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IOWA NATIONAL GUARD



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2023 ANNUAL REPORT | 2024 OBJECTIVES



ADJUTANT GENERAL
MAJ. GEN. STEPHEN OSBORN

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COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER
COMMAND SGT. MAJ. MATTHEW STRASSER



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FROM THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

To the citizens of Iowa,

I am pleased to present the 2023 Annual Report of the Iowa National Guard, highlighting the significant accomplishments and milestones by our nearly 9,000 dedicated service members. This report showcases the tireless efforts, unwavering commitment, and exceptional professionalism of the Iowa National Guard during the past year. You will see several stories of our service members, as they are the testament to the collective strength, expertise, and professionalism of our organization.

The mission of the Iowa National Guard is to remain operationally relevant and always ready to deploy, operate, and succeed as part of the total joint force at every mission, across all domains, in the homeland, or abroad.

In the past year we have deployed 384 Soldiers and 358 Airmen on federal missions within the U.S. and to areas across the world. Additionally, 130 Soldiers and Airmen executed state missions throughout the year including election cyber security, support to the Governor's inauguration, and a task force sent to the southwest border in support of Operation Lone Star. We remain steadfast in the support to our communities, conducting vital training exercises, and defend the values that we hold dear.

As the Adjutant General, my vision is to be the most trusted organization in Iowa through our professionalism, character, investment in people, and transparency. We are prepared to mobilize, deploy, and win in all environments by ensuring our team is trained and cared for, resources are properly managed, and leaders are developed.

We are integrated with our communities through consistent communication and strong partnerships ensuring that the Iowa National Guard provides value and opportunity for all Iowans.

We have four priorities that drive the effort to achieve this vision: leading and caring for our people, building ready service members and units, modernizing our organization to enhance our capabilities, and improve communication to our people and the communities we serve.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the military families and employers of our service members, your unwavering support allows our men and women to fulfill their duties with distinction. The success of our organization is not possible without your sacrifice and understanding. To our fellow community members and all Iowans, thank you. Together, we will build upon our successes and forge a future that ensures the safety and security of our great state and nation.

I am immensely proud of the men and women who wear the uniform of the Iowa National Guard, and their commitment to excellence continues to inspire me. Amazing things happen when you infuse dedicated people with an Iowa work ethic into a military culture and add a community that supports them. We live here, we work here, and we serve here!

Maj. Gen. Stephen E. Osborn

SERVE HERE



ABOUT US

In the Iowa National Guard, we live here, we work here, and we serve here. That service extends to not only the nation, but to the communities we call home. We serve in ways only the Guard can.

Joining the the Iowa National Guard means joining an accomplished team with a purpose greater than ourselves. With hundreds of different job specialties and opportunities for

leadership experience, members can serve in ways that meet their interests, accelerate their civilian careers and setting themselves up for a successful future.

With career and leadership opportunities, healthcare and education benefits, and the freedom to choose how you serve, you're able to become the best you can be in the Iowa National Guard.

REQUIREMENTS

- Air: 17-42 years of age
- Army: 17-35 years of age
- Medically and physically fit, and in good moral standing
- A U.S. citizen or permanent resident with a valid Green Card
- A high school graduate or equivalent
- A minimum score on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery Test (ASVAB)

LEARN
MORE



DEVELOP SKILLS FOR LIFE

Find your passion, then get the training to master it.

Education Benefits

Joining the Iowa National Guard gives you more than just pride that comes from serving your state and nation. You can earn benefits to help pay for your education and expenses, and you can complete your education while you serve. The Iowa National Guard offers many programs for every type of student; whether you're still in high school, attending college or working toward a vocational certification.

Career Training

With hundreds of different jobs in nearly every career field imaginable, members can find the opportunity to serve how they want.

Pay

You will be paid for every day you serve, whether in training, weekend drills, annual training or deployment. Your rank, job, and education level will determine your specific pay level. The higher you go, the more you make. And the more time you serve the more you earn.

Insurance

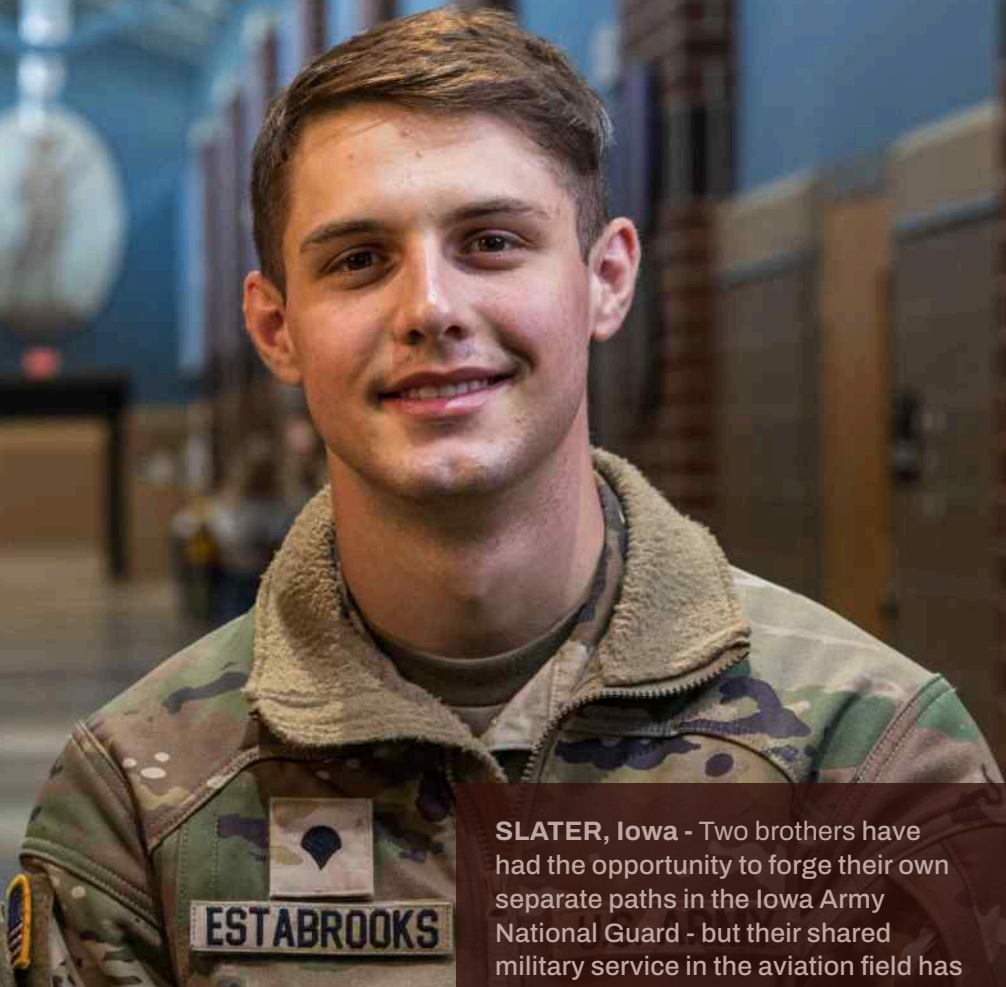
Most serve because they want to give back to their state and nation. Then they find out that being part of the National Guard comes with other rewards. Beyond earning additional pay and getting help with their educational costs, Airmen, Soldiers, and veterans - and their families - enjoy even more real benefits, such as inexpensive healthcare and low-cost life insurance that pays up to \$450,000. Take care of your health, your family, and your future.

Retirement

The Guard can continue to pay you every month if you have 20 years of service while serving by age 60 (including service in other branches). And considering that retirement will probably mean time to travel, play, or even start a second business; this financial security could be a nice part of your plan.



PEOPLE



SLATER, Iowa - Two brothers have had the opportunity to forge their own separate paths in the Iowa Army National Guard - but their shared military service in the aviation field has produced an unbreakable bond between them.

