

# ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



## OHIO NATIONAL GUARD

Volume 3, Edition 6—June 1, 2011

June is . . .



Two hundred and thirty-six years ago the United States Army was established to defend our nation.

From the Revolutionary War to current operations taking place around the world, our soldiers remain Army Strong with a deep commitment to our core values and beliefs.

This 236th birthday commemorates America's Army Soldiers, Families and civilians who are achieving a level of excellence that is truly Army Strong. Being Army Strong goes beyond physical endurance and mental preparedness. It encompasses an indomitable spirit and high ethical and moral values.

These are not only desirable traits in a person, but in a nation that wishes to live up to the ideals and vision of its founders. We are "America's Army: The Strength of the Nation."



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Editor's Note

The newsletter you are reading is read in Ohio and around the world.

If you would like to submit an article, let everyone know about an upcoming event or provide a helpful suggestion on how to make the newsletter more readable or informative, please email the information to me at [james.m.moore2@us.army.mil](mailto:james.m.moore2@us.army.mil).

No submissions will be accepted after the 10th of the month unless the article is for later issues.

## eBenefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs

The President's Commission on Care for America's Returning Wounded Warriors (Dole/Shalala) was established by Executive Order 13426 in March 2007. The Executive Order recommended the creation of a My eBenefits (aka eBenefits) web portal. The portal would serve wounded, injured, and ill service members, veterans, their families, and their caregivers. It would provide a single sign-on, central access point to online benefits and related services.

True to its mission, the eBenefits portal is a one-stop shop for benefits-related online tools and information. eBenefits serves wounded warriors, veterans, service members, their families, and their caregivers.

### eBenefits provides two main services:

1. A catalog of links to other sites that provide information about military and veteran benefits; and a personalized workspace called *My eBenefits* that provides quick access to eBenefits tools. Using eBenefits tools, you can complete various tasks. You can apply for benefits, download your DD 214, and view your benefits status.
2. Service members, veterans, and their family members can register for eBenefits. Registration gives you access to secure features. It also gives you the ability to personalize features to suit your needs.

### Contact

Use Benefits Contact Information Below

#### eBenefits Frequently Asked Questions

<https://iris.custhelp.com/app>

Type *ebenefits* in the Search Text box.

#### eBenefits Online Customer Support

<http://www.va.gov/iris/home>

eBenefits Toll-free Customer Support:

1-800-983-0937

### Other Contact Information

#### VA Frequently Asked Questions

<http://www.va.gov/iris/home>

#### VA Toll Free Customer Support

<http://www.va.gov/iris/scripts>

#### Department of Defense Frequently Asked Questions

<http://www.defense.gov/faq/questions.aspx>

#### Department of Defense Contact Information

<http://www.defense.gov/landing/>

#### Veterans Information Portal Help

<https://vip.vba.va.gov/portal/VBAH/Home>

#### My HealtheVet Customer Support

<https://www.myhealth.va.gov/>

#### Tricare Online Frequently Asked Questions

<https://www.tricareonline.com/portal/>

#### Tricare Online Customer Support

<https://www.tricareonline.com/portal/>

### Mobile eBenefits

eBenefits is available from your mobile phone. You can monitor your pending compensation and pension claims, view a detailed history of your VA benefit payments, and find a DoD or VA facility near you. Visit the Mobile eBenefits site at [m.ebenefits.va.gov](http://m.ebenefits.va.gov).

### Sources

Information on eBenefits comes from many different sources. To see a list of contributors, view our sources page at <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits-portal/>

eBenefits Release: 3.0



## Deployment activity

Current deployed Army units are:	There are 551 Ohio Army National Guard Soldiers deployed. The above information comes from the Chief of Staff Briefing.	The 178th Fighter Wing has 81 Airmen deployed.
The Operational Mentoring & Liaison Teams 1.5 and 1.6.		This information was gathered from the monthly Wing Status Reports.
The 112th Engineer Battalion	Current deployed Air units, per Wing, are:	
The 1-174th ADA Regiment (C-RAM)	The 121st Air Refueling Wing has 73 Airmen deployed.	
The 1-174th ADA Regiment (RADAR)	The 179th Fighter Wing has 55 Airmen deployed.	
The 292nd Engineer Detachment (ASPHALT)	The 180th Fighter Wing has 29 Airmen deployed.	
The 295th Engineer Detachment (Firefighters)		
The 1937th Support Detachment		

