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Donated quilts highly
valued by deployed
Soldiers

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Oregon Air Guard pilot
remembers Sept. 11



OCTOBER 2011

Oregon Sentinel

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE OREGON NATIONAL GUARD

Oregon welcomes home 3-116 Cavalry from 400-day mobilization to Iraq



Photos by Spc. Cory Grogan, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs



Lt. Col. Philip Appleton (left), and Command Sgt. Maj. William Wyllie (right), uncase the battalion colors, held by Staff Sgt. Vanderzanden, during the demobilization ceremony for the Oregon Army National Guard's 3 Battalion, 116 Cavalry, at Eastern Oregon University in LaGrande, Ore., Oct. 8. Citizen-Soldiers of the 3-116 CAV conducted more than 1,800 patrols totaling more than three million miles traveled.

Approx. 600 Oregon Soldiers served in Iraq for a year-long deployment

Story by Spc. Cory Grogan,
Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

LA GRANDE, Ore.--Oregon Army National Guard Soldiers from the 3 Battalion, 116 Cavalry Brigade based in LaGrande, Ore., were welcomed home during their demobilization ceremony, Oct. 8, at Eastern Oregon University. The Soldiers deployed to Iraq in support of Operation New Dawn.

Dignitaries on hand at the ceremony included Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber, Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, Adjutant General, Oregon, U.S. Congressman Greg Walden, Oregon's 2nd congressional district, LaGrande Mayor Dan Pokorney, Pendleton Mayor Phil Houk and Col. Todd Plimpton, 82 Brigade commander.

Friends, family and community members showed their support by nearly filling Community Stadium at EOU for

See Oregon Soldiers on page 5

Soldiers of the Oregon Army National Guard's 3 Battalion, 116 Cavalry bow their heads during the benediction at the unit's demobilization ceremony at Eastern Oregon University in LaGrande, Ore., Oct. 8.

Oregon's 1186 Military Police Co. mobilizes to Afghanistan



Above: Soldiers of the 1186 Military Police Company participates in their mobilization ceremony at McLaughlin High School, in Milton-Freewater, Ore., Oct. 1. Right: Pvt. 1st Class Kaleb Cole of Union, Ore., salutes the colors during his unit's mobilization ceremony.



area of operation.

The 1186 MP CO was responsible for responding to domestic disasters and emergencies as Oregon's Quick Reactionary Force following the terrorist attacks

of Sept. 11, 2001, and has been called upon for federal missions in the past. They were deployed to support Operation Enduring Freedom in 2004, and in 2005 were called on to support humanitarian missions in New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina.

Shane Baker of Union, Ore., said his son Pfc. Kaleb Cole graduated from basic training last December and is prepared to deploy with the company.

"We want to support him with his military career because he likes it and we know he is protecting people," Baker said. "We are proud of him."

Cole said he is ready to do his job and excited for the deployment, and that it feels good having strong community support while serving his country.

See MP Co. on page 4

Story and photos by Spc. Cory Grogan,
Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

Mobilization ceremonies for the Oregon Army National Guard's 1186 Military Police Company were held Oct. 1, at McLaughlin High School in Milton-Freewater, and Oct. 2 in the Pavilion at the Oregon State Fairgrounds in Salem.

Approximately 180 Citizen-Soldiers from throughout the state are scheduled to deploy to Afghanistan under the authority of Maj. William V. Gillentine and 1st Sgt. Robert Stemple in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Gillentine thanked the communities in and around Milton-Freewater and Salem, and mentioned the amazing support the company has received prior to deployment. "We have the finest NCOs and Soldiers when it comes to maturity and knowledge," he said.

Stemple said the company is well trained with many non-commissioned officers who have been deployed twice or more.

"I feel very comfortable, these are great people," Stemple said. "Many of them deployed to Iraq and Hurricane Katrina"

The military police are tasked with conducting force protection missions in their

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Oregon National Guard members and their families are encouraged to submit articles and story ideas. Stories from any source, military or civilian, are accepted. Letters to the editor are also welcome. All submissions must include the author's name, mailing address and daytime phone number. Names may be withheld in print upon request. All submissions are subject to editing prior to publication, and the Public Affairs staff reserves the right to print or reprint submissions at any time.

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COMMAND

You are in the greatest organization in the world



Maj. Gen.
Raymond F. Rees,
The Adjutant
General,
Oregon

As training year 2011 came to a successful close, this year began without pause. The first weekend of training year 2012 we held two mobilization ceremonies in Milton-Free-water and in Salem to pay honor to the 1186 Military Police Company, as they departed for federal service in Afghanistan.

One week later we welcomed home 3-116 Cavalry in La Grande from their year-long mobilization to Iraq supporting Operation New Dawn. Also returning from Operation New Dawn was our C-23 Sherpa team, A/641 Aviation. To the MPs we look forward to hearing about your successes overseas, and for the units returning: Wel-

come home!

As you return home to your family, friends, lifestyles and routines remember you are a part of one of the greatest teams in the United States; the Oregon National Guard. You have personally demonstrated that we are a ready trained and equipped force for both the citizens of Oregon and the United States, for which you have personally accomplished.

In a time where Congress is considering cuts to the National Guard, Oregon's Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen are doing more than ever before. As I have stated in the past, your Guard members provide more bang for the buck, and are a critical investment in the defense of our nation and state.

The Congressional "Super-Committee" has now convened in Washington D.C., and is working on how to cut a trillion dollars from the federal budget. Several programs are being considered for the chopping block, many of which may have a direct effect on our National Guard and their families.

At the same time, the National Guard Empowerment and State-National Defense Integration Act of 2011 is being considered on Capitol Hill. This bill will allow the National Guard an important seat on the Joint

Chiefs of Staff, and to have a say in critical policy and budget discussions, in addition to direct access to the president, defense secretary and homeland security secretary.

This is a critical time for the Oregon National Guard. We have more than shown our worth, and determination to successfully complete any mission placed before us. As previously stated by Chief of the National Guard Bureau, Gen. Craig McKinley in his paper entitled, *The National Guard: A Great Value Today and in the Future*; "Now is the time to ensure our National Guard completes the transformation into a full-fledged operational force. Our Nation needs a National Guard that is prepared for the threats of tomorrow."

You are the Oregon National Guard. You are the reason other states continue to work to emulate our programs and our leadership. You have more than proven your worth to our state and our nation. Your success is a demonstration to the Congress of the cost effectiveness and efficiency of the National Guard. Investing in the National Guard is a way for our nation to manage risk and maintain security at a time of fiscal concern.

We truly live the motto; "When we are needed! We are there!"

State Command Chief position an honor and privilege

By Chief Warrant Officer 5 Michael Zagyyva,
State Command Chief Warrant Officer,
Oregon National Guard

As of November 1, CW5 Terry Swartwout will be your new Command Chief Warrant Officer.

During the past three years we have moved forward as a Corps due to the foundation of the previous CCWOs and the hard work from all the warrant officers, especially the Council of CW5s.

Mr. Swartwout's challenge is to take the Oregon Warrant Officers to the next level. With the help of the Council, I believe he is up to the task.

There are few goals that he is committed to finish, one being the first Warrant Officer Professional Development workshop. The vast majority of states conduct a specific WOPD. It is time for Oregon.

We have made progress in filling our ranks with the hard to fill MOS. We are at 86 percent overall strength but with the number of Warrant Officer Candidates or those NCO who's packets are ready to be submitted 100 percent is attainable within his tenure. CW5 Swartwout is poised to successfully implement the new Army National Guard Leadership and Development.

