



NORTH DAKOTA GUARDIAN



THE
Happy Hoopigans

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July 2008



THE LONG JOURNEY HOME

**817th Sappers
Return From
Iraq**

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Digital photos should be at least 300 dpi.

On the Cover



Welcoming Party: Soldiers of the 817th Engineer Company (Sapper) walk through a pathway of United States flags on the tarmac at Jamestown Regional Airport June 7. The flags are being held by Patriot Guard Riders as the Soldiers return home to cheers from friends and family after their deployment to Iraq. (Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Wing)

VIEW FROM THE TOP

Colonel Robert Becklund, 119th Wing Commander

Become Better Trained, Mentored and Empowered Through Education

I graduated from Joint and Combined War Fighting School June 13, which is the senior phase of Joint Professional Military Education at the Joint Forces Staff College in Norfolk, Va. JCWS is a 10-week resident period of instruction consisting of courses in strategy, operational capabilities and functions, contemporary operating environment, joint planning process and war gaming.

Our North Dakota National Guard vision statement holds us accountable to be a dynamic, relevant force where everyone is a trained, mentored and empowered leader. I encourage everyone to make use of education opportunities and professional military education in order to stay ahead of the rapidly changing tactical and strategic environments, technology, world situation, adversary capabilities and our latest tactics, techniques and procedures (TTPs). Each of us has the personal responsibility to ensure we keep ourselves relevant to the mission by perusing further education through professional and military schools. Not only will you position yourself for promotion, but you will ensure you are mentored and trained to meet our new missions.

If we cannot keep up with our adversary's TTPs or adapt to our ever-changing missions, we are certain to become ineffective. If we are seen to be ineffective, we risk our existence as a relevant component of our national security.

Secretary of Defense Robert Gates recently lost confidence in the effectiveness of the Air Force leadership and called for the resignation of both the Secretary of the Air Force and the Chief of Staff. Secretary Gates said that he wants an

Air Force that can adapt to a “constantly changing strategic environment characterized by persistent conflict.” Secretary Gates further expects “unconventional thinkers” to rise in the service who are open to a “new set of realities and requirements” and ready to abandon the current orientation on “winning the big battles in big wars.”

What I hear him saying is that the world has changed and we are in for a long period characterized by irregular warfare in need of an Air Force that has adapted to deal with the threat. In North Dakota, the Happy Hooligans have already demonstrated our adaptability by being the first fighter unit in the nation to transform into leading-edge missions, which include unmanned aerial vehicles, strategic airlift and nuclear missile field security. This has not been easy, but we have done it in true North Dakota style — with professionalism and a solid focus on perfection — and we are excelling because of our work ethic, attitude and attention to detail.

We cannot relax. We now need to continue to do as we always have, and as Secretary Gates has requested, to be unconventional thinkers who can abandon our current orientation and adapt to a constantly changing environment. The North Dakota National Guard has always done this and we need to keep it up.

Once again, we are all leaders. I urge you to keep up with your professional education — not only so you don't self-eliminate from promotion — but to ensure that you are trained, mentored and ready for new challenges. Remember to set a good example and inspire others to do the same!



“Each of us has the personal responsibility to ensure we keep ourselves relevant to the mission by perusing further education through professional and military schools.”

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Becklund".

**NATIONAL
GUARD**
North Dakota

119th Wing to Conduct Exercise

By Maj. Todd Branden
119th Deputy Mission Support Group Commander

Exercise. Exercise. Exercise.

That is what you will hear many times on Saturday of August drill during the second phase of Operation Readiness Exercise at the 119th Wing.

The Wing will be testing its ability to survive and operate under war-like conditions in a simulated Kirkuk, Iraq.

There will be a variety of threats that will test the survival of the Wing. Airmen will experience exercise events that will drive different mission oriented protective posture levels and force protection conditions. Airmen will need to have their chemical training gear and Airman's Manual nearby because they will experience exercise scenarios that will test their combat skills while wearing chemical gear.



During the ORE, expect the following: explosions, terrorist attacks, chemical plumes, chemical exposure, unidentified explosive ordnance detection, decontamination, post attack reconnaissance routes, reconnaissance team procedures, shelter management, simulated casualties, emergency responses, fires, alarm condition changes and force protection conditions changes.

The expectation of the exercise is for Airmen to learn and maintain skills that will allow them to operate and perform mission duties in a hostile environment. The exercise may be challenging, so

remember to stay safe, stay hydrated, take care of your buddy and learn as much valuable information as you can. It's better to learn in a simulated environment than in the real world, so ask questions and don't be afraid to make mistakes as we all learn together.

Hundreds Walk in Memory of Fallen Soldiers

Sgt. Amy Wieser Willson
Joint Force Headquarters

BISMARCK, N.D. — Simultaneously in three North Dakota cities June 6 at 9:38 a.m., family members of North Dakota service members killed in combat took the first steps in a Memorial Road March in honor of their loved ones. The strength and encouragement of hundreds of Soldiers, Airmen, veterans and community members followed them.

"This memorial march was organized by the 1-188th Air Defense Artillery to honor their fellow Soldiers, but we want to honor all service members, honor and recognize them and their families," Gov. John Hoeven said prior to the start of the march in Bismarck. "We are committed to supporting the families of those who paid the ultimate sacrifice."

While the march honors all fallen North Dakota service members, the date and time have significance to the 1-188th ADA. Two years ago June 6, at 9:38 a.m., Sgt. Travis A. Van Zoest, 21, and Cpl. Curtis R. Mehrer, 21, were killed in Afghanistan when an improvised explosive device detonated. Cpl. Nathan J. Goodiron, 25, and Cpl. Christo-

pher K. Kleinwachter, 29, also were killed during the 1-188th ADA-SECFOR deployment.

"This march is important not just to me. It is important to all of the ADA and North Dakota National Guard," said Staff Sgt. Jay Sheldon, a member of the 1-188th ADA who helped organize the march.

To read more about the Memorial Road March, please visit www.ndguard.com/news/.



Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp
Guardsmen and family members walk in a Memorial Road March June 6. The event was designed to honor fallen North Dakotan service members.

North Dakota National Guard Seeks Former 141st Engineer Members for Commemorative Ceremony

Sgt. Amy Wieser Willson
Joint Force Headquarters

VALLEY CITY, N.D. — On Sept. 1, 2008, the 141st Engineer Combat Battalion will deactivate after more than 53 years of service to North Dakota communities, the state and the nation. The North Dakota Army National Guard will commemorate the occasion with events this fall, including a Casing of the Colors ceremony, at which time the unit's color will be retired.

