

INDIANA GUARDSMAN

FALL 2014

An Indiana National Guard Publication



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Front cover caption: Indiana National Guardsmen and Slovak Defense Force members stand in formation in front of the Indiana War Memorial in Indianapolis during a ceremony celebrating the 20th anniversary of the the two forces' partnership, Saturday, May 17, 2014. Photo by Sgt. Jeremiah Runser

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Visit the Indiana National Guard at www.in.ng.mil and search "Indiana Guardsman" on Facebook and "@INGuardsman" on Twitter.

Message from The Adjutant General ...



Photo by Lt. Col. Cathy Van Bree

Indiana National Guard Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. R. Martin Umbarger, presents Slovakia's Chief of Defense, Lt. Gen. Milan Maxim, with an Indiana flag, during the adjutant general's trip to Slovakia in August. This year marks the 20-year anniversary of the Hoosier, Slovak partnership. See more on page 11.

Staying ready, resilient and relevant

As we continue the transformation from a deployment-focused Guard to more of a preparedness and readiness focus, we can see and feel the effects of the reduction of our federal budget. We have seen over the last few weeks and months that we live in an uncertain and dangerous world.

The budget challenges in Washington coupled with the reduction of the military footprint in Iraq and Afghanistan are indicators the military will certainly be reduced. I predict this reduction of military forces will soon demonstrate the need again for reliance on the National Guard. Even though the number of units deploying is reducing in numbers, our emphasis on readiness must remain at the forefront.

One of our challenges to this is fiscal uncertainty, thus we find ourselves battling budget issues once again. Drill weekends in September needed to be rescheduled in order to allow Congress time to reprogram pay and allowances for weekend training assemblies. However, we are resilient. Not only is resilience part of our training, it's also the fabric of which Americans are made. We will adapt to this financial adversity and

be better for it and always have.

I thank you for your dedication to the Indiana National Guard and Duty, Honor, Country. I understand the impact these changes to the drill weekends mean to you, your employers and your families. The sacrifices you and your families make do not go unnoticed or unappreciated.

Our Soldiers and Airmen are the foundation of our organization and without you the Indiana National Guard wouldn't be as healthy as it is today. We have achieved great gains in training, personnel and logistics readiness, all thanks to your dedicated hard work.

The Indiana National Guard, Army and Air, continue to set high standards. Our units continue to be highly sought after. This year I have seen unprecedented numbers of Soldiers and Airmen participating in collective training in more than a decade.

The 38th Infantry Division continues to prepare for a warfighter. Mobilizations continue as 1313th Engineers, 939th Military Police, 138th Quartermasters, Company C, 1-137 Aviation and 38th Division Headquarters all prepare to deploy. The 122nd Fighter

Wing will soon depart for a 6-month-long mission, the largest deployment by the Indiana Air National Guard in more than a decade.

Regardless of the current budget constraints and challenges, my goal for us is to continue to improve our readiness levels and to maintain our current organization so we can be there when our state or nation calls. I stay in contact with our state and federal elected officials to ensure we have a good balance of combat, combat support and combat service support units in the Indiana National Guard, which is relevant to our changing world.

At 30 percent the cost of our active-duty counterparts, we are an outstanding value to our communities, state and nation. We will continue to be a relevant and reliable force, ready to deploy when necessary. From hometown to homeland to foreign land, we are always there.

Again, I thank you and your families for your continued professionalism and dedicated service to our state and nation. It is an honor for me to serve as your adjutant general. Proud to serve!



Photo by Sgt. Jeremiah Runser

Pvt. Bradley Pavey aims at a 500-meter target during long-range marksmanship training at Camp Atterbury, Ind., Monday, June 2, 2014.

Not Just Stetsons & Spurs

Cav Soldiers sharpen weapons skills at annual training



Photo by Sgt. Jeremiah Runser

Sgt. Caleb Bustos writes down crew drills for reference.



Photo by Sgt. Jeremiah Runser

Sgt. John Edwards fires the M240 machine gun during annual training at Camp Atterbury.



Photo by Sgt. Jeremiah Runser

Spc. Zack Linger, right, goes over, crew drills, actions on contact, and weapons malfunction with 2nd Lt. Justin Dorton. They are with Troop A, 1st Squadron, 152nd Cavalry Regiment.

Protecting Homelands



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Aaron Tinsley

Hoosier and Israeli troops on top of a rubble pile in Tel Aviv, Tuesday, May 13, 2014. Indiana and Israel partnered for the third straight year.

Hoosiers, Israelis exchange search, rescue techniques

By Sgt. 1st Class Aaron Tinsley
Indiana National Guard Public Affairs

Indiana National Guardsmen flew to Israel to participate in a multinational search and rescue training event near Tel Aviv. This marked the third exchange between Indiana and Israel; strengthening ties between the state and nation.

Hoosiers and Israelis designed the training to share rescue techniques and knowledge to help improve response actions that will save lives.

“The main benefit of the training is to look at other ways of working and thinking,”

said Col. Amir Golan, of the Israeli National Rescue Unit.

The nations blended teams to locate and safely extract more than 300 simulated victims from collapsed buildings. Teams stabilized, cut, lifted and broke through debris to provide immediate medical care and rescue victims.

Indiana Guardsmen adapted quickly to Israeli rescue techniques. The training provided them an opportunity to use Israeli rescue equipment and train on construction types and materials uncommon in Indiana.

Indiana National Guard Lt. Col. Kelly Hammond commanded the Indiana

Guardsmen and welcomed the opportunity to learn from Israeli rescue specialists.

“We are integrating, sharing our ideas and learning from each other,” said Hammond. “My guys on the ground are getting great takeaways from this experience.”

The U.S. Ambassador to Israel, Dan Shapiro, observed the training and spoke to participants.

“It’s a testament of the friendship between us when our experts come together to learn, share and educate each other,” said Shapiro. “We are both better off and stronger.”

The Indiana National Guard is scheduled to host the training event next year.

Father, Son enlist into 122nd FW

By Airman 1st Class Justin Andras
122nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The opportunity to serve your country is not a chance that everyone gets.

However, for Patrick and Taylor Affolder the opportunity was one they could not pass.

The father and son from Decatur, Ind., and recent enlistees of the 122nd Fighter Wing were proud to be part of a group of Indiana military recruits who joined to serve their state and country at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in May.

“Ever since I was 18 I wanted to join the service,” said Patrick, a husband and a father of four children. “I come from a long line of service members and now is a good time in my life to do it as well.”

Patrick, who works as a nursing assistant at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne, Ind., pursued a job in the medical field for the Air National to capitalize on his civilian experience and potentially become an officer after he earns his bachelor’s degree.

Patrick, 37, also made the decision to join the Air National Guard for altruistic reasons.

“I love helping people,” said Patrick. “What better way than to get training and excel in your life by serving your country.”

Taylor, 18, followed his dad’s choice to join because of the National Guard’s educational benefits.

“I have had a growing interest in becoming an underwater welder,” said Taylor. “I knew if I enlisted in the military they would provide the opportunity to pay for my schooling and allow me to do something interesting.”

Taylor, aspiring to work in the oil industry someday, wanted to take advantage of the Indiana National Guard supplemental grant which allows Air National Guard members to pursue their education up to a bachelor’s degree at any Indiana approved school by paying up to 100 percent tuition costs. He has enlisted to become a crew chief for the A-10 Thunderbolt.

The duo along with eight other enlistees of the Indiana National Guard and others representing the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Coast Guard participated in an annual event held at the speedway on Armed Forces weekend, one week before the famous Indianapolis 500 race. This event acknowledges those who have enlisted in the military that year.

“The future of our country stands here,” said Maj. Gen. R. Martin Umbarger, Indiana’s adjutant general. “Many in the past have said a voluntary military wouldn’t work, especially during a time of war, but it has and here we are.”

Umbarger, Indiana’s highest ranking military officer, delivered the Oath of Enlistment to the 70 enlistees at the speedway.

