



# the BAYONET

The Official Magazine of the Maine National Guard Vol5// Issue3



**HAMMERS AND HARDHATS: CABINS FOR COMMUNITIES**

**142ND AVIATION RISES TO NEW LEVEL**

**MEDICS REFRESH TABLE VIII SKILLS**

**120TH REGIONAL SUPPORT GROUP MOBILIZATION TRAINING**

**BUILDING A SAFER COMMUNITY**

**GUARD PROFILE: SERVING HIS COUNTRY**

**488TH IS READY FOR ANYTHING**



The Maine National Guard Public Affairs Office is pleased to present the September 2017 edition of the Bayonet Magazine.

The Bayonet is the official magazine of the Maine National Guard and is made possible by Soldier and Airmen provided content and feedback.

This edition contains some of the recent highlights from annual training around the state, country and beyond. From engineers working to improve the local communities, recognition of Maine Air National Guard firefighters, Soldiers preparing for deployment, State Partnership Program coordination, and aviators doing what they do best, there is a little something for everyone.

If you enjoy the content that is provided in the Bayonet and would like to see more of it, please consider "liking" the Maine National Guard on Facebook where you can keep up to date on Maine National Guard current events!

Would you like your training event highlighted in the Bayonet? We are always interested in sharing your story ideas and imagery. Please send them in to us for consideration for future editions of the Bayonet.

Thank you for your continued interest and unwavering support to your National Guard.

Always Ready! Always There!

-Public Affairs Officer

*Maj. Norman Stickney*



# the BAYONET

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# A MESSAGE FROM GENERAL JOSEPH L. LENGVEL

## CHIEF OF NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU



The National Guard is constitutionally unique and fulfills two key roles: the primary combat reserve of the Army and the Air Force and the first military responder in the homeland. The Guard has evolved as an operational force through the skill and devotion of America's Citizen-Soldiers and -Airmen. Together, we will forge a future based on these foundational that define how we see ourselves.

### THE NATIONAL GUARD IS ...

#### ... The Nation's Combat Reserve.

A truly operational force, the National Guard is a warfighting organization, designed with a balance of combat and enabling units that mirrors its active components. We must not squander the nation's investment in this operational force.

#### ... Integral to the Total Force

We are inextricably linked to the Army and Air Force and ready to fight as part of the nation's Joint Force. We must fully

implement Total Force concepts to organize, man, train, equip, modernize and employ the National Guard as an operational force. This will include measures such as providing recurring, rotational and sustainable capabilities to meet combatant command requirements.

#### .... Engaged and Always Accessible

The National Guard is prepared to provide forces for large-scale contingencies when required. We are ideal for rotational employment for combat and homeland response missions. A full suite of authorities exists to access Guard forces for missions at home or abroad.

Leveraging real-world operations affords the Guard challenging training and global employment opportunities. These are fundamental for developing leaders and retaining members while also providing predictable deployment cycles.

#### ... a Tremendous Value for America

The National Guard is a cost-effective, proven national asset. It provides full spectrum capability in the warfight and is the first military responder in the homeland.

#### ... Connected with America

Men and women of the National Guard and their families live in nearly every ZIP code with facilities in over 2,600 communities. We are often the face of the military across much of our nation. We communicate the strategic value of the Total Force to the citizens we serve, and help connect the Department of Defense with the fabric of our nation. In return, we maintain the trust and confidence of the American people.

**W**e live in a dynamic and complex security environment. Across the globe, our nation faces emerging near-peer competitors, burgeoning regional powers, and the constant threat of violent extremist organizations. Threats emanate from state and non-state actors, who operate deliberately and continuously in conventional and asymmetric ways to minimize our military advantage and avoid escalation with the U.S. and our allies or partners.

If deterrence fails and crises occur, we must be prepared for conflict that is transregional in scope, likely intersecting numerous combatant commands simultaneously. Conflict may be waged across multiple domains, with potential adversaries challenging us on the land, in the air, across and under the sea, and in space and cyberspace. Conflict will likely be multi-functional with foes attempting to integrate non-conventional threats such as special operations forces, missile technology and cyber warfare along with conventional forces.

U.S. military might alone will not solve these challenges. International allies and partners will remain critical and national security will require a 'whole of government' approach to build and maintain lasting change consistent with our national interests.

Our armed forces will remain a key instrument of national security; land and air power is essential to the joint fight. To meet these requirements, our Army and Air Force rely on the National Guard to remain operational and ready to respond.

We face these challenges knowing today's National Guard is the best it has ever been. As I look towards tomorrow, I am confident the nation will need the National Guard more than ever before.



Staff Sgt. Thomas Hayden and Sgt. 1st Class Jashaab Leland, combat engineers with the 251st Engineer Company (SAPPER) work together to fix a malfunction in the MK19 during their annual training in Gagetown, Canada. (Photo by Spc. Patrik Orcutt).





# THE CHAPLAIN'S WORD LESSONS LEARNED

Like every other school kid ever, I used to do whatever I could to get home asap after school. The plan was to get home and knock-out whatever homework I had (or at least decide what I could put off 'til tomorrow's study hall) so I could get outside and Play.

My motivation for a quick turnaround was so that I wouldn't run into Mom or Dad coming home from work, because if I did, they might come up with some lame chore for me to do, and that would deep-six my exciting plan for the afternoon (which usually ended up with me just wandering around the woods poking things with sticks). The parent most likely to thwart my kid plans, was Dad. And it wasn't always a chore that served as a delaying action. Sometimes he'd just ask me questions as I squirmed on the bottom step, aching to take off for my adventure.

My least favorite question was "What did you learn in school today?" That one always stumped me! After all, I'd at least had the bike ride home and my after-school snack time to wash all that schooly gunk off me. How was I supposed to remember what I'd learned in school today? So, I'd stand there a minute, grasping for something smart-sounding to say, usually stammering about rocks or animals in Earth Science or Life Science.

Eventually Dad would nod and let me go as he turned, muttering to himself as he went inside, something about me being "a real intellectual powerhouse." That sound-

ed encouraging, so I'd run off smiling into the woods to look for a good stick to poke things with.

Now, I'd like to think I've come a long way since those days and I can do a better job of relating what I've learned lately, but I'm not so sure. Let me take a swipe at it anyway. Lately I've been thinking on three things: Prioritizing, commitment, and self-care.

When it comes to prioritizing one could do worse than to consider Charles E. Hummel's reflections on what he calls the "tyranny of the urgent." In recent years I've really had to grapple with the myriad of pressures that come down on all of us, each one of those things demanding at least equal time with other "heavy hitters" in our lives.

Problem is, not all of those urgencies CAN be co-equal. We have to organize and energize those urgencies according to some form of triage or we will fail, perhaps disastrously. Many of us spread ourselves way too thin!

In an effort to do a great job at work we'll take on that extra assignment, stay late, take material home with us. We might adopt a bit of a martyr's posture and even look down our noses at others if we get the sense that they aren't pulling quite as hard as we are.

After all, we're Warriors! And yet, as we're doing our best to pull our weight and



make our mark, there are children that need playing with; dogs that need walking; spouses or significant others that need dating. I guess the take-away for me is to make room for the core stuff, the keys, whatever they happen to be for you, and protect those keys, be they God—Marriage/Kids/Family—Country—Career, or some other order.

MAKE first things first and wire-someone-in to help keep you accountable! If it helps, think of a pop-up range. What kind of sense does it make to focus so hard on the 600m targets, because taking those down is super-cool, but meanwhile you're missing the 50s and 100s! If work is your first priority, fine.

No problem. But make sure that others in your life are on board. You might have to make some hard decisions and consider the end-game. At the end of twenty-plus years, which will be more valuable to you? That next rocker? A star-in-the middle? Eagle? Thin, black N-S line? Or an intact marriage; kids that will still talk to you; peace



in your heart and your home? Now, I'm not saying career and service are not important or that these elements can't truly happen simultaneously, but if work and promotion truly are your top priorities, those other things will be in jeopardy. Shadowboxes full of bling are nifty! They're inspirational, even! But they make pretty lousy company. ALL of us have to be intentional, do the difficult math sometimes, and make sure that first things really are first things in our lives.

Commitment. It's what sets us up for the long haul. I'm going to rip-off Strongbonds' PREP Marriage Enrichment curriculum and relate Dr. Scott M. Stanley's "Two Sides of the Commitment Coin" here. Stanley points out that one side of commitment is what he calls "constraints," or things partners stand to lose if they break up.

These include financial resources, physical property, stability and even more intimate components of relationship, including custody of children, pets, and so on. His point is that many marriages over time migrate into a holding pattern where it's the constraints, or the "what we've got to lose" that keeps the two together more than any other real intrinsic glue. That intrinsic glue is what got the two together in the first place, or the other half of the commitment coin, which Stanley calls "dedication." In a holding pattern marriage, one or the other or both partners have fallen into a business-as-usual routine, dumping tons of energy into things outside of their relationship, (ironically even with the best of intentions for the relationship), but have lost track of each other in the process. Some naively call this "falling out of love," but I call "hogwash."