In preparation for these events, the North Dakota National Guard is seeking names and contact information for former members of the unit. The names will be compiled on a mailing list for updates, information and an invitation to a members-only event.

Anyone who served with the 141st Engineers in any capacity for any amount of time should contact Spc. Kary Fountain at kary.fountain@us.army.mil or 701-845-6755. Be prepared to provide name, current/retired rank, address, phone number and e-mail address.

The 141st Engineer Combat Battalion was headquartered in Valley City with units in Edgeley, Jamestown, Oakes, Carrington, Lisbon, Wishek, Bismarck, Mott, Hettinger, Mayville, Hillsboro, Linton, Hazen, Rugby, Harvey and Bottineau. The unit's lineage will transfer to the new 231st Brigade Support Battalion, which is in Valley City. The lineage dates to March 3, 1884, when the Valley City unit began as Company G, Dakota Militia at Valley City, Dakota Territory. It was redesignated as the 141st on April 15, 1955.

Discounted Summer Getaways for Military Members

By Sgt. Amy Wieser Willson
Joint Force Headquarters

It finally feels like summer. The sun is shining, the temperature is comfortable ... and gas prices have hit the \$4 per gallon range. That can really force cutbacks on — or even complete elimination of — the family vacation. Fortunately, we live in a country that values its service members and shows that appreciation. Many agencies offer military discounts that more than make up for the hike in gas prices.

Here are some money-saving options for a family vacation in North Dakota and surrounding states.

Minnesota's largest amusement park offers military members and their families discounted admission. Valleyfair's military discount rate of \$25 is available to active or retired military personnel and their immediate family members. Regular admission price is \$36.95. For discounted admission, show military ID at the front gate when purchasing tickets. Children younger than 10 accompanied by a parent/guardian with a military ID or military family ID also may qualify for the military discount. - www.valleyfair.com

Spend a week boating, fishing, golfing, hiking or relaxing in Wisconsin or Iowa. Through Armed Forces Vacation Club, service members can book space-available resorts for \$329 per week. - www.afvclub.com

Relax in western Montana, where KOA offers 25 percent off of fees for all camping sites and cabins in Missoula. If reserving online, KOA also will provide military members with coupons for the Missoula KOA Mountain Mercantile. - <https://koa.com/where/mt/26115/reserve/index.asp?DealID=7117>

Save money on hotels by taking advantage of on-base housing opportunities. Thousands of lodging units, temporary housing, campsites and guesthouses are available at more than 100 U.S. and overseas locations. - <http://dodlodging.net/>

North Dakota's state parks offer free admission to veterans with a 100 percent service-connected disability. Those with any level of service-connected disability can obtain an annual pass for \$20, a \$5 discount. - www.ndparks.com

Check out a boat from the Fargo Air National Guard base. The Wing's MWR facilities include a variety of recreational options. Among the available watercraft are a 40-horsepower pontoon (\$25 for one day or \$45 for two days), an 18-foot, 35-horsepower Lund (\$20 for one day, \$30 for two days and \$15 for each subsequent day), a 14-foot, motor-less Crestliner (\$15 for one day, \$25 for two days and \$10 for each subsequent day), and a canoe (\$10 per day). The Lund and Crestliner fees include life jackets, depth locator, anchor, paddle, deep-cycle battery and a full fuel tank. Additionally, coolers or fish/turkey cookers can be rented for \$5 per day and cots are available for \$2 per day. For more information, contact Senior Master Sgt. Walter Laudon at 701-451-2680 or walter.laudon@ndfarg.ang.af.mil.

Go camping for cheap in Minot or Grand Forks. Both Air Force Bases offer on-base camp sites. Minot has six sites available for \$10 per day (\$60 per week) along with grills, a picnic area and a playground. Grand Forks offers similar amenities and boat rental is available. Twenty RV sites go for \$12 per day and 40 grass camping sites are available for \$6 per day. In Minot, call 701-723-3648 and in Grand Forks, call 701-747-3688.

No More Limits on Contributions to Thrift Savings Plan



Military members now have the opportunity to increase their Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) percentage election for basic pay.

Prior to Jan. 1 of this year, the Thrift Investment Board had restrictions on basic pay percentage elections. The board eliminated those limits, allowing service members the ability to save more toward their retirement by selecting up to 100 percent of their basic pay after mandatory deductions.

Currently, over 538,000 service members contribute to TSP from both active duty, Guard and reserves. TSP offers tax deferral and tax exempt (for monies contributed while serving in a combat zone) advantages similar to those offered by private corporations to their employees under 401(k) plans.

Please note: The Internal Revenue Code section 402(g) and section 415(c) may limit annual contributions. See the Summary of the Thrift Savings Plan for the Uniformed Services for more information about these statutory limitations at www.tsp.gov.html.

- DFAS Web site: www.dfas.mil



Courtesy Photo

Spc. Jeffrey J. Rodgers II, 164th Engineer Battalion, is joined by Chaplain (Maj.) David Johnson in a guard tower outside Baghdad. Both Soldiers returned from a mobilization to Iraq May 2008.

Chaplain's Corner: The Power Behind You

By Chaplain (Maj.) David Johnson
164th Engineer Battalion

"Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up." Ecclesiastes 4:9-10a

A group of young children was selling Kool-Aid on the street one day. They had posted the typical hand scrawled sign over their stand: "Kool-Aid, 10 cents." A man was intrigued by this and stopped to help the kids by purchasing a glass. One boy asked if he would like strawberry or grape Kool-Aid. He placed his order and handed the boy a quarter. After much deliberation, the children determined he had some change coming and rifled through the cigar box until they finally came up with the correct amount. The boy returned with the change and watched as the man drank. He then asked if he was finished drinking.

"Just about," he said. "Why?"

"That's the only cup we have," the boy answered, "and we need it to stay in business."

Sgt. Casey Bosch and I spent the last year in Iraq as members of the 164th Engineer Battalion. We served as the Unit Ministry Team for the battalion. Unlike the boys in the story mentioned above, we were never in danger of running out of business. Our

"cups" overflowed for many reasons, reasons that were important.

