

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



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37th IBCT mentors Afghan Border Police

Story & Photo by: Sgt. Kimberly Lamb

AFGHANISTAN - The current campaign of Operation Enduring Freedom is to prepare Afghans to be self-sustaining after North Atlantic Treaty Organization troops have completed their withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Security force assistance teams are comprised of Soldiers who mentor Afghan leaders in areas where improvements are needed most.



The 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team arrived in early 2012 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and had security force assistance teams working with the Afghan Border Police and Afghan Uniformed Police in Regional Command – North, Afghanistan.

The 37th IBCT's ABP 5th Zone security force assistance team was comprised of seven enablers and seven advisers from the Ohio, Michigan and Washington National Guards. These soldiers have a combined total of more than 300 years of service.

"We come up with simple ideas that are easy to institute and can be sustained," said Col. Michael Maffei, senior combat adviser for the ABP 5th Zone security force assistance teams, assigned to Headquarters Company, 37th IBCT. "When I first got here, I thought the mindset would be 'What can you give me? Instead, it was 'We want to do this right. Show me how.'"

Maffei mentored Afghan Brig. Gen. Abdul Habib Sayed Khail, commander of the ABP 5th Zone, near Mazar-e-Sharif, Balkh province, Afghanistan.

"He and I had this long discussion the first time we got together and I asked him, 'When I leave, what can I give you that will stay with you?'" Maffei said.

The two commanders discussed how Habib's ABP staff functions.

"We want a staff who don't work in a stove pipe, who work well among themselves, who talk to their subordinates and to their superiors, and who keep everyone informed. We gain so much efficiency that way," Maffei said. "That's what we're doing and it's happening."

"We are starting to see Afghans mentoring Afghans and that's something that has to occur," said Master Sgt. Morgan Sheeran, quick reaction force mentor, ABP 5th Zone security force assistance team, assigned to Headquarters Company, 37th IBCT, who taught at the counter-insurgency training center in Afghanistan for fifteen months.

"Mentoring is influencing," Sheeran said. "It's a slow, steady, positive influence."

"The effectiveness of mentoring is defined by the changes and successes that the team can witness. When we can see changes in their ability to take care of business that used to frustrate them or when we see their systems working better for them, then we know those are mentoring successes," Sheeran said.

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Editor's Note: The 37th IBCT returned from their year long deployment in the fall of 2012

Ohio National Guard units currently deployed

Air units:

121st Air Refueling Wing
 123rd Air Control Squadron
 178th Fighter Wing
 179th Airlift Wing
 180th Fighter Wing
 251st Combat Communications Group
 269th Combat Communications Squadron
 Joint Force Headquarters

Army units:

Operational Mentoring & Liaison Team 1.9
 1486th Transportation Company
 1487th Transportation Company
 HHB/174th Air Defense Artillery Brigade
 Det 21
 323th Military Police Company
 About 683 Ohio National Guard Soldiers and Airmen
 are deployed (current as of 17 Dec 2012)

New Air Guard director nominated

(Dec. 12, 2012) Lt. Gen. Stanley E. "Sid" Clarke III, commander of the Continental U.S. North American Aerospace Defense Command Region-1st Air Force, has been nominated by President Barack Obama to be the next director of the Air National Guard.



If confirmed by the Senate, Clarke will replace Lt. Gen. Harry "Bud" Wyatt III, who is retiring in January. Wyatt has led the Air National Guard since February 2009. Wyatt said Clarke, if confirmed, is the right person at the right time.

"Sid is an outstanding leader," he said. "He has an opportunity to lead the best Air National Guard in our nation's history; a force that is proven in combat and domestic crises. His wealth of command and staff positions will help shape and guide the Air Guard as we forge ahead to the future."

Source: www.ngaus.org/newsroom/news/new-air-guard-director-nominated

VA Seeks to expand TBI benefits

WASHINGTON— The Department of Veterans Affairs is publishing a proposed regulation in the Federal Register that would change its rules to add five diagnosable illnesses which are secondary to service-connected Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).

"We must always decide Veterans' disability claims based on the best science available, and we will," Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki said. "Veterans who endure health problems deserve timely decisions based on solid evidence that ensure they receive benefits earned through their service to the country."

