veterans event in Salt Lake City. She spoke on the topics of honor, empowerment, and perseverance as a woman in the military.

In April, Utah Army and Air National Guard members traveled to Washington D.C. to deliver the State of the State address to National Guard Bureau senior leaders. The group briefed attendees on important milestones, innovation, accomplishments and challenges.

In May, Burckle unveiled the UTANG Strategic Plan for 2018-2028. The plan included messages from senior leaders, and will serve as a guidepost for the organization for the next decade. The publication elaborates on the UTANG mission, values and goals, which include: cultivating a culture of readiness; sustaining and growing missions; modernizing and recapitalizing on infrastructure; and fostering strategic partnerships.

The UTANG held its annual Wingman Day during June. Wingman Day is a mandatory Air Force initiative that reinforces the four pillars of Comprehensive Airman Fitness -- physical, mental, social and spiritual wellness.

The Utah National Guard Freedom Academy took place in August. Students, nominated by their respective schools, had the opportunity to improve their leadership and teamwork skills by participating in activities, listening to guest speakers, and taking field trips to destinations throughout Salt Lake City.

This summer, Col. Gene Buckner was appointed as the 151st Air Refueling Wing vice wing commander. Lt. Col. Christina Lock was appointed as the new commander of the 151st Mission Support Group. Col. Kurt Davis, JFHQ director of staff was appointed as the 151st Air Refueling Wing commander, effective Oct. 1, 2018.

The UTANG assisted in hosting senior exchange officers from the Royal Moroccan Air Force. In addition to a number of engagements, the officers received a tour of the National Ability Center in Park City, to learn more about military adaptive recreation programs. Following the tour, the exchange officers had the opportunity to participate in an adaptive archery session.

During September drill, the UTANG participated in the annual Governor’s Day event at Camp Williams. Formations marched in the pass-in-review before the governor and military senior leaders, enjoyed music by the 23rd Army Band and various family friendly military displays and information booths.
The 151st Air Refueling Wing had a high-operational tempo, employing the state mission supporting national emergencies such as Hurricane Irma, federal conventional mission, and the nuclear deterrence mission. The wing also fosters the State Partnership Program, cultivating relationships that build a cooperative and mutually beneficial relationship with its Moroccan colleagues.

The 151st ARW refocused its attention from 2017 Domestic Operations to a “readiness focus,” measuring its readiness through realistic, operational-warfighting exercises, while supporting a consistently high-tempo conventional warfare mission. The Chief of Staff of the Air Force and the Secretary of Defense directed the focus on Full Spectrum Readiness which includes the ability to deploy a force and demonstrate capabilities in situations in which chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear warfare, including terrorism threats, may be present. This includes refining the ability to survive and operate while deployed in a contested environment with the appropriate equipment while simultaneously maintaining in-garrison operations.

The 151st ARW focused on innovation and established a third-party phone app for the wing. The wing’s app enables service members to communicate between drills. It also put official social media under one umbrella. The app is a great place to gather new ideas. The 151st also acquired patrolling bicycles for Security Forces. This allowed Security Forces to quickly cover more ground.

The wing supported humanitarian efforts with Exercise African Lion 2018. African Lion is a bilateral U.S. and Moroccan sponsored exercise designed to improve interoperability and mutual understanding of each nation’s tactics, techniques and procedures.

The junior enlisted council has been dissolved, and from the ashes the Rising Six was created. The Rising Six’s mission is to positively impact the quality of its Airmen by enhancing mentorship and leadership abilities, and is aimed at providing a voice for Airmen, E-6 and below. This was achieved by providing Airmen and NCO’s with the opportunities to develop their knowledge, skills, and abilities; creating successful leaders of the UTANG. The Rising Six actively advocates for positive organizational changes through offering services and programs that ensure the enhancement of professional development and morale of Utah's Airmen.

As we adapt to new and diverse contingencies we are driven to fine-tune how we measure and maintain a full-spectrum readiness. The wing cannot be a lethal war-fighting machine without the Airmen in the wing, their families and the community that supports them.
Under the command of Col. Brandon Taylor and with assistance from Chief Master Sgt. John Salazar, group superintendent and key enlisted advisor to the commander, the 151st Operations Group and the 191st Air Refueling Squadron’s primary mission is air-refueling support and troop and cargo movement. The 151st OG and 191st ARS had 84 aircrew members and 47 support personnel involved with hundreds of missions that varied from training missions to theater-combat-contingency missions. The unit offloaded more than 10 millions pounds of fuel, flew thousands of hours, and transported thousands of personnel.

