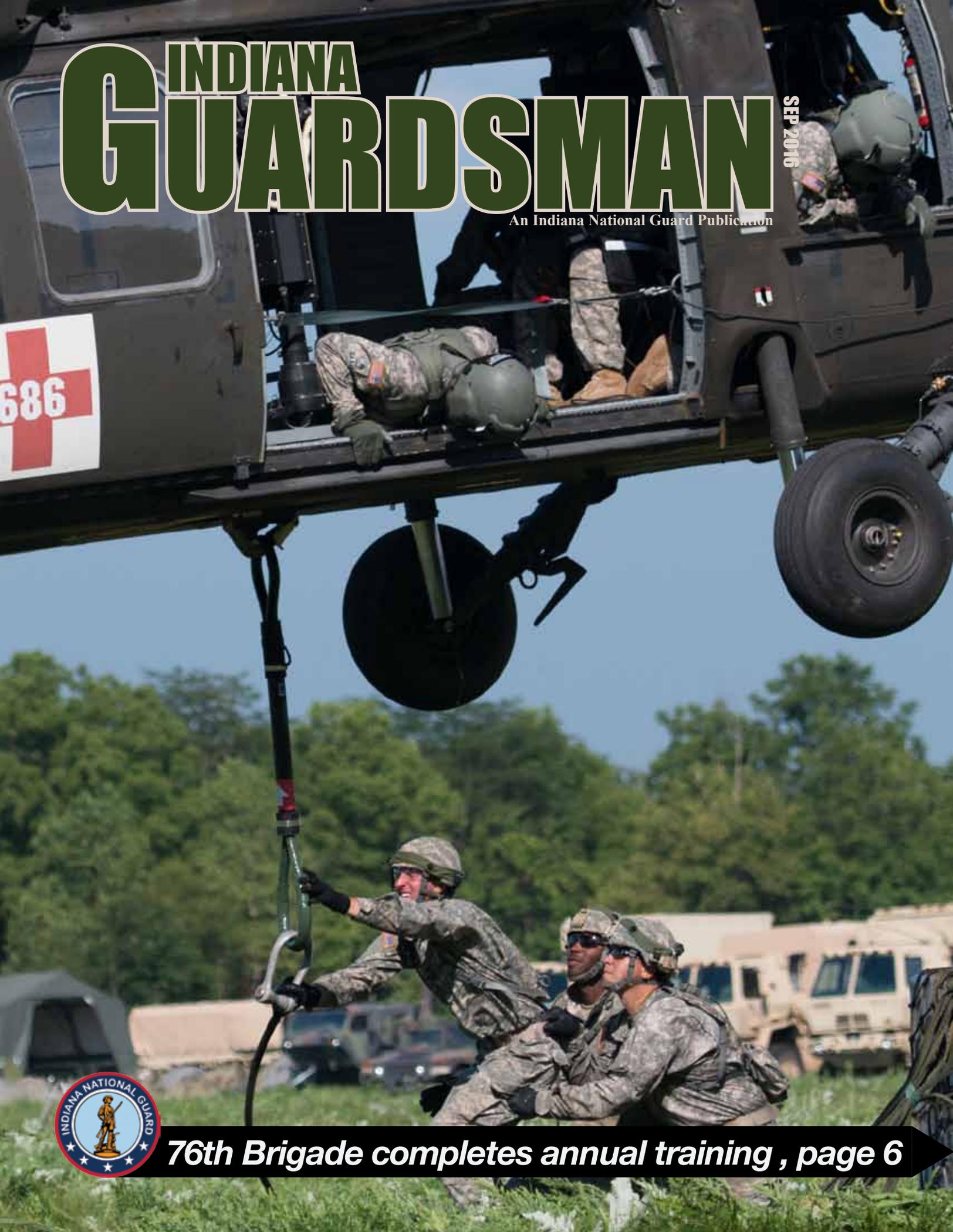


INDIANA GUARDSMAN

SEP 2016

An Indiana National Guard Publication



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Front cover: Indiana National Guard soldiers with Company A, 113th Brigade Support Battalion and 38th Combat Aviation Brigade conduct sling-load training at Camp Atterbury, near Edinburgh, Indiana, Friday, Aug. 5, 2016. Photo by Sgt. Daniel Dyar

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The *Indiana Guardsman* is an unofficial publication authorized under the provisions of AR 360-1, and is published by the Headquarters, Indiana National Guard. It is distributed without charge to the members of the Indiana Army and Air National Guard. All material submitted for publication should be addressed to:

Indiana National Guard Headquarters
Public Affairs Office
ATTN: Guardsman Magazine
2002 South Holt Road
Indianapolis, IN 46241-4839

Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of the Indiana National Guard, the Department of the Army and the Department of the Air Force.