## The Army clarifies guidance for Purple Heart award for concussion injuries

FORT KNOX, Ky. — April 29, 2011, the Army is clarifying its guidance for awarding the Purple Heart for concussion injuries. This does not change the criteria or standard for the award of the Purple Heart. The clarifying guidance is designed to assist the Chain of Command, Soldiers and Veterans in understanding the specific requirements for consideration and reconsideration retroactive to Sept. 11, 2001.

The clarification:

(1) More accurately outlines the signs and symptoms of a concussion injury following a hostile event and clearly outlines what constitutes treatment. This clarification includes requirements for commanders and medical professionals to use in reviewing award submissions/re-submissions. It clarifies what constitutes qualification for the Purple Heart for concussion injuries (including mild traumatic brain and concussive injuries that do not result in a loss of consciousness).

(2) Outlines procedures to be used to reconsider previously dis-approved Purple Hearts for concussion injuries. As part of this review, the first general officer in a Soldier's peacetime chain of command is the disapproval and approval

authority for these re-submissions.

The Army is encouraging Soldiers and Veterans who were previously denied a Purple Heart for concussion injuries to re-submit documentation for re-consideration. Soldiers currently serving in the Active Army, Army Reserves or Army National Guard should re-submit through their company chain of command.

Veterans should re-submit to the U.S. Army Human Resources Command at:

Commander, USA HRC

ATTN: Awards & Decorations Branch (AHRC-PDP-A)

1600 Spearhead Division Ave.

Fort Knox, KY 40122

1-888-276-9472

Email: [hrc.tagd.awards@conus.army.mil](mailto:hrc.tagd.awards@conus.army.mil)

Website: <https://www.hrc.army.mil/awards>



## One of the ten major battles that shaped America

### Yorktown

Early in 1781 the six-year struggle for American independence seemed to be collapsing. Congress was bankrupt and mutinies had shaken the Continental Army. The French minister to the United States had browbeaten and bribed Congress into agreeing to peace

fleet was heading for Chesapeake Bay, with 3,200 men and enough money to finance a campaign.

Washington led 2,500 Continentals and 4,000 French regulars on a stealthy 340-mile march to Virginia, where they learned astonishing news: The 29-ship French fleet had repulsed the British fleet's attempt to rescue Cornwallis' army, leaving it trapped in the tobacco port of Yorktown.

On September 28, Washington marched on Yorktown with 9,000 Continentals and militiamen to begin a siege. French-supplied heavy artillery wreaked havoc on the British defenses, and in night assaults on October 14, American and French regiments, one led by Lt. Col. Alexander Hamilton, captured key redoubts that enabled their cannon to enfilade the British lines.

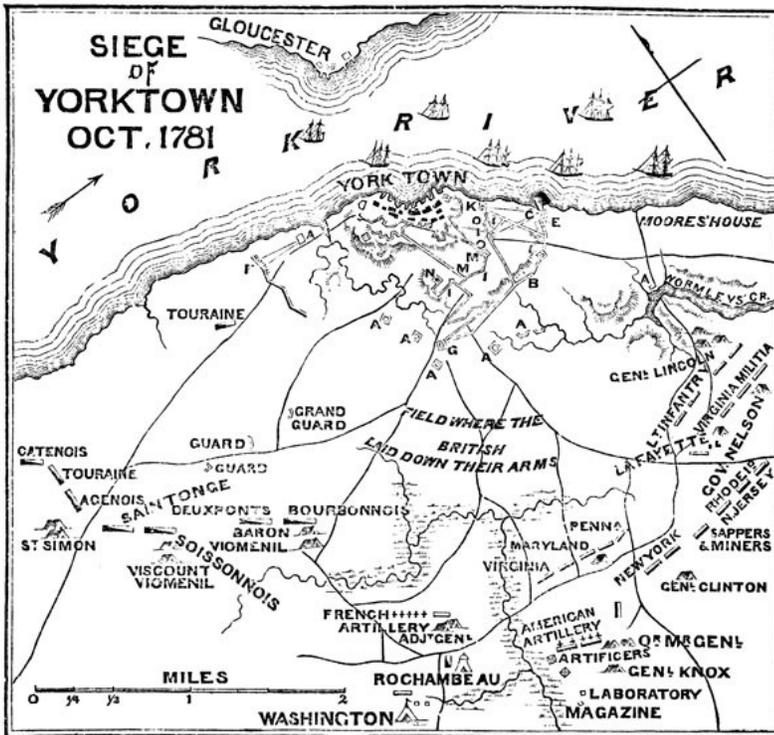
Five days later Cornwallis surrendered, and his men marched out to lay down their guns, their drummers and fifers reportedly playing "The World Turn'd Upside Down."