They've simply failed to steward the dedication side of their commitment to

each other. Many, many times, those rocky relationships have hope if the two are reminded that they have to put energy into their relationship at least in proportion to the energy they put into other things, including careers, education, and pastimes. It's amazing how this realization can reinvigorate marriages and a whole host of other relationships, too. Even for people



struggling with career decisions or professional malaise.

Many folks stay miserable in a career path because of what they'd lose if they quit or tried for something different. Again, think the two sides of commitment... constraints and dedication. It can go a long way to remind yourself of why you got into your line of work in the first place, seek out what used to bring you satisfaction in that line of work, and be intentional about trying to recapture that in the here and now (albeit while prioritizing first-things appropriately).

Self-Care. For wimps and slackers, right? Wrong! Play is part of life. It's supposed to

be that way. We don't call it re-creation for nothing. I could come up with tons of other trite-isms, but check this, if you roll your eyes when I say "Hunt the Good Stuff," I'm talking to YOU! For my part, I call it "shaking the Etch-a-Sketch." Every now and then I have to shake that thing because my screen gets full of squiggles and surreal images in pretty short order. (If you don't know what an Etch-a-Sketch is, it's a low-tech toy from ages past. Watch ELF. Or just Google it...)

We are all busy, and tired, and preoccupied. Ever notice how it takes a few days when you DO get some time off, to actually start enjoying it? That's because your brain has forgotten how to slow down, relax, enjoy, and actually be in the Now!

I think the more deadlines, the more pressures, the more trauma your work routinely throws at you, the harder this is! For whom could it possibly be more true than for Service-members... for Warriors? We aren't all wired the same and some are extroverts and some are introverts and all that neat stuff, but regardless of how you're wired, you need to defrag from time to time.

Consider it meaningful stewardship of your calling, whatever your calling may be. By the way, I still like to walk around in the woods, poking things with sticks, only somehow over the years, it morphed into bowhunting...

Very Truly Yours,

-Chaplain Weigelt

# Stormwater Awareness

by Elizabeth Barton, Stormwater Manager

Not all that drains is Rain. But we should make sure that rain and snow melt are all that goes down our drains. Stormwater is water that originates during a precipitation event or when snow and ice melt. Stormwater can soak into the soil, be held on the surface and evaporate, or runoff and end up in streams, rivers, lakes and ponds. Why should we be concerned about Stormwater? In a natural environment stormwater is filtered by soil and vegetation before reaching our waterways.

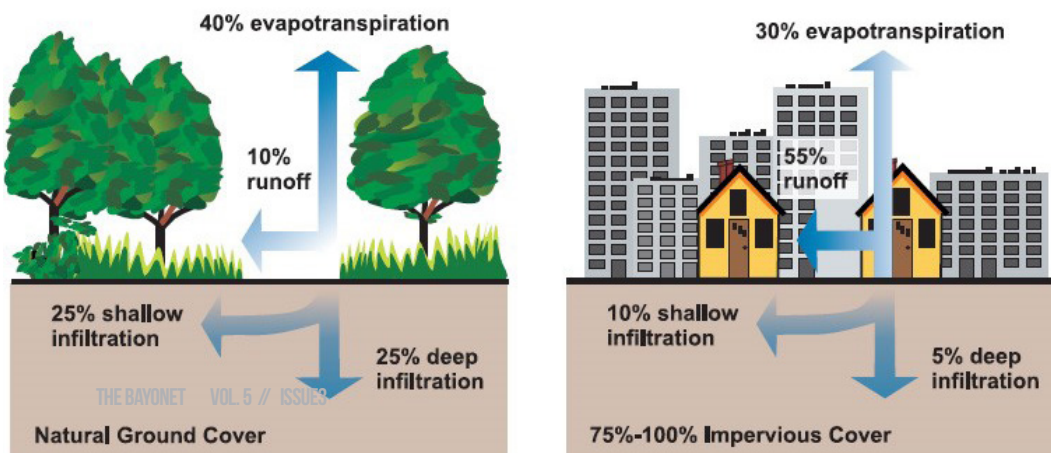
The challenge at our facilities is to manage what is referred to as impervious cover - roof tops, paved & gravel roads, parking lots, and runways – where water cannot infiltrate into soil.

These surfaces do not allow the water to infiltrate into the soil. Pollutants are present on developed land as a matter of us doing our business and getting the mission accomplished. Examples of stormwater pollutants include soil, sand, road salt, oil and trash. Even increased water temperature is considered a pollutant. These pollutant can get into storm water if we don't take precautions. When it rains, the escaping pollutants are called a discharge. Stormwater discharges are generated by runoff from developed and impervious areas. The MDEP and EPA permit our discharges provided we manage them appropriately.

Properly managed, stormwater control measures are mission enablers. Our physical storm water controls (the swales, ponds & rocked ditches at JFHQ, Bangor, Plymouth, Bog Brook and Auburn) retain soil, protect lawns, and prevent pollutants from leaving the site. Our parking lots and road designs reduce erosion, which protects from potential loss of training capacity. Other stormwater controls are operational and reiterate many existing Army requirements.

You can do your part to protect Maine's natural resources by taking the following actions:

- Store POLs under cover and on secondary containment
- Cover trash receptacles so water doesn't enter
- Place drip pans under vehicles when parked awaiting repair
- Maintain lawns at 4" to keep the grass alive, suppress weeds and increase infiltration.
- Don't dump anything on parking areas or down storm drains



If you see something other than water going down the drain, or need help with disposal of materials, please call the Environmental office at DFE 207-430-5924.



# Preserving our Military Heritage

By Elizabeth Barton, MEARNG-DFE Cultural Resource Manager

The Maine Army National Guard has the duty and the privilege of maintaining its historic properties. These properties tell the story of our military history and Maine's history. One such story is the Dow Air Force Base in Bangor. Originally built in 1927, the airport became known as the Godfrey Army Airfield when the Army took over just before World War II. It became Dow Air Force Base in 1947 when the new U.S. Air Force took over many Army air assets.

At the height of the Cold War, Dow AFB was expanded into a Strategic Air Command Base. Hangar #254 was constructed as part of this effort in 1956. In 1965 the hangar was modified to house the KC-135 with a unique aperture that allowed the main doors to close around the aircraft's protruding tail. Dow AFB closed in 1968 and MEARNG took possession of Hangar #254 that year.

252 & 254 MAINTENANCE DOCKS LARGE A/C  
Building 254 circa 1967



Our cultural resource management challenge is to balance preservation of our military history while also achieving current mission requirements. Through consultation with the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Hangar #254 has been determined to be eligible for listing on the National Historic Register as an example of Cold War Military building. MEARNG has preserved #254 as the last remaining historically-significant structure from the days when Dow Air Force Base was active and operational. Through our efforts, Hangar #254 still remains very much as it stood in 1965 and still supports military aviation.

Building 254 in 2015







# 25 1EN:GAGETOWN, CANADA







Soldiers from the 251st Engineer Company (Sapper) conducted their annual training at Canadian Forces Base Gagetown, New Brunswick, Canada during August. The Soldiers were heavily engaged throughout the time they were there with weapons training, primarily on large weapons systems they are responsible for knowing but may not have easy access to in the U.S. The Soldiers also kept up with their physical fitness training, incorporating it into their weapons training with stress shooting.

The combat engineers are also charged with the task of not only the construction of obstacles but also demolition tasks. The primary goal is to facilitate movement and support friendly forces, while slowing down the movement of enemy forces.

Using C4 explosives and various charges the Soldiers in the 251EN tore down bridges and trees, clearing the paths just in time for the annual exercise, Strident Tracer to kick off.





# 103RD TURNS 100

## CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE 103RD INFANTRY REGIMENT

Article and Images Courtesy of 1st Lt. Jonathan Bratten

What do the 133rd Engineer Battalion, 120th Regional Support Group, 136th Engineer Company, 152nd Support Maintenance Company, 185th Engineer Company, and 1035th Engineer Detachment all have in common? Other than all being Maine National Guard units, they are also bound together through the common ties of being descended from the 103rd Infantry Regiment. On August 21, 2017 the 103rd Infantry Regiment turns 100 years old.

Or it would, if it were still around.

