



Ohio Adjutant General's Department

TED STRICKLAND, GOVERNOR

MAJOR GENERAL GREGORY L. WAYT, ADJUTANT GENERAL

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COLUMBUS - Major General Gregory L. Wayt, Ohio's adjutant general, announced today that the Ohio National Guard had garnered nearly \$24 million for military construction and the purchase of training simulators for its troops in the spending bill signed September 30 by President Bush.

"We are grateful for the hard work of Ohio's Congressional delegation in securing funds for a number of critical projects," Maj. Gen. Wayt said. "The Ohio delegation, from top to bottom, has long been extremely supportive of the Ohio National Guard. The projects in this spending bill are just the latest indication of that support."

In the Fiscal Year 2009 budget, eight of the 20 delegation members made specific funding request for the Ohio National Guard. "But we received widespread support across the delegation for the requests for projects and changes in law supported by the National Guard," Wayt said.

The funded projects include:

- \$13.9 million for a new combat communications complex at the Springfield Air National Guard base in Clark County
- \$2 million for a new barracks at the Camp Perry Training Site in Ottawa County
- \$2 million for a new barracks at the Ravenna Training and Logistics Site in Portage and Trumbull counties
- \$1.6 million for perimeter security facilities at the Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base in Franklin County
- \$3.72 million for training simulator systems at various National Guard facilities around the state
- \$800,000 for secure network systems at the Toledo Air National Guard Base in Lucas County

"The combat communications complex will provide the space for training and operations long needed by the 251st Combat Communications Group and the 269th Combat Communications Squadron," said Maj. Gen. Harry "AJ" Feucht, Ohio's assistant adjutant general for Air. "The men and women in these units have played a critical role in operations from the Global War on Terror to support for hurricane response efforts. This new facility will help them recruit, retain and train members to remain fully mission capable."

“It’s all very exciting,” said Maj. Gen. Matthew Kambic, the assistant adjutant general for Army. “The Ohio Army National Guard is being resourced to levels I’ve not seen in 30 years in the organization. The barracks are part of long-range plans to train Ohio soldiers in Ohio, and the simulators will allow us to train our soldiers on an integrated virtual battlefield, making them better, more confident soldiers when they deploy. It’s about completing missions successfully and coming home safely.”

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