

UTAH

MINUTEMAN

2018 Volume 1



President Trump Visits Utah
1-145th Field Artillery and 142nd
Military Intelligence Deploy
Aviation Crew Rescues Injured
Hiker During Night Mission



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Major General Jefferson Burton The Adjutant General

Soldiers, Airmen and families of our Utah National Guard, wearing the uniform of the United States is one of the greatest honors of my life, and I know that you feel the same way!

We honor the uniforms of our respective services, because they represent those great Americans who have gone before us to face some of the greatest conflicts the world has ever known.

Imagine for a moment, how this country might look today if the Minutemen had failed to report for duty in the War of Independence, or state militias had failed to form to preserve our Union and abolish the stain of slavery. Imagine what might have happened to this planet if the forces of the United States had failed to step up and face the evil of totalitarian regimes in the 20th century, or the darkness of terrorist organizations in the 21st century. We owe so much to those who have gone before us and sacrificed their tomorrows for our todays; those described by the lyricist when she wrote, “who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life.”

As a nation, we face some ominous times ahead. America’s role as a world leader is being challenged on every front. From peer and near-peer competitors, to non-state actors and global transnational criminal organizations--all seek to challenge the supremacy of the United States. It is done at home through orchestrated media assaults, it is done on the high seas through piracy and the expansion of naval reach, and it is done on land through conventional and guerilla-border incursions, and criminal organizations that seek to get gain by destabilizing and even toppling governments. Now more than ever, it is critical that we are ready as a nation to face these and other dynamic threats.

The safety and security of the world depends upon our readiness, and on our willingness to face aggression and the erosion of liberty. No one has ever said it better than our third President, Thomas Jefferson, when he stated “I have sworn upon the alter of God, eternal hostility against all forms of tyranny over the mind of man.” In an age of rhetoric and misinformation, do not be confused about what we face. The enemy seeks to have us confused by “50 Shades of Gray.” The challenges we face are darkness and light, liberty versus tyranny. May we always see our mission clearly--to defend this Grand Republic from aggression, and to keep the world safe for democracy.



Command Sergeant Major Eric Anderson Senior Enlisted Leader

As we enter the New Year, the requirement to conduct realistic training is more critical now than ever. We should constantly be evaluating and reevaluating how we utilize our training time and working

to make it more effective and efficient. No Soldier or Airman should come to drill and not have meaningful work to do. Basic combat proficiency is often repetitious and can even be boring, but that proficiency in Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills in addition to our MOS’ and AFSOCs will win battles and save lives. Our responsibilities as leaders are to look ahead to what future battles will look like and ensure our Soldiers, Airmen, physical fitness, combat mindset, and equipment are up for the task. A peer to peer or near peer fight will require us see the battle in 360 degrees with forward operating bases quite possibly a thing of the past. Physical fitness is extremely

important to fighting and winning and is the base building block of everything we do in the Army and Air Force. Not only does it enable us to do our jobs better, but we are often safer. When we do experience injury, we are able to recover much quicker. As you continue to develop and learn your military specialties, take the time to attend professional military education at your earliest opportunity. When the opportunity for promotion comes, you need to be ready. The last point I would like to make is for us to ensure as we move through this process in the military that we truly focus on living life every day with purpose. When we understand that happiness is living life verses achieving an objective, we are encouraged to critically think, explore, and solve problems, we are able to enjoy the journey. I feel honored each day I am able to put this uniform on and serve our nation and I am looking forward to another great year in the Utah National Guard.

The Adjutant General
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Cover Photo:
Spc. Hayden Wallace gives a final embrace as he deploys on a nine-month mission to the United Arab Emirates with Delta Battery, 1st Battalion, 145th Field Artillery from the Roland R. Wright Air Base in Salt Lake City on Oct. 1, 2017.

Photo by Ileen Kennedy



1-145th Field Artillery Deploys to United Arab Emirates

SALT LAKE CITY — “We’ve burned the midnight oil the last few weeks. We’ve worked really hard to get on this airplane and go do great things for our state and our nation. I’ve seen strong character; it speaks volumes,” were the words of the commander of Delta Battery, 1st Battalion, 145th Field Artillery (FA), Dave Johnson, as he spoke to the nearly 100 Soldiers and their families in an airport hangar at Roland R. Wright Air Base.

On Oct. 1, 99 Soldiers from Delta Battery, 1-145th FA, gathered at the Wright Air Base to listen to their commanders and hug their families as they said farewell. Care packages were given to the Soldiers that contained stuffed bears that could be seen attached to their backpacks; some were given to their kids as a token of remembrance. Shortly after, they boarded a plane bound for Fort Bliss, Texas, and ultimately to the United Arab Emirates.

The mission for Delta Battery for the next nine months is to provide a security-force presence and continue field-artillery training in the United Arab Emirates. This is the first of two rotations for 1-145th FA; the second rotation is scheduled for the middle of 2018.

“We have had a great jump on the training aspect. We have had leaders that have prepared us,” said Staff Sgt. John Christiansen, one of the 99 Soldiers in Delta Battery. Christiansen works for the Utah Department of Corrections in his civilian capacity. “We have more training in Fort Bliss to top off our training program. We will be ready to accomplish any mission in front of us.”

The training involved to prepare the Soldiers has been extensive. In order to deploy, each Soldier must meet specific criteria to include an Army Physical Fitness Test, individual-weapons qualification training, receive briefings on cultural considerations, country briefs, learn the Law of Armed Conflict, and go through medical screenings called the Soldier Readiness Program. They also update legal and financial information. In addition they train as a unit on crew-served weapons, convoy live-fire, and combat life-saver training during their pre-mobilization training.

“There is all the military training involved with the mobilization. You are sharpening up on all your artillery skills from the Paladin, to paperwork lined out for medical, to power of attorney, to preparing a will, to updating DEERS,” said Christiansen.

This will be Christiansen’s first deployment. “I am pretty excited about it. We look at what is going on in the world today and we’ve signed on to protect our nation’s values and freedoms the Constitution provides us. I am there to do my part as a member of the U.S. Army to get the job done and what they need me to do.”



Members of Delta Battery, 1st Battalion, 145th Field Artillery gather at the Wright Air Base to say farewell to family and friends before boarding a plane to begin their deployment Oct. 1.



Christiansen, like most Soldiers of the Delta Battery, stepped up to this deployment.

“A Soldier had hardship and had to drop out,” Christiansen said, “I wanted to get a deployment under my belt and it’s a good way to start. You have Soldiers underneath you and you want to lead by example.”

Staff Sgt. Mark Pickett, a 39-year-old U.S. Postal Service worker, wanted to go for similar reasons.

“I volunteered for it and was moved back in to the second rotation. My buddy had to get out for personal reasons, so I took his slot on the first one,” said Pickett. “I am a gun chief and most of my guys were going. I’d be feeling guilty if they went and I sat home.”

This is Pickett’s second deployment. His first was to Iraq in 2007 where his mission was detainee operations.

“This deployment will be better because I know what not to expect,” said Pickett.

Family was a major theme of the ceremony that everyone touched on.

“I know it will be hard because I have younger children. I think that’s where it will be hard to leave them; they do not understand why I am going,” said Christiansen who will be leaving behind a wife and four kids ranging from three-years to 19-years old.

Pickett will also be leaving his wife and five kids.

“It was easy to volunteer for the first rotation; my son leaves for his mission and my daughter is having back surgery during the second rotation.”

Civilian employers of the Soldiers of the Delta Battery make sacrifices as well, temporarily losing an employee who is fulfilling their commitment to the Utah National Guard.

However, the Soldiers of the Delta Battery are highly trained and proficient Soldiers. Their civilian skills will play a role in their missions as an expanded source of knowledge that will make their impact greater. Likewise, the experience they gain will make them more valuable assets to their civilian employers, bringing skills that are unique to service members.

“It was my honor to represent the U.S. Army and the 1-145th Field Artillery to complete this deployment, mission, and task at hand,” said Christiansen of his first deployment. 🇺🇸

Story by 1st Lt. Jeffrey Belnap

Photos by 1st Lt. Jeffrey Belnap and Ileen Kennedy

Members of Delta Battery, 1st Battalion, 145th Field Artillery gather at the Wright Air Base to say farewell to family and friends before boarding a plane to begin their deployment Oct. 1.



President Trump visits Roland R. Wright Air National Guard Base



SALT LAKE CITY — President Donald Trump visited Roland R. Wright Air National Guard Base on Dec. 4, accompanied by Utah Senators Orrin Hatch and Mike Lee during a brief trip to Utah where he signed two Presidential Proclamations.

After arriving on Air Force One, Trump greeted Utah Gov. Gary Herbert, as well as Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, the adjutant general of the Utah National Guard, and Col. Ryan Ogan, commander of the 151st Air Refueling Wing.

Before heading to the State Capitol by motorcade, Trump approached a small crowd gathered near the flight line to shake hands and wave to individuals prior to departing the base. Ogan said that although the base had relatively short notice about the presidential visit, personnel worked with White House and Secret Service officials to ensure security requirements were met and any concerns were addressed.

Ogan said he received positive feedback from White House personnel about the visit and thanked everyone on base for their hard work and dedication in making the event so successful.

Master Sgt. Michael Buell, Operations Superintendent for the 151st Security Forces Squadron, worked closely with Secret Service personnel and Salt Lake Airport police to coordinate security on base during the visit.