The unit’s operational tempo included combat mission for Operation Freedom Sentinel and Operation Inherent Resolve. The 151st OG was a key player in Operation Atlantic Resolve, safeguarding its European partners and further enhancing its NATO alliances. The 151st OG also volunteered for several other vital missions this year, including hurricane relief efforts, aeromedical-evacuation flights, airlift flights, participation in large-scale exercises, and executing air-refueling missions around the globe.

The 151st OG is a major cornerstone of the Utah Air National Guard as it continually meets the demands of the long-lasting conventional mission. Over the past 17 years, the 151st OG has maintained a continuous military presence of aircrew with aircraft overseas. In Fiscal Year 2018, the unit flew more than 3,700 flight hours. It was an integral part of the warfighting efforts, flying more than 200 combat sorties, totaling more than 3,000 combat hours, and delivering 10 million pounds of fuel, literally fueling the fight against Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant in the Central Command area of responsibility.

The 151st OG provided more than 33 mission-readiness airlift flights, 54 Air Mobility Command missions, and 63 individual deployments with 12 crews, supporting both Pacific Command and Central Command and totaling more than an impressive 700 sorties. The group also unyieldingly supports an alert mission which consists of one aircraft and an aircrew on call 24-hours a day, 365-days a year, ready to respond at a moment’s notice.

With 77 aircrew members, the group conducted 628 local sorties this year, providing strategic support for the U.S. Air Force, ensuring aircrews retain their global readiness, and also providing support for the domestic mission. While keeping a positive role in the community, the 151st OG transported more than 450 people on 26 orientation flights as an incentive through the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve program, thus allowing civilian employers of Guard members to see the mission of the Utah Air National Guardsman.

The 151st OG continues to maintain a strong cross-organizational commitment with the 151st Maintenance Group in support of the active-duty, AMC taskings via Long-Term Military Personnel Appropriation missions. The LTMPA aircraft and crew flew 142 missions and 630 hours this fiscal year in support of AMC taskings, with 2.6 million pounds of fuel offloaded, five medically evacuated patients, 290 passengers, and 35,000 pounds of cargo.

In order to continue to enhance the level of participation in the current operational world, the 151st OG hired four new pilots, six boom operators, one medical technician, and four support staff. The group converted four airplanes to the newest Block 45 configuration and trained aircrew to fly them, in turn allowing them to be mission ready. This new aircraft configuration provides the aircrew with the newest and most advanced KC-135 technology, thus allowing it to continue its unwavering performance into the future!
The 109th Air Control Squadron, commanded by Lt. Col. Leon McGuire, had another historic year as it became fully integrated with the 151st Operations Group led by Col. Brandon Taylor. The integration of the 109th ACS as part of the Operations Group has been a multi-year effort initiated by Col. Ryan Ogan, while he was still the 151st OG commander. The combined efforts resulted in increased readiness, as well as streamlined operations and intelligence functions.

As the 109th ACS “Warlocks” prepared for another nine-month deployment in October of 2018. The squadron will make a historic leap forward in fulfilling the Air Forces goal of conducting Multi-Domain Command and Control Operations at the tactical level. The 109th ACS received its first new weapons system in more than 25 years with the delivery of the Air Combat Commands Battle Command and Control Center system. The new system expands the Warlocks operational capability from eight to 18 operator positions. This allows for significant future upgrades such as, radar and sensor feeds, fusing real-time intelligence and tactical data links. This will enable the 109th ACS to build real-time battlespace awareness for the Air Operations Center while conducting air superiority, integrated missile defense close-air support and air refueling missions.

In January, Senior Airman Benjamin Jones became the first 109th ACS member to win the coveted Utah Air National Guard Airman of the Year award. Jones set the standard for junior weapons directors, becoming the youngest aircrew instructor and evaluator. Capt. Steven Gines also became the first squadron member to graduate the Air Forces prestigious Weapons Instructor Course at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada. Gines is now one of a select few Air Battle Manager Weapons instructor in the Air National Guard.

