

DAKOTA PACK

MAGAZINE OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD • YEAR IN REVIEW 2012



YEAR IN
REVIEW
2012

We lost everything in a fire.



The Red Cross gave us hope. They showed us love and were very understanding and helpful during my tragedy.



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PHOTO AND STORY BY:
THE PEREZ FAMILY

On a cold January morning, Angelina and her family woke to a fire that within hours had destroyed their home. The American Red Cross was there with shoes, warm clothes and shelter that allowed her family to stay together. Your donations help the Red Cross respond to a home fire like Angelina's every 9 minutes.

Please donate now at redcross.org

American Red Cross



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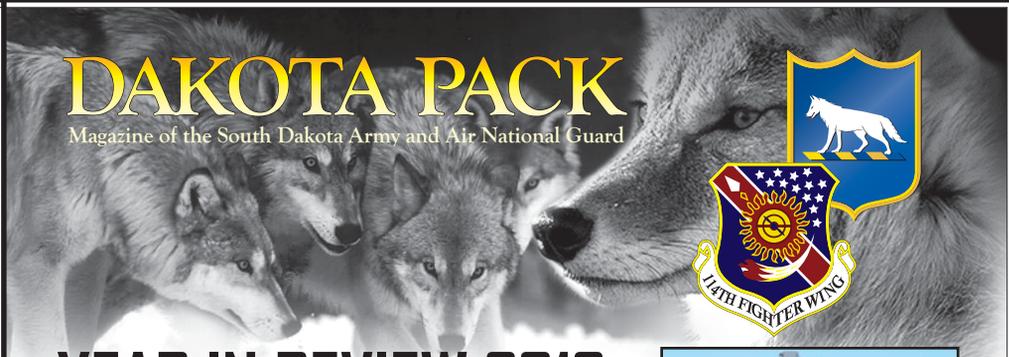
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Publisher Advertising Sales

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Distribution: Dakota Pack is published for all military service members, their families, civilian employees, veterans and retirees of the South Dakota National Guard. It is distributed through AQP, Publishing Inc. under exclusive written contract with a circulation of 5,500. It is also available at our web site: sdguard.ngb.army.mil.

How to reach us: Questions or comments for Dakota Pack should be directed to the South Dakota National Guard Public Affairs Office: 2823 West Main Street, Rapid City, SD 57702, phone: 605.737.6721, fax: 605.737.6290, email: ngsd-pao@ng.army.mil

Submissions: Print and photo submissions of general interest to members of the SDNG, their families, civilian employees, veterans and retirees are invited and encouraged. Please send article and photos with name, phone number, e-mail, complete mailing address and comments to: ngsd-pao@ng.army.mil or call 605.737.6978. Submissions are subject to editing. Electronic submissions are preferred and digital photos should be at least 300 dpi.



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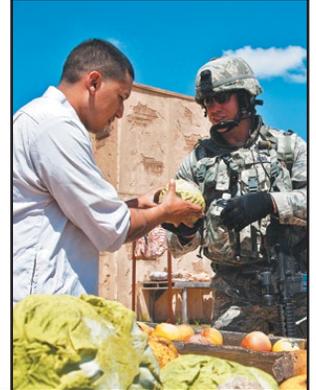
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South Dakota NATIONAL GUARD



THE PAST

With a proud 151-year heritage of serving as the state's militia, the South Dakota National Guard finds its origins dating back to 1862 as part of the Dakota Territory. Since that time, our National Guard units have served in nearly every major war or conflict since the Civil War.

The SDNG has seen combat during the Spanish American War, World War I and II, Operation Just Cause and Operation Desert Storm. Our National Guard was also called up during the Mexican Border Conflict, Korean War, Berlin Crisis and peacekeeping missions in Bosnia and Kosovo.

Since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the United States, each of South Dakota's 24 National Guard

communities has experienced a unit mobilization in support of Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, New Dawn and Noble Eagle. More than 6,500 Soldiers and Airmen have deployed in support of these operations and continue to deploy time and time again.

The National Guard is the only military component that holds a dual-mission consisting of both federal and state roles. The federal mission is to maintain trained and equipped units available for prompt mobilization for war or a national emergency. At the state level, the governor reserves the ability, under the Constitution, to call up members of the National Guard in times of domestic emergencies.

Throughout the years, natural disasters have called forth the Guard's spirit of teamwork and sacrifice to battle floods, fires, blizzards and tornado destruction. From the Rapid City Flood of 1972 to the 1998 Spencer Tornado to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005, and most recently the 2011 Missouri River Flood, the SDNG has helped fellow South Dakotans and Americans in times of need.

The proud heirs of the militia tradition can be found in the men and women of today's SDNG. They stand ready to leave the comforts of home and family to help their friends and neighbors, defend the nation's interests and bring peace and hope to people throughout the world.

THE PRESENT



Today's South Dakota National Guard remains strong with nearly 4,400 Soldiers and Airmen available to execute its dual-mission on the state and federal level. The Guard is now in 24 communities throughout South Dakota and is composed of 42 Army Guard units and 17 Air Guard units. These units perform a variety of missions; everything from command and control, administration, engineering, field artillery, transportation, logistics, communications, maintenance, aviation, public affairs, military police, firefighting and medical.

The Guard is no longer a strategic reserve to the active component, but an operational force directly integrated into active-duty deployments and missions. The force structure of the SDNG is designed to meet the needs of the future force; giving the Guard an enhanced capability to respond in times of emergencies and

natural disasters and to support of the Global War on Terrorism.

The SDNG had a significant impact on South Dakota's economy with more than \$180.6 million in expenditures and wages last year. The SDNG is also one of the largest employers in the state with more than 960 full-time employees, along with nearly 3,400 traditional Guard members who train on a part-time basis while pursuing a career or civilian education. These full-time employees, along with state employees and civilian contractors, work to assist the traditional Guardsman by providing administrative, training and logistical support. This support collectively goes into helping units meet mobilization and readiness requirements.

The Army Guard has four major command headquarters and they remain strong with nearly

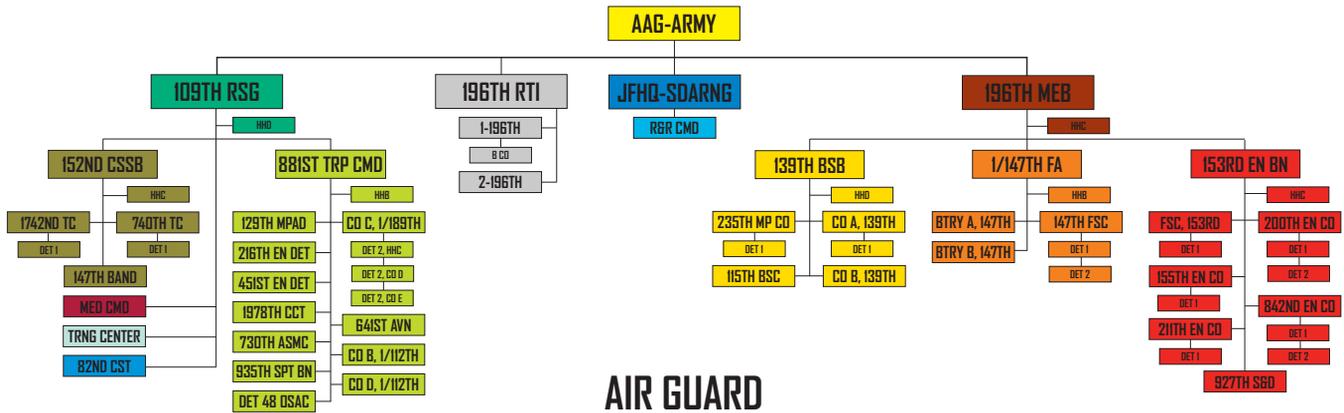
3,300 Soldiers available for state and federal missions. The nerve center for the Army Guard is at the state headquarters at Camp Rapid in Rapid City, an 84-acre training site first developed in 1924.

The Air National Guard is located on the southeast corner of Joe Foss Field in Sioux Falls. It has nearly 1,100 Airmen assigned to its headquarters and the 114th Fighter Wing to provide ready units for state and federal missions.

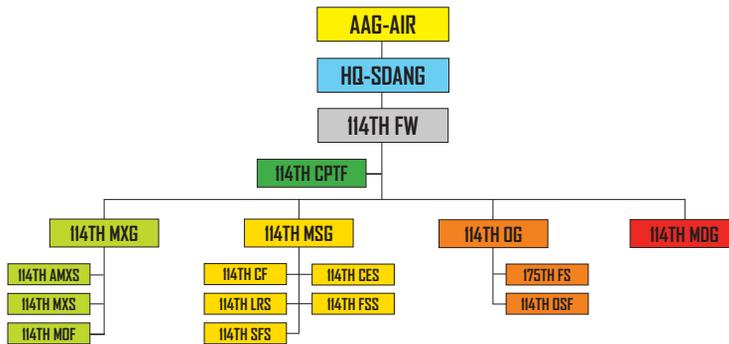
The SDNG is divided into different task forces to provide assistance to our local communities throughout the state in the event of an emergency. Separated by geographical regions, units are assigned to each task force providing personnel and equipment for response to severe weather, fires, natural disasters, search-and-rescue operations, civil disturbances or homeland defense.

UNIT COMMAND STRUCTURE

ARMY GUARD



AIR GUARD



ECONOMIC IMPACT

FEDERAL INVESTMENT

South Dakota Army National Guard

▪ Military Pay & Allowances:	\$ 65,229,000
▪ Operations & Maintenance:	\$ 49,455,284
▪ Military Construction:	\$ 1,471,006
Total Army Guard Expenditures:	\$116,155,290



South Dakota Air National Guard

▪ Military Pay & Allowances:	\$ 21,867,069
▪ Operations & Maintenance:	\$ 39,417,850
▪ Military Construction:	\$ 0
Total Air Guard Expenditures:	\$ 61,284,919
Total Federal Expenditures:	\$177,440,209

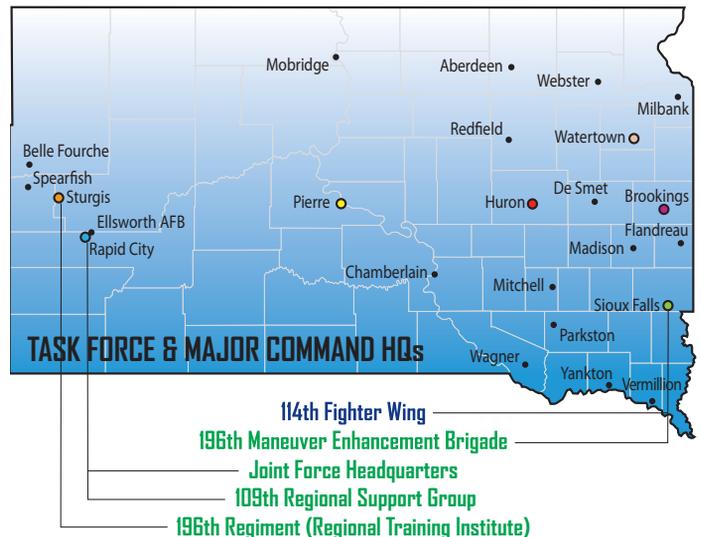


STATE INVESTMENT

	STATE FY12	STATE FY13
▪ Personnel Services (General Fund):	\$ 837,475	\$ 865,150
▪ Personnel Services (Other):	\$ 8,073	\$ 16,772
▪ Operating Expenses (General Fund):	\$ 1,933,141	\$ 1,926,586
▪ Operating Expenses (Other):	\$ 367	\$ 10,021
▪ Special Appropriation (General Fund):	\$ 469,565	\$ 568,160
Total State Expenditures:	\$3,248,621	\$3,386,689

TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT: \$180,688,830

COMMUNITY LOCATIONS



- Task Force 881
- Task Forces 109 & Air
- Task Force 147
- Task Force 153
- Task Force 139
- Task Force 196 & 114

SOUTH DAKOTA NATIONAL GUARD LEADERSHIP

ARMY



AIR



Gov. Dennis Daugaard
Commander-in-Chief



MG Tim Reisch
The Adjutant General



BG Craig Johnson
Army Assistant Adjutant General
Commander, JFHQ-SDARNG



BG Theodore Johnson
Director of the Joint Staff



BG Wayne Shanks
Air Assistant Adjutant General
Commander, HQ-SDANG



CW5 Darla Crown
State Command Chief Warrant Officer



CSM Susan Shoe
State Command Sgt. Major



BG Matthew Jamison
Chief of Staff



CCMSgt. James Welch
SDNG Senior Enlisted Leader/
State Command Chief Master Sgt.



COL Kevin Griese
Commander - 196th MEB



COL Bill Freidel
Commander - 109th RSG



COL John Holter
Commander - 196th Regiment



COL Russ Walz
Commander - 114th Fighter Wing

THE YEAR IN REVIEW



2012 was a historic year for the South Dakota National Guard, as it marked 150 years of service to the state and nation and celebrated its Jan. 27, 1862, birth date of the organization's formation. With a proud 151-year heritage of serving as the state's militia, the South Dakota National Guard finds its origins dating back to 1862 as part of the Dakota Territory.