Our people are our center of gravity and the foundation of our organization. We will ensure our people are trained, cared for, and resourced for success through engagement, mentorship, and planning. Trust is created through honest communication and feedback, transparency, expectation management, and respect. Creating a culture where our people feel “part of” something, not just “in something,” is a priority.



READ THE STORY
by Sgt. Jacob Oliver



BATAVIA, Iowa - Long before women's wrestling was sanctioned in the state of Iowa in 2022, Sgt. Megan Black-Campion, Iowa National Guardsman of Batavia, Iowa, made a name for herself in the sport. Black-Campion wrestled her entire life until the recent birth of her daughter. She then found the "next best thing" to wrestling is being a mother.



READ THE
STORY
by Sgt. Rachel White





ARLINGTON, Va.— Army Spc. John Shields, a combat medic in Iowa Army National Guard's 334th Brigade Support Battalion, embraced his long-held dream of service by joining the National Guard while also utilizing military training to fulfill his civilian ambition as a municipal firefighter.

After attending college, Shields enlisted in the Army National Guard, recognizing it as an opportunity to become a firefighter with a military background, giving him a competitive edge. He finds fulfillment in serving his country and community.



CITIZEN-SOLDIER ON DUTY

ARMY GUARD COMBAT MEDIC'S DUAL CAREER AS A FIRE FIGHTER | BY MASTER SGT. DAVID EICHAKE

"I always wanted to be a firefighter and figured the National Guard was the best way to get a leg up on the competition," Shields explained, highlighting the advantages of Guard service, combining his military background and medic training in both worlds.

His military skills have proven valuable in his civilian career, where Shields has received two lifesaving awards.

Waukee Fire Department Lieutenant Josh Hutton notes, "Firefighter Shields continues to be very dependable. He [assists] the crew with everything that is asked of him with very minimal direction needed. He has continued to carry on this trait and is someone you can count on and trust on medical calls.

Having received advanced first-responder medical training during his 2.5 years as a Guard member, Shields effectively employs his skills to benefit the Waukee community. The Army combat medic's training exposed him to advanced medical practices, making him a multi-capable care provider.

"We get our EMT [emergency medical technician] training through the Army," Shields added. "We get a little more in-depth for specifically trauma care and tactical field carry, then we can focus on more different illnesses you may see.

Shields' dedication to service extends beyond firefighting, as he instructs and develops combat medics at the Medical Simulations Training Center at Camp Dodge, Iowa. Command Sgt. Maj. Matthew T. Strasser, Iowa National Guard senior enlisted leader, praised him for being an incredible instructor and leader for the State of Iowa and the Army

"Spc. Shields' assists in the development and instruction. of all 68W [Combat] Medics that rotate through ... his demeanor, expertise and general knowledge of the military from participating in the competitions make him an incredible instructor and leader within the MSTC and beyond."

Shields recently made history by competing at the National level in the Army National

Guard National Best Warrior Competition. He reflected on the accomplishment, "I'm actually our [unit's] first Soldier to compete at the National level. It's a big deal and groundbreaking for us ... a very high honor."

Strasser highlights the motivational impact of Shields' achievements, inspiring others to strive for excellence in competition.

"Spc. Shields ... has impacted motivation and raised awareness of opportunities for our Soldiers and will continue to be our mouthpiece for what this has done for him personally from a readiness and development standpoint."

Determined to advance his medical background, Shields plans to start paramedic school and pursue a bachelor's degree in Firefighter Science Administration to become a fire officer while continuing his career as a member of the Iowa National Guard, crediting the opportunities as Citizen-Soldier as key to making a difference to saving lives in and out of uniform.





DES MOINES, Iowa - An Iowa National Guard Soldier swore a different kind of oath this year. Col. William (Bill) Kelly, who serves as a Staff Judge Advocate in the Iowa National Guard, was appointed as a U.S. Magistrate Judge of the Southern District of Iowa on July 7, 2023. Kelly's family was present to drape the new robe on him during the investiture ceremony. Iowa National Guard Soldiers and Airmen presented the colors, and the Honorable Stephanie Rose, Chief Judge of the Southern District Court, administered the oath of office for U.S. Judges.



**READ THE
STORY**
Polk County Bar Association



DES MOINES, Iowa - Military families rely on their community to support them during deployments, temporary duty stations, and training. Airman 1st Class Mackenzie Gutierrez, a geospatial intelligence analyst with the 232d Intelligence Squadron, experienced the need for community support early in her career with the 132d Wing. For her, 'it takes a village' takes on a deeper meaning.



READ THE
STORY
by Staff Sgt. Katelyn Noel

GUTIERREZ

✓ READINESS



Readiness starts with people and that entails recruiting, training, leading, and retaining Soldiers and Airmen. Our service members want to be challenged with demanding training in realistic environments that will allow them to learn and grow. The expectation is Soldiers and Airmen are competent in their technical skills, are masters of their systems and equipment, and can successfully operate in a tactical environment. Units are properly manned, trained, and equipped; capable of deploying, executing, and winning.

CAMP GUERNSEY, Wyoming – Iowa National Guard infantry and aviation units traveled west by ground convoy and air to conduct annual training at the Camp Guernsey Joint Training Center this year. The training wrapped up the last week of May 2023, and the mountain elevation and expansive landscape of Wyoming offered a unique training environment for the Midwest Soldiers.



READ THE
STORY
by Sgt. 1st Class Tawny Kruse



CAMP DODGE, Iowa - The Army Sustainment Training Center facilitates training for units from all over the country. Soldiers with Company A, 628th Aviation Support Battalion, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, conducted distribution operations including refueling and resupply, water distribution, convoys, and logistical transport during a rotation from June 1-16, 2023.



READ THE STORY

by Staff Sgt. Samantha Hircock





HELICOPTER RESCUE TRAINING

HAS IOWA ARMY AND AIR GUARD TRAINING TOGETHER | BY SENIOR MASTER SGT. VINCENT DE GROOT

While military pilots are regularly schooled in survival, they don't often have the opportunity to practice the intricacies of being hoisted into a helicopter.

Iowa National Guard Airmen and Soldiers were practicing helicopter extractions of a downed pilot near Homer, Nebraska, this week.

Exercise orchestrator and Iowa Air National Guard Survival Specialist, Master Sgt. Jeff Campbell said water survival is a regular training requirement. Campbell said experiencing things like the wind, noise and height of hoist training is a crucial part of surviving.

"There is a lot of chaos and a lot of stuff going on, the more we can get our aircrew trained the better it will be for everyone involved," Campbell said.

The exercise in Homer had Iowa National Guard Airmen catching a lift from their Iowa Army Guard counterparts using a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter.

The downed pilots in the training exercise are from Iowa's 185th Air Refueling Wing in Sioux City. The pilot's rescuers are from the Iowa Army National Guard's Detachment 1, Company C, 2/211th General Aviation Support Battalion based in Davenport.

After making the trip from the opposite side of the Hawkeye State to the Northeast Nebraska hamlet near Sioux City, the Black Hawk aircrew landed in a freshly cut hay field. The open space next to a large pond doubled as a handy training area for the day where the trainees first received a safety briefing.

There was a tinge of nervousness at first as KC-135 pilots are not accustomed to handing control of their takeoff and landing to someone else. One by one however, each member of the group was harnessed into a rescue strop or harness and hoisted to the helicopter.

As temperatures climbed into the mid-80s the group of around a dozen pilots jumped into the nearby water. One by one they waited to be extracted from the water as they were sprayed with a shower of rotor wash.

The bottom line, according to Campbell, is sewing in muscle memory so each pilot knows what to do during a rescue situation.

“If something does happen and they find themselves alone in the water they will have the tools and the knowledge to get through it,” said Campbell.

During the training, each Airmen experienced helplessness and trust of relying on their rescuer to bring them to safety. Iowa Soldiers got to utilize their rescue equipment and were able to complete some of their own training requirements.

Pilots never relish the idea of being in a situation where they need to be rescued. By punctuating their training with practical experience, the goal of the training is to provide the tools and assurance for surviving a worst-case scenario.