Back in 1917, the Maine National Guard consisted of the 2nd Maine Infantry Regiment and thirteen numbered companies of Coast Artillery. Back in those days, National Guard units were known by their state designations, i.e., the 2nd Maine Infantry, 1st New Hampshire Infantry, 2nd Vermont Infantry, and so on. This had been the way of doing things going all the way back to the founding of the country. Of course, many of these institutions pre-dated that country itself. When called up for wartime service, units often kept these designations or took on new ones as regiments or batteries of United States Volunteer troops. For example, the first ten companies of militia called up in the Civil War in

1861 were given the designation of 1st Maine Volunteer Infantry Regiment. When the 2nd Maine Infantry went into service in the Spanish-American War as a battalion of field artillery, they were given the title of 1st Maine Heavy Field Artillery Battalion, United States Volunteers. As you can see, this was a confusing system that often left service members wondering just exactly what unit they were in.

So what changed? Two big things: one was the National Defense Act of 1916. This authorized the National Guard to be organized on the same lines as the Regular Army – same pay, allowances, training, and equipment. It also gave the Regular Army the ability to tell the States what type of units they would have. In essence, it standardized the Army into what we now call the Total Force. The second thing that happened was that the U.S. entered World War I on April 6, 1917. With an Army of about 120,000 men, the U.S. was not particularly ready for the conflict and so began the process of activating the National Guard to augment the Regular forces.

In the summer of 1917, the War Department began the process for creating the permanent divisions of the U.S. Army. The Regular Army divi-

sions were given the numbers 1-25. Thus, 1917 also marks the centennial of the 1st “Big Red One” Division, 2nd “Indianhead” Division, 3rd “Rock of the Marne” Division, and 4th “Ivy” Division, among others. The National Guard Divisions were given numbers 25-75. Thus, the first National Guard division to be formed in 1917 was the 26th Division – or as it soon came to be called, the “Yankee Division.”

The Yankee Division was created out of the National Guards of the New England states: Massachusetts, Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Rhode Island. On July 18, 1917, Major General Clarence Edwards formed the 26th Division, but at that time it only existed on paper. All the troops were in training camps around New England, including the 2nd Maine Infantry which was then at Camp Keyes in Augusta. During the beginning of August, the National Guard troops all assembled at training camps in Massachusetts. It was here that the 26th Division was formed and that the old State designations finally went by the wayside, ending a tradition that had existed since 1636.

On August 21, 1917, the 2nd Maine folded its colors and received a new set proclaiming the regiment's new





name: the 103rd U.S. Infantry Regiment. The 101st Infantry was from Massachusetts, the 102nd was from Connecticut, and now Maine took the honor of being the third National Guard infantry regiment to be formed under the new system. To bring the Maine regiment up to strength, 1,500 men from the 1st New Hampshire and 400 men from the 1st Vermont were added to the regiment's manning roster which gave the 103rd Infantry a decidedly northern New England flavor. Commentators remarked, "The Maine boys are about the hardest bunch physically that has ever hit Massachusetts. They are larger framed than the Bay State boys, they have the Down East expression, and are rangy in gait and action."

The newly formed 103rd Infantry would go on to fight with distinc

tion in World War I, making a name for itself as a shock regiment. The northern New Englanders were known for their toughness in battle and their resiliency to the horrors of the Western Front. The 26th "Yankee" Division was so effective, in fact, that their French allies gave it a unique nickname: "A phalanx of aces."

Following World War I, the men of the 103rd Infantry were discharged from the Army in 1919 and returned to civilian life. The regiment – in essence – ceased to exist. While the unit had been away in France, Maine had raised a new infantry unit to be on hand for natural disasters or civil emergency. This entity was called the 3rd Maine Infantry Regiment. In 1922, the 3rd Maine was designated the 103rd Infantry in order to carry on the memory of the famed wartime unit.

In fact, the 103rd Infantry would go on to gain even more fame – this time in World War II, where the unit fought in the Pacific Theater. Through jungle fighting during island-hopping and mountain campaigns in the Philippines the 103rd gained a reputation as a hard-fighting outfit.

But the 103rd Infantry did not last. In 1959, the unit transitioned into armored cavalry, becoming the 103rd Armored Cavalry Regiment and ending the centuries-long tradition of infantry service in the State of Maine. However, a large number of Maine Army National Guard units can trace their beginnings back to the 103rd Infantry Regiment.

Like the 103rd Infantry Regiment, the 26th Division does not exist anymore. It is now the 26th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade. However, the New England National Guard retains the proud spirit of its World War I predecessors. The Soldiers of the 133rd Engineer Battalion, 120th Regional Support Group, 136th Engineer Company, 152nd Support Maintenance Company, 185th Engineer Company, and 1035th Engineer Detachment continue to live up to their forbearers memory.



# HAMMERS AND HARDHATS

## MAINE SOLDIERS BUILD CABINS FOR COMMUNITY

Story and photos by Spc. Patrik Orcutt



Soldiers assigned to the 136th Engineer Company (Vertical) Maine Army National Guard conducted their annual training at Camp Susan Curtis in Stoneham, Maine this June. They spent their time working on innovative readiness training projects by renovating the camps and improving the cabins. Their work even included building a brand new cabin from the ground up battling the weather and insects the entire time.

"Our focus for this entire annual training exercise is to develop our broad engineering skills," said Capt. Morse Doane, the acting commander of the 136th. "For us as a vertical engineering construction company that is building stuff, from carpentry, electrical, plumbing and concert work."

Additionally they worked on building a new concession stand for the town of Casco. Community needs such as infrastructure, health care, transportation, and cyber security align with military mission essential training requirements. IRT is a U.S. military and volunteer training opportunity that provides training and readiness for military personnel while addressing public and civil-society needs.

Through the two weeks they also worked on building a new concession stand for the town of Casco. The first task the soldiers faced was re-roofing all of the cabins. The

June weather made this more difficult than first expected due to the inherent dangers of working on slippery, wet roofs from small rain showers throughout the day.

"The rain has made the roofing difficult," said Spc. David McLaughlin, who is trained as an electrician, but also works full time as a plumber. As the project began he had the opportunity to learn more about roofing from his fellow soldiers who were more proficient in the task. There is a lot of cross training going on in between the different tradesmen of the unit on this project. "A lot of the people who don't know about plumbing, like the electricians, are learning how to do plumbing stuff from the other guys," said McLaughlin.

The soldiers of the 136th are not only honing old skills but learning valuable new ones. "It's important we develop these skills now because when we deploy, typically we won't be looked at for our combat skills, we will be looked at first and foremost for our construction skills," said Doane.

"A lot of the floors in the cabins have rotted out," said McLaughlin. "We have had to replace them along with four water heaters, and pretty much every signal toilet and shower".

The projects allow the squads and teams to help each other develop their necessary

skills for the job at hand, and also helps them grow professionally and as leaders. While there is a lot of work to be done on the project, there is time built in for physical training and Army task specific training.

"I think this is a great opportunity for our lower enlisted to come out and work on hands on projects and gives them the opportunity to become leaders and practice their leadership skills on projects," said Sgt. Chad Cleaves, one of the project managers. With all of the other tasks at hand, free time was rare, but if they did find themselves with extra down time skilled individuals could teach classes such as chainsaw training or how to assemble and disassemble weapons in the afternoons.

"This is great training," said Doane. "We have to be prepared to exercise our Army warrior tasks and battle drills just like any other unit, and as engineers we could be asked to do anything but we need to be proficient in those things."

The 136th hoped to meet and improve upon their six core skills during their two weeks of training, including communicate, build and lead. They did so by developing leaders at the team, squad, platoon and company levels and through their work, making positive and visible construction contributions to community organizations in southwestern Maine.







# 142ND AVIATION RISES TO A NEW LEVEL



Soldiers from Detachment 1, Company C, 3rd Battalion, 142nd Aviation traveled to Canadian Forces Base, Gagetown, New Brunswick this August for their annual training.

The 142nd specializes in running air assault operations with their UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters.

"We make our money putting troops on target to facilitate the ground commanders," said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Abel Gleason, a pilot in command of one of the unit's helicopters. "They give us a time they want troops to be there, a method of insertion, where they want to be and why. We make all that happen."

Before doing any of these operations, the unit has to re-familiarize themselves with an M240B automatic machine gun variant, the M240H, and then qualify on the weapons system. The M240H is designed to be easily transferred from a helicopter mounted position to a hand carried asset.

"In order to provide safe transit through

hostile areas we need to effectively provide fire using the M240B out of the aircraft doors," said Gleason. The unit does not get an opportunity to train on these weapons systems very often as they need an extremely extensive range.

While pilots fly the helicopters, crew chiefs like Sgt. Brandon Dugay operate the weapons systems and are responsible for everyone's safety onboard the aircraft.

"The training is hands on, it's going from start to finish," said Dugay. "From boarding the helicopter on the ground to going through the gunnery tables to landing the helicopter and shutting it down."

Dugay is not only a crew chief, he is also a standardizations instructor. He cares a lot about the safety and standard operating procedures of the unit.

