# **Military Department**

#### At a Glance

MAJOR GENERAL FRANCIS J. EVON, The Adjutant General
BRIGADIER GENERAL GERALD E. McDONALD, Assistant Adjutant General
Established - 1939
Statutory Authority - CGS Title 27
Central office - Gov. William A. O'Neill Armory, 360 Broad Street, Hartford, CT 06105-3706
Number of State Employees - 110
Number of State Full-Time Equivalent Positions - 42
Recurring State Operating Expenses - \$5,510,760.00
Federal Expenditures - \$257,103,015.00

#### **Mission**

The Military Department is a unique dual-status agency, having both federal and state missions. The federal mission is to maintain properly trained and equipped National Guard units for prompt federalization in the event of war, domestic emergencies or other emergencies. The state mission is to coordinate, support and augment federal, state and local authorities in emergency response, to provide emergency response planning and to conduct community service programs.

#### **Statutory Responsibility**

Title 27 of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) contains the Military Department's statutory authority and responsibility. The Department's principle public responsibilities are (1) to train, resource and coordinate state emergency response assets and (2) to plan for and protect citizens and their property in times of war, terrorism, invasion, rebellion, riot or disaster. The Military Department facilitates public safety during emergencies.

#### **ORGANIZATION**

The Military Department is functionally divided into four components: the Military Department Headquarters, Connecticut Army National Guard (CTARNG), Connecticut Air National Guard (CTANG) and the Organized Militia. The Military Department employs 110 full-time state employees, utilizing just 42 full-time equivalent positions. The CTARNG is comprised of 2,769 traditional (part-time) soldiers, 830 full-time federally employed soldiers and 62 federal civilian employees, totaling 3,661 personnel. The CTANG is comprised of 819 traditional (part-time) airmen, 327 full-time federally employed airmen and 29 federal civilian technicians, totaling 1,175 personnel. The Organized Militia consists of 359 personnel.

## **Military Department**

# **Military Department Headquarters**

The Connecticut Military Department Headquarters is comprised of The Adjutant General (TAG) and Assistant Adjutant General (AAG). They are appointed by the Governor of Connecticut. TAG serves concurrently as Commander of the State National Guard. TAG is a federally recognized Major General billet. The AAG serves in a Brigadier General billet. Both TAG and AAG are approved in their military rank by the Department of Defense (DoD).

TAG is the Commander of the Connecticut National Guard (CTNG) and the Organized Militia. He commands the elements of the Military Department through the Joint Force Headquarters (JFHQ), located in the Gov. William A. O'Neill Armory in Hartford. TAG also oversees the civilian employees who provide administrative support to the military personnel of the department.

The Connecticut Military Department is dedicated to maintaining a working environment that empowers all members to reach their fullest potential. The goal of the CTNG is to be representative of all racial and ethnic groups and to mirror the make-up of the community. As a whole the CTNG matches the minority composition of the community, with 22.4% of its members identifying as minorities. The population of civilian employees is comprised of 31% minority employees, which has increased by over 3% since last fiscal year. The CTNG has also improved upon its inclusion of employees with disabilities in its civilian workforce, which comprise 25% of all total permanent civilian employees. The CTNG also places a priority on recognizing those diverse members of the force who have made significant contributions in the Guard and their communities. National award submissions this year include Maj. Sonja Smilinich for the Excellence in Diversity Award and Lt. Col. Lesbia Nieves for the LATINA Style Award. Celebration of Special Observances is also highly encouraged to promote cultural awareness and education. This year's events included recognitions of Junteenth, Women's Equality Day and Hispanic Heritage month.

The CTNG prioritizes regular refinement of its Equal Opportunity (EO) and Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) programs to meet and exceed the expectations of a model program. Efforts undertaken this year address many different aspects of Diversity and Inclusion. New goals and performance standards were set in the revision of the Agency Strategic Plan based on DoD initiatives to enhance recruiting and retention efforts as well as the addition of mentorship programs and tracking of career progression of females and minorities. Additional training was provided for members of the full-time staff in the areas of EEO counseling and anti-harassment programs to facilitate a climate free of discrimination and encourage cooperative problem solving and communication in workplace disputes. The Disability Accommodations policy has been updated and the Affirmative Action Plan is currently under review to ensure that the CTNG is inclusive of all applicants and employees. The CTNG strives to ensure that all members of the organization are given every opportunity to thrive and are treated with dignity and respect because diversity is our strength.

The Military Department is committed to conducting military operations in an environmentally-friendly manner, receiving several hundred thousand dollars from the federal government to conduct site evaluations and remediation activities at sites statewide to ensure the cleanest standards are achieved and maintained. The CTNG also conducts federally mandated environmental assessments of its installations each year, utilizing both internal and external inspection teams. The Military Department will continue to perform its mission while looking for new ways to reduce pollution-generating activities and to preserve and enhance all of its valuable training lands.