Since that time, South Dakota National Guard units have served in nearly every major war or conflict since the Civil War, as well as provided assistance to the state in times of domestic emergencies such as floods, fires, tornadoes and winter storms.

That lineage of service continued in 2012, with more than 500 Soldiers and Airmen from seven units returning from overseas deployments.

In another historic milestone, the U.S. withdrew its military forces from Iraq by Dec. 31, 2011. Returning home from their role in support of Operation New Dawn was the Army Guard's 139th Brigade Support Battalion and Company C, 1st Battalion, 189th Aviation Regiment.

Additionally, the 200th Engineer Company, Detachment 48 Operational Support Airlift Command, 451st Engineer Detachment (Firefighting Team) and the 842nd Engineer Company returned from duty in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The Army Guard deployed about 40 Soldiers from three units to Kuwait and Afghanistan in support of OEF: the 927th Survey and Design Team, Detachment I, Company B, 935th Support Battalion and the 1978th Contingency Contracting Team. The Air National Guard also saw the deployment and return of 30 114th Security Forces Squadron personnel from Southwest Asia in support of OEF. To date, the SDNG has deployed more than 6,600 Soldiers and Airmen in support of the Global War on Terror.

On the home front, the South Dakota National Guard had a busy year supporting emergency managers, law enforcement, and incident commanders throughout South Dakota. The highlights included providing aviation fire suppression and base camp support on 17 fires beginning in early March and through the middle of September. The Guard totaled 216 flight hours in support of these fires, almost six times the amount for an average year.

In late July and early August, the Guard provided criminal analysis and aviation support during the Hells Angels' USA Run in Spearfish and the Motorcycle Rally in Sturgis. Also, the 82nd Civil Support Team conducted "air monitoring" during the Motorcycle Rally in Sturgis that provided air quality information to local and state officials. Throughout the month of July, the Guard assisted with recovery efforts of the North Carolina Air National Guard C-130 that crashed while supporting the White Draw Fire near Edgemont. Throughout FY12, the Guard provided 360 personnel that supported 27 mission assignments for a total of 935 mandays.

In June, the Army Guard hosted its 28th Annual Golden Coyote training exercise in the southern Black Hills. More than 2,000 service members from 37 units representing 17 states and six foreign nations participated in the exercise, where they took advantage of quality training opportunities in support of overseas contingency operations and homeland defense.

This year, the Air Guard's 114th Fighter Wing celebrated the 20th anniversary of its official conversion to flying the F-16 Fighting Falcon. The F-16 is the seventh fighter aircraft flown by the Air Guard in its 66-year history. After two years of training in the new Block 40 F-16s, the 114th Fighter Wing once again declared itself fully mission capable. In June, the 114th validated their mission readiness through an intense four day Operational Readiness Exercise at Joe Foss Field in Sioux Falls, which simulated actions the unit would undergo upon mobilization for federal service, deployment to an overseas operating location and the execution of combat missions.

The Army Guard welcomed a new assistant adjutant general in October. Brig. Gen. Craig Johnson took over for Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Marlette, who retired after 32



years of service. The Air Guard also welcomed a new general in October, as Col. Matthew Jamison was promoted to brigadier general as the Air Guard's Chief of Staff. In another historic first, Command Chief Master Sgt. Jim Welch became the first Air Guard top senior enlisted leader to the adjutant general. Welch succeeds State Command Sgt. Maj. Larry Zimmerman, who retired after 28 years of service.

A few Army Guard units also received newer equipment in 2012. The 842nd Engineer Company received four new IZOM motorized road graders in May, equipped with modern technology to provide better handling and capabilities for engineer construction projects in missions overseas and emergency operations at home. Company C, 1-189th Aviation Regiment received its first L-model UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Rapid City, which provides an enhanced capability for air crews combating wildland fires and other support missions. The L-model Black Hawk increases the operational load capacity of the aircraft through improved engines, transmission and flight controls.

In April, the Army Guard announced it would relocate six units throughout the state. The unit relocations were a result of federal budget cuts, U.S. Army restructuring and the construction of a new Regional Readiness Center in Watertown. Restationing ceremonies were held for units from Winner, Platte, Salem and Miller, as well as the reflagging of Yankton's Charlie Battery, 1-147th Field Artillery Battalion, to Bravo Battery, Redfield and Webster units will relocate this coming year. The SDARNG will go from being stationed in 24 communities to 22.

Construction also continued on the new Watertown Readiness Center. The new \$25 million, 80,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art training facility is scheduled to open in the spring. The readiness center will replace the existing armory built in 1958.

2012 marked the sixth year of the South Dakota and Suriname State Partnership Program. Engagements continued this year with 17 significant exchanges, including leadership visits, military police training, domestic emergencies and natural disaster response management training and women in the military workshop.

The South Dakota Guard received numerous awards in 2012, once again distinguishing itself as one of the top Guard organizations in the nation. The Air Guard's 114th Comptroller Flight received top honors winning the Financial Services Office of the Year Award for outstanding achievement, mission impact and management of financial resources.

The Army Guard received the Partner of the Year award from the Rocky Mountain Region of the U.S. Forest Service for their 27-year partnership and support to the Black Hills National Forest. The Army Guard's Construction and Facilities Management Office won the Fred Aron Award for being the best-performing facilitator's program in the nation for military construction program execution, financial management, budget estimates and energy management.

The Air Guard was announced as the recipient of the NGB's Excellence in Diversity Award for the unit's outstanding promotion of programs that support a diverse workforce. The Guard Counterdrug Program's Civil Operations Team was awarded the Secretary of Defense Community Drug Awareness Award for its effort in promoting support of outreach and prevention programs within its communities. And finally, both the Army and Air Guard were awarded a Governor's Safety Award for excellence in workplace safety and health. The awards recognize South Dakota employers with better than average safety records.

As the South Dakota National Guard looks forward to the future, never in its history has it been better trained, better equipped or more heavily relied upon than they are today. As more than 500 additional Soldiers and Airmen prepare for deployment in the coming year, the South Dakota National Guard continues its legacy and tradition as a force ready to support and defend its communities, state and nation.

GOLDEN COYOTE

The South Dakota National Guard hosted the 28th Annual Golden Coyote training exercise in the Black Hills June 9-23, 2012. The two-week training exercise has developed into one of the nation's top training opportunities for the National Guard, Reserve and active duty forces, as well as military personnel from seven allied countries. The exercise continues to provide relevant training opportunities in support of overseas contingency operations and homeland defense missions.

Working in cooperation with the National Forest Service, Custer State Park and Native American reservations, the Golden Coyote exercise offers military units the opportunity to conduct combat support missions in a realistic training environment. In addition, it provides service members the training necessary to offer valuable services to the local communities.

Golden Coyote 2012 involved more than 2,000 service members, from 21 Army National Guard units, 15 Army Reserve units, one Naval Reserve unit and six allied countries, including 134 soldiers from Australia, Canada, Denmark, Great Britain, New Zealand and Suriname. Throughout the exercise, 15 engineer projects were executed, 3,565 Soldiers were trained on seven different warrior training lanes, 297 Soldiers were combat life saver certified and 34 Soldiers were certified in field sanitation. In addition, there was a tremendous amount of training in medical, chemical, transportation, signal, aviation, military police and quartermaster units. Medical training included scenarios with Life Flight from Rapid City Regional Hospital, which gave the medical corps advanced training, which they do not receive on a regular "home front" basis. Another integral portion of the exercise, through the Innovated Readiness Training Program, is the firewood haul mission. This mission transported 95 loads of firewood delivered to Native American reservations for use as a heat source through the South Dakota winter. These missions provide an invaluable experience for the Soldiers, while helping to improve the forest and overall infrastructure of many local communities. In addition to these real-life training opportunities, Soldiers are provided opportunities to participate in numerous warrior training tasks and battle drills, such as urban combat operations, land navigation, first aid, combat life saver certification, leadership reaction course, the Virtual Combat Operations Trainer, the HMMWV Egress Assistance Trainer and multiple convoy operations.



IRT PROGRAM



The Innovative Readiness Program provides hands-on readiness training opportunities while providing a direct benefit to communities. The program is built upon the long-standing tradition of the National Guard acting as good neighbors at the local level in applying military personnel to assist worthy civic and community needs.

IRT/community projects completed in 2012 included engineer companies from the Army Reserve and Army National Guard successfully completed road maintenance in and around Custer State Park. The road maintenance enhanced various areas, improved several miles of roadway, and enhanced travel management and fire trail improvement in Custer State Park and the Black Hills. The scope of work consisted of spot graveling, gravel placement and correction of drainage issues.

The 155th Engineer Company completed bridge work, re-decking a bridge on the Michelson Trail.

Various road and trail closures took place throughout the Black Hills in order to help the Forest Service with rehabilitation efforts.

Service members re-shingled several Custer State Park buildings, improved several miles of fire trail resulting in ease of access for fire fighting vehicles and equipment and removed and installed new foot bridges that were in need of repair.

Various small scale construction and repair projects for the Black Hills National Forest and Custer State Park were also completed.

STATE PARTNERSHIP

The National Guard State Partnership Program was established in 1993 in response to the radically changed political-military situation following the collapse of communism and the disintegration of the Soviet Union. Authorities questioned how the National Guard, having provided the United States with strategic credibility during the Cold War, could continue to be relevant in an era when defense of the Fulda Gap in Germany was no longer a driving force behind America's national defense strategy. Building partner capacity throughout the world has become a key effort in international relations. As a result, the SPP has become one of the most effective and cost efficient programs to have a lasting impact in building enduring relationships with our foreign partners.

The South Dakota-Suriname SPP was formally established in August 2006 to develop mutually beneficial partnerships between the two entities. The partners were selected based upon similarities in culture, population size, land mass, agricultural-based economies and lack of language barriers. Size and capabilities of the respective militaries also played a role in determining a proper fit. Over the years, the partnership between South Dakota and Suriname has become a model partnership in cooperation on how to effectively work together by building relationships at the highest levels. This commitment by leadership has translated into success at the Soldier and Airman level.

In 2012, participants included key leaders throughout South Dakota and Suriname governments. Exchanges involved staff and NCO professional development, women in the military, communications and instructor assessments, military police, joint operations center development, and disaster consequence management.

Fourteen significant exchanges were conducted last year between Suriname and South Dakota, including the adjutant general and senior leadership visit to Suriname as one of the most significant.



COUNTERDRUG

Counterdrug and civil operations provides support, as requested, to local, state and federal law enforcement agencies, schools and community-based organizations. Full-time National Guard Counterdrug Soldiers and Airmen serve in positions as instructors, analysts, staff, mechanics and aviators.

In 2012, the Civil Operations Team visited 57 schools, working with more than 11,500 students, spreading a drug-free message and the dangers of drugs and alcohol. The team played a vital role in the success of Red Ribbon Week, having more than 60 schools participate, conducting 43 aerial photo flyovers and having approximately 16,500 students pledged to live their life "drug free."

In 2012, the Civil Operations Team received the Secretary of Defense Community Drug Awareness Award at the Pentagon. Counterdrug's educational outreaches through Red Ribbon Week activities have a direct impact on youth and adults within our states. Events such as tying a red ribbon onto the dinosaur on Dinosaur Hill, the Mayor's Rally at Halley Park and the billboard design contest and parade put the South Dakota Counterdrug Program in the national spotlight for the third consecutive year.

Counterdrug Aviation assists local, state and federal law enforcement agencies by providing aerial reconnaissance, photography, communication, FLIR and night sun capability for missions involving the detection and disruption of drug trafficking, drug use and eradication throughout the year, flying up to 500 hours a year to accomplish this mission.

The Criminal Analyst team works collaboratively with the aviation team and law enforcement to provide link analysis, document exploitation, commodity-financial analysis and case construction. Currently, criminal analysts are assigned at the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Division of Criminal Investigation and Drug Enforcement Agency, but are able to assist law enforcement at any level reviewing and analyzing collected information and providing legal, paralegal and auditing assistance.

Counterdrug's Substance Abuse Team's mission is deterrence. The Substance Abuse Team, in conjunction with unit prevention leaders, provide the testing and education to members of the South Dakota Army and Air National Guard to deter the abuse of illegal drugs in support of the TAG policy on drug use.



SERVICE MEMBER & FAMILY SUPPORT

Service Member & Family Support values the support and contributions of our families, employers and volunteers across the state. The success of the South Dakota National Guard relies on its military members, their families and the volunteers that support them.

The SMFS staff not only benefits service members and their families, veterans and employers, but we also have a positive impact on a unit's morale and readiness.

The SMFS provides support by helping bond National Guard service members, their families and employers together to promote a sense of camaraderie, aiding families in understanding the mission of the SDNG and the reward for belonging, and by informing and educating service members, their families and veterans about activities and resources available to them.

In 2012, the SDNG's family assistance staff made 7,266 outreach contacts to military families and service members of South Dakota and responded to 8,560 inbound cases. The top three requests for support for the year were military retirement, TRICARE and ID cards. Outreach is contact initiated from the family assistance staff. The information pushed out is customized resources, education and support options specific to the needs of our families.

Family Readiness staff conducted 45 training events with more than 450 volunteers, service and family members in attendance. The primary focus of training was teaching volunteers and military members to manage family readiness groups at the unit level to support commanders in creating ready and resilient families.