"My favorite part of the job is ensuring the safety of the Soldiers and letting them get familiar with the weapons and getting crew coordination."

This week the 142nd is also working with the 251st Engineer Company (Sapper) to practice aerial insertions and pick-ups they might use in a combat environment. In such an environment the 142nd would be working as an asset for combat units and could be called upon at any time to assist in a mission.

"It's a win for both units involved, they getting the same value added training we are by being here," said Gleason.

The 251st is an example of a ground force that the 142nd could interact with in a combat environment, ensuring their safe arrival at strategic locations.

"The Sappers are very much a unit we would work with overseas. What may take four hours to traverse by ground we can traverse in 45 minutes to an hour in the air," said Gleason. "And, we can do it without roadside bombs or broken equipment being a threat."

The troop insertion and pick up exercises





are valuable training for both companies to practice as much as possible.

In a combat environment, Soldiers on the ground need to know there are plans in place for their movement and what they look like.

“There’s always a plan in place, we’re going to communicate with the commanders and the noncommissioned officers of the Sapper unit to know what it is that they want and how it is that we can make that happen,” said Gleason.

Gleason knows the importance of training with other units in realistic conditions, especially for the less experienced pilots, and crew chiefs in the 142nd.

“For a lot of the guys we have here today, this is training that will form the foundation for what they will do the rest of their career,” said Gleason. “This is a very good simulation of how we would be operating in a forward area.”



This training opportunity is extremely important to have before heading into a real life scenario due to the lowered risks of the situation.

“Once we start, it’s going to be fast paced but it’s also going to be slow enough that the training, will be done correctly,” said Dugay. “Safety is key for crewmembers on the helicopter, personnel on the ground, and any troops in the surrounding area.”

All members of the crew are responsible for being constantly vigilant of any safety risks that may arise. Together as a team they have eyes on all parts of the aircraft and the surrounding area at all times.

“We’re building real time experience without anyone’s lives being on the line, and for us, that’s invaluable,” said Gleason.

*Story and Photos by Spc. Jarod Dye, 121st Public Affairs Det.*





# PARTNERING FOR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Story and photo by Spc. Jarod Dye

The Maine National Guard hosted special guests from the Montenegrin Ground Army from July 23-29, 2017 as part of the State Partnership Program that has been connecting the two military entities since 2007.

The Soldiers from the Montenegrin Ground Army toured civilian and military emergency response agencies and discussed planning for earthquakes, floods, fires, blizzards, and other natural disasters.

The group was led by Lt. Col. Peter Carter, the commander of the 11th Weapons of Mass Destruction-Civil Support Team, an expert in disaster preparedness himself, "This week we were going around and seeing how they can better their emergency preparedness system and their liaisons with civil authorities. We've gone to both the state Emergency Management Agency and down to the county level here in Waldo County." Going to these sites didn't only benefit the Montenegrin soldiers.

"This partnership is twofold, we definitely learn a lot about how both organizations interact with civil authorities," said Carter. "We look at their protocol procedures and they look at ours and we make recommendations as to how they could best interact with their civil authorities back in Montenegro." This role of the National Guard is unique to the Army as it has to be responsive to the any state emergencies

"One of the key components to the National

Guard is getting everything back to normal in the case of a natural disaster," said Carter. "It's important both on this side of the Atlantic and the other side to really go in and try to bring the capacity and infrastructure back online as quickly as possible after a disaster."

This mission however goes beyond the role of just preparing for disasters.

"We learn so much about our allies in the European command region by understanding their capabilities and concerns by relationship building," said Carter.

The country of Montenegro and the state of Maine were paired together in 2007 because they have so many similarities.

"The state of Maine and the country of Montenegro have a lot in common," said Carter. "We're about the same size, we rely heavily on tourism, we have a lot of waterfront, mountains, and a lot of the same concerns and issues they have."

Montenegro's national government is extremely invested in the program in the same way the Maine state government is.

"It's really a fantastic partnership and the Ministry of Defense in Montenegro have been very supportive of these events and we're very happy to be partners with Montenegro," said Carter.

The National Guard was not the only orga-

nization that shared knowledge with the Montenegrin Army.

"We gave them a tour of the Central Maine Regional Communications Center, the 9-1-1 call center and the State Police Incident Management Assistance Team Truck," said Wade MacFarland, an operations manager with the Maine Emergency Communications Bureau.

The three organizations also talked about how each country's first responders were summoned to an emergency.

"We wanted to show them how our radio capabilities work and how our 9-1-1 systems work, which is different than theirs," said MacFarland.

The EMCB is working with the Maine National Guard now more than it ever has before.

"Through the State Police IMAT we've been working with the National Guard more on major incidents, the National Guard has some great communication assets that we're trying to work with," said MacFarland. MacFarland then went on to talk about building preparedness before any events actually happen.

"If we train with the National Guard ahead of time it makes it that much easier to work with for a real event. We work with the Guard several times a year and we'd like to see that increase as well, it's a great group to work with and everyone's very professional."

Each organization's goal is essentially the same in the end, to reach peak preparedness to protect the public.

"As a group overall we work very well," said MacFarland. "A positive outcome to the mission is what we're all trying to work for." The Montenegrin soldiers participated in conversations with experiences that they brought from their country. These experiences regarded how their current systems operate and how they will make them operate even better in the future.

"The Montenegrins had some good points about what works for them and whenever you meet with anybody you're always going to learn something," said MacFarland. "You see a different viewpoint, and you can use that to build your agency better."







U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Travis Smith hands off a component of a very small satellite aperture antenna to Airman 1st Class Selena Beswick, both Airmen with the 265th Combat Communications Squadron, South Portland Air National Guard Station, Maine Air National Guard, South Portland, ME, Aug. 3, 2017. The fast reaction communication suite is designed for use in natural disasters and times of national defense and provides radio, internet, and cross banding communications. Maximum set up time to for the mobile unit to be operational is two hours however with a team familiar with the process the system can be up and running in a matter of 20-30 minutes. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Travis Hill)









Chief Warrant Officer Two Colin Loveless, a pilot with the 3rd Battalion of the 126th Aviation Regiment, Maine Army National Guard tests his night vision goggles for night time operations in Bangor, Maine. The 126th Aviation Regiment is the only MEDEVAC support unit in the state and helps organizations from the Warden Service to Acadia National Park. (Maine Army National Guard Photo by Spc. Patrik Orcutt)



# PREPARING FOR MOBILIZATION:

## THE 120TH RSG BRUSHES UP ON SOLDIERING SKILLS



Soldiers from the 120th Regional Support Group conducted training this week at Plymouth Training Site in Plymouth, Maine.

The Soldiers practiced skills they would use when moving in a field environment and coming into contact with enemy combatants. These skills are called Army warrior tasks and battle drills.

These warrior tasks and battle drills consist of a very decisive and organized sequence of actions that are designed to avoid danger for U.S. Soldiers and stifle any enemy attacks as efficiently as possible.

"Right now we're practicing movement as a squad and movement as a team," said Spc. Randon Kelly, a military intelligence analyst with the 120th RSG.

Soldiers were divided into three squads so they could work on their skills in a more intimate training environment.

"These are perishable skills, you either use them or you lose them," said Kelly. "It's always good to brush up on the fundamentals."

"There's a wide range of warrior tasks and battle drills they have to complete," said Sgt. 1st Class Nate McCray, the assistant operations noncommissioned officer for the 120th RSG and also an instructor for the day. "Some of those include escalation of force, individual movement techniques, negotiating obstacles, moving in an urban environment, and battle drills such as actions on contact."

The 120th is unique because it is not a unit, but rather a regional sup-

port group. Therefore, most of the Soldiers have a different military occupationally specialty (MOS). The support group provides training facilitation, command, and control for various Maine Army National Guard units under its echelon.

"It's important for everyone to do Army warrior tasks regardless of their MOS or unit, because you'll never know what type of situation you'll find yourself in," said McCray.

The Soldiers trained all day and concluded with a lane which simulated real contact with an enemy force and simulated real force by using blanks in their weapons, smoke grenades, and fake fragmentary grenades.

"We tried to make the training as realistic as possible," said McCray. "They'll have to actually exercise reacting to enemy contact and making decisions on how to eliminate the threat."

The training site is a large area with a diverse landscape. It holds wooded and cleared areas including hilly regions and lowlands.

"It's a good location, pretty austere. It allows for woodland and urban training environments," said McCray. "You can do a lot of different things and train on a lot of operating environments."

McCray is an 11B, infantryman by trade and also an Army Ranger. He expressed how teaching these classes is beneficial even to himself.