#### **State Fiscal/Administrative Office**

The State Fiscal/Administrative Office provides a full range of support for the Military Department's state requirements. In carrying out this mission, the Fiscal/Administrative Office executes the Biennial Budget, the Annual Budget and any related adjustment options as required. The Fiscal/Administrative Office also performs all agency general fund accounting transactions, grant accounting, accounts receivable and payable functions,

purchasing, contract administration, grants administration and asset management. The State Fiscal/Administrative Office also provides personnel and payroll support to state employees; payroll support to all Organized Militia and National Guard members on State Active Duty (SAD); and all payments associated with the Military Funeral Honors (MFH) program, the Military Relief Fund and the Combat Zone Bonus programs. It prepares lease documents and Memorandums of Agreement or Memorandums of Understanding for the use of the Military Department's facilities by other agencies and the public. The office also provides and accounts for state funds and all state-owned property. It procures equipment and pays for operations and maintenance of state-owned buildings and equipment. The State Fiscal/Administrative Office is the central office for tracking expenses, ensuring compliance with Federal Emergency Management Agency guidelines, and processing reimbursement requests associated with any emergency declarations. In March of 2020 the department responded to the COVID-19 pandemic and the office worked closely with the National Guard, the Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Public Protection (DESPP) and the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) in generating and coordinating the reimbursement documentation and ensuring funds were dispersed responsibly and in accordance with newly created legislation.

The Human Resources section is responsible for providing job posting and recruitment, classification, time and labor functions, records maintenance, labor relations and dispute resolution; including representing the agency during Office of Labor Relations hearings, arbitrations and Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) hearings, workers' compensation, career benefits, and Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) information for all state employees of the department. Additionally, it provides payroll services in support of the Organized Militia and CTNG SAD missions, and the MFH payments.

The principal function of the business office is to manage the various fiscal sections within the department; primarily generate and monitor the biennial and annual budgets including payroll projections based on negotiated bargaining unit contracts; provide monthly budget status reports to the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) and provide general ledger accounting services. The business office also coordinates all state employee travel authorizations and reimbursements; purchase request approvals and tracking; maintains the capital equipment fund; generates invoices for rental and leasing events; provides CORE-CT security and role maintenance for existing, new and transferring employees; builds new and inactivates old payroll combination codes; and maintains the Department's chart of accounts in CORE-CT. It additionally provides coordination between the New England Disaster Training Center (NEDTC), the J-3 Domestic Operations and Military Support and the DESPP for grant applications and invoicing, and liaises and interacts with the budget analysts at the OPM, the Office of Fiscal Analysis, and the State Auditors of Public Accounts. The business office is an integral part of guaranteeing the continued success of the Public/Private Partnership initiated by TAG. In 2016 legislative change to allow leasing of excess stall capacity to private enterprise has proven to be the boost required to sustain the care of the current authorized horse guard herd strength.

The Accounts Payable section is responsible for paying the bills of the Military Department including downloading cellular and landline phone invoices and requesting services utilizing the Tangoe System, as well as providing for accurate accounting of the funds allotted by the state for operation of the Department.

The Accounts Receivable section processes all agency deposits and works closely with the Federal Grants Section that generates all invoices associated with the Cooperative Agreements. Deposits include those of the Cooperative Agreements, revenues from rental/leasing activities, surplus sales, billeting, militia activities and donations.

The Purchasing and Contracting Section makes all of the major purchases for the Military Department, solicits and awards contracts of various sizes for a wide range of goods and services, awards and administers intermediate-scale/high-profile construction projects such as facility repair, restoration and improvement. This section also procures equipment and manages the State Purchasing Card Program.

The Federal Grants Section administers the State-Federal Cooperative Agreements, and seeks reimbursement of expenses from the Departments of the Army and United States Air Force (USAF) through the United States Property and Fiscal Office (USPFO) for services rendered in support of the CTNG. Just over \$27 million were processed through the Cooperative Agreements this past fiscal year, spanning 13 appendices and 25 SIDs. Additionally, it provides budgeting and account maintenance services, budget projections including payroll changes based on negotiated labor contracts, adjusted fringe benefit rates and promotional changes to various federal program managers in the CTNG.

The Asset Management Section maintains accountability of all state property, both real and personal, in the care, custody and control of TAG, which includes all federally-funded equipment purchased through the Cooperative Agreement. The section also manages and supports vehicles maintenance for the agency's vehicle fleet, as well as gasoline credit cards and fuel keys. Additionally, any surplus equipment or asset is managed and disposed of by this section.

# **State Military Administrative and Programs Office**

The State Military Administrative and Programs Office oversees the operations of the Organized Militia in accordance with (IAW) CGS 27-2, administers the SAD program, The Military Relief Fund, the Wartime Service Bonus, the Military Funeral Honors program, acts as the Command Historian, oversees the agency information technology and manages various state-funded programs that support the military community in Connecticut.