Our primary role and responsibility was to perform and provide religious support to those in our area of operation. The battalion was our primary focus, but we also served others in the area. We made sure that worship services, Bible studies and other activities were available to "feed" the Soldiers' spirits. We also spent time each week checking on the Soldiers to see what their needs were (religious and otherwise). In the course of our visits, we heard good things, bad things and all of those "in-between" things that were going on in the life of a deployed service member and their loved ones back home. To that end, we provided a safe place for people to share their concerns. We also provided a helping word of counsel as needed or as appropriate.

Deployed or not, Soldiers and Airmen need their spirit tended to. We focus a lot in the military on our physical training and on being technically and tactically proficient. But what about our spiritual and emotional fitness? How is your "cup" filled? How is your spirit fed? How are you strengthened for life? Do you have someone safe that you can share your life with? Your Chaplains and social workers can be of help in this area and are resources to you. Our door is always open — anytime, anywhere.

However this happens for you, make sure that you make (and take) the time to care of yourself (spiritually and emotionally). I have a poster on my door that says, "The task ahead of you is never as great as the power behind you." It is a visual reminder for me each day that with God's help, I can do the work that he has called me to do.

**"Deployed or not,
Soldiers and Airmen
need their spirit
tended to."**



Sgt. Eric W. Jensen

Sgt. 1st Class Marvin Beck visits with an attendee of the 'Guard Experience.' Potential North Dakota Guardsmen are given the opportunity to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) test and learn more about the benefits of joining the North Dakota Army National Guard.

'Guard Experience' Offers Incentives to Potential Future N.D. Guardmembers

By Sommer Brown
Recruiting and Retention Office

Since its inception in February, The Guard Experience has proven to be a successful recruiting program that teams recruiting assistants and recruiting and retention non-commissioned officers to identify individuals who are interested in joining the Army National Guard. Potential fu-

ture Guardsmen are encouraged to attend the event and register to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) Test.

The Guard Experience creates an opportunity to present the benefits of joining the National Guard to a group of potential Soldiers. Recruiters and traditional Guard members share their personal experiences, while young men and women listen and

learn about the National Guard.

"These events are an excellent opportunity for both parents and young adults to visit with traditional Guard members to really discover, first-hand, the true benefits of joining the North Dakota Army National Guard" said Master Sgt. Rashad Schaffner. "Parents are encouraged to attend the events with their children to become better informed about a major choice in their lives — their future."

The Guard Experience events are held in a professional setting, usually a hotel conference room or a storefront recruiting station. They include a recruiter led presentation, an opportunity to register for the ASVAB and to have questions answered over dinner (typically Sub sandwiches or pizza).

Those in attendance receive a backpack filled with school supplies, National Guard sporting equipment, a t-shirt and gift cards. Those who signed up to take the ASVAB test received a portable DVD player, iPod shuffle or a digital camcorder.

The Guard Experience was a pilot program created by National Guard Bureau that ran in certain pilot States Feb. 1 to May 25. During those dates, North Dakota recorded 410 attendees, 283 were interested in joining the Guard, 139 took the ASVAB test and 50 have already enlisted. Because of its success, North Dakota has chosen to continue the program on a state level with similar incentives.

The next Guard Experience will be held at the Comfort Inn in Bismarck July 7, 6:00 p.m.

North Dakota Air Guard Displays Simulator at Red River Valley Fair

By Capt. Penny Ripperger
119th Wing

The North Dakota Air Guard displayed an M-4 simulator ride at the Red River Valley Fair on June 13 through June 16.

Members of the community were invited to use the state-of-the-art simulator, which creates a realistic experience of operating various aircraft in the Air Guard.

Recruiters were available at the display to answer questions about the N.D. Air Guard and hand out free memorabilia.

"The simulator display at the Red River Valley Fair was a huge hit. We had close to 200 lead cards filled out, not to mention numerous news crews that received a turn in the simulator and did a live report right from our location. We will be busy following up on all the leads and all the appointments scheduled from the event. Overall, this event was a huge success," said Master Sgt. Troy Krabbenhoft, 119th Wing recruiter.

119th Wing recruiters, unit members and student flight volunteers also had the opportunity to draw in prospective recruits



Courtesy Photo

The Air National Guard Mobile Recruiting Unit (MRU) provides M-4 simulator rides that create a realistic experience of operating various aircraft in the Air Guard.

by challenging the crowd with a popular football toss game and shooting a t-shirt launcher.

The simulator will also be on display at the Minot State Fair July 22-26.

Southwestern Comfort

North Dakota's 818th Sappers Wind Down National Guard's Role in Securing U.S.- Mexico Border

Story and Photos by Sgt. 1st Class David L. Dodds
116th Public Affairs Detachment

Pfc. Joseph Kallenbach had never been this far south in his life.

Taking brief respite under a velvet mesquite, one of the few shrubs that provide good shade in this part of the Sonoran Desert, Kallenbach sat only a few feet from a conspicuous 12-foot high carbon-steel fence. The massive black barrier snakes for miles over the foothills of the Santa Rita Mountains like the iconic images of the Great Wall in China.

This marks the end of the line for the United States. But for many on the other side, the fence symbolizes a hurdle to a fresh, albeit illegal, start in a new land. Smugglers, too, see it as a major impediment to the lucrative clandestine drug markets of America.

All Kallenbach knew was that it's his mission to help the U.S. Customs and Border Protection guard that line so neither got their wish.

A native of Dickinson, N.D., Kallenbach is a member of the 818th Engineer Company (Sapper), which is headquartered in Williston, N.D., and has detachments in Dickinson and Hazen. About 50 Soldiers from the unit spent 20 days in June on the U.S.-Mexico border, in and around Nogales, building roads and making existing roadways safer for CBP agents.

"It's been a great experience; you can't ask for a better annual training," Kallenbach said. "I mean, living in North Dakota my whole life, it's been a bit of a culture difference down here."

The 818th took on the mission as part of its annual-training obligation for federal active duty. It was one of the last National



1st Sgt. Ken Miller and Capt. William Nels oversee work on a road project on the U.S. - Mexico border. Their unit, the 818th Engineer Company (Sapper), spent 20 days in Nogales, Ariz., extending roads and improving conditions for border patrol agents.

Guard units in the nation to muster on the border in support of Operation Jump Start, a mission directed by President Bush in May 2006 to bolster the ranks of the CBP as the agency transitioned to meet new homeland security demands.

That federal operation officially is slated to end July 15.