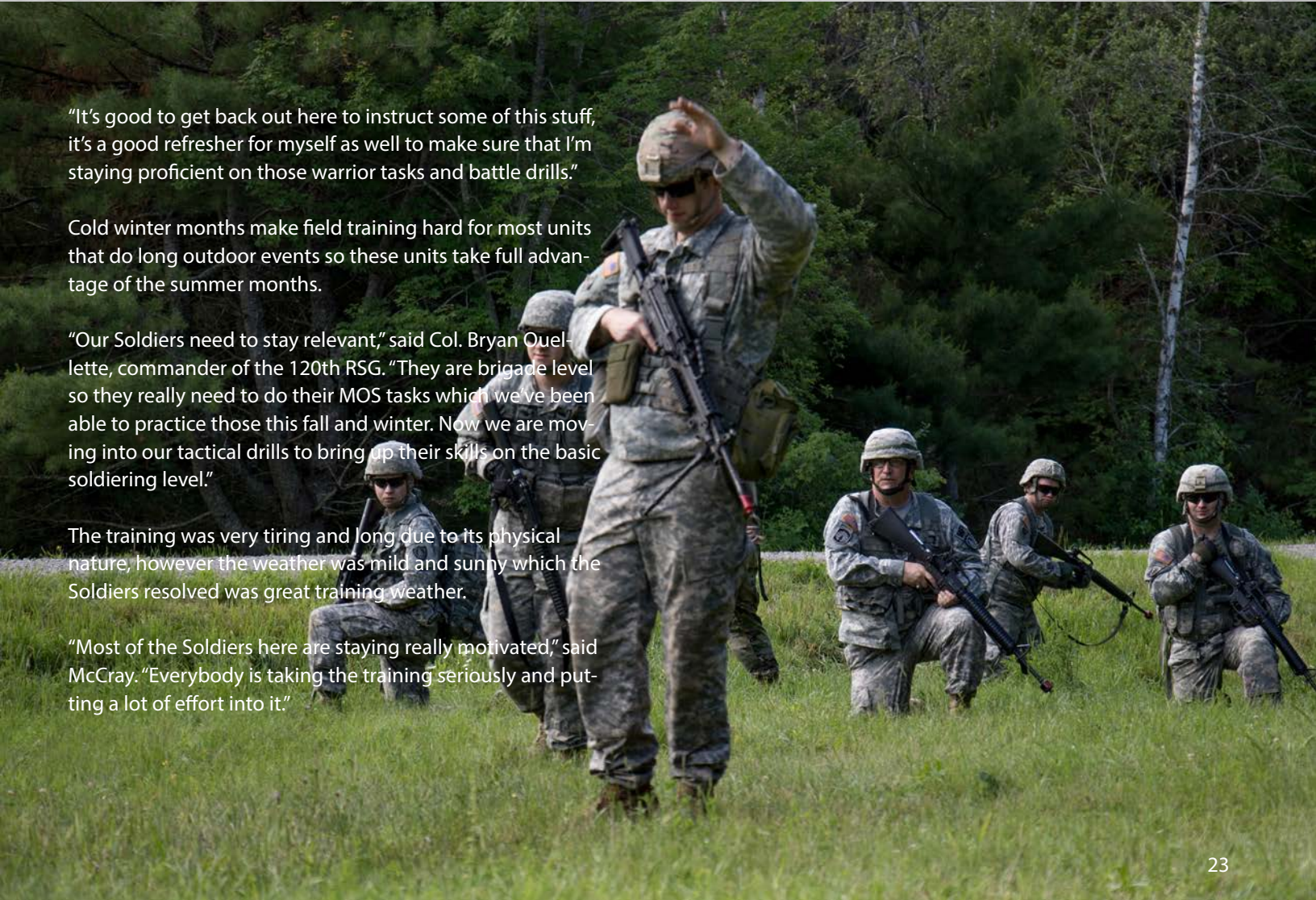
"It's good to get back out here to instruct some of this stuff, it's a good refresher for myself as well to make sure that I'm staying proficient on those warrior tasks and battle drills."

Cold winter months make field training hard for most units that do long outdoor events so these units take full advantage of the summer months.

"Our Soldiers need to stay relevant," said Col. Bryan Quellette, commander of the 120th RSG. "They are brigade level so they really need to do their MOS tasks which we've been able to practice those this fall and winter. Now we are moving into our tactical drills to bring up their skills on the basic soldiering level."

The training was very tiring and long due to its physical nature, however the weather was mild and sunny which the Soldiers resolved was great training weather.

"Most of the Soldiers here are staying really motivated," said McCray. "Everybody is taking the training seriously and putting a lot of effort into it."







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# MAINE NATIONAL GUARD MEDICS REFRESH TABLE VIII SKILLS

Story and Photos by Sgt. Sarah Myrick

The Maine Army National Guard Medical Detachment practiced general Soldier tasks and medical specific skills at the Bog Brook Training site in Gilead August 11- 17, 2017.

Soldiers conducted four days of valuable classroom training before heading out into the field for a week of hands-on training on the table eight skills to recertify the combat medics.

Table eight skills are the seven instructional table exercises that go through all the medic skills, including trauma assessment, airway management, inserting IVs, triage and evacuation, and CPR. The final table is the validation test on all the subjects, which is a requirement to maintain the combat medic military occupational specialty.

"We came out here to create lanes that are as real to life as possible," said 1st Sgt. Shawn Chabot, the first sergeant of the Medical Detachment.

Chabot credits the overall success of the table eight training to the unit's full-time staff.

"It's a lot of great training," said Chabot. "All these skills are important to all Soldiers."

On Sunday, Soldiers conducted a field training exercise with tasks based on the Expert Field Medic Badge test which was slated to be hosted by the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, New York, the following week.

The EFMB is a four-day event that any enlisted Army combat medic or Army medical officer can attend. It tests Soldiers' proficiency on basic Soldier skills like reacting to contact, radio communication and clearing a landing zone, as well as medic specific tasks such as extricating a casualty from a vehicle, assessing a casualty on the battlefield and loading the casualty into a tactical vehicle for evacuation.

"It's extremely difficult," said Sgt. 1st Class Kyle Bartman, the readiness noncommissioned officer of the Medical Detachment. "They get tested on all these skills and they have to do every task exactly right. They have to have every skill memorized, do each one without flaw and in the correct sequence."

The EFMB test itself was cancelled this year, but instead of scrapping the training they turned it into a different kind of exercise that everyone in the unit could benefit from.



"We had our dentists, nurses, patient administrators, dental technicians, basically all of our non-medics going through the lanes and doing the hands on training," said Bartman. "It forced the combat medics to have to tell the non-medics how to do things. If a non-medic was struggling with a task, the medic wasn't allowed to jump in, they had to explain how to do it correctly."

Bartman said that he feels this exercise is beneficial because it gets Soldiers out of their comfort zones.

"Soldiers get into a routine," said Bartman.

"They do the same thing every single month, and they don't get a chance to get out and do these basic warrior skills and tasks."

The EFMB lanes were followed by day and night land navigation courses. Non-medics found the cross-training beneficial, particularly the dental team.

"Out in combat, my role can change at any one moment," said 1st Lt. Daniel Duarte, a medical administrator with the detachment. "I feel that no Soldier can be over prepared so the more knowledge we have the better we are able to serve our brothers and sisters."

Duarte recently transferred from the Louisiana Army National Guard to the Maine Army National Guard to attend the University of New England's dental program.

"I worked closely with the dentists in the

National Guard and that's what inspired me to become a one," said Duarte. "My goal is to become a dentist in the Maine Army National Guard and give lectures on the prevention aspect of dentistry, like how to prevent common diseases like cavities and gingivitis."

Staff Sgt. Myra Estes is a dental hygienist with the unit and works as a dental hygienist in her civilian career. She said that it's important to know that the mouth is connected to the whole body to maintain total body health.

Estes, who is currently attending nursing school said this training was a great refresher of her responsibilities to support the combat medics.

"I'm in charge of the whole dental office," said Estes, "I have Soldiers who have dual specialties so this training makes it possible for me to not only be able to relate to what they do as a combat medic, but also helps me train and mentor them."

## Photo Captions:

Top Left: Soldiers of the Maine Army National Guard Medical Detachment extricate a casualty from a vehicle as part of a field training exercise lane at the Bog Brook Training Site in Gilead, August 11-17, 2017.

Bottom Right: Staff Sgt. Myra Estes, a dental hygienist of the Maine Army National Guard Medical Detachment evaluates a casualty on the battlefield during a field training exercise lane









The 262nd Engineer Company (Horizontal) constructs a 300 foot stretch of tank trail as part of their annual training at the Hollis Training Site, June 19-27, 2017. Soldiers honed their skills on this project that improved the tank trail for the National Guard by allowing smoother transit while units utilize the training site. Engineers laid geotextile fabric to prevent erosion, built a sub grade base layer using materials four inches in diameter or less, and built a top coat using materials two inches in diameter or less. "This training site is phenomenal," said Spc. Kevin Libby, a heavy construction equipment operator with the 262nd Engineer Company (Horizontal). "It's not far from our home base in Westbrook and it's nice on a drill weekend to get out here on the airstrip. "It's just dirt so we can push it around and put it back and we don't have to worry about civilians walking through or powerlines. It's kind of like a blank canvas." (Maine National Guard photo by Sgt. Sarah Myrick).