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Guest Editorial



Photo illustration by Master Sgt. Brad Staggs

Why do I keep doing this?

38th ID soldier reflects on service to state, nation

By Master Sgt. Brad Staggs
38th Infantry Division
Unit Public Affairs Representative

It seems that the questions that make you think come as a surprise.

A child will ask a question so beyond his years that it takes you back, a news report in the background will catch your attention with one word, or a question that others consider a throw-away will keep you up at night.

During a recent training session with Command Sgt. Maj. Brad Seifers, the senior-enlisted advisor of Headquarters Battalion, 38th Infantry Division, a question was posed that I thought would be an easy one to answer: “I want you to be prepared to tell us which Army value got you in and which keeps you in.”

Sounds simple enough, right? There are only seven Army values, so just think back – for some of us, look far, far back –

remember why we came in, and attribute an Army value to that. No problem. Until ...

Late at night, I’m still trying to figure out exactly why I joined the Indiana National Guard after an almost 14-year break in service. Was it out of a sense of duty? Possibly a sense of selfless service? Was I just needing that feeling of community and family I always felt in uniform?

I looked to where my uniform sat waiting for me to put it on the next morning. On top of my uniform I saw my ID tags and it hit me.

I opened my wallet and pulled out one of my prized possessions ... my father’s ID tag that I carry with me everywhere I go. He got it during his time in the Indiana National Guard during the Korean War, a time when he wore dog tags and rations came from a can.

Dad never talked much about his time in the Army except to tell me he rose to the rank of staff sergeant and never had it as easy as I do now. He camped out in the mountains

in the winter and drove broken-down five-ton trucks up roads that mules refused to travel. I’m sure that his Army marched 10 miles each way up hill to get to the latrines, but who am I to argue.

Holding that piece of metal between my fingers reminded me why I joined the Indiana National Guard in January of 2001. It had everything to do with loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage.

There is not an Army value that my father didn’t exhibit everyday of his life. If it was good enough for him, it’s good enough for me.

Editor’s Note: Master Sgt. Brad Staggs, the 38th Infantry Division information operations senior noncommissioned officer, enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in November 1985. Staggs joined Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 293rd Infantry Battalion in Logansport when he came back to serving the military.

Hoosiers support international, NATO exercise in *Slovak Warthog*



Photo by Staff Sgt. William Hopper

An Indiana National Guard 122nd Fighter Wing A-10 Thunderbolt II aka Warthog flies over Slovakia, Wednesday, July 27, 2016. Members of the U.S. and Slovak armed forces joined together for Operation Slovak Warthog to demonstrate joint operations with a variety of aircraft during Operation Atlantic Resolve. The operation showed the United States' unflinching dedication to NATO allies and demonstrated the continued commitment to European security and stability. More photos of Operation Slovak Warthog can be found on pages 8 & 9.

By Sgt. 1st Class Lasima Packett
Indiana National Guard Public Affairs

The Indiana National Guard and the Slovak armed forces took their long-standing partnership to new heights during an exercise dubbed Operation Slovak Warthog.

During the month of July airmen with the 122nd Fighter Wing took the lead in performing their first ever mission to Slovakia. They were joined by 181st Intelligence Wing's joint terminal attack controllers and soldiers with the 38th Infantry Division's long-range surveillance unit, Company D, 151st Infantry Regiment.

"This is the first time we've integrated the Air National Guard and the Army National Guard together with the Slovaks here in Slovakia," said Maj. Gen. David C. Wood, 38th Infantry Division commander.