I envy him and the tasks he will face will be worthwhile and have a long lasting impact on today's and tomorrow's warrant officers.

There is not enough room in the paper or time to list all of who have supported me

not only in the last few years as CCWO but throughout my entire career in the Oregon Guard. I would however like to take the time to share a couple very important lessons learned that I believe the Guard has provided me in my civilian and military careers.

When I was a middle school principal our school was the third largest in the Oregon. Administrators, Teachers and School Board Members throughout area would visit due to our success, keeping the gangs out, discipline, test scores and parental support etc. When asked what the "real reason" was for these accomplishments I would simply state: "The credit goes to the Oregon Army National Guard."

I would get these strange and confused looks. When they tried to pry deeper I would share that in the late 80s. I was indirectly involved with a decision made by a very young Adjutant General. At first I fought it but then realized it was the right decision, our system works, people will rise to the occasion and to look at the big picture.

Lesson Learned: Use the military organization and leadership skills in the private sector. Plus you may never know what impact your decisions will have on others.

The second is more of an observation. We all have encountered outstanding leaders and felt the sting of the "toxic leader" the Army Times has written articles regarding. There will always be the Soldier, who is more interested in their individual careers. They forget that the M-day Soldier is the main

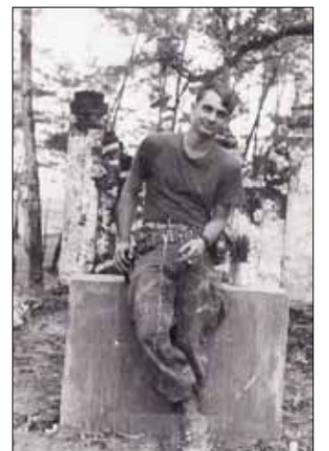
reason they have a job.

We are fortunate that seems to be the exception rather than the rule. Emulate the leader that you want to accomplish a task for because you want to, not because you feel forced or intimidated.

There is a difference between self confidence and ego driven, just as there is a between assertive and aggressive. We all can fall into the ego driven and aggressive mode, me included. The lessons learn: "Check your ego at the door."

Finally, it has been an honor and privilege to serve as your Command Chief Warrant Officer. Coming from a Traditional Guardsmen background I sincerely appreciate the patience, guidance and support from MG Rees, COL Bond, the rest of the Directors, Council of CW5s and especially the Oregon Army National Guard Warrant Officers.

For the Corps!



Michael Zagyyva in Viet Nam in 1969.

Key to career success is buy-in: are you "bought-in"?

Column by Chief Master Sgt. Robert Carter,
62nd Aerial Port Squadron

Today's continuously changing military environment requires people who can adapt to change, think on their feet, make decisions and think through problems and issues, all for mission accomplishment.

So what does this have to do with buy in? If you as a military member, do not have a buy in at different levels, you will fail to maximize your success. These levels are with your people, your job and the Air Force.

As a chief master sergeant, I didn't adopt the idea until I was a young NCO, but it progressively grew from there. My first real experience was when a close friend overheard a conversation between two Airmen in the dormitories talking about potentially creating some turmoil.

She told them, "Not in my Air Force!" I thought to myself wow, that's real ownership. She's a stakeholder in this great Air Force (and that's how I want to be).

First, as a young NCO, you are a trainer of younger Airmen, and the knowledge, skills and attitudes that you display to those you train must be honest, accurate and provide growth.

As one grows in rank, that same honest, accurate mentoring is

shared with peers, senior enlisted leaders and junior and senior officers alike.

Second, to take care of your people on all levels must always be first in your mind.

When they are late, find out where they are. When they are sick, ensure they receive medical care. When they do things well, be sure they are acknowledged.

The phrase, "We are entrusted with the care of our countries sons and daughters" doesn't just relate to senior leaders or commanders. We all must care for those under our control and at times even those who are not.

Lastly, our core values really drive home the keystone of how we act, react and operate in our military microcosm. Do you really think integrity is just a buzz word? Try operating in a combat environment without it. You fail. In a flightline or operational environment without it, you fail. In a customer service environment without it, you fail.

Would settling for mediocrity on the battlefield allow for success?

The Army expects and receives excellence each and every time when they call upon the Air Force in joint operations. Your buy in at all levels—your people, your job and in your Air Force—allows us to be the most feared and respected air and space force in the world! Own your piece of the mission. Are you bought in?

NEWS

Family Readiness Group Coordinator recognized with national award



Story and photo by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

CLACKAMAS, Ore.—The Chief of the National Guard Bureau, Gen. Craig R. McKinley, recognized an Oregon Army National Guard Family Readiness Group Coordinator with a national-level award.

The award was bestowed during the Oregon Guard's Senior Leadership Conference, held at the new 41 Infantry Division Armed Forces Reserve Center at Camp Withycombe, in Clackamas, Ore., Sept. 17.

Jennifer A. Patzner, the Family Readiness Group Coordinator for the Oregon Army National Guard's 141 Brigade Support Battalion, received the National Guard Bureau Regional Family Coordinator of the Year Award during the opening ceremonies of Oregon's annual leadership conference.

Patzner is credited with volunteering

over 30 hours per week, organizing care packages for deployed Soldiers of the unit, and assisting family members of deployed personnel.

The recognition comes as a surprise, and is a humbling experience, Patzner said before the ceremony.

"I'm extremely humbled by this recognition," Patzner said. "But I'm getting this award on behalf of the entire team."

Patzner said the coordinators' jobs are challenging at times because National Guard families are extremely proud, and typically don't ask for help when they need it most.

"But it's also important because when we do support the families of deployed Soldiers, then the Soldiers can focus on their mission (during deployments), and return home safely."

In her three-year tenure as the FRG Coordinator, Patzner has earned 15

certificates in courses such as suicide prevention, leadership, volunteer assessment programs and others, and attended two state workshops and the FRG National Conference in Michigan.

Patzner, who holds a Bachelor Degree in Psychology from Oregon State University, also volunteers her time with the Girl Scouts, South Salem High School Dance Team, the American Red Cross, the Boosters, and the Oregon Partnership Against Drugs.

She encouraged families of deployed Oregon National Guard members to keep them in mind, even when there is no pressing need for services.

"We're here for you," Patzner said of the FRG coordinators.

"When your Soldier is gone, we want you to rely on us. We all have the same goal--to make sure your Soldier makes it home safe," she said.

Gen. Craig R. McKinley Chief of the National Guard Bureau (right), recognizes Jennifer Patzner, Oregon Army National Guard's 141 Brigade Support Battalion Family Readiness Group Leader, with the National Guard Bureau Regional Family Coordinator of the Year Award, at Camp Withycombe, in Clackamas, Ore., Sept. 17.

Soldier's brother thanks Oregon National Guard for funeral participation

When we arrived at the church the parking lot was already full of cars and the Patriot Guard was already in position along the road holding their flags.

A number of Soldiers came and shook my hand and expressed how sorry they were with the loss of my brother. I went inside and met up with the rest of my family as they were greeting the many people that showed for the services.

Lt. Col. Reese informed us that we should be stationed outside to watch the removal of the casket from the hearse. He said it was something we'd want to see and remember.

We walked back outside and I was impressed at what I saw. There were around 50 Soldiers that my brother had served with lined up creating a path for the Honor Guard and my brother. When the hearse opened, they all saluted. Tears were running down my face. Many of the Soldiers also had tears.