MODERNIZATION



We understand the modernization plans and timelines of the Army and Air Force to include the possibility of new missions and new force structure here in Iowa. We must shape our facilities and infrastructure to support modernization to include the size, scope, and demand of future requirements and capabilities. Success is dependent on accounting for the challenging landscape across our state, funding timelines, and shared understanding with our civilian and military leadership.

DES MOINES, Iowa - Iowa National Guard Soldiers will soon have a new place in West Des Moines for their training. The readiness center is being built on the city's south side. It will be the first of its kind in the metro beyond Camp Dodge, and it will serve two National Guard units, Company B, 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry Regiment, and the 2168th Transportation Company.



READ THE
STORY
by Capt. Kevin Waldron



GRAND RAPIDS, Michigan - For the first time, the 294th Medical Company Area Support, Iowa National Guard, tested ground breaking technology by integrating drones in the training environment on Monday, Aug. 7, 2023. Medical squads were able to experience a cutting edge drone system that can detect casualties from the sky and assess their vital signs, making it a game-changer in disaster response scenarios.



READ THE STORY
by 2nd Lt. Paige Bodine





A VEHICLE OF THE FUTURE

IOWA TRAINING CENTER RECEIVES NEW TACTICAL VEHICLES | BY SGT. 1ST CLASS TAWNY KRUSE

JOHNSTON, Iowa – The Iowa Ordnance Training Center at Camp Dodge has received three Joint Light Tactical Vehicles, a new series of military vehicles designed for survivability and tactical mobility.

The first JLTVs were distributed to U.S. Army units in 2016. The IOTC received its first vehicle in January 2023, and two additional vehicles in June 2023.

The IOTC provides hands-on maintenance training for Active Duty, Reserve and National Guard Soldiers across the country. They offer a variety of sustainment and skill qualification courses, including the seven-week 91B Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic transition course which now includes a dedicated week of instruction on the JLTV.

Sgt. 1st Class Bradley Meyer is an instructor at the IOTC and received operator and maintenance level training on the JLTV at Oshkosh, the

vehicle manufacturer in Wisconsin. He then returned to Iowa to train other instructors in preparation for future courses.

“The capability of this truck is far beyond anything that we’ve had,” said Meyer. “It’s fun, it’s exciting to see.”

The introduction of the technologically advanced JLTV into the Army and other U.S. armed forces, including the Marine Corps, is just one indicator of the large-scale modernization efforts taking place throughout the Department of Defense. The vehicle will be operated in addition to the “Humvee,” or High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle, which the Army has used in training and combat since the 1970s. The Humvee proved to be vulnerable to IED attacks during the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars.

The U.S. Army’s Combat Support and Combat Services Support office

said the Humvee is suited for its original purpose as a light utility truck and provides useful payload and mobility, but “was never intended to be a combat vehicle.”

“Adding the protection Soldiers needed [armor] in today’s full-spectrum threat environments to a Humvee substantially degraded its mobility, and in some cases eliminated its payload capacity,” said Scott Davis, a representative of the CS & CSS.

That’s where the JLTV comes in. Weighing in at around 13,800 pounds (give or take depending on its configuration), the vehicle sports a futuristic exterior with advanced computer technology integrated throughout its structure that makes it uniquely capable to handle heavy loads and protect service members from outside attacks. The computer systems also allow most troubleshooting to be done inside the vehicle using touch screen displays, streamlining daily maintenance for operators.

“The time of a paper book doesn’t exist anymore,” said Meyer. “We’re to the point where operator level preventative maintenance and troubleshooting is all electronic and integrates into the truck. We can talk to the truck and the truck can talk to us. It’s far more advanced than any other wheeled vehicle in our fleet.”

Meyer represented the IOTC at the Iowa National Guard’s Camp Dodge Summer Concert Series on June 29, where the public had the opportunity to get a close-up look at the new vehicle.

The JLTV’s powerful suspension system, viewpoint cameras, automatic fire extinguisher and heated windshield were just some of the features highlighted as people took turns climbing into the driver’s seat.

Meyer pointed out that as with all new equipment fielded in the military, there will be challenges and learning curves. Teaching Soldiers how to operate a complex, computer-based vehicle like the JLTV will take time. So far, the IOTC has hosted two 91B courses with instruction on the JLTV since acquiring the vehicles this year, and he hopes his students take away one key lesson:

“Seven weeks isn’t long enough to make Soldiers into expert mechanics,” said Meyer. “So, one of the things I really strive to hammer home is you have to be a lifelong learner. My challenge to them is to take the skills that we talked about in class and continue to research, study and practice them.”



A man wearing a green t-shirt with "FITNESS FOR LIFE" on the back and a white cap with an American flag patch is speaking to a group of young men. The young men are wearing green t-shirts with "AMERICAN" visible. They are outdoors in front of a building.

COMMUNICATION

The number of Americans with military experience or even military exposure continue to decrease across our nation, leading to misunderstanding and misinformation regarding military service. We must counter this misunderstanding at every opportunity through effective communication. This includes telling the story of who we are, why we serve, and the quality and professionalism of our Soldiers and Airmen. We must inform the public how service in the Iowa National Guard is a great way for young men and women to begin their adult life.

CAMP DODGE, Iowa – Ret. Master Sgt. Paul Booth, a former Iowa National Guardsmen from Des Moines, Iowa, motivates students on the importance of being physically and mentally fit. The fitness camp, led by the Iowa National Guard Recruiting and Retention Battalion, is an event that focuses on teaching and inspiring youth to press in and work together to take on the challenges of life.



DES MOINES, Iowa - On June 4, 2023, the 132nd Wing hosted a “Pilot for a Day” event, at the Des Moines airbase. The event brought together four young patients from local Iowa children’s hospitals, their families, and Airmen of the Iowa National Guard; transforming the dreams of these resilient children into a tangible reality.



**READ THE
STORY**
by Staff Sgt. Katelyn Noel





CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa - Spc. Henkelman and Spc. Scheider, medics from the 134th Ambulance Company, check the vitals of veterans at the Five Seasons Stand Down on 7 September, 2023. The Five Seasons Stand Down is a resource fair for Veterans and others experiencing homelessness.



IOWA NATIONAL GUARD MEDICS CARE FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

BY SGT. 1ST CLASS JASON EVERETT

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa - "Give me strength to lead by caring." It's a line of the time-honored Army Combat medic prayer that encapsulates what's often most endearing about the combat medic. They train hard to be experts in their craft, but their actions are often led by compassion.

On Sept. 7, 2023, medics from the 134th Ambulance Company from Johnston loaded up in field medical ambulances and drove to an event in Cedar Rapids — to show they care.

Iowa National Guard medics supported the 17th annual "Five Seasons Stand Down" at the Veterans Memorial Stadium. The event is a resource fair for veterans and others experiencing homelessness.

Community members came from all corners of the city and all over the hardship spectrum. Some were living in tents in wooded encampments or natural urban shelters such as bridges and parking garages. Others lived in community-supported shelters or were housed

but at risk of homelessness.

Lining the inside stadium corridor were scores of tables with over 70 local governmental and nongovernmental organizations waiting to serve them, providing everything from haircuts to employment counseling, medical evaluations, and free clothing and food.

The 134th medics are combat-trained and specialize in sophisticated lifesaving battlefield interventions. At the stand down, they checked vital signs. As veterans took seats, the medics fastened blood pressure cuffs and pulse oximeters to them while listening to their heart rates with stethoscopes. And they exchanged stories about their service experiences.

"We were just happy to be there, to interact with all other service providers and veterans," said Sgt. Keaton Schultz, team leader from the 134th Medical Company. "Many of us joined [the Iowa National Guard] because we wanted to serve our communities. Today, we feel like we're doing it."

According to the Iowa Department of Veteran Affairs, there are over 30,400 homeless veterans nationwide. Although that is down from previous years, veterans are still overrepresented and at greater risk of homelessness than the general population. That risk has been attributed to several factors, including the heavy weight of duty and service veterans have carried.