The Organized Militia consists of the four companies of the Governor's Guards, the Connecticut State Guard (CSG) and the CSG Reserve. The First Company Governor's Foot Guard was established in 1771 and is headquartered in Hartford, Conn. The current strength is 51 personnel and commanded by Maj. David Dwelley. The Second Company Governor's Foot Guard was established in 1775 and is headquartered in Branford, Conn. Its current strength is 43 personnel and commanded by Maj. Richard Greenalch. The First Company Governor's Horse Guard was established in 1778 and is headquartered in Avon, Conn. The current strength of the unit is 24 personnel with 10 horses and commanded by Maj. Richard Zaczynski. The Second Company Governor's Horse Guard was established in 1808 and is headquartered in Newtown, Conn. Its current strength is 26 personnel with 12 horses and commanded by Maj. James Marrinan. The mission of the Governor's Guards is serve as ceremonial military units at public and private civic events whenever and wherever ordered by the Governor or TAG. The Governor's Guard supports the Military Department during emergency response and community service activities. The Governor's Guards have been trained and certified to deploy the DPH Mobile Field Hospital. Fifty-five members of the Governor's Guards were called to state active duty to deploy the mobile field hospital as part of the state's operational response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The field hospital was deployed to St. Francis Hospital, Middlesex Hospital, Danbury Hospital and Sharon Hospital in order to expand patient capacity. Together, they participated in a total of 87 events in 2019. Organizations may request the services of the Governor's Guards in writing to TAG.

The CSG is authorized under CGS 27-9 and consists of those personnel eligible to be called into service by the Governor or TAG under the SAD program who are not currently members of the CTNG. Fifty-seven members of the CTSG performed over 1,800 days of non-emergency SAD on a recurring basis supporting the New England Disaster Training Center; the Construction and Facilities Management Office; the National Guard's Distance Learning sites in Hartford, Middletown, Danbury and Camp Nett at Niantic; installation security and force protection programs, counter-drug operations, state military operations and assisting the Secretary of the State in conducting cyber security audits of the state's election system.

The CSGR is authorized under CGS 27-11 and consists of those personnel who are over the retirement age to be eligible for the CTSG, yet are still available to provide valuable services to the Connecticut military community. As of June 30, 2020, there are 179 personnel assigned to the CSGR who are primarily active in the MFH program, in which they supported 3,000 services to Connecticut families during the past year. The CSGR also consists of those individuals who have retired from the CTNG and have been promoted to the next higher grade IAW CGS 27-53.

The State Military Administrative and Programs Office is the managing authority primarily responsible for the administrative and fiscal functions of emergency call-ups of the CTNG by the Governor. The Connecticut National Guard was called to State Active Duty once during FY2020 in support of the state's operational response to the COVID-19 pandemic and 370 personnel were called to state active duty to perform a wide variety of missions supporting the state's response. Missions included the deployment of medical personnel, supply chain management, medical facility capacity expansion and medical strategic planning.

The State Military Administrative and Programs Office is the curator of all historical records and property related to Connecticut Military History and the National Guard. The staff maintains the records of service members who have performed military duty in the service of the state dating back to the nation's colonial period. Individuals may request to research these records through this office. The office is continuing to assemble historical data relating to the CTNGs most recent deployments in support of the Global War on Terror (GWOT). The office also provides support to the Connecticut Militia Heritage Committee (CMHC). The CMHC sponsored one event during FY20 – "The Cold War in Connecticut – When We Were the Front Line" on November 14, 2019, a presentation that explored Connecticut's Nike air defense mission.

As the administrator for state-funded programs, the Military Administrative and Programs Officer processed thirteen applications for the Military Relief Fund, awarding \$8,885.00 in grants. The office processed 190 applications for the Wartime Service Bonus in FY20, totaling \$84,100.00. The purpose of the Military Relief Fund is to provide assistance through a grant to a military member or their family member who is experiencing a financial crisis brought upon by service related circumstances. The Wartime Service Bonus provides a grant of \$50 per month for every month of active duty service for members of the National Guard who have been called to federal service in support of the GWOT.

#### Joint Force Headquarters (JFHQ)

The JFHQ is comprised of five primary staff sections and several special staff sections that report to TAG through the AAG and the Director of the Joint Staff. Each staff section is responsible for a specific function of the CTNG.

#### Directorate of Personnel, G-1

G-1 is the staff section responsible for the personnel readiness and all allied human resource actions for soldiers assigned to the CTARNG. These actions include processing evaluation reports, promotion/reduction actions, management of strength and accountability actions, mobilization and demobilization actions, casualty assistance and notification, medical readiness and a myriad of other personnel action and support programs. The combined G-1 budget is over \$2.6 million to support the activities and augmented personnel of all of its sections.