To meet the increased security requirements for the presidential visit, the 151st Security Force Squadron asked for volunteers to cover extra shifts. Buell said they received an overwhelming response to the request and had more than enough personnel willing to put in additional time.

“We have a great traditional and full-time force here and they are always willing to help,” said Buell. “To be involved in something like this is very important to our Airmen.”



President Donald Trump, Senator Orrin Hatch and Senator Mike Lee arrive at the Roland R. Wright Air Base Dec. 4.

The presidential helicopter, Marine One, and the motorcade vehicles arrived at the base a few days prior to the visit. Airmen and their families had the opportunity to view both the helicopter and the vehicles the day before the president’s arrival. 🇺🇸

Story and photos by Tech. Sgt. Annie Edwards



President Donald Trump greets Gov. Gary R. Herbert and Mrs. Herbert upon arriving at the Roland R. Wright Air Base Dec. 4.



After debarking Air Force One, President Donald Trump greets Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton Dec. 4.

National Guard Soldier Presented with The Utah Cross

BLUFFDALE, Utah — Family, friends and Soldiers of the 498th Brigade Support Battalion (BSB) gathered together on November 4th, to watch the Utah Adjutant General present a Soldier with the Utah Cross at Camp Williams.

Spc. Deborah Beaman, an Automated Logical Specialist with Alpha Company, 489th BSB, was honored by Maj. General Jefferson Burton for her heroic actions in rendering aid to a fellow Soldier who suffered a cardiac arrest during the Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT).

On January 16th, Beaman was assisting Staff Sgt. Jesse Barton, a Recruiting and Retention noncommissioned officer with the Utah National Guard Recruiting and Retention Battalion, conduct an APFT for several new recruits in Tooele.

During the two-mile run, one of the recruits, Beaman's own daughter, Pvt. Brooklyn Beaman, suddenly collapsed as she approached the finish line. Beaman immediately sprang into action and began administering CPR to Brooklyn after discovering she did not have a pulse and was not breathing.

Barton said Beaman continued to administer CPR for over ten minutes until medical and life-flight personnel finally arrived on scene. Each time Barton attempted to relieve Beaman, she simply replied, "No, I got this."

Beaman credited her ability to focus and stay calm while she was performing CPR on Brooklyn to the medical skills she acquired at basic training. Beaman said, prior to basic training she had not known what to do and even recalled a time she had "froze" when she witnessed her nephew get into a minor accident.

It was an "honor to watch her as a mom and a Soldier step in and perform CPR to save her daughter's life," said Barton.

Beaman's platoon leader, 2nd Lt. Kami Muramoto, described her as an "autonomous Soldier" who always went above what was expected. She also expressed admiration for Beaman's "soundness of mind and how she was able to put the fear and emotions aside as a mother and focus on saving her daughter's life."

In presenting Beaman with the Utah Cross, an award presented to Soldiers who exemplify themselves through heroism or other acts that are beyond the call of duty, Burton said, "This is what makes me so proud about the National Guard--when something bad happens, we are running towards it to do something good."

Brooklyn was in attendance at the ceremony as Beaman was honored for her heroic efforts. Standing proudly next to her mother, Brooklyn's scar from her open-heart surgery will forever serve to remind her of the day her mother saved the life of a Soldier!

Brooklyn has fully recovered from her open-heart surgery, but was medically discharged from the National Guard. 🇺🇸

Story and photo by Maj. Choli Ence



From left, Spc. Deborah Beaman, Automated Logical Specialist with Alpha Company, 489th Brigade Support Battalion, stands proudly with her daughter, Brooklyn Beaman and Staff. Sgt. Jesse Barton, Recruiting and Retention Battalion noncommissioned officer, after she was awarded the Utah Cross Nov. 4, 2017 at Camp Williams.



Spc. Deborah Beaman, Automated Logical Specialist with Alpha Company, 489th Brigade Support Battalion (second from right) is awarded the Utah Cross by Maj. Gen. Jefferson Burton, Adjutant General (right).

Utah Guard Soldiers Say Goodbye for the Holidays

DRAPER, Utah— While most families rejoiced together during the holidays, approximately 15 Utah Guard families said goodbye to their loved ones at a departure ceremony Dec. 28, at the Utah Guard headquarters.

These Soldiers from Utah Guard's 142nd Military Intelligence (MI) Battalion are set to deploy to Afghanistan with the mission to process and analyze country-wide information collected to enable U.S. forces to gain a better understanding of the battlefield and fight enemy insurgents.

"We are flexible and we can adapt. That's what military intelligence does is shape the battlefield," said 2nd Lt. Yuliya Helfer, the officer in charge of the deploying group. "That's what our job is; we want to go to see the impact we can have. That's why we signed up. That's why we join the Army."

Family, friends and fellow Guardsmen gathered at the Draper headquarters building to hear a few words from Guard leadership before their planned, 12-month deployment in support of Operation Freedom Sentinel.

"Anyone who wears that 300th MI patch knows loneliness; they know what it's like to deploy to faraway lands and be divided as a team and have to work independently," said Maj. Gen. Jefferson Burton, adjutant general of the Utah National Guard.

Burton charged the leaders of the unit to take care of each other during the deployment.

"This deployment is your superbowl. You're going out there in harm's way. You've got to focus on what it is you stand for and what it is you believe in. We know that you are going to go out and do great things. We will be praying for you every day while your gone."

However, while trained and ready, the pain of separation from loved ones, especially during the holidays, is a reality for these service members.

"I couldn't be prouder of her," said Alex Helfer, husband of 2nd Lt. Yuliya Helfer. "We are so grateful to the National Guard for being there for the families. The boys are going to miss their mom, and I will miss her tremendously. But we know what she is doing is the right thing and providing us with the freedoms so that these kids can continue living in this great nation and being secure and safe here at home."

The atmosphere was a combination of pride and sorrow with those in attendance. Families showed pride in their citizen-Soldiers who were about to depart in defense of our nation, but they were also saddened as they held their loved one close prior to their long absence.

"I have a son that's graduating from high school this year and moving to college and I'm going to miss his graduation as





well as moving him into his first apartment, so that's going to be difficult," said Staff Sgt. Kristilyn Webb. "But the mission is important and I feel a real sense of obligation, duty and pride to be able to do this. The sacrifices we make as a family bring us together and we are stronger."

Kaden Peterson, the 18-year-old son of Staff Sgt. Kristilyn Web, has grown up with both his mother and step father serving in the same unit, his grandfather serving in the 19th Special Forces for 34 years, his great-grandfather served for 37 years and his great-great grandfather served in the Army while his aunt served in the Marine Corps.

"You get used to the routine and the jargon and the language," said Peterson. "I'm going to miss her a lot but I know that she is going to be making a big difference. She will be safe there and she will be doing good work."

As the men and women of the 142nd wrapped up the departure ceremony, there was no doubt that they will succeed and make their families and the Utah Guard proud.

"If there is anybody that is going to be up to the task it would be her," said retired Command Sgt. Maj. Ron Webb as he hugged his daughter Staff Sgt. Kristilyn Webb.

Deploying Soldiers will travel to Fort Hood, Texas, and then Fort Bragg, N. C., for several weeks of deployment-specific training before heading overseas.

"For the last two months we have been training together, preparing for the mobilization, and the sense of camaradery that we've built with one another is just really amazing," said Webb. "We are friends with one another, we support one another and we are banking on this helping us keeping our morale really high while we are downrange."

The Utah National Guard family knows that the 142nd MI Soldiers will be successful on their deployment and looks forward to the day we can welcome them home after a job well done.

"I don't feel scared," said Webb. "We have been prepared for this. I have been in the service for over seven years. And everything we do brings us to this point.

Although we may be faced with danger from time to time, we are prepared for it. We know how to react to it. We've been trained for it, so we are ready to go."



Story and photos by Ileen Kennedy

Soldiers with the 142nd Military Intelligence Battalion attend a departure ceremony with family and friends Dec. 28 as they prepare to deploy to Afghanistan.



The Utah National Guard's Black Hawk helicopter pilots and crew were able to hover in the dark canyon and hoist a 22-year-old injured hiker onto the Black Hawk about 11 p.m. Oct. 18. The injured hiker was located about a third of the way up the north face of the mountain, at the bottom of Anderson Pass at Henrys Fork. Video footage was taken from the Department of Public Safety's helicopter watching from the base of the mountain.

Aviation Crew Rescues Utah Hiker

SUMMIT COUNTY, Utah — Utah National Guard (UTNG) Aviation continues to demonstrate the true meaning of the National Guard motto, “Always ready, always there.”

A flight crew consisting of four members from 2-211th General Aviation Support Battalion assisted in the treacherous UTNG real-world, medical-evacuation, rescue mission, hoisting a severely injured hiker near King’s Peak along the Uintah Mountains in Summit County, Oct. 18.

The cooperative multi-agency mission took approximately five hours to complete starting with a cellphone call to Summit County’s Public Safety Dispatch Center a little after 7 p.m. reporting a man had fallen nearly 200 yards through rocks and heavy debris in Anderson’s Pass Chute roughly a half an hour earlier, sustaining a broken leg and serious head injuries.

Summit County’s Search and Rescue team were dispatched to rescue the incapacitated hiker, but quickly realized the mountainous, steep and rugged terrain would not allow them to access him. The Search and Rescue team reached out to the Department of Public Safety and Intermountain Life Flight; however, as evening progressed into night with neither crew being able to conduct hoist operations

during night conditions, the agencies were quickly running out of time and resources. The 2-211th and its UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters were called upon to help.