# WING FIRE STATION RANKS TOP IN THE AIR GUARD





The 101st Air Refueling Wing Fire and Emergency Services Flight (101st FES) was recently selected as the 2016 Air National Guard Fire Department of the Year in the large category.

The 101st FES beat out nearly 60 other departments throughout the United States to receive this honor.

The award covers many different areas of fire station and emergency services operations to include: Fire Department Management, Quality of Life, Community Relations, Awards, Operations, Training, Fire Prevention and Technical Services.

Among its many accomplishments, the department was recognized for utilizing air bags to lift a crashed aircraft which allowed airport personnel to clear the runway. The 101st FES also responded to multiple local fires in support of community partners including structural fires in Levant and Hermon, and a wildland fire in Hermon.

Acting Fire Chief Senior Master Sgt. Jeremiah Jordan also coordinated the Northeast Regional Fire and Emergency Services training deployment to Savannah, Georgia. This deployed training opportunity was the first-of-its-kind in the northeast, and saw more than 100 firefighters from multiple states training together in a deployed environment. Sergeant Jordan and his team also shepherded a \$4.7 million Military Construction addition and renovation to the Fire Department. Started in 2016, and now nearing completion, this major project provides more than 2,500 additional square feet including three additional bunk rooms, a conference room, improved fitness area, and office and locker space for Drill Status Guardsmen.

The project also included critical infrastructure updates to the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system as well as the vehicle exhaust removal system which led to the project receiving LEED Silver certification.

"This is definitely a team award. It speaks volumes to the leadership and the supervisors that we have in the Firehouse and



at the Wing," Sgt. Jordan said. "This is not an individual award. Every single Firefighter, both civilian and military, has a critical role in our success. I've seen our Firefighters do some pretty amazing things over the last 24 months, and I'm extremely proud of the people I work with."

Base Civil Engineer Capt. John Cronin echoed Sgt. Jordan's thoughts on teamwork, but singled out Sgt. Jordan for his singular leadership accomplishments.

"This award is a testament to all of the firefighters that are a part of the 101st FES,"

said Capt. Cronin. "Through the leadership of Sgt. Jordan, and with the help of

all the firefighters and wing leadership, we have implemented steps to make many needed improvements over the last few years. I'm proud to be a part of this organization, and look forward to continued success in the future."

The firefighters of the 101st FES are responsible for calls on the Bangor Air National Guard Base, at the Bangor International Airport, and in the community.



# FIREFIGHTERS AND MAINE GUARDSMEN WORK TOGETHER

STORY AND PHOTOS BY SPC JAROD DYE

The 11th Weapons of Mass Destruction - Civil Support Team from the Maine Army National Guard trained in cooperation with the South Portland Fire Department, June 29, at the South Portland High School in order to mutually benefit and strengthen relationships between the two teams.

The 11th WMD CST responds to any needs for defense against chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear attacks (CBRN). They conduct security sweeps for public events to make sure venues are safe but are also equipped to respond to events after they have happened.

During the Thursday training the 11th WMD CST advised the fire department's response operations and the two teams worked out all logistical issues they might have when responding to a real CBRN event.

"The scenario that we're going off is that there's a graduation later today and they asked us to come down," said Tech. Sgt. Lawrence Misiaszek, an Air National Guardsman attached to the 11th WMD CST. "We did area sweeps of the bleachers and the remote area that we might be in."

Misiaszek and his team, however, have not only conducted these operations in a training environment.

"We do this in real life too," said Misiaszek. "We've swept the Super Bowl, the hotel where the athletes were staying, as well as some other venues that were holding big public events that week."

Misiaszek has been on the 11th WMD CST for about six years now and stays involved in the continuing and evolving mission.

"Our mission is definitely public safety. We're here as an asset to be utilized by whatever agency is involved whether it is fire department, police department, or other first responders," said Misiaszek. "So whatever it is we can come down, check it out and preserve safety for the public."

On the other side of the parking lot the fire department's Weapons of Mass Destruction Hazardous Materials Team had their operations set up and were busily preparing for the day's training.

"We formed shortly after 9/11 like most WMD hazmat teams did," said Phil McGouldrick a firefighter with the South Portland Fire Department. "We're prepared to handle any incident from a gasoline spill to a propane tank explosion to a WMD event."

McGouldrick has been a fire fighter for a while and shared his knowledge on preparation.

"Fortunately there are very few events, but we have to be prepared to handle them when and if they arise," said McGouldrick. "We want to keep the community safe in all facets of what may occur."

The leadership of the 11th WMD CST has been working hard to make strong connections with many local agencies.

"One of the most important things we do is work with local responders," said Capt. Lane Wiggin, a communications officer with the 11th WMD

CST. "South Portland, Portland is the biggest city in Maine so it's important to have a good relationship with these particular two fire departments." The teams together make up a lot of forces that could help resolve a much larger CBRN incident together.

"As far as the local responders, they know what they're doing," said Wiggin. "Working with the South Portland and Portland Fire Departments is great."







U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Seth Jarvis and Staff Sgt. Kyle Hogan, both Vehicle Maintenance General Purpose Mechanics with the 101st Air Refueling Wing, Maine Air National Guard replace gaskets at the 101st Air Refueling Wing, Bangor, ME, Jun 13, 2017. Part of the scheduled 25 hour job included replacement of the head gasket, intake gasket, exhaust manifold gasket, valve cover gasket, injector O-rings, injector copper O-rings, injector cups and the front cover gasket. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Travis Hill)









U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Justin Collins, a Vehicle Maintenance General Purpose Mechanic with the 101st Air Refueling Wing, Maine Air National Guard grinds the bed of a dump truck, 101st Air Refueling Wing, Bangor, ME, June 13, 2017. Rust, also known as iron oxide, is a compound created when metal containing iron is exposed to oxygen and moisture for long periods of time causing bonds in the metal to weaken. Grinding is used to remove rust and the area is then treated with a bed liner applied by a roller to increase vehicle use longevity. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Travis Hill)



# MAINE ENGINEERS BUILD SAFER COMMUNITY

Story and Photography by Sgt. Sarah Myrick



The Maine Army National Guard built the base of a multipurpose field as part of an Innovative Readiness Training project at the Raymond Elementary School June 16-28, 2017.

The 262nd Engineer Company (Horizontal) honed their skills in this project that will benefit the school and surrounding community.

"I've been running the excavator and grater, and I've also had the opportunity to train some younger Soldiers who don't have

licenses on equipment yet," said Sgt. Kory Peckham, a heavy construction equipment operator with the 262nd Engineer Company (Horizontal). "This has been a great opportunity for me to use my role as a noncommissioned officer and also use my civilian engineer training."

The 262nd was responsible for the first phase of building the field. Their goal was to complete this part efficiently so the Raymond Elementary School can move forward in the process.



"When we are given the opportunity to take on a project of this caliber it's important to train Soldiers, but it's also important to have a finished product at the end of the training period," said Peckham. "If we meet our goals and expectations there's potential for us to get more projects down the road and more opportunities."

The engineers independently hauled in over 500 loads of base gravel from a gravel pit on route 85 in Raymond. They raised the ground up to sub grade and leveled it out where there previously was a steep decline. This required a lot of compacting. For every 8-10 inches of lift they had to compact and aerate the material so that during heavy rains it won't slide or enter Panther Pond just behind the school.

"This is the first Annual Training in which all the components of the 262nd Engineer Company (Horizontal) (Belfast, Westbrook and the detachment) have been working together on a project in about four years," said Staff Sgt. Brian Babbage, the noncommissioned officer in charge of the site. "Overall this is a training event. It's great to see how other operators work and find out what our strengths and weaknesses are as a platoon or company. To me it's a personal pride to get above where we were before this."

An unknown civilian engineer company will be contracted to complete the project. The project's anticipated completion date is the fall of 2018.

"It's very rare that we have all this equipment on one site," said Babbage. "So having the opportunity to get experience on equipment gets us ready for any movement in the future, whether it's a drill weekend, next year's AT or future deployments."

This project was excellent training for the engineers, but also a great service to the Raymond community. Babbage said the teachers and students at the Raymond Elementary School were very thankful that the National Guard helped them with this project. "The big equipment we have and man hours we can put in it will help the students be able to utilize this field much faster."

"The kids came out on their last day of school and thanked us, as well as making over a hundred cards," said Babbage, "and that means a lot."