Upon making the decision to join the ANG, Patrick was skeptical on how enjoyable the experience would be. However, he

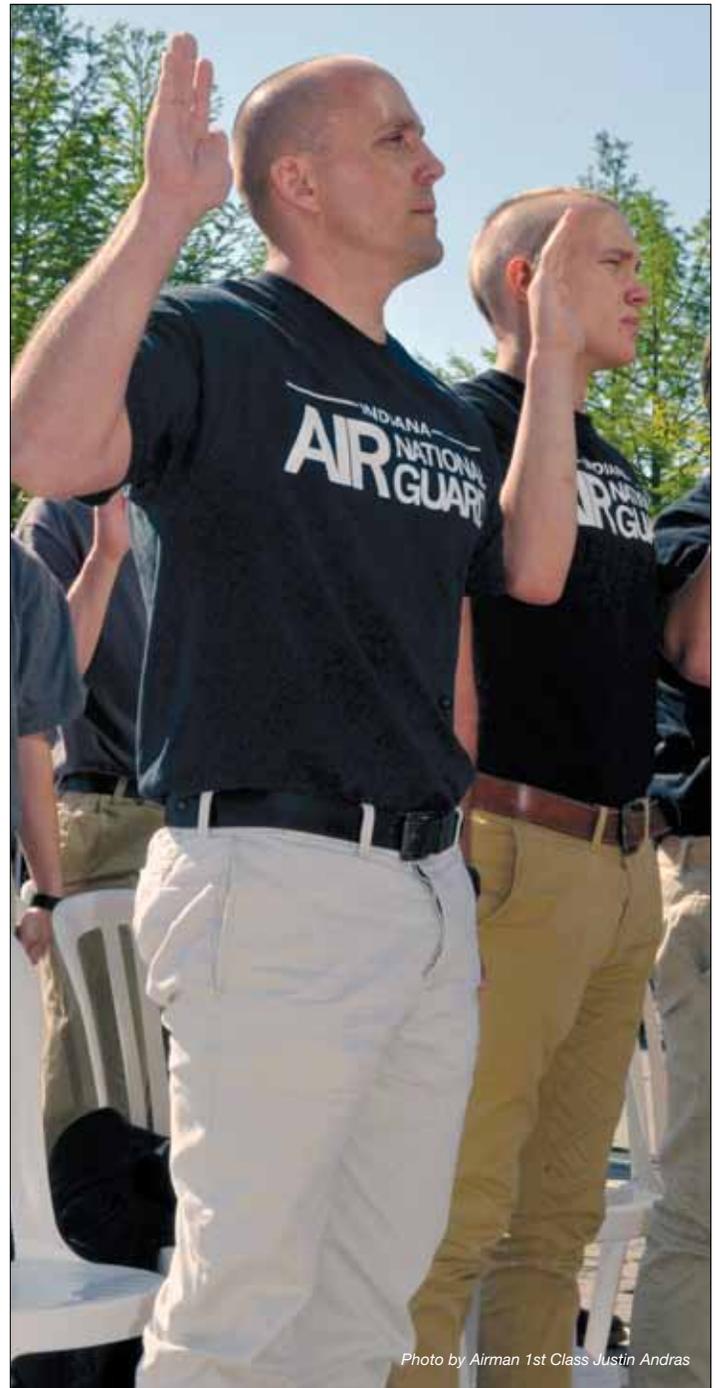


Photo by Airman 1st Class Justin Andras

Patrick, left, and Taylor Affolder raise their hands for the Oath of Enlistment during a ceremony, Sunday, May 18, at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

said members of the wing have made the experience pleasant by providing meaningful information and support and making him feel part of a family.

The Affolders are excited to begin their careers in the military and serve their state and country much like the thousands who have served before them.

“I want the opportunity to meet people, to grow as a person, and I can’t think of any better place than here,” said Patrick.



The 38th Infantry Division Commanding General, Maj. Gen. Lonnie Culver, left, talks to his Chief of Fires, Col. David Vesper, during a rehearsal exercise.

38th participates in largest WFX

By Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Lowry
38th Infantry Division Public Affairs

The Cyclone met the Red Bulls.

The meeting was not a World Cup match, but part of the U.S. Army’s largest warfighter exercise this summer at the Mission Training Complex – Leavenworth, Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and Fort Riley, Kan.

The Cyclone, Soldiers with the 38th Infantry Division headquartered in Indianapolis, and the Red Bulls, headquartered in Rosemount, Minn., trained to test their interoperability over two weeks during their units’ annual training at the Midwest posts.

“This is one of the best ATs you’ll ever have because there’s more training and more learning for a division headquarters than there’ll ever be,” said Maj. Gen. Lonnie Culver, the division’s commander. “There’s no better Army training than in a warfighter.”

More than 150 38th ID Soldiers acted as a corps-level headquarters for the more than 2,200 34th ID Soldiers who took part of a notional attack during the training.

The exercise, where U.S. forces help a

sovereign nation remove an invading force, provided 38th ID Soldiers the experience to learn and train as they gear up for their warfighter exercise in February.

“It really helps us with our jobs on a regular basis, and what our higher command is going through,” said Indiana National Guard Pfc. Tim Dumas, an intelligence analyst with the division.

Dumas was a computer operator during the exercise and said working as the higher command for the warfighter will help streamline the 38th’s processes.

“I think it’ll be helpful; we can clean up and organize what we do,” said Dumas.

Indiana National Guard Spc. John Lairson agreed with Dumas about how this exercise better prepared 38th Soldiers.

“We’re not here to be in the game. We’re here to observe and assist the 34th. But we’re also here to learn from the 34th,” said Lairson of the division’s role.

Lairson said the division and its Soldiers were locked, cocked and ready to rock.

“Everyone arrived; they dug in, got ready,”

See Warfighter, page 25

Shift Change

During the warfighter exercise, 38th Infantry Division Soldiers changed shift every 12 hours. For individual Soldiers that meant 12 hours on, 12 hours off.

For the unit it meant 24/7 operations and a shift-change brief to maintain the exercise.

“The shift change brief is imperative to the incoming staff that they have the situational awareness of what’s going on in their battle space,” said Maj. John Robertson III, the night shift chief of operations during the warfighter exercise.

While the shift-change brief was important to the corps-level staff, it was just as important to the divisions that corps supported.

The shift-change brief makes sure that there is continuity to the divisions, said Robertson.

Hoosier Airmen train the trainers

181st Racers teach others for domestic preparedness

By Senior Airman Kodie Egenolf
181st Intelligence Wing Public Affairs

Airmen from the 181st Intelligence Wing conducted an introductory course on disaster response aerial collection in June at Camp Atterbury, Ind.

The course will be used to train other National Guard units on state aerial domestic response missions with hands-on training for aerial collection teams performing disaster preparedness training and missions.

“We all want to be good at our state mission to protect ourselves and our neighbors through disaster preparedness,” said Master Sgt. Benjamin Knowles, 181st Intelligence Wing.

The training will involve two units from Kansas and Ohio with Civil Air Patrol and air support operations squadrons to help air-to-ground communications.

“We are all in the military, wearing the uniform, and we’re proud that we can all help out our own state in a time of need as well as performing our federal mission,” said Knowles.

The organizations from Kansas and Ohio want to begin conducting their own state aerial disaster response missions in addition to their overseas missions.

“We are currently the only Wing, in any



Photo by Senior Airman Kodie Egenolf

Indiana Air National Guard Staff Sgt. William Warner III and Staff Sgt. Christopher Richard, 181st Intelligence Wing, discuss flight plans during disaster response aerial collection technique training at Camp Atterbury near Edinburgh, Ind., Thursday, June 19, 2014. Members of the 181st Intelligence Wing made this training available to other guard units for domestic operations across the country.

state, that does this mission,” said Staff Sgt. William Warner, 181st Intelligence Wing.

“We are providing these organizations mission equipment to take back to their state and showing them how to do incident analysis and assessment during disasters.”

As overseas operations slowdown the 181st IW has adapted skills learned over the last six years to better assist disaster first responders.

“Assisting with domestic response, allows us to keep current on our training and help the state of Indiana respond more efficiently to natural disasters,” said Warner.

Training like this allows the 181st Intelligence Wing to keep ready and reliable in all their skills.

“It’s very gratifying to be able to help out the citizens of Indiana, we are making a difference,” said Warner.

Call of Duty? Child’s play for 181st Airmen

By Senior Airman Kodie Egenolf and Lt. Col. Frank Howard
181st Intelligence Wing Public Affairs

If you are a fan of live player vs. player video games then you will love Exercise Emerald Warrior.

The 181st Intelligence Wing’s 113th Air Support Operation Squadron participated in Exercise Emerald Warrior April 29 through May 1, 2014, at Camp Atterbury, Indiana.

“Emerald Warrior is a joint digital exercise, where we can work with multiple assets on a live connected network to call in airstrikes,”

said Staff Sgt. Matthew Mook, a 113th joint terminal air controller.

Real-time, live, digital exercise environments allow greater player vs. player participation, and with more organizations from across the country that normally would not train together, for a fraction of the cost.

“Simulator experience is becoming more and more prominent and anytime (we) actually get involved with real aircraft and aircrew, we will be more prepared,” said Mook.