The four-man aircrew included pilots Chief Warrant Officer 3 Brady Cloward, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Tyler Hobbs, crew chief Sgt. Jordan Archibald, and critical-care, flight paramedic Sgt. 1st Class Zach Kesler.

“Around 8 p.m. I received a message giving us a heads up there was a real Medevac mission request in the works for an injured hiker on King’s Peak,” said Cloward. “We already had Hobbs conducting a flight operation. Kesler and Archibald were both readily available and hoist-qualified. Everyone was well trained for this type of mission. After the aircraft was prepped, aircrew briefed of the situation, we got the approval to launch. It was truly one of the smoothest-assembled missions I’ve ever seen; 30 minutes from notification to pitch pull on the ramp.”

The aircrew faced its own risks and challenges during the rescue mission, including one huge obstacle: the altitude. King’s Peak is the tallest mountain peak in Utah, towering at more than 13,500 feet with the injured hiker at approximately



Sgt. Jordan Archibald, 2nd Battalion, 211th Aviation crew chief, stands outside a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter at the Army Aviation Support Facility in West Jordan, Utah. Chief Warrant Officer 3 Brady Cloward and Chief Warrant Officer 3 Tyler Hobbs, 2-211th Aviation pilots, return after performing a treacherous, mountain-hoist rescue in the Uintah Mountains. (Not pictured is Sgt. 1st Class Zack Kessler, medic).

11,500 feet. The higher the altitude, the less power the Black Hawk’s engine has to fly. The aircraft, along with equipment, supplies, and aircrew, weighed approximately 160,000 pounds. If the aircraft weighed between 500 to 600 pounds more, Cloward said they wouldn’t have had sufficient power to be able to conduct the rescue.

In addition to the turbulent winds; the lack of illumination from the moon, stars, or city lights with night-vision devices; and the incredibly steep terrain; the aircrew and Black Hawk were pushed to the end of their limitations.

“Stressful wouldn’t be the word I would use to characterize this rescue on behalf of the crew,” said Cloward. “This mission was something we were trained and ready for. We train in these conditions often. If I was to describe the crew climate, I would say ‘focused.’”

Medical personnel and crews on the ground were able to move the hiker to a safe location and provide initial critical care, allowing the 2-211th crew to extract the patient before transferring him to Intermountain Life Flight for further transport to a medical facility.

“We don’t work together as often as we’d like,” said Lt. Andrew Wright from Summit County Sheriff’s Office. “There was such seamless coordination that took place. Everyone pitched in and got the job done, which ultimately saved a life. It was just phenomenal cooperation between everyone. We appreciate our partnership with everyone involved.”

“These Soldiers train for combat, but they also are here to respond to the needs of our citizens,” said Maj. Gen. Jefferson Burton, adjutant general of the UTNG. “We’re very proud of the expertise during this very complex and difficult rescue and to those who faced some risks themselves as they helped this injured hiker. We are grateful we can provide this service to our state when needed.”

Medevac training and capabilities were introduced to the UTNG in 2011 and have been applied by 2-211th aircrews in two separate overseas deployments in support of Operation

Enduring Freedom. One 2-211th aircrew recently applied its Medevac capabilities and expertise conducting search-and-rescue missions and hoist operations as part of Hurricane Harvey relief efforts in August this year in the Houston metro area.

“This mission was the affirmation that ‘train as you fight’ should always be our goal as citizen Soldiers,” said Cloward. “We already support a myriad of missions here in Utah ranging from firefighting, emergency response, and search-and-rescue operations. Medevac in my opinion is a deeply personal mission and with a huge sense of accomplishment. It feels good to help those here at home.”

Story by Sgt. Ashley Baum



Lt. Col. Steven Fairbourn, public affairs officer for the Utah National Guard, speaks during a press conference at Utah National Guard's Army Aviation Support Facility Oct. 19. Also speaking at the conference were members of the Department of Public Safety, Summit County Search and Rescue and Life Flight.

Engineers Transform Force During Ceremony

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah— **B**ig changes came to the 1457th Engineer Battalion during a reorganization ceremony to deactivate and reflag three of its units on Oct. 14.

The deactivated units were the 116th Engineer Company (Horizontal) and 118th Engineer Company (Sapper). The 624th Engineer Company (Vertical) was reflagged as the 116th Engineer Vertical Construction Company and will carry on its lineage.

During the ceremony, Lt. Col. Andrew Owens, the commander of the 1457th Engineer Battalion, noted that the deactivation of units and restructuring of the battalion provided new opportunities for the Soldiers in the units.

“With every chapter there opens up opportunity, and our opportunity is to answer our nation’s call to be prepared for when they need us,” said Owens. “I have no doubt the engineers can overcome any adversity or any challenge as we prepare to go forward. I know you will continue to unite, build, fight.”

The decision to deactivate the units and restructure the battalion was made several years ago, as Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, the adjutant general of the Utah National Guard, noted in his speech.

“This is a sad day in some respects because we are saying goodbye to units that we have known for a long time and it almost feels like we are saying goodbye to friends,” said Burton. “What I would say to you is that we must move forward and we can’t live in the rear-view mirror. Our focus needs to be on the future and that is to be prepared for any contingency that comes upon us.”



Capt. Sean Boyle, commander, 116th Engineer Company (Horizontal), and 1st Sgt. Jose Sudweeks case the 116th’s guidon during a deactivation and restructuring ceremony Oct. 14. The casing of the guidon signifies the deactivation of the 116th Engineer Company (Horizontal).



Lt. Col. Andrew Owens, commander of the 1457th Engineer Battalion, passes the newly unfurled 116th Engineer Company guidon to Capt. Corey Lewis, the new commander of the 116th, during a deactivation and restructuring ceremony at Camp Williams. The 624th Engineer Company was reflagged as the 116th Engineer Company to carry on its long lineage.

Burton added that in a changing and more dangerous world, the Soldiers in the engineer units and the rest of the National Guard need to always be ready, willing and able.

Soldiers from the deactivated units will also play a role in carrying on the legacy of their unit. They bring the lessons they learned and the skills they gained while serving in the 116th, 118th and 624th to other companies in the 1457th Eng. Battalions and other units in the Utah National Guard.

“It’s a sad day we lost the Sapper company, but now all that knowledge and influence is distributed throughout other units,” said Sgt. 1st Class Chris Chipman. “The Soldiers from the engineer companies are already using their skills to improve their new units, and I know these new units are already leaning on the knowledge the Soldiers brought from the Sapper companies.”

Although the 116th was deactivated, the 624th was reflagged as the 116th because it has a longer lineage. The 116th has participated in multiple conflicts, including a recent deployment in 2015 to Kuwait. The 116th traces its lineage back to May 1, 1939.

The 118th traces its beginning to 1954 and was mobilized twice in support of the Global War on Terror. The 624th was constituted in 2008 and was mobilized once in support of the Global War on Terrorism. Although the two units were deactivated, their lineage will carry on, and if called upon they will be reactivated. 

Story and photos by Sgt. James Bunn

Cyber Protection Team Unfurls Its Flag

DRAPER, Utah — For a small, specialized group of Soldiers in the Utah National Guard, Nov. 4 marked a special day in their careers as the flag for Detachment 3, 174th Cyber Protection Team was finally uncased here.

In a ceremony, Col. Scott Burnhope, commander of 97th Troop Command, officially activated the detachment before Maj. Gen. Jefferson Burton, the adjutant general of the Utah National Guard, and other Utah National Guard leadership who were in attendance.

“Today, we are witnessing one of the great things in our military history--we are standing up a unit and the history starts from today and moves forward,” said Burnhope.

Detachment 3 is comprised of 14 cyber professionals who are broken down into two teams: a Hunt team and a Threat Emulation team said Capt. Brandon Morris, the detachment officer-in-charge. He further explained each of these teams have a unique role in finding the enemy within the network and providing real-world, cyber training to military personnel based upon information collected on the enemy’s tactics, techniques and procedures.

Although Detachment 3 just stood up, Morris said “every Soldier in the unit is already considered experts in their field.” All bring a wealth of knowledge and training with them from their civilian employment.

One of the Soldiers in the detachment, Spc. Tyler Jacox, a Close Access Network Operator, brings his unique skill set from working as a software engineer for Navitaire to the unit.

Based upon his experience at Navitaire Building Applications, Jacox said he can, “understand vulnerabilities down to the application level...which allows me to think as an attacker.”

Burnhope reminded the Soldiers of Detachment 3 to continue “developing those skills and those techniques that we will utilize in the future,” and to lean forward, develop history, plan hard and fight the enemy that is no longer tied to just a linear battlefield. 🇺🇸

Story and photos by Maj. Choli Ence

Soldiers of Detachment 3, 174th Cyber Protection Team (CPT), Utah National Guard, pose for a group photo after the activation ceremony on Nov. 4, 2017. Soldiers of 174th CPT place the new unit patches on their uniforms during the activation ceremony at Draper, Utah. Col. Scott Burnhope, commander, 97th Troop Command, uncases the flag for the 174th CPT.



Utah National Guard Stands Tall During Annual Governor's Day

BLUFFDALE, Utah — Soldiers and Airmen of the Utah National Guard (UTNG) participated in the 63rd annual Governor's Day Parade September 16th at Camp Williams to pay tribute to their commander in chief.

The festivities began with a helicopter flyover, a 19-volley cannon salute to honor Gov. Gary R. Herbert and music provided by the UTNG 23rd Army Band before the pass-in-review of nearly 7,000 Soldiers and Airmen.