A "stand down" is a military term for when Soldiers are ordered to rest. The "stand down" events are intended to provide momentary relief from the harsh realities of homelessness and show veterans the community cares.

"Participating in the stand down was meaningful to us because, as service members, we're familiar with the huge sacrifices these Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen have made during their time in the military and beyond," said Capt. Megan Cartwright, commander, 134th Ambulance Company. "The least we can do is be of service to them now."





PARTNERSHIPS

In a dynamic world, with diverse challenges, part of the the 21st Century blueprint for responding and reacting to emergent circumstances is through partnership. The Iowa National Guard has a rich history of international collaboration, with regional and local cooperation. We will lean on this relations to be successful in all operational environments.

Johnston, Iowa - Kosovo President Vjosa Osmani visits with Maj. Gen. Stephen Osborn, at Camp Dodge, as part of a series of international trips on Oct. 24, 2023.



READ THE
STORY
by Capt. Kevin Waldron



KOSOVO STATE PARTNERSHIP

The Iowa National Guard enters its twelfth year of our state partnership with country of Kosovo. As conflict remains in Eastern Europe, Iowa's partnership remains a vital piece of deterrence and maintaining international security.

In April, units from the Iowa National Guard participated in a large-scale medical training exercise in Kosovo. This exercise aimed to enhance the medical capabilities of both the Iowa National Guard and the Kosovo Security Force, fostering cooperation and mutual learning.

A notable achievement during this period was Lt. Ylli Dalladaku, of the KSF, becoming the first Kosovar to complete the U.S. Army's Basic Officer Infantry Leaders Course. This accomplishment not only highlighted the dedication and skill of Dalladaku, but also

served as a testament to the growing professional ties between the Iowa National Guard and the KSF.

Governor Reynolds completed her first trip to Kosovo in June where she met with President Vjosa Osmani and other Kosovo leadership to discuss the Iowa-Kosovo sister state agreement, the State Partnership Program, and opportunities for commercial partnerships. The Iowa National Guard was directly involved and affirmed our steadfast commitment with the KSF.

In a momentous occasion, the Iowa National Guard then welcomed Kosovo President Osmani to the state in October. This marked her first visit to Iowa since assuming the presidency. The visit not only deepened the diplomatic relations between Kosovo and Iowa but also reflected the significance of the

state partnership program in fostering international connections.

President Osmani thanked the Iowa National Guard and noted "Our partnership grows stronger by the day as we expand our cooperation in all areas of common and strategic interest, such as defense, agriculture, tourism, and energy."





COMMUNITY RELATIONS

In 2023, the Iowa National Guard demonstrated a significant increase in its efforts to engage with the public and foster stronger community ties. One notable aspect of their involvement was the provision of Army funeral honors, where they supported a staggering 1,471 funerals throughout the year. This commitment to honoring fallen heroes not only paid tribute to those who served in the Army but also showcased the National Guard's dedication to serving the community in times of loss.

Furthermore, the Iowa National Guard actively participated in 78 large-scale community events, contributing to the vibrancy and cohesion of local communities. These events served as platforms for the Iowa National Guard to showcase their capabilities, foster relationships, and engage with residents on a personal level. By actively participating in these events, the National Guard ensured their presence was felt and valued by the community.

In collaboration with the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, the Iowa National Guard

conducted 16 civic leader engagements. These engagements provided an opportunity for leaders from various sectors to interact with Guard members, gaining insights into their roles and responsibilities. This not only fostered understanding and appreciation but also strengthened the bond between the National Guard and the community's leadership.

The Iowa National Guard also demonstrated their commitment to community integration by conducting seven flyovers for football games and the Indycar race. These flyovers not only added a sense of spectacle to the events but also served as a reminder of the National Guard's presence and dedication to the community. Such displays of support and patriotism further enhanced the public's perception of the National Guard and their role in safeguarding the nation.

Alongside these high-profile events, the Iowa National Guard actively participated in numerous concerts, parades, school activities, and 4th of July festivals. By joining these local

gatherings, the National Guard aimed to create meaningful connections with community members of all ages. These interactions allowed the National Guard to showcase their expertise, educate the public about their mission, and build trust and rapport within the community.

Through their increased participation and engagement, the Iowa National Guard sought to be more integrated with the community. This strategic approach demonstrated their genuine commitment to the well-being of the public and their desire to serve beyond their military duties. By actively participating in a wide range of community events, the National Guard showcased their versatility and adaptability in meeting the needs and expectations of the communities they serve.

(Pictured right) Col. Justin Wagner escorts Webster County community leaders on a facility tour at the 133d Test Squadron in Fort Dodge, Iowa, on April 18th, 2023.





→ TOTAL JOINT FORCE

The Iowa National Guard is always prepared to mobilize, deploy, and execute missions. We strive to remain the most trusted organization in Iowa by practicing responsible stewardship of our resources, maintaining the readiness of our organizations and continued responsiveness to meet federal and state missions.



**2ND BRIGADE
COMBAT TEAM, 34TH
INFANTRY DIVISION**



**185TH AIR
REFUELING WING**



**734TH REGIONAL
SUPPORT GROUP**



132^D WING



**67TH TROOP
COMMAND**



**185TH REGIONAL
TRAINING INSTITUTE**



**671ST TROOP
COMMAND**



CAMP DODGE





2/34TH IBCT

The 2/34th Infantry Brigade Combat Team mobilizes, deploys, and conducts decisive action to close with and destroy enemy forces using fire, maneuver, and close combat, or repels enemy assault by fire and counterattack IOT enable achievement of military objectives and protect national interests.

Headquarters
Boone, Iowa

Commander
Col. Eric Soultis

Senior Enlisted
Command Sgt. Maj. Jeremy Strasser

Personnel
3254



2ND BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM 34TH INFANTRY DIVISION

2023 Accomplishments

1st Squadron, 113th Cavalry Regiment: The Cavalry culminated their training year with a 15-day annual training at Fort Riley, Kansas. Their Soldiers completed individual and crew-served weapons qualifications, mortar live-fire exercises, mounted crew gunnery, squad live-fire maneuver exercises, platoon situational training exercises, zodiac boat operations, field feeding operations, reconnaissance operations, and a spur ride. Additionally the squadron conducted a Situational Training Exercise that integrated additional Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 194th Field Artillery for indirect fire support, establishing observation points, and trained and prepared for large scale combat operations.

Most recently the squadron sent a headquarters element and one maneuver platoon to the Southwest border along with other Iowa National Guard Soldiers. The Cavalry Headquarters team was responsible for the command and control of the task force and oversaw operations. The 1-113th engaged with their community and once again held their Fall Family Festival in Sioux City

attended by hundreds of residents.

1st Battalion, 194th Field Artillery: The 1-194 FA conducted multiple gunnery training sessions with their artillery cannons across the U.S. The battalion training included day and night fires using multiple types of artillery ammunition. Additionally, the battalion utilized radar equipment to track airborne rounds, virtual reality simulators to improve forward observer skills, and incorporated helicopter air lift training.

In total, the 1-194th FA fired over 2,000 artillery rounds in 2023. One particularly memorable event for Soldiers was seeing the Northern Lights while conducting night firing while at Camp Ripley, Minnesota. 84 Soldiers from across the battalion spent 4 weeks at Fort Johnson, Louisiana (formerly known as Ft. Polk) where they trained as an opposition force against a Hawaii National Guard infantry brigade. Training as the enemy force is another way to improve understanding and ability to fight in large-scale combat operations.

1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry Regiment: Soldiers of the “Ironman Battalion” executed a

mission at the Joint Readiness Training Center in Ft. Johnson, Louisiana as opposing forces. The rifle company’s capstone validation was a Squad Live-fire Exercise focused on deliberate attack and the reduction of an obstacle conducted at Camp Dodge Joint Maneuver Training Center. Their staff identified a need to utilize all the resources at its disposal to develop a more mobile, survivable, and agile command post in support of large-scale combat operations.

