

Important Dates in the North Dakota National Guard's Involvement in the Global War on Terrorism

Sept 11, 2001 – 3 **North Dakota Air National Guard** F-16 fighter jets scrambled from the 178th Fighter Squadron's detachment at Langley Air Force Base, Va.

Following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks - the North Dakota National Guard, by order of the president, assumed the airport security mission and reported for duty across the nation. The National Guard carried this mission for eight months, with up to 8,200 Soldiers on duty in Title 32 (active-duty as a Guardsman) status, before transferring responsibility to the newly established Transportation Security Administration. During that time, the North Dakota National Guard effectively deterred threats and restored public confidence in air traffic security.

Sept. 11, 2001-Oct. 10, 2006 – The **North Dakota Air National Guard** flew at least two sorties daily across the U.S. in support of the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT)

Oct. 7, 2001 - Operation Enduring Freedom began in Afghanistan

Fall 2001 – firefighters from the **119th Wing's Civil Engineer Squadron** mobilized for four months to Bagram, Afghanistan; numerous deployments would follow for them, including Kuwait and Balad, Iraq

Feb. 28, 2002, - Oct. 2002 – three 45-day rotations of 13, 13 and 18 Airmen from the **119th Wing's Security Forces Squadron** mobilized to Bahrain

2002 – four Airmen with the **119th Wing's Civil Engineer Squadron's** Emergency Management deployed to Bahrain for four months

2003 - two Airmen with the **119th Wing's Civil Engineer Squadron's** Emergency Management deployed to Iraq

Jan. 16, 2003 – **957th Engineer Company (Multi-Role Bridge)** receives an alert for a potential mobilization; they would leave less than 4 weeks later (Feb. 12, 2003) for Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.; they left for Kuwait on April 23, 2003, and returned home about a year later, on April 18, 2004

Jan. 30, 2003 – **142nd Engineer Combat Battalion** (630 Soldiers) received an alert for a potential mobilization; they would leave for Fort Carson just 8 days later; they left for Kuwait on April 9-10, 2003; they were officially welcomed back home on May 15, 2004

Jan. 30, 2003 – **Company A, 141st Engineer Combat Battalion** mobilized to support Operation Noble Eagle; they would serve until November 2004 at the Minot and Grand Forks Air Force bases

Feb. 3, 2003 – **3662nd Maintenance Company** received an alert for a potential mobilization; less than 3 weeks later (Feb. 27), they left for Fort Riley, Kan., where they would stay until July 2003 to support the GWOT with 75 Soldiers

Feb. 4, 2003 – **133rd Quartermaster Detachment** (20 Soldiers) received an alert for a potential mobilization; they left a month later (March 6) for Fort McCoy, Wis., but were home by May 2003 due to changing mission sets

Feb. 5, 2003 – **131st Quartermaster Company** (47 Soldiers) received an alert for a potential mobilization and reported to Fort Lewis, Wash.; as global missions changed, their mission ended May 2003

Feb. 14, 2003 – **132nd Quartermaster Company** received an alert for a potential mobilization; they left for mobilization station (Fort Lewis, Wash.) on March 18 but were demobilized on May 21, 2003

Feb.-March 2003 – 13 Airmen with the **119th Wing's Security Forces Squadron** mobilized to Bulgaria

March 12, 2003 – **129th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment** received an alert for a potential mobilization and later reported to Fort Riley, Kan.; they were released from federal active duty on July 12, 2003

March 19, 2003 - Operation Iraqi Freedom began in Iraq

April 27, 2003 – **142nd Engineer Combat Battalion** entered Iraq at midnight local time, becoming the first North Dakota unit in the country for the war; they arrived at LSA Anaconda at 11:59 p.m. local time the next day. They returned home nearly a year later, on April 3, 2004.

July 22, 2003 – Spc. Jon P. Fettig was killed and Spc. Brandon Erickson (**957th Engineer Company**) seriously wounded when their convoy was ambushed north of Baghdad

July 2003 – 15 NDNG Soldiers mobilized to Bosnia and Herzegovina, supporting SFOR 14, until April 2004

Nov. 6, 2003 – **Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Company B and Company C of the 141st Engineer Combat Battalion, along with Company B and Company C of 164th Engineer Combat Battalion** (480 Soldiers) received an alert; the 164th's companies would become Company A of the 141st for the deployment, with the mobilization orders coming on Nov. 28, 2003, and federal active duty starting for the battalion on Dec. 18, 2003

Jan. 24, 2004 – Staff Sgt. Kenneth Hendrickson and Sgt. Keith Smette (**957th Engineer Company**) were killed when an improvised explosive device (IED) struck their vehicle near Fallujah, Iraq

Feb. 2004 – 5 NDNG Soldiers mobilized to Kosovo as part of KFOR5B peacekeeping operations supporting Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team; they returned in Aug. 2004