Once inside we watched a video of David's life, the preacher spoke, and then many of the Soldiers also spoke.

My boys were presented with David's dog tags and coins. My dad and I were presented with knives emblazoned with a remembrance of David. My mother was then presented with a cavalry sword.

I was impressed with the emotion they spoke with. Some of the Soldiers shook our hands when they were done.

The casket was then opened and everyone in the church came forward and many of them shook our hands and/or hugged us.

The Soldiers then came by and I stood as

they walked by to shake hands and hug us.

I was presented more coins and listened as Soldiers called me their brother since David was their brother. Many Soldiers were crying.

I then watched as they stood in front of my brother's casket and gave him one final salute. Some knelt and said a prayer. I am so impressed at the professionalism, honor and pride they showed as they paid their last respects through tears.

We were then given a ride to the cemetery in a military vehicle. There were four or five police cars leading the procession followed by several patriot guards riding their motorcycles, with flags.

The hearse was followed by our vehicle. I turned around and saw twenty more patriot guard following us. I remember a man and his two young boys putting their hands over their hearts as we passed.

We arrived at the cemetery and were ushered down a path lined with American flags.

My brother arrived and the Honor Guard placed him in front of us. The riflemen shot three volleys and then a lone Soldier played taps.

I again was crying as this song has been played too many times in my family's history.

The Honor Guard then folded the Flag and handed it to Sgt. Herman who then handed it to Lt. Col. Reese.

He then presented the flag to me and I was to present it to my mother. I turned to give her the flag and broke down.

I hugged my mom and we cried. I stepped back in front of my chair, and on



Photo by Spc. Cory Grogan, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs Office

Oregon National Guard Military Funeral Honors Team member, Staff Sgt. Robert Summers, (right), salutes teammate Staff Sgt. Herman Newborn, during a celebration of life for Sgt. David Lynn Evans, during Evans' funeral ceremony in Klamath Falls, Ore., Aug. 13. Evans' father, Sgt. Norman Evans, and his uncle, Pvt. David Lynn Evans, were both killed in action in Viet Nam.

this hot, windless day, a wind blew for a few seconds. It started on the path of flags, blew through the family and I saw the wind rise into the sky and disappear. I'm sure this was my brother's spirit saying goodbye. I have talked to others that saw the wind but did not feel it.

I walked away from this day with an

overwhelming sense of pride in my brother, his service and our military--they are a first class operation and first class individuals. It makes me proud to be an American and a part of the Evans family.

- Jeff Evans, brother of Sgt. Dave Evans

Studies suggest tips to prevent domestic abuse, violence

Story by Judith Watson, Alternate JFHQ SARC

Most of us are very aware of the sad toll that domestic violence takes on everyone who comes in contact with this social ill;

Children are traumatized for life

Victims are emotionally and physically scarred and sometimes lose their lives

The families of victims are distraught and feel powerless to intervene

Police know that responding to a DV call puts them in harm's way.

All of society suffers the emotional and financial effects of intimate partner violence

Domestic Violence in the military is even more prevalent than in the rest of society. Rates of marital aggression are considerably higher than civilian rates, approximately

2-5 times as high (The War at Home, 60 Minutes, 9/1/02).

Deployment puts stress on families, heightening combat stress which further increases the risk of DV. Those with a diagnosis of PTSD were "significantly more likely to perpetrate violence toward their partners" (2006 Study in the Journal of Marital and Family Therapy).

The Miles Foundation, which provides support to military wives, indicated that their caseload tripled since the war in Iraq began. The victims are predominately female, under 25 years old, and are civilians married to active duty service members. Seventy-eight percent have children and 50 percent have been married for two years or less.

I was recently asked, "What can we do to help prevent this from happening?"

Here are some suggestions:

- Let a victim know about the National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence website (www.ncdsv.org). This is an excellent resource.
- Know the phone number of your local DV Shelter and share it with someone you suspect may be a victim of abuse
- Listen to someone who is being abused if s/he wants to talk; better yet, listen without judgment
- Teach your children that violence is never acceptable in a relationship
- Volunteer at a DV Shelter—they are always underfunded and need good volunteers
- In the National Guard, victims of domestic violence are helped primarily through civilian resources although counseling resources available to Guard members can help a victim get to the point



where he or she wants to do something about their situation.

- Remember, if you are a good listener and provide the victim with the phone number of a shelter, you are taking a step to help change the face of domestic violence in our communities.



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NEWS & FEATURES

Deploying Soldiers of 1186 MP Co find good training at Umatilla

Story and photo by Spc. Kirby Rider,
115th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

HERMISTON, Ore. - As gunshots rang out from behind a dirt mound, the sound of casualties screaming out in pain fills the air.

As quickly as Soldiers started going down in the hot afternoon sun, squad leaders assess their ranks to figure out who survived and who needs immediate medical treatment.

Luckily, this is all part of a training exercise put on by the Pre-Mobilization Training Assessment Element for the Soldiers of the 1186th Military Police Company, Oregon Army National Guard.

Soldiers with the unit are currently in the process of completing a pre-mobilization training at the Umatilla Chemical Depot, in Hermiston, Ore.

Although this will not be their only stop before heading to Afghanistan later this year, organizers say the pre-mobilization training offered at Umatilla Chemical Depot gives Soldiers an in-depth view of what to expect during their mobilization process and their tour to Afghanistan.

"You never know how you will react when faced with a situation in combat," said Spc. Erin Drews, a driver with the unit. "I think we are well prepared, we have very good instructors."

During the roughly one-month training, the Soldiers of the 1186th are becoming familiar with their crew-serve weapons,



Spc. Michael Brown, (crouching) a counter-improvised explosive device trainer with the Pre-Mobilization Training Assistance Element, shows Soldiers from the 1186th Military Police Co., how an anti-personnel mine works during their pre-mobilization training at Umatilla Chemical Depot in Hermiston, Ore. Sept. 15. The 1186th Military Police Company is training for their deployment to Afghanistan supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.

like the M240B machine gun, as well as spending a lot of time on firing ranges to hone their skills on their individual weapons in various scenarios including firing in the pitch-black night.

"I feel pretty confident, the training is doing a good job," said Spc. Shawn May, military police officer with the 1186th. "Were doing some good night fire on the

ranges, overall the training is pretty good."

The Soldiers are also learning how to identify improvised explosive devices and properly report what was found, how to handle and use explosives, and how to manage an Entry Control Point (ECP), which manages who can gain access to the base.

"Even though were doing the required stuff, my squad leaders and I are putting a MP flavor on the training," said Maj. Jack Guillentine Jr., Commander of the 1186th MP Co. "When were doing the ECP lane we are conducting convoy security to get out to the lane."

During their mobilization process, the unit has a unique opportunity to complete the majority of their training while still in Oregon. Although this does not eliminate the mobilization training in another state, the pre-mobilization training will give their Soldiers an upper hand when going through the mobilization station next month.

"We can take that year that we have right before we deploy and start knocking out our Army warrior tasks and battle drills," said Staff Sgt. Engle, squad leader, 1186th MP Co.

"It makes it so we only spend a couple of months away from our families before going into country."

During the month-long training in Umatilla, employers of the citizen-Soldiers were able to spend a day observing training similar to what their Soldiers have gone through in the previous weeks.

"It is absolutely amazing," said Steve Gregor, Director of City of Hillsboro Parks and Recreation.