More than 17,000 National Guard Soldiers and Airmen, representing nearly all U.S. states and territories have contributed to OJS. The North Dakota Guard has supplied 177 Soldiers and 20 Airmen since the beginning of the operation, not including the 100 this summer.

"Pretty much whatever they need down here — we'll support it," said Capt. William Nels, commander of the 818th. "We've been asked to provide the personnel, knowledge and skills to be able to accomplish the mission."

Kallenbach and Pfc. David Walsh, also of Dickinson, were on a team of Soldiers that "grubbed and cleared" desert vegetation near the path of a new road about two miles west of Nogales. While bulldozers and dirt haulers massaged the road into shape, the grubbers used loaders and their bare hands to remove and haul trees and shrubs to a central location, where chainsaw crews turned it into tidy piles of 6- to 8-foot pieces.

Walsh says he's been to Arizona before, but never close enough to physically touch the nation's southern border.

And then there's the heat.

Spc. Jared Floodman, Williston, spent his days in the beating desert sun, installing guard rails along stretches of meandering border roads where steep inclines and drop-offs posed hazards.



“It was an excellent opportunity for our unit and our Soldiers to work with various agencies, such as the Border Patrol and also with other civilian personnel.”

- Capt. William Nels

“It’s a lot hotter down here. It gets up into the hundreds every day, but it’s a dry heat and not as humid,” Floodman said.

Like all good military leaders, the 818th noncommissioned officers preached water consumption to their Soldiers. Despite daily temperatures hovering between 95 and 105 degrees and having no time to get properly acclimated, the 818th suffered only one minor heat-related injury while in Arizona.

Walsh said most Soldiers didn’t need much prompting from the NCOs to drink water.

“You want to stay hydrated,” he said. “It’s just the common-sense thing to do.”

Aside from installing guard rails, grubbing and pushing dirt, the 818th Soldiers placed special matting and “silt fences” along the roadsides for erosion control and installed new cattle guards and light covers on border trails.

Spc. Alex Evanson, Williston, appreciated getting to use several different types of heavy equipment during his time on the border.

“Back at the unit, a lot of times, you only have two days to do everything,” Evanson said. “That doesn’t give us enough

time. So, if you really want to get some hands-on training this is the best time to do it.”

1st Sgt. Ken Miller, Golden Valley, N.D., the top enlisted Soldier of the 818th, said he liked the professionalism and enthusiasm with which his Soldiers handled the variety of work sent their way.

“We are combat engineers, not horizontal (road construction) engineers, so to see these guys out on those dozers and moving dirt was a pretty good deal,” Miller said.

Staff Sgt. Jared Sherven, Hazen, said being away from North Dakota and doing important work for the CBP was a welcome change for the unit after years in a row spent at Camp Grafton, N.D., for its annual training.

“This may get us away a little bit from our primary mission (as combat engi-

neers), but it gives the guys a chance to relax and do something different and break up the monotony,” Sherven said.

Another western North Dakota Guard unit, the 816th Engineer Company, headquartered in Dickinson with detachments in Mott and Hettinger, arrived in Yuma, Ariz., on June 21 for a similar 20-day stint in support of OJS.

Nels said the experiences of all 818th Soldiers in Arizona should help them in the future.

“It was an excellent opportunity for our unit and our Soldiers to work with various agencies, such as the Border Patrol and also with other civilian personnel,” Nels said. “And it gave us an opportunity to work in a new environment with the temperatures and a challenging terrain.”



Spc. Jared Munoz, 818th Engineer Company (Sapper), (middle) inspects the installation of a new guardrail on a road along the U.S.-Mexico border about two miles west of Nogales, Ariz. Pfc. Nyland Huck (foreground) and Spc. Travis Hansen were on a team of Soldiers that set the guardrails in place along points on the roadway where steep inclines pose hazards. The black U.S.- Mexico border fence is visible in the background.



Sgt. Amy Wieser Willson

Boats crowd the shore of Elmina, a fishing village just west of Cape Coast, Ghana, May 16. In the late 1400s, the city on the Gulf of Guinea was populated by Portuguese who sought to profit by trading gold, ivory and slaves there. Today, St. George's Castle stands on the shore as a bitter reminder of the past while the present plays out in the hustling of boats and sounds of fishermen making their livelihood off the shore.

Around the World

*Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk Visits
Guardsmen Deployed to Romania,
Ghana During 14-Day Trip*

*By Sgt. Amy Wieser Willson
Joint Force Headquarters*

North Dakota National Guard Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk, returned recently from a 14-day journey that took him to Germany, Romania and Ghana. These travels enabled him to meet with the commander of U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM) in Germany, observe North Dakota Air National Guard construction engineers working in Romania, and participate in several meetings and activities in Ghana.

“This trip was exceptionally successful. It allowed me to represent the North Dakota National Guard while discussing projects that mutually benefit both entities with the Ghanaian Chief of Military Defense for both the Army and Air,” Sprynczynatyk said. “We further developed the liaison relationships with the N.D. National Guard and Ghana to strengthen our partnership with Ghana.”

Since 2004, the North Dakota National Guard has developed a professional relationship with Ghana as part of the Department of Defense’s State Partnership Program. This program aligns states with



Courtesy Photo



Sgt. Maj. Kimberly Williams

Top, Airmen with the 119th Civil Engineering Squadron lay concrete at a fire station at Mihail Kogalniceanu Airfield Administration Center near Constanta, Romania.

Bottom, Maj. Gen. David A. Sprynczynatyk visits with Senior Airman Austin Roller and Senior Airman Jared Kuhn, both with the 119th Civil Engineering Squadron.

partner countries encouraging the development of economic, political and military ties.

Maj. Michael Holly and Command Chief Master Sgt. Bradley Childs accompanied Sprynczynatyk on the trip. Holly is the incoming North Dakota National Guard bilateral affairs officer in Ghana and Childs serves as the North Dakota Air National Guard's 119th Wing command chief.

The N.D. National Guard team met with Gen. William "Kip" Ward, commander of U.S. Africa Command, to discuss North Dakota's partnership with Ghana. Topics included the partnership's accomplishments, future objectives and increased cooperation.

Before flying to Ghana, the Guardsmen stopped in Romania, where 43 Airmen from North Dakota's 119th Civil Engineer Squadron were hard at work on building renovations, roof replacements and concrete work on Mihail Kogalniceanu (MK) Air Base near the Black Sea city of Constanta.