Alissa Messer, the playground project manager, who has two children currently attending the Raymond Elementary School said the playground was overcrowded and unsafe for the 200 plus children to play.

The new field will include a boundary that prevents strangers and wildlife from entering the playground, and also removes an electrical panel that was in the middle of the playground.

"As a parent it's wonderful to know that our kids are safe," said Messer. "It's going to be a great place for them to play and get energy out, which leads to better learning."

The unit's involvement with this project brings awareness to the community of what the National Guard actually does said

Cpl. Jeffery Taylor, a heavy construction equipment operator with the 262nd Engineer Company (Horizontal).

"This puts a mark that's going to be there forever," said Taylor. "Once it's finished it's going to be a field that everyone can use, and that's part the reason why I joined the National Guard; to do projects like this."

There are high hopes that the community will make use of this multipurpose field for basketball games, baseball games, physical education classes, connections to a trail network and much more, said Assistant Principal Deborah Hutchinson.

"I'm retiring at the end of this year and it was my goal to get this project under way before I retired," said Hutchinson. "I'm so happy that this has started and that within the next two years there will be a safe and wonderful place for the children to play."

Messer said she loved having the National Guard involved in this project.

"It was very important to me to have our kids and our community recognize the military for all that they do," said Messer. "The fact that when they go on the playground every day that they will remember who gave that to them."

"When I told the kids that the Soldiers coming were all Mainers they thought that was amazing," said Messer. "There is something really special about the fact these people are their neighbors who are sacrificing their time for us."





# GUARD PROFILE

## SPC. JUSTIN THERIAULT, 185TH ENGINEER



STORY AND PHOTOS BY SPC. JAROD DYE

**S**ome National Guard Soldiers choose to serve as infantrymen, medics, mechanics, and even lawyers or doctors.

Spc. Justin Theriault does not fill any of these roles.

Theriault is an experienced heavy equipment operator for the 185th Engineer Support Company and works for the U.S. Border Patrol when not at drill.

The 185th conducts horizontal construction missions such as building roads, firing ranges, helicopter pads, and much more.

"In the Guard we do a lot of different projects from making soccer fields to improving ditches for local schools and towns," said Theriault. "This summer we went up to Gagetown, New Brunswick to build a helicopter pad for the Canadian Army."

Theriault's missions with the 185th over the last 10 years

have also taken him out of the state for natural disaster relief.

***"We served in Hurricane Irene, it was nice to get out and help the communities. We get paid to do what most people would probably do for free if they had the ability," said Theriault. "A lot of the roadways after Irene were washed-out. As engineers we went down to put new culverts in and help out the citizens. Some people were trapped and couldn't escape their houses."***

Theriault talked about how proud he was to help fellow New Englander's after the August 2011 hurricane caused millions of dollars' worth of damages across the state of Vermont.

"It's great to help out like that, it's one of the main reasons why we join the Guard," said Theriault.

Theriault also said that the National Guard taught him more than just how to operate heavy equipment.



"I love heavy equipment and I've always liked to operate it, but I didn't want to do it as a primary job in the civilian world," said Theriault. "This gives me an opportunity to let me do what I want to do civilian wise and still have the enjoyment of serving in the Army, it breaks up my normal life which is a good thing."

After beginning his work with the Guard, he joined the U.S. Border Patrol because he was interested in law enforcement and loves the outdoors.

"The Guard teaches you discipline, it helps you mature and set goals," said Theriault. "I had never thought of doing border patrol until after I was in the military. The Guard gave me some moral bearing and pushed me forward."

Theriault traveled to many places around the country for his civilian job but he expressed his fondness for being back in Maine after having to go in the Inactive National Guard while attending the Customs and Border Protection Border Patrol Academy.

"I started off working Border Patrol in Texas and Arizona, but now I'm back in Maine where I grew up," said Theriault. Theriault enjoys working for his country and takes pride in what he can do while on and off the clock.

***"I love serving! The U.S. is the best country in the world so it's nice to be able to do something for the nation," said Theriault.***

"On the border patrol side it's nice to be able to stop any terrorists or drugs from coming in."

His motivations extend beyond just his job duties and the U.S. Border Patrol's mission, sometimes, it's more personal because he strives to foster better futures for American youths.



"I have a kid so any drugs we can catch and keep off the streets is a good thing for their future," said Theriault. As part of his job with the U.S. Border Patrol, he helps back up police departments that need extra help.

"Helping out police departments has been a great experience," he said. "Sometimes you catch people at their worst times, so it's good to try to be understanding, and help them get through it."

Not only did the National Guard help Theriault in his civilian life, his civilian job also helped him become a model Soldier in the 185th and his leadership recognizes it.

"Spc. Theriault is an excellent Soldier," said Sgt. First Class Scott Robichauld, Theriault's platoon sergeant. "He is always willing to convey his law enforcement experience to train Soldiers and prepare them for deployments."

His qualities as a Soldier go beyond just getting the job done himself, he also goes above and beyond to help other junior Soldiers in his company.

"His demeanor and selflessness help to increase morale," said Robichauld. "He is a leader in ways well above his current rank. He takes people under his wing all the time and mentors his junior peers to achieve their potential."

Theriault is known for being a motivated worker making sure everything is completed in the right way which his leadership appreciates.

"Any time there's a job that we're doing, he is one of the most reliable people, any time you ask him to do something he'll get it done and exceed your standards and expectations," said 2nd Lt. Tim Kelly, Theriault's platoon leader. "All in all, he's just a great guy and a good Soldier."

Theriault originally joined the Guard planning on doing just his six years before leaving. Now, he plans on staying for a full twenty years until retirement.

***"After I went to basic and really understood the purpose of the Guard and the Army itself, I fell in love with it," said Theriault. "I know if I got out now, I'd miss everyone."***





# MAINE PRINT SHOP SUPPORTS ENTIRE NATIONAL GUARD

Story and Photo by Spc. Jarod Dye

The National Guard Bureau Publications Management Center is a printing operation that conducts its business on Camp Keyes in Augusta, Maine.

Since its opening in 1953, the print shop has been fulfilling the printing needs of the Army National Guard and in recent years has begun also servicing the Air National Guard.

"We print and ship technical manuals, training materials, and posters all across the U.S. for other National Guard Units," said Staff Sgt. Crystal Ryder, the materials handler supervisor for the print shop. The print shop is run by the National Guard Bureau and is a rare commodity to have locally on your base, according to Ryder.

"We're the only one in the U.S., no one else does this for NGB," said Ryder. "We support every National Guard Unit." Since the shop is the only National Guard printing operation, it conducts anywhere from 50 to 100 print jobs per week, according to Ryder. "It takes organization and teamwork," said Ryder. "Everything is run by SOP (standard operating procedure) so that when one person is gone anyone can

pick up where that person left off." The orders they receive vary greatly and can be as simple as replicating one poster many times or they can be large, complicated training manuals that have to go through many steps before they are ready to be shipped off.

"The jobs can be pretty simple or pretty complex," said Staff Sgt. Daniel Trojecki a forms manager with the print shop. "But we want to make sure we get it right." Getting the job right every time can prove difficult when the shop doesn't always get much notice before their orders have to be completed. However, to ensure quality and accuracy each product is inspected multiple times before it is shipped out, no matter how quickly it needs to be completed, according to Ryder

"We have time hacks and due dates," said Trojecki. "If we don't have books out the door on time, then a class might not start." Speed is essential to the daily operations of the shop because sometimes the orders they receive are extremely large.

"In a day I've done upwards of 1500

books," said Spc. Kenneth Spear, a bindery machine operator for the print shop. "I usually start at 6:15 and I'm here till 4." There's times when the orders they receive even need to be out the same. "There's been times when we've had to get 1000 books out that day. Sometimes, you'll get somebody and they'll say they need an order yesterday," said Spear.

The people who work at the print shop have formed a cohesive team, and play group games on their breaks such as horseshoes.

"If we did not work together there would be no way we'd be successful," said Ryder. "A lot of people don't know what this tiny little corner of the base does, but it's quite a bit."

The atmosphere is of the print shop is light but serious when it comes down to getting work done right. "It's a fun place to work," said Trojecki. "It's a tight group, we have a great team, and everyone pitches in."





# JOINT HAZARD ASSESSMENT TEAM CONDUCTS FULL SCALE EXERCISE

Story and Photos by Sgt. Sarah Myrick

The Maine National Guard's 11th Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team conducted a full scale exercise at the South Portland High School June 29, 2017.

CST is an active duty National Guard joint force unit consisting of members of the Air National Guard and Army National Guard. The Joint Hazard Assessment Team, a specialized unit, which usually consists of four of the 22 members of the 11th WMD CST unit, work in civilian attire alongside police and fire departments at local events like concerts and graduations.