The Child & Youth Program impacted more than 2,300 military youth through youth leadership symposiums and the S.D. Military Youth Camp, the Youth Council and recognition of Month of the Military Child in April. The Child & Youth Program also provided training to the community and partnered with Operation Military Kids and the Military Child Education Coalition to provide information and resources regarding our S.D. military youth.

The Yellow Ribbon Program had nine SDNG units in 2012 deploying or returning from deployment. The Yellow Ribbon team provided 19 events in 2012: two pre-mobilization events, seven 30-day reintegration events, five 60-day awareness/well-being events and five family events. We provided information and resources to more than 1,298 service members and their families in 2012.

Post Deployment Health Re-Assessments were conducted for 310 Soldiers with follow-up and referral support for 132 Soldiers. For the year, the program has supported approximately 69 appointments to the VA. We are hoping to help more Soldiers by giving them another option for care. Beginning in June 2012, we have been taking steps to develop the South Dakota Coalition for Military Families. The coalition will be a partnership between the military and community providers.

Military Funeral Honors supported 818 veterans' funerals.

Military OneSource conducted 30 events and 56 direct supports.

Finally, military and family life consultants provided counseling and referral assistance to a multitude of service and family members, participated in every Yellow Ribbon event and conducted presentations at family readiness group meetings and unit trainings all across South Dakota.

South Dakota Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve's volunteers provided 5,497 hours of support to our Reserve component members and their employers, impacting 3,108 employers and 5,983 service members. SD ESGR fielded 1,767 USERRA requests for service and mediated seven USERRA cases; 564 employers signed statements of support and 756 employers were recognized with the Patriot Award. REI Corporation received the Pro Patria Award and Citi was a Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award winner.

Within SMFS, two RTA courses and eight resiliency training events were conducted with more than 380 civilian and military attendees. More than 3,000 SDNG service members conducted an eight-hour suicide prevention stand down along with 90 service members going through the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training class and an additional three service members received the ASIST Train-the-Trainer qualifications.

Survivor Outreach Services provided support to more than 165 survivors in S.D. in 2012. Family members were provided assistance with accessing survivor benefits such as SBP, TRICARE, TOP, education, SGLI, VA services, bereavement and behavioral health counseling, employment assistance and other entitlements.

The Transition Assistance Advisor provided support to service members at their mobilization station during the demobilization process, coordinated support with various veterans' agencies, supported several Yellow Ribbon events and provided support to 2,900 Soldiers, Airmen and their families. The TAA also assisted countless numbers of veterans and retirees with getting assistance with the benefits and entitlements that they earned.

South Dakota Airmen and family programs supported more than 90 military members and their families at Yellow Ribbon events and continued to serve more than 1,100 Airmen and their families of the SDANG.



HQ-SDANG

SIoux FALLS/JOE FOSS FIELD

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL – BG WAYNE SHANKS
 CHIEF OF STAFF – BG MATTHEW JAMISON
 COMMAND CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT – CCM JAMES WELCH

The Headquarters for the South Dakota Air National Guard is located on the edge of Joe Foss Field in Sioux Falls and is a critical element for the governor and the adjutant general in ensuring all units of the 114th Fighter Wing are poised to respond to both state and national emergencies.

With 27 assigned members, the main focus of the HQ SDANG is state emergency response to protect life and restore essential services during natural disasters, civil disturbances and other significant emergencies. HQ SDANG is a part of Joint Forces Headquarters, which combines the previously separate Army and Air National Guard headquarters into a joint “command and control” activity that forges closer relationships between National Guard Bureau, the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the Joint Staff to improve Department of Defense access to National Guard capabilities. In accordance with policies and procedures established by the Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Air Force, JFHQ determines its capability to support homeland defense, defense support to civil authorities, and/or other domestic emergency missions in a State Active Duty, Title 32 or Title 10 status.

In 2012, HQ SDANG facilitated a joint Major Accident Response Exercise with the ARNG involving city, county and state emergency response agencies. This exercise improved communication and coordination among the involved agencies in preparation for future disasters.

During the 2012 Sioux Falls Air Show, staff provided support to the Mobile Emergency Operations Center, which coordinated more than 530 successful medical interventions. Key players in the Exercise Evaluation Teams for Operational Readiness Exercise, HQ SDANG members identified processes and recommended areas of improvement in addition to areas of strength. These results will ultimately strengthen the unit’s performance in an upcoming Operational Readiness Inspection. Finally, a detailed After Action Report was compiled on the 2011 Missouri River Flooding which serves as a benchmark for better joint operations in future domestic operations.



114TH FW

SIoux FALLS/JOE FOSS FIELD

COMMANDER – COL RUSS WALZ
 VICE COMMANDER – COL STEVE WARREN
 COMMAND CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT – CMSGT KEVIN UTHE
 FIRST SERGEANT – CMSGT RANDY WINGEN

Located on Joe Foss Field in Sioux Falls, the 114th Fighter Wing is made up of four groups: 114th Operations Group, 114th Maintenance Group, 114th Mission Support Group and the 114th Medical Group. Together, the units include more than 1,000 Airmen. Each of the groups provides vital contributions to ensure that the Wing achieves its mission to deploy worldwide and execute directed tactical fighter sorties to destroy enemy forces, supplies, equipment, communication systems and installations with conventional weapons.

Equipped with the F-16 Fighting Falcon, members of the 114th FW can mobilize within days to deploy this battlefield asset to a theater of war. The 114th FW brings a variety of military occupational and technical specialties to support the war fighter. These include essential services in administration, intelligence, training, logistics, aircraft and vehicle maintenance, communications, security, engineering, medical and many other support functions. Many of these skills and services also provide a valuable capability to the state in times of domestic emergencies or natural disasters.

The men and women of the 114th FW are extremely proud of what they accomplished this past year. The contributions and sacrifices extend to the far reaches of the globe supporting Operations Enduring Freedom, New Dawn and Noble Eagle, as well as helping the citizens of South Dakota in times of need.

The 114th FW deployed 59 members in support of combat operations in five different countries providing

highly trained Airmen to meet combatant commanders’ objectives. This included 30 members of the 114th Security Forces Squadron that were mobilized for six months in support of Operation Enduring Freedom requirements in Southwest Asia. Overall, the unit members represented this unit, state and nation with the utmost professionalism.

The 114th spent two Unit Training Assemblies executing major Operational Readiness Exercises. During the first ORE, the unit generated F-16s, and processed cargo and hundreds of personnel. During the next ORE, they were flying wartime Air Tasking Order sorties in an intense chemical warfare environment. This was accomplished with hard work and great attitudes, which will help with preparation for the Operational Readiness Inspection in two years.

The conversion to Block 40 F-16s created an enormous workload over the past two years for maintenance and logistics professionals. Getting this fleet of 22 aircraft to ‘Lobo’ standards took a thorough, detailed effort. It is a culture of excellence like this throughout the Wing that certainly led to the 114th Fighter Wing winning the 2011 South Dakota Safety Council’s Award of Honor and the William W. Spruance Safety Award, the highest safety award presented to an Air National Guard flying unit. The 114th FW was further recognized as the recipient of the 2011 Air National Guard Excellence in Diversity Award. The 114th Comptroller Flight received the 2011 Financial Services Office of the Year Award for the Air National Guard.

Citizen-Airmen eagerly served their fellow citizens through extensive and invaluable community volunteerism. They continue to be recognized as one of the top community corporate donors to the Sioux Falls Community Blood Bank. Airmen further mentor “at risk” middle school students, serve at the community banquet and support the collection and distribution of school supplies for local students.



114TH MSG

SIOUX FALLS/JOE FOSS FIELD

114TH MISSION SUPPORT GROUP

COMMANDER – LTC EDWIN VANDERWOLDE
FIRST SERGEANT – MSGT KENNETH GRUNEWALDT

114TH FORCE SUPPORT SQDN

COMMANDER – CPT SALLIE KETCHAM

114TH CIVIL ENGINEER SQDN

COMMANDER – MAJ BRENT POST
FIRST SERGEANT – MSGT MICHAEL CLAUSON

114TH SECURITY FORCES SQDN

COMMANDER – MAJ JOSEPH HARDIN
FIRST SERGEANT – MSGT CHAD OXENDER

114TH LOG. READINESS SQDN

COMMANDER – MAJ LONNY REESE
FIRST SERGEANT – MSGT SHAWN GREER

114TH COMMUNICATIONS FLIGHT

COMMANDER – MAJ KEVIN MILLER

THE 114TH MISSION SUPPORT GROUP'S mission is to direct the activities of the 114th Civil Engineer Squadron, 114th Logistics Readiness Squadron, 114th Security Forces Squadron, 114th Force Support Squadron and the 114th Communications Flight toward the overall missions and objectives of the 114th Fighter Wing. The MSG and its associated squadrons and flights consists of 313 personnel that provide the support structure for the Wing's day-to-day operations, as well as training for their individual wartime tasking.

In addition, the 114th MSG maintains many of the required skill sets to provide assistance to the state of South Dakota when tasked by the governor in times of disaster or emergency. Significant events of 2012 within MSG consisted of maximum support of the July Power on the Prairie Airshow, upgrades to the inside and outside infrastructure of the base communications network, construction projects improving the aircraft parking ramp and base security and critical support for mobilization of Wing Airmen. In November, the MSG swept the Outstanding Airmen of the Year awards winning the Airmen, NCO and Senior NCO categories.

Base Contracting, a specific function within the 114th MSG, supported the 114th FW in 2012 with more than 50 contracting actions obligating more than \$1 million, not counting construction contracts. Construction project execution contributed another \$700,000 in spending.

THE 114TH CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON provides facility, crash-fire-rescue and emergency management support for the 114th Fighter Wing. The squadron



deployed 34 personnel to Oberammergau, Germany, in support of the NATO school. The squadron also deployed 12 personnel to Eielson AFB, Alaska, to conduct pit fire training and to support the base fire personnel. Pit fire training was also conducted by 16 personnel at Volk Field, Wis.

Squadron personnel played key roles in the preparation, execution and tear-down for the 2012 Airshow. Major Accident Response Exercises were conducted both by tabletop and a full-scale exercise. Squadron personnel participated in the preparation and execution of the base-wide Phase I and II Operational Readiness Exercise in June. Required squadron personnel received Hazmat recertification in conjunction with the Sioux Falls Fire Rescue Hazmat teams. Major improvements were completed on the aircraft parking apron and the Supply Gate security.

THE 114TH LOGISTICS READINESS SQUADRON

provides and directs supply, fuels, procurement, motor vehicle, and military and commercial transportation support for the Wing. The 114th LRS conducted extensive preparation for the Logistics Compliance Assessment Program inspection. Personnel reviewed all programs and processes to ensure compliance with Air Force regulations. The Material Management Section installed a new weapons racking system, improving the 114th Fighter Wing weapons accountability and inventory. The Material Management and Distribution Sections wrapped up the Block 40 Aircraft conversion. This was a painstaking two-year process, to which both sections provided outstanding support to effectively execute the transition to the new aircraft. Countless hours were provided to ensure accurate parts inventory was established and maintained.

The 114th LRS provided outstanding support to the 2012 Airshow. The Vehicle Maintenance Section provided vehicle support, and also reached out across the state by securing eight water buffalos from the SDARNG. These assets were critical to Airshow patron safety, providing easy access to free water. The Deployment Section ensured 67 Airmen were prepared and deployed in support of overseas contingencies and 276 Airmen in support of stateside training missions. The Fuels Section provided support to the 114th FW flying operation with 2,758 service calls, pumping more than 350,000 gallons of fuel.



THE 114TH SECURITY FORCES SQUADRON

deployed to supporting operations in the Middle East and Suriname. Deployed members in the Middle East conducted base security, while the Suriname mission was a mentor-based deployment, sharing ideas and tactics with the Surinamese. Training was also conducted at Volk Field, Wis., for more than 30 members of the base Ready Augmentee Team. Training consisted of weapons qualification on the M-4, M-9, M-203, M-240B and the M-249. The RAT is vital to the installation, as they are considered first responders to any major incident which may occur. The 114th SFS Training Section ensures these dedicated individuals are trained to Security Forces standards and able to respond to active shooter incidents, aircraft incidents, riot control and confrontation management. Weapons qualification and training was also conducted at Volk Field for most members of the 114th SFS. Qualification was conducted on all assigned weapons systems. While a large portion of the squadron was deployed to the Middle East, the remaining squadron members successfully worked through the Operational Readiness Exercises in June and the Airshow in July. Airshow support required the Security Forces Squadron to work with an additional 200 Wing personnel to ensure adequate security needs were met. Coordination was required among multiple law enforcement agencies and all branches of the military in order to secure the base for such a large influx of visitors. The Security Forces Squadron was also pivotal in working with the Major Accident Response Exercise just one month before the Airshow.

THE 114TH FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON provides cradle-to-grave support for Airmen throughout their entire career including enlistment, training, development, promotions, deployment, family assistance, retirement, food service, fitness and lodging.