Airmen of the 109th ACS set the standard while attending Professional Military Education Schools, with Airmen Harrison Whipple and Brian Northrup winning distinguished Graduate Awards while Airman Andrew Sandoval won the Academic Excellence award.

The 109th ACS topped off its year by once again participating in its second annual Red Flag exercise with a focus on integrating with Canadian Air Force and U.S. Marine Corps battle mangers, in preparation for its coalition deployment to the Central Command area of operations. The 109th ACS is well prepared to represent Utah on its next deployment with well-trained and professional airmen.
Under the command of Col Susan L. Melton, the 151st Maintenance Group provides safe, reliable and mission-capable KC-135R Stratotanker aircraft in support of state, federal and nuclear missions. The 151 MXG trains more than 240 Airmen with knowledge and skills to be deployment ready and to keep its 60-plus-year-old tankers airworthy.

The 151 MXG has airmen constantly deployed in support of global operations. Airmen deployed to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, in support of Air Mobility Command Operations; Geilenkirchen, Germany, to perform joint training operations with NATO; and Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, to support Central Command missions. In addition, 151 MXG provided global support for critical aeromedical-evacuation missions. Thanks to its maintenance professionals, 816 sorties were conducted and more than 3,500-flying hours were flown.

Due to high-operations tempo, the 151 MXG is considered an operational reserve. To meet this tempo, over the coming years, it will begin the process of converting a portion of its maintenance technicians to Active Guard Reserve status. In addition to the tempo, efforts are underway to prepare for the upcoming inspection cycle. The 151 MXG conducted group-wide ability to survive and operate training during the third quarter (January–March) to ensure the unit’s readiness and success.

There were changes to the appearance of the aircraft this last year. The wing commander’s jet proudly displays Col Ogan’s name under the pilot’s window and the Mountain West Militia tail art. The wing commander’s jet represented the Utah Air National Guard at the Hill AFB Air Show in June. Eyebrow paint has started to be applied to the front of all its tankers, giving them an updated look.

The 151 MXG community involvement program is designed to give back and show gratitude for support given to the Utah Air National Guard. Overall, the MXG airmen donated more than 700 hours of service to worthwhile causes such as Habitat for Humanity, St. Vincent’s Homeless Resource Center, Wasatch Community Gardens and Riley Elementary School. Its members also provided Christmas for 35 children through the Angel Tree program.

The outstanding achievements of the 151 MXG were made possible by the dedication, hard work and expertise of its remarkable airmen. As next year approaches, 151 MXG is committed to continually find innovative ways to achieve greater heights, execute the mission, and enhance the safety and security of the United States and the state of Utah.
The 151st Mission Support Group includes the 151st Civil Engineering Squadron, 151st Communications Flight, Contracting, 151st Force Support Squadron, 151st Logistics Readiness Squadron, 151st Security Forces Squadron, and 130th Engineering Installation Squadron, encompassing 35 percent of the 151st Air Refueling Wing. The 151st MSG is the backbone of the nuclear, conventional and domestic mission and has participated in peacetime and wartime missions such as Operations Freedom Sentinel and Inherent Resolve, in addition to multiple domestic and international missions. The 151st MSG is under the command of Lt. Col. Christina Lock and Chief Master Sgt. Heather Adamson, group superintendent and key-enlisted advisor to the commander.

Civil engineers, with the 151st CES, continue a precipitous pace with deployment training and meeting the demands of their full-time mission of preserving and reconstructing Roland R. Wright Air National Guard Base. The CES team made significant strides in laying the groundwork to begin design on the new aircraft hangars, while also supporting more than $1 million in construction projects for the base. The CES Fire Department responded to two separate large fires on two vital Utah interstates, its swift actions provided support to local authorities and ensured the safe-keeping of Utah residents.

The 151st LRS primarily handles a hard-hitting operation tempo that provides support to the conventional mission set by managing parts for aircraft, uniforms for military members, more than 125 vehicles, base-deployment operations, and support to training exercises. The team, comprised of 92 members encompassing a total of six flights, are extremely dedicated to supporting the domestic, conventional and nuclear mission sets of the 151st ARW.