This year was also a somber reminder of the sacrifices made by guardsman and their families for our freedom and our American ideals as Staff Sgt. Aaron Butler, who lost his life in Afghanistan last month, was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart.

Butler's parents and finance were also honored and recognized for their sacrifices by both Herbert and Maj. Gen. Jefferson Burton, adjutant general of the Utah National Guard.

Herbert reminded those in attendance, "The service of Butler and other members of his... team is in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service that we see exemplified here today."

As Soldiers and Airmen stood shoulder to shoulder on Tarbet field, Burton reminded those in attendance why he continues to serve in the military.

"I wear this uniform because I have never worked with a group of finer people. People who have adapted to the Army and Air Force values and who really live what they say they believe."

The National Guard has a unique role in our nation's defense with both a state and national mission, which is highlighted by the Guardsmen currently serving overseas, as well as, deployed in support of Hurricane Harvey and in response to the fires in Weber county.

"...Very few organizations have the ability and versatility to react so quickly, which is characteristic and expected of our Utah Guardsmen," said Herbert.



Gov. Gary Herbert, right, with Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, left and Brig. Gen. Tom Fisher, middle review the nearly 7,000 UTNG troops in a pass-in-review ceremony on Tarbet Field.

Each year, Governor's Day also serves as a way for Guard leadership to recognize the outstanding Soldiers and Airmen within the ranks.

Following the parade, service members were released to enjoy the kid-friendly activities, car show and food booths with their families.

The pass-in-review is a long-standing military tradition dating back to the American Revolution and serves as a way for commanders to formally inspect their formations.

Governor's Day is an annual event held in September at Camp Williams that is free and open to the public. 🇺🇸

Story by Maj. Choli Ence



Staff Sgt. Butler, an Engineer Sergeant with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne), was killed in action in Afghanistan Aug. 16, 2017, while conducting building-clearing operations during his deployment. Butler's parents accepted the Bronze Star and Purple Heart posthumously



awarded to their son during the Governor's Day ceremony. Butler's parents and finance were also honored and recognized for their sacrifices by both Gov. Gary Herbert and Maj. Gen. Jefferson Burton.



Soldiers, Airmen and Family members of the Utah National Guard (UTNG) took part in the 63rd Annual Governor's Day parade and events on Camp Williams in Bluffdale, Utah Sept. 16. The day's events were free, open to the public and included the parade, military aircraft flyover, cannon salute, music by the UTNG 23rd Army Band, classic car show, military equipment displays, information booths and more.

Utah CERFP Airmen Compete in “Tough Blooder” Race

FRANKLIN, Idaho — Approximately 40 Airmen from the Utah Air National Guard’s 151st Medical Detachment-1 participated in a training exercise and “Tough Blooder” race with their civilian counterparts from the Davis County Sheriff’s Search and Rescue team and Franklin County Emergency Medical Services here on Oct. 13-15.

The 151st Det-1 is the medical element of the joint Utah Army and Air National Guard’s Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and High-Yield Explosive Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP), which provides search and extraction, decontamination and medical treatment and stabilization during a mass-casualty situation.

This “Tough Blooder” training event allowed the Airmen to test their medical skills in a field environment, while building relationships with the civilian emergency responders that they may be tasked to support in the event of a disaster.



Senior Airman Holly McClelland, a medical technician with the Utah Air National Guard's 151st Medical Detachment-1, prepares a simulated wound for sutures during the Tough Blooder Competition, a training event in Franklin, Idaho on Oct. 14.



Senior Airman Brooks Anderton, a medical technician with the Utah Air National Guard's 151st Medical Detachment-1, provides medical care to a simulated patient during the Tough Blooder competition, a training event held in Franklin, Idaho.

“This is beneficial because it allows us to become familiar with their capabilities, and for them to become familiar with our capabilities and increase our interoperability with one another,” said Lt. Col. Donald Baker, 151st Det-1 commander.

The training took place over two days and consisted of an educational-lecture portion followed by the hands-on “Tough Blooder” competition which was taken in small groups made up of four to five individuals.

The skills portion of the competition challenged participants to put their classroom knowledge to the test, demonstrating their abilities at several different testing stations, all while carrying a team member on a stretcher around an obstacle course.

Steve Petty, a member of the Davis County Sheriff’s SAR, said the competition element of the training was very important because it helps to prepare individuals to act in a more stressful situation.

“We integrate competition into our training because it adds pressure,” said Petty. “Anybody can do a particular skill with no pressure, but doing it under pressure of time or competition makes it a little more interesting and forces you to be able to act and do it under duress.”

In addition to providing the CERFP members with the opportunity for hands-on training during a friendly competition, the event gave the medics in the unit a chance to complete many of their job-specific yearly training requirements.

“[At the Tough Blooder] we did what would normally take a year’s worth of training during drill time,” said Staff Sgt. Erik Bornemeier, a medical technician with the 151st Det-1, who planned the event.

Bornemeier added that although computer-based training and classroom education during a drill weekend can be a good way to present information, the hands-on opportunity provided by an event like this is crucial to effectively learn a skill.

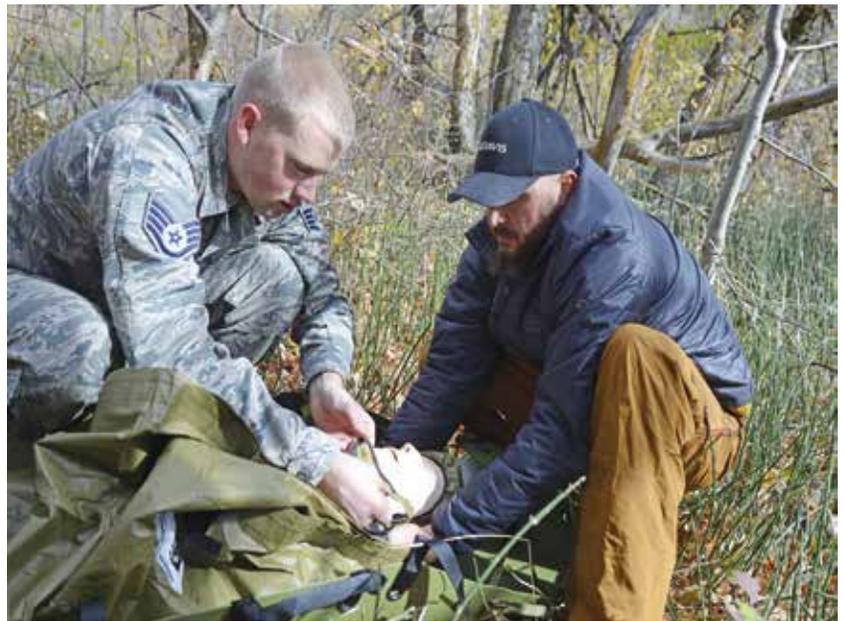
“This exercise gives us, in a sense, as much real-world practice as we can have, using the supplies that we will use and going through scenarios that we might likely encounter,” said Baker. “Additionally, it gives us the opportunity to be together and develop camaraderie and the sense of teamwork that is so important when we are dealing with an emergency situation.”

The “Tough Blooder” race required the teams to demonstrate several practical skills, including starting an IV, splinting a fracture, securing an airway, stopping traumatic bleeding, cleaning and preparing a wound for sutures, dressing wounds, as well as carrying out a number of other required tasks and answering medical knowledge-based questions.

Trophies were awarded the next morning to the top two teams and to several individuals in recognition of their achievements in different categories during the training event.

“We really appreciate the opportunity to train with the Utah National Guard and to strengthen that partnership we have and expand our circle of friends and colleagues that we have in the emergency medical community,” said Petty. 📧

Story and photos by Tech. Sgt. Annie Edwards



Staff Sgt. Brandon Caldwell, a medical technician with the Utah Air National Guard's 151st Medical Detachment-1 works with a member of the Davis County Sheriff's Search and Rescue team to secure a simulated patient for transport during the Tough Blooder competition in Franklin, Idaho.



Airmen from the Utah Air National Guard's 151st Medical Detachment-1, and a member of the Davis County Sheriff's Department transport a simulated patient during the Tough Blooder competition on Oct. 14.



HHC, 204th MEB Tests New Mobile CP Concept



CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah — Soldiers with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade (MEB), tested a new brigade command post concept during a field-training exercise at Camp Williams, Utah, Nov. 3-5, 2017.

The new setup features expandable trailers and box trucks. Prior to using trucks the unit used large, geodesic tents that took hours to assemble. The unit switched to trucks to speed up its ability to move locations on a battlefield.

“I think this new setup is great,” said Sgt. Wayne Austin, a Soldier with the 204th MEB. “Yesterday when we did our jump, it only took a short amount of time to get our operation center 100 percent setup. It is a lot faster and we’re going to be a lot more mobile with this setup.”

The new setup is an attempt to meet the intent of the Army’s goal to be more ready, agile, and capable.

“This mobile, tactical-operation center is derived from the guidance that we’re getting from the National

A new brigade-command-post concept was setup and tested by Soldiers with Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade during a field-training exercise at Camp Williams, Nov. 3-5.

Guard Bureau, the adjutant general, and the Army chief of staff,” said Master Sgt. Jed Lundell, the area operations, noncommissioned officer in charge for the 204th MEB. “We’re seeing the battles of the future won’t be fought from big, forward-operating bases where you go and hang out for a long time. They will be fought on the move. When you’re sitting still it gives the enemy a chance to attack you so we have to have the capability and ability to move from one point to another and maintain mission trackers.”