Over the course of the year, all sections underwent extensive manpower studies with the exception of Recruiting and Retention. Then, beginning in the summer of 2012, planning began in preparation for the 2013 arrival of the Active Associate Unit, a Total Force Initiative. In August, the 114th FSS hosted Tops In Blue, the Air Force's premier entertainment showcase, who traveled to Sioux Falls to perform for area military

members, their families and the community after a short-notice dropout in their schedule. Staff Sgt. Katie Jo McGuire, a member of the 114th Civil Engineer Squadron, was traveling with the group. This past year also proved to be award winning for the Recruiting and Retention office. They received the Recruiting and Retention Service Award along with the Fiscal Year 2012 2nd Quarter Region II "Wing with the Top Accessions" designation. The 114th FW closed out the year at 98.6 percent end strength.

THE 114TH COMMUNICATIONS FLIGHT completed the Inside Plant and Outside Plant projects, which will provide increased current and future capabilities for the 114th FW Combat Information Transport System and provide redundancy between buildings for base network connectivity. Additionally, upgrades to fiber optic and copper cabling inside buildings have now standardized the 114th FW to meet the Air Force STIG communications requirements. The 114th Communications Flight also had an off-base communications infrastructure upgrade for our off-base connectivity to DISA which greatly enhanced warfighting capability for the 114th Fighter Wing. The 114th CF also deployed six personnel to Air Expeditionary Force combatant commands in direct support of Operation Enduring Freedom in two different locations.



114TH OG

SIoux FALLS/JOE FOSS FIELD

114TH OPERATIONS GROUP

COMMANDER – COL NATHAN ALHOLINNA

175TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

COMMANDER – LTC GREG LAIR

114TH OPERATIONS SUPPORT FLT

COMMANDER – LTC DAVID SCHELLINGER

The 114th OG exited a two-year conversion to the Block 40 F-16 in 2012. Maintenance responded in superb fashion for a very robust flying schedule culminating in a 460-hour month in August and a 3,550-hour year in September. The 114th OG fully integrated the Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing System, vastly increasing combat situational awareness. The unit also had numerous deployments and exercises as described below.

COMBAT ARCHER – Tyndall AFB, Fla., February 2012.

This air-to-air exercise validates live missile fire employment. The unit deployed eight jets and 121 personnel, flew 96 sorties, fired 20 missiles against full-scale drones and shot more than 3,000 rounds at an airborne towed gunnery target. In addition, they flew large force missions against dissimilar adversaries validating air-to-air tactics and employment.

NAVAL AIR WARFARE CENTER SUPPORT – Point Mugu Naval Air Station, Calif., and Albuquerque, N.M., March 2012.

The unit participated in a joint exercise with Naval Test Center, employing the AQM-37C, a high-altitude supersonic drone designed to test radar defenses and capabilities. They deployed two jets and 35 personnel and employed three missiles from 50,000 feet and at Mach 1.5. The SDANG is currently the only ANG unit involved in this exercise.

NORTHERN LIGHTNING – Volk Field, Wis., July 2012.

The unit participated in a two-week exercise involving up to 20 aircraft from five different units. This exercise provided great opportunity for large

force training against latest generation air and ground threats.

NORTHERN SENTRY – Upper Midwest, August 2012

The unit participated in a two-week exercise involving numerous aircraft types from different units. This air-to-air exercise over Lake Superior and Upper Michigan provided large force air-to-air training for pilots.

ELLSWORTH AFB, S.D. – September 2012

The unit deployed six jets and 95 personnel to Ellsworth AFB where they flew long-range, live weapon strikes to the Utah Test and Training Range west of Salt Lake City. They successfully flew 50 sorties against extensive threat arrays, expending 55 live bombs on realistic range targets.

AEROSPACE CONTROL ALERT – Riverside ARB, Calif.

South Dakota pilots currently sit on alert duty in California while the California ANG begins an aircraft transition. Pilots sit on 24/7 alert for seven days at a time. They will begin flowing South Dakota F-16s to Riverside and assume full responsibility for the alert site. In addition, they planned and flew two exercises, utilizing local Civil Air Patrol light aircraft as targets, validating alert tactics and employment.

MISSION TRAINING CENTER – Burlington, Vt.

The unit deployed 30 pilots over three, one-week deployments to a high-fidelity, fifth-generation, linked simulator training facility. This training complex provides advanced large force air-to-air and air-to-ground training against maximum number and robust threat arrays and provides invaluable combat training.

114th OG commissioned their first two female pilot candidates, in the pipeline to become S.D. F-16C pilots. Lieutenants Valerie Vanderostyne and Shanon Davis are currently midway through Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training at Sheppard AFB, Texas. They will next proceed to F-16C Basic Course training before returning to S.D. in 2014.

With the conversion completed, the unit is full steam ahead generating and flying training and combat sorties. 2013 is shaping up to be possibly the busiest and most challenging year on record with major deployments scheduled to RED FLAG at Nellis AFB, Nev., and Davis Monthan AFB, Tucson, Ariz., in preparation for an overseas deployment in Summer 2013.



114TH MDG

SIoux FALLS/JOE FOSS FIELD

114TH MEDICAL GROUP

COMMANDER – COL MARK MALMBERG
FIRST SERGEANT – MSGT TIMOTHY STARK

The 114th Medical Group has some of the finest military medical professionals assigned to its roster. With 47 members, the 114th MDG has a mission to provide limited health services to the 1,038 members of the SDANG. With physicians, nurses, medics, lab technicians, dental, optometry, bio, public health and other medical professionals, the 114th MDG assures that Airmen are ready to deploy anytime, anywhere.

During the last year, the 114th MDG accomplished 233 physicals, 40 occupational health exams, 390 dental exams, 280 eye exams, delivery of 45 pairs of glasses and inserts, 47 hearing tests, ANAM testing 60, 1,413 immunizations, 961 WEB HA assessments, 585 lab draws, 18 shop visits – done by bio and public health and 965 annual personal health assessments.

The 114th MDG was directly involved with worldwide deployments of 80 Airmen to multiple and very diverse areas. This required 80 pre- and post-deployment assessments, compliance with multiple reporting instructions and unique immunization regimens.

Bio accounted for 22 routine industrial surveys, 103 quantitative fit tests on industrial respirators, 53 quantitative fit tests on military gas masks, 51 ventilation surveys accomplished quarterly, and 21 special surveys for noise dosimetry, air sampling and X-ray surveys.

The MDG immunized 99 percent of the SDANG personnel, far exceeding the goal of 95 percent. Dental went above and beyond their goal of 90 percent of dental readiness by reaching 95 percent of the force.

Airmen of the 114th MDG are exceptionally hard working, have a great work ethic and take tremendous pride in their work. Individually and collectively, they put forth outstanding efforts during 2012.



114TH MXG

SIoux FALLS/JOE FOSS FIELD

114TH MAINTENANCE GROUP

COMMANDER – COL JOEL DE GROOT
DEPUTY COMMANDER – LTC EDWIN VANDERWOLDE

114TH MAINTENANCE SQDN

COMMANDER – MAJ SCOTT RUST
FIRST SERGEANT – SMSGT JEFFERY VANDERWOUDE

114TH AIRCRAFT MAINT. SQDN

COMMANDER – MAJ KELLY PETERSON
FIRST SERGEANT – SMSGT SCOTT LEEBENS

114TH MAINTENANCE SUPPORT FIT

COMMANDER – MAJ SCOTT RUST

The mission of the 114th Maintenance Group is to ensure that aircraft and equipment are safe, serviceable and properly configured to achieve mission requirements. The 114th MXG, composed of approximately 470 members, is organized into three assigned units: 114th Maintenance Squadron, 114th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and the 114th Maintenance Operations Flight. The professionals in the 114th MXG are tasked to inspect, repair, overhaul, modify, test and analyze the assigned aircraft and equipment and to ensure air worthiness and serviceability.

The beginning of 2012 marked the end of formal conversion to Block 40 F-16s. The 114th FW was considered fully operational in March. With an average fleet time of more than 6,500 hours, some of these airframes are nearing their projected service life of 8,000 hours. This confluence of service life and actual

flying hours has presented some unique challenges for the maintainers of the 114th.

Many of the airframe parts that were designed to last for the lifetime of the aircraft are now in need of replacement and have to be viewed as replaceable parts. With an unprecedented level of assistance from field engineers, many of the worn or corroded parts are being replaced or reworked to breathe new life into this aging airframe. Through airframe Time Compliance Technical Orders and avionics upgrades, the maintenance team is making a 25-year-old fighter even more lethal than the day it rolled off the assembly line. With upgrades like Beyond Line of Sight modification, new Advanced IFF, Modular Mission Computer upgrades and the Embedded GPS/INS modification to all aircraft accomplished last year, this year we have added HARM Tracking System pods and will add Sniper pods to enhance the capability of this weapons system.

2012 was also a productive year for the 114th FW flying program. The unit officially came out of conversion March 31 and managed to fly 2,321 local sorties and a total of 3,547 flying hours. The 114th supported Operation Noble Eagle, along with deployments to Point Mugu NAS, Albuquerque, N.M., and Ellsworth AFB, S.D.

The knowledge of the maintenance personnel continued to be recognized and valued Air Force-wide, as many of our Airmen were tasked to augment inspection teams, evaluate Operational Readiness Exercises and perform staff assistance visits.



JFHQ-SD

RAPID CITY

JFHQ COMMANDER – BG CRAIG JOHNSON
 DIRECTOR OF JOINT STAFF – BG TED JOHNSON
 CHIEF OF STAFF – COL THOMAS CROYMANS
 JFHQ DET. COMMANDER – MAJ ANTHONY DEISS
 FIRST SERGEANT – ISG JODY SMITH

Joint Force Headquarters, of Rapid City, is one of four major commands in the SDARNG, and is a critical element for all 41 units across the state; providing command and control of essential services in administration, intelligence, training, logistics, maintenance, communications, Soldier and family services and other support functions.

With more than 200 members assigned, the main focus for JFHQ is to support the nearly 3,300 members of the SDARNG, and to provide trained and equipped, ready forces capable of mobilizing and deploying in support of state and federal missions and conducting missions authorized by the governor and/or the National Command Authority.

The JFHQ was instrumental in providing command and control, personnel and coordination to the 28th annual Golden Coyote training exercise in June 2012. The unit worked diligently to support more than 2,000 military personnel from 37 units, involving 17 states and six foreign countries.



R&R BN

RAPID CITY

COMMANDER – LTC KORY KNIGHT
 COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR – CSM TERRY PAULSEN

The Recruiting and Retention Battalion, headquartered out of Rapid City, with recruiters in 25 communities throughout South Dakota, is tasked with the mission of recruiting and retaining quality Soldiers in the SDARNG. With 47 Soldiers and contractors throughout the state, the R&R BN continues to exceed the SDARNG's mission for recruiting the best and brightest into our ranks and retaining these Soldiers to keep our units at a high state of readiness.

The SDARNG has enjoyed phenomenal success in keeping our overall strength above 100 percent due to the hard work and dedication of the Soldiers and contractors in the R&R BN.

Additionally, the Recruit Sustainment Program, which falls under the R&R BN, trains and prepares new Soldiers for the rigors and challenges of Basic Combat Training before the Soldier "ships out" to ensure S.D. Soldiers are prepared for the demanding requirements.

The RSP familiarizes newly enlisted Soldiers with rank identification, drill and ceremony, the M-16 rifle, the Army Values, physical fitness and other aspects of the military.



196TH REGT

FORT MEADE/SIOUX FALLS

REGIMENT COMMANDER – COL JOHN HOLTER
 REGIMENT COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR – CSM PATRICK COUSER
 HEADQUARTERS CO COMMANDER – CPT EDWARD CROMWELL
 FIRST SERGEANT – ISG SCOTT ROSENKRANZ
 1-196TH COMMANDER – LTC KEITH WEBER
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR – MSG TODD BARTELS
 BRAVO COMPANY, 1-196TH COMMANDER – MAJ WYATT HANSEN
 2-196TH COMMANDER – LTC ORSON WARD
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR – MSG BROOKS SCHILD

The 196th Regiment (Regional Training Institute), located at Fort Meade, is one of the premier regional training institutes throughout the Army National Guard. The regiment maintains its status of "A Learning Institute of Excellence" by the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command and continues to be one of the nation's top training institutes by providing quality training to all who come through its doors.

With 60 members, the regiment provides a model environment for training future leaders for the ARNG and provides instruction on a variety of military courses. The 196th Regiment has two subordinate battalions: 1st Battalion (Officer Candidate School) at Fort Meade and the 2nd Battalion (Modular Training) in Sioux Falls.

The Fort Meade campus is home to one of the nation's four consolidated OCS programs. Candidates, cadre and staff from 36 states participated in the consolidated program. 1st Battalion (OCS) also manages a Warrant Officer Candidate School Program, designed to develop and evaluate leadership skills for enlisted Soldiers wanting to become highly skilled, single-track specialists, and serve as technical experts, providing valuable skills and guidance to commanders and organizations in their particular field. The battalion also offers the Tactics Certification Course and Platoon Trainer Qualification Course; two specialty courses for platoon trainers and instructors in the OCS environment. Overall, the battalion trained more than 530 Soldiers last year.