"The scenario is that the South Portland High School graduation ceremony is about to take place and we have some mock chemical agents set out," said 1st Lt. Aaron Bradbury, the survey team leader with the 11th WMD CST.

The intention is that the JHAT team will find Chemical, Biological, Radiological or Nuclear threats before they cause a problem, but worst case scenario they will be the first responders and using their detection equipment they can assist local authorities.

"We provide support to the civil authorities," said Bradbury. "They usually request that we come out and do quality of air monitoring to make sure there aren't any CBRN threats."

In the event that there has been a terrorist incident or some kind of WMD has occurred police or fire departments may be the first to arrive, but they will call in the JHAT team to help assist at the scene.

"We report to the scene, assess, advise and assist the incident commander on what to do," said Tech. Sgt. Joshua Bond, the Information Systems Analyst with the 11th WMD CST. "We work for the incident commander at that point. We let them know who we are, what we can bring them and find out what they would like us to do."

The JHAT team works at events with large groups of people where a CBRN threat is likely. They have covered holiday events, concerts, festivals, sporting events like the Boston Marathon, the World Series, the Super Bowl, and even the Pope's recent visit to Pennsylvania. The JHAT team conducts the initial

sweeps of an event to check for threats, if there is a threat detected then the entire CST unit will be called in to help out. During this exercise the JHAT team found the mock chemical agent.

"We found some bottles with a chemical that caused some of our detection equipment to go off," said Bond. "We stopped our surveying to get further guidance."

The JHAT team called in the rest of the CST unit once a threat was detected. They also called in local fire departments and reassessed the area wearing mission oriented protective posture. The 11th WMD CST has a set of core mission tasks, including communication, medical, decontamination and command and control that they need to conduct every year and this type of exercise serves as an excellent opportunity for them to complete those tasks.









A Soldier and an Air National Guardsman from the 11th Weapons of Mass Destruction- Civil Support Team from the Maine Army National Guard use a device to detect any dangerous substances on themselves before leaving the area they just cleared for chemical, radiological, biological, and nuclear (CBRN) threats. This was part of a joint training exercise between the South Portland Fire Department and the Maine National Guard to advance readiness in case of a CBRN emergency. The training took place at South Portland High School and was a full scale training operation. (Maine Army National Guard photo by Spc. Jarod Dye.)



# RECRUIT SUSTAINMENT PROGRAM SOLDIER OF THE QUARTER



**Name:** Autumn London

**Rank:** Private 1st Class, E3

**Military Occupational Skill:** 74D Chemical, Biological, Nuclear and Radiological Specialist

**Unit:** 185th Engineer Support Company

**Basic Training Location:** Ft. Leondard Wood, MO

**Advanced Individual Training:** Ft. Leondard Wood, MO

**Hometown:** Houlton, ME

**College:** University of Maine, Farmington

**Major:** Biology

**Hobbies and Interests:** Hiking, Fishing, Running, Watersports

## What are your goals as a Soldier?

To challenge myself every day and to change the standards of female soldiers.

## What are your future plans as a civilian?

I am going to complete my BA Degree in Biology and pursue my Master's Degree in Wildlife Management.

## Why did you join the Maine Army National Guard?

I wanted to do something that mattered more than what I was currently doing.

## Did you know:

Pfc. London volunteers at the local animal shelter and volunteers her time to mentor local high school students.

Both Pfc. London's grandfather's served in the Army.

Pfc. London offers the following advice for anyone who is preparing for Basic Combat Training:

"Always give 110% and take advantage of any leadership opportunities. Also, don't talk when you are in formation, and don't try to be an individual!"



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A soldier in camouflage gear, including a helmet and sunglasses, is holding a rifle. He is standing in front of a Humvee, which is parked on a dirt road. The background shows a wooded area with green trees.

# MP'S GET IN THE FIELD

The 488th MP Company Does Their Annual Training  
Story and Photos by Spc. Jarod Dye

The 488th Military Police Company conducted their Annual Training this week at Plymouth Training Site, in Plymouth. Plymouth Training Site is a large wooded area in central Maine with miles of dirt roads and trails; it where this National Guard unit often run operations.

It provides plenty of room for woodland operations and trainings that prepare the Soldiers for a real combat environment. The unit's training at this site was multifaceted, consisting of convoy operations, security measures, driver training, vehicle recovery, and much more.

"Today is our culminating event," said Pfc. Max Brown. "We've run lanes for different scenarios we might be in overseas."

These lanes and scenarios vary greatly because military police are required to stay proficient in tasks ranging from garrison law enforcement to combat support roles, such as route clearance and improvised explosive device detection.

"We are a combat support company," said Capt. Scott Baker, the unit commander. "There are a lot of different tasks that we have to be knowledgeable of and have expertise in."

The 488th stays ready for deployments at all times and is focusing in particular on their combat readiness during this year's training as opposed to law enforcement tactics.

"We train for if we get asked to go overseas," said Baker. "We're honing all these skills in anticipation of a potential wartime mission."

When in a deployment environment, military police provide support for infantry units. Both are able to conduct operations the other cannot, making them an effective team when operating together.

"We support infantry and forward elements to help them keep the roads open, take their detainees, or take their exploited intelligence to the rear so they can keep moving forward," said Baker.

The weather for the training events topped 90 degrees with high humidity which added difficulty and stress to the training events.

"This year we've been out in the snow, the rain, and the heat," said Baker. "It helps to train in varying conditions, it tests our ability to use our equipment in different settings and environments."

Field training can be very beneficial due to its hands on nature and its use of equipment that a unit would use during an actual deployment. It is also enjoyable to many unit members.

"It's what the guys want to do," said Staff Sgt. Aaron Brown the unit readiness non-commissioned officer. "They want to get out and train on our actual tasks."

The unit took Humvees, armored security vehicles, and light medium tactical vehicles to support their mission.

The training ended Wednesday with their annual Best Squad Competition. The event will take squads from within the company to compete against each other head to head for the title of Best Squad.

This competition will involve Humvee pulls, weapons assembly, ruck marches, and many other draining tasks. This is all part of a usual and beneficial annual training for the 488th Military Police Company.

"I love being an MP," said Pfc. Brown. "It was the perfect fit, combining law enforcement and military service."







U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Thomas Patterson, a member of the 243rd Engineering Installation Squadron, levels a transit at the South Portland Air National Guard Station, Portland, ME, Aug. 3, 2017. Setting up a transit to ensure a tower is plumb requires great attention to detail from ensuring the transit base is 100ft and centered from the tower base to making very precise adjustments to the transit to ensure it is level and plumb. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Travis Hill)



# YOUR OPINION: WHAT WOULD YOU TELL A YOUNGER YOU?

## LESSONS IN LIFE AND THE MEANING FROM THOSE WHO KNOW



*"This organization provides young, motivated Soldiers with a wealth of opportunities, take advantage of all of them. Do what you love, love what you do, remain relevant by always continuing to push yourself to learn your profession. When challenged with a task, never say "that mountain's too high," instead don't ever give up on looking for opportunities and solutions that will get you to the top."*

- Command Sgt. Maj. Brian D. Dill

*"It's very simple. Do not pass up any training opportunities that are offered by the military. By this I mean not only as a student but also as a teacher when you have mastered a skill. These will make you a more knowledgeable Soldier and ultimately a better leader as you share the knowledge."*

- Master Sgt. Michael Wall



*"I would have seriously considered taking Active Duty school opportunities that were offered such as Ranger School, Jump School, Air Assault etc.. Sometimes our perspective is too short range when we are young and the benefits of grabbing the "now" opportunities get put on the back burner. When I was 23 years old, I figured I had plenty of time to attend schools or take on additional duties that would benefit me. But when you come home to your "normal" life, family and career climb the priorities ladder (as they should.) When I did get other opportunities to do these schools, I was 30 years old and my body wasn't as willing as my spirit."*

*I would also encourage our Soldiers and Airmen to reassess their reasons for serving on a regular basis, if no other reason than to remind yourself how important the work is you do for state and country. Assess what the military has provided compared to your initial expectations. Is your career field all you thought it would be? I left the engineer community to be a platoon leader in the Mountain Company. Some senior engineer leaders were not pleased. But the Soldier and leader skills I gained are largely responsible for my later success, and I firmly believe the engineers gained from my new perspective as well. The best way to appreciate what you do and what others do is to gain as wide an understanding of the organization as you can."*

- Brig. Gen. Dwaine Drummond



*"Regardless of what you're doing, how mundane or important the task may be, always give it your best, give it your all. It sounds cliché but the fact of the matter is that's how you rise to the top. If you excel that's what it's all about. I don't think anyone is interested in being an average soldier. Just with that I think you can have a pretty fruitful and successful career."*

- Chief Warrant Officer 3 Paratore





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