The 151st SFS maintained critical mission posturing to guarantee the availability of airmen and the resources of the 151st ARW to carry out mission taskings. The team conducted hundreds of anti-terrorism measures to provide a safe and secure force. The SFS has a vibrant role in domestic operations by working in-garrison with state and local police departments, Utah Emergency Operations Center, and Utah Army National Guard counterparts. This year, SFS worked to develop a joint service integration plan to increase support to domestic operations for Utah. Additionally, deployment opportunities like Operation Inherent Resolve, provided SFS members with real-world experience with anti-terrorism operations and force protection missions.

The 151st CF oversaw several major upgrades to the bases’ cyber infrastructure while also maintaining top-notch customer support to the bases’ 1,300-plus users on more than 1,200 systems. In addition, it deployed two teams of six Airman teams to provide reliable communications during relief efforts of Hurricane Irma and Maria. The teams utilized the Joint Incident Site Communications Capability system to provide essential phone, data, and radio communications via satellite to ensure remote Internet, telephone and radio capabilities were restored. The rotating teams provided more than 60 days of continuous support.

The 151st FSS supported the conventional mission by maintaining members’ readiness records in preparation for deployments. It also doubled the base population’s training for professional military education in residence and tripled base-wide awards and decorations as well as promotions. The 151st FSS provides care and feeding of the troops in-garrison and overseas, manages the Utah Air National Guard’s physical fitness program and maintains an engaged Honor Guard.

The 130th EIS is number one in the nation for securing ground-to-air communication by supporting the nuclear realm while completing more than 12 separate projects. The completed projects support its primary mission of designing, engineering, installing, upgrading and deploying communication infrastructure and equipment in support of domestic and warfighter, cyberspace operations.

The 151st MSG’s contracting office sustained considerable change during 2018 including the departure of Ms. Shelley Schrader, who served admirably as the base contracting officer for many years and Master Sgt. Rachel Hall, a contract specialist. New additions to the office included Master Sgt. Rory Bryant in March 2018 and Capt. Bruce Weaver in April 2018. Despite the high turnover, the contracting team awarded more than $2.5 million through various contract vehicles and ensured a seamless transition for continued support to the 151st ARW mission.

The 151st MSG is currently in the economic analysis phase for the replacement of both aircraft hangars remodeling building 40, designing a new front gate-entrance and supporting more than $1.6 million in construction projects. The economic analysis phase will prepare and sustain Roland R. Wright Air National Guard Base for the next generation with new technology and upcoming aircraft, ensuring its small footprint can make a large influence, now and for future generations.
Under the command of Maj. Sasha Perronne, the 151st Civil Engineer Squadron continued a rapid pace in both its Prime Base Engineer Emergency Force deployment training requirements and its full time mission of maintaining and rebuilding Roland R. Wright Air National Guard Base.

The unit completed its home station training at Camp Williams, addressing critical skills of marksmanship, chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive response, and the Ability to Survive and Operate skills. Members also showed great teamwork while testing their skills on the Leadership Reaction Course.

In July, the unit deployed 34 members to Goose Bay, Canada, for two weeks of training. In partnership with NGB/A4, the Royal Canadian Air Force, and the 149th CES from San Antonio, Texas, the 151st CES constructed morale, welfare and recreation facilities for five wings at Goose Bay in a remote region of the province of Newfoundland and Labrador. It constructed a 1,400-square foot lake cabin, installed four air conditioning units for the base club, piped in a 9,000-liter fuel tank for the airport radar dome, and constructed a softball field by placing 1,190 cubic yards of material and installing 1,200 linear feet of fencing. The deployment was a great success, fostering a continued partnership with Canadian allies, providing excellent training for Utah ANG members, and fulfilling CE’s Prime BEEF deployment readiness training project requirement.

The CES Fire Department provided high-level domestic support to local agencies throughout the Salt Lake Valley. In addition to providing fire emergency services to the installation, fire department members utilized their specialized skills in extinguishing two large fires involving commercial fuel trucks on two vital Utah interstates. Crews also assisted with a large grass fire located behind the state capitol, supplying vital water to helicopters enlisted in the firefight. On the base, fire crews managed the safe recovery and cleanup of a 3,000 gallon Jet-A fuel spill in the Petroleum, Oil and Lubricants area.