Leaders and Soldiers across the Ironman Battalion utilized these training opportunities to build resiliency and esprit de corps, helping to foster the next generation of citizen Soldiers. Lastly, leaders from across the battalion acted as Observer Controller Trainers for our state partner, Kosovo during the Defender Europe Exercise 2023.

Pictured left: *Alpha Company "Assassins" with the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry Regiment conducted a live fire exercise at Camp Dodge March 3, 2023.*



2ND BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM 34TH INFANTRY DIVISION

1st Battalion, 168th Infantry Regiment: Known as the “Lethal Battalion,” culminated their training year with a 15-day annual training at Camp Guernsey Training Center, Wyoming. The training focused on individual and crew-served weapons qualifications, mortar live fire exercises, mounted crew gunnery, air assault operations, squad live fire maneuver exercises, and platoon Situational Training Exercises. Units conducted situation training exercises in the rifle companies, heavy weapons company, headquarters company, scout platoon, medical platoon, and distribution platoon.

These STXs integrated enabling forces for indirect fires, assault aviation, field feeding operations, and their command communications network. In August, they conducted their battalion dining-out in Council Bluffs, Iowa, with over 500 in attendance. A dining-out is a formal affair where Soldiers invite their spouses or other guests to a dinner and dancing to celebrate the unit’s accomplishments. Lt. Gen. Jon Jensen, the Director of the Army National Guard and former 1-168th Soldier, was the Guest of Honor.

224th Brigade Engineer Battalion: The 224th BEB provided the engineer, communication, and intelligence operations support to the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 34th Infantry Division, throughout the year. The 224th BEB Soldiers are stationed throughout Southeast Iowa and boast 57 different occupational jobs to make up the organization's functionality. These positions vary from tactical to technical skills which help support efforts on the modern battlefield.

Soldiers of the 224th BEB competed in many state-level competitions taking the top award in the Governors Ten Marksmanship match, Expert Culinary Competition, and the NCO of the Year.

334th Brigade Support Battalion: The 334th BSB plans, synchronizes, and executes sustainment operations in support of the entire 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 34th Infantry Division; and provides supplies, maintenance, and medical services to the point of need.

Their companies completed annual training during various months in 2023. Units utilized the Sustainment Training Center, at Camp

Dodge in Johnston for their two-week training which allowed each Soldier to focus on improving their particular military job skills. Company A had multiple Soldiers win awards at the annual Truck Rodeo (driving, securing loads, and hauling equipment) competition. Additionally, Iowa’s Soldier of the Year, Spc. John Shields, was selected from the 334th BSB.

2024 Objectives

The brigade objective for 2024 is to successfully complete an Exportable Combat Training Center rotation at Camp Ripley, Minnesota, where the units will build tactical and technical proficiency at the platoon levels. During this exercise, Soldiers will build camaraderie and practice the skills necessary to win in large scale combat operations environments.

Pictured right: *Soldiers assigned to 1st Squadron, 113 Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 34th Infantry Division, Iowa Army National Guard, grouped, zeroed, and qualified their weapon systems at Camp Ripley, Minnesota, Nov. 3-5, 2023.*





734TH REGIONAL SUPPORT GROUP

2023 Accomplishments

The 734th Regional Support Group is composed of 12 individual units located within 15 communities across the state of Iowa. This includes two logistics battalion headquarters located in Johnston. The units within the RSG provide a vast array of capabilities and perform a multitude of military jobs. Throughout the year, RSG units continued to engage with communities and extend the impact of the Iowa National Guard through STEM events, fitness camps, open houses, and local festivities.

The 1133rd Transportation Company deployed to Poland and conducted transportation missions across Europe. The Soldiers drove over 1.2 million miles in support of US and Allied forces as part of European deterrence operations. In May and June, the 833rd Engineer Company sent a group of Soldiers to Kosovo where they participated in the Defender Europe training exercise, to enhance the Iowa National Guard's state partnership with the Kosovo Security Force.

The 831st Engineer Company completed multiple infrastructure and terrain improvement projects at Camp Dodge as part of their pre-mobilization training before deploying to the Middle East in September.

In June, the 1168th Transportation Company and 1034th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion headquarters completed an Exportable Combat Training Capability Exercise at Fort Stewart, Georgia, supporting the 30th Armored Brigade Combat Team. This training simulated an environment for large-scale combat operations and pushed units to build their overall proficiency. The 2168th Transportation Company supported multiple units throughout the year transporting military equipment across the Midwest.

The 1034th Composite Supply Company began a two-year assignment as part of a federal disaster response team. They conducted training with

partners from multiple states and agencies across both the state and federal government. Upon conclusion of the training in May, they were validated as part of a Department of Defense, national level rapid response element. The 3655th Classification and Inspection Company and 186th Military Police Company trained and were validated as the National Guard Reactionary Force for the State of Iowa. This task force is Iowa's contingent for any National Guard quick response efforts within the U.S.

3654th Support Maintenance Company culminated their training year completing a rotation at the Sustainment Training Center on Camp Dodge. The Soldiers honed their skills in HVAC, Welding, Electronics repair, and general mechanical work.

As part of the Army's modernization process, the 1034th CSC and 3654th SMC were designated as A Company and B Company of the 1347th Division Sustainment Support Battalion. The two units maintained their current mission, and work locations but are now aligned to the 34th Infantry Division.

2024 Objectives

In 2024, 734th RSG units will continue to train on their various missions both at home and abroad. Multiple units from the 734th RSG will provide direct support to the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 34th Infantry Division, as they conduct XCTC at Camp Ripley, Minnesota. Additionally, they look forward to welcoming home Soldiers that have been deployed and reintegrating them into their formations and communities.

Pictured right: The 1133rd Transportation Company, from Mason City, Iowa, load a U.S. Air Force C-5 Galaxy aircraft in support of operations in Europe, January 2023.

AIR MOBILITY COMMA



734TH RSG

The 734th Regional Support Group is comprised of 12 individual companies, including battalion headquarters that provide logistics, transportation, engineering and maintenance support throughout the state of Iowa.

Headquarters
Johnston, Iowa

Commander
Col. Daniel P. Maeder

Senior Enlisted
Command Sgt. Maj. Christopher Casey

Personnel
1,670



671ST TC

The 671st Troop Command (TC) provides support to assigned units in order to help them achieve competent, ready, relevant, trained, and equipped forces and prepare them to provide ready forces anywhere in the World in support of our State and Nation. On order, conducts command and control for attached units in order to coordinate the support for Domestic Disaster Relief Operations in response to natural and man-made disasters under the orders of The Adjutant General and Governor of Iowa.

Headquarters
Iowa City, Iowa

Commander
Col. Jason Wischart

Senior Enlisted
Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Schwendinger

Personnel
1,045



671ST TROOP COMMAND

2023 Accomplishments

The 671st Troop Command oversaw numerous events through 2023. Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Martha Kester was selected as the first female state chaplain for the Iowa National Guard and shared the distinction of being the first female State Chaplain within the National Guard. She was promoted to the rank of Colonel on July 29, 2023, which is the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps' birthday and happened to mark the 12-year anniversary of her return from a deployment to Afghanistan.

With the retirement of Maj. Gen. Corell in February, Governor Reynolds selected Brig. Gen. Stephen Osborn as the 28th Adjutant General of the Iowa National Guard. The "Adjutant General" is the highest-ranking position within the Iowa National Guard. Maj. Gen. Osborn assumed his duties as TAG on February 5, 2023. After becoming TAG, Maj. Gen. Osborn identified Command Sgt. Maj. Matthew Strasser to be the new Command Senior Enlisted Leader for the Iowa National Guard. The CSEL serves as TAG's senior military advisor on enlisted matters, and ensures the needs of Soldiers and Airmen are

met. Command Sgt. Maj. Strasser assumed his responsibilities on July 9, 2023.