The 119th civil engineers were deployed for two weeks to the MK Airfield Administration Center near Constanta, Romania, as part of the annual Joint Task Force-East rotation. JTF-E is part of an ongoing commitment for U.S. forces to train and build enhanced relationships with Romania and Bulgaria.

Once in Ghana, North Dakota's delegation met with members of the Ghana Armed Forces and U.S. Embassy staff and also observed medical humanitarian assistance exercises as part of Exercise Shared Accord 2008. During the exercise, U.S. Armed Forces, including seven Airmen from the 119th Wing, trained with elements of the 6th Battalion, Ghanaian Army and assisted local villages in enhancing Ghana's security.

"During Shared Accord, I was able to reinforce the positive aspects of democratization and the importance of civilian control of the military," Sprynczynatyk said. "It was among the highlights of this trip, watching U.S. service members learn from the Ghanaians, who in turn gained knowledge of methods for enhancing their response during peace-keeping operations."

As the end of the 2008 fiscal year approaches, planning continues for next year's partnership activities with Ghana.





Guardian Snapshots



Fish Out of Water: Above, Staff Sgt. Scott A. Lewis, of the 164th Regional Training Institute, directs new recruit Austin Ackerman, of Jamestown, N.D., as he begins his initial in-processing with the North Dakota Army National Guard June 6 at the Armed Forces Reserve Center, Fargo. Ackerman was one of many recruits training in Fargo as part of Operation Summer Surge, a three-day event preceding travel to basic training or advanced individual training.

Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Wing



William Prokopyk, Joint Force Headquarters



Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Wing

Learning Experience: Above, Junior ROTC cadets get their blood pressure taken by 119th Wing members of the N.D. Air National Guard during a base tour designed to teach students about the Air National Guard on June 5th.

Suiting Up: Left, Sgt. Jason Horner, of the 81st Civil Support Team, puts on his Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) during a multi-agency emergency response exercise in Bismarck June 19. The exercise tested the coordination between the 81st CST and civilian emergency responders.

HOMeward BOUND

817th Engineer Company (Sapper) Returns From Iraq

Story and Photo by Sgt. Eric P. Jungels Jr.
141st Maneuver Enhancement Brigade



"I got off the plane and saw General Sprynczynatyk waiting at the bottom of the steps. That's when it hit me that we were home," said Sgt. First Class Robbie Hertz, the operations sergeant from the 817th Engineer Company (Sapper).

Hertz, of Jamestown, N.D., was one of 104 Soldiers welcomed home by Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk, North Dakota National Guard adjutant general, and other senior Guard members at Volk Field Air National Guard Base, Camp Douglas, Wis. The Soldiers were greeted as they stepped off two separate chartered aircraft, returning to United States soil after serving in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The North Dakota - based 817th Engineer Company (Sapper), made up of units from Jamestown, Edgeley, Wishek and Lisbon, spent nearly a year on the ground in Iraq conducting route clearance missions.

The unit patrolled and secured supply routes and other roadways, keeping them safe for friendly forces and Iraqi citizens by clearing them from the danger of improvised explosive devices and other hazards. This route clearance mission prevented insurgents from impeding movement of personnel, food and supplies. Units that conduct these types of missions are commonly referred to as "Trailblazers."

Nearly half of the mobilized Soldiers were part of the first full mobilization of Army engineers serving as Trailblazers when they deployed with the 141st Engineer Combat Battalion in December 2003.

"Many Soldiers of the 817th Engineer Company served honorably while deployed with the 141st Engineer Battalion, and they were highly commended for their strong commitment to

creating a safer Iraq," Sprynczynatyk said while announcing the unit's return to family members and friends of the mobilized Soldiers just days prior to their return. "Now, we prepare to welcome home these Soldiers and the many others that have joined them on this difficult but extremely successful mission."

Soldiers serving with the 817th Engineer Company come from nearly 40 cities across North Dakota, as well as some out-of-state areas. The unit is commanded by Capt. Craig Hillig, of West Fargo, N.D. The senior enlisted Soldier is 1st Sgt. Dave Huber, of Lemmon, S.D.

While deployed, the Soldiers detected and cleared 119 improvised explosive devices (IEDs), cleared 82,000 kilometers of roadway and conducted more than 575 combat patrol missions.

The unit began the demobilization process at Fort McCoy, Wis. upon reaching the Midwest in early June. Though nearly a third of the 817th Soldiers arrived at Fort McCoy days before the rest of the unit, all were expected to finish the demobilization process and return home to Jamestown together.

"We want to keep the unit intact," said unit administrative non-commissioned officer, Staff Sgt. Patrick Altringer. "We started this together — we want to finish it together"

Altringer, who felt the deployment went rather fast, said he wouldn't feel like he was home until he rejoined his wife, Nikki, and two sons in Jamestown. He and the other 817th Soldiers arrived home on June 7.

The North Dakota National Guard sent representatives to Fort McCoy to expedite the demobilization process to help ensure Soldiers would return to their families as soon as possible.

Patriot Games

Air Guard Detachment Trains at Camp Grafton

By Capt. Penny Ripperger
119th Wing

The Minot-based North Dakota Air National Guard Security Forces Detachment conducted their first heavy weapons and force-on-force training at Camp Grafton in Devils Lake on June 1-3.

The training was to ensure that the Airmen stay proficient in their security forces duties and maintain weapons qualification standards essential for performing missile field security at the detachment.

During the force-on-force exercises, security forces personnel divided into aggressor and defender teams in a simulated wartime scenario of a base attack. The Airmen used simulated rounds — ammunition similar to paintballs — to create a realistic combat environment.

Training included heavy weapons firing, which Airmen are required to complete once a year to remain qualified.



Staff Sgt. Francisco Gonzalez, of the 119th Detachment 2, leads the way through trees and smoke during a training exercise.



From right to left, Senior Airman Matt C. Llewellyn, Tech. Sgt. Nathan T. Anderson and Senior Airman Jennifer M. Lais, all of the 119th Wing Detachment 2 Security Forces Squadron, carefully approach a doorway during a simulated hostage rescue exercise June 2 at Camp Gilbert C. Grafton, Devils Lake.