The full-time staff continued to execute a significant maintenance and construction workload. They completed a $1 million construction project that consisted of six new chillers, designed with efficiency improvements that are expected to save $19,500 in electricity cost annually. They also completed a $450,000 repaving project that replaced the degraded pavement of the base running track and resurfaced several parking lots. They are on track to award projects in the amount of $1.6 million in the next round of construction. They are also working diligently to replace the base’s old water lines, proficiently finding and repairing leaks in the current lines while designing projects for replacement.

The unit’s future plans for the base also made significant progress this year with the completion of the economic analysis for the replacement of both aircraft hangars, laying the groundwork to begin design.
Under the command of Capt. Adam Barley, the 151st Communications Flight’s mission is to provide secure, reliable, deployable communication systems and services through teamwork, technology and training. The goal is to provide this service to the customer, instilling confidence that its information will be available, confidential and effective in accomplishing its mission.

The hurricane season of 2017-2018 hit the Virgin Islands hard. To facilitate communications for the relief effort of Hurricanes Irma and Maria, two teams of six Airmen supported the Joint Incident Site Communications Capability, assigned to the 151st CF deployed to the island of St. Thomas. They were staged at St Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands until damage assessments following Hurricane Irma were complete. Once the team arrived on St. Thomas they established communications to restore command and control after the disaster. They bridged first-responders by establishing critical tactical communications, enabling interoperability for military and civil communications which allowed for immediate action. While on site, the team had to shut down communications and shelter in place when Hurricane Maria hit. Communications were reestablished within hours following the storm. The Utah JISCC team was on site for 60 days while native communication was restored. Every member of the team received either an Air Force Achievement Award or an Air Force Commendation Award for their valiant efforts.

Several major technological upgrades to the Roland R. Wright ANGB cyber infrastructure were completed this year. The Windows 10 migration involving more than 1,200 systems on two networks took more than 1,500 work hours. New servers for the dental clinic and base phone switches were turned Online and various upgrades to the secured networks were installed. The initial phases of a new network storage system began which will improve the speed, reliability, and capacity for the base. The Cyber Surety section passed the annual Communication Security inspection with the fewest number of write-ups the inspectors have ever seen.

Many personnel changes occurred in the flight this year. The Commander, Capt. Amy Bocage, was selected to be the new 130th Engineering Installation Squadron Detachment commander and was replaced by Capt. Adam Barley who was the former 130th EIS project manager. The flight lost full-time technicians Master Sgt. Jared Hansen, Master Sgt. Bodie Peterson, and Staff Sgt. Landon Tholen to greener pastures. Luckily they will stay on as Drill Status Guardsmen.

An ever changing cyber world and the challenges of being trained to meet it, provide for an exciting future; one that the 151st CF is looking forward to.
primary responsibility this year was securing the upgrade training of their crew and were able to complete nearly 200 core tasks and more than 300 hours of mobile technical training courses.

The Distribution Section had an extremely busy year, the Traffic Management Office shipped roughly 5,500 Air Force assets that weighed more than 400,000 pounds. They also processed and received more than 3,100 assets that weighed more than 200,000 pounds.

The Ground Transportation section delivered about 180 priority items and completed more than 700 vehicle support operations.

The Plans and Integration team coordinated and executed numerous mobilizations, deployments, and exercises consisting of 217 personnel and 70,189 pounds of cargo. One of its primary focus areas was to ensure combatant commander requirements were fulfilled on-time through deploying and redeploying all personnel and cargo assigned to the 151st ARW and associate units.

The Small Air Terminal supported 78 air missions, moved 697 passengers, and processed 15,267 pounds of cargo to various locations in support of Air Force and Army missions. Additionally, four members of the flight traveled to Buckley Air Force Base, Colorado, to support the deployment of the 140th Fighter Wing.

The 151st Logistics Readiness Squadron personnel are dedicated to the needs of the community, state, and nation. Members have stayed involved with the community, volunteering for events such as Air National Guard Honor Guard, Non-Commissioned Officer Graduates Association, Enlisted and Officer Association, the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States, NAGUS, Freedom Academy, Scouting for Food, Sub-for-Santa, Blood drives and the Combined Federal Campaign.