Second Battalion (MOD TRN) trained more than 650 Soldiers in military occupational specialties such as truck driver, multiple launch rocket system crewmember, and operations/fire direction specialist, as well as conducted Noncommissioned Officer Education System courses within the I3M and I3P specialties. The battalion also provided functional course training through its Combat Lifesaver Course, Modern Army Combatives Program, Small Group Instructor Course, Army Basic Instructor Course and Resilience Trainer Assistance Course. The modular training battalion also manages the Company Level Pre-Command Course. The battalion prides itself on being focused on the customer – the S.D. Guardsman – with the functional courses it offers. The battalion assists unit commanders in scheduling and conducting the necessary training to increase individual and unit readiness.

109TH RSG

RAPID CITY

109TH COMMANDER – COL WILLIAM J. FREIDEL
 COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR – CSM JAMES HOEKMAN
 HHD COMMANDER – CPT ANDREW THIMGAN
 DETACHMENT SERGEANT – SFC MICHAEL HUITEMA



The 109th Regional Support Group of Rapid City is one of four major commands for the SDARNG. Its mission is to provide command and control and supervision for 23 separate units and detachments, totaling approximately 900 Soldiers in nine communities throughout South Dakota.

With an authorized strength of 63 Soldiers, the 109th Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment serves as a higher headquarters to assist assigned or attached units in meeting training, administrative and logistical needs and to help units achieve readiness and deployment requirements.

To meet its homeland defense and state mission requirements, the 109th RSG also serves as C2 for Task Force 109 and supports civil authorities in emergency and disaster response. To prepare for this mission, the unit trained selected individuals on the Incident Command System, Wild Land Fire Training and Civil Disturbance Training.

The 109th assisted in the Myrtle fire near Hot Springs with State Active Duty Soldiers.



152ND CSSB

PIERRE

152ND COMMANDER – LTC MICHAEL J. OSTER
 COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR – CSM SAMUEL J. HARKIN
 HHC 152ND COMMANDER – 1LT WAYLON T. SKELTON
 FIRST SERGEANT – SFC ELIZABETH P. CRAWFORD

The 152nd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion of Pierre provides command and control and supervision for four units and detachments with nearly 500 Soldiers in six communities throughout South Dakota.

With 69 assigned members, the 152nd Headquarters and Headquarters Company serves as a battalion higher headquarters to assist assigned or attached units in meeting training, administrative and logistical needs and to help units achieve readiness and deployment requirements. The unit can deploy worldwide to provide multifunctional combat support and combat service support to forces throughout an assigned area of operations in a combat theater.

The CSSB also serves as C2 for Task Force 152 and supports civil authorities in emergency and disaster response to meet its homeland defense and state mission requirements.

The CSSB has a unique, additional mission requirement to provide an Initial Response Team for the Solem Women's Prison in Pierre.

In June 2012, the CSSB served as the FOB Mayor for Camp Rapid and West Camp Rapid for Golden Coyote. The headquarters also provided logistical support for the entire exercise.

The mess section competed at, and won, the state and Region VI Philip A. Connelly Award competitions this year. They will compete at the national level for this prestigious award in 2013.

The 152nd received a mobilization order for deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom for July 2013.

82ND CST

ELLSWORTH AIR FORCE BASE

COMMANDER – LTC JAMES SELCHERT
 FIRST SERGEANT – ISG MIKE WEYRICH

The 82nd Civil Support Team is South Dakota's all-hazard response team with emphasis in the areas of chemical, biological and radiological incidents. The team is composed of 22 members, certified as hazardous materials technicians, capable of responding to almost every disaster, natural or man-made. The team is organic to the state; however, they can be called upon for deployment nationwide.

The CST is primarily a support unit, called to incidents and events of local, state and national significance. They render support to civilian agencies, typically a local fire department, police/sheriff department, county emergency management office and other agencies of the first-responder community. The 82nd can operate as a stand-alone unit; however, they are primarily a resource of assistance to the local civilian authority and work under the command and control of the agency.

The CST is composed of various sections of personnel: communications, medical, analytical, survey, decontamination, logistics, administrative, and command. The team has numerous pieces of specialized and highly sensitive equipment to be utilized in detecting, monitoring and identifying agents and substances of a hazardous nature.

In September, the CST participated in a complex multi-agency training scenario at the 3M manufacturing facility in Brookings. The exercise involved not only the CST, but also the Sioux Falls, Aberdeen, Watertown and Brookings fire departments, as well as the 3M emergency response team, the Brookings Police Dept., Brookings EMS and the Red Cross. The agencies participated in one training scenario at separate locations at the 3M plant.

The CST had the opportunity to serve on three missions within the last year. The first, in Sturgis during the motorcycle rally, followed by duty during VIP visits to Mount Rushmore from U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, and a judicial conference attended by U.S. Supreme Court justices. The Sturgis Rally mission included real time air quality monitoring, ensuring early warning capabilities of potential hazards during these high visibility events in our area.



1742ND TC

SIoux FALLS/FLANDREAU

COMMANDER – CPT TYLER GERLACH
FIRST SERGEANT – ISG DEAN NIXON

The 1742nd Transportation Company of Sioux Falls provides transportation of both dry and refrigerated containerized cargo, general non-containerized cargo and bulk water and fuel products.

With more than 130 members in Sioux Falls and more than 50 members in its Detachment I in Flandreau, the company uses the M-915A tractor with M-872A1 trailers to complete assigned missions.

In the spring, the 1742nd played a role in the Brookings city-wide cleanup. Soldiers hauled 20 loads and more than 65 tons of waste to the Brookings landfill. The unit also assisted the city of Flandreau with a city-wide cleanup in September, which they have done for five years in a row. Soldiers hauled 12 loads and more than 15 tons of waste to the Flandreau landfill where a local recycling business picked up the metal and hauled it to a recycling plant.

Soldiers also supported the 200th Engineers, upon their return from deployment, with a mission to travel to East Lyme, Conn., in May, and haul the Float Bridge Assets back to Chamberlain. Sgt. 1st Class Troy Wog led seven trucks to Connecticut and logged more than 14,500 miles with over-width loads.

The unit's annual training consisted of various missions that started in May and ended in September. The 1742nd teamed up with the 740th TC in hauling two military police companies from Tucson and Flagstaff, Ariz., to Golden Coyote and back. They also supported the 152nd CSSB during Golden Coyote with six tractor trailers, hauling rations out to each of the FOBs during the exercise. They also supported the 730th Medical Company with their annual training by hauling equipment to and from Fort McCoy, Wis. In July, the 1742nd assisted the 1/147th Field Artillery by hauling M-270A1 launchers and M-1068 command vehicles to Camp Ripley, Minn., for their annual training and hauling the equipment back to the UTES after their annual training for service, and then back to various locations in the state.

The 1742nd logged more than 184,801 miles while hauling a total of 2,568 tons on equipment in 2012.

The unit also had a couple of Soldiers participate in the Foreign Exchange Program, where soldiers from England and Germany train in the U.S. Lt. Marc Rieger traveled to Germany and Sgt. Jameson Feterl traveled to England to train with their countries, about which each said that it was a very rewarding experience.



740TH TC

MILBANK/ABERDEEN

COMMANDER – CPT CODY EASTMAN
FIRST SERGEANT – ISG DOUGLAS BORCHERT

The 740th Transportation Company of Milbank and Aberdeen provide transportation of both dry and refrigerated cargo and bulk water and fuel products.

With more than 107 members in Milbank and more than 71 members in its Detachment I in Aberdeen, the unit uses M-915 tractor trailers to complete assigned missions.

In 2012, the company took part in the annual city-wide cleanup in Milbank and surrounding areas to help the communities look their best. More than 45 loads were picked up from residents' boulevards and taken to the local landfill by M-915 tractor trailers. The Soldiers picked up everyday household items along with furniture, carpet and tree branches. The Soldiers got good driver training along with the satisfaction of helping the communities that support them.

The 740th, along with the 1742nd, set out for a two-week annual training in support of Golden Coyote. During this time, 99 Soldiers packed up their equipment and hit the pavement with their M-915 tractor trailers traveling more than 172,000 miles in five states. The unit was divided between two different locations; one team went to Camp Navajo, Flagstaff, Ariz., and another to Tucson, Ariz., to haul military police units to and from the Golden Coyote exercise held at Custer State Park and Camp Rapid. They hauled more than 100 pieces of equipment, consisting of Humvees, trailers and light-wheeled tactical vehicles.

The 740th received the 2011 National Guard Association Pershing Award for the second time in six years. The unit earned the highest figure of merit score during annual rifle qualification with assigned individual weapons.

More than 45 members took part in the 9th Annual Black Hills Veterans March in honor of Sgt. 1st Class Paul Gruener, a former platoon sergeant for the 740th who passed away from a farming accident in March. Gruener served more than 36 years with the SDNG.

The unit was called to many other missions that resulted in 30,000 miles driven on non-annual training missions across the state and other parts of the U.S.

147TH BAND

MITCHELL

COMMANDER – CW3 TERRY BECKLER
FIRST SERGEANT – ISG DAVE BARKUS

The 147th Army Band of Mitchell is one of the premier Army bands in the National Guard. Comprising more than 40 Soldier-musicians, they provide music throughout the full spectrum of military operations and instill in our service members the will to fight and win, foster support of our citizens and promote our national interests at home and abroad.

The Music Performance Teams of the 147th Army Band had a very successful annual training tour across South Dakota performing for more than 50 schools in five days, raising community support and pride in the SDARNG.

A few highlights from the past year include performances for the SDNG Enlisted Association Conference, Legislative Dining Out, the SDNG 150th anniversary celebration, Golden Coyote, Hot Harley Nights and the Terry Redlin Summer Festival.

"South Dakota's Own" 147th Army Band is seeing higher caliber musicians and a growth in the achievement level of all their Soldiers thanks to a solid corps of leadership. This next year is already presenting opportunities for achieving new levels of excellence.



MED CMD

RAPID CITY

COMMANDER – MAJ DANIEL JANSSEN
 FIRST SERGEANT – MSG EDWARD ANDERSH

Medical Command provides health force sustainment and protection for SDARNG units throughout the state. With more than 50 assigned members located between Rapid City and Sioux Falls, Medical Command has physicians, physician assistants, dentists, nurses and medical technicians to help administer medical evaluations, exams and treatment to Soldiers.

In this capacity, Medical Command helps units achieve medical readiness and deployment requirements. The unit can also deploy worldwide to provide multi-functional medical care to an attached headquarters and assigned units in a combat theater.

To meet its homeland defense and state mission requirements, Medical Command can augment civilian medical agencies in an emergency or disaster response.

In 2012, as a part of the unit's year-round annual training, the unit traveled throughout the state to help support units with Soldier Readiness Processing and Periodic Health Assessments.

The Medical Command also supported the Navy in the 2012 Golden Coyote exercise, as it operated the Troop Medical Clinic on Camp Rapid.



TRNG CTR CMD

RAPID CITY

COMMANDER – LTC JOE CARLIN
 COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR – CSM DOUG MAHONEY

The mission of the Training Center Command is to operate the installation, manage and administer the use of resources, provide administrative, training and logistical support to assigned, attached and tenant units and activities and prepare to expand and operate as a separate installation upon mobilization.

The TCC provides leadership, control and supervision to accomplish the mission of a functioning garrison, post engineer, administration and communication, logistical and training services as required by the unit's conduction of training at the installation. TCC develops plans, policies, regulations and SOPs for the operation of the post, provides the adjutant general with the necessary post support to conduct annual training and provides assistance to the adjutant general in the logistical support of units engaged in providing military support to civil authorities.

TCC is essential in providing equipment for use by assigned and attached full-time personnel, active component augmentation, state personnel and National Guard technicians to maintain, service and repair buildings and structures, plants and equipment, roads, ranges, utilities and other installation real property assets including the service, repair and maintenance of environmental equipment in support of both pre/post mobilization missions and annual training.

The TCC provides support services for approximately 3,400 service members participating in the Golden Coyote exercise. Support includes providing billeting, dining and training areas. Training areas most utilized are the land navigation course, leadership reaction course, obstacle course, MQOUT and live-fire ranges, and simulations equipment such as the Engagement Skills Trainer, Virtual Convoy Operations Trainer and HEAT.



881ST TC

STURGIS

881ST COMMANDER – LTC TODD BARTUNEK
 COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR – CSM DAN KONECHNE
 HHB 881ST COMMANDER – CPT SARAH JENSEN
 FIRST SERGEANT – SFC ERIC KINSLOW

The 881st Troop Command of Sturgis provides command, control and supervision for 12 distinct units and detachments, totaling about 300 Soldiers in four communities throughout South Dakota.

With nearly 25 assigned members, the 881st Headquarters and Headquarters Battery serves as a higher headquarters to assist units in training, administrative and logistical needs, and to help units achieve readiness and deployment requirements.

To meet its homeland defense and state mission requirements, the 881st also serves as the command, control and supervision element for Task Force 881 and supports civil authorities in emergency and disaster response.

Task Force units support civil authorities in the protection of life, property and preservation of peace, order and public safety, an order of the governor, and act as a response force for homeland security. With the unique skill sets of its subordinate units, the 881st was able to provide aviation support to the 2012 Black Hills wildland and forest fires, deploy and redeploy a third of the subordinate units and supported numerous changes of command, including itself.