When British Prime Minister Lord North heard the news, he gasped, "Oh God, it is all over!"

In Paris, the French abandoned plans to negotiate a compromise peace that would have left the British in possession of Georgia, the Carolinas, New York City, Long Island and the northern half of Massachusetts (now the state of Maine).

Without the Yorktown victory, the fragmented, bankrupt colonies would have collapsed into the triumphant arms of the Mother Country. Instead, Yorktown ensured the United States was here to stay.

Posted by David Lauterborn, Nov. 3, 2010 in *HistoryNet*,  
[www.historynet.com/10-battles-that-shaped-america.htm](http://www.historynet.com/10-battles-that-shaped-america.htm)



negotiations with the British.

Lt. Gen. Jean-Baptiste-Donatien de Vimeur, Comte de Rochambeau, commander of the 5,500-man French expeditionary force, joined Maj. Gen. George Washington in an attack on British-held New York in an assault the enemy easily defeated.

Rochambeau next proposed a march to Virginia to trap the marauding 8,000-man British army led by Lt. Gen. Lord Charles Cornwallis. Washington dismissed the idea until Rochambeau reported that the French West Indies

### Change of commands

Outgoing HHC 237<sup>th</sup> Brigade Support Battalion Commander

Capt. Shaun T. Robinson

Incoming HHC 237<sup>th</sup> Brigade Support Battalion Commander

Capt. Jerry E. Mourn

Outgoing Co B 237<sup>th</sup> Brigade Support Battalion Commander

Capt. Terry D. Genet

Incoming Co B 237<sup>th</sup> Brigade Support Battalion Commander

Capt. Shaun T. Robinson

### Promotion



Col. Mark L. Stephens was promoted to Brig. Gen. on April 19, 2011 and assumed command of the 121st Air Refueling Wing, Columbus Ohio on May 2, 2010.

As the Wing commander, he is responsible to the Assistant Adjutant General for Air to ensure the wing's 1,400 airmen are ready to deploy in support of our communities, state and nation.

### Upcoming Events

#### Welcome Home 2011

Free Admission to Veterans and Family

July 2, 2011 @ The Columbus Zoo

9:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

Additional activities at the Water's Edge Events Park

Free Meals (first-come, first-served based on availability)

Live entertainment

Job & College Fair

VA benefit & enrollment information

For additional information call: 614-388-7874

Brought to you by Columbus VA (Chalmers P. Wylie Ambulatory Care Center)



121<sup>st</sup> / 160<sup>th</sup>

TRANSPORTATION

HOMECOMING

June 11, 2011

Vehicle Management Facility, BLDG. 846, RANGB, Columbus, OH

3:00 p.m.

R.S.V.P. no later than June 8, 2011

MAINTENANCE / OPERATION / TMO

This invitation goes out to everyone who has ever been in Transportation for the first ever gathering. Bring your families, pictures, and stories. Refreshments will be provided. Help us spread the word to everyone you know that has been part of the team at one time or another.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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WAYNE FULLER [wayne.fuller@ang.af.mil](mailto:wayne.fuller@ang.af.mil)



**Upcoming Event**

Company E, 166th  
Infantry (Marysville)

Alumni Reunion

June 15, 2011 at  
11:30 a.m.

