

# Coyote Courier

JUNE 13, 2017

VOLUME 33, ISSUE 1

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE 2017 GOLDEN COYOTE TRAINING EXERCISE

## Golden Coyote training exercise underway



**By Maj. Anthony Deiss**  
129th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Adam Foster, 139th Brigade Support Battalion, South Dakota National Guard, guides a truck hauling supplies for Base Custer State Park in support of the Golden Coyote training exercise, June 10. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Mitchell Murphy)

The South Dakota Army National Guard's 33rd annual Golden Coyote training exercise is underway throughout the Black Hills of South Dakota and Guernsey, Wyoming. This year's exercise, which officially began June 10, is providing military units with relevant training opportunities in support of overseas contingency operations and homeland defense.

Created in 1984 with the cooperation of the National Forest Service and Custer State Park, this year's exercise will allow about 2,400 service members to conduct combat-support and service-support missions in a realistic training environment and provide valuable services to the public.

"The Golden Coyote exercise provides excellent training for all of the participating units with a tailored training approach," said Col. Marshall Michels, SDARNG chief of staff. "We work directly with each commander, incorporating their training objectives into the Golden Coyote exercise providing realistic, battle focused and demanding training that enhances the participating unit's readiness."

There will be about 30 military units from 14 states and two foreign nations participating in the exercise from multiple branches of military service - Army, Navy and Air Force - working together to create an invaluable training experience. Participating units conduct military

operations, train on their equipment and employ tactics, and complete various humanitarian missions and engineer projects that help improve the forest and infrastructure of many communities.

"This is a unique training exercise because it focuses on the participating unit's training needs that enhances their readiness," said Michels. "Additionally, the Golden Coyote training environment utilizes the beautiful Black Hills as a training location that requires units to interact with civilian population and coalition partners."

Local residents receive numerous benefits from the many engineer

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## Commander welcomes troops, stresses safety

Welcome to the 33rd annual Golden Coyote training exercise.

Every year we look forward to units and service members from around the world participating in this two-week exercise.

Golden Coyote is one of the largest National Guard training exercises in the country. It provides a venue for units to conduct various types of training, in real world scenarios, ranging from warrior training lanes to collective mission-essential tasks

that support local communities with humanitarian missions.

Safety is the top priority throughout the exercise. Train hard, take care of each other and watch out for your battle buddy. Never take short cuts or jeopardize the safety of a fellow service member. Thank you for your dedicated service and enjoy your time in South Dakota. Leaders of the Best!

**Brig. Gen. Thomas Croymans**  
*Commander of Troops*

### Coyote Courier

**Commander of Troops**  
Brig. Gen. Thomas Croymans

**GC Exercise PAO**  
Capt. Amber Symonds

The editorial content of this newsletter is prepared, edited and provided by the  
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## exercise underway

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projects conducted during the exercise. Units transport timber to Native American communities that use it as firewood, conduct building construction, repair and upgrades, identify hazardous wilderness areas and make them safe for public use, and resurface local roadways that have fallen into disrepair.

Units have begun to participate in the many warrior training tasks

and battle drills such as combat patrols, urban combat operations, land navigation, first aid, casualty evacuation and convoy operations. This provides a valuable opportunity for units to train on skills needed for any future overseas deployment.

“Participating units can expect a realistic and demanding training exercise that utilizes the decisive action training environment or scenario that will push their units ensuring they are well prepared for deployment,” Michels said.



**U.S. Army Soldiers of the 821st Transportation Battalion, Kansas National Guard, raise camo netting in support of Golden Coyote training exercise, June 10. (U.S. Army Photo by Spc. Robert West)**



# Armed forces prepare for Golden Coyote missions

U.S. Armed Forces and international service members began gathering June 10 at the Ellsworth Air Force Base Deployment Center to prepare for the Golden Coyote training exercise, June 10-24.

“Golden Coyote is a great training opportunity for many units,” said Sgt. 1st Class Jose Detre, operations noncommissioned officer, 50th Regional Support Group, Florida Army National Guard. “It’s a unique chance for troops to get to work with other service branches and allied forces.”

“The Joint Reception, Staging, Onward-Movement (JRSO) safety brief is vital to ensuring the accountability and safety of the troops attending the exercise,’ said Staff Sgt. Artravia Austin, 50th personnel liaison.