The 881st operated a rest stop at the annual Veterans March. For the fourth year, they placed first for best rest stop, tying with the 109th RSG. The unit supported Sturgis Brown High School with two scholarships (\$1,000 and \$500). They also donated \$500 and volunteered to support the Dakota Step Test Breakfast for the junior class at the high school.

During annual training, the unit supported the 196th RTI during Phase IA, providing 125 officer candidates with administrative, logistical and training operations.

The 881st was also in charge of the 2012 Officer's Conference held in Deadwood, one of the most successful conferences to date.



216TH & 451ST STURGIS

216TH/451ST COMMANDER – CW2 TERRY HOEY
216TH FIRE CHIEF – SFC AUSTIN HAGEN
451ST STATION CHIEF – SSG MAXWELL STOLTENBURG



The 216th Engineer Detachment (Firefighting Team) is a headquarters element with a mission to provide command and control over firefighting teams in a theater of operations including fire protection of aviation and major facilities.

The unit has four positions, each trained specifically to provide C2 and support of up to five firefighting teams, ensuring personnel and equipment are fully capable of carrying out their mission.

The 451st Engineer Detachment (Firefighting Team) provides firefighting service and support in a theater of operations, including fire protection of aviation and major facilities. The detachment is a seven-person unit with firefighting gear, a tactical firefighting truck and a HEMTT Based Water Tender.

During Golden Coyote 2012, the 216th provided command and control over five units from three other states. These units trained on live fires with an aircraft simulator, structure fires at Ellsworth Air Force Base, high and low angle rescue techniques and vehicle extrication with the Rapid City Fire Dept. They also conducted live vehicle fire exercises with the Sturgis Fire Dept.

In September 2011, the 451st deployed to Afghanistan and conducted firefighting operations for a multinational base. The 451st returned in September 2012, having responded to many fire calls and trained Afghan firefighters on proper firefighting techniques.

129TH MPAD RAPID CITY

COMMANDER – MAJ ROBERT W. ASSCHERICK
FIRST SERGEANT – ISG LORISSA WETZLER

The 129th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment of Rapid City provides public affairs support to units across the state, as well as to deployed units in support of a combined, unified or joint operation.

With nearly 20 members, the detachment uses print and broadcast journalists to help tell the story of the U.S. military and the South Dakota National Guard.

In 2012, unit members focused on preparations for their 2013 deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The unit fielded new satellite systems to facilitate overseas operations and provide live video feeds from remote locations. The 129th provided public affairs support for the Golden Coyote training exercise in June and participated in the outstanding training.



730TH ASMC VERMILLION

COMMANDER – CPT ZACHARY HAGUE
FIRST SERGEANT – ISG MICHAEL RATH

The 730th Area Support Medical Company of Vermillion is composed of combat medics, lab technicians, radiologists, dental technicians, mental health technicians, medical doctors, nurses, physician's assistants and maintenance and support staff.

Approximately 90 members of the 730th stand ready to provide Echelon I and II health support to any personnel within its area of operations.

To provide Echelon I, or basic Emergency Medical Services, the unit is equipped with medical ambulances to quickly get to, evacuate and provide continuing care to patients en route to the medical treatment facility.

The ASMC is further able to provide Echelon II care, of an emergent or inpatient/outpatient nature, designed to return Soldiers to duty or evacuate them to definitive care as quickly as possible.

In addition to their federally mandated mission, the 730th has been assigned by the state to the 196 Task Force to provide medical support including: cordon/quarantine operations, MANPADS/airport security, emergency support during natural/man-made disasters and civil disturbances.

The focus for the year and for annual training revolved around deployment preparation. Drills consisted of validating the Soldier and leader tasks required for units designated as Category I. During annual training at Fort McCoy, Wis., the 730th worked on perfecting those skills in culminating battle drills, IED defeat lanes, roll over training and multiple range days, all while completing the most cutting edge medical trauma training available. Although the mission of the 730th was off-ramped, the unit still completed 90 percent of all required mobilization training.

1978TH CCT

RAPID CITY

COMMANDER – MAJ MATTHEW SYMONDS
NCOIC – SFC JACK HAHNE



The 1978th Contingency Contracting Team plans for and coordinates all contracting functions at the brigade combat team level. Unit members currently work with the S.D. United States Property & Fiscal Office to gain contracting experience and fulfill certification requirements. During this past year, the 1978th conducted pre-deployment training at Camp Shelby, Miss., Guernsey, Wyo., and home station in preparation for their deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in November 2012.

The 1978th is capable of deploying worldwide and can sustain operations, either as an independent contingency contracting office, or as an early entry module for unit contingency contracting in an austere environment, and can provide contingency contracting support for deployed forces. The four-man unit is also responsible for assisting with the development and administration/revision of contracting support plans and policy, annex and appendices in support of operational, contingency and deliberate plans associated with area of responsibility operations.



935TH

RAPID CITY

COMMANDER – CW3 JOHN WURTZ
DETACHMENT SERGEANT – SFC KURT GROS



Rapid City is home to Detachment I, Company B, 935th Support Battalion, located at the Army Aviation Support Facility near the Rapid City Regional Airport. Approximately 30 Soldiers make up the 935th, whose mission is to provide aviation maintenance and repair support to aircraft armament and avionics equipment.

The 935th provides maintenance support for the SDARNG's rotary aircraft, the UH-60 Black Hawk, OH-58 Kiowa and the LUH-72 Lakota.

The mission and maintenance that the Soldiers of the 935th provide for the rotary aircraft keep the state ready to provide safe and capable helicopters, whether for a training mission or for a stateside mission such as assisting in the event of a natural disaster.

The detachment is currently deployed with 21 of South Dakota's finest. They are providing maintenance support under the War Trace Company, B Co., 935th ASB. They have helped repair AH-64 Apache blades, many sheet metal repairs and in-depth avionics maintenance.



641ST

RAPID CITY

COMMANDER – CW4 WAYNE WALKER
DETACHMENT SERGEANT – SSG MATTHEW DAY



Rapid City is home to Detachment 3, Company A, 641st Aviation Regiment, located at the Army Aviation Support Facility near the Rapid City Regional Airport.

Approximately eight Soldiers make up the 641st AVN REG, whose mission is to provide command, control and communications, staff transport and liaison, casualty transport, and air movement of critical equipment, supplies and personnel.

The 641st supports numerous flight requests both stateside and abroad with their C-23 Sherpa fixed-wing aircraft.

The 641st consists of warrant officer pilots and enlisted flight engineer/load masters. The unit's various mission requests include High Altitude Low Opening training drops for Special Forces Soldiers, airborne training jumps, passenger transports and paradrop missions.

The unit's most recent deployment was in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in which they provided air support for equipment and personnel in the Iraq theater. The unit returned to South Dakota in September 2011.

CO C, 1/189TH

RAPID CITY

COMMANDER – CPT MICHAEL FLANERY
FIRST SERGEANT – ISG PHILLIP MURPHY



Company C, 1st Battalion, 189th Aviation Regiment provides aeromedical evacuation support with its six UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters. Based in Rapid City at the Army Aviation Support facility, the unit has 67 pilots, crew chiefs, medics, aviation operations specialists and support personnel who continually train to maintain a high state of readiness. This level of preparedness helps support the state and nation during natural or domestic emergencies and supports units within an assigned area of operation in a theater of war or peacekeeping operation.

The unit also has three support detachments of 22 personnel who augment aviation operations and provide aviation maintenance and refueling and ground maintenance support: Detachment 2, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1/189th, Detachment 2, Company D, 1/189th and Detachment 2, Company E, 1/189th.

On May 19, 2012, Soldiers of the 1/189th returned from providing MEDEVAC support for Operation New Dawn. There was no time for rest upon their return, as 2012 brought some of the driest conditions in years, and with them, extremely high fire danger. Individual pilots, crew members and operations staff from Co. C, 1/189th were placed on state active duty to fight 18 different wildland fires throughout the summer months.

Currently, Co. C, 1/189th is focusing on training new crew members and maintaining the highest readiness in order to support any local, state or national emergencies.



CO D, 1/112TH

RAPID CITY

COMMANDER – CPT MICHAEL MCDANIEL
FIRST SERGEANT – ISG BRUCE CONGER

Company D, 1/112th is a new unit to the SDARNG that provides aerial-medical evacuation in support of homeland security requirements including Northern Command's area of responsibility, state adjutants general and selected OCONUS (outside the continental United States) operations.

After Detachment 2, Company A, 1/112th Aviation Regiment (Security & Support) was deactivated in October 2012, members were transferred to either Co. D, 1/112th or Det. 1, Co. B, 1/112th. The unit is now composed of 49 members, and their primary mission is aerial-medical evacuation using the LUH-72A Lakota helicopter. Co. D, 1/112th has two detachments in Idaho and Wisconsin.

The unit gained federal recognition in September 2012 but had spent the majority of 2012 gaining qualification and flight hours on their new aircraft.



CO B, 1/112TH

RAPID CITY

DETACHMENT COMMANDER – ILT JOHN BARNES
DETACHMENT SERGEANT – SFC SCOTT HELMANN

Detachment 1, Company B, 1/112th is a new unit to South Dakota Army National Guard that provides command and control, communications flights, limited air movements, aerial reconnaissance and screening operations for homeland security requirements.

After Detachment 2, Company A, 1/112th Aviation Regiment (Security & Support) was deactivated in October 2012, members were transferred to either Co. D, 1/112th or Det. 1, Co. B, 1/112th. The unit is composed of 27 members, and their primary mission is aerial reconnaissance using the OH-58 Kiowa helicopter. Det. 1, Co. B, 1/112th is a detachment of Co. B (-) 1/112th in Michigan.

Several unit members assist local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies through the SDNG Counterdrug program.



DET 48 OSA

RAPID CITY

COMMANDER – CWS KENNETH EAST
DETACHMENT SERGEANT – SFC RANDALL MCCAN



Rapid City is home to Detachment 48 Operational Support Airlift Command, located at the Army Aviation Support Facility near the Rapid City Regional Airport.

Approximately eight Soldiers make up Det. 48, whose mission is to provide fixed-wing operational airlift support for the National Guard, military departments and federal agencies, as scheduled by the OSA Command. The eight personnel, six pilots and two operations NCOs, are available 24 hours a day to support South Dakota and national homeland security missions, as required.

Det. 48 supports numerous flight requests stateside, to Central America and throughout North America with their C-12 King Air fixed-wing aircraft. Det. 48 offers transportation to numerous individuals, including civilian, military and federal DoD employees.

Last year, Det. 48 was deployed to Afghanistan, providing aerial surveillance to numerous offensive operations and providing base defense aerial surveillance to many forward operating bases. The members of the detachment combined to fly more than 3,500 accident-free flight hours in support of these operations, and every member was awarded the Air Medal for the combined effort. Members of Det. 48 returned stateside in June and July 2012.



196TH MEB

SIoux FALLS

196TH COMMANDER – COL KEVIN GRIESE
COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR – CSM GEORGE ARENDS
HHC 196TH COMMANDER – CPT SHANNON MACHMILLER
FIRST SERGEANT – ISG STEVEN WEILER

The 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade is one of four major commands for the SDARNG and provides command and control and supervision for three battalions, composed of 28 separate units and detachments totaling more than 1,970 Soldiers in 20 communities throughout South Dakota.

There are 190 Soldiers with the Headquarters and Headquarters Company of the MEB who serve to assist assigned units in meeting training, administrative and logistical needs in efforts to maintain and achieve readiness and deployment requirements.

As a part of its wartime mission, the MEB enables, enhances and protects operational and tactical freedom of action for a supported maneuver force. The unit commands and controls the forces necessary to conduct security and functional operations in a designated area of responsibility. This includes force protection, battle space awareness and focused logistics.

To meet its homeland defense and state mission requirements, the MEB also serves as C2 for Task Force 196 and supports civil authorities in emergency and disaster response.

The 196th HHC conducted home station annual training in Sioux Falls in the summer of 2012, focusing primarily on incorporating new elements of the Army Battle Command System into their battle readiness training for future operations. The Command Post of the Future element within the ABCS allows Soldiers to communicate and share real-time plans, intelligence, schedules, notes, maps, briefings and any other battlefield-related information over an established secure network within the tactical operations center.

In September, the 196th MEB underwent a significant Modified Table of Organization & Equipment changes that increased communication capabilities. These capabilities are a force multiplier for the overall readiness of the unit. The MEB is now more capable of supporting their federal and state missions.

The MEB also consolidated several units within their ranks due to the reduction of MTOE strength, especially in the 1/147th Field Artillery Battalion and the 139th Brigade Support Battalion. Due to Army force reduction in the field artillery, reduction in budgets and the state facilities plan, units were relocated in Winner, Platte, Miller and Salem in 2012. Ceremonies were held in each location to recognize the outstanding community support provided throughout the many years of service to the SDARNG.

1/147TH FA

WATERTOWN

COMMANDER – LTC DOUGLAS BOGENHAGEN
COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR – CSM TODD ROSE
HQB 1/147TH COMMANDER – CPT DANIEL POPOWSKI
FIRST SERGEANT – ISG STEVEN ANDERSON

The 1st Battalion, 147th Field Artillery provides command and control and supervision for two Multiple Launch Rocket System batteries and one forward support company, totaling approximately 400 Soldiers in five communities throughout eastern South Dakota.