New members learned new skills, and they observed how more experienced members go above and beyond basic requirements.

HYCA graduates 1,000th

Staff Report

The Hoosier Youth Challenge Academy graduated its 1,000th cadet in June at the Greenfield Central High School.

Cadet James J. Oldham, from Fort Wayne, Ind., and the 1,000th graduate was among 70 cadets who graduated in the academy's 14th class.

U.S. Congressman Luke Messer, Indiana National Guard Chief of Staff Brig. Gen. Brian Copes, and Hoosier Youth Challenge Academy Bethany Williams attended to congratulate the cadets.

"The Hoosier Youth Challenge Academy is delighted to have had over a thousand youth graduate from our program," said Williams. "Our cadets leave our program with an understanding of what it means to persevere and how that can benefit them in the future. While we are proud of our graduates, we know that there are many more youth in Indiana who can benefit from our program."

The cadets, ages 16 to 18, completed a nearly 6-month-long paramilitary residential program designed to develop academic and life skills while instilling community oriented behaviors.

Graduates pursue higher-level education, employment or military placement over the next 12 months, and they receive assistance from Youth Challenge mentors and advisors.

Founded in 2007 at Camp Atterbury, the academy then moved to Knightstown, Ind., in July 2010.

For more about the academy visit hoosier youth challenge.org.

The National Guard founded the voluntary and preventive Youth Challenge program in 1993.



The 1,000th Hoosier Youth Challenge graduate, James J. Oldham, second from left, poses with, from left, Hoosier Youth Challenge Academy Bethany Williams, U.S. Congressman Luke Messer and Indiana National Guard Chief of Staff Brig. Gen. Brian Copes, Saturday, June 14, 2014.

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STARBASE lands in Indy



Photo by Staff Sgt. Lorne W. Neff

A STARBASE student builds a paper tower.

By Staff Sgt. Lorne W. Neff
Indiana National Guard Public Affairs

Launching rockets, programming robots, building towers, it could be part of a high tech engineering firm, but for 20 grade school students, this was summer camp.

“I like that I can learn about science,” said Autum Evans, an Indianapolis grade school student. “I’m usually not that into it, but they make it fun here.”

Evans and 19 others participated in a summer camp to introduce the STARBASE Indiana program to the Indianapolis area.

STARBASE is a nationwide Department of Defense program that emphasizes science, technology, engineering and math, or STEM, to fifth graders.

The Indiana program started in Fort Wayne three years ago, and it is now expanding to Indianapolis.

“It’s not a field trip, we are part of the school year and add to the standards for the state and nationally, and it’s hands-on which the children learn best,” said Liebhauser.

“We know there is a huge shortfall in the STEM areas and we need engineers in Indiana and nationwide, so we want to build interest early,” said Liebhauser.

STARBASE Indianapolis expects to



Photo by Staff Sgt. Lorne W. Neff

STARBASE students program a computer that will move a robot from point to point. The STEM-based camp lasted for three days in Lawrence.

graduate approximately 800 students during the school year and another hundred during the summer.

“The kids are enthusiastic,” said Liebhauser. “We’ve seen it with the 2,000 we’ve graduated in Fort Wayne, and we know it will be just as exciting here when we open.”

STARBASE =

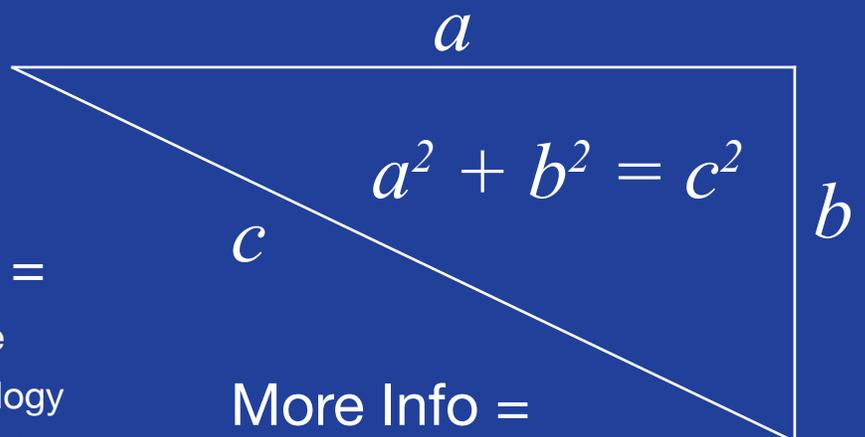
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Down with SPP, yeah you know us

Hoosiers, Slovaks celebrate 20-year partnership

By Capt. Catalina Carrasco

Indiana National Guard Public Affairs

Indiana National Guard hosted senior leaders of Slovak Republic to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the State Partnership Program.

Slovak Republic ambassador to the United States, Peter Kmec and the Chief of Slovak Defense, Lt. Gen. Milan Maxim headed the senior leaders' delegation.

The Hoosier, Slovak partnership is part of a National Guard Bureau initiative that links states and territories with military members of other countries around the world for the purpose of supporting the security cooperation objectives of the geographic combatant commands.

The Indiana National Guard and the Slovak armed forces began a relationship in 1994. The two military organizations have shared more than 200 joint events over the course of the past two decades. In that time the Slovak Republic became a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

"We became partners, we trained together, we worked together," said Maj. Gen. R. Martin Umbarger, Indiana's adjutant general. "We've come to know each other well as allies and this is just a special day."

The results and achievements of the partnership include the transition of the Slovak armed forces from a conscript service to a volunteer force, an enhanced role of women in the Slovak military, the creation of a noncommissioned officer corps and the cultural exchanges between members of the Indiana National Guard and the Slovak forces.

"We want to celebrate 20 years of cooperation and results that is the main goal of celebrating this anniversary," said Maxim.

In 2011 the first of four joint Operational Mentor Liaison Team rotations deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation



Photo by Sgt. Jeremiah Runser

Indiana Air National Guard Maj. Craig Maschino, left, briefs Maj. Gen. R. Martin Umbarger and Chief of Slovak Defense, Lt. Gen. Milan Maxim during their visit to the 181st Intelligence Wing.

Enduring Freedom.

Sgt. 1st. Class Michael Bacon deployed to Afghanistan in August 2012 as part of Operational Mentor Liaison Team as a mentor advisor for an Afghan military unit.

"This was one of the best and enjoyable deployments that I've taken part of," said Bacon, "We succeeded in achieving our mission by training hand in hand, while adapting to each other's cultures, with the same purpose in mind."

As with the two military forces strive for unity of purpose, Slovak leaders hope for the same in their communities.

Kmec visited Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard and leaders at Indiana University – Purdue University at Indianapolis to discuss possible business ventures.

"As our two militaries have created a very strong foundation of bilateral ties, we're trying to build on this very intense cooperation also in the civilian sector. We're looking for ways of cooperation

in the area of innovation and trade," said Kmec of strengthening civil ties too.

The Slovak delegation attended different commemorative events around the state, which included a visit and tour of Camp Atterbury Joint Maneuver Training Center, the 181st Intelligence wing and the Clabber Girl Museum in Terre Haute and the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

The Indiana National Guard celebrated the landmark anniversary with a ceremony at the Indiana War Memorial in Indianapolis.

A formation of more than 200 Soldiers and Airmen represented all units belonging to the Indiana National Guard.

The 2-hour, military ceremony featured formal honors and traditions, starting with cannons firing 19 volleys in honor of the governor and music performed by the 38th Infantry Division band. Static displays represented some of the equipment and fighting capabilities of the Indiana National Guard.

MUTC sets stage for VR14

By Sgt. 1st Class Brad Staggs

Atterbury-Muscatatuck Public Affairs

Vibrant Response 14, a U.S. Army North homeland emergency response exercise, took Muscatatuck Urban Training Center in southern Indiana and turned it into a city in distress.

Exercise participants arrived to see clothes hanging from trees, a flooded neighborhood with victims that need to be rescued, and a train that appeared to be dangling precariously from a destroyed railroad trestle.

From July 21 through August 7, these scenes dotted the landscape at the training center near Butlerville, Ind., in order to simulate the aftermath of a nuclear attack.

What participants didn't see was everything that took place behind-the-scenes, much like on a movie set.

Planning for the exercise began the day the previous year's exercise was over. After-action reviews provided important feedback that will go into the planning phase and allow the Muscatatuck staff to improve the venues they provide next year.