MP Co. Soldiers ready to deploy

Continued from Front Page

Paul J. De Muniz, Oregon State Supreme Court Chief Justice and Viet Nam War veteran, who spoke on behalf of Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber during the mobilization ceremony in Milton-Freewater, expressed how proud he is of the Soldiers.

"I see in your faces the essence of the men I served with, and with whom I will forever be connected," DeMuniz said.

David Williams, a senior officer with the Umatilla Tribal Police, is a former non-commissioned officer with the 1186 MP who says he is very proud to be a part of the unit.

"I helped build this unit, it's great to see this day and I have a lot of confidence in these guys," he said.

The unit spent time training at Gowen Field Idaho and the Umatilla Army Post near Hermiston, Ore., preparing for their mission in Afghanistan.



Photos by Spc. Cory Grogan, Oregon Military Department
Public Affairs

Oregon Army National Guard 1st Sgt. Robert Stemple holds his daughter after a mobilization ceremony for the Oregon National Guard's 1186th Military Police Company, at McLaughlin High School in Milton-Freewater, Ore., on Oct. 1.

Last Viet Nam era Chief Warrant retires from Oregon Guard

Story by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy,
Oregon Military Department

SALEM, Ore.—The last Viet Nam War-era aviation Chief Warrant Officer retired from the Oregon Army National Guard, during a ceremony held at Heritage Park, in Salem, Ore., Sept. 20.

Chief Warrant Officer-5 Marco Frye, who served 42 years in the military—more than 35 years of those in the Oregon Army National Guard—was honored for his service and sacrifice in a ceremony attended by Oregon National Guard leadership, coworkers, family and friends.

Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, Adjutant General, Oregon, said the state of Oregon and the country are indebted to Frye's contributions.

"Be it as an instructor pilot, or on the front lines, Frye has done so much for our state and nation," Rees said.

Frye served as an AH-1 Cobra pilot during the Viet Nam War. During one campaign in Laos, Frye's unit lost over 600 aircraft.

"In all those cockpits were friends, coworkers, patriots," Frye said. "I miss them."

Due to his military service, he missed a number of special occasions with his family, including the birth of his daughter,

Markie, he said.

"For me to tell my daughter I missed her birth, I'm actually blessed to be able to say that to her," he said, referring to fellow service members who died in Viet Nam. "These guys can't say that."

After completing his tour of duty in Viet Nam, Frye separated from the active duty Army to finish his degree at Portland State University.

He joined the Oregon Army National Guard in 1975, and found himself working alongside B-17 pilots who had served in WWII. He watched as the last of their group retired from the ranks of the Oregon Guard and began wondering about his own career, Frye said.

"You always wonder who is going to be the last, and it turned out to me," Frye said.

Over the course of 35 years in the Oregon National Guard, Frye was stationed at both the Pendleton and Salem Aviation Support Facilities as a full-time instructor pilot. He was credited with completing approximately 9,500 hours of incident-free flying, and made safety a priority.

"We teach (new pilots) how to manage risk and bring the resource back to the Army and the humans back to their families," he said.

Frye called the recognition during the retirement ceremony remarkable.



Photo by Spc. Cory Grogan, Oregon Military Department

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Marco Frye, (right), and his son Taylor, pictured together following the elder Frye's retirement ceremony, held at Heritage Park, in Salem, Ore., Sept. 20.

"I'm extremely blessed that I was able to reach the end and stand here and thank everyone," Frye added.

Donated quilts become Soldiers' valued possession



Photo courtesy of 1249 Engineer Battalion

Lt. Col. Kevin Dial, Commander of the 1249 EN BN, displays a quilt donated by the Bethesda Lutheran Church in Eugene, Ore.

Story by Kimberly Lippert,
Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

On a cool night in Afghanistan Soldiers with the Oregon National Guard's 1249 Engineer Battalion are a bit warmer thanks to a generous donation from the congregation of Bethesda Lutheran Church in Eugene, Ore.

The Congregation made 178 quilts for soldiers of the 1249 Engineer Battalion who are currently deployed to Afghanistan.

"I sleep cozily under a terrific quilt every night and do not have words to properly say thank you for the support of our Soldiers," said Lt. Col. Kevin Dial, Commander of the 1249 Engineer Battalion.

Maj. Mark Gilderhus, who is a Chaplain with the unit came up with the idea as a way to support his fellow Soldiers. He never imagined the level of response from his congregation.

"I know sending a quilt isn't going to solve all the problems Soldiers face, but it is one way to make a difference," said Mark Gilderhus.

Gilderhus said the members of his congregation quilted twice a week for up to four hours a time for six months to make the quilts. They named their project Operation Touch of Home.

"For them it's a personal connection, and for me it helped to know where my Soldiers are and to connect them," Gilderhus said.

The quilts have become a prized possession among Soldiers.

"I can't tell you how many of the Soldiers have come up to me and related the amazing gratitude they have for this gift," Dial said.

"The amazing donation of time, resources and genuine care as expressed by this blanket shows a level of support none of us could have imagined," Dial added.

For the Soldiers who received the blankets, the act of kindness gives them more than a warm cover at night, he said.

"Many of our Soldiers are going out on missions away from our main base...they care about the quilts so much that they don't want to take them with them because they might get messed up," said Dial. "They have truly become one of the most valuable possessions many of us have in our rooms."

NEWS

Oregon Soldiers honored during hometown demobilization ceremony

Continued from Front Page

the ceremony.

Approximately 600 Oregon Army National Guard members joined roughly 2,700 members of the 116th Cavalry Brigade Combat Team, from Boise, Idaho on the deployment.

The Citizen-Soldiers of the 3-116 CAV conducted more than 1,800 patrols totaling more than three million miles traveled. During this time, the unit's maintenance group serviced more than 300 Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles.

The ceremony included a change of command as Lt. Col. Phillip Appleton relinquished command of the unit to Maj. Jason Lambert.

"After a successful deployment it's great to have all the Soldiers and families in one place with such excellent community support," Appleton said.

Soldiers from the Oregon battalion are located in armories in LaGrande, Baker City, Ontario, Hermiston, Pendleton, The Dalles, Hood River, Woodburn and Redmond.

Battalion Command Sgt. Maj. William Wyllie admitted it is hard slowing down after the deployment, but he said it feels great being back home.

"We have had outstanding support from every community and there is a huge crowd here today," Wyllie said.

The 116th Cavalry Brigade Combat Team conducted force protection and convoy security missions in Iraq, and received more than 200 individual awards. There are 41 Purple Heart recipients from the deployment in the unit.

The unit previously deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2004 to 2005.

Yellow Ribbon Reintegration events were also held in Portland and LaGrande on the same day.

The program involves 30-, 60- and 90-day follow-on events which ensure Soldiers are aware of available resources upon return from deployment.

The 30-day event included assistance with employment, education, counseling and personal finance. Veterans Administration and County Veterans Services Of-

ficers were also on hand at the events.

Luke Wilson, Eastern Oregon Reintegration Manager, who has been a part of the program since returning from his own deployment to Iraq in 2004-05, said he is passionate about helping Soldiers in his area.

No matter what the issue is we want to work with all service providers in Eastern Oregon to help cut through the "red tape," he said.

Approximately 1,000 Soldiers, family members and friends attended the event to learn about benefits available for veterans.

"I think these events are helpful, they show us where to find all benefits available for veterans," said Spc. Levi Vandermolen, who returned with the unit. He said he plans on using his Post 9/11 GI Bill to earn a college degree.