While the new setup offers more agility, maneuverability and speed, it also comes with new challenges and obstacles for the brigade to work out and overcome. Col. Paul Rodgers, commander of the 204th MEB, said that because this is a new idea, the availability of the setup is still limited, adding that

other units in the command do not yet have this capability. Additionally, Rodgers said that maintaining the trucks is more challenging than maintaining the tents. To combat the challenges of this new setup, Rodgers wanted to make sure there were systems in place to keep the brigade functioning no matter what.

“A tent doesn’t generally brake down,” said Rodgers. “If one of these trucks brakes down, I lose almost a quarter of my command post. That is why we have to have redundancy, that’s why you see us still pulling the trailers with tents behind us. If a truck goes down we still can be mission capable. The tents may not be as fast, but we still have it just in case.”

Although there are challenges the brigade faces in implementing the new setup, the speed and ease of the trailers have proven to be a valuable asset and one the commander intends to improve and refine.

“Moving forward we may refine this system for comfort and to suit the commander’s needs” said Lundell. “We may add a few features like wind blockers or something to make it nicer inside or even add additional trucks.”

In its first proof of concept, the trailers performed much better than expected and added a capability that was not possible before.

“If you told me six months ago that we were going to go out and jump our tactical-command post five times, which is what we did this weekend, and our main-command post two times, I would tell you, you’re nuts,” said Lundell. “These trucks give us a capability we never had before.”



Story and photos by Sgt. James Bunn



Maj. Gen. Jefferson Burton, adjutant general of the Utah National Guard, hands the 151st Air Refueling Wing guidon to Col. Ryan Ogan, the new commander of the 151st ARW, during the change-of-command ceremony held at Roland R. Wright Air National Guard Base on Nov. 4.

151st ARW Conducts Change of Command

SALT LAKE CITY — **T**he Utah Air National Guard’s 151st Air Refueling Wing (ARW) conducted a change-of-command ceremony in the north hangar at Roland R. Wright Air National Guard Base Nov. 4.

Maj. Gen. Jefferson Burton, the Adjutant General of the Utah National Guard, passed the 151st ARW guidon from Col. Kristin Streukens, the former unit commander, to Col. Ryan Ogan, formally signifying the transfer of authority to the new leadership.

Burton thanked Streukens for her service and dedication to the Utah Air National Guard and the Airmen of the 151st ARW. He praised her leadership and the accomplishments achieved by the organization during her command.

After accepting the guidon, Ogan addressed the Airmen and community members in attendance.

“We look forward to the next chapter of the 151st, while learning from our past and preserving our future,” said Ogan. “It’s imperative that today we be ready to fight and also be innovative in our approach and take care of each other.”

Additionally, Ogan recognized the individual units and Airmen for their contributions to the success of the Utah Air National Guard.

“I appreciate the sacrifices that you make every day and every month that you are out here,” he said. “You support a 24/7 mission and I thank you for that sacrifice.”

Ogan, a KC-135 command pilot with more than 4,300 hours of flight time, previously served as the Vice Commander of 151st ARW as well as commander of the 151st Operations Group.

With this new assignment, Ogan will assume responsibility for the control and operations of plans and programs affecting more than 1,400 Airmen, to include the combat readiness and mission capability of the 151st Air Refueling Wing.

Story and photo by Tech. Sgt. Annie Edwards

Yama Sakura 73

SENDAI, Japan — Approximately 90 Soldiers from the Utah National Guard (UTNG) participated in Yama Sakura 73, at Camp Sendai, Sendai, Japan, from Nov. 13 through Dec. 17, 2017.

The UTNG managed and provided life-support duties for approximately 1,000 U.S. participants in the exercise as part of a U.S. Army Japan (USARJ) Logistics Task Force (LTF).

In coordination with USARJ G4 and, in partnership with Northeastern Army Logistics Operations Division from the Japan Ground Self Defense Forces, select personnel from the UTNG were part of an ADVON that left for Camp Sendai on Nov. 13 to establish a 24-hour-operations center, setup work stations, and prepare for reception, staging, onward movement, and integration of inbound participants. The LTF provided personnel-status reporting, medical, billeting, laundry, MWR services, movement-control-team support, finance, military police and security, and dining-facility coordination and support. The UTNG continued the tradition of providing Opposing Force players who worked side-by-side with their Japanese counterparts during the exercise which began Dec. 6.

Our Movement Control Team managed the completion of more than 192 missions, and our personnel, operations, and billeting sections worked around the clock to accommodate U.S. personnel arriving at all hours from all over the U.S. Army Pacific region during the 32-day, joint-multinational, war-fighter exercise.

"Brig. Gen. Atack came and visited us during the exercise and recognized a few of our outstanding Soldiers, but truly, they are all outstanding and went above and beyond to get the job done." said Lt. Col. Annette Barnes, the LTF officer in charge for YS 73. "I'm extremely proud of the work our Utah Soldiers did here with our Japanese counterparts. These relationships are my favorite part of this opportunity."

The slogan for Yama Sakura 73 was "Fight Together" or "Sen-Sho!" which was repeated in unison with vigor, fists in the air, after every LTF meeting throughout the exercise. Once the after-action reviews and clean up were complete, the Bilateral Logistics Team went out for some bowling, cultural visits, and a final meal.

"This life-support team is our treasure," said Col. Yamaguchi, the deputy director of logistic support for the Japan Ground Self Defense Forces. "We were able to achieve excellent results together." 🇺🇸

Story by Lt. Col. Annette Barnes



Top down: Bilateral-logistics-support team group pic, sky view of Yama Sakura 73 tent city, bilateral coordination during the exercise, and Japanese cultural exposure.

Utah Director of Joint Staff Promoted to General Officer



Col. Darwin Craig is promoted to brigadier general and pinned with his new rank by his wife and daughter at a ceremony at the Roland R. Wright Air National Guard Base Nov. 4. Maj. Gen. Jefferson Burton officiated the ceremony.

SALT LAKE CITY — Col. Darwin Craig, Utah National Guard Director of the Joint Staff, was promoted to the rank of brigadier general on Nov. 4, 2017, during a ceremony held in the north hangar of Roland R. Wright Air National Guard Base.

Maj. Gen. Jefferson Burton, the adjutant general of the Utah National Guard, praised Craig for his service and dedication.

Craig's wife and daughter pinned the brigadier general rank on his uniform. Following the formal promotion, a member of the Utah Air National Guard Honor Guard presented Craig with a general's flag.

As Director of the Joint Staff, Craig manages National Guard military functions of the joint staff and joint military program operations for the State of Utah. Craig has served in the Air Force for 27 years. He is a command pilot with more than 4,100 total flight hours. His past assignments include time as the 151st Air Refueling Wing commander and 151st Operations Group commander.

Story and photos by Tech. Sgt. Annie Edwards



Brig. Gen. Darwin Craig, right, is presented the one-star general flag with Maj. Gen. Jefferson Burton, center, Nov. 4.

Family Assistance Centers

Regardless of location, FACs services include:

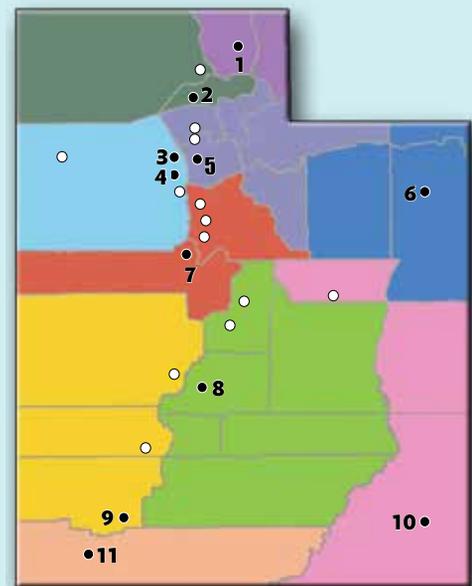
- TRICARE/TRICARE dental assistance
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Utah Family Assistance Centers (FAC) assist service members and their families during peacetime, training or mobilization. FACs are open to all military branches: Army Guard, Air Guard, active-duty Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, Marines, Navy and all Reserve components.

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3 • West Jordan 801-816-3577	7 • Spanish Fork 801-794-6011	11 • St. George 435-986-5417
4 • Bluffdale 801-878-5037	8 • Richfield 435-896-6442	○ Armory ● Armory • FAC



Contact your local FAC for any questions you may have.

Visit us at www.ut.ngb.army.mil/family

Fighting at Camp Williams – Firefighting That Is...

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah — Little has been said of fires on Camp Williams in recent years, and this fortunate reality is absolutely by design. Training hasn't decreased on the installation, nor has the threat of fires due to natural causes such as lightning strikes. What has changed, and changed for the better, are the fire mitigation and firefighting efforts of Camp Williams and the Utah National Guard (UTNG).

Senior leaders of the UTNG will never forget the unfortunate Herriman Fire of 2010, occasionally referred to as the 'machine-gun fire,' which consumed three Herriman homes and caused smoke damage to the homes of numerous families in the communities surrounding the installation. Fortunately, no lives were lost in this fire, but a painful memory was created by the Herriman Fire which remains to this day.

Maintaining a safe and productive training environment at Camp Williams has always been a priority, but the Herriman Fire brought laser-focus to the fire threat and its potential impact to communities surrounding Camp Williams. As a result, Maj. Gen. (retired) Brian Tarbet, adjutant general of the UTNG during the fire, brought a renewed emphasis to fire mitigation and firefighting efforts at Camp Williams to ensure that disasters such as the Herriman Fire are prevented.