Command Sgt. Maj. Tyrone Benham, the Muscatatuck noncommissioned officer in charge, has been with the facility since its



Photo by Spc. Caitlyn Byrne

U.S. military leaders and VIPs watch a Soldier demonstrate his moulage dressing skills.

inception in 2005 and has been the driving force behind manpower needs and set-up for Vibrant Response at the facility.

"It takes months to plan an exercise of this size," Benham said. "We are in contact at least monthly with someone planning for the event, but this does not take planning conferences into the mix."

Benham said that it takes an average of 50 personnel to run the exercise from Muscatatuck each day plus the number of

people it takes to run the facility itself on a daily basis.

"The biggest challenge (for me) is manpower," Benham said. "Setting up the facility, operating effects, mayor cell operations, joint operations cell operations, logistics and disaster medical assistance team operations all take personnel that need to understand their duties."

See Vibrant Response, page 21



Photo by Staff Sgt. Corey Baltos

An aerial view of Muscatatuck Urban Training Center during Vibrant Response 14, The exercise, led by U.S. Army North, confirms the operational readiness and tactical capabilities of the DOD's specialized forces that respond to chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear incidents.

General named Hoosier trailblazer

In July, Indiana Gov. Mike Pence honored 12 African-American Hoosiers for their leadership, achievements and community service at a reception during the 44th Annual Indiana Black Expo Summer Celebration.

These dozen individuals received the Governor's Award for Achievement in the fields of health and fitness, business and entrepreneurship, civic leadership, military, religion, and cultural heritage.

During the reception, Brig. Gen. Wayne Black was awarded the Sam Jones Trailblazer Award. The award is named for the first president of the Indianapolis Urban League. The recipient of this award is the ultimate pillar in his community, whose achievements have withstood the test of time. Jones continues to leave a legacy and positive impression on the people and community he represents.

Black was recognized for his leadership, service and commitment, not only in the Indiana National Guard, but also within his community and state.

Black serves as a mentor to veterans as a part of Veterans Court in Montgomery County. He provides youth and young adult mentoring in Indianapolis. And he works on several other community service projects with a local chapter of his fraternity, Omega Psi Phi, Inc. He is the first African-American general officer in the Indiana National Guard.

Indiana Guardsman: How does it feel to be honored as a Hoosier trailblazer?

Black: I am extremely honored to be selected by the governor for this award and to be recognized during Indiana Black Expo. It is very humbling to be recognized and considered among some of the prestigious recipients of the Sam Jones Trailblazer Award. This list includes Tony Dungy, Max Siegel, The Montford Point Marines and Charlotte Westerhaus, just to name a few. I am very privileged to have received this award and to be recognized within the community. To be selected for the Sam Jones Trailblazer Award, I only hope that I can



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Lowry

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence, left, poses with Brig. Gen. Wayne Black, right, and his wife, Symea, at the Indiana Statehouse in Indianapolis. The Indiana Black Expo named the general the Sam Jones Trailblazer for his "exemplary efforts and professional achievements for service to the community."

continue to clear a path that will encourage others to pursue their goals and dreams. I also want to provide support and assistance to others in achieving their objectives.

Indiana Guardsman: What does it mean to you to be the first African-American general in the Indiana National Guard?

Black: Being the first African-American general officer in the Indiana National Guard is a unique and distinctive position to be in. This is a significant achievement for me and has far exceeded all of my expectations from when I was commissioned as a second lieutenant. I am very fortunate to have the opportunity to serve in this capacity. And I owe much gratitude and thanks to all the Soldiers, noncommissioned officers and senior leaders who helped to train and develop me over the years.

Indiana Guardsman: How do you think that that influences African-American and other minority Soldiers and Airmen of the Indiana National Guard?

Black: I think that the impact of my

promotion to brigadier general has and will inspire other African-Americans and minorities in the Indiana National Guard to strive to achieve this rank or even higher. I think that it brings to reality that the ability to become a general officer is possible and attainable.

Indiana Guardsman: What's the significance of the Indiana Black Expo, and what does it mean to the African-American community in Indiana and the nation.

Black: The Indiana Black Expo was founded in 1970 and it strives to "to create an avenue to display positive African-American ideas." Indiana Black Expo primarily focuses on the social, economical and political issues that face African-American in Indiana. Each year during Summer Celebration, prominent leaders, entertainers and well-known figures come to Indiana to help promote the ideas of Indiana Black Expo. This helps to encourage and endorse positive images of African-Americans in our communities and throughout the state of Indiana.



Indiana National Guard Soldiers with the 76th Infantry Brigade Combat Team pose for a photo at Forward Operating Base Nighthawk's landing zone at Camp Attleboro.

Bulk of 76th trains together



Photo by Sgt. Daniel Dyer

Mortar crew members practice their craft.



Photo by Sgt. Daniel Dyer

Indiana National Guard Soldiers prepare to advance and breach a door during urban training, Monday, June 9.



Photo by Sgt. Daniel Dyer

Spc. Michael Stalcup, of Company D, 1st Battalion, 151st Infantry Regiment, fires an anti-tank weapon.



Photo by Staff Sgt. James Bowie

Atterbury, Ind., Saturday, June 7, 2014. The 76th saw many of its approximately 3,000 Soldiers train together for the first time since 2008, when it deployed to Iraq.

Training at Camp Atterbury

By Staff Sgt. James Bowie
76th IBCT Public Affairs

It's been a long time.

Annual training 2014 saw the many of the 76th Infantry Brigade Combat Team's Soldiers, approximately 3,000 strong, training together for the first time since 2008.

The Soldiers of the 76th, aka Nighthawks, spread out across Camp Atterbury, Ind., May 31 to June 14, bringing along its newly added third maneuver battalion, the 2nd Battalion, 151 Infantry Regiment.

"Nothing more important than getting the brigade back together as a brigade," said Col. Ronald A. Westfall, the brigade commander.

Combat deployments kept the brigade busy since the Sept. 11 attacks, with its units parceled out for various missions. Often, the Soldiers were tasked and trained for duties outside their job specialties, something that Westfall wanted to change.

Westfall called for a training plan that focused on the basics, and following his directives, the Soldiers trained, and trained hard, in the jobs for which they enlisted.

"The brigade is getting back to fundamentals," said Maj. Christopher K. Lack, a veteran of two deployments.

Soldiers took a break from the high-tempo training to enjoy food and music at an event called Feed 'Em for Freedom, hosted by Wal-Mart employees.

Air transportation played an important role during annual training.

Black Hawk helicopters from the 38th Combat Aviation Brigade carried several companies to and from Camp Atterbury. Additionally, many 76th Soldiers had the opportunity to ride on the Black Hawks as a means to boost retention.

Finally, a Kentucky Air National Guard C-130 transport plane flew 2-151 Infantry Soldiers back home to Gary, Ind.

The brigade trained without its artillery asset. The 1st Battalion, 163 Field Artillery Soldiers performed their annual training at Camp Atterbury in July. They conducted new equipment training on the M777 Howitzer. As with other Nighthawks, the artillerymen focused on their job of choice.

However, it wasn't all work for the artillerymen either, as they enjoyed a visit from Dale Earnhardt Jr. and Graham Rahal. The two National Guard sponsored drivers, in NASCAR and IndyCar respectively, fired rounds from the M119 during their trip to Camp Atterbury.



Photo by Sgt. Daniel Dyer

Two 76th IBCT Soldiers go over the edge of the rappel tower at Camp Atterbury during annual training, Saturday, June 7, 2014.

History of the 76th patch

Indiana's AG reflects on Nighthawk Brigade heraldry

By Staff Sgt. James Bowie

76th IBCT Public Affairs

Soldiers with the 76th Infantry Brigade Combat Team wear a unit patch born during the years following the Cold War when restructuring took the 76th from the 38th Infantry Division and made it one of 15 separate infantry brigades within the Army National Guard.

Previously known as the Blue Devils, and having a long lineage, the 76th received a complete rebranding. The brigade needed a motto, nickname, unit crest, and a patch. The Department of the Army's Institute of Heraldry asked for suggestions.

After becoming the brigade's deputy commander in 1994, Indiana's Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. R. Martin Umbarger, then a lieutenant colonel, began convening regularly with other brigade leadership to develop these suggestions, based on the theme that the 76th was a light infantry brigade.

Brigade leadership wanted a rectangular patch, in keeping with most unit patches, and they decided on an arrow in the middle because that symbol represents forward movement on a military map.

There would be three background colors. The bottom third would be blue, the color designating friendly forces on a map. The middle third would be black, because being light infantry, the brigade would have to move with stealth and especially operate at night.

"When you're light infantry you better own the night," said Umbarger, who served as the brigade's commander from 1996 to 2000. He's been the adjutant general since 2004.