Promotions, New Members and Retirements — March - June 2008

Promotions - Army

Colonel

Col. Steven A. Tabor

Lieutenant Colonel

Lt. Col. Brad D. Bekkedahl
Lt. Col. Stacey A. Smith

Major

Maj. Brent A. Doll

Captain

Capt. Walyn S. Vannurden

First Lieutenant

1st Lt. Darrin R. Anderson
1st Lt. Anthony A. Bryant
1st Lt. Blake M. Seibold
1st Lt. Rachael L. Walters

Chief Warrant Officer

CW4 Duane A. Jahner
CW4 Gregory J. Morford

Master Sergeant

Master Sgt. Gregory J. Anderson
Master Sgt. Keith J. Brown
Master Sgt. Keith L. Knudson
Master Sgt. Michael J. Luhman

Sergeant First Class

Sgt. 1st Class Robert J. Buzick
Sgt. 1st Class Scott D. Gainsforth
Sgt. 1st Class Bruce D. Gensburger
Sgt. 1st Class Brett J. Gentile
Sgt. 1st Class Jesse D. Handegard
Sgt. 1st Class Brandon J. Helsing
Sgt. 1st Class August W. Honeyman
Sgt. 1st Class Steven V. Kilde
Sgt. 1st Class Brett J. Nelson
Sgt. 1st Class Jonathan G. Schmalz
Sgt. 1st Class Traver W. Silbernagel
Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth A. Weber
Sgt. 1st Class Craig D. Zimmer

Staff Sergeant

Staff Sgt. Amos E. Bickel
Staff Sgt. Jory D. Buchweitz
Staff Sgt. Christopher M. Clemens

Staff Sgt. Allan D. Decker
Staff Sgt. Amy R. Everson
Staff Sgt. Christopher D. Foy
Staff Sgt. Jennifer R. Gowan
Staff Sgt. Brent M. Haley
Staff Sgt. Deitra D. Harr
Staff Sgt. Steven P. Hoikkala
Staff Sgt. Charles J. Holzer
Staff Sgt. Heather A. Jansen
Staff Sgt. Corey M. Jiras
Staff Sgt. Joey W. Johnson
Staff Sgt. Scott C. Kelsch
Staff Sgt. Rayce L. Loritz
Staff Sgt. Christopher G. Mauch
Staff Sgt. Stacey R. Ness
Staff Sgt. Amy G. Omlid
Staff Sgt. Justen D. Reed
Staff Sgt. Lisa K. Reeff
Staff Sgt. Rose A. Schwind
Staff Sgt. Joseph P. Terveen
Staff Sgt. Jennifer L. Vender
Staff Sgt. Chad A. Worrel
Staff Sgt. Ralph B. Yester Jr.

Sergeant

Sgt. Gareth D. Almbreg
Sgt. Joshua A. Backstrom
Sgt. Samuel R. Barta
Sgt. Colton E. Belmore
Sgt. Bradley A. Benton Jr.
Sgt. Jonathan M. Blazek
Sgt. Stephanie A. Burdick
Sgt. Joshua R. Churchill
Sgt. Gregory J. Doll
Sgt. Paul K. Drabus
Sgt. Jorge O. Elizondo
Sgt. Robert A. Falk
Sgt. Trillitye R. Finlayson
Sgt. Jill A. Fischer
Sgt. David W. Fredriksen Jr.
Sgt. Delicia J. Glaze
Sgt. Dominique K. Gourneau
Sgt. Jeremy W. Greenstein
Sgt. Nicole C. Halvorson
Sgt. Stuart A. Hammer
Sgt. Sean C. Hanson
Sgt. Brent A. Havelka
Sgt. Lindsey A. Hellman
Sgt. Ryan M. Hildebrandt
Sgt. Neil A. Horner
Sgt. Dellen D. Irmen

Sgt. Dustin D. Jordahl
Sgt. Eric P. Jungels Jr.
Sgt. Michael P. Koushkowski
Sgt. Kerri A. Kuznia
Sgt. Paul D. Mausehund
Sgt. Jill M. McGough
Sgt. Hillary M. Mehrer
Sgt. Joseph M. Newman
Sgt. Jacob A. Norikus
Sgt. Joel P. Oneil
Sgt. Adam M. Pribula
Sgt. Todd L. Radenz
Sgt. Andrew M. Rohrich
Sgt. Joseph R. Sagaser
Sgt. Kalli J. Swenson
Sgt. Jordan J. Ternes
Sgt. Ashley N. Timian
Sgt. Amber M. Triebold
Sgt. Drew A. Vinchattle
Sgt. Matthew J. Walslad
Sgt. Cody J. Wilhelm
Sgt. Jeffrey L. Wilmer

Specialist

Spc. Peter J. Belgarde
Spc. Ryan D. Broyles
Spc. Justin J. Butler
Spc. Larrie C. Cherrey Jr.
Spc. Andrew R. Cordova
Spc. Cody A. Deile
Spc. Michael A. Denault
Spc. Brandon W. Doyle
Spc. Lance L. Engberg
Spc. Dustin J. Engebretson
Spc. Leroy L. Filler
Spc. Kevin L. Gemar
Spc. Sondra J. Gillespie
Spc. Brandon L. Grindall
Spc. Danny J. Gross
Spc. Gerald W. Hawk Jr.
Spc. Whitney J. Hay
Spc. Dustin L. Hayenga
Spc. Christopher L. Jensen
Spc. Michael G. Jordheim
Spc. Dana L. Keller
Spc. Jared J. Kempel
Spc. Kenneth E. Loepp
Spc. Gregory J. Marshall
Spc. Kyle L. Messer
Spc. Michael R. Milbrett
Spc. Jared P. Nygaard

Spc. Adam C. Obrien
Spc. Mitchell S. Pedersen
Spc. Benjamin D. Peterson
Spc. Dustin B. Pfeifle
Spc. Keith J. Pic
Spc. Kenneth M. Quast
Spc. Amanda F. Reed
Spc. Darrick W. Reese
Spc. Diana M. Reese
Spc. Joshua J. Schmidt
Spc. Aaron L. Schober
Spc. Kacey L. Thielbar
Spc. Jose A. Toribio
Spc. Daniel R. Triebold
Spc. Tyler F. Villarreal
Spc. Kyle M. Votava
Spc. Robert C. Webster
Spc. Melinda D. Wendel
Spc. Ted H. Werre
Spc. Daniel J. Wieland

