



OHIO NATIONAL GUARD

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Ohio National Guard Soldiers help train Afghan National Police

By Capt. Charles Buchanan
1-148th Infantry Regiment

Faryab Province, Afghanistan — Tucked away on a combat outpost, known as a COP in military jargon, Company C of the 1st Battalion, 148th Infantry Regiment is training Afghan National Police officers on conducting traffic control points. The company, based in Tiffin, Ohio, is part of the 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team currently deployed throughout Northern Afghanistan. The company's mission in Northern Afghanistan is to train and advise the ANP in the Ghormach District within the Faryab Province. The Company C Soldiers are partnering with the Afghan National Army to help train the police.

"Partnering and mentoring comes easy to the 1-148th Infantry Soldiers," said Sgt. 1st Class Brad Hallinan of Delaware, Ohio.

The Soldiers of Company C spend their days training the ANP how to conduct the traffic control points and then follow up the training by conducting actual traffic control points in the surrounding area.

The training teaches the ANP how to search vehicles, search personnel and how to establish barriers to slow a vehicle's approach. The training lasts a few hours and the police received a certificate of completion following a successful practical exercise.

"Not only did the district police have the opportunity to enhance their law enforcement skills, they had the opportunity to work with their military counterparts," said 2nd Lt. Kevin Obermeyer of West Chester, Ohio. "The true success was training together as one force and sharing knowledge."

The successful training will help provide security to the district of Ghormach, which continues to see Taliban activity. The increased proficiency of the police and additional checkpoint operations help isolate the Taliban from the local population.

"Security is a major concern in Ghormach," Hallinan said. "Partnered operations with the Afghan Army and Police send a clear message, we will not allow the freedom to openly operate that the Taliban are used to."

Security is improving within the district of Ghormach due to the actions taken by Company C. Their most significant improvement has been the competence and capability of the ANP. Continued training will build upon the recent success and lead to better days ahead. The smiles and confidence that the Afghan Police display at the end of training is a reinforcement to Company C Soldiers that they are doing great things.



2nd Lt. Kevin Obermeyer of West Chester, Ohio, greets members of the Afghan National Police who have arrived to take part in training. The training lasted a few hours and each member of the ANA received a certificate of completion following a successful practical exercise. (Ohio National Guard photo)

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Ohio National Guard units currently deployed

Currently deployed Air National Guard units:

121st Air Refueling Wing
178th Fighter Wing
179th Airlift Wing
180th Fighter Wing
123rd Air Control Squadron

There are about 3,000 Ohio National Guard Soldiers and Airmen deployed.

Total number of deployed Soldiers and Airmen is current as of 4/1/12

Currently deployed Army National Guard units:

Operational Mentoring & Liaison Team 1.7 and 1.8
290th Engineer Detachment
295th & 296th Engineer Detachments (Fire fighting)
1484th Transportation Company
37th NATO Training Mission Afghanistan
684th Medical Company
2-174 Air Defense Artillery Regiment (Avenger)
37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team
Company B/3-238th Aviation Regiment

Ohio National Guard helps Clermont County residents during recovery

By Mr. Bill Pierce
Ohio Adjutant General's Department Public Affairs

MOSCOW, Ohio — Gov. John Kasich dispatched the Ohio National Guard after he declared a state of emergency for Clermont County after a tornado registering 160 mph winds devastated the village of Moscow and its 250 inhabitants.

Soldiers from the 16th Engineer Brigade in Woodlawn and 1194th Engineer Company from Chillicothe deployed to southern Ohio to aid in debris removal.

A total of nine Soldiers departed on March 5, for the 100 mile-journey to the storm ravaged town, taking with them one 5-ton dump truck, a 10-ton dump truck, one field contact truck and one Humvee.

"The removal and transporting of construction debris was the unit's main tasking," said 1st Lt. Tim Sutter, commander of the 1194th. "First, the debris were separated into four different piles: construction materials, vegetation, solid waste and stone. Once separated, the primary job was transporting the construction materials from Moscow to the Newtown landfill 25 miles away."

Maj. Gen. Deborah Ashenhurst, Ohio adjutant general, visited the area on March 10 to see firsthand how much devastation occurred and to thank the troops who responded to the call for their service. "She came out and thanked all the Soldiers for representing Ohio and responding as quickly as they did," Sutter said. "Staffing for this deployment was filled within one hour after requesting for volunteers."

The mission was officially completed and the Soldiers were released the afternoon of March 15. They transported more than 670 tons of debris to the Newtown landfill during the operation, logging more than 4,000 miles on their vehicles. "They also assisted in transporting stockpiles of vegetation to a location site on state Route 232 where the debris was shredded and chipped," Sutter said.

Sutter is the only one from the group who hails from Clermont County. "I was proud to be involved with assisting in the cleanup any way I could," he said. "It made me feel good to give something back to my community."