March 1, 2004 – **Battery F, 1st Battalion, 188th Air Defense Artillery Regiment** (100 Soldiers) was alerted for a possible mobilization; they mobilized for Iraq in December 2004 and returned to ND in December 2005

April 21, 2007-May 15, 2007 – 17 with the **119th Wing's Maintenance Squadron** deployed to Balad, Iraq, in support of Duluth's F-16 mission

May 3, 2004 – Spc. James Holmes (**Company C, 141st Engineer Combat Battalion**) was wounded by an IED and then evacuated to Germany, where on May 8, 2004, he died of his wounds

May 8, 2004 – Spc. Phil Brown (**Company B, 141st Engineer Combat Battalion**) is killed in action by an IED near Samarra, Iraq

May 19, 2004 – 1st Sgt. Kevin Remington (**957th Engineer Company**) is awarded a Silver Star medal for his actions in extracting the body of Spc. Fettig and evacuating Spc. Erickson from the kill zone of an ambush on July 22, 2003; he also received the Bronze Star with "V" Device for valor; he's the only NDNG member to receive a Silver Star during GWOT

June 25, 2004 – **Detachment 42 Operational Support Airlift** (8 Soldiers) was alerted for a possible mobilization; they later mobilized on Sept. 12, 2004, and arrived at their mobilization station (Fort Bliss, Texas) six days later; they arrived in Afghanistan on Oct. 6, 2004, and returned to the U.S. on March 10, 2005

Sept. 22, 2004 – Staff Sgt. Lance Koenig (**Company B, 141st Engineer Combat Battalion**) was killed by an IED south of Tikrit, Iraq

Nov. 4, 2004 – Spc. Cody Wentz (**Company A, 141st Engineer Combat Battalion**) was killed by an IED and Spc. Philip A. Sorenson was seriously wounded and evacuated from Iraq to Germany

Nov. 4, 2004 – **119th Security Forces Squadron** Airmen mobilized to Iraq, returning March 15, 2005

July 2005 – **1-112th Command Aviation Battalion** (23 Soldiers) mobilized for Operation Noble Eagle, Bosnia; they departed Bismarck for the mission via three UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters

April 18, 2005 – 122 Soldiers with **Company A, 164th Engineer Combat Battalion** (115 Soldiers) were alerted for mobilization; their mobilization orders came on June 20, 2005, and they mobilized on Aug. 5, 2005; Trailblazer operations (clearing roadways of IEDs and other obstacles) began in Iraq by mid-November and they returned home on Nov. 10, 2006

May 6, 2005 – about 50 **119th Wing** Airmen began a series of volunteer assignments supporting U.S. Air Force missions around the world; during the following two weeks, individual and small-team assignments took place in Iraq and several other nations in southwest Asia and the Arabian Gulf region for Operation Iraqi Freedom

Oct. 2005 – **119th Wing Security Forces Squadron** Airmen mobilized to Iraq, returning in April 2006

November, 2005 – **1st Battalion, 188th Air Defense Artillery Regiment JLENS (Joint Land Attack Cruise Missile Defense Elevated Netted Sensors)** mobilized 39 Soldiers to Afghanistan; they arrived on Feb. 2, 2006, and returned home Feb. 8, 2007

Nov. 14, 2005 – **1/129th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment** (13 Soldiers) were alerted for possible mobilization for Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom; the mobilization orders came Jan. 12, 2006 and they left April 13, 2006, to support U.S. Central Command in Tampa, Fla., and DVIDS Hub in Atlanta, plus further deploying to Iraq, Afghanistan, Horn Of Africa, Saudi Arabia, Kyrgyzstan and Qatar. The unit returned July 2007 and transitioned to the 116th Public Affairs Detachment.

December, 2005 – **1st Battalion, 188th Air Defense Artillery Regiment SECFOR (Security Forces)** (152 Soldiers) mobilized for a security mission in Afghanistan; they arrived in March 2006 and returned April 3, 2007

2006 – 6 Airmen from the **119th Wing's Civil Engineer Squadron** deployed to Afghanistan as heavy equipment operators, clearing bomb-laden land for military base construction

May 23, 2006 – Spc. Michael Hermanson (**Company A, 164th Engineer Combat Battalion**) was killed in action in Iraq

June 6, 2006 – Sgt. Travis Van Zoest and Cpl. Curtis Mehrer were killed and Sgt. 1st Class Tim Wicks was wounded when an IED struck their vehicle in Afghanistan (**1-188th ADA SECFOR**)

Sept. 12, 2006 – Gov. Hoeven and Maj. Gen. Sprynczynatyk announce the largest transformation of the NDNG in more than 50 years; the changes allowed the NDNG to keep pace with the active Army's modular concept and provide better opportunities to ND Guardsmen

Sept. 29, 2006 – **Engineer Brigade, 34th Infantry Division** (45 Soldiers) was alerted for possible mobilization; they arrived in Iraq April 2007; they returned March 21, 2008