“The timber haul is a unique mission for us to do,” said Capt. Michael Van Horn, 1138th commander. “There’s a lot of preparation that goes into a convoy operation like this, including route reconnaissance, drivers training and maintenance checks on the trucks.”

U.S. Army Spc. Michaela Bellefy (left) and Sgt. Cassandra Jindra, 114th Transportation Company, Minnesota Army National Guard, set up a simulated IED on a warrior training lane at West Camp Rapid, June 12. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Jeffery Harris)

U.S. Army Soldiers of the 709th Area Support Medical Company, Illinois Army National Guard, in-process at Ellsworth Air Force Base, near Rapid City, in support of Golden Coyote training exercise, June 11. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Robert West)

The 50th RSG and other units like the Illinois National Guard's 710th Area Support Medical Company participate in the exercise by providing

“This is the my first time attending the exercise, said Spc. Dominick Polizzi, 710th combat medic. “I’m really excited for this new experience.”



# Participants of Golden Coyote experience river crossing



**By Spc. Rebecca Glidden**  
129th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

U.S. Army Spc. Shane Semmens, 200th Engineer, South Dakota Army National Guard, operates a Mk2 Bridge Erection Boat during a river crossing operation as the unit transports the 137th Transportation Company, Kansas National Guard, June 10. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Kevin Kim)

Military units participating in the annual Golden Coyote training exercise experienced a river crossing operation on the Missouri River near Chamberlain, June 10-11.

The river crossing signals the start of the two-week exercise hosted every June in the Black Hills of South Dakota, where units traveling from the eastern United States have the opportunity to experience float bridge operations.

The mission is executed by Soldiers of the 200th Engineer Company, South Dakota National Guard, and gives them the opportunity to practice their skills and gain experience working with units from across the country.

"We are rafting other units across the river so they can continue onto their mission for Golden Coyote," said Staff Sgt. Jenny Holzer, beach master of the 200th. "Different units come to the beach, we raft them across safely, and then our groups come back and



U.S. Army Soldiers of the 200th Engineer Company, conduct river crossing operations in support of the Golden Coyote training exercise, June 10. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Kevin Kim)

we wait for the next unit who wants to cross."

When units arrive to cross the river, the raft crew guides their trucks onto

one of four rafts. The raft commander then directs two boat operators to maneuver the raft across the river to the opposite shore. The trucks are



then unloaded to continue on with the mission.

“This lets other units know what we actually do and if the situation arises in real life, they know what we are capable of,” said Holzer. “Showing them that we can get them across the river if the interstate was [blocked] is a way that they can continue on their mission.”

Golden Coyote provides participants an opportunity to train in an environment that may simulate what they might experience during a deployment.

“When there is choppy water, like today, we don’t usually get to do this, so that experience is really taking a toll on our equipment and our people are getting the experience that they need,” said Holzer. “We have had these situations before where the water was choppy and having this experience will benefit us when we go on a deployment.”

A large-scale operation like this requires the engineer company to coordinate with everyone who plans to cross the river. The river crossing operation provides a unique experience for all those who participate in the operation.

“It is always fun, you meet new people, you make new friends, it’s always fun,” said Sgt. Maria White, the 137th Transportation Company, Kansas National Guard. “It brings up moral and makes Soldiers appreciate the motto: one team, one fight.”



U.S. Army Spc. Chantal Lewis (left) and Sgt. Tyson Bramblee with the 200th Engineer, South Dakota Army National Guard, experience choppy water in a Mk2 Bridge Erection Boat during a river crossing operation in Chamberlain, June 10. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Kevin Kim)

## Golden Coyote 2017 Exercise Coin



Coins are \$5/ea or 10 for \$45

Contact

Sgt. 1st Class Prentice  
at  
[william.e.prentice.mil@mail.mil](mailto:william.e.prentice.mil@mail.mil)

Commanders are constantly “Managing Warfighter Risk”. With endless demands on time in an environment where resources are decreasing at a rapid rate, it’s far too easy to fall into the “check the block” mentality so you can move on to the next task. Unfortunately, when checking the block on a risk assessment, the outcome can be fatal.

Simply jotting down a few hazards and controls (or copying them from someone else) on a Deliberate Risk Assessment Worksheet (DD Form 2977) does not constitute risk management. Risk management is a five-step process that must be embedded in Army culture and applied to all operations. The steps are: (1) identify the hazards; (2) assess the hazards; (3) develop controls and make risk decisions; (4) implement controls; and (5)

supervise and evaluate.