The background's upper third would be red, which represents being in enemy territory and on the attack.

Altogether, the patch represented light infantrymen who would move with great stealth from safety and into the enemy's teeth.

Brigade leadership submitted the patch design, along with one for the unit crest, a motto, "Point the Way," and a nickname, "Nighthawks."

The patch came back with some changes. The multicolor background had been changed to blue, and there was a bayonet inside the arrow.

"Quite, frankly, it's not quite infantry blue," Umbarger said, of the new background color, but it still made for a strong patch, and they liked the bayonet idea, so they agreed to the changes the heraldry institute made.

The Nighthawks had their patch, along with a unit crest and "Point the Way" as their motto.

"It's a once in a lifetime opportunity," said Umbarger of being a part of the process.



Photo by Staff Sgt. James Bowie

Indiana's Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. R. Martin Umbarger, shows off the 76th Infantry Brigade Combat Team patch. Umbarger helped design and select the patch in the mid 1990s.



76th IBCT distinctive unit insignia



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. John S. Chapman

Master Sgt. Eric Moore, 113th Weather Flight, briefs Lt. Col. Reginald H. Paul, a Civil Air Patrol pilot, on the weather conditions in central Indiana.



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. John S. Chapman

Airmen with the 181st Intelligence Wing prepare a Civil Air Patrol aircraft for takeoff for the Operation Blue Sky mission over central Indiana.

OPERATION BLUE SKY:

Intel Wing assists IDHS, icy Hoosiers

Staff report

181st Intelligence Wing Public Affairs

In February, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security requested 181st Intelligence Wing Airmen, aka Racers, to conduct aerial operations for Operation Blue Sky.

“The ice dams were moving downstream with the size and potential strength to damage bridges and other key infrastructure in their paths due to the historically heavy icing on the river this season,” said Jan Crider, IDHS. “Due to flooding in the area only an air picture could provide this assessment.”

The 181st IW along with the Civil Air Patrol launched an aerial collections team sortie to conduct aerial assessment of flooding in Tippecanoe and Fulton Counties that provided IDHS an accurate assessment of the flooding.

“One of our primary missions is to assist the people of Indiana, and this is just one of many ways we are prepared to support our community,” said Col. Patrick Renwick, 181st vice commander.

While airborne the team surveyed the ice jam, observed and reported a sport utility vehicle stranded in flood water and provided analysis of flooded areas.

“Our close working partnership with the Civil Air Patrol and our wing’s focus on disaster response can really make a difference when incident commanders respond to severe weather or disasters,” said Renwick.

“The Racers are critical to domestic response and dedicated to supporting the people of Indiana in whatever way we are tasked,” said Col. Donald Bonte, the wing’s commander. “While we hope disasters don’t happen, we are here and ready whenever the state of Indiana requires our assistance.”

Racers receive highest state medals for winter storm relief

Story by Lt. Col. Frank Howard

181st Intelligence Wing Public Affairs

When the weather gets dangerous Hoosiers can always rely on the 181st Intelligence Wing to come to the rescue.

Indiana National Guard Airmen from the 181st Intelligence Wing were presented the Indiana Distinguished Service Cross and Distinguished Service Medal in May.

The Indiana Distinguished Service

Cross is the highest state medal, and the Distinguished Service Medal is the second highest state medal.

Staff Sgt. Nicholas Leis was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his Jan. 7 acts of heroism and Master Sgt. Damon Girton and Senior Airman Jacob Buker were awarded the Distinguished Service Medal.

When their vehicle and the ambulance the team was escorting were immobilized in snow, Leis and Buker trekked a quarter-

mile, on foot, in negative 35-degree weather to reach a stranded patient and provide first aid until paramedics arrived.

Girton’s leadership and guidance to his Airmen directly contributed to the overall success for the 181st IW’s numerous successful missions during Operation Arctic Tempest in January.

The 181st Intelligence Wing takes pride in being always ready and always prepared for Indiana and the nation.

Indianapolis Motor Speedway



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Lowry

Indiana National Guard Maj. Lisa Kopczynski sings the national anthem prior to the Indianapolis 500, Sunday, May 24, 2009, in Speedway, Ind.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Lowry

Indiana National Guard Col. Kevin Extine leads troops of all service branches - Army, Navy, Marine, Air Force and Coast Guard - down pit lane toward the "yard of bricks" prior to the 96th Indianapolis 500, Sunday, May 27, 2012.

Story by Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Lowry
Indiana National Guard Public Affairs

Jim Nabors singing "Back Home Again in Indiana." The victorious driver drinking milk in the winner's circle. The command of "Gentlemen start your engines."

Woven into those traditions at the "Greatest Spectacle in Racing" and others at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway are traditions that military service members bring to the track.

Since the green flag fell at the motor speedway in 1909, a military presence exudes throughout the track.

Traditions take root

"How it came about I have no idea, but from the time the place opened, it was the Indiana National Guard that did all of the policing," said Donald Davidson, the Indianapolis Motor Speedway historian. "For many years, there was a Maj. Carpenter who was the fellow that headed that up. I think even he was retired from the Guard and still headed up the security. I think that would probably explain why there was sort of a military feel to it."

Now the track's own safety patrol officers, aka yellow shirts, police the more than 250 acres during race-related events.

"It wasn't until 1948 that they formed what is known as the safety patrol. We now call them the yellow shirts, but from '47 on back, National Guard," said Davidson of Guardsmen working at the track.

At the first 500 in 1911, Guardsmen's duties extended to on-track activity.

"There's some film footage in the 1911 race where there was a multi-car accident, and you see somebody on a horse riding up and down, and it's a National Guardsman," said Davidson. "So then the Guardsmen supervised turning the car over and rolling it off the track."

Other military traditions

Yet Davidson said other traditions link

the track to the military. One is the bomb that signifies the opening of the track on race day.

For many years speedway employees used aerial explosions to signify race-day events, said Davidson, to include signifying the start of engines that predates the now famous command today.

"Now it's just down to the bomb opening the track," said Davidson. "It use to be that they would go on all morning - the one-hour bomb, then the half hour, then 15 minutes. Now for the last several decades they just have the one."

Davidson said in an age before walkie-talkies, cell phones and public address systems that booms from explosions were an easy way to communicate.

"I still get a kick out of that, because it's such an effective way to do it," said Davidson. "Some people say 'how archaic,' and I joke about it and say how simple that is. They could put millions of dollars worth of equipment and things like that, and it probably wouldn't work."

Retired Indiana Air National Guard Brig. Gen. Stewart Goodwin and Indiana War Memorials executive director has another theory of the military impact at the track.

"Well the situation in Indianapolis on Memorial Day weekend is pretty amazing, and it has a lot of military roots to it," said Goodwin in 2011 prior the 95th 500. "Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker who was a Medal of Honor recipient and had 26 kills in World War I, at one time owned the track. The fact is the National Guard plays a big role this weekend, actually the whole month."

Drivers who are vets and vice versa

Before Rickenbacker owned the track, and before he became a World War I flying ace, he raced in the Indianapolis 500.

"There are numerous other drivers with military backgrounds. In fact if you go to the early 50s, if you take a lineup from '52, '53, '54, '55, almost everybody in there was

y steeped in military traditions



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Lowry

A multiservice color guard marches down pit lane at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway during the Indianapolis 500's 100th anniversary in 2011.

involved in World War II or other conflicts,” said Davidson.

Yet there are also many others.

“Peter DePaolo, who won the race in 1925, during World War II he was a lieutenant colonel,” said Davidson. “Billy Arnold, who won the race in 1930, he was also a lieutenant colonel.”

Davidson recalled many other drivers who were war veterans, including the last who he can remember.

“Sgt. Steve Chassey, who ran in ‘83, ‘87 and ‘88 were his 500 starts, was ground infantry in Vietnam. It just goes on and on and on,” said Davidson of drivers with military backgrounds.

IMS fixture joins National Guard

Davidson, who became the track historian in 1998, has a military background too.

In the mid-1960s he immigrated to the United States from England because of his passion for auto racing and the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. While working for the United States Auto Club, Davidson said a coworker suggested he join the National



Maj. Gen. Howdy S. Wilcox

Guard and see Maj. Gen. Howard S. Wilcox. Wilcox was the 38th Infantry Division commanding general from 1963 to 1964 prior to meeting Davidson and son of 1919 Indianapolis 500 winner, Howdy Wilcox.

Wilcox, the general not the racer,

graduated from Indiana University and founded the Little 500, the bicycle race at the university. He was also instrumental in founding the Indianapolis 500 Festival, a series of monthlong events leading up to the “Greatest Spectacle in Racing.”