The Yellow Ribbon Program is part of an innovative Soldier reintegration process which is expanding to help service members throughout the state.

Master Sgt. Vince Jacques, Operations Reintegration Manager, helped start the program in Oregon after he was wounded in combat. He said after returning home from Iraq he had a difficult time finding resources for one of his troops who suffered a serious hand injury. Jacques located a doctor after he was told none were available.



Above: Katie Wood, (right) a contracted employee by the Oregon National Guard Youth Program, works on a "Homecoming Tale Collage" with Izabel Gray—daughter of Spc. James Gray who recently returned from Iraq with the 3rd battalion, 116th Cavalry Brigade—during a reintegration event, Oct. 8, at Bagley Hall on the Eastern Oregon University campus.



Photo by Spc. Cory Grogan, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

Lt. Col. Philip Appleton, former commander of the Oregon Army National Guard's 3-116 CAV, presents the Oregon State flag to Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber during the unit's demobilization ceremony at Eastern Oregon University in LaGrande, Ore., Oct. 8. From left to right: Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, Adjutant General, Oregon, Governor Kitzhaber, Appleton, and unit Command Sgt. Maj. William Wyllie. During the ceremony, the unit also conducted a change of command, where Appleton relinquished command to Maj. Jason Lambert.

"There are resources out there—you just have to find them. We are not the resource; we are the 411 for resources and we follow up," he said.

Jacques has watched the program grow from a few people wanting to help Soldiers into a nationally-recognized reintegration program. Jacques said he is passionate about the mission and that he has a message for Soldiers.

"Have a goal, get the resources you need, and if you don't need them, watch out for your buddy. You might need to help them out," he said.

The reintegration program and Career Transition Assistance Program have been combined in the new Joint Transition Assistance Program in an effort to better serve National Guard members, Sailors, Marines, Airmen and Coast Guard members from Oregon.

The program is expanding to better help

all service members in Oregon who have been called upon to deploy in numbers not seen since World War II.

Oregon does not have an active duty military post for any branch of the armed forces.

The 60-day events for 3-116 CAV on Nov. 19 at Clackamas Community College in Oregon City and Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton were open to any service member from Oregon. It was the largest event of its kind in the U.S., and was open to all branches of the service, Jacques said.

The events included employers on-site ready to hire veterans, veteran-friendly educational institutions, and service organizations which assist returning veterans with health care and benefits.

For more information about the JTAP or resources available to veterans call 1-888-688-2264.

Chief of the National Guard Bureau visits Port of Portland, thanks them for support



Photo by Tech. Sgt. John Hugel, 142nd Fighter Wing, Public Affairs

Gen. Craig R. McKinley, Chief of the National Guard Bureau visited with Port of Portland officials during a visit to Oregon, Sept. 16. The visit was to show appreciation for 60 years of partnership between the Port of Portland and the Portland Air National Guard Base, and to attend the dedication ceremony for the 41 Infantry Division Armed Forces Reserve Center at Camp Withycombe, in Clackamas Ore., later in the day.

From left to right: McKinley, Oregon National Guard Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, Adjutant General, Oregon; Steven H. Schreiber, Director of Aviation, Portland International Airport; and Paul Rosenbaum, Port of Portland Commissioner. Schreiber, along with several Port Authority staff gave McKinley a guided tour of the Port offices during the visit.

Army National Guard Reenlistment/Extension Bonus (REB)

The National Guard Bureau has established a Reenlistment/Extension Bonus (REB) for FY12. The REB provides bonuses up to \$10,000, depending on when a soldier extends his/her service. A few notes about the REB*:

- ~ Soldiers can now only receive one Selected Reserve Incentive Program (SRIP) incentive. Soldiers currently receiving benefits under the MGBI kicker or who will have an active SLRP contract on the contract start date are not eligible.
- ~ Soldiers must be in pay grade E-7 or below and have no more than 10 years time in service at time of current ETS.
- ~ Soldiers must be the primary position holder, not in an over-strength or excess status.
- ~ Bonus is only available for soldiers who extend for a 6 year period.
- ~ Military technicians and AGR soldiers are not eligible for this bonus.
- ~ Soldiers must be within 365-91 days from their ETS. Bonus payment amounts are dependant on **WHEN** the soldier extends:

365-271 Days before ETS:	\$10,000
270-181 Days before ETS:	\$7,500
180-91 Days before ETS:	\$5,000
90-1 Days before ETS:	No Bonus

For specific questions regarding the Reenlistment/Extension Bonus, please contact your unit Recruiting and Retention NCO.

* Information is current as of 5 Oct 11.



When We Are Needed, We Are There

NEWS

173rd Fighter Wing bids farewell to Col. Miller, welcomes Col. Silver

Story by Tech. Sgt. Jefferson Thompson,
173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore. -- Col. James C. Miller relinquished command of the Oregon Air National Guard's 173rd Fighter Wing to Col. Jeffrey M. Silver during a change of command ceremony at Kingsley Field, Sept. 11.

Miller has served as the wing commander of the unit since May 14, 2008. Miller leaves behind command of the 173rd and an impressive record as a command pilot. He has amassed the second most hours in the F-15 behind former 173rd Vice Commander Col. Richard Kelly with 4,413.9 total airframe hours.

"That is a mark I don't think we'll see overtaken, possibly ever," said Master Sgt. Pete Weigman, who is responsible for tracking flight hours for Kingsley pilots.

Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, Adjutant General, Oregon, thanked Miller for a "wonderful, wonderful command tour," and added that he's "taken on all of the tough jobs."

Turning to Miller with a smile on his face, Rees added, "You've even spent a little time at state headquarters as the director of staff."

Miller responded with his signature wry grin.

"We truly appreciate the standards you've set here, well done," Rees added.

Under Miller's leadership, the 173rd Fighter Wing underwent a major runway

upgrade which involved relocating the entire wing for more than six months, upgraded every airframe with a new 220 engines and chalked up "Excellent" ratings in a UCI and ORI inspection. Additionally he oversaw the consolidation of formal F-15 training to Kingsley Field, Ore.

In his outgoing remarks he reminded the assembled members of their outstanding track record citing accomplishments from every group.

"All of you throughout the wing have earned the right to look in the mirror and be proud of your accomplishments and what you do for our state and Nation every day," said Miller.

Silver served as the 142nd Fighter Wing operations group commander before becoming the 173rd Fighter Wing vice commander in June.

His career began when he was commissioned in 1984 through the Air National Guard Academy of Military Science and was assigned to the 142nd Fighter Wing, Portland Air National Guard Base, as a Weapon Systems Officer in the F-4C. His duty assignments in the 142nd Fighter Wing have included Operations Support Flight Commander, Maintenance Squadron Commander, Maintenance Group Commander, Operations Group Commander, and Vice Commander.

Rees praised Silver for his vast experience including flying Operations Northern and Southern Watch, flying the alert mission in Portland, and commanding



Photo courtesy of 173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Col. Jeffrey Silver, Commander, 173rd Fighter Wing, Klamath Falls, Ore., salutes Brig. Gen. Steven Gregg, Oregon Air National Guard commander, during a change of command ceremony at Kingsley Field, Sept. 11.

the 142nd Maintenance Group.

"You are going to do a great job; we truly appreciate you stepping up to this challenge," said Rees.

Gregg echoed those remarks citing his operational experience in maintenance and flying operations.

"We look forward to the bright future of the 173rd Fighter Wing," said Gregg.