The Army is not a risk averse organization. The very nature of our business demands we accept some degree of risk in our operations. What we cannot accept, however, is unnecessary risk. The risk management process allows individuals to make informed decisions and find balance between the cost of the risk and benefits to the mission. (Reference ATP 5-19, Risk Management, C1-Sep14 or GTA 21-08-001)

The Safety Office is always able to conduct hip pocket risk management training, just submit a request through command and we will do our best to support it.

CW4 McGuire: james.a.mcguire16.mil@mail.mil, 605-593-7186, 605-737-6703 or CW2 Oerline 605-737-6501

## FACES OF GOLDEN COYOTE

*What are you looking forward to the most during the Golden Coyote Training Exercise?*



Name: Tina Bryan  
Rank: U.S. Navy HM1  
Hometown: Louisville, Ky.  
Unit: Expeditionary Medical Facility (EMF) Dallas  
Unit Location: Dallas, Texas



Name: Vance Ortegon  
Rank: U.S. Army Sgt.  
Hometown: St. Paul, Minn.  
Unit: 1/125 Field Artillery Regiment, Bravo Battery  
Unit Location: Jackson, Minn.

“This is my first time attending Golden Coyote and I’m really excited for the training experience.”

“It’s a great experience being able to work with other units and other service branches.”

### Every Member Counts

SOUTH DAKOTA NATIONAL GUARD

If a service member has an emergency at home call 1-800-658-3930 for assistance.

Director 605-737-6728  
Deputy 605-737-6206  
Family Assistance 605-737-6079  
Child & Youth 605-737-6919  
Yellow Ribbon 605-737-6947  
Resilience 605-737-6945  
ESGR 605-737-6540  
Employment Transition 605-357-2913  
Red Cross 800-951-5600  
Tricare 877-988-9378  
Family Readiness 605-737-6089  
Airmen & Family Readiness 605-988-5962

Suicide Prevention Lifeline 800-273-TALK  
Psychological Health Coordinator  
Army 605-668-3045  
• Air 605-988-5539  
• State Chaplain 605-431-5182  
SARC 877-660-6711  
DoD Safe HelpLine 877-955-5247  
Military OneSource 800-342-9647  
Survivor Outreach 605-737-6090  
Funeral Honors 605-737-6927  
Suicide Prevention 605-737-6973  
Trauma Crisis 605-737-6949

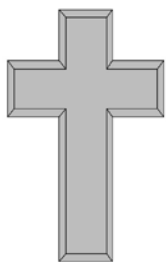
The Inspector General Office is located in the northwest wing of building 420, rooms B201 & A231 at Camp Rapid 0630 - 1700 hours

State IG, Lt. Col. Sadler  
(605) 737-6619

Assistant IG, Sgt. 1st Class Rau  
(605) 737-6618







# Take time for your faith

Welcome to Golden Coyote 33! Our South Dakota National Guard has been doing this exercise for many years, and it is a great honor for us to host every one of you who will come and be a part of some or all of our exercise. Let me encourage you to make faith an important part of this training for the following reasons:

**1. Military service is strenuous:** It is a great honor to serve in the armed forces, but serving takes a toll. Even the duty hours are 0600-1800, I'm sure many of you have found already that your days have been much longer than even that (I'm still looking forward to the day when my work actually ends at 1800). Our faith can hold us up in these strenuous days because we are getting power from someone whose strength is far greater than our own!

**2. Military service is stressful:** Our lives back home don't stop because we are here. Family members get sick, children miss us and we miss our children. Emergencies seem to always happen when we're away. Add to all of that is the fact many of us father's will miss Father's Day as we are at Golden Coyote. Faith is God can be an anchor for us to hold on to when all else seems chaotic. Go is never-changing, and He has yet to meet a problem greater than He can solve.

**3. Military service is successive/continuous in nature:** What I mean by this last one is that one of the challenges that those who serve in the military face today is that 'there are no more breaks.' There used to be a time when the pace was slower. Those days are gone forever. What can we do in such a time as this? Look to God to hold us up when we cannot hold ourselves up any longer.