The 122nd Fighter Wing deployed approximately 140 airmen and eight A-10s for this combined and joint operation, and the 38th soldiers and 181st airmen worked side-by-side with members of the Slovak intelligence, surveillance, target acquisition reconnaissance unit.

"This operation gives us the opportunity to work with our partners here, the Slovaks, also other European partners, as well as with our two wings," said Indiana Air National Guard Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Hauser, an assistant adjutant general.

Hoosiers and Slovaks worked closely together to exchange close-air support capabilities and conduct familiarization classes on air combat maneuvers and air surveillance techniques. They also worked together to provide observation and reconnaissance on targets for close-air support provided by the A-10s.

It is here that real relationships are developed based on these shared goals, said Wood.

"This is great training for my soldiers and very important to building on to the strong relationship we have with the Slovak armed forces," said Wood.

The combined and joint operation between the two countries and the land- and air-based forces proved that Hoosiers and Slovaks strengthened their ties of their 20-plus-year partnership that supports the U.S. National Guard's and U.S. European Command's State Partnership Program.

Operation Slovak Warthog supported the U.S. European Command's Operation Atlantic Resolve, which uses the National Guard as a part of the rotational force working with our NATO partners.

To develop assurance and deterrence moving into the future, states partner with European NATO countries, and these partnerships seek to promote the opportunity for interoperability and enhance the principles of responsible governance.

Mechanics ensure mission success

By Spc. Jesse Chapel
Indiana National Guard Public Affairs

Indiana National Guard mechanics with the 38th Infantry Division keep units mission ready.

That was evident during the division's annual training when the maintenance crew with Headquarters Support Company worked diligently on a Humvee that suffered from engine failure.

"Pretty much anything that has to move, cannot move without us," said Spc. Asaad Bryant as the wheeled-vehicle mechanic removed his gloves and eye protection under the welcoming shade of a canvas.

Bryant and his cohorts were working on the high-mobility, all-terrain vehicle for the division's long-range surveillance unit, Company D, 151st Infantry Regiment, at the combined support maintenance shop at Camp Atterbury near Edinburgh.

The crew of three mechanics struggled with the removal of a drive shaft that prevented the vehicle from being towed. The crippled vehicle had an engine issue, and they were trouble shooting the vehicle to determine the exact cause of failure.

Covered with oil and dripping with sweat from the exertion of removing the drive shaft, Sgt. Javar Jones, also a wheeled-vehicle mechanic, agreed with his fellow mechanic about the importance of their mission, and how they keep units training and in the fight.

"Without us, if these vehicles go down, everything will go to a stop," said Jones.

Under the sound of drilling, the growls of other Humvees and

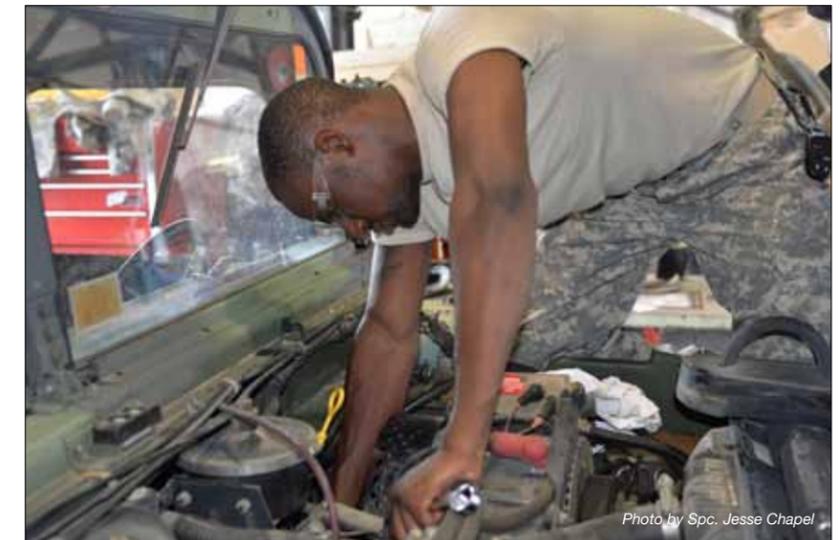


Photo by Spc. Jesse Chapel
Sgt. Javar Jones, a wheeled-vehicle mechanic, checks the broken engine of a Humvee.

almost 90-degree heat from the August sun, the mechanics finally extracted the drive shaft after a long and arduous struggle.