“My question, since I didn’t know anything about the Guard, ‘I’m a Brit, can a foreigner join the Indiana National Guard?’” said Davidson.

It was OK for Davidson to join, and like every recruit, he then had to take a battery of tests. He became a helicopter mechanic with the Indiana National Guard’s Company B, 38th Aviation Battalion at Stout Field. He served six years from 1966 to 1972, during which time his unit moved from Stout Field to Shelbyville, Ind. He made it to specialist 5 the last weekend he served in the Guard.

Davidson recalled the camaraderie of those he served with.

“They were all good people,” said Davidson. “The people I was in with and

See **Troops**, page 26



Photo by Sgt. Jeremiah Runser

Indiana Army National Guard pilots fly a UH-72 Lakota from the 38th Infantry Division headquarters in Indianapolis, Wednesday, April 23, 2014.

Lakotas fly into Indiana's arsenal

By Sgt. 1st Class Aaron Tinsley
Indiana National Guard Public Affairs

The Indiana National Guard welcomed two UH-72 Lakota helicopters to replace existing OH-58 Kiowas during a May ceremony at the Army Aviation Support Facility in in Gary, Ind.

The Lakota is a light utility helicopter with improved communications, enhanced image transmission and increased troop carrying capacity over its predecessor.

It will be used to support local, state and federal law enforcement agencies with emergency response actions and homeland security missions.

Ted Mickevicius, vice president of business development for Airbus Group that manufactures Lakotas, commented on their improvements over the Kiowas.

"These aircraft will provide Indiana with increased capabilities, including search and rescue, disaster response and support to local law enforcement," said

Mickevicius. "The Indiana National Guard will be better prepared than ever to answer the call, to respond to emergencies in local communities and the state."

The Indiana National Guard's director of aviation and safety agreed.

"It's a valuable asset for Indiana and an important tool for supporting our communities and serving our citizens," said Lt. Col. Daniel Lane. "It also comes at a much lower operating cost than any other modern airframe in our inventory."

Dimensions in feet _____

- 42.7** = length w/ rotor
- 34.4** = fuselage length
- 11.3** = height
- 5.7** = width
- 36.1** = main rotor diameter
- 6.4** = tail rotor diameter
- 5.6** = cabin width
- 4.0** = cabin height
- 11.3** = cabin length
- 5.6** = cabin width

Weights in pounds _____

- 7,903** = maximum take-off
- 7,903** = maximum w/ external load
- 1,500** = cargo hook capacity

Performance _____

- 151** mph = cruise speed
- 167** mph = maximum speed
- 11.3K** feet = hover ceiling
- 426** miles = range

Rotor System _____

- 4**-bladed hingeless main rotor
- Fiber-reinforced composite blades
- Semi-rigid, **2**-bladed tail rotor

Power Plants _____

- 2** Turbomeca Arriel 1E2
- 704** continuous shaft horsepower

Vibrant Response tests troops

Continued from page 12

This year, the Indiana National Guard approved annual training time for Soldiers to work at Muscatatuck during the exercise, doing jobs such as running effects and resetting venues every night in order to make the behind-the-scenes portion of a smoking, flaming city run smoothly.

“The support we receive from the state of Indiana is just amazing,” Mike Rozypal, U.S. Army North’s on-site exercise manager during all seven iterations held at Muscatatuck, said to a group of generals and congressional staffers gathered to tour and learn more about the exercise. “Without them and the people of Camp Atterbury and Muscatatuck who work with us every day, this exercise wouldn’t be possible.”

The Indiana National Guard is constantly thinking about how to provide the best training environment possible for the lowest cost, especially with funding being at a premium, said Indiana Assistant Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Omer Tooley.

“We are in keeping with the military’s training imperative ‘train as you will fight’ and the institutional imperative of being good stewards of the taxpayers money,” Tooley said. “The foundation of success for Vibrant Response provided by Atterbury-Muscatatuck is its ability to create an immersive training experience characterized by a highly complex civilian urban environment set in an accurate geographic battlespace while providing opportunity to collaboratively interact with actual local, state and regional civilian jurisdictions and Title 32 capabilities at a cost that absolutely cannot be matched anywhere else.”

During Vibrant Response 14, more than 5,500 personnel from as far away as Texas participated. With that many people, the 1,000-acre Muscatatuck site looked more like a traffic jam than a city, but



Firefighters from the Atlantic region strike-team embark on a rescue mission in a flooded area at Muscatatuck Urban Training Center.

“The support we receive from the state of Indiana is just amazing.”

– Mike Rozypal

U.S. Army North’s on-site exercise manager

making sure that the exercise kept moving was one of the many jobs for the site professionals.

“Real world, this is confusing for all agencies involved,” said Lt. Col. Barry Hon, MUTC site commander. “When you throw in that confusion, the exercise control team responsibilities, support teams from contractors, ARNORTH and other entities, it is amazing how the leaders of each synchronize to ensure it is an effective exercise.”

Hon said that his MUTC team, led by Benham, does their absolute best to keep the exercise moving, even when other entities are holding training exercises on other parts of the facility at the same time. MUTC personnel role-playing policeman keep traffic moving and training units away from each other, sometimes being only one street apart.

Hon expressed his pride in his Soldiers and employees.

“I frequently use the term that we offer a premier facility to train our nation’s best, but this exercise also illustrates that the MUTC full-time National Guard, contractors, federal technicians and state employees are the nation’s best to ensure exercises such as Vibrant Response are completed successfully.”

After spending more than a month to set up the exercise and three weeks to perform the exercise while resetting the facility every night, it will take about three days to get the facility back to a steady state appearance. Metal will be picked up and stored, clothing littering the streets and trees will be cleaned and placed into trash bags, and destroyed vehicles will be placed out of the way ... until the next time they’re needed when the whole process starts all over again.



Indiana National Guard Sgt. Austin Fanning hurls debris back onto the grass during the reset process, Sunday, July 28, 2014. Fanning, a Fort Wayne, Indiana native, helped restore the disaster site at MUTC.

The Battle of Tippecanoe

Harrison repels Tecumseh, Native American confederacy

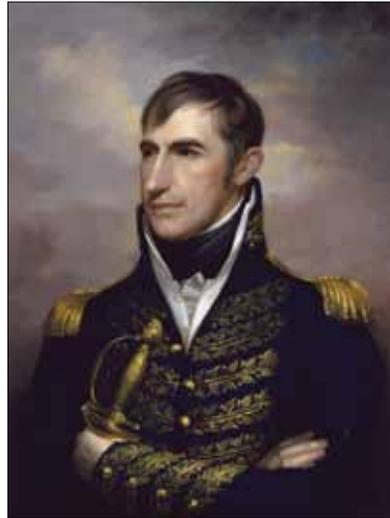
Staff report

The fighting at the Battle of Tippecanoe took place November 1811 at Prophetstown, the Indian confederacy capital near the confluence of the Tippecanoe and Wabash Rivers.

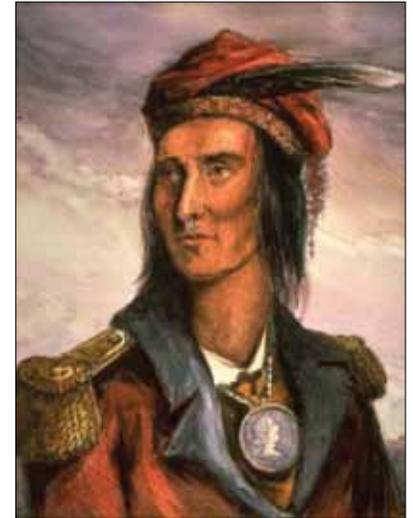
Tecumseh, a Shawnee chief, along with his brother, Tenskwatawa, aka “the Prophet,” led a Native American confederacy against Indiana Territory Gov. William Henry Harrison. Tecumseh with support from British forces threatened to drive American settlers from the Ohio River valley.

Harrison rallied Indiana and Kentucky militia, and moved to strike a preemptive blow to the confederacy. But the confederacy attacked the U.S. force first. Indiana’s Yellow Jackets, militiamen who served with Harrison, took the brunt of the initial assault. They were able to rally and hold until Harrison could reinforce the line and organize a decisive cavalry charge.