Silver thanked those who have gone before him in leadership of the wing mentioning by name Billy Cox, Tom Scheiss and Jim Miller and pledged to lead the wing with the same high standards.

"I'm proud and excited to take command of the 173rd Fighter Wing," said Silver. "Thank you for entrusting me with this responsibility."

Klamath Falls Security Forces Squadron deploys to Afghanistan



Photo courtesy of 173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Members of the Oregon Air National Guard's 173rd Security Forces Squadron, based at Klamath Falls, pose for a group photo at Kingsley Field before their deployment to Afghanistan.

Story by Tech. Sgt. Jefferson Thompson,
173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore. -- Nearly half of the assigned members of the 173rd Security Forces Squadron deployed from Kingsley Field bound for Afghanistan, in a mobilization ceremony Sept. 1.

The 26-member team returned following pre-deployment training in Texas where they prepared to conduct "outside the wire" missions in an overseas Area of Responsibility (AOR).

During remarks Col. James C. Miller, 173rd Fighter Wing Commander, presided over the ceremony and reminded the troops and their families of the importance of family care and readiness.

"When I saw you at the Yellow Ribbon event I meant what I said, 'do not hesitate to lean on your Kingsley family if you have any need at all, we are here to support you both now and following this deployment.'"

Brig. Gen. Steven D. Gregg, Oregon Air National Guard Commander, hailed the deployment as another example of Oregon answering the Nation's call.

"These men and women have the best training and equipment available, they are Oregon's finest, and we look forward to their safe return."

Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, Adjutant General, Oregon, detailed how the Airmen display the Oregon National Guard Core Values: Competence, Confidence, Courage and Commitment, and expressed his faith in the high caliber of work they will perform while deployed.

From Kingsley the first stop is Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash., for survival training. Once survival training is complete they will leave directly for their actual deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and are set to return home in April 2012.

Chief Master Sgt. Joseph W. Stickel, Jr., 173rd Security Forces Manager says the deployment poses some unique challenges when compared to those of the past.

"This deployment is unique in the sense that our members are deploying as part of the Area Security Operation which is an outside-the-wire mission," said Stickel.

"Although we have had members in the past perform some security outside the wire, this is the first deployment where the mission is exclusively outside the base perimeter."

He notes that security operations at the 173rd Fighter Wing will continue normally with the help of numerous Kingsley Airmen who have stepped up to augment the deployed security forces members.

There she goes...

Caroline McGowan, Miss Oregon 2011, learns the differences between the UH-60 Blackhawk L model and the new M Model from Chief Warrant-2 Matthew Hill, during a tour of the Oregon Army National Guard's, AASF #1, Larry Deibert Flight Facility, Oct. 1.

McGowan participated in the mobilization ceremony for the 1186 Military Police Company detachment, Oregon Army National Guard, in Milton-Freewater, Ore., after completing her tour. Photo by Capt. Stephen Bomar, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs.



Kingsley Airmen ride for Multiple Sclerosis



Members of the Kingsley Field Bicycle Team rode in support of the Multiple Sclerosis Bike Tour Aug. 6-7. Proceeds from the event went toward MS related research.

Story and photo by Tech. Sgt. Jefferson Thompson, 173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

COLUMBIA GORGE, Ore. -- Members and friends of the 173rd Fighter Wing mashed the pedals in an effort to help find a cure for multiple sclerosis, during the Oregon Multiple Sclerosis Bike Tour Aug. 6-7.

After traveling to Mount Hood Community College, eight riders wearing bright red jerseys featuring Kingsley Field F-15s rode bicycles over 1,200 cumulative miles through the Columbia Gorge past such picturesque sites as Multnomah Falls.

The Oregon Chapter's efforts raised more than \$324,000 for MS related research. The ride is personal for many 173rd Fighter Wing members who lost one of their own to MS. Master Sgt. Bob Miller, a former weapons troop, passed away in 2000 from the effects of the disease.

Miller has been commemorated each year since by the Kingsley Field bicycle team who ride in his honor during the Oregon Multiple Sclerosis Bike Tour.

This year Barb Cloninger, Bob Morehead, Anthony Morehead, Rafe Pierce, John Whiddon, Brian Wigen, Jason Pham and Vic Ford rode in support of the event.

For more information on the Kingsley Field Bicycle Team, or joining the fight against multiple sclerosis, contact Chief Master Sgt. Vic Ford at 541-885-6620.

FEATURES

Oregon Air National Guard pilot on Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks: "That can't happen again"



The radios were silent. This was one of the first things Lt. Col. Steve Beauchamp noticed as his F-15 Eagle lifted off the runway and started tearing through the sky.

A pilot with the 142nd Fighter Wing, an Air National Guard unit based in Portland, Ore., he'd flown in the area for quite some time. Normally, the colonel's headset would be filled with chatter from air traffic controllers and other aircraft in the local airspace.

This time, though, there was nothing. No chatter, no squawks, no beeps.

It wasn't just the silence that was weird. It was also the feeling of isolation. Other than his wingman's



F-15 flying next to the colonel, there wasn't a single other aircraft visible in the air — no commercial airliners, no police or traffic helicopters, no private prop jobs. Nothing.

"It was so surreal," Beauchamp said. "It's like we were the only people in the world up there."

Normally, this would be a fighter pilot's dream. He could go where he wanted, when he wanted. But this flight was no joy ride. This flight had a mission: find any unauthorized aircraft and shoot them down.

These words were still hanging over the colonel's head as he tried to make sense of them. It had only been a few hours since he was staring at the television and watching the images of two of the World Trade Center towers burning. Words like "under attack," and "terrorism," kept being repeated and then he was in his flight suit, sitting in the cockpit and waiting for the word to go.

At first, the information trickling in was sketchy, but the known details were horrifying. Terrorists had taken over several planes and were using them as deadly, piloted missiles.

So, now, here he was, in the sky above Portland on a course to intercept a civilian airliner that was flying near Vancouver, Canada.

"When we were being briefed and getting ready for the mission, I kept talking to the other guys and the whole mood was pretty somber," Beauchamp said. "It was like, 'Man, we might have to shoot down an airplane full of innocent people.'"

This thought was now clinging to the colonel's spine like an icicle as the airliner came into view on the horizon.

"Homeland defense is a zero failure mission. There's no room for error and that means everyone has to be on top of their game." — Lt. Col. Steve Beauchamp

"Our orders were to get close and look for signs of duress among the passengers," he said.

So, the two fighters came in on either side of the airliner and the pilots scanned the windows, trying to see inside the large plane.

Then, suddenly, bursts of bright light started coming from inside the airliner.

Laughing, the colonel radioed his wingman.

"It's flashes!" he said into the radio.

"They're taking pictures."

The plane, coming from Japan, was full of tourists headed to America and they were excited to take photos of the Air Force fighters. Relieved and not seeing

"Homeland defense is a zero failure mission."

— Lt. Col. Steve Beauchamp, 142nd Fighter Wing F-15 pilot

any other signs for alarm, the colonel and his wingman escorted the plane to the nearest runway.

The ordeal was over. But this mission's ending was just the beginning of another. Operation Noble Eagle was born.

Since that day ten years ago, Air Force fighters have flown approximately 42,000 sorties as part of Operation Noble Eagle and have responded to more than 3,400 possible air threats. The operation uses a wide range of Air Force assets, including the F-15 Eagle, the F-22 Raptor, the F-16 Fighting Falcon and support aircraft such as Airborne Warning and Control System and air-to-air refueling planes.