Location: Fiesta  
Grande, 119 West 5th  
Street, Marysville, OH

Point of contact is Mr.  
Robert Clegg

For more information  
please email Mr.  
Clegg at  
rfc1954@yahoo.com

**Helpful web links**

For more information about

<http://www.trdp.org/>

**Military pay** go to:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service  
<http://www.dfas.mil/>

**Military Personnel Records** go to:

<http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel/>

**Ohio National Guard Association** go to:

<http://www.ohionga.org/>

**Retirement Services Office**

go to: <http://www.armyg1.army.mil/rso/>

**Ohio Department of Veterans**

**Services** go to: <http://dvs.ohio.gov/>

**Military Insider: Retiree Benefits &**

**resources** go to: <http://www.military.com/NewContent/1,13190,Retired,00.html>

**TRICARE Retiree Dental Program** go to:

**Bill would outlaw Arlington burial reservations**

By Rick Maze - Staff writer

Posted: Tuesday May 3, 2011 10:11:05

A House subcommittee is poised to cancel 3,500 gravesite reservations for Arlington National Cemetery, requests that violate a 1962 Army policy and are offensive to major veterans organizations.

The new management at the nation's most hallowed cemetery already has announced it will not honor the reservations, but the House Veterans' Affairs Committee's disability assistance and memorial affairs panel wants to make sure by declaring the process illegal.

Under the proposed bill, HR 1441, only reservations made before Jan. 1, 1962, will be honored. That date is when Army regulations barring reservations took effect. The bill would grandfather requests made before 1962, but the Army is asking for a modification permitting only reservations approved before that date, not just requested.

The bill also would bar assignment of more than one grave per family, which would codify current policy. Army officials also have asked for this provision to be

modified because some older graves are not deep enough to accommodate three or four other burials, said Kathryn Condon, the Army National Cemeteries Program executive director.

The subcommittee is scheduled to pass the bill Thursday. The chief sponsor is Rep. Jon Runyan, R-N.J., the subcommittee chairman.

Christina Roof of AMVETS called reservations "objectionable" and "disgraceful."

"One's status in life should not determine their eligibility of interment over anyone else's," she said.

Shane Barker of Veterans of Foreign Wars said the bill "is long overdue." "Burial at Arlington National Cemetery is a tremendous honor that depends on honorable service, not rank," Barker said.



Ohio National Guard  
**Community Outreach Office**  
Alumni Affairs  
2825 W. Dublin Granville Rd.

[HTTP://ONG.OHIO.GOV](http://ong.ohio.gov)

**April 2011 RISFAC Meetings:**

*Region 1 - July 21*

*Region 2 - July 20*

*Region 3 - July 26*

*Region 4 - July 26*

*Region 5 - July 26*

*Region 6 - July 20*

For questions regarding the time or place of RISFAC meetings, contact Mr. James Moore at (614)336-7336.



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[TheOhioNationalGuard](http://www.facebook.com/TheOhioNationalGuard)

**Flickr** <http://www.flickr.com/photos/>

[ohionationalguard](http://www.flickr.com/photos/ohionationalguard)

**Twitter** <http://twitter.com/ohnationalguard>

“When called, we respond with ready units to execute federal, state and community missions.”

## Minority civic leader referrals for Diversity Orientation Flight welcome

The diversity orientation flight is scheduled for Sept. 15, 2011 at Rickenbacker Air National Guard base in Columbus, OH.

This event familiarizes attendees with the Ohio National Guard’s mission and people, showcases career opportunities for minorities and explains how to become an Ohio National Guard Ambassador.

An Ohio National Guard Ambassador is the embodiment of someone who shares our story and promotes the well being of our service members and their families through their actions. Individuals will be asked to become Ohio National Guard Ambassadors.

This long term communication strategy helps promote a more diverse future Ohio National Guard work-

force.

Diversity is about valuing and respecting differences, seen and unseen, among all people. This is done by expanding awareness and embracing others from different backgrounds and unfamiliar cultures.

A diverse group of Individuals is chosen to participate in this flight. To be considered, these individuals must have titles that reflect their position as a community leader. Participants will be treated to a in-flight refueling mission, lunch, static military equipment displays and briefings about the Ohio National Guard.

Please e-mail potential candidates to Mr. Jim Moore at [james.m.moore2@us.army.mil](mailto:james.m.moore2@us.army.mil) by Jun. 15.