Subsections of the G-1 are Officer Personnel Branch, Enlisted Personnel Branch, Boards Branch, Soldier Services Branch (which covers education services, awards, incentives, and retirement services), Health Services Section, Human Resources Systems Branch and Personnel Services Branch (which augments the major subordinate commands and battalions with personnel specialists). Also under the umbrella of the G-1 are the Service Member and Family Support Center (SMFSC), the Deputy State Surgeon, the Behavioral Health Team, Military Funeral Honors (MFH) and the Risk Reduction, and Suicide Prevention (R3SP) programs.

A function of the G-1 is to conduct Soldier Readiness Program (SRP) events which prepares, validates and reports personnel and medical readiness for individual soldier and units for mobilization and deployment in support of federal missions, mostly in an overseas environment. Approximately 15 SRPs were conducted for five separate units, screening over 200 soldiers for mobilization. The G-1 also assisted in the demobilization process by conducting 11 reverse SRPs for 183 soldiers.

The G-1 promoted approximately 990 CTARNG soldiers (864 enlisted and 126 officers) and processed approximately 1,972 evaluation reports (1,447 for non-commissioned officers (NCO)s, and 525 for officers). Published by this office was a total of 29,421 orders: 12,111 Office of the Adjutant General (OTAG) orders and 17,310 Automated Fund Control Order System (AFCOS) orders. Additionally, the directorate conducted 32 total boards: 12 Officer Federal Recognition Boards, nine Officer Candidate Boards, seven Enlisted Promotion Boards, a Qualitative Retention Board (QRB), a Senior Service College Board (SSC) and two Career Management Assignment Boards (CMAB). The G-1 prepared and boarded hundreds of NCOs and officers for promotion and other personnel actions. The Awards Section processed over 2,255 federal and 800 state award transactions to include 24 Meritorious Service Medals, 132 Army Commendation Medals and 13 Connecticut Medals of Merit. The State Personnel Security Manager processed 293 military and 22 civilian investigations for security clearances and managed 3,542 active clearances, access levels and verifications for passwords.

In 2019, the Army began its implementation of the Integrated Personnel and Pay System - Army (IPPS-A). IPPS-A is an online Human Resource system designed to provide integrated multi-component personnel, pay and talent management capabilities across the Army in all three components. The National Guard was the first Army component to integrate the system in multiple phases across the 54 states and territories. In August 2019, Connecticut was the 12<sup>th</sup> state to replace Standard Installation and Division Personnel Reporting System (SIDPERS), which had been in existence since 1988, with IPPS-A. Due to months of prior planning and numerous training classes of the force, the transition, which occurred during a busy AT season, had minimal impact to soldier pay and benefits.

Along with IPPS-A, the HR Systems branch was responsible for resolving 2,183 problem cases in the Interactive Personnel Electronic Records Management System (iPERMS) and completed 2,159 personnel record file reviews. In addition, 3,698 batches containing 15,276 documents and 27,759 pages were processed and released to the soldier's Official Military Personnel File (OMPF).

The Education Services Office manages Federal Tuition Assistance through the GoArmyEducation.com platform and maximized the utilization of federal funding. A total of \$216,887 was utilized by 106 soldiers taking advantage of the program in the past fiscal year. Soldiers attending the 17 Connecticut state universities and community colleges saw a total of 1,070 Connecticut State tuition waivers granted and six Minuteman scholarships awarded. The Education Office managed the incentive budget and distributed approximately \$2,574,931.00 in reenlistment bonuses funded by National Guard Bureau (NGB) for the purpose of retention. The Education Office also facilitates the Veterans Opportunity to Work (VOW) Act, which provides re-deploying soldiers and airmen the training, education, benefits information and credentials needed to transition back to the civilian workforce or pursue higher education. The Education Office also serves as a Testing Site of the Army Personnel Testing (APT) program. Some of the tests that are offered are: Armed Forces Classification Test (AFCT), Selection Instrument Flight Training (SIFT), Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT) and a number of Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) examinations. The Education Office administered 47 tests over the last year.

The COVID-19 pandemic tested the G-1's ability to function with a dispersed staff that was split between two locations (Hartford and Windsor Locks) while also utilizing teleworking. The staff continued to operate normally, providing little-to-no interruption to soldier services. The office was additionally tasked to support the Joint Operations Center with 24-hour manning and human resource expertise. The G-1 staff assisted the J-1 staff and Human Resources Office (HRO) with in-processing and release from Active Duty actions for 885 soldiers brought on Active Duty under 32 U.S.C. §502 authority in support of COVID-19 operations for the State of Connecticut. The G-1 section received \$1.3 million to fund a Force Health Protection section to monitor soldier health, provide testing, and develop policies for soldiers to train and work in a safe environment and minimize the spread of COVID-19.