Private First Class/Private

Pfc. Todd J. Michael Bailey
Pfc. Kayla J. Beutler
Pfc. Seth D. Bowman
Pfc. Zebadiah R. Follman
Pfc. Christopher M. Franco
Pfc. Michael S. Gedrose
Pfc. Jordan H. Gehlhar
Pfc. Anthony W. Harris
Pfc. Christopher D. Hickey
Pfc. Clinton D. Jensen
Pfc. Danielle L. Kern
Pfc. Mathew M. Klein
Pfc. Scott R. Klein
Pfc. Ashley D. Kromrey
Pfc. Adam C. Lalim
Pfc. Desirae A. Lauinger
Pfc. Shayla M. Longie
Pfc. Trent K. Maetzold
Pfc. Marc T. Montplaisir
Pfc. Lamar J. Murchison
Pfc. Derek B. Nelson
Pfc. Donald J. Olson
Pfc. Aaron J. Pitcher
Pfc. Nicholas M. Pritchard
Pfc. Steven R. Ramsden
Pfc. Christopher G. Richter
Pfc. Gregory J. Schaff
Pfc. Jared S. Schwanke
Pfc. Jonathan M. Shaw
Pfc. Jamison E. Smestad
Pfc. Michelle R. Smith
Pfc. John B. Spooner
Pfc. Jared L. Sundby
Pfc. Sumner L. Valleen
Pfc. Joseph C. Warren
PV2 Luke J. Abell
PV2 Kyle A. Anderson
PV2 Leah M. Bartholomay
PV2 Joshua E. Becker
PV2 Dominique P. Mic Campagna
PV2 Jarred L. Campos
PV2 Scott M. Douglas
PV2 Skyler S. Duffy
PV2 Robert M. Dunwoodie
PV2 Brady R. Eggiman
PV2 Shana D. Emery
PV2 Christopher J. Eppler
PV2 Ryan E. Gendron
PV2 Lindsey C. Gerszewski
PV2 Austyn L. Haider
PV2 Aaron M. Hallof
PV2 Stuart R. Hauge
PV2 Allen R. Hecker
PV2 David R. Hooge
PV2 Jordan J. Jesser-Markwardt
PV2 Travis D. Johnson
PV2 Michael B. Koska
PV2 Sarah J. Koste
PV2 Daniel R. Kusler
PV2 Derrick J. Lafountain
PV2 Andrew C. McGough
PV2 Duel D. Mord
PV2 Edward J. Nuckols
PV2 Jose J. Pasillas
PV2 Patricia L. Peterson
PV2 Ashley A. Porter
PV2 Kale S. Rorvik
PV2 Bryce A. Rost
PV2 Amanda J. Schumacher
PV2 John P. Sharpfish
PV2 Colton R. Shoults
PV2 Kevin P. Sponsler
PV2 Chance L. Stewart
PV2 Travis A. Sundeen
PV2 Nathan J. Svihovec
PV2 Mitchell G. Swenning
PV2 Benjamin V. Swenson
PV2 Zachary T. Tesky
PV2 Jerry R. Velek
PV2 Aubriana M. Wolf

New Members - Army

Sgt. 1st Class Robert J. Goldade
Sgt. Joshua S. Brown
Sgt. Wilmer J. Honeyman
Sgt. Cody D. Pourier
Spc. Joshua R. Bechtle
Spc. Anthony T. Bergalowski
Spc. Jason T. Degenstien
Spc. Nathan A. Hathaway
Spc. Alicia J. Holmen
Spc. Jonathan P. Jorgensen
Spc. Cole H. Lamontagne
Spc. Nathan D. Landmark
Spc. Kent A. Schafer
Spc. Christopher H. Spangler
Spc. Jeremy J. Worrell
Pfc. Sara J. Aberle
Pfc. Kayla J. Beutler
Pfc. Seth D. Bowman
Pfc. Torai M. Boxley
Pfc. Brent P. Freese
Pfc. Justin L. Heuer
Pfc. Allison J. Huber
Pfc. Clinton D. Jensen
Pfc. Jason E. Kent
Pfc. Christopher M. Leclair
Pfc. Samantha J. Longfeather
Pfc. Trent K. Maetzold
Pfc. Joshua A. Monreal
Pfc. Marc T. Montplaisir
Pfc. Brandin A. Nelson
Pfc. Brady A. Rudnik
Pfc. Gregory J. Schaff
Pfc. Matthew A. Schooler
Pfc. Jared S. Schwanke
Pfc. Kacie L. Thompson
Pfc. Joseph C. Warren
PV2 Shadrach Luther Daniel Aho
PV2 Jacob M. Aisenbrey
PV2 Leah M. Bartholomay
PV2 Patrick T. Becker
PV2 Dominique Paul Mic Campagna
PV2 Dana H. Dickinson
PV2 Robert M. Dunwoodie
PV2 Brady R. Eggiman
PV2 Christopher J. Eppler
PV2 Lawrence D. Eviitt
PV2 Lindsey C. Gerszewski
PV2 Allen R. Hecker
PV2 Jordan J. Jesser-Markwardt
PV2 Kurt N. Kittelson
PV2 Jacob A. Knain
PV2 Michael B. Koska
PV2 Scott E. Lindquist
PV2 Evan J. Maesterson
PV2 Nathan L. Miller
PV2 Zachary T. Miller

PV2 Todger D. Morrow
PV2 Edward J. Nuckols
PV2 Austin A. Ohlhauser
PV2 Larry T. Rozmarynowski
PV2 Colton R. Shoults
PV2 Kevin P. Sponsler
PV2 Chance L. Stewart
PV2 Benjamin V. Senson
PV2 Kalli R. Thompson
PV2 Dylan J. Zimprich
PV1 Nicholas T. Breazile
PV1 Taylor S. Brown
PV1 Michael E. Campbell
PV1 Elise G. Crider
PV1 Dawn Marie Dalle Jesse
PV1 Christopher N. Dobransky
PV1 Matthew J. Edwards
PV1 Chance J. Fredrickson
PV1 Christopher M. Garrison
PV1 Robert A. Goeke
PV1 Raelynn B. Haugen
PV1 David D. Holderman
PV1 Cayden A. Holmes
PV1 Brody M. Hutton
PV1 Paul R. Johnson
PV1 Josef N. Kerr
PV1 Timothy P. Knudson
PV1 Lindsay J. Lowman
PV1 Nathan A. Lund
PV1 Eliza E. Mcglone
PV1 John T. Meager
PV1 Sean A. Monteith
PV1 Michael D. Moore
PV1 Spencer C. Newton
PV1 Ivan A. Nychporuk
PV1 Eli S. Peters
PV1 Brett C. Pierce
PV1 William Kelle Posey Spencer
PV1 Michael P. Renner
PV1 Alexander Rodriguez
PV1 Aaron M. Roll
PV1 Andrew S. Sand
PV1 Anthony R. Severs
PV1 Skylar M. Schaefer
PV1 Kris M. Schaller
PV1 Anthony James Alle Scheen
PV1 Bradley P. Sherman
PV1 Felicia R. Sherman
PV1 Derek H. Shimek
PV1 Tony B. Sims
PV1 Mitchell E. Spottedhorse
PV1 Kevin W. Stautz
PV1 Christopher A. Stenvold
PV1 Denver A. Twesten
PV1 Johnathan W. Walker
PV1 Cole Ferguson Weston Ashley