Under the command of Maj. Daniel Frost, the 151st Logistics Readiness Squadron provides supplies, equipment, fuel, transportation, vehicle operations and maintenance, and logistics readiness support to the 151st Air Refueling Wing and associate units. The LRS specializes in logistics services—anything, anytime, anywhere—for each customer through a safe, efficient and continually improving professional process; while promoting the growth of individual team members.

In addition to the high-operations tempo, Material Management averaged approximately 11,500 transactions monthly and maintains more than 18,000 items that are valued at more than $2 million. The LRS manages more than 4,500 equipment assets and also maintain the Readiness Spares Package independent aircraft spare part kits, a combined value of more than $11 million.

The LRS Fuels Flight managed more than 6.3 million gallons of fuel that encompassed issuing more than 3.1 million gallons of jet fuel. The flight averages a response time of only 4.08 minutes. They were responsible for processing 1,979 in-flight transactions totaling 2.4 million gallons and resulted in approximately $5.7 million worth of credits returned to the wing. The quality control section processed 480 fuel samples and are currently supporting a Pacific Command deployment through the remainder of Fiscal Year 2018.

The Vehicle Maintenance Flight is responsible for the maintenance and management of more than $9 million vehicle assets consisting of 125 registered vehicles. Its mission is to maintain a safe, efficient and environmentally sound fleet. The crew of seven full-time technicians and five traditional Guardsman consistently upheld a vehicle operational rate of 95 percent for the year. Their
Under the command of Maj. Bruce Lewis, the 151st Security Forces Squadron focused on worldwide deployment obligations, domestic operations capabilities, joint force and inter-agency integration, and honing its law enforcement and air-base defense skills. Home station training requirements were accomplished and upgrade certification standards were set higher, enabling defenders to better enforce the wing’s Integrated Defense Plan.

Six defenders from the 151st SFS deployed to Kuwait in support of Operation Inherent Resolve and were assigned to Al Jaber Air Base. During the deployment, they performed anti-terrorism operations, force-protection missions, and base defense duties in accordance with host nation laws and regulations. In fact, one team member was selected to forward deploy to the country of Jordan for a couple months to support security operations.

Additionally, the squadron, as part of their Domestic Operations mission, led a joint service integration between the Department of Emergency Management, Utah Highway Patrol, and the Utah Army National Guard. These relationships greatly improved the communication, tactics, and joint service trust between these agencies. The homeland mission of the 151st Security Forces Squadron will now include an expanded service to Utah.

In April, the 151st SFS sent four members to attend the Salt Lake City Police Department’s SWAT pre-screen school. Three members were given course completion certificates with one being inducted into Unified Police Department’s SWAT team. Moreover, in April and June, the training section of the squadron accomplished the commander’s goal of having every defender, full and part-time, attend a comprehensive four-day training course at Camp Williams. The focus of the training revolved around gaining proficiency in the latest air base defense skills and sharpening law enforcement capabilities. Both full-time and part-time defenders worked together in one common environment where their skills and confidence were reinforced and cohesiveness was fortified.

Finally, throughout Fiscal Year 2018, the 151st SFS maintained its critical mission at home by strict enforcement of security procedures on the Roland Wright Air National Guard Base. Hundreds of anti-terrorism measures and random vehicle inspections were conducted. Several new defenders raised the standard of job performance by scoring above 95 percent on their first duty position qualification. The 151st SFS ensures the security and defense of all personnel who work or visit the Utah Air National Guard base. They stand determined to defend the resources of the United States Air Force and the state of Utah.
Under the command of Lt. Col. Travis Perry, 151st Force Support Squadron is comprised of 41 personnel, more than half of which are drill-status Guardsmen. Its mission is to support five groups and two tenant units comprised of more than 1,400 Airmen, their families, as well as, Army Guardsmen, active duty, reservist, retirees, and government contractors that reside in the vicinity of the Roland R. Wright Air National Guard Base.

The 151st FSS includes conventional, domestic, and a state missions, with its primary responsibility being domestic operations that encompass Family Readiness, Yellow Ribbon, Honor Guard, Force Management, base training and education, food, lodging, fitness, recreation, and Mortuary Affairs.