#### **Medical Management**

The Office of the CTARNG State Surgeon continues to improve the medical readiness of its soldiers so that they are able to perform their military duties in order for units to accomplish their state and federal missions. Under the direction of the State Surgeon, this office conducts annual Periodic Health Assessments (PHAs) which screened over 3,600 soldiers to ensure they were medically fit in the areas of dental, mental health, immunizations, vision and overall wellness. Presently, the CTARNG's medical readiness rate is at 89.9% (ranked No. 12 in the Army National Guard), indicating that percentage of our population can be medically ready to mobilize in a 72-hour period. Although the pandemic halted our PHA schedule, causing our dip below the national benchmark of 90% medical readiness, PHAs have resumed and the organization is on track to end the training year above 90% and in the nation's top 10. In terms of flu immunization, 2019-20 was another successful year as the CTNG achieved 95.5% compliance, exceeding National Guard Bureau's 90.0% goal before their suspense of December 15, 2019. The Army State Surgeon's office also tracks the recertification of all CTARNG Health Care Specialists who require to recertify their National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMTs) license bi-annually. Of the 95 medics that were scheduled to expire in 2020, 92 (93.6%) completed the recertification process.

# **Service Member and Family Support Center (SMFSC)**

The SMFSC establishes and facilitates ongoing communication, involvement, support and recognition between National Guard families and the National Guard in a partnership that promotes the best interests of both. Its combined annual budget is \$436,000 for FY20, representing an increase from the previous fiscal year.

The SMFSC provides services to service members and their families, of any branch, during periods of peace and war, throughout their military lifecycle from enlistment through retirement, including separated veterans. The SMFSC is compromised of the Family Program Office, which combines aggressive outreach methods with education and support groups to deliver a wide variety of service options that include: eight geographically dispersed Family Assistance Center Specialists who provide information and referral services as well as monthly outreach to deployed families; three Family Readiness Support Assistants assigned to major commands to assist leadership with the execution of family readiness programs as well as the training of volunteers; the Child and Youth Program, which works to empower Military Youth and educate Connecticut's education system on the effects of deployment; the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program (YRRP), which places particular emphasis on preparing service members and their families for deployment and reintegration and the stresses associated with separation, by holding one-day seminars at prescribed intervals in the cycle to help to educate service members and families on the resources available to assist them and connecting members to service providers before, during and after deployments; a Military OneSource consultant whose program provides resources and support to service members and their families anywhere in the world; three Personal Financial Consultants to assist service members and families with financial goals and budget skills; three Citizen Soldier for Life Counselors who provide assistance with unemployed and underemployed service members and their families through interview preparation, resume review, hiring fairs, and coaching; and a Survivor Outreach Specialist who works directly with the survivors of our fallen to ensure they continue to receive the necessary support services. The SMFSC operates jointly with the Air National Guard's airmen and Family Readiness Program Manager and their Yellow Ribbon Coordinator to provide enhanced services to the total National Guard family.

Augmenting the paid staff of the SMFSC are a corps of committed volunteers and partner agencies who assist in providing emotional and recreational support to military families statewide. All volunteers are trained to ensure quality service.

The SMFSC also manages Operation Embracing Lonely Families (E.L.F.). Created in 2003, this program provides holiday assistance to the families of deployed Connecticut Service Members. Over 1,010 family members of deployed service members were eligible to receive gifts and other holiday financial support through the generosity of Operation E.L.F. donors this year. The SMFSC also hosts Breakfast with the Easter Bunny, an annual Easter breakfast and egg hunt unfortunately cancelled in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Last year, the SMFSC hosted or participated in 381 events attended by 9,005 people. Our Family Assistance team logged 227 client cases, made 1,256 contacts to community partners, non-deployed service members and their families, and performed 3,457 outreach calls to ensure the well-being of family members of deployed service members.

As part of its responsibilities to support both Army and Air Guard service members and their families, the SMFSC provided training and services to 180 airmen and family members through the YRRP. The support provided by this office for mobilizing and demobilizing soldiers included SRPs, mobilization station support, family readiness group support, transition assistance, military and civilian education and career counseling, chaplain support and support in conjunction with the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR).

The COVID-19 pandemic has altered our ability to host in-person events, but virtual capabilities and outreach have expanded to maintain the necessary contact and support for Connecticut's military community.

#### **Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR)**

The mission of ESGR is to gain and maintain employer support for Guard and Reserve service by recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of the law and resolving conflict through mediation. ESGR is a volunteer-centric organization. It is a staff group within the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs (OASD/RA), which is a part of the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Its field committees are located in every state and territory, as well as Europe.

Established in 1972, ESGR's goal is to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve Component members and their civilian employers and to assist in the resolution of conflicts arising from an employee's military commitment. It is the lead DoD organization for this mission under DoD Directive 1250.1.

Scope and responsibilities included: Participation in every unit mobilization and demobilization exercise providing specific Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) information to National Guard and Reserve members; conducting a proactive regional Boss Lift program, escorting local employers to locations in Connecticut and other military installations in the United States directed at promoting a deeper understanding and appreciation of the role of the National Guard and Reserve; encouraging partnerships with state and regional businesses and professional organizations, as well as other Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs) and volunteer groups; assisting dozens of service members through the Ombudsman program in preventing, resolving and reducing employer and/or employee problems and misunderstandings that result from National Guard or Reserve membership, training or duty requirements through information services and informal mediation; actively recruiting to develop volunteers promoting ESGR. Educating National Guard and Reserve members and their employers on USERRA has resulted in a strong and viable committee.