ONE is part of the overall plan to protect North America from airborne attack. Falling under the North American Aerospace Defense Command, the operation is directly controlled by 1st Air Force, headquartered at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. The combined air operations center at Tyndall acts as a "brain" for the entire continental United States airspace and three subordinate air sectors handle various regions of the country. These are the Southeast Air Defense Sector at Tyndall, the Northeast Air Defense Sector at Rome, N.Y., and the Western Air Defense Sector at McChord AFB, Wash.

All of these sectors are responsible for monitoring and reacting to any threats in their airspace. Over the past ten years, Airmen from the United States and Canada have stood on call 24 hours per day, 365 days per year, to ensure these areas over North America are safe.

At any given time, according to NORAD officials, Noble Eagle aircraft may be flying air patrol missions over more than 15 U.S. cities. Also, special security events like the Super Bowl and presidential visits usually warrant air protection.

This protection doesn't come cheap. Since 2001, the operation has cost an estimated \$27 billion, according to officials at 1st Air Force. Last year alone, ONE cost over \$50 million, according to the fiscal year 2012 President's Budget, released by the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

For the men and women who perform this operation daily, the mission isn't about money. It's about the intangibles: the lives saved, the buildings still standing and the tragedies averted.

A Noble Cause

Story by Tech. Sgt. Matthew Bates, Airman Magazine
Photos courtesy of 142nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Left: Oregon Air National Guard Lt. Col. Steve Beauchamp of the 123rd Fighter Squadron, 142nd Fighter Wing, Oregon Air National Guard, prepares his F-15 Eagle for a flight on Sept. 16, 2009. Beauchamp was one of several Oregon F-15 pilots who flew alert missions over the Pacific Northwest following the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

Below: Beauchamp performs a final preflight inspection of his aircraft before a training flight.

Ultimately, though, it's about necessity. "Homeland defense is a zero failure mission," Beauchamp said. "There's no room for error and that means everyone has to be on top of their game."

This means evaluating threats and reacting to alerts as fast as possible. To respond to these alerts, the detachments always have two fighters "at the ready," meaning they can launch at a moment's notice. These planes range from F-15 Eagles to F-16 Fighting Falcons to

as soon as they can. If the light is green and yellow, then the fighters hold on the runway. If the light is yellow only, then crews prep the fighters, but they hold in the hangars. A red light kills a mission.

A horn also sounds when there's an alert — a loud, piercing sound that is unmistakable.

Waiting for the alarm to sound is what the job is all about, which, at times, can make for an anxious work atmosphere. A mix of teamwork and camaraderie keeps the alert teams sharp and ensures when the alarm does go off they are ready.

"We work together and we get the job done," Beauchamp said. "We're all here for one thing, and that's to protect the American people and the American way of life. We're all committed to that."

This is due in large part to a very capable team of maintenance experts that can fix just about anything in-house. From tire repair and engine maintenance to ordnance loading and electronics calibration, these maintenance teams can do it all.

"When we get a call, these jets need to be in the air," said Master Sgt. Sam Dunn, an F-15 crew chief with the 142nd FW.

"This means when the pilots get in that jet,



"Typically, we can be in the air in just a couple minutes," Beauchamp said.

At each alert station, pilots take turns pulling alert duty in teams of two. They and the on-call maintenance crews live in a small building near the flight line, complete with a kitchen, living area and sleeping quarters. Attached hangars house the alert aircraft.

"It's a sort of like an 'aerial' fire station," Beauchamp said. "Except instead of responding to fires, we're responding to threats in the sky."

The threats vary from mission to mission.

"It's so interesting day to day because you don't know what you're going to face," Beauchamp said. "One day you can respond to an aircraft that's off course and the next you could be responding to someone flying too close to Air Force One."

When one of these situations occurs, the alarm goes off and the fighters scramble.

One way the detachment gets an alert is through a system of lights that tell pilots and ground crews how to respond. If it's a green light, then the fighters take off

it has to work. Not just some of the time, but all of the time."

The alert teams aren't just a good mix of enlisted and officers. The teams are also a solid mix of total force components. Active, Guard and Reserve Airmen all contribute to ONE, with the Air National Guard currently providing the bulk of assigned personnel.

It's not a competition, though, and the units understand this. For them, the only thing that matters is getting the mission done — together.

"We're all in to make sure a tragedy like 9/11 doesn't happen again," Beauchamp said. "That's why we're out there day after day, patrolling the skies and keeping this country safe."

While keeping America safe is motivation enough, the colonel is further motivated by the memory of the day the radios went silent and the sky was empty.

"That can't happen again," he said. "And on our watch, it won't."

The Oregon Air National Guard's 142nd Fighter Wing provides air security over the Pacific Northwest as part of its 24/7 Aerospace Control Alert (ACA) mission.

AZUWUR



Story and photos courtesy of Warren Aney, Oregon National Guard Military Historian

This is the first part of a two-part story about the history of Camp Withycombe.

The first records of the Clackamas area being used for a military training site are from 1893.

In August of that year the Oregon National Guard's First Regiment, the Second Battalion of the Second Regiment, and Light Battery A held a ten-day encampment by the Clackamas River near Gladstone.

This site was named "Camp Compson" in honor of the Oregon National Guard Brigade Commander, Brig. Gen. Hartwell B. Compson, of Klamath Falls, Ore. A rifle range constructed at this site provided 200, 300, and 500 yard firing lines.

Clackamas Rifle Range

Early in 1909 the office of the Adjutant General negotiated a lease, with option to purchase, 100 acres near Clackamas, "for the purpose of constructing a rifle range thereon and for the use of a camp ground."



Fig. 1: Clackamas Rifle Range in 1909.

This site was selected because of its proximity to Portland and its accessibility by means of the Southern Pacific Railroad and the Oregon City Electric Line. Mt. Talbert, a high hill at the east end of the tract, provided a backstop.

By June 1909 the range was ready for use and the state held encampments and a rifle competition in July of that year.

Twelve companies of the Third Regiment encamped there in mid July and eight companies of the Fourth Regiment encamped there July 24-30 (see Fig. 1).

In a 1912 report, this site was being called the "Clackamas Rifle Range" and in a 1913 report it was called the "Oregon State Camp Grounds and Rifle Range."

Between 1909 and 1913 the state constructed a quartermaster and commissary storehouse (1910), a barn (1910, see Fig. 2), a mess hall (ca. 1912, see Fig. 3) and toilets. The state also installed a water system with shower baths.