Col. William (Bill) Kelly, who serves as a Staff Judge Advocate in the Iowa National Guard, was appointed as a United States Magistrate Judge of the Southern District of Iowa on July 7, 2023. Magistrate Judges are appointed by the Judges of the United States District Court for a term of eight years and are eligible for reappointment to successive terms.

The Iowa National Guard Trench Run was held on August 13, 2023, hosted by the headquarters and headquarters detachment of the 671st TC. This annual event provided an opportunity for the public to experience some aspects of military training and see the training areas on Camp Dodge that are typically reserved for military use only. Participation increased from last year with 294 total registrants and over 300 participants.

2024 Objectives

In 2024, the 671st TC will continue to provide support and assistance to the Iowa Army National Guard to ensure all assigned state

and federal missions are accomplished. Additional emphasis will be placed on the Iowa National Guard Trench Run to increase early and overall registration for the event. Joint Forces Headquarters, 135th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, and the 908th Field Feeding Platoon will play key roles in support of the Exportable Combat Training Center exercise which will be held at Camp Ripley Training Center in Minnesota.

Pictured left: *The 71st Civil Support Team and Kosovo Security Forces conducted five days of medical and chemical response training on Camp Dodge and Des Moines, Iowa, September 2023.*





67TH TC

The 67th Troop Command provides training and readiness oversight for medical and aviation elements across the state of Iowa, as well as the 34th Army Band of the Iowa Army National Guard. The elements of the 67th TC provide support for: field hospitals, ground and air ambulances, aerial movements, surveillance and reconnaissance and fixed wing aerial support. The 67th TC oversees the 109th Multifunctional Medical Battalion (Iowa City) and the 248th Aviation Support Battalion (Boone).

Headquarters
Iowa City, Iowa

Commander
Col. Charles Lampe

Senior Enlisted
Command Sgt. Maj. Steven Dreher

Personnel
1,045



67TH TROOP COMMAND

2023 Accomplishments

As the major subordinate command for both the 248th Aviation Support Battalion and the 109th Multifunctional Medical Battalion, the 67th Troop Command was able to execute multiple state and federal missions over the past year. With a focus on unit readiness, the organization was able to accomplish its missions, both domestic and abroad, while strengthening community and civil partnerships.

In 2023, the 67th TC welcomed home the 209th Medical Company Area Support from their deployment to Poland. Their mission supported Operation Atlantic Resolve and NATO's Enhanced Forward Presence mission which enables the U.S. to provide deterrence to adversaries while also supporting our NATO partners. The 209th Soldiers provided medical services for over 5,000 military and civilian patients which included physical therapy, physical exams, x-rays, labs and other routine treatments. The medical support provided by the 209th MCAS spanned across five countries, including Poland, Germany, Lithuania, and Estonia. Additionally, several Soldiers competed in a multinational Norwegian foot march, strengthening our bilateral relationships.

Throughout 2023, the 248th Aviation Support Battalion supported several community engagement events such as boss lifts and flyovers for nationally-televised football games. They also focused on training events in Iowa, participated in Northern Strike Training Exercise in Michigan and conducted annual training events at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin, and Camp Ripley, Minnesota.

The 109th Medical Battalion focused on real world training scenarios for enhanced domestic medical response. Units of the 109th units also took part in exercises such as Northern Strike to include a successful redeployment of the 209th MCAS from its mission in Poland.

The 67th TC headquarters participated in statewide domestic operations training through Vigilant Guard. The unit was able to exercise their domestic response capabilities while building disaster responsiveness, partnerships, and preparedness with its state and federal partners.

C Company, 2-211th General Support Aviation Battalion, Minnesota Army National Guard, and the 294th MCAS participated in Michigan's largest exercise, Northern Strike. Northern Strike is an Army National Guard sponsored, multi-component, multinational exercise designed to build readiness and enhance interoperability with allied forces. The units provided real world medical evacuation and validated medical company readiness through an enhanced training environment.

The 34th Army Band continued their high-tempo activities through the entirety of 2023. Soldiers performed at over 80 musical events, 70 funerals, and high-profile events such as the Governor's inauguration and the Hy-Vee Homefront 250 Indy Car race.

2nd Battalion, 641st Aviation Detachment Operational Support Airlift continued to stay busy this last year with a total of 284 flight missions spanning across the continental United States, Alaska, and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Their missions not only supported active duty components, but also assisted in multiple Iowa National Guard mobilization support cells for deploying Iowa units.

2024 Objectives

In 2024, the 67th TC will align training and resources to meet the needs of both the state and federal missions. The mobilization of Company C, 2nd Battalion, 211th Medical deployment to Kosovo to support a NATO mission is one of their top priorities. The NATO led international peacekeeping mission is an enduring one that focuses on country and regional stability. The 294th MCAS will maintain enhanced readiness as a designated contingency response force unit, staying ready to respond to any emergent mission. Lastly, multiple aviation and medical units from the 67th TC will be supporting the 2nd Brigade, 34th Infantry Division at the Exportable Combat Training Capability exercise.

Pictured left: Brig. Gen. William McClintock welcomes home Soldiers from the 209th Medical Company Area Support as they return from a deployment to Poland on May 12, 2023.





185TH AIR REFUELING WING

2023 Accomplishments

In February, the 185th ARW received its 1st Air Force Meritorious Unit Award, an honor one level higher than its 15 previous Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards.

In August, 185th ARW was the key participant in the first ever "Innovative Readiness Training" project in Iowa, hosted by Woodbine School District. IRT projects were created with the goal of combining military training with civic involvement. The 185th Civil Engineering Squadron installed a 30,000 square foot Tension Fabric Structure to support the construction of the adjacent IGNITE Pathways Regional Center.

In September, 133d Test Squadron, a geographically separated unit under the 185th, celebrated its 75th Anniversary as a test squadron providing support to Air Combat Command directed Operational and Developmental Test Systems and Command & Control for the 114th Fighter Wing, and 185th Air Refueling Missions. This one-of-a-kind mission is the only one in the Air National Guard and we're proud of their legacy.

In October, the 185th Operations Squadron held a ribbon cutting for its building renovation, a \$13M project adding new capabilities like Global Aircrew Strategic Network Terminal, an alert facility, Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility, and staging for several new assets in the future. The original brick building was utilized, but the interior was completely demolished and rebuilt with a new briefing room, secure vault, offices, aerial refueling simulator, and flight equipment area. This project's completion is the starting point of a multi-year project of renovations to buildings at the Wing, solidifying its future in Sioux City.

2024 Objectives

The 185th continues working with the National Guard Bureau, the City of Sioux City, and the FAA on Ramp and Runway reconstruction. This will include hardening the existing 1,000 LF paved overruns, constructing runway extensions, constructing a cargo holding pad, and repairing the aircraft parking ramp. The project request stems from the conversion the 185th did in 2003 from F-16s to the KC-135 Stratotanker. During this conversion, the ramp and runway were placed under waivers to accept the weight and capacity of the refuelers. This project has garnered the attention of the city, Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota Governors, and Congress in support of the project and the capabilities it would add to the future mission sets the Wing may receive.

Through this process, the 185th also continues conversations on a new Hangar replacement with the National Guard Bureau, replacing its aging building originally built in 1956 to house the F-100. This project has gone through the initial planning process and is going through the National Guard Bureau for approvals and continues to meet deadlines for future development of the Wing. The 185th Paint Facility has also been identified as a potential painting location for F-35 Lightning II. This capability would add a unique ability to the 185th, a unique skill set that many paint facilities do not possess. The 185th continues to work with the corresponding agencies to identify and support their selection process.

Pictured right: A U.S. Air Force F-16 Falcon from the South Dakota Air National Guard's 114th Fighter Wing makes contact with the boom in order to receive fuel from a U.S. Air Force KC-135 Stratotanker from the Iowa Air National Guard's 185th Air Refueling Wing on June 27, 2023.