1st Lt. Tim Sutter, commander of the 1194th Transportation Company instructs a driver to wait for his turn to move forward in line to collect debris. Nine Soldiers provided assistance after Gov. John Kasich declared a state of emergency following a tornado that devastated the small town of Moscow, Ohio on March 2. (Ohio National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Steve Engle)

Did you know?

Wanting to honor military kids for their sacrifices and courage, in 1986 Defense Secretary Casper Weinberger designated April as the **Month of the Military Child**.

Dates to Remember

April 12 - 150th Anniversary Celebration of "The Great Locomotive Chase" in downtown Columbus on Thursday, April 12. Time: 1030hrs
Location: Museum Gallery in the Ohio Statehouse

April 15 - Change of Command Ceremony for the 1483rd Transportation Company. Time: 1100hrs
Location: 28846 Tracy Road, Walbridge.

April 15 - 237th BSB Annual Open House. Woods King Armory
4303 Green Road, Cleveland, 44128
1000 - 1500 hours

April 21 - 371st Sustainment Brigade Ball. The Courtyard Marriott Springfield Downtown, 100 South Fountain Ave., Springfield. **RSVP no later than April 6** to: CW2 Jennifer Hickman at 614-336-6106

May 20 - 2-174th Air Defense Artillery Retiree Association Golf Scramble 2012. Fuller's Fairways, 4370 Clay Pike, Zanesville **RSVP no later than May 16** to: CPT Charles Springer at 614-356-7937

Ohio National Guard State Partnership Program

The **National Guard State Partnership Program (SPP)** links U.S. states with a partner country for the purpose of improving bilateral relations with the United States. The program's goals reflect an evolving international affairs mission for the National Guard, to promote regional stability and civil-military relationships in support of U.S. policy objectives.

The state partners actively participate in a host of security cooperation activities ranging from bilateral familiarization and training-like events, to exercises, fellowship-style internships and civic leader visits. All activities are coordinated through the Theater Combatant Commanders, the U.S. Ambassadors' country teams and other agencies as appropriate, to ensure that National Guard support is tailored to meet both U.S. and country objectives.

The Ohio National Guard has two state partners. Since 1993, the Ohio National Guard has partnered with Hungary, and in September of 2006, the Ohio National Guard entered into a partnership with the Republic of Serbia.

Gov. Kasich attends Ohio National Guard Homeland Response Force validation ceremony

By Mr. Bill Pierce
Ohio Adjutant General's Department Public Affairs

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Gov. John Kasich, along with senior officials from the Ohio National Guard, and several other elected officials celebrated the validation of the nation's first National Guard Homeland Response Force on March 5 at Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base.

The event included an overview of the Homeland Response Force's capabilities.

The HRF consists of approximately 570 Soldiers and Airmen, trained and equipped to identify, respond to, and mitigate the effects of a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear or high-yield explosive (CBRNE) event. HRFs are designed to respond rapidly to various contingencies within Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regions or support adjacent FEMA regions within six to 12 hours of receiving an activation order from the governor and the adjutant general. Organic to the HRF are security, search and extraction, decontamination, medical triage and a command and control element.

Ohio's HRF, along with 10 others throughout the nation, is trained and equipped for CBRNE, and can provide lifesaving first responder capabilities during domestic incidents.



Sgt. 1st Class Steven Grimm, Readiness Non-Commissioned Officer for the 637th Chemical Company, explains some of their equipment to Ohio Gov. John Kasich, as Maj. Gen. Deborah Ashenurst, Ohio's adjutant general, looks on. Gov. Kasich was there to help celebrate the validation of the nation's first National Guard Homeland Response Force on March 5, at Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base. (Ohio National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Nicholas Pavlik)

OHIO NATIONAL GUARD

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2012 Regional Inter-Service Family Assistance Committee Meetings:

Region 1 - April 26

Region 2 - April 18

Region 3 & 4 - April 24

Region 5 - April 17

Region 6 - April 11

For questions regarding the time or place of RISFAC meetings, contact Sgt. Michael Carden at (614) 336-4135.



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“WHEN CALLED, WE RESPOND WITH READY UNITS TO EXECUTE FEDERAL, STATE AND COMMUNITY MISSIONS.”



Col. Stuart Driesbach and retired Sgt. 1st Class John C. Harris Sr. unfurl the general's flag for newly promoted Brig. Gen. John C. Harris Jr., who looks on from his seat next to Maj. Gen. Deborah A. Ashenhurst, Ohio adjutant general, March 2, 2012, in Columbus, Ohio. Harris, Ohio's assistant adjutant general for Army, leads the 11,400 Soldiers of the Ohio Army National Guard. (Ohio National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Nicholas Pavlik)