Lessons learned from the Herriman Fire investigation resulted in a new and improved three-tiered approach to wildfire management on Camp Williams. These tiers encompass prevention, training and risk management, and response. These response tiers were the result of a combined effort, bringing together the knowledge and expertise of stakeholders from across the UTNG and outside agencies such as Unified Fire Authority (UFA), the Utah Department of Natural Resources, and the United States Bureau of Land Management.

Prevention is a key component of the wildfire management plan. In coordination with the UTNG Environmental Management Office and these stakeholders, an Integrated Wildfire Management Plan is refined and submitted every five years to National Guard Bureau for approval. The wildfire management plan balances training needs with effective training area management with efforts such as targeted grazing plans, mechanical tree and shrub



A UH-60 Black Hawk carries a Bambi Bucket for water drops. Bulldozer crews at Camp Williams prepare to cut fire breaks. An ariel view of Camp Williams after the Herriman Fire in 2010. A Black Hawk crew drops water on the Pinyon Fire in 2012. UFA and Guardsmen collaborate on fighting the Pinyon Fire.



thinning, prescribed burns, and area rehabilitation plans. These targeted efforts reduce overgrowth and thin areas vulnerable to fire threats. Collectively, this plan and its efforts provide the basis for the first tier of wildfire management for the UTNG—prevention.

The second tier of the wildfire management plan consists of training and risk management. This is a management effort conducted by Utah Training Center (UTC) Range Control through direction of the UTNG State Training Officer. Range Control provides day-to-day operational control of the Camp Williams Range Complex, supported by Fire Desk support at all times. Fire Desk personnel closely monitor weather conditions, observe downrange cameras, track training activities, track construction activities, and other training events at all times. When threatening conditions exist, Fire Desk personnel are empowered to restrict training or other activities to prevent high-fire risk activities from occurring.

When high-risk training is necessary and authorized, the Range Operations Manager coordinates the pre-placement of fire-fighting apparatus during execution and further coordinates with UFA to pre-stage firefighting crews on site during high-optempo or high-risk training.

Additionally, UFA hosts multiple training events on the Camp Williams Range Complex throughout the fire season where multiple outside agencies conduct wildland firefighting drills on site. These training events enhance



the team's firefighting skills and provides invaluable insight on camp's unique terrain. The training and risk management tier encompasses vital initiatives in the overall wildfire management effort.

Finally, regardless of vigilant avoidance and mitigation efforts, wildfires can still occur. As such, the third and final tier of the Utah Guard wildfire management plan is the response. Shortly after the Pinyon Fire in 2012, Maj. Gen. Brian Tarbet directed that the UTNG would no longer operate an in-house wildland firefighting team. Instead, the funds previously used to pay for the state employee firefighters and associated firefighting equipment were diverted to contract outside firefighting professionals. UFA was selected and awarded a 10-year contract to provide year-round wildland firefighting services with seasonal manpower increases during high-risk periods. This change in fire response management has led to a significant improvement in overall response times and reduction in large-scale burns on Camp Williams.

Additionally, UFA incident commanders have been given delegated authority during fire events on Camp Williams to direct UTNG assets within the affected area. These assets may include the UH-60 Black Hawk with its Bambi Buckets, as well as dozer crews, water tenders, mop-up crews, evacuation assistance, and road closure crews. Additionally, the UTNG, through UTC Range Control, maintains a roster of 30-40 Soldiers from tenant units assigned to Camp Williams, who are trained annually on fire-safety skills. The role of UTNG members has transitioned from direct-attack firefighting to that of a support role to promote the success of the wildland firefight plan.

While much has changed in the years since 2010, ensuring a safe and effective training area and mitigating wildland fires at Camp Williams remains a top priority to Maj. Gen. Jefferson Burton, the adjutant general of the UTNG. We in the UTNG train and prepare to protect our communities both at home and abroad, and that includes wildland fire mitigation and protection for our citizens surrounding Camp Williams. 🇺🇸

*Story by Maj. Kendall Workman and
Lt. Col. Steven Fairbourn*

Breaking Ground For a Future Ahead

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah — **M**embers of the 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne), Utah National Guard, construction managers and local civic leaders gathered to break ground at the site of the future, readiness center and headquarters building for the 19th SFG(A) Oct. 17.

Currently 19th SFG (A) has been using multiple buildings on Camp Williams, some which date back more than 40 years. Though well maintained, since the Global War on Terrorism has led to back-to-back deployments for the 19th SFG (A), a new facility to keep up with the mission tempo has been in high demand for many years.

"Its been about 10 years in the making to build the new facility," said Col. Larry Henry, commander of the 19th SFG(A). "The state visited 7th Special Forces Group to get ideas and concepts for storing equipment, classroom space and connectivity for all of our systems."

In the past decade, the different Special Forces Groups have been awarded the opportunity to build new facilities for their units. Most of the active-duty Special Forces Groups have built new facilities and 20th Special Forces Group built its new facility around five years ago, Henry said. It's time for 19th SFG (A) to get its new facility as well.

"The 19th is in great need of a facility like this, because their current readiness center was built in the 70s," said Col. Tyler B. Smith, with the Construction and Facilities Management office, Utah National Guard. "The unit was a very different unit back then. Its equipment sets have expanded and the operational needs and environment have changed. This facility will accommodate all of those requirements and put the 19th under one roof."

Jacobsen Construction, a local Utah construction company, was awarded the contract to build the new facility. Jacobsen Construction has built for the Utah National Guard in the past and has a strong working relationship with the state, Smith said. The new readiness center is planned to be around 140,000 square feet and will house many features that are unique to the mission set of the 19th SFG (A). Current projections are to have the facility completed by spring of 2019.

"Accolades to the entire team that helped make this happen and brought it to fruition," Smith said. "It was a lot of effort on a lot of people's part, and it's a great day to see this finally arrive. Equipment will be out here shortly to begin building." 🇺🇸

Story and photos by Spc. Colin Harper



OPERATION TORCH – 75 YEARS LATER

Utah Guard Commemorates WWII Morocco Landings



U.S. Soldiers landing in Morocco during Operation Torch. Kasbah after U.S. attack.

CASABLANCA, Morocco — On Nov. 8, 2017 the Utah National Guard partnered with the Royal Moroccan Armed Forces to commemorate Operation Torch, the first major offensive against Nazi Germany in WWII.

The Utah delegation, headed by Brig. Gen. Darwin Craig, visited the restored La Kasbah de Mehdiya monument, which was shelled and left in ruins following Operation Torch. Craig and representatives of the Moroccan, British and French armies took part in a wreath-laying ceremony in remembrance of those who made the final sacrifice in Operation Torch.

The delegation provided original WWII uniforms and equipment for a display sponsored by the Moroccan Directorate of Military History. Sgt. 1st Class Patrick Brown spoke on Operation Torch and U.S.-Morocco relations at a symposium held at Hassan II University in Casablanca. The symposium was attended by about 300 Moroccan students and faculty. The presentation featured original uniforms, equipment and other artifacts used by American Soldiers in WWII for the students to handle and examine

Operation Torch was launched on Nov. 8, 1942 as more than 35,000 American Soldiers led by then Maj. Gen. George Patton landed on the beaches in Port Lyautey, Safi, and Fedala on the west coast of Morocco. The Task Force Soldiers were from the 3rd and 9th Infantry Divisions and the 2nd Armored Division. The operation faced great uncertainty. It was unknown whether the Vichy French forces in Morocco who were allied with Germany would resist or cooperate with the Allied invasion. It was also the first major, amphibious operation undertaken by the U.S. Army during the war. The task force sailed directly from the east coast of the U. S. without making landfall which was a remarkable feat in and of itself. Operation Torch represented a turning point in the war. The painful lessons learned on the beaches of Morocco led to the success of subsequent Allied operations.

The present-day partnership between Morocco and the state of Utah and the Utah National Guard began in the late fall of 2003. Just a few months later, Northeastern Morocco was tragically affected by a large earthquake. The Utah National Guard worked as quickly as possible to offer a helping hand. The adjutant general of the Utah National Guard at that time, Maj. Gen. Brian Tarbet, immediately tasked his staff to do everything possible to send aid and alleviate suffering. Four days later, a Utah Air Guard refueling tanker was filled to capacity, loaded with thousands of pounds of first-aid supplies, hygiene kits, blankets, and tarps, and it flew to Morocco where trucks were waiting to rush the materials to those affected by the devastation.

Today Morocco and the U. S. continue to stand together on the regional and global stage. Together, strengthening the security and economic well-being of our citizens and working to address the major challenges of the day; from countering violent extremism to promoting energy security. 🇺🇸

Story by Spc. Patrick Brown



Operation Torch map of landing areas.

The 62nd Annual Veterans Day Concert Brings New Life into a Long-Standing Tradition

SALT LAKE CITY — The annual Veterans Day Concert is a long-standing event that honors veterans with music, singing and video spotlights.

The concert is free to the public and features the 23rd Army Band and a 690-voice Granite School District high school, combined choir. This year the concert was a little different than in previous years. Instead of the typical location of the Huntsman Center at the University of Utah, it was held at the Tabernacle at Temple Square. The new venue gave the concert new life with incredible acoustics. The Tabernacle's design is well-suited for musical performances and that design enhanced both the choir and band enhancing the quality of the concert.