VA proposes to add a new subsection to its adjudication regulation by revising 38 CFR 3.310 to state that if a Veteran who has a service-connected TBI also has one of the five illnesses, then the illness will be considered service connected as secondary to the TBI.

Service connection under the proposed rule depends in part upon the severity of the TBI (mild, moderate, or severe) and the period of time between the injury and onset of the secondary illness. However, the proposed rule also clarifies that it does not preclude a Veteran from establishing direct service connection even if those time and severity standards are not met. It also defines the terms mild, moderate, and severe, consistent with Department of Defense (DoD) guidelines.

Comments on the proposed rule will be accepted over the next 60 days. A final regulation will be published after consideration of all comments received. VA's decision is based on a report by the National Academy of Sciences, Institute of Medicine (IOM), "Gulf War and Health, Volume 7: Long-Term Consequences of TBI." In its report, the IOM's Committee on Gulf War and Health concluded that "sufficient evidence of a causal relationship" - the IOM's highest evidentiary standard - existed between moderate or severe levels of TBI and diagnosed unprovoked seizures. The IOM found "sufficient evidence of an association" between moderate or severe levels of TBI and Parkinsonism; dementias (which VA understands to include presenile dementia of the Alzheimer type and post-traumatic dementia); depression (which also was associated with mild TBI); and diseases of hormone deficiency that may result from hypothalamo-pituitary changes.

Information about Gulf War and VA's services and programs are available at: http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/gulfwar/hazardous_exposures.asp.

Source: www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2410



ANSWER THE CALL!

Dates to Remember:

December 13 -
The National Guard's 376th birthday

January 6 -
112th Trans BN Change of Command at 11:00 a.m. at 5990 W. Airport Drive;
Incoming: Capt. John Keller
Outgoing: Capt. Angela Bailey

Special Troops Command, 37th IBCT
Change of Command at 4:00 p.m. at DSCC Bldg 2, 3990 E. Broad Street;
Incoming: Capt. Christopher Turner
Outgoing: Capt. Bret Gould

January 12 -
Camp Sherman Change of Command at 2:00 p.m. at Chillicothe Armory, 2154 Narrows Road;
Incoming: Maj. Richard Saphore
Outgoing: Maj. Duane Shoemaker

January 26 -
1-134th Field Artillery Ball at 6:00 p.m. at Columbus Hyatt Regency, 350 N. High Street, R.S.V.P. to Jeffery.w.jones24.mil@mail.mil or (614) 336-6703

January 29 -
73rd Troop Command Change of Command at 7:00 p.m. at Bldg. 931 at Rickenbacker;
Incoming: Maj. James McCandless
Outgoing: Lt.Col. David Mason

February 2 -
Brig. Gen. Rufus Smith's Retirement Celebration at 7:30 p.m. at Hilton Columbus at Easton; 3900 Chagrin Drive, R.S.V.P. by 25 Jan to bryan.d.lucas4.mil@mail.mil or (614) 356-7948

February 8 -
437th Military Police BN Change of Command at 3:00 p.m. at Bldg. 931 at Rickenbacker, Incoming Lt. Col. Susan Kusan, Outgoing Lt. Col. Erik Nagy

February 15 -
Brig. Gen. Robert Clouse's Retirement Celebration at 6:00 p.m. at Brookside Golf and Country Club, 2770 W. Dublin Granville Rd; R.S.V.P. to Capt. Hergenroeder at (614)336-6150

February 23 -
Ohio National Guard Winter Dinner Dance at 6:00 p.m. at Hilton Columbus Polaris; R.S.V.P. by 18 Feb to ONGA, for questions, contact CW5 Markely at (614)336-6618

The Ohio Army National Guard Historical Collections is a recognized museum activity by the U.S. Army Center of Military History. The collection is housed at the Adjutant General's Department in Northwest Columbus and contains artifacts, photographs, unit histories, and other records related to the history of the Ohio Army National Guard.

The mission of the collections is to collect, preserve, exhibit and interpret the military heritage of the citizen-soldier of Ohio. In accomplishing this mission, the collections functions as a resource to both the military and civilian communities for education and research.