Achievements for this period included: 1,583 Service Members and 147 employers briefed about USERRA; two Statements of Support signed by Connecticut employers; 80 Patriot Awards, one Above and Beyond Award presented to Connecticut employers for their support of the National Guard and Reserve; and one BOSS Lift event conducted in October. These efforts totaled 465 man-hours of work from volunteers. Employers, Service Members and volunteers can learn more about ESGR at <a href="www.esgr.mil">www.esgr.mil</a> and the Connecticut committee at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/CTESGR">https://www.facebook.com/CTESGR</a>.

#### Military Funeral Honors (MFH) Program

The mission of the MFH Program is to render professional funeral honors in accordance with service tradition to all eligible Army veterans in Connecticut. Honors are performed at the request of an authorized family member. Headquartered at the Waterbury Armory, the MFH program consists of 10 Active Duty Operational Support (ADOS) soldiers, an Active Guard/Reserve (AGR) soldier, a federal technician and a federal contractor. MFH soldiers continually train and perform all aspects of MFH operations. The CTARNG MFH office provided support at more than 1,700 missions in the last twelve months.

Military Funeral Honors consist of a two-man flag-folding team, the presentation of the U.S. Flag, and the rendering of Taps. These soldiers are paid with federal funds. The State of Connecticut augments federal honors with the addition of a three-member firing party detail, conducted by an authorized VSO, paid with state funds. The firing party details are for all service branches (Army, Navy, Marines, USAF, and USCG, The CTARNG MFH Office coordinated over 3,000 firing parties in the last twelve months.

#### **Casualty Operations (CASOPS)**

CASOPS performs the administrative functions of casualty reporting, casualty notification and casualty assistance on behalf of the G-1. CASOPS tracks and documents all Army casualty cases for the State of Connecticut, whether the soldier is on Active Duty or a current member of the CTARNG.

The casualty reporting process is the source of information for the Next of Kin (NOK) regarding a casualty incident. Dispatch of the reports for reportable casualty cases are forwarded to the Casualty Assistance Center (CAC) at Fort Drum, New York or through the CTARNG G-1. The casualty notification process is the method of notifying the NOK of a casualty in a timely, professional and dignified way. The method of notifying the NOK varies based on the status of the casualty. A Casualty Notification Officer is charged with these duties from the CASOPS office.

Casualty assistance is provided to those receiving benefits or entitlements pursuant to the casualty. A Casualty Assistance Officer (CAO) is charged with performing these duties. The CAO assists the NOK after a casualty occurs. The CAO helps settle claims and also assists with survivor benefits. The CAO continues to work with NOK with an ongoing need for information from the CTARNG or Department of the Army.

In the last twelve months, the CASOPS section conducted 16 missions requiring casualty notification and/or casualty assistance to the family members of killed or injured Army service members.

CASOPS is co-located with the MFH Office in Waterbury. CASOPS is manned by an ADOS Officer and an AGR NCO. The MFH and CASOPS programs work hand-in-hand to accomplish the daily mission requirements of MFH and the periodic mission requirements of CASOPS.

# **Directorate of Operations, Plans and Training (G-3)**

The G-3 is the principal staff officer for all matters concerning training, operations, plans, force development/modernization and physical security. Responsibilities include assisting and advising TAG on all matters in support of training readiness. The Directorate of Operations is responsible for review and approval of all major training exercises and training guidance. The G-3 leads a collaborative effort amongst the staff directorates to plan, prepare, coordinate, and disseminate command guidance, and intent. This process ensures synchronization, communication and completeness of both resources and tasks. Furthermore, the G-3 coordinate's exercises and reviews plans and orders of subordinate units to determine requirements and assess the appropriate allocation of training resources. The total budget managed by the G-3 is in excess of \$36 million.

The G-3 is comprised of three branches: Force Training, Mobilization & Readiness, and Physical Security. Additional areas of responsibility include supervising the Connecticut Training Center (CTC) operations and Distributed Learning Centers (DLCs) in the Middletown, Hartford, Danbury, and Camp Nett at Niantic's Regional Training Institute (RTI) facilities. DLCs provided web and computer-based training to 26,510 people this fiscal year to date.