Members of the 23rd Army Band and Granite School Districts high school combined choirs perform at the 62nd annual Veterans Day Concert.

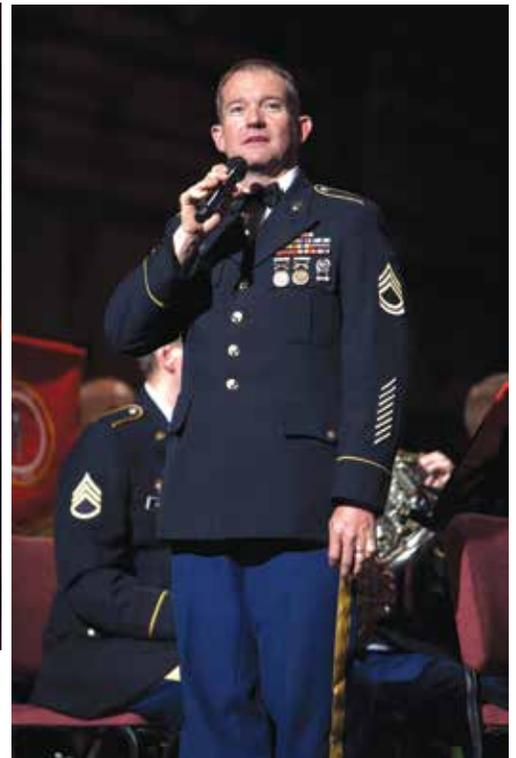
This year's theme of "Valor" made for a poignant program, featuring spotlights focusing on members of Utah's 19th Special Forces Group. The first spotlight featured Maj. Tyler Jensen, who was awarded the Silver Star for acts of Valor while serving in Afghanistan.

Jensen introduced the concept of Valor by stating, "The work is not about the awards and it's not about the recognition. It's about people. You start serving those brothers-in-arms next to you and worrying about their safety."

The next spotlight highlighted Sgt. 1st Class Caleb Brewer. Brewer suffered a catastrophic injury when he stepped on a pressure-plate, improvised-explosive device while serving in Afghanistan. He lost both legs as a result of the blast, but he never lost his perseverance and positive attitude.

"I believe people can be forged through adversity. I think that it depends on how your outlook on life is, and you can use adversity to become a stronger person," said Brewer in the interview.





Brewer works as a CrossFit instructor specializing in helping people who have also lost limbs. He is a perfect example of how self-sacrifice and service can make you a better person.

The spotlights concluded with an emotional tribute to Staff Sgt. Aaron Butler, who paid the ultimate sacrifice while serving in Afghanistan. Butler's parents gave a powerful testament to what kind of man he was.

"Aaron was an example of living a passionate life. He gave his all in everything he did and would encourage others to seek out what they wanted most in their lives and to go after it with everything they had."

Butler's spotlight ended with an emotional playing of Taps to pay respect to him and other service members who gave their lives for their country.

The concert was an overwhelming success and powerfully honored those who have taken time away from their families to serve their country. For anyone who missed the live concert this year, the spotlights can be viewed on YouTube. Plan on attending next year; it's a powerful way to pay respect to the men and women who have sacrificed so much for the freedoms we all enjoy. 🇺🇸

Story by Spc. James Dansie

Members of the 23rd Army Band and Granite School District's high school, combined choirs perform at the 62nd annual Veterans Day Concert, Nov. 10.

Bottom left: Zions Bank's 8th annual Veterans Service award was presented to Ms. Darlene Head, Executive Director (Emeritus) Salt Lake Community College Veterans Center.

Opposite page bottom left: Utah PTA Military essay contest winners: Isabelle Dansie, Skyline High School (10th grade); Catherine Moody, Frontier Middle School (7th grade); and Elizabeth Bennion, Ensign Elementary School (6th grade).



AIR PROMOTIONS

LIEUTENANT COLONEL

Hale Daniel T
Higgins Amanda Specht

CAPTAIN

Jensen Greg J
Metzger Jeremy Richard
Pitzer Enoch Methuselah
Roberts Mark Alan
Weaver Bruce Edward Jr

SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT

Alfonso Diana M
Glade Chalain A
Harrison Bradley Clifford
Hood Guy L
Reeve Mario Zuge

MASTER SERGEANT

Andiarenaramirez Eduardo
Barr Gregory James
Bell Landon Gary
Jones Nathan D
Mayfield Tyson Lyn
Phelps Brandon J
Stroh John D
Taylor Justin J
Vreeland Christopher M
Whetstone William Allen
Zepeda Robert

FIRST LIEUTENANT

Batura Nicholas M
Brady Macklin Judd
Gale Scyler A
Healey Chyane J
Hendrickson David M

TECHNICAL SERGEANT

Augustin Gregory Jeanluc
Braddy Christina Rae
Hale David M
Johnson Tucker B
Lewis Jennelle Caitlynn
Lyman Donald Ray
McElwain Joshua Aaron
Miller Ryan L
Montenegro Paola
Pierce Kyle Lane
Sagato Milan Natalie
Smith Nicholas Brandon
Taylor Sara L
Visser Jesse Nichole
Williams Coral S
Young Amy Pearl

STAFF SERGEANT

Acosta, Oscar Adolfo
Anderson Ian U
Brady Jason D
Bright William Andrew
Brown Dallen W
Cazimero Adam M
Christensen Timothy B
Commerford Wesley Scott
Comte Scott Nolan
Dixon Derek T
Douglas Abby L
Gallagher Brenton K
Gonzales Angel Rachael
Gushue Kaleb Thomas
Harvey Chad B
Jimenez Daniel A
Lunt Collier J
McLelland Holly Marie
Moghtader Amber B
Morillo Anfred J
Mourtgos Shane W
Roberts Brady J
Stroud Cosslett J
Tracy Desirae A
Wilson Todd J
Woodward Bradley N

AIRMAN 1ST CLASS

Kadleck Amanda Carroll

SENIOR AIRMAN

Anderton Brooks D
Cornia Daniel T
Cummings Kurtis J
Degrazio Anthony M
Goff Randall A
Hamer Cameron T
Mitchell Luke A
Northrup Joshua D
Sheffield Parker D
Taylor Preston J
Vakapuna Tauni J
Ward Christopher A
Warner Jake W
Weidler David C
Whitehead Chasen D
Williams Gabrielle M
Young Jordan D

ARMY PROMOTIONS

COLONEL

Lund Robert Alan

LIEUTENANT

Kjar Michael Dale
Vogrinec Budd Joseph
Williams Gerald Elden

MAJOR

Christiansen Shane Newman
Heightman Robert Jason
Johnson Gregory Frederick
Martin Benjamin Dale
Masteller Brian Douglas
Taylor Brent Russell
Waldron David Thomas

CAPTAIN

Thompson Patrick Alan

FIRST LIEUTENANT

Margulies Sandra Rose
Zufelt Justin Lee

SECOND LIEUTENANT

Ohiku Dennis
Scherf Alexander

CHIEF WARRANT 2

Brooks Jaren Walter
Wood Darian Denzil

WARRANT OFFICER 1

Alvey Jacob Royal
Glick Garrett Cutler
Higgins Darrin Stanley
Nelson Kyle Franklin
Wilson Scott Eric

COMMAND SERGEANT

MAJOR

McNichol John Joseph Jr
Wingate Randell Dean

SERGEANT MAJOR

Butler Jennifer Lea
Gifford Sean Christopher

FIRST SERGEANT

Campbell Brett Ryan
Jackson Allen Eugene
Muramoto Joey Jack
Shute Gordon Reginald
Thornsbury Robert Boyd

MASTER SERGEANT

Brady Jason Charles
Cave Steven John
Francis Ross Amos
Hone Rick Rulon
Hunt Geoffrey Franklin
Johnson Joel Lee
Myers Jason Kenneth

SERGEANT FIRST CLASS

Allred James Lewis
Blunt Andrew Jonathan
Butler Ronald Mark
Crandall Justin Bryant
Donovan Meredith Anne
Goldsmith Willard Leroy IV
Jones David Scott
Lewis Stephanie Elaine
Pahl Christopher Michael A
Sneddon Russell K
Warren Tyler Bryon

STAFF SERGEANT

Austin Wayne Given III
Black Kendal Clarence
Blocher Brett Ellis
Browning Casey Collins
Chhe Satya
Compton Jacob Michael
Davis Guissela
Feldstein Tyler Alexander
Ferre Jessica Angie
Johnson Olaf Craig
Johnson Thayne Elam
Jones Trevor Chad
Maben Aaron Scott
Mix Jonathan Jacob
Mulcahy Molly Christine
Nichols Eric Spencer
Parke Brett K
Parker Kacey Dee
Patton Regina Marie
Peterson Kristopher Courtney
Pew Daniel James
Roberts Kendrick Gregory
Sorensen Dale Ryan
Terhaar Dennison Lee
Timarky Tierra Marie
Vargas Abel Francisco
Winder William Christifer

SERGEANT

Allen Michael Aaron
Armstrong Andrew Michael
Bardelliniramirez Gian Paol
Bizardi Byron Leo
Broadway Jacob Scott
Brown Caleb Aaron
Bunker Brett Jordan
Call Korey Wilford
Chastain Julian Grider
Cheung Henry Jun Jr
Durfee Adam Douglas
Francis David Andrew
Frandsen Ian Michael
Free Nathaniel
Grow Samuel John
Hadley Grant Barlow
Hansen Gavin Collingford
Harris Brady M
Herbert Randy
Hoyt Spencer David