In order to tell the Ohio Army National Guard's story we need your help. Every year at yard sales, flea markets, and community trash collections, our heritage is lost. That old uniform, photograph, letter, book, audio-visual recording, or diary in your attic or basement may be the last link to a piece of the organization's heritage. Most additions are acquired through unconditional donations from private individuals, especially by veterans themselves.

Here are examples of what is needed for the collections to tell the Ohio Army National Guard's story.

RESEARCH MATERIALS OF PRIME INTEREST

- Memoirs or diaries of military service
- Personal correspondence with family and friends
- Camp, unit and veterans association newspapers
- Unit histories (published or not) and organizational documents (reports, briefing etc.)
- Army manuals, brochures and other official documents and publications
- Photographs, motion pictures, videos or audio recordings taken during service
- Other printed matter or images depicting military experience or OHARNG history

ARTIFACT MATERIALS OF PRIME INTEREST

- Uniforms, accessories and other personal equipment
- Service-related weapons and their equipment
- Souvenirs collected by Soldiers
- Items related to Army education and training
- Original artwork related to Army service, including sketches, cartoons or carvings
- Veteran recognition material
- Unit Insignia and shoulder patches
- Flags, colors, guidons and streamers
- Other objects that directly relate to the experiences of Soldiers

For more information or to donate an item contact Sergeant First Class Joshua Mann at 614-336-7311 or joshua.d.mann.mil@mail.mil. Or write to State of Ohio, Adjutant General's Department, ATTN: NGOH-HIST, 2825 W. Dublin Granville Road, Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789.

OHIO NATIONAL GUARD

Community Outreach Office

Alumni Affairs
2825 W. Dublin Granville Road
Columbus, OH 43235
ong.outreach@ng.army.mil
(614) 336-4135

ONG.OHIO.GOV

2012 Regional Inter-Service Family Assistance Committee Meetings:

Region 1 - January 24

Region 2 - January 16

Region 3 - January 22

Region 4 - January 29

Region 5 - January 15

Region 6 - January 9

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



SOCIAL MEDIA

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Retirement Packets

Retirement packets are mailed to your last known mailing address. If you change addresses before your 59th birthday, make sure you contact the office below so they will know where to send your packet.

You will need to send the packet back to receive your retirement pay. Make sure you include the following forms: NGB Form 22, DD Form 214(s), NGB Form 23, 20yr letter and SBP election. If you are missing any of the above documents, please contact Ms. Jeanette Coughenour at 614-336-7038 (ONG HQs) for assistance.

U.S. Army Human Resources Center of Excellence-Ft. Knox
ATTN: AHRC-PDR-RCR
1600 Spearhead Division Avenue
Dept 420
Ft. Knox, KY 40122-56402
1-800-318-5298 or 502-613-8950

Ohio National Guard Equipment Highlight : C-27J Spartan

The 179th Airlift Wing took delivery of the first C-27J Spartan aircraft on Aug. 14, 2010, entering into a new direct support mission with the U.S. Army and domestic support for homeland security.

The aircraft is designed to take troops and supplies "the last tactical mile" by landing on short, unimproved landing strips, often at night, utilizing night vision devices. The 179th AW also performs critical domestic airlift operations to fulfill federal and state requirements, especially during times of crisis.



Primary Function	..... medium-sized cargo and personnel transport
Contractor	..... Alenia Aeronautica
Power Plant	..... Rolls Royce AE 2100-D2
Wingspan	..... 94 feet, 2 inches
Length	..... 74 feet, 6 inches
Height	..... 31 feet, 8 inches
Max Takeoff Weight	..... 67,241 pounds
Speed	..... max: 374 mph, cruising: 362
Ceiling	..... Above 30,000 feet
Range	..... 1,000 nm (1,151 mi) with 22,000 pound payload
Ferry Range	..... 3,200 nm (3,682 mi)
Capacity	..... 60 troops, 46 paratroops
	..... or 36 litters with 6 medical personnel

An ONG alumnus requested this information.

Information courtesy of the 179th AW: www.179aw.ang.af.mil