Force Training Branch (FTB) facilitates: Inactive Duty Training (IDT) and AT. It supervised the conduct of 58 in-state course trainings and more than 1,500 soldiers and airmen in a multitude of required military trainings, focusing efforts on primary military education (PME) and Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) qualifications. FTB is responsible for organizing and conducting schools internal to the state and obtaining/allocating quotas for

out-of-state schools. The G-3 supervised the execution of two major training events. The 143<sup>rd</sup> Regional Support Group and the 118<sup>th</sup> Multi-Functional Medical Battalion provided mission command, ground evacuation support and Role I & II medical care in support of the 65,000 participants in World Scout Jamboree in West Virginia. The 192<sup>nd</sup> Multi-Functional Engineer Battalion with the 250<sup>th</sup> Multi-Role Bridge Company and the 248<sup>th</sup> Engineer Company executed a large scale engineer training exercise at Fort Drum, New York. These units emplaced a 142-meter wet gap crossing across the Black River; the first time in over 30 years a unit has accomplished this feat.

FTB supervised the Military Officer Exchange Program which saw three CTARNG soldiers travel abroad to perform training with their British counterparts. The CTARNG hosted three U.K. soldiers as part of the exchange during our units AT periods.

The Mobilization & Readiness Branch (MRB) provided deployment and/or re-deployment support to 490 service members. Currently, a total of 189 service members across three units are deployed. MRB facilitated quarterly unit status reporting reviews, a process required by federal law, identifying each unit's readiness progress throughout the year based on predetermined aim points. These aim points are derived through the five-year sustainable readiness model. The readiness function in MRB reviews, analyzes and recommends planned or programmed force structure while coordinating modernization of weapons and equipment systems for the CTARNG. Evaluation of organizational structure, functions and workload of military/civilian personnel are conducted to ensure the proper utilization and requirements of manpower. Additionally, the MRB works with other staff sections and units to synchronize all force structure and stationing actions within the CTARNG. This process allows, over time, changes to the location and make-up of the units within Connecticut, ensuring they are modern, relevant and positioned to support the state.

The Physical Security Branch (PSB) is tasked to coordinate, plan, resource, train, and inspect all aspects of current and future operations to ensure all force protection measures are taken to secure the force. The PSB synchronizes several programs to include physical security, force protection, and supervises the Operational Security (OPSEC) Program. OPSEC includes the analysis of the command's OPSEC posture, the determination of essential elements of friendly information (EEFI) and identifies potential OPSEC vulnerabilities. The PSB collaborates with all CTARNG units to ensure appropriate measures are taken to secure faculties, equipment and personnel at all times.

#### **Connecticut Training Center (CTC)**

The CTC includes three installations; East Haven Rifle Range (EHRR), Stones Ranch Military Reservation (SRMR) and Camp Nett at Niantic. The mission of the CTC is to command, operate and manage the resources at the three sites in order to set the conditions for excellence in training. Assigned missions are accomplished and year-round customer service is provided through administrative, engineering, logistical, training and operational support to CTARNG units, as well as other DoD, state and civilian agencies.

During the past year the CTC supported all CTARNG units, as well as elements of the Regular Army, U.S. Army Reserve, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, U.S. Navy, USCG, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), U.S. Border Protection, Connecticut State Police (CSP), Connecticut Department of Corrections (DOC) and other federal and state partners.

Several renovation and energy efficiency projects were completed at CTC installations. LED lighting was installed at several buildings on post at Camp Nett at Niantic, with further installations continuing into next fiscal year. Additionally, two barracks buildings were converted from heating oil to propane, with their HVAC systems updated as well. CTC staff and soldiers assigned to the 192<sup>nd</sup> Engineer Battalion established a bridge training area and conducted road/trail maintenance projects on SRMR. CTC staff also provided billeting and mess support to soldiers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The CTC provided training areas, facilities and equipment along with operational and logistics support to more than 106,000 personnel MAN-Days (approximately 4,400 at EHRR, 23,000 at SRMR and 79,000 at Camp Nett at Niantic).

#### **Military Department**

# Directorate of Joint Operations, Plans, Training and Exercises (J-3/5/7) Domestic Operations and Military Support (DOMS- J3)

The J-3 Domestic Operations and Military Support (DOMS) develops, coordinates and implements joint contingency plans for the employment of military forces to support our civil authorities throughout the full spectrum of man-made and natural disasters, as well as homeland defense and security of the State of Connecticut.

The J-3 is responsible for operating a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week state-level Joint Operations Center (JOC). The JOC provides situational awareness to TAG and senior military leaders, and the venue for assembling TAG's Joint Task Force under the control of the Director of the Joint Staff to provide mission command during emergency operations. The J-3 serves as the Joint Staff focal point for coordination of Defense Support to Civil Authorities (DSCA) operations with other DoD components such as NGB, the National Guards of the other 53 states/territories or U.S. Northern Command (USNORTHCOM), should a response exceed CTNG capabilities.

The DOMS Branch, located within the JOC, plans and resources Community Support and Special Event Operations, coordinates and facilitates the deployment of the 14<sup>th</sup> Civil Support Team (CST) unit and the 928<sup>th</sup> Military Working Dogs (MWD), monitors threat information, and conducts information operations as required. The J-3 is also responsible for the oversight and mission planning for the National Guard Response Force (NGRF), which provides specialty tailored forces ready to deploy on short notice.