2012 was extremely busy due to changes incurred from the R-Series, Modified Table of Organization & Equipment, in which the battalion lost 110 slots, consisting of one battery, two launchers and a multitude of other equipment. All Soldiers in the battalion that wanted to stay field artillery were afforded that opportunity by being moved to Yankton, Watertown or Aberdeen. The battery that was selected to have its flag rolled up was Charlie Battery. The confusing part of this change was that even though Charlie Battery was identified as the unit that would go away, it was actually Bravo Battery in Salem that would be eliminated. The battalion put on two great events to recognize both the unit and the community's support of the field artillery over the years.

One of the most significant changes incurred from the R-Series MTOE change was that field artillery is now able to recruit females to all positions, which until September 2012 was not possible.

This past year, the battalion attended annual training at Camp Ripley, Minn., for the first time since 2008 where the two firing batteries fired 72 rockets accurately and safely down range.



147TH FSC

MITCHELL/SIOUX FALLS/WEBSTER

COMMANDER – CPT DAREN KETCHAM
FIRST SERGEANT – ISG MICHAEL BECKER

The 147th Forward Support Company is a multi-functional organization with about 155 Soldiers consisting of a field feeding section, distribution platoon and maintenance platoon. The field feeding section is capable of providing all the class I support for the 1/147th Field Artillery Battalion.

The distribution platoon is divided into three sections: a battalion support squad and two battery support squads capable of delivering general supplies, class V ammunition for small arms, and rocket pods and class III support to the 1/147th.

The maintenance platoon is a multi-role platoon. Within the platoon, there is a maintenance section, a service and recovery section and two maintenance support sections. The maintenance section provides maintenance support for their own organic equipment, as well as the HQ element of the supported battalion.

The service and recovery section has the ability to recover both track and wheeled vehicles, as well as specific skill sets to perform field maintenance and perform limited fabrication and welding repairs.

The two maintenance support sections provide specific, dedicated maintenance personnel with the skill sets to maintain and repair military vehicles specific to the three line units under the supported battalion.

In 2012, 147th FSC focused their attention on the upcoming reorganization with the training focus on platoon level operation, integrating the concept of consolidating the class V and III sections into battalion and battery support squads. The ability to send one section to accomplish the mission of supporting the firing battery streamlined their operations. The maintenance sections prepared for the change of supporting two batteries instead of three. They continued to accomplish their mission of maintaining the supported battalion's equipment at a consistent high readiness rate.

The FSC performed their second annual training. Their last AT was at Camp Guernsey, Wyo., in 2008, prior to deploying to Kuwait. Last year's annual training was spent on state active duty in support of the flood in Pierre. In spite of the unit not conducting an annual training since 2008, the 147th FSC was extremely successful in supporting 1/147th FA with their many logistical assets.



BTRY A, 1/147TH

ABERDEEN

COMMANDER – CPT JOHN HILTON
FIRST SERGEANT – ISG MICHAEL WILKENING

Alpha Battery, 1/147th Field Artillery Battalion, provides medium-range rocket and long-range missile fires in support of a brigade, division, corps, theater Army, joint or coalition task force.

For the first time since the summer of 2008, Alpha Battery went to Camp Ripley, Minn., to conduct live fire; 62 Soldiers went into the field for a three-day field training exercise before live fire. Soldiers trained on multiple skills relating to their specific military occupational specialties, such as training area occupation, preventative maintenance checks and services, fire mission processing, ammunition resupply, convoy operations and warrior skills training. Soldiers refined their rifle, grenade launching and machine gun skills through trigger time on the ranges. Soldiers shot M-16A2 rifles, M-203 grenade launchers, M-249s, M-240Bs, MK-19s, M-2 (.50-caliber) machine guns and M-9 semiautomatic pistols. Over the course of 12 hours, more than 300 Soldiers of the 1-147th Battalion fired nearly 50,200 rounds from six different weapon systems, tallying a rate of fire of nearly 4,200 rounds per hour.

Sgt. 1st Class Aaron Walberg took eight shooters, making up two teams, to Little Rock, Ark., for the Winston P. Wilson Shoot in April. Joe Kraft, Jameson Bartscher, Shane Glover and Josh Lunzman shot extremely well in the indoor match. Walberg and team received high marks for the state, placing 4th at Mac VI Regional shooting match in Guernsey, Wyo., and 7th out of 250, in the novice, at the Winston in Little Rock.

With warm thoughts and very heavy hearts, Alpha Battery said their final goodbye to Staff Sgt. Adam Houghtaling, who passed away Aug. 19, near Coon Rapids, Minn., at the young age of 28.

Houghtaling and his father, Curt, both former members, deployed twice with Alpha Battery.

Houghtaling was high spirited, loving, caring and a dedicated man with an extreme passion and sense of pride in everything he did. Alpha Battery's thoughts and prayers will forever be with Adam, his parents, Curt and Heidi, and his loving sisters, Jessica and Missy.

The Battery is creating a memorial in Adam's name, that will be presented to the unit, with the company of Curt and Heidi Houghtaling and family Jan. 5, 2013.

BTRY B, 1/147TH

YANKTON

COMMANDER – ILT DARRIN EICHACKER
FIRST SERGEANT – ISG CHAD DURFEE

Bravo Battery, 1/147th Field Artillery Battalion, is a Multiple Launch Rocket System field artillery unit. Formerly known as Charlie Battery, 1/147th Field Artillery Battalion, the unit was reflagged on Sept. 8, 2012, and brought a new beginning with the casing of Charlie Battery's guidon and the unveiling of the new Bravo Battery guidon. Salem's Bravo Battery joined Yankton's Charlie Battery for the reorganization of the unit. Charlie Battery had been based out of Yankton for 44 years and had been in Yankton longer than any other SDNG unit since the inception of the militia in the Dakota Territories in January 1862. Proudly, Bravo Battery continues that lineage of service and currently has 106 Soldiers in its ranks.

After a year off from sand bagging during the Missouri River flooding in 2011, several months of preparation filled the Soldiers' training schedule.

The battery convoyed to Camp Ripley, Minn., for annual training in July; 92 Soldiers in a 27-vehicle convoy traveled 540 miles and 18 hours round trip. Over several days, the battery conducted 33,360 training hours. The unit was able to perform their MOS and successfully complete live fire missions. Ammo platoons trained on uploading and downloading ammo pods from HEMTT trucks, while M-270AI launchers trained on receiving and launching fire missions, check fire missions and shooting live rounds down range. Fire Direct Control processed fire missions from battalion to the launchers. The battery put 547 rounds down range; 41 of them were live rockets.



139TH BSB

BROOKINGS

139TH COMMANDER – LTC JEFFREY NORRIS
 COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR – CSM ARTHUR ALLCOCK
 HHC 139TH COMMANDER – CPT LANCE C. LOCKWOOD
 FIRST SERGEANT – ISG JEFFREY BAUER

The 139th Brigade Support Battalion has a mission to provide logistical and maintenance support to a maneuver enhancement brigade and attached units. The 139th BSB has a Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment with 60 assigned members who help provide command and control, administrative, training and logistical support for eight assigned units and detachments in the SDARNG. These units total about 500 Soldiers in eight communities throughout the state.

HHC, 139th BSB returned 64 Soldiers this year from deployment to Afghanistan in support of Task Force Shadow. The Soldiers staggered their returns to home station between March and May 2012. Joyous families celebrated at a welcome home ceremony May 18 at the Swiftel Center in Brookings.

Achievements throughout their deployment included closing 13 forward operating bases, transporting 31 million pounds of cargo and 6,500 personnel by land and air, completing 376 maintenance jobs, recovering more than \$315,000 of lost property and more than \$2 million in mis-shipped property, and in one re-supply mission, saving the Joint Task Force \$6 million.

The focus for both the battalion and HHC of the 139th was successful implementation of all ABCS systems within HHC and the battalion focusing on user/operator familiarity within all ranks.

2013 will provide Soldiers an opportunity to expand on their new-found knowledge, hoping to create a communications link using WIN-T equipment to the 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade.

Because it has been two years since the company has had it ranks filled, and with a new staff, it is the unit's intent to create, modify and apply BN/Company SOPs in a tactical environment.

All in all, 2012 was exciting and challenging. The unit looks forward to the challenges in the upcoming year and will surely reap the rewards and benefits once they are able to train and work together.



CO A, 139TH

REDFIELD/WATERTOWN

COMMANDER – CPT CARL W. STEARNS
 FIRST SERGEANT – ISG SCOTT BULL



Company A, 139th Brigade Support Battalion is a distribution company with a mission to provide transportation for the movement of cargo, water and fuel by motor transport. The unit is composed of about 100 members, with the company residing in two communities: Company A in Redfield and its Detachment I in Watertown.

Redfield holds the headquarters and supply platoon. The supply platoon consists of the supply section, transportation section and the ammo transfer holding section, which use the Load Handling System, as well as five-ton trucks with trailers and forklifts. With this equipment, the unit hauls everything from dry and refrigerated containerized cargo to general non-containerized cargo and ammunition. The supply platoon is also capable of operating a warehouse, which can deal with all classes of supply.

Det. I in Watertown is a fuel and water platoon, which also has LHS trucks used to haul its Tactical Water Purification Systems, as well as their fuel and water containers.

All three of Company A's platoons work together to supply the battalion, as well as the brigade, with the different classes of supplies necessary to function in a wartime environment.

In May, the 139th Battalion held a deactivation ceremony in Brookings for Task Force Shadow, consisting of 64 personnel, 31 from Company A, 139th BSB. They deployed to the Middle East and were split up serving in Iraq and Qatar with most finishing their yearlong deployment in Kuwait.

During annual training in Redfield and Camp Ripley, Minn., in June, the unit conducted a community cleanup project in Redfield, assisting the local street department in city tree removal. The FTX at Camp Ripley consisted of crew served weapon qualifications, night move land navigation with the use of NVG's, Leadership Reactionary Course and SIMNET operations training.

Permanent Order 244-D1, dated Aug. 31, 2012, made a major change in the organization of Company A 139th BSB. This order eliminated Det. 2., Company A, 139th BSB, located in Miller and added them to the supply platoon located in Redfield. The new R-Series MTOE re-established Company A in two locations, Redfield and Watertown, instead of three.

CO B, 139TH

MITCHELL

COMMANDER – CPT DUSTON MULLEN
 FIRST SERGEANT – SFC DARWYN PERSSON

Company B, 139th Brigade Support Battalion performs field maintenance for modular brigade combat teams and supporting brigades. The FMC provides recovery, automotive/armament, ground support and electronic maintenance and maintenance management to brigade base elements. It also provides maintenance advice and support to the brigade and serves as the central entry and exit point into the brigade for low density equipment. The FMC's maintenance for low density communications equipment is reliant upon CL VIII floats. The FMC has limited redundant or backup capabilities.

Company B, 139th BSB, has a headquarters platoon, armament/automotive platoon and electronics platoon.

The 139th has gone through many changes and had to adapt to different environments maintaining Soldier readiness at all times. Twenty-three Soldiers deployed with the 139th Battalion to Iraq and the Middle East. Among those were Spc. Andy Schonebaum, who said his mission during this deployment was logistic support and maintenance.

The 139th left in June 2011 and returned in May 2012.

In addition to the 23 Soldiers who deployed to Iraq, five Soldiers went with the 842nd out of Spearfish to Afghanistan. Among those were Spc. Brian Zard, who said his mission on this deployment was to build up bases, repair blast holes on highways, fix roads and build bases. The 842nd was on deployment from September 2011 to September 2012.

The 139th BSB has also been adapting to the changes and challenges of the new MTOE, Modified Table of Organization and Equipment.



115TH BSC

BROOKINGS

COMMANDER – CPT SAMUEL C. BJORNSTAD
 FIRST SERGEANT – ISG SHAWN M. BASTIAN



The 115th Brigade Signal Company provides 24-hour operational command, control, communications, computer, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance signal systems network to the supported maneuver enhancement brigade, combat aviation brigade and/or sustainment brigade, which includes deploying, installing, operating and maintaining these systems.

The 115th has 42 Soldiers assigned and nine Soldiers attached. With the War Fighter Information Network – Tactical fielding complete in November 2012, the unit continued to maintain their equipment, keep technically proficient and continue their focus on all aspects of the unit's communication capabilities.

In June 2012, the unit supported the 196th MEB in Sioux Falls for annual training. This exercise was a culmination of all of the unit's communication assets and technical prowess. The mission for the unit was to provide the communication infrastructure for the 196th MEB. The unit also focused on the repeated installation, troubleshooting and establishment of communications between all fielded WIN-T equipment, which encompassed the Satellite Transportable Terminal, Joint Network Node, Battalion Command Post Node and Battlefield Video Teleconference.

The unit's High Capacity Line of Sight teams also conducted multiple missions which required them to travel beyond the 115th footprint at the Sioux Falls Armory to various locations to install, troubleshoot and operate their equipment.

Supporting the Brookings community has played an important role for the unit this year. The unit is the largest contributor of volunteers for the Brookings Marathon, helping with traffic control, runner safety and cleanup. The unit also supported the Special Olympic Polar Plunge, Military Appreciation events at South Dakota State University and various events for the George Dakken VFW Post #2118.