Promotions - Air

Lieutenant Colonel

Lt.Col. Darrin K. Anderson

Major

Maj. Jerrad A. Krapp

Captain

Capt. Nathan D.G. Herman

First Lieutenant

1st Lt. Jason D. Olheiser

Chief Master Sergeant

Chief Master Sgt. Monte E. Bachmann
Chief Master Sgt. Leah M. Terry

Senior Master Sergeant

Senior Master Sgt. Justin C. Odegaard
Senior Master Sgt. Susan R. Schroeder
Senior Master Sgt. Robert W. Schultz

Master Sergeant

Master Sgt. James S. Erickson
Master Sgt. Gregory S. Goodman
Master Sgt. Wayne R. Hendrickson
Master Sgt. James A. Kemmer
Master Sgt. Laura J. Taylor
Master Sgt. Jay D. Twesten

New Members - Air

Master Sgt. Eric R. Card
Tech. Sgt. Toby J. Eiter
Tech. Sgt. Patrick E. Sommer
Staff Sgt. Andrew C. Hanson
Staff Sgt. Mark A. Lewis
Senior Airman Gregory P. Byer
Senior Airman Terry M. Davis
Senior Airman Briana E. Ford
Senior Airman Antoinette M. Luna
Senior Airman Jessica R. Nelson
Senior Airman Kurt A. Petrowske
Senior Airman Francisco D. Raatz
Senior Airman Blake A. Royal
Airman First Class Seth E. Allen
Airman First Class Justin R.P. Bankers
Airman First Class Paul W. Bartton
Airman First Class Nickolas J. Boe
Airman First Class Travis J. Brown

Tech Sergeant

Tech. Sgt. Erik W. Behrens
Tech. Sgt. Thomas R. Brummer
Tech. Sgt. Charlie R. Dobson
Tech. Sgt. Jeremy S. Ekre
Tech. Sgt. Luke R. Gardiner
Tech. Sgt. Kimberly A. Karlen
Tech. Sgt. Eric J. Nilson
Tech. Sgt. Greta S. Pollard
Tech. Sgt. Robert L. Robinson
Tech. Sgt. Kuahtemoc I. Rodriguez
Tech. Sgt. Jeremy E. Roering
Tech. Sgt. Amy D. Strand
Tech. Sgt. Kimberlee A.K. Sorcie

Staff Sergeant

Staff Sgt. Wayne M. Baumbach
Staff Sgt. Jeremiah A. Boehler
Staff Sgt. Mandi R. Hagen
Staff Sgt. Mallory M. Michaelson
Staff Sgt. Shawn P. Muehler
Staff Sgt. Elise H. Peterson
Staff Sgt. Tanner R. Sundet
Staff Sgt. Matthew S. Swandal
Staff Sgt. Andrew W. Teigen
Staff Sgt. Robbie M. Wyum

Senior Airman/Airman

Senior Airman Benjamin C.D. Brown
Senior Airman Jennilyn E. Moore
Senior Airman Clare M. Olson
Airman First Class Jason R. Miller

Airman First Class Lacey B. Bunkelman
Airman First Class Ashley M. Jefferson
Airman First Class Garrett T. Johnson
Airman First Class Cody J. Lewis
Airman First Class Gregory K. Metcalf
Airman First Class Casey J. Pritchard
Airman First Class Rachel K. Salquist
Airman First Class Jonathon M. Wefen
Airman First Class Gerald L. Woessner
Airman Basic Christopher M. Barnes
Airman Basic Tucker B. Beechie
Airman Basic Katherine E. Davenport
Airman Basic Jessica L. Evans
Airman Basic Aderyl R. Hoag
Airman Basic Adam J. Houkom
Airman Basic Jenna K. Palczewski
Airman Basic Steven S. Schwartz

Retirements

Air

Master Sgt. Darin D. Roesler
Lt.Col. Bryon E. Thom
Capt. Gregory E. Wohl

Army

Maj. Jeffri S. Jones
Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffery A. Berg
1st Sgt. Lee A. Frieese
Master Sgt. Robert J. Dorneman
Master Sgt. Dean D. Nodland
Master Sgt. Darrel D. Pfaff
Master Sgt. Allen D. Saeman
Sgt. 1st Class John D. Czapiewski
Sgt. 1st Class Larry A. Krogstad
Sgt. 1st Class Roger A. Nelson
Staff Sgt. Steven L. Connelly
Staff Sgt. John M. Gourde
Staff Sgt. Larry A. Trapp
Staff Sgt. Warren L. Vanbruggen
Sgt. Michael P. Schilousky
Sgt. James L. Wegner
Sgt. Jacob D. Wolf
Spc. James A. Koch

Appointments - Army

2nd Lt. Ryan A. Boom
2nd Lt. Travis W. Hackey
1st Lt. Jeffrey A. Hoffer
2nd Lt. Randy A. Jahner Jr.
2nd Lt. Anthony J. Kessel
2nd Lt. Quaya R. Schock
2nd Lt. Cory R. Sickle
1st Lt. Jerod E. Tufte
2nd Lt. Jason P. Wood
WO1 Robert J. Dorneman
WO1 Adam A. Eichele
CW2 Jolene M. Lipp



By Sgt. Jonathan Haugen, 116th Public Affairs Detachment

Tribute: Sgt. 1st Class Mary Jo Jangula (Left), Sgt. Thomas Lawler and Sgt. 1st Class Jesse Handegard fold the U.S. flag, signifying the end of the 1-188th Air Defense Artillery Memorial Road March on June 6. The flag folding ceremony is typically done at a funeral for presenting to the deceased's loved ones. On this occasion, the tradition was to honor the anniversary of the deaths of Sgt. Travis Van Zoest and Cpl. Curtis Mehrer.