The Indiana National Guard relies heavily on vehicles to maintain its impressive fighting capabilities, and the dedicated men and women who work tirelessly to ensure that the Guard's strength doesn't wane.

"Without soldiers who have the skill sets necessary to keep our warfighting equipment operational, we would be unable to complete any mission laid before us," said Capt. Adam Barlow, the Company D commander. "Our Indiana Guard mechanics are second to none."

Second to none, and keeping division soldiers in the fight and mission ready.

38th ID Guardsmen train for medical emergencies

By Spc. Jesse Chapel
Indiana National Guard Public Affairs

Indiana National Guard soldiers from 38th Infantry Division attended a course for four days in August at Camp Atterbury's medical simulation training center to engage in medical training exercises and certify as combat lifesavers.

The training exercises featured realistic and challenging scenarios to better the soldiers' understanding and ability to administer medical aid when needed under any conditions.

"(The training) had a lot of value because

there won't always be a medic with you, and you have to know what to look for," said Spc. Jocelyn Cruz, Indianapolis, and a chemical specialist with the division.

Throughout the course soldiers expanded their knowledge first in a classroom and then through the indoor training exercises, designed to induce as much stress, and appear as realistic as possible with screams of chaos in the background and pained groans from the mannequins.

The training center provides the best opportunities to receive combat lifesaver training because of the realism that's here in this building, said Capt. Samuel Lowe,

an intelligence operations officer from Brownsburg, after one of the intense and true-to-life like exercises.

The fourth day of training consisted of a medical obstacle course, where the trainees executed medical aid and safely navigated any obstruction to bring the injured mannequin to safety.

The 38th ID soldiers unanimously agreed that Camp Atterbury's medical simulation training center provided and enhanced the training, and that it added real-world value to the knowledge and experience they gained to ensure the protection of any injured person's health.

76th Brigade completes annual training, readies for 2017



Indiana National Guard soldiers with Company B, 1st Battalion, 293rd Infantry Battalion practice their clearing techniques and procedures during raid mission training at Camp Atterbury, near Edinburgh, Indiana, Sunday, Aug. 7, 2016. The training prepares them for next year's training at Fort Polk, Louisiana in 2017.



Staff Sgt. Dustin Chase and Spc. Garrett Welker prepare to breach a door during raid mission training, Aug. 7, 2016.



A First Army observer, coach, trainer talks to soldiers with Company B, 1st Battalion, 293rd Infantry Regiment while training for raid missions at Camp Atterbury, Aug. 7.



Soldiers with Company A, 113th Brigade Support Battalion and 38th Combat Aviation Brigade conduct sling-load training at Camp Atterbury, Friday, Aug. 5.



Indiana Army National Guard Sgt. Chance Tedford, facing camera, fires an M119 105mm howitzer at Camp Atterbury, Aug. 15.



Soldiers with the 76th Infantry Brigade Combat Team load military equipment to railcars at the Camp Atterbury railhead near Edinburgh, Indiana, Thursday, Aug. 11, 2016. This training will be key in 2017 as the 76th Guardsmen will depart for the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, Louisiana.



Photo by Staff Sgt. William Hopper

A Colorado National Guard F-16, an Indiana National Guard A-10 and a Slovak armed forces MiG-29 sit on the tarmac at Silac Air Base in Slovakia.

Hoosiers, Slovaks soar to new heights



Photo by Staff Sgt. William Hopper

A Slovak armed forces MiG-29 takes the lead in front of two 122nd Fighter Wing A-10s in a flyover demonstration at Silac Air Base in Slovakia, Wednesday, July 27.



Photo by Staff Sgt. William Hopper

A paratrooper falls from an Ohio National Guard C-130.



Photo by Staff Sgt. William Hopper

Paratroopers with the Indiana National Guard and Slovak armed forces fall to the ground as part of an airborne demonstration at Silac Air Base in Slovakia, Wednesday, July 27, 2016. The joint and combined demonstration supported Operation Slovak Warthog and Operation Atlantic Resolve, which showed United States' commitment to European security and stability.