235TH MP CO

RAPID CITY/SIOUX FALLS

COMMANDER – CPT THADUIS SCHMIT
 FIRST SERGEANT – ISG RANDY DECKER

The 235th Military Police Company has a mission to provide security for U.S. military personnel, installation and facilities and to guard prisoners of war and civilian internees. The unit is composed of mainly military police personnel with about 170 members. The unit's company headquarters is in Rapid City with its Detachment I in Sioux Falls.

Major duties for military police are to supervise and provide support to the battlefield by conducting battlefield circulation control, area security, prisoner of war operations, civilian internee operations and law and order operations on the battlefield.

The 235th also has a state and homeland defense mission to help augment civil law enforcement agencies in an emergency. If stationed stateside, the unit can also provide support to the peacetime Army community through security of critical Army resources, crime prevention programs and preservation of law and order.

In June 2012, the unit participated in the S.D. Golden Coyote training exercise for their annual training.

During the Golden Coyote exercise the unit partnered with military personnel from Suriname to learn each other's tactics and procedures for dealing with detainees. Members also had the opportunity to become combat life saver certified and accomplish mandatory training necessary for their upcoming deployment to Afghanistan in 2013.



153RD EN BN

HURON

153RD COMMANDER – LTC PATRICK PARDY
 COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR – CSM MICHAEL BURGESSON
 HHC 153RD COMMANDER – CPT JEFF ODELL
 FIRST SERGEANT – ISG TRAVIS VALLERY

The 153rd Engineer Battalion provides command and control and supervision for 14 separate units totaling about 850 Soldiers in 14 communities throughout South Dakota. With about 80 assigned members to the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, the 153rd assists assigned units in meeting training, administrative and logistical needs; and it helps units achieve readiness and deployment requirements.

Along with supporting state units, the 153rd can also provide C2 for attached or assigned engineer units as a part of its federal mission. The battalion headquarters can coordinate and execute tactical operations involving mobility, counter mobility and survivability tasks on the battlefield.

The unit was in a reset year and concentrated on catching up on required schools and helping subordinate units prepare for mobilizations and demobilizations. The unit worked extensively with the 927th Survey and Design Team before deployment; they also returned both the 200th Engineer Company and 842nd Engineer Company from deployment. The battalion's administrative and supply sections were highly praised by the support of the returning units.

The HHC also has a mission to provide military support to civil authorities for state emergencies. Its primary role in this mission is to serve as mission command for Task Force 153. This task force is responsible for pre-positioning of engineer equipment for the preparation of snow removal, floods, and fires. This year we helped with a number of forest fires and also assisted with the North Carolina Air National Guard C-130 crash recovery near Edgemont.

During the Golden Coyote training exercise, Soldiers concentrated on individual tasks, driver training, and combat life saver training. They also trained the Danish Home Guard using their M-113 personnel carrier.

The battalion successfully executed the first annual Warrior Challenge. More than 120 high school and college students and young adults participated in the event to receive a glimpse of the training and activities the 153rd performs. The youth participated in events ranging from a capture-the-flag paintball lane, Humvee pull lane, construction lane, wounded warrior lane, M-16 weapons qualification lane and the U.S. Army's new proposed combat physical fitness test. All the battalion's companies were represented by teams competing for individual awards. A traveling trophy was the top prize for the company with the highest overall score.

HHC won the state Gold Card Challenge, turning in the most referral Guard cards in the state. They also won the State Supply Excellence Award by strictly following the Command Supply Discipline checklist.

FSC, 153RD

PARKSTON/HURON

COMMANDER – CPT MITCHELL NACHTIGALL
FIRST SERGEANT – ISG JOHN DORNBUSCH

The Forward Support Company, 153rd Engineer Battalion is designed to provide direct combat sustainment support for a maneuver battalion in the form of logistics and maintenance.

The FSC has approximately 100 members and is headquartered in Parkston with a detachment located in Huron. The FSC has a wide variety of functions, including a field feeding section, a distribution platoon and a maintenance platoon.

The major training exercise for the FSC was held during its FTX in April. The unit was able to get good hands-on night-vision-goggle driver training and tactical convoy operations. During convoy operations, the unit came across IEDs and small arms fire.

This year was a different training year for the unit, as it was in a reset year in which the unit focused on getting Soldiers to their required schools. Those Soldiers that did not need to attend a school were able to participate in some different options for annual training. The maintenance platoon, along with most of the distribution platoon, conducted AT out of the CSMS #1 in Mitchell. During annual training, the maintenance platoon completed 1,272 man-hours of work while the distribution platoon drove 3,501 accident-free miles. Twenty Soldiers participated in Golden Coyote, where they assisted running the lanes on West Camp Rapid.

In July, the FSC had four teams of prospective recruits participating in the first annual 153rd Engineer Battalion Warrior Challenge. The FSC took home the overall first place trophy, along with second and third place.

In October, the FSC went to Ripley, Minn., where they conducted familiarization on crew served weapons, conducted MOUT training and land navigation training.

The FSC was able to gain even more hands-on knowledge in November. The maintenance platoon once again worked out of the CSMS #1. During this IDT period, Soldiers were able to get even more hands-on training, while the distribution platoon loaded and transported equipment to the shop for the mechanics to work on.



842ND EN CO

SPEARFISH/BELLE FOURCHE/STURGIS

COMMANDER – CPT MATTHEW SADLER
FIRST SERGEANT – ISG MARCUS STACEY

The 842nd is a horizontal construction unit which utilizes equipment such as crawler tractors, motorized graders, scrapers, scoop loaders, backhoes, high speed excavators, dump trucks and other equipment to construct and maintain roads, airstrips and rotary aircraft pads, as well as build and maintain combat outposts and forward operating bases.

The 160-member unit was headquartered in Spearfish. Detachment 1 in Belle Fourche and Detachment 2 in Sturgis. The unit reported to Fort Bliss, Texas, Sept. 23, 2011, to begin training and validation for deployment. This included individual and crew-served weapons training and qualification, counter-IED training, Army warrior tasks and battle drills and a culminating training event, which pulled together individual training and horizontal construction training validation into one final event. The company deployed to Afghanistan in November 2011.

The 842nd completed their one-year deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom Sept. 27, 2012, with a deactivation ceremony at the Donald Young Center at Black Hills State University in Spearfish.



211TH EN CO

MADISON/DE SMET

COMMANDER – CPT MICHAEL ROSELLES
FIRST SERGEANT – ISG GARY DEVRIES

The 211th Engineer Company (Sapper) has a mission to execute mobility, counter-mobility and survivability tasks, and to provide general engineering support to a maneuver unit or a support brigade. These tasks include combat engineering missions such as placing or clearing mine fields, demolition operations, field defenses as well as the ability to operate as infantry when needed.

The unit has more than 100 members and is located in two communities, with the headquarters unit in Madison and a detachment in De Smet. The company is currently made up of three sapper platoons that use a variety of equipment and munitions for its highly dangerous missions such as route clearance and demolitions breaching operations using a variety of explosives and techniques.

In April the unit held its annual field training exercise at the SDNG's Austin Training Area near Elk Point. Route clearance missions both mounted and dismounted, infantry tactics and battlefield casualty treatment and evacuation were simulated, including the loading of battlefield casualties aboard a UH-60 Black Hawk MEDEVAC helicopter.

The 211th conducted annual training at Camp Ripley, Minn., in June, where they took part in weapons qualification, demo ranges, infantry tactical missions and land navigation missions.

Thirty-eight members volunteered for a two-week, UK Sapper exchange training mission to Sennelager, Germany. Training included classroom and hands-on instruction covering demolitions, weapons, bridging, water purification and infantry tactics. Training was conducted by the British Army, and its members also trained alongside the 211th personnel. The 211th Sappers and their British counterparts then put their training into practice, spending four nights in the German forest near Sennelager conducting various tactical missions.

In October, Sgt. Jacob Vissia, one of the 211th team leaders, won the SDARNG's NCO of the Year competition. He will compete in the Region VI competition in May 2013 in Oregon.

In 2012, the 211th Sappers were sourced for a possible deployment in 2014.

155TH EN CO

RAPID CITY/WAGNER

COMMANDER – CPT MICHAEL L. H. BIERLE
 FIRST SERGEANT – ISG WADE HOFER

The 155th Engineer Company is a vertical engineer company capable of providing engineering support in the construction of base camps and internment facilities, as well as constructing, repairing and maintaining other vertical infrastructures in support of units within a brigade combat team, division or corps.

The 155th has approximately 165 members and is headquartered in Rapid City with a detachment located in Wagner. The 155th has a wide variety of occupational specialties including carpentry, plumbing, electrical and masonry services.

On Sept. 8, 2012, the 155th closed two detachment locations in Winner and Platte, and consolidated the Soldiers and equipment in Rapid City and Wagner. This move provides the unit with additional training opportunities and a chance to build strong unit cohesion.

The 155th supported projects in local communities including the Post 320 baseball field, CASA playhouse, Yankton 4-H building, Dante Fire Dept., Colome veteran's hall and the Lake Andes city park restoration. The company supports the Black Hills National Forest service and the IRT through the year.

The 155th attended Golden Coyote for annual training in 2012. Soldiers participated in multiple warrior task lanes and still had various projects throughout the Black Hills, which included a bridge remodeling on the Mickelson Trail, a new bridge for the Black Hills Playhouse, nine shingling projects and the Post 320 baseball field.

Soldiers also were designated as on state active duty for the Myrtle Fire and North Carolina Air National Guard C-130 crash recovery operations near Edgemont.



200TH EN CO

PIERRE/CHAMBERLAIN/MOBRIDGE

COMMANDER – CPT CHRIS LONG
 FIRST SERGEANT – ISG JOHN SCHMIDT

The 200th Engineer Company is a multi-role bridging company with a mission to provide personnel and equipment transport in addition to being tasked to assemble, disassemble, retrieve and maintain all standard U.S. Army bridging systems. The unit is capable of providing both temporary and permanent bridging solutions over rivers and dry-land gaps utilizing the Improved Ribbon Bridge and Heavy Dry Span Bridge.

The 200th is located in three communities along the Missouri River with more than 180 members dispersed between its headquarters in Pierre, Detachment 1 in Chamberlain and Detachment 2 in Mobridge.

In January 2012, the 200th was seven months into their deployment to Afghanistan. By then the 200th had completed 35 bridge and inspection missions and logged more than 6,990 miles through the theater of Afghanistan. The 200th was responsible for lines of communication bridges in their area of operation.

The 200th completed an additional 20 missions, logging 4,900 miles and containerized four Acrow Bridge Systems and two Heavy Dry Span Bridges to ship back to the U.S. for redistribution.

By the end of the deployment, members of the 200th had completed 55 missions and logged 11,890 miles.

The 200th arrived at Fort Dix, N.J., May 2 to begin their de-mobilization process. The unit's 183 Soldiers were reunited with their families and friends at a welcome home ceremony, May 12, at Riggs High School in Pierre. Following the ceremony, a parade with all the unit's members drove through the communities of Chamberlain and Mobridge.

Yellow Ribbon events were arranged for the 200th to help Soldiers and their families with reintegration. The events consisted of briefings from the education branch, Veterans Affairs, individual counseling, giving family members the opportunity meet the Soldiers their loved ones served with.



927TH

SIoux FALLS

COMMANDER – CW4 KEN SCHOENFELDER
 SENIOR TECHNICAL ENGINEER – SFC RON HARRIS

The mission of the 927th Survey and Design Team is to plan, conduct, prepare and provide planning studies and tests for identified engineer work projects, provide guidance and produce platting, legal descriptions, certification and surveys (boundary, construction) and prepare critical paths for engineer projects.

The 927th had a busy year preparing and deploying to Southwest Asia in Support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Their deployment mission was to conduct survey and design support for engineering projects anywhere in GENCOM's Area of Responsibility.

In January 2012, the unit was notified that their deployment date had been moved up nine months so they would deploy in July 2012, instead of the original deployment date of April 2013. The months leading up to the July 6 activation date were utilized to train up and validate all pre-mobilization and MOS specific tasks.

The unit departed for Fort Bliss, Texas, July 9, where Soldiers received advanced training on the Trimble R8 survey equipment and Trimble Business Center design software, fundamentals of patrolling and a live fire exercise. During a cumulative training exercise, the 927th completed two survey and design projects. The unit designed and staked for construction a new engineer equipment motor pool and established and registered three permanent control points for the route clearance training lanes.

In July, the 927th arrived at its primary location in Southwest Asia, Kuwait. Upon arrival, the unit fell under command and control of the 505th Engineer Battalion, North Carolina National Guard. In September, they relocated one team to Afghanistan, and in October sent a second team to help support the high optempo.

In Kuwait, the 927th supports engineer construction projects for the U.S. military and the Kuwait Ministry of Defense. Their signature project in Kuwait is the design of the Udari Range Amphitheater, which will be utilized by the Kuwait Military to showcase its ability to the Emir of Kuwait. In Afghanistan, the 927th is the primary survey and design asset for the construction of a forward operating base that will be one of the primary hubs for preparing and transporting equipment out of the country.

By the end of their tour, the 927th will have completed more than 150 individual projects between the two countries, with an estimated cost savings of more than \$500,000 for the U.S. military.



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