Highlights of this past year include the UTANG annual Halloween 5K Fun Run and Trunk-or-Treat, Freedom Academy, and the retiree’s breakfast. Additionally, the food service section provided approximately 8,000 meals to Air National Guard members. The lodging section realized an annual savings of approximately $30,000 to the ANG through its efficient utilization of the on-base lodging at Camp Williams and off base contract quarters.

The training and mobilization section continued its rigorous deployment schedule throughout the summer, the re-deployment of several hundred airmen, 47 fitness assessment tests given to more than 1,600 individuals, processed more than 300 Airman to formal trainings schools, and 200 members to initial active duty training. The Base Training Office is on track to execute $5 million on Utah ANG training this fiscal year. Additionally, the Base Training office has overseen the Community College of the Air Force program where 82 members have graduated during 2018 with their associates degree. Also, more than 1,100 military, dependent, and civilian identification cards were processed. In addition, the FSS’s Readiness section managed the deployment of 174 members, from all five Utah ANG groups with 90 plus more deploying early Fiscal Year 2019.

The 41 members of the 151st FSS continually demonstrates service before self, and excellence in all it does as it provides top quality customer service to the Utah Air National Guard and their families.

This year also brought many challenges, as 75 percent of the FSS full-time technician force was in upgrade training. The FSS full-time staff converted five military technicians to the, new-to-the Utah ANG, Title-5 positions. 

The 41 members of the 151st FSS continually demonstrates service before self, and excellence in all it does as it provides top quality customer service to the Utah Air National Guard and their families.
Under the command of Maj. Timothy Delamare, the primary mission of the 130th Engineering Installation Squadron, assigned to the Air Force Space Command, is to design, engineer, install, upgrade and deploy communication infrastructure and equipment enabling voice, data, radio, and satellite services in support of domestic and warfighter, cyberspace operations.

This past year, Delamare assumed command as a drill status Guardsmen and assigned Capt. Amy Bocage as detachment commander to lead day-to-day operations.

The unit’s knowledge and expertise is in demand all over the globe, and this year it is again ready to respond. The 130th EIS is responsible for planning and overseeing long-term sustainability and viability command, control, communications, computers and intelligence systems for nine Air National Guard bases in the Western United States. These teams completed 12 separate projects using 1,500 man-days and 1.2 million in communications equipment resources. Efforts include a GeoSpatial mapping of the communications infrastructure at the 152nd Airlift Wing in Reno, Nevada, which allows personnel to electronically access plant records in real time. The unit accomplished several antenna preventive-maintenance inspections to identify and prevent potential equipment or structural failures, finished three projects to Gowen Field, Idaho, where they provided communications systems of support for the 224th Cyber Operations Squadron cross-domain-network solution, and relocated communications and alarm systems for the 124th Security Forces’ munitions support area.

In Portland, Oregon, at the 142nd Fighter Wing, the 130th EIS team completed a project that was three years in the making. The team designed and installed a concrete shelter and 30-foot tower, redistributed five antennas and relocated radios onto three towers to increase frequency visibility for pilots.

In Hawaii, a team installed six-thousand-feet of fiber optic and copper-network cabling to support the Autonomic Logistics Information System F-22 network. At the 673rd Air Base Wing, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage, Alaska, the 130th EIS members assisted Active Duty in the configuration and installation of more than 50-network switches. Finally, at the Royal Air Force Lakenheath, United Kingdom, the 130th EIS improved the quality of ground-to-air voice communications in an Air Traffic Control operational environment replacing obsolete and failing equipment.

Capitalizing on the knowledge of service members recently returning from deployment, an aggressive super drill was performed. All squadron members engaged in training covering the five core competencies of the engineering installation community and Unit Task Code skill sets critical for success in deployed environments.

Concluding this year, the unit was fortunate to have Capt. Greg Durrant handpicked to be a part of the National Guard Bureau’s Total Force selection for the 2018 General Mark A. Welsh III One Air Force Award and will compete at the Air Force level later this year. The nomination memorandum stated “contributions to the USSTRATCOM Command and Control Facility military construction project have been nothing less than absolutely earth shattering.”