Indiana Army National Guard Staff Sgt. John Bennett with the 38th Infantry Division's long-range surveillance unit, collects his parachute after an airborne demonstration at Sliac Air Base in Slovakia, Wednesday, July 27, 2016. For the story about Operation Slovak Warthog, see page 4. Photo by Staff Sgt. William Hopper



Environmental branch helps #GuardTheEarth

Monitoring endangered bat species at Atterbury, Muscatatuck

Staff Report

Atterbury-Muscatatuck Public Affairs

The Indiana National Guard's environmental management branch staff coordinated, hosted and participated in an acoustic techniques and analysis training delivered by some of the leading experts in the field of bat acoustic analysis in July at Camp Atterbury.

The training was open to outside agencies, researchers and consultants with representation from Indiana Department of National Resources forestry division, Ball State University, Indiana State University and private industries.

The training event was a two-course program covering acoustic sampling techniques and analysis as it relates to the study and identification of bats through the recording and analysis of their ultrasonic echolocation calls.

The first course was a frequency division class designed to give overall understanding of the recording equipment used and visual bat call analysis using software.

Participants gained hands-on training with multiple types of detectors in a number of field environments and learned how to manage frequency division data efficiently with a focus on how to accurately interpret recorded bat calls and identify bat species using this data.

The second course focused on advanced software techniques for analysis of bat call data using a variety of filters, scans and automated identification programs.

"We are doing this to posture ourselves to best address Endangered Species Act requirements on Indiana National Guard property," said Michael Peterkin, Indiana National Guard deputy chief of conservation.

Camp Atterbury and Muscatatuck Urban Training Center serve as summer roost habitat to the federally endangered Indiana bat, *Myotis sodalist*, and the federally threatened northern long-eared bat, *Myotis septentrionalis*.

Other species known to use one or both properties include the state-endangered evening bat, *Nycticeius humeralis*, and state-listed species of concern little brown bat, *Myotis lucifugus*; tricolored bat, *Perimyotis subflavus*; hoary bat, *Lasiurus cinereus* and eastern red bat, *Lasiurus borealis*.

Acoustic monitoring helps the environmental branch at Camp Atterbury develop a better picture of how various bat species are using the property over time.

"This information allows us to increase the sustainability of the military training mission by integrating it with science-based land stewardship as we meet legal requirements of the Endangered Species Act," said Peterkin. "The ultimate goal is ensure there is as little impact to the training mission as possible while being the best



Photo by 1st Lt. Brandon Rex

Todd Eubank, a biologist for threatened and endangered species, left, and Mike Peterkin, deputy chief of conservation, right, spot a bat roost at Camp Atterbury during a training class, Thursday, July 14. The purpose of the class was to train environmentalists on methods of capturing ultrasonic bat calls and matching them with different bat species.

"We are doing this to posture ourselves to best address Endangered Species Act requirements on Indiana National Guard property."

— Michael Peterkin

Indiana National Guard deputy chief of conservation

stewards of the resources entrusted to us by the American people."

The intent of training for many participants was to increase the "in house" capacity of the Indiana National Guard environmental branch staff and the use of specialized equipment, software and subject matter.

"It is not something that many people are able to do and not a typical set of skills required for natural resources work," said Peterkin.

He said he hopes with time and practice the environmental staff will be able to implement a monitoring program using in house assets rather than outside service contracts, which will increase the amount of data they can capture and maximize the flexibility in study design to benefit the Indiana National Guard and reduce cost.

"This will augment other required bat surveys driven by Endangered Species Act requirements. With proper planning we can both train our soldiers and assist in protecting vulnerable resources," Peterkin said.

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Indiana National Guard Sgt. 1st Class Monica Ward, a personnel services noncommissioned officer with 81st Troop Command, receives an update from an Indiana Air National Guard captain, Sunday, Aug. 7, 2016, at Camp Atterbury, near Edinburgh, Indiana. The soldier and airman are part of the Indiana National Guard's emergency-response force team that was being evaluated by National Guard Bureau in August. Photo by Staff Sgt. Katherine M. Forbes