For Hoosier Guardsmen, the historical battlefield allows them a place to study and research the choices of the belligerents. Additionally, the Indiana National



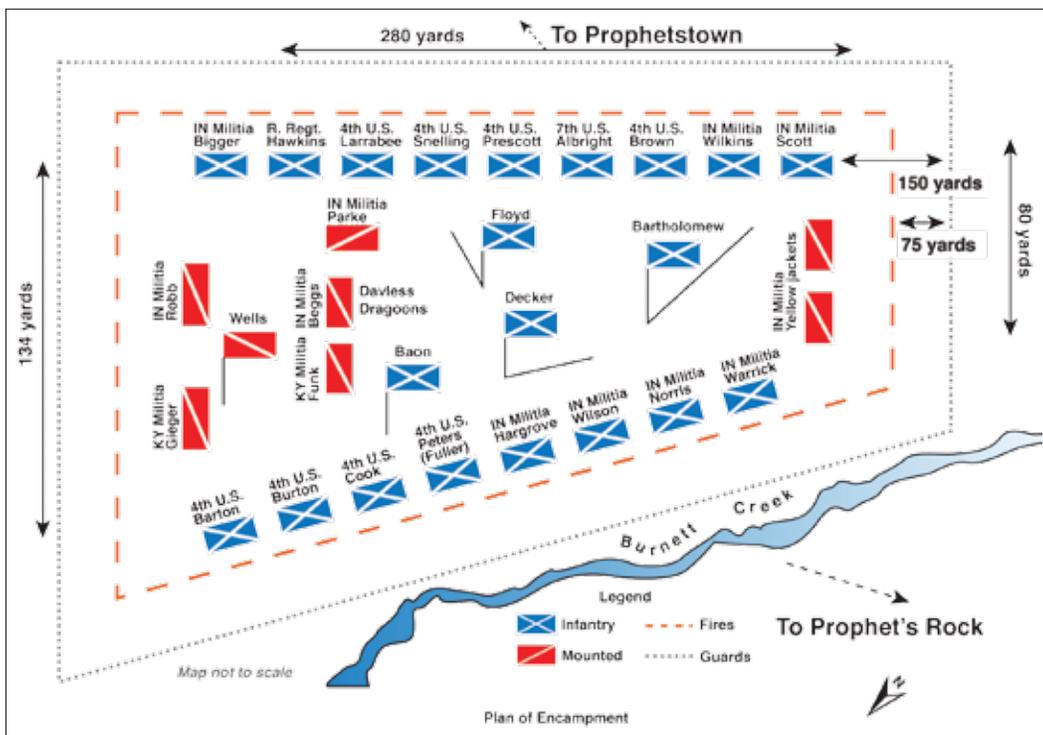
Gov. William Henry Harrison



Shawnee Chief Tecumseh

Guard’s 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 151st Infantry Regiment, trace their lineage to the militiamen who fought at the Battle of Tippecanoe.

For more information on Harrison’s mission command performance see Capt. Jason Moore’s analysis on the Indiana National Guard website at <http://in.ng.mil/NewsandMedia/tabid/247/ArticleID/64/Harrison-repels-Tecumseh-Native-American-confederacy.aspx>. Excerpt below.



Around 4 a.m., Cpl. Steven Mars fired a shot at an infiltrating Indian as the Prophet decided to attack the trapezoid shaped encampment. The fight lasted for several hours as the Indians attacked three sides of the camp heavily. Harrison exemplified leadership providing purpose, direction, and motivation to both his subordinate commanders and Soldiers by continually moving “from one threatened location to another throughout the battle to direct his forces and inspire his Soldiers.”

Harrison’s encampment near Prophetstown prior to the start of the Battle of Tippecanoe.



Airmen with the 122nd Fighter Wing participate in the 46th Annual Three Rivers Festival Parade, Saturday, July 12, 2014, on the streets of downtown Fort Wayne. The yearly parade, attended by approximately 50,000 people, allows the Indiana Air National Guard wing to show its community support.

Fighter wing supports Fort Wayne community

By Airman 1st Class Justin Andras
122nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Thousands of people lined the streets in downtown Fort Wayne, Ind., anticipating the beginning of the city's largest summer festival.

Children stood patiently with empty shopping bags, thrilled for the chance to receive loads of candy while parents sat comfortably in lawn chairs. Many others blanketed the sidewalks and lawns in front of homes and businesses.

The commencement of the 46th Three Rivers Festival Parade was imminent. Several blocks down, among an organized line of floats and groups representing various Fort Wayne businesses and organizations, stood more than 30 members and volunteers from the 122nd Fighter Wing, the Air National Guard unit serving the community of Fort Wayne and the state. The members volunteered to participate in the parade, Saturday, July 12, 2014, as a confident signal of the wing's support for the tight-knit community.

"We have a very strong community tie," said Col. David L. Augustine, 122nd Fighter Wing commander. "We love the community, and we want to give back to them."

At the onset of the parade, members walked down Wayne Street. As they approached the crowds, Guard members and volunteers

handed out candy, flyers, paper airplanes and other items to children and adults along the street. As the procession progressed further towards the downtown area, cheers of military support and applause of appreciation echoed throughout the crowd.

"Seeing the mass of people standing, saluting, waving, clapping and shaking our hands to say thanks to us, and in turn the military men of women of this nation, was truly humbling," said Augustine.

The wing takes pride in its relationship with the community through the community outreach program.

This is an extremely patriotic community who knows how to rally behind the troops, said Chavala Augustine, chairperson for the 122nd Fighter Wing's Key Volunteers program. The community has provided a great environment and supportive relationship with the 122nd Fighter Wing.

Key Volunteers program members were among those representing the 122nd Fighter Wing. The group's primary purpose is to bridge the relationship between unit leadership and their families.

The wing's community outreach program is very important to the overall success of the mission, and continued community support allows the 122nd Fighter Wing to do what they do best; protect and serve the community by being a force here and abroad, when called upon.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Joe Boals

A medic with the 181st Intelligence Wing rappels down an elevator shaft during a training exercise, April 16, 2014, at Muscatatuck Urban Training Center.

Hoosier Airmen, Soldiers train together

By Senior Airman Kodie Egenolf
181st Intelligence Wing Public Affairs

Bodies litter the ground, moans and cries for help echo in the smoke filled air amidst a city in ruins at Muscatatuck Urban Training Center, near Butlerville, Ind.

Indiana National Guard Airmen from the 181st Intelligence Wing who work with Indiana's enhanced response force package participated in a 5-day disaster response training and evaluation exercise in April.

In total, approximately 200 Indiana National Guardsmen took part in the training to prepare for an external evaluation.

Indiana's force package members train to respond to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and high-yield explosive attacks. They also train for natural disasters.

"When a disaster happens many times the local authorities and abilities are overcome very quickly, and then we can step in to help," said Indiana Air National Guard Col. Lisa Snyder, 181st IW Medical Group.

The external evaluation demonstrates the status of the joint force package preparation and ability to function as an operational task force in the state of Indiana.

"Training like this is important because anything can happen at any time," said Indiana Air National Guard Master Sgt. Shaun Fretwell, 181st IW Medical Group.

The training consists of analyzing disaster situations, deploying the right teams to handle the disaster, and ultimately caring for the wounded and casualties.

"It says a lot about the Guardsmen, Air and Army, to be able to come together for an event like this, when throughout the month they do nothing like this in their civilian jobs," said Synder.

During part of the training Indiana Guardsmen rappelled down elevator shafts, testing air and the environment for chemical activity, and most importantly practicing to save lives.

"We prepare every month during drill weekends, and during exercises such as this, to be ready in case something happens, and we make sure we are always ready so we can be there to assist civilians and our local communities," said Fretwell.

Training keeps Guardsmen, resources, and abilities ready if a disaster hits.

"The mission here is staffed by traditional Guardsmen, so these Guard members come together from all over the state in the event that there is a natural disaster or a man-made terrorist event," said Fretwell.

Warfighter prepares 38th Soldiers

Continued from page 7

said Lairson. “Now let’s watch the 34th do their thing.”

After the exercise the division Soldiers had a better understanding of what’s needed at a corps level headquarters, and they had many positive, learning experiences.

“It’s been an enlightening experience to see how things work at corps level. This has also been a huge help knowing what’s expected and needed at a division level for our warfighter exercise. I believe that everyone here has learned from the failures and successes of their 34th ID counterparts, and we can take those lessons with us as we move forward into our exercise in February,” said Sgt. Brian C. Bowman, sustainment computer operator during the exercise.

For other division Soldiers, providing the higher command for the 34th Infantry Division meant working as a team.