Oct. 12, 2006 – **119th Wing's Detachment 1**, which responded on 9/11, conducted a deactivation ceremony at Langley Air Force Base, officially ending the mission that began in 1998

Nov. 20, 2006 – **132nd Quartermaster Company** (21 Soldiers) was alerted for possible mobilization; they arrived in Iraq to support Operation Iraqi Freedom on July 5, 2007; they returned to ND on April 26, 2008

Nov. 20, 2006 – **164th Engineer Battalion Headquarters and Headquarters Company** (119 Soldiers) was alerted for possible mobilization; they mobilized for Iraq in September 2007 and returned to ND on May 3, 2008

Nov. 23, 2006 – Cpl. Nathan Goodiron is killed and Spc. Sam Floberg and Sgt. Claude O'Berry are wounded with an rocket-propelled grenade strikes their vehicle in Afghanistan (**1-188th ADA SECFOR**)

Nov. 29, 2006 – Cpl. Christopher Kleinwachter is killed in a vehicle rollover during military operations in Afghanistan (**1-188th ADA SECFOR**)

Dec. 26, 2006 – Lt. Col. Brad Derrig flew F-16 82-929 — the one he flew over the Pentagon on 9/11 — to McChord Air Force Base Museum in Tacoma, Wash. (**119th Wing**)

Jan. 23, 2007 – **1st Battalion, 188th Air Defense Artillery Regiment RAID (Rapid Aerostat Initial Deployment)** (39 Soldiers) mobilized for Afghanistan; they returned Jan. 24, 2008

Feb. 16, 2007 – **815th Engineer Company** and **817th Engineer Company** notified 104 Soldiers of potential mobilization; they arrived in Iraq on September 2007 they returned June 7, 2008

July 2, 2007 – an announcement was made that the **119th Wing** had flown its first remotely piloted aircraft, the MQ-1 Predator, from Hector Field in Fargo.

July 23, 2007 – **191st Military Police Company** (168 Soldiers) was notified of a possible mobilization; they mobilized to Iraq April 6, 2008, and returned home Jan. 14, 2009

2008 – 35 Airmen with the **119th Wing's Civil Engineer Squadron** deployed to Iraq

Nov. 18, 2008 – the **141st Engineer Combat Battalion** cased its colors for the last time during a ceremony in Valley City; the unit's lineage transferred to the **231st Brigade Support Battalion**

Feb.-March 2009 – 13 with the **119th Wing's Security Forces Squadron** mobilized to Kirkuk Air Base, Iraq

March 3, 2009 – **1st Battalion, 188th Air Defense Artillery Regiment RAID 3 (Rapid Aerostat Initial Deployment)** (39 Soldiers) mobilized to Afghanistan; they returned Jan. 29, 2010

April 2009 – **Detachment 42 Operational Support Airlift** mobilized 8 Soldiers to the Horn of Africa (Djibouti); they traveled throughout the area of operations until returning home Feb. 18, 2010

May-August 2009 – Two **NDANG C-21s** plus pilots and maintenance personnel deployed to Al Udeid Air Base (379th Expeditionary Wing) in Qatar

March 3, 2008 - Nearly 650 Soldiers from the ND Army National Guard were chosen as the lead element in a 2,200- member U.S. and international task force in Kosovo, with 40 Soldiers serving in Pristina and Sarajevo. Soldiers from numerous NDNG units mobilized for KFOR12 in Kosovo as part of Operation Enduring Freedom; they returned to ND the summer of 2010

Sept. 11, 2009 – **North Dakota Memorial to the Fallen in the Global War on Terrorism** was dedicated in Bismarck; watch the video at <http://www.ndguard.ngb.army.mil/jointforce/gwot/Pages/default.aspx>

Dec. 16, 2009 – **Company C, 2-285th Aviation Battalion** (47 Soldiers) mobilized to Iraq; they returned to North Dakota Sept. 28, 2010

Dec. 2009 – **1-188th ADA Sentinel Radar** departed for mobilization station supporting three missions. RAID-IV (39 Soldiers; Afghanistan) left for its mobilization station at Fort Hood, Texas, on Dec. 2, Sentinel Radar (25 Soldiers; Afghanistan) left for Fort Hood on Dec. 9; Sentinel Radar (8 Soldiers; Iraq) left for Fort Hood on Dec. 9; they all returned Dec. 2010

Oct. 12, 2010 – **188th Engineer Company (Vertical)** (162 Soldiers) received alert for possible mobilization; they mobilized Aug. 21, 2011

Nov. 2, 2010 – **835th and 897th Engineer Teams** received an alert for possible mobilization; they were removed from the alert status on June 3, 2011

April 18, 2011 - about 55 members of the Bismarck-based **1st Battalion, 112th Aviation Regiment (Security and Support)** received mobilization orders. Soldiers with this unit (1-112th) are expected to mobilize in September and provide aviation support for Kosovo Forces 15 (KFOR 15).