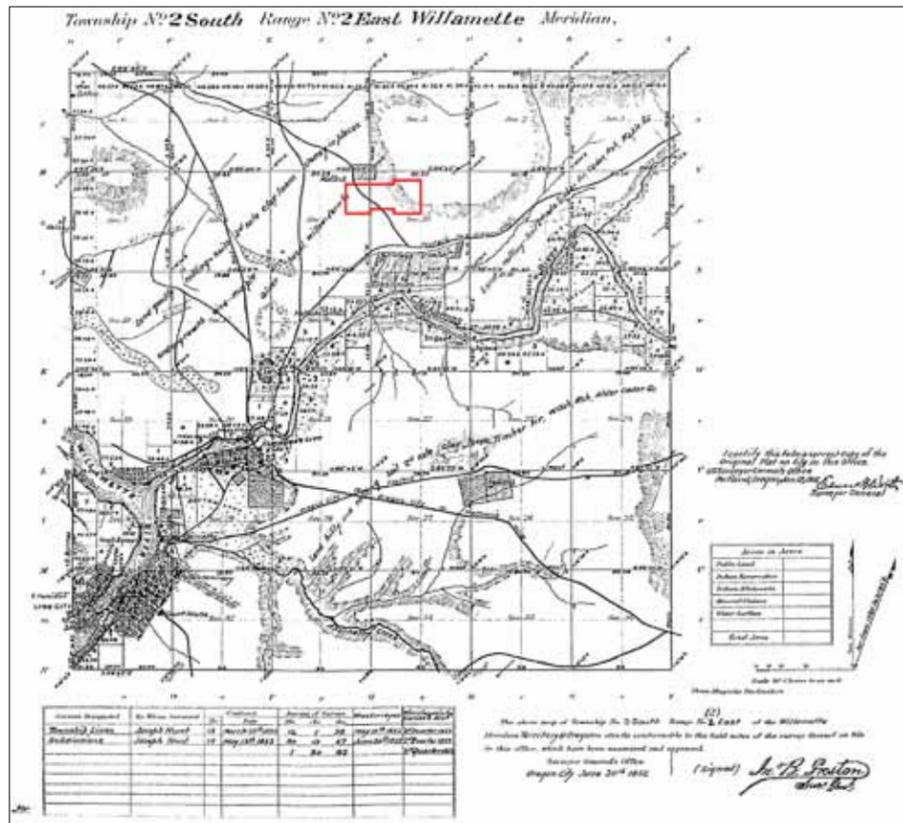
Soon, the government leased an additional 97 acres, and the site became a supply depot as well as a rifle range.

In October 1912 there was a regional event, the Northwestern International Rifle Competition, was held on this range, with participating teams coming from Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and British Columbia. The British Columbia team won, and the Oregon team came in a distant second.



James Withycombe (1854-1919) was governor of Oregon from 1915 to 1919. He died while in office, and also served as the state veterinarian, a agriculturist, and director of the Agricultural Experiment Station.

Camp Withycombe's roots began with rifle range



Above: An 1852 map of Oregon City and Clackamas River area. The present location of Camp Withycombe is outlined in red. The "Foster's to Oregon City" road on the south side of the Clackamas River is the emigrant route from the Barlow Road to the Willamette Valley.

Camp Withycombe

By 1915 the "State Rifle Range and Mobilization Camp at Clackamas" had grown to 256 acres purchased or under lease.

The Clackamas site was the state mobilization and demobilization camp for 1916 duty on the Mexican Border from June 18 - September 25, with Cavalry Troop A, Cavalry, and Battery A, Field Artillery, which was demobilized on Feb. 22 1917.

This mobilization camp was named Camp Withycombe in honor of Oregon's governor at that time. This name referred only to this particular mobilization encampment period.

On Apr. 15, 1917, Oregon's Third Regiment was called into federal service for World War I, with Vancouver Barracks



Fig. 2: The "Battery Barn", constructed for field artillery horses and equipment. It was recently moved from its original location to a site north of the Oregon Military Museum. It is the only structure from this era that has survived to the present.

as its initial mustering-in point.

Due to overcrowding at that post, in May, the Third Regiment Headquarters transferred to the state mobilization camp at Clackamas.

In August, the remainder of the Oregon National Guard was drafted into federal service, with Clackamas as the designated mobilization point for three of Oregon's cavalry troops; Field Artillery Battery B, the Battalion of Engineers, and the Field Hospital Company.

During World War I, the Oregon Guard replaced the federalized National Guard in several communities around the state. Portland units of the Oregon Guard used the Clackamas rifle range for target practice.

Between 1920 and 1933 two buildings

were constructed, including a supply building in 1920. The site covered 240 acres with a rifle range extending to 1,500 yards.

In 1934 the Clackamas Rifle Range was designated as a federal military reservation and received the permanent designation as Camp Withycombe.

In July 1934, a Longshoremen's strike broke out up and down the Pacific coast. Oregon Governor Julius L. Meier activated 1,127 Oregon National Guard troops to support civil authorities in maintaining law and order. These troops spent 11 days in readiness at Camp Withycombe without being called upon.

Construction and Modernization

Beginning in 1934 and over the next six years as many as 14 buildings were constructed under auspices of the federal Public Works Administration (PWA) and Works Progress Administration (WPA).

These buildings included the Adjutant General's residence (1938) and garage, truck storage and repair buildings, several warehouses and storage facilities, a machine shop, an administrative building, and a building for classrooms and offices.

Expansion of warehouse, storage, and quartermaster facilities led to an increasing role for Camp Withycombe as a military supply warehousing and disbursement center. A Motor School trained 135 truck drivers and chauffeurs each year. The classrooms also accommodated officer, noncommissioned officer, and specialist schools.

World War II

Beginning in September 1940, Oregon National Guard units mobilized for federal service.

During the war federal troops occupied Camp Withycombe and the post became identified as a United States Army Barracks. Military activities at this location consisted mainly of repair and

maintenance, quartering of Army troops in the Portland area, and rifle marksmanship.

The Oregon State Guard replaced the federalized Oregon National Guard during this period and used Camp Withycombe for training, marksmanship, and as a central supply depot. The rifle range received extensive use by all branches of the federal military.

The Cold War, 1948-1990

Starting in 1949 the number of buildings in the camp nearly doubled in support of the camp's function as a supply and ordnance center. These included a State Maintenance Shop, new storage facilities, and a residence for the camp manager.

During this period a number of Oregon Army National Guard units became part of Camp Withycombe. These include the 3670th Ordnance Maintenance Company (relocated to Camp Withycombe in 1948), the 1210th Transportation Company (relocated to Camp Withycombe in 1963), and the 741st Ordnance Detachment (organized at Camp Withycombe in 1975).

In 1956 the State of Oregon received title to Camp Withycombe.

A new army provided space for troop units and a training school for the Oregon State Police.

Camp Withycombe also housed year-round National Guard education facilities including the Oregon Military Academy, an officer training school, the Oregon Army National Guard Noncommissioned Officers Academy, and the Recruit Training School.

But the post's real noteriety would emerge as a premier rifle marksmanship facility as number of competitions were held there over the years.



Fig. 3: Mess Hall at State Rifle Range, Clackamas, from the 1915 Biennial Report of the Adjutant General, Oregon.

For the continuation of this historical perspective, please see Part 2 in the next issue of the Oregon Sentinel.

Camp Withycombe: A Timeline

- Aug. 1893: Oregon National Guard holds 10-day encampment near Clackamas River. This is the first use of the area by organized military. The site is named Camp Compson.
- 1909: Some 100 acres leased from State of Oregon for Camp Compson.
- Summer 1909: Oregon National Guard occupies Camp Compson, holds rifle competition there.
- 1912: Site referred to as "Clackamas Rifle Range" in annual report, and renamed "Oregon State Camp Grounds & Rifle Range" in 1913 annual report.
- 1909-1913: Several buildings are constructed at site.
- Oct. 1913: Northwestern International Rifle Competition held at Camp Compson.
- June 1916: Camp Compson renamed Camp Withycombe in honor of Oregon Governor James Withycombe.
- Apr. 1917: Oregon's 3rd Regiment Headquarters moved to Camp Withycombe.
- 1934: Camp Withycombe receives official federal designation.
- 1941-1945: Camp Withycombe utilized as U.S. Army Barracks.
- Post WWII: Construction "explosion" happens at Camp Withycombe.