“Teamwork and communication is priceless. A well-synchronized and synergistic effort from a small number of well-trained and well-equipped Soldiers is unstoppable,” said Lt. Col. David L. Mathieu, information technology officer.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Lowry

Indiana Army National Guard Staff Sgt. Wilfredo Rivera, left, talks with Staff Sgt. Russell Christian during a shift-change brief during a warfighter exercise at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., Monday, June 16, 2014. The two 38th Infantry Division staff judge advocate Soldiers monitored events regarding jurisprudence matters. Division Soldiers are scheduled to test their interoperability skills in February.

The division’s mission scenario even list manager agreed.

“The position I assumed with the warfighter exercise gave me the opportunity to work with most of the sections within the 38th Infantry Division, said Maj. David Kelsey. “We worked together as a team. This will serve the division well going into our

warfighter exercise next year.”

Other division Soldiers said that relying on communication and having a common basis to work from will be instrumental to their success in February.

“I had forgotten that the higher the echelon of command, the more challenging it is to create and maintain a common operating picture. Internal and external clear, concise and useful communications are key,” said 1st Sgt. Richard Raymer, who worked in the knowledge management section during the 9-day exercise.

The division deputy commanding general for operations summed up his thoughts on the warfighter exercise.

“We are professional, work well together, have great attitudes, and we are always improving our foxhole. We are positioning ourselves for success at our upcoming warfighter. I am very proud of your efforts supporting the Red Bulls during this annual training,” said Brig. Gen. David Wood.

The Red Bulls meeting the Cyclone wasn’t a World Cup game at all, but valuable training that will help 38th Infantry Division Soldiers in February when they are the division staff and not the corps staff.

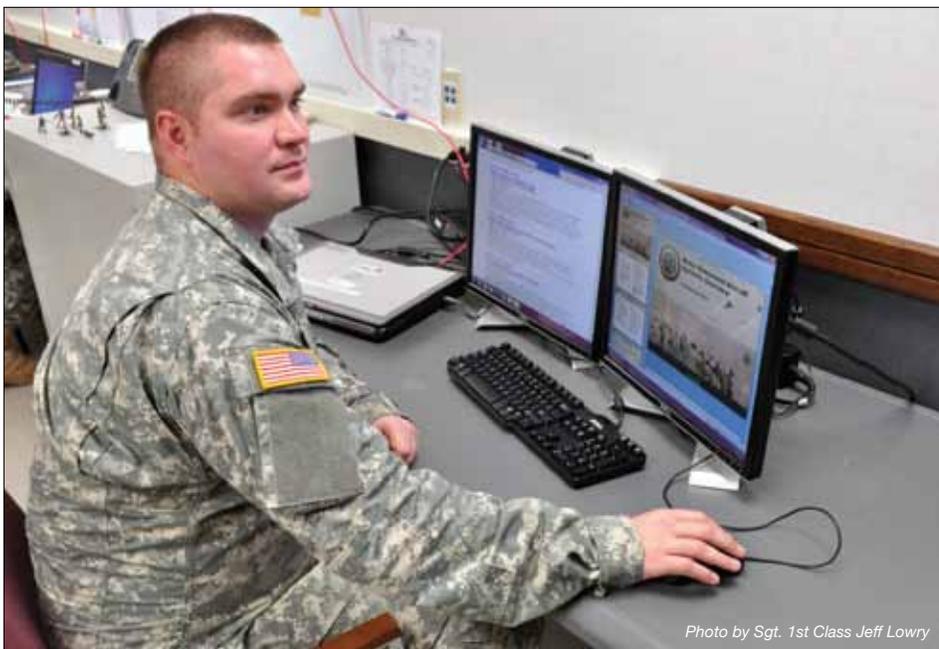


Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Lowry

Spc. John Lairson, a 38th Infantry Division intelligence analyst, looks at a computerized map of camera during a warfighter exercise at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., Thursday, June 19, 2014.

Troops highlight prerace ceremonies

Continued from page 19

when I went through basic, you know it was people from all over, they were all good, professional people. And there are three or four I run into from time to time.”

New military traditions added

This year was Davidson’s 51st Indianapolis 500. He said many traditions remain intact, in the last several years there’s been an increase of troops during prerace ceremonies, which he attributed to the Gulf War in 1991 and Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

“They’ve done a lot with the military in recent years,” said Davidson. “For years they didn’t. It was very much like a brass band thing. The crowd was very American. The crowd was always very patriotic - red, white and blue. It’s just the crowd that comes here,” he said. “Now when you see several hundred soldiers come march down pit lane, they’ve only done that in very recent years.”

Goodwin, who helped coordinate prerace festivities from 1979 to 2011, agreed with Davidson regarding the increase after the Gulf War.

“It just grew, it seemed to grow there for awhile,” said Goodwin. “There was probably not a better time in our lifetime when the military was looked on so positively. And what the track wanted to do, they wanted to use that venue to showcase the military.”

Troops reflect on prerace participation

For the military members being part of the prerace ceremonies, especially during Memorial Day weekend, means a lot to them when more than 200,000 race fans stand and cheer for them.

“It makes me feel proud to hear and see all those people who support us wearing the uniform,” said Indiana National Guard Spc. Lyndsey Kelly prior to the 2012 Indianapolis 500 when she held a red and white striped flag during driver introductions.

In 2011 Indiana Army National Guard Spc. Dillon McCann did the same thing and commented on what it meant to him.

“It’s an honor to be chosen among the thousands of Indiana National Guardsmen; it’s a chance of a lifetime,” said McCann.

Other troop involvement includes marching down pit lane, providing the color guard, displaying the U.S. flag in Turn 1, firing a three-round volley, playing “Taps” and at times singing the “Star-Spangled Banner” or “America the Beautiful.” Additionally, the military typically provides the aircraft for the flyover at the last note of the national anthem, and the military also provides the guest speaker.

“I can tell you that it was a tremendous improvement on the whole show, for lack of a better term, on race day when the Guard got involved” said Goodwin. “It was such an addition that it really brought home what Memorial Day was all about. It’s about honoring those who gave the ultimate sacrifice.”

Indiana National Guard Sgt. Ron Walker sang “America the Beautiful” prior to the 2012 race.

“Singing at the Indy 500 is an experience that I will never forget,” said Walker. “I am thankful for IMS extending the invitation to the Indiana National Guard, and grateful for being chosen by the Indiana National Guard to share my voice on such a grand stage.”

Walker said his selection was a way to represent the National Guard and give back to the community for which he serves.

“Anytime I am given the opportunity to honor my country in song, I feel just that - honored,” said Walker. “Being able to do it as a Guardsman makes it much more meaningful. I feel like it’s another way for me to give back.”

Getting ready

While service members do their small part, coordinating, planning, arranging and managing those approximately 800 service members takes a small army and lots of time.

Retired Indiana Army National Guard Capt. G. Elizabeth Brown was the lead project officer for the Indiana National Guard and its involvement with the 500 and track-related events from 2007 to 2012.

“It takes a team to make all the events go off without any issues. It’s a script down to the tenth of a second and no room for mistakes,” said Brown. For her spearheading duties, Brown won first place National Guard wide for community relations in 2010 for month of May events and second place in 2011.

Brown said that it took several months to plan for the events in May from the race itself, to the 500 Festival Parade, to the Armed Forces Day Enlistment ceremony among others.

What it means

Brown said all the planning of and participation in the events and specifically in prerace events were worth it.

“Having the Indiana National Guard participate in prerace activities is a staple at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway,” said Brown. “It has been done to show how supportive our community is for its soldiers. We are a community-based organization and the community supports the Guard, and that is quiet evident race day when the fans roar for the soldiers as they march down pit row. It’s an amazing spectacle to see.”

“Whatever we can do on the outside to show the people about what the military is all about, we do that,” said Goodwin. “It’s important to tell our story about what the military has done, because if we don’t tell our story, nobody is going to know it.”

The president agrees with the retired service members.

“With the Indianapolis 500 taking place during Memorial Day weekend, it is a natural fit to have a significant military component to the race,” said Doug Boles, Indianapolis Motor Speedway president. “Our fans look forward to cheering the armed service members marching down pit lane prerace nearly as much as they look forward to the command for drivers to start engines.”



Indiana National Guard Soldiers and Airmen, along with service members from other branches, march off a stage at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway prior to the start of the "Greatest Spectacle in Racing," the Indianapolis 500, Sunday, May 25, 2014. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Aaron Tinsley



Soldiers from the 76th Infantry Brigade Combat Team's Company A, 1st Battalion, 293rd Infantry Regiment, disembark from 38th Combat Aviation Brigade Black Hawk helicopters, and hit the ground at Camp Atterbury, Ind., Sunday, June 1, 2014. Photo by Sgt. Daniel Dyer