185TH ARW

The mission of the 185th Refueling Wing is to provide ready Airmen to support global strategic competition, nuclear deterrence, and aerial refueling across federal and state missions. To achieve that mission, the 185th vision is to be professional, resilient; and empower Airmen to be ready for any challenge across current and future domains.

Headquarters

Sioux City, Iowa

Wing Commander

Col. Sonya L. Morrison

Senior Enlisted

Command Chief Master Sgt. Ron Lorenzen

Personnel

955



132D WING

2023 Accomplishments

In February, the 132d Wing received its 1st Air Force Meritorious Unit Award, an honor one level higher than its 16 previous Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards.

In August, the 132d Wing was the key participant in "Innovative Readiness Training" (IRT) Missouri and Arkansas, where 132d Medical Group "MEDHAWKS" provided medical care to at risk communities while 132d Force Support Squadron members provided mobile kitchen capabilities, feeding hundreds of military members and civilians IRT projects were created with the goal of combining military training with civic involvement..

The 132d Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Group remained engaged at historic levels with 98 Airmen on active-duty orders supporting worldwide operations spanning from 13 locations in over 8 different countries. Additionally, the 132d ISR Group has supported five major exercises as well as operations in support of the Secretary of Defense's number one priority.

Meanwhile, the 124th Attack Squadron conducted missions all over the world in multiple areas of operations, flying 140 MQ-9 Reaper sorties and logging over 2500 flight hours.

2024 Objectives

The 132d Wing is focusing efforts on increasing our force to meet 100% end strength. To achieve this goal, the wing is expanding connections with local high schools and universities to increase awareness of the opportunities available through service in the Air National Guard.

Leadership of the 132d Wing aim to keep our organization relevant to the fight by seeking opportunities for new enduring mission sets. This initiative has shown prudent through the recent addition of the first and only Air National Guard Cyber Range Squadron to support cyber operation squadrons across the nation. With the addition of this new cyber mission, the wing will focus on recruiting and retaining a highly skilled cyber force.

The 132d Wing is also committed to modernization of our equipment and infrastructure. The wing is working on reconstitution of our east campus to maximize our posturing for future growth. Additionally, there are current plans for project design and execution of new construction to include Consolidated Support, Cyber Range, and Combat Training facilities.

Pictured right: An MQ-9 pilot assigned to the 124th Attack Squadron prepares to takeoff during Exercise Hawki Fury at 132d Wing in Des Moines, Iowa.



132D WING

The mission of the 132d Wing is to train, deploy, execute, and sustain operations in support of our nation, state, and community.

Headquarters

Des Moines, Iowa

Wing Commander

Col. Travis Crawmer

Senior Enlisted

Command Chief Master Sgt. Jason Lehmann

Personnel

900





185TH RTI

The 185th Regional Training Institute's (RTI) mission is to provide training dedicated to developing versatile and innovative soldiers and leaders serving in all components of the U.S. Army. The RTI offers occupational specialty and leadership training, enhancing the readiness and preparing soldiers for missions at home and abroad.

Headquarters

CDJMTC, Johnston, Iowa

Commander

Col. Linda Craven

Senior Enlisted

Command Sgt. Maj Robert Popenhagen

Personnel

74



185TH REGIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE

Every year, hundreds of Soldiers from active duty, reserves, and the National Guard attend training at 185th Regional Training Institute and Iowa Ordnance Training Center both located at Camp Dodge. The purpose of the 185th RTI is to provide institutional training dedicated to developing versatile innovative Soldiers and leaders for a mission ready agile force serving our nation, state, and community. The 185th RTI provides courses to qualify Soldiers to be combat medics, automated logistical specialists, small arms and artillery repairer, and wheeled vehicle mechanics through military occupational specialty transition courses. They also develop leaders through the Ordnance Senior Leader Course and re-certify combat medics through comprehensive medical training.

In addition, they provide medical training, combat lifesaver courses and recertification, and medic sustainment through the Medical Simulation Training Center. They internally build readiness for the Iowa Army National Guard by hosting Officer Candidate School and Warrant Officer Candidate School through leadership training and development.

2023 Accomplishments

The 185th RTI completed U.S. Training and Doctrine Command accreditation in 2023 ensuring that all actions within the RTI are conducted in accordance with regulation and policies established by TRADOC and the Army in support of the One Army School System. The 185th RTI received a 97.6% and the Iowa Ordnance Training Center 98.1% accreditation ratings validating both institutions as Centers of Excellence. In 2023, the 185th RTI provided instruction, training, and

development to over 1,500 Soldiers. The OCS program graduated 22 officer candidates with all 22 commissioning by the end of the year. The WOCS program graduated and assessed 10 warrant officer candidates.

2024 Objectives

In 2024, the 185th RTI primary objective is to build readiness for the Iowa Army National Guard, increasing the number of officers, focusing on growing the officer and warrant officer candidate school, and finding the right leaders from across our state units. The OCS and WOCS programs will continue to grow in order to meet the demands of the state and the Army National Guard. In addition, the 185th RTI hosts the company commander and first sergeant pre-command course providing the tools and information needed to successfully navigate the challenges of leading an organization.

They will continue to refine and improve the RTI, their processes and courses. The 185th RTI will also continue to provide exemplary training instructed by experienced professional cadres to army Soldiers and leaders supporting the One Army School System.

Pictured left: 185th Regional Training Institute held a graduation ceremony for Officer Candidate School Class 68-23 at Mt. Rushmore, South Dakota, July 30, 2023.





CAMP DODGE

The Camp Dodge Joint Maneuver Training Center is a modern military and emergency services training center that prepares thousands of personnel each year to meet the state and country's needs. All kinds of facilities are provided such as ranges, wooded and urban environments, a variety of technical school houses and leadership courses. Camp Dodge also provides a series of community based events to welcome the public.

Headquarters

CDJMTC, Johnston, Iowa

Commander

Col. Jason Edwards

Senior Enlisted

Command Sgt. Maj. Duane Case



REGISTER FOR 2024
TRENCH RUN



Culinary Competition

On Jan. 24, 2023, Camp Dodge Joint Maneuver Training Center hosted the 55th Philip A. Connelly Culinary Excellence Competition.

This was a regional competition where the winning unit would earn a shot to compete against three other National Guard teams to take home the Department of the Army level trophy.

The 334th Brigade Support Battalion Field Feeding Team (pictured) won their state and regional competitions, and would go on to earn a runner-up designation.



Best Warrior Competition

The Camp Dodge Joint Maneuver Training Center hosted the Best Warrior Competition from April 14-16, 2023. The BWC tests a Soldier's ability to complete military tasks in a competitive environment, with a chance to earn the designation of Soldier of the Year or Noncommissioned Officer of the Year.

During the three-day BWC, competitors endured over 25 events designed to test their skills, resilience, stamina and teamwork.

Events ranged from marksmanship and obstacle courses to physical fitness trials, medical evacuation simulations, a ruck march, and interviews.

Winners of the event went on to compete in regional BWC's and, if they advanced, to the national competition.



Summer Concert Series

The Camp Dodge Joint Maneuver Training Center, welcomed the public for the 12th year to enjoy free music on Thursday nights during the Summer Concert Series. The series is a way to thank our service members and the communities that support them.

The great artists and bands who played in the series this past year including Jason Brown Country, Standing Hampton, Pianopalooza Dueling Pianos, and the 34th Army Band.

The series will kick-off again next summer in June and is held at the former swimming pool complex on Camp Dodge. Future dates and bands participating will be posted on social media and the Iowa National Guard website. Bring a folding chair, picnic basket, lawn games, your favorite beverage, and have a great summer night.





IOWA GOLD STAR MUSEUM

The Iowa Gold Star Military Museum's mission is to honor and depict the military experience of Iowa's citizens in all wars, homeland defense and Iowa service. The museum's purpose is to collect, preserve, and exhibit materials that illustrate the story of Iowa's military past from statehood to present. The Iowa Gold Star Museum honors the heroic service of all Iowa veterans.