Humphries Trevor Jonathan
Jauchler Jason Andrew
Jeffs Curtis Jessop
Jennings Westley Oaks
Kwiatkowski Eric James
Leiva Kevin Xavier
Lindsay Travis Edward
Lindsey Shiann Taylor
Manning Jeremy Wyatt
May Matthew Scott
Meacham Joshua Russell
Moore Elias Willhite
Moralescorona Jose
Murphy Devon Lee
Odonnell Sean Patrick
Osborn Smokey Layne
Palmer Steven Mark
Riding Michael Linley
Rogers Hannah Marlene
Rollins Cathryn Emily
Shinkle Russell Albert
Simmons Marc Ben
Simons Gwynyth Adele
Smith Jesse Malcolm
Steed Levi
Stenseth Joshua Christopher
Taylor Kiel James
Taylor Nicholas Evans
Thomas Anton Stephen
Vogel Logan Andrew
Vogel Logan Andrew
Vogel Logan Andrew
Watts Jason Todd
Whatcott Benjamin Gary
Wimmer Cooper Malachi

SPECIALIST / CORPORAL

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Lang David James
Abrams Dayne Michael
Anderson Cade Dutson
Anderson Joseph Dale
Arrington Preston Rlocke
Artega Angel Anthony
Barnes Kaleb Ray
Barton Cash Derral
Black Kody Robert
Booher Cody James
Bowman Tycen Edward
Boyce Trevor
Bradford Randall Scott
Brinkerhoff Jacob Grant
Brown Chasen Daniel
Calderon Miguel Humberto
Calkins Cheyenne Alexis
Childers Colton Lee
Chmieleski Tyler Joseph
Christensen Konnor Brett
Christensen Trent Phillip
Clark Spencer Cameron
Dalton Kellie Suzanne
Delacruz Spencer Eric
Douglas Derek Anthony
Elliott Joel Howard
Erdene Austen B
Erickson Antony Kay
Gifford Joshua Greg

Ginter Lena Elise
Gleue Kyle William
Hale Alexander Daniel
Hammer Jacob William
Harrison John Edward
Heath Logan Glenn
Heino Jeremy Robert
Hellon Meshell Shauri
Hernandez Simon Edward
Heyns Carson Ronald
Hill Jacob Thomas
Horspool Robert Michael
Iluzada Benjamin Julius Kua
Jefferson Samuel Nels
Johnson Bradley Chase
Jones Kevin Randall
Juarez Christian Legrande
Justet Tyler Kimble
Karony Braden John
Kawai Joshua Reeves Hideo
Kinzie Jordan David
Kirk Adam Anthony
Kramer Nancy Marlies
Kunzler Matthew Crosby
Latu Isaac Rastermon
Lavallee Michael Joseph Jr
Lihme Kelby Krispin
Lopezmorales Mauricio
Lugo Hector David
Lundberg Colton John
Lunt Payton Kyler
Malcolm Ethen Richard
Martinez Nathaniel Mariano
Maughan Thomas Floyd
McKan Lord James Edward IV
McKean Isaac Goodwin
Menlove Parker Thomas
Miller Ian Thomas
Miyamoto Brady A
Mulitalo Moliki Kade
Nielsen Kipp Leon
Otinell Masin
Owens Dilan Ray
Payne Casey James
Penegar Alex Walt
Pitts Harper Brent
Powell Spencer Dean
Prounh Pang
Pugmire Jacob Max
Pulli Alexandria Claire
Ramos Maria Guadalupe
Rasmussen Kelton Gayle
Rohrer Lewis Scott
Ruizcamacho Melissa A
Savage Dallin Michael
Scanlan Malia Kalani
Scurti Andrew Joseph
Sedano David Jesus
Smith Jacob Andrew
Smith Yuri Carlos
Smithostergaard Gunnar B
Spring Nikolas Karl Patrick
Stone Brandon Connor
Strait Jarred Boyd
Talcott Trey Camron
Taylor Alex Leroy
Thomas Devin Connor

Thomas Martina Marie
Tinoco Martin Antonio
Trevino Christian Lee
Tuck Justin Dale
Velaarrivillaga Reyna L
Vigohayes Justice Bradley
Whitmore Kevin Milton
Wilson Bradin Grant
Woolston Shane Trent
Yapias Alex Tyler

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS

Abdulateef Ihab
Aguinaga Andre Abel
Banta Jess Matthew
Barrett Bradley Dennis
Bass Andrew David
Batt Jayden Robert
Benally Tori Alonda
Bergquist Brock Gordon
Biesinger James Andrew
Brown Cameron Noel
Bryant Kade Anthony
Burns Gilbert Michael
Calchera Robert Tanner
Calchera Shawn Thompson
Chamberlain Jordan James
Clark Jesse Levi
Collins Joshua Dayde
Corbit Jacklyn Deann
Crosby Chad Brian
Edwards Skylar Austin
Farr Brandon James
Freire dossantos Gleyson
Godfrey Preston Lee
Green Benjamin Rex
Green Steven Andrew
Hadden Frederic Canyon
Hanrion Gabriel Jonathan
Harris Daniel Louis
Harris Landin JD
Hudson Logan Jeremy
Huston Benjamin Alan
Ivie Issac Joseph
Johnson Elizabeth Erin
Judd Kehl Derik
Kleinman Christopher Abbott
Koch Landon William
Larsen Taylor Richard
Lauritzen Austin Orson
London Zakary Lane
Martineau Chandler Houston
Meservy Craig Hatch
Moody Michael Aaron
Morris Deangelo Jeffery
Mulder Caleb Woodruff
Naylor Richard Todd
Olmos Felicia Marie
Olsen Alec Xavier
Palmer Andrew James
Pansegrau David Vincent
Pemberton Elijah Gil
Peterson Misty Errin
Peterson Stephen Jack
Proctor Jared Scott
Roberts Jackson Dennis
Robinson Jerry Tyrel

Romerorodriguez Josedejesus
Sauvey Ashley Marie
Schudel Ian James
Sessions Logan Jeremy
Spencer Clayton Todd
Sprague Kimberly Ann
Stark Jacob Chase
Stewart Tylar J
Trowbridge Kade Kalen
Turgeon Kaden Robert
Vanderbeek Andrew Jester
Wall Dillon Nicholas
Warnick Seth Lindsay
Watson Ryan Elliott
Wells Dallen T
Whiteley Riley Scott
Williams Wyatt Scott
Wolfley Garrett Robert
Wood Rory Teancum Brett
Zamorajimenez Gustavo

PRIVATE (PV1)

Aldous Porter Alan
Allen Mason Dennis
Barton Justin R
Bedell Kalani Edward
Black Wyatt Norman
Branch Hayden Joseph
Bricker Devin Logan
Bruderer Brayden Lane
Camp Erik Daniel
Carson Trevor Lynn
Comsa Shaun A
Contrys Nicholas Phillip
Copling Taylor Nathan
Ewell Brittney Marrion
Faris Joshua Albert
Fletcher Garrett Martin
Hellier Dylan Thomas
Hymas Steven Joseph
Ika Loketi F
Jarnagin Eli Tyler
Jessop Danny Coy
Johnson Trevor Jacob
Louder Jaxon Boyd
Lowry Dalton Dean
Moynier Makayla Laree
Muhoza Levis
Nicholson Nash Parker
Oliver Kagan Robert
Petersen Jaden Mark
Ramirez Braxton Amilcar
Rigtrup Tanner Mark
Schroemges Jesse McKay
Shadden Steele Blaine
Shearer Bradley Austin
Skeen Jake Weston
Smith Sean Pearson
Somma Christine Marie
Soto Jorge Alberto
Squires Konlin Teral
Tew Calvin Jonathan
Torok Ethan Scott
Vangrimbergen Abbie Rose
Vanleuven Tamara Elise
Viverossanchez Hector

Washingtonflorez Joseph A
Watts Alexis Jo
Webb Gavin Thomas
Wells Samuel Chance
Wisniewski Steven Raymond
Wood Andrew Beyer

PRIVATE (PV2)

Anderson McClain Hunter
Atherley Landon Tony
Barcinas Thomas J Jr H
Barnum Jayce Russell
Bell Brianna Rene
Best Justin Eldon
Bettridge Megyn Rae
Bird Nelson William
Bishop Levi Loss
Cabero Jose Enrique III
Camacho Iokepa Keahonui
Campbell Marilyn Joicee
Carson Dustin Jay
Caudill Alex Lott
Cowley Joshua Holmes
Dallimore Keaton Alexander
Day Chase Kristopher
Day Hunter Robert
Eftin Salah Abdullahi
Esquivel Evan Evid
Freeze Joshua Keith
Harris Cameron Michael
Harris Kendall Tess
Harris Reece Jerry
Hernandez Alberto
Klingler Maxwell Ludwig
Larsen Dallon Michael
Macguire Vincent Michael
Mattes Samuel Scott
Maxwell Bridger Jon
McEwen Stephanie Ann
Miner Jared Dotson
Montoya Ryan Nathan Tovey
Nolan Jacob William
Nordin Joseph Ammon
Peterson Robert Brian
Price Joshua Hunter
Rausch Lauren Elizabeth
Ruiz Angel Leonires
Russell Kaden Kelly
Stencil Jeremiah Kain
Thompson Devan Robert
Uehling Bryce Parker
Velkamp Thomas Willem
Waite Michael Robert
Warner Jesse Lenard
Webb Jessica Valerie



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