The 130th experienced an outstanding year that demonstrated its commitment to serving both state and nation. Once a Wizard Always a Wizard!
The 151st Medical Group is comprised of two key components. The Clinic Support Squadron consists of 56 medical, dental and administrative professionals. It provides physical examinations, immunizations, bioenvironmental engineering, and occupational-health management to ensure a healthy and ready force. The Medical Detachment-1, with 47 members, is part of the Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High-Yield Explosive Enhanced Response Force Package. It is designed to provide rapid support to civil authorities during national disasters or homeland emergencies. Under the command of Col. Matthew Bird, these two entities work together to enhance the wing commander’s ability to respond to contingencies within our borders and beyond.

Heeding the Air Force’s call for innovation, the 151st MG has partnered with the University of Utah to provide medical trauma recertification to 33 airmen. This pilot program initiative will save more than $273,000.

The Medical Detachment-1 has participated in multiple joint exercises working with the Army’s Homeland Response Force. It maintained high-training tempos in casualty, search-and-extraction operations, medical triage, and patient-evacuation management while maintaining training requirements that reach beyond the primary medical training.

In addition, the 151st MG has provided real-world medical support for multiple wing and Guard functions including Wingman Day, Best Warrior Competition and Freedom Academy. These dedicated men and women have volunteered their medical and administrative expertise to support Kentucky’s Operation Bobcat and a Texas-Chilean humanitarian mission. These efforts ensured specialty and life-saving medical care to medically underserved communities at home and abroad.

This past year two 151st MG members competed in the Army’s Best Warrior Competition. The competition was hosted by the Utah National Guard and Capt. Garry Wellisch took second place overall.

The 151st MG airmen have a focused history on community and family. It donated more than 1,000 hours to worthwhile causes for Maliheh Free Clinic, South Valley Women’s Shelter, Utah Food Bank and Encircle House and raised more than $2,000 for the Utah Guard Charitable Trust.

While exercises, missions and potential deployment loom in the future, the dedication, hard work, expertise and commitment of the outstanding airmen of the 151st MG will continue to innovate new paths, to greater heights, and do its part to enhance the safety and security of our nation.

Capt. Paulsen and Master Sgt. LaBare administer the medical portion of the Best Warrior Competition to Capt. Wellisch, who took second place overall in the competition.

Staff Sgt. Smothers volunteers to be a human pincushion during valuable in-the-field training for medical personnel.
The 151st Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Group now has a complete year under its belt as a full-fledged group. During this year, the ISRG solidified the roles and responsibilities with its three components—the 169th Intelligence Squadron, 151st Intelligence Support Squadron, and 151st ISRG Headquarters Flight.

In July, one of the primary drivers behind its conversion was realized when the 151st ISRG Commander, Troy A. Drennan, was promoted to colonel. Having an O-6 representing the 151st ISRG is an important step to ensuring the long-term health and success of ISR mission efforts in Utah.

Operationally, the 151st ISRG is part of the Air Force’s Distributed Common Ground System, or DCGS. Members of the ISRG man the Distributed Mission System, supporting ISRG missions flown by manned and unmanned aircraft around the globe. This past year, ISRG members participated in 194 missions, providing 821 hours of mission support and generating more than 70 reports.

In addition to its work on the DMS, linguists in the 169th Intelligence Squadron have spent the past year taking advantage of additional translation opportunities under the Federated Intelligence Production program. Through this program, 169th linguists have supported 19 national-level missions, contributing more than 8,100 hours of translation efforts which yielded 17 detailed reports, including several that ended up in the Presidential Daily Brief.

Members of the 151st Intelligence Support Squadron, the technical support element of the ISRG, capitalized on the Guard’s strengths of experience and continuity to drive changes at the enterprise level of the DCGS weapon system. This past year it spearheaded efforts to upgrade DCGS hardware, moving from 1990’s technology to a fully modern infrastructure.

In addition to the operational contributions of the IS and ISS, the 151st ISRG leadership made concerted efforts over the past year to implement agile management techniques. Benchmarking off of managerial concepts utilized by local businesses such as Select Health, the 151st ISRG has implemented numerous changes in the way it processes information, leading to a shared vision of success, faster problem resolution, and increased transparency.

The 151st ISRG members have participated in state-level programs and exercises to include the State Partnership Program with Morocco, Humanitarian Mine Removal, Panther Strike, and Cyber Shield. The ISR Group is also heavily involved in the leadership of professional development councils and wing-level functions on Roland R. Wright Air Base.