Location

CDJMTC, Johnston, Iowa

Director

Sherrie Colbert

Contact

515-252-4531

Goldstarmuseum@iowa.gov



Johnston, Iowa - The Iowa Gold Star Museum partnered with the Korean-American Society of Iowa for a ceremony commemorating the 70th anniversary of the Korean Armistice.



VIEW THE MUSEUM



250th Patriot Plaque Award by DAR

The Iowa Gold Star Museum on Camp Dodge hosted the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

The event was organized by the Daughters of the Revolution (DAR) and included a number of attractions. Professional rein-actors dressed in colonial period attire and military uniforms. There were stationary exhibits with historic items and speakers with expertise in Declaration of Independence history.

The DAR commemorated the event by dedicating a plaque and giving it to the Gold Star museum.



Loren Horton Community History Award

Iowa Gold Star Military Museum received the prestigious Loren Horton Community History Award for last years Vietnam War Living History Weekend.

This award recognizes outstanding local history projects completed during the previous calendar year. Its namesake represented the State Historical Society of Iowa in many capacities from 1973 until 1996.

Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg presented the award to the planning team at the Award Ceremony in Clear Lake on 14 June. (Group picture left to right: Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg, Board Member Tom Clegg, Curator Mike Vogt, Dave Ruffcorn, Russ Flattery, John Krohn, and not present David Malek).



Voted Best Museum

Over 166,000 community members voted for the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum at Camp Dodge as "Best Museum" and one of the best places to volunteer.

Des Moines Radio Group held the second annual Des Moines' People's Choice awards that showcases the businesses, people, and places Central Iowa loves most, and the Gold Star Museum was given the distinction.

The museum is full of objects and exhibits that tell the history and stories of Iowa veterans from all branches of the military. It also boasts one of the most unique collections of historic military vehicles in the country.





LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY





LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

The Iowa National Guard would like to thank the 90th General Assembly for appropriating nearly \$12.5M in support of Governor Reynold's recommended budget for the Department of Public Defense. The General Fund budget for the department is now at \$6,963,037 with a full-time employee authorization of 248; this is an overall General Fund increase of nearly \$1,500,000.

Thank you to the members of the Justice Systems Appropriations Subcommittee for their efforts and hard work in appropriating the General Funds necessary to effectively execute all the requirements within the Department of Public Defense. Also, thank you to the legislators on the Transportation, Infrastructure, and Capitals Appropriation Subcommittee who worked tirelessly to fund

the maintenance and infrastructure requirements within Camp Dodge and around the state. Without these state matching funds totaling \$5.75M, we would have been unable to leverage the federal funding of more than \$22M to meet a portion of our maintenance and construction needs.

As the Iowa National Guard moves forward toward the next legislative session, there continues to be a growing demand for the Iowa National Guard Service Scholarship (INGSS), and we look forward to working with the legislature as we propose changes to expand the availability of INGSS to our Service Members. This program has been an outstanding recruiting and retention tool since its inception over a decade ago.

As demonstrated in the table on page 52, during the academic year 2022-2023, with the help of Iowa College Aid Commission, the 90th General Assembly and the Governor's staff, the Iowa National Guard was appropriated \$6.6M in INGSS funds at the 100% rate. Currently, academic year 2023-2024 we project to spend in excess of \$6.5M while maintaining the award at 100%.

(Picture left) The Adjunct General of the Iowa National Guard gives the Condition of the Guard address at the Iowa State Capital Jan. 12, 2023.



ECONOMIC IMPACT



Iowa Army National Guard	Assigned Personnel	Federal Part-Time Pay	Construction/ Base Operations Support Federal Share	Construction/ Base Operations Support StateShare	NG Service Scholarship Recipients	NG Service Scholarship Payments
AUDUBON	38	\$171,558	\$29,201	\$29,201	6	\$35,678
BOONE	398	\$2,986,172	\$436,621	\$274,074	36	\$255,808
CARROLL	61	\$205,164	\$38,295	\$38,295	6	\$26,732
CEDAR RAPIDS	315	\$1,413,928	\$243,484	\$167,088	45	\$297,937
CHARLES CITY	53	\$226,645	\$29,311	\$29,311	16	\$115,011
CLINTON	49	\$205,927	\$287,093	\$287,093	10	\$85,406
COUNCIL BLUFFS	220	\$1,059,697	\$167,216	\$102,584	17	\$126,168
DAVENPORT	337	\$1,736,047	\$318,392	\$275,073	67	\$465,367
DENISON	54	\$193,128	\$27,206	\$27,206	4	\$23,511
DES MOINES AREA	2087	\$10,414,151	\$48,613,228	\$12,397,247	232	\$1,535,408
DUBUQUE	148	\$644,833	\$63,842	\$54,319	20	\$101,910
ESTHERVILLE	82	\$357,860	\$36,507	\$36,507	9	\$45,409
FAIRFIELD	39	\$246,166	\$54,748	\$54,748	13	\$97,073
FORT DODGE	85	\$410,971	\$225,715	\$183,927	14	\$92,775
IOWA CITY	403	\$1,888,136	\$234,502	\$234,502	38	\$222,912
IOWA FALLS	55	\$226,757	\$30,418	\$30,418	13	\$74,167
KEOKUK	56	\$217,945	\$33,397	\$33,397	4	\$29,798
KNOXVILLE	73	\$198,742	\$71,053	\$71,053	1	\$6,240
LE MARS	98	\$424,485	\$299,192	\$147,283	13	\$79,829
MARSHALLTOWN	67	\$210,384	\$57,902	\$53,750	12	\$71,183
MASON CITY	86	\$179,179	\$49,307	\$43,722	4	\$21,725
MIDDLETOWN	129	\$519,745	\$311,616	\$176,700	18	\$108,946
MOUNT PLEASANT	63	\$241,523	\$47,698	\$33,132	8	\$37,689
MUSCATINE	41	\$188,947	\$123,089	\$75,320	12	\$52,881
OELWEIN	45	\$193,520	\$25,640	\$25,640	9	\$67,628
OSKALOOSA	59	\$260,211	\$60,762	\$42,253	0	-
OTTUMWA	101	\$361,615	\$105,255	\$105,255	18	\$110,601
PERRY	94	\$264,230	\$38,664	\$38,664	17	\$119,410
RED OAK	72	\$322,970	\$27,761	\$27,761	3	\$17,394
SHELDON	79	\$304,396	\$40,483	\$40,483	4	\$22,999
SHENANDOAH	45	\$192,430	\$31,334	\$31,334	2	\$10,287
SIoux CITY	239	\$1,053,561	\$217,258	\$113,497	33	\$227,951
SPENCER	49	\$227,608	\$32,116	\$32,116	9	\$61,349
STORM LAKE	87	\$610,056	\$47,423	\$47,423	8	\$46,884
WASHINGTON	90	\$350,609	\$46,219	\$46,219	13	\$114,426
WATERLOO	411	\$2,341,668	\$564,315	\$270,066	53	\$331,661
TOTAL	6408	\$31,030,959	\$53,066,266	\$15,676,665	787	\$5,120,153
FULL-TIME FEDERAL PAY	\$70,148,536					
FULL-TIME CIVILIAN PAY	\$54,254,040					
Iowa Air National Guard	Assigned Personnel	Federal Part-Time Pay	Construction/ Base Operations Support Federal Share	Construction/ Base Operations Support StateShare	NG Service Scholarship Recipients	NG Service Scholarship Payments
DES MOINES	925	\$16,750,182	\$1,757,800	\$504,600	83	\$548,195
FORT DODGE	95	\$1,605,457	\$196,400	\$63,467	12	\$84,653
SIoux CITY	815	\$13,772,685	\$1,750,000	\$489,767	106	\$731,738
TOTAL	1835	\$32,128,324	\$3,704,200	\$1,057,834	201	\$1,364,586
FULL-TIME FEDERAL PAY	\$42,298,665					
FULL-TIME CIVILIAN PAY	\$28,141,470					