I leave you with the tremendous illustration Chaplain Major Stewart, our keynote speaker from Suriname shared at our June 12 Golden Coyote Prayer Breakfast. Moses hands grew weary as he held his up his hands as Joshua fought the enemy. Whenever Moses held up his hands they were winning, but when his hands grew tired and fell Joshua began to lose. So Aaron and Hur held up Moses hands and Joshua won the victory. Let God hold your hands, and legs, body, mind heart and

soul when you grow weary these days. He is strong when you are not, and He will give you victory and allow you to do a tremendous job accomplishing the many missions ahead for Golden Coyote 33! God Bless!

Chaplain, Col. Lynn Wilson  
SDNG full-time support chaplain



## Weather Forecast – Black Hills Area

TUE JUN 13		PM Showers/Wind	76°/54°
WED JUN 14		Partly Cloudy/Wind	81°/55°
THU JUN 15		Sunny	84°/55°
FRI JUN 16		Partly Cloudy	82°/55°
SAT JUN 17		Mostly Sunny	83°/58°
SUN JUN 18		Partly Cloudy	84°/58°
MON JUN 19		Mostly Sunny	85°/59°

## RAPID CITY EVENTS

**Black Hills Playhouse: Peter and the Starcatcher**  
June 14-25 - Tuesday-Saturday at 1930, Wednesday & Sunday at 1400 - Custer State Park

**Rapid City Summer Nights**  
June 15 - 1800-2100  
7th Street - Downtown Rapid City

**Wild Bill Days**  
June 16-17  
Main Street Deadwood



# Snapshots



U.S. Army Chaplain, Col. Lynn Wilson, South Dakota National Guard full-time support chaplain, leads a prayer during the Golden Coyote Prayer Breakfast at Camp Rapid, June 12. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Kevin Kim)



U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Adam Foster, 139th Brigade Support Battalion, operates controls to drop a container off a Palletized Load System truck at Base Custer State Park, June 10. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Mitchell Murphy)



**dvids**  
DEFENSE VIDEO & IMAGERY DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM



U.S. Army Sgt. Christopher Bleeker provides instruction to Minnesota National Guard Soldiers and Navy Reserve Sailors on how to set up a simulated IED to instructors on the Perform Immediate Lifesaving Measures training lane on West Camp Rapid, June 12. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Jeffery Harris)



# Snapshots



U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Corey Shepard and Sgt. 1st Class Demetria Hilstock, 821st Transportation Battalion, Kansas National Guard, raise camo netting at Base Custer State Park, June 10. (U.S. Army Photo by Spc. Robert West)



U.S. Army Soldiers of the 709th Area Support Medical Company, Illinois Army National Guard, in-process at Ellsworth Air Force Base in support of Golden Coyote training exercise, June 11. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Robert West)



A U.S. Army Soldier of the 200th Engineer Company, South Dakota Army National Guard, guides a Palletized Load System vehicle of the 137th Transportation Company, Kansas Army National Guard, in support of the Golden Coyote training exercise, Chamberlain, June 10. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Kevin Kim)



# Golden Coyote Wacipi

(PowWow) Cultural Awareness

## FEATURING

White Eagle Drum & Dance Society  
Steve Tamayo

Lakota Historian, Bow Maker, & Brain Tanner

Intertribal Buffalo Council Booth

Lakota Lodge & Food Sampling

(Buffalo Stew, Fry Bread & Wojapi)

Code Talker Congressional Medallion Exhibit  
On display in JFHQ BLDG

South Dakota Plains Indian Collection  
On display in JFHQ BLDG

Crazy Horse Memorial is sponsoring Culture and Craft exhibits—come make an authentic Native American dream catcher or godseye.

21 June 2017

Exhibits run from

1500-1900

PowWow 1710-1820

## SHOWCASING

LAKOTA

DAKOTA

NAKOTA

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## KNBN MILITARY APPRECIATION PICNIC

Picnic while you watch the Pow Wow demonstration – 1800-1930

Menu: Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Pizza, Side Dishes and Drinks provided FREE by KNBN NewsCenter1 TV

FIND ALL THESE STORIES AND MORE ON FACEBOOK, TWITTER AND INSTAGRAM!



<http://www.dvidshub.net/feature/GoldenCoyote2017>



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and  
[www.facebook.com/129.MPAD](http://www.facebook.com/129.MPAD)

## GOLDEN COYOTE BLOOD DRIVE

June 14-15  
0900-1415



Blood drive bus located near the Troop Medical Clinic

Email:  
[deidre.j.ross.mil@mail.mil](mailto:deidre.j.ross.mil@mail.mil)  
or call  
605-737-6570 for a slot