The CTNG J-3 continues to work closely with USCG, Sector Long Island Sound refining disaster support requirements and Continuity of Operations (COOP) procedures. The J-3 operationally coordinated explosives dog detection support for two federal ship boarding missions on high interest international vessels totaling more than 24 hours of on-site support.

The J-3 provided planning, coordination and support to the Connecticut Day Parade at the Eastern States Exposition, Thanksgiving Day Road Race in Manchester and the Hartford Marathon. Our state militia setup a 25-bed mobile field hospital at the Durham Fair. During Mission Health Day in Danbury, they processed health assessments for more than 200 patients. Through our Community Action Center, the CTNG supported our citizens with 126 community support actions, granted the use of National Guard facilities 28 times, and entertained our citizens via performances by the 102nd Army Band on 18 occasions throughout the state.

To better prepare for responding to large-scale emergencies, the section maintained policy and procedures for requesting assistance from the DoD. The CTNG has trained and certified Dual Status Commanders (DSCs) who are pre-qualified to assume command of Title 10 forces sent to the state by USNORTHCOM and U.S. Army North. Our training program includes collaboration with our habitual partners at USNORTHCOM. In addition, the section conducts continuous liaison and coordination with other federal agencies, such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), FBI, DEA, and the DHS and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The J-3 also maintains very close coordination with the State DESPP through the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS), as well as DPH and the CSP.

The J-3 section also participates in the Statewide Emergency Response Committee, the Strategic Five Year planning committee and the Connecticut Infraguard Organization. The section is also a major partner in the annual Governor's Emergency Planning and Preparedness Initiative (EPPI) exercises to include the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Ingestion Pathways and Post-Plume Workshops. The J3 staff served as the statewide liaison for the Crimson Contagion Pandemic Table Top exercise in August 2019.

The J-3 section orchestrated the operational and tactical efforts of the Connecticut Military Department during its ongoing response to COVID-19. Through its strategic partnerships and relationship building, the staff received, planned and executed more than 175 requests for assistance in 120 days. The J-3 oversaw the assembly of more than 227,000 COVID-19 testing kits and delivered over 67,000 kits to the Connecticut community. The staff

managed more than 1,353 nursing home inspections and built out 21 alternate care facilities, increasing the statewide bed capacity by 2,143. Additionally, the J-3 liaised with the Emergency Support Function-7 (Resource Support) in the distribution of more than 79 million individual commodities in the state. Members of the joint staff supervised the Connecticut State Militia in the deployment of four mobile field hospitals, totaling 90 patient beds, at four locations across the state.

For the first time, the CTNG activated a DSC in support of COVID-19 response. The DSC has the unique ability to command active and reserve forces at the same time during an emergency. The 811-1 Reserve Urban Area Medical Task Force reinforced Stamford Hospital during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. The unit became part of Joint Task Force – Connecticut under the DSC, treating 159 patients and decompressing the hospital. The J-3 staff coordinated for the reception, staging and operations of the Urban Area Medical Task Force. In a heartfelt tribute to first responders and frontline workers battling the COVID-19 pandemic, the J-3 coordinated for a C-130 flyover across 37 hospitals, care facilities and recovery centers as part of Operation American Resolve.

#### **Directorate of Joint Training, Exercises and Readiness (J-7)**

The Directorate of Joint Training, Exercises and Readiness (J-7), is the principle staff agency for matters pertaining to development of the Joint Staff through education, training, operational plans and assessments. The J-7 conducts interagency coordination to develop training plans and exercises to ensure the CTNG is able to fully execute its DSCA mission. The section also develops and publishes the Joint Training Guidance for the CTNG, which integrates a formal strategic and operational training plan in order to accomplish our state and federal missions.

The J-7 scheduled and conducted multiple joint training classes, to include the CTNG Regional Liaison Officer (LNO) Course, the J-1 Domestic Operations Course and other relevant courses. The Regional Liaison Officer course provides training to LNOs assigned to each of the five State Regional Emergency Offices during emergency operations and the Domestic Operations Awareness and Assessment Response Tool (DAART), in order to develop emergency management operations proficiency in our staff. The J-1 Domestic Operations Course focuses students' training on personnel management doctrine in support of the state's All-Hazards Plan. Providing an interactive and in-depth overview of joint personnel accountability and strength reporting using Joint Information Exchange Environment (JIEE), joint reception, staging, and onward movement and integration (JRSOI) processes, as well as other important topics such as pay, entitlements, awards and duty statuses.

The J-7 training and exercise section continues to develop and coordinate key collective Joint Staff emergency training exercises and response options. The section is the lead in planning, coordinating and executing a regional special focus exercise (SFE) as well as hosting the yearly regional cyber defense exercise (Cyber Yankee) taking place in 2021. The SFE will validate CTNG equipment and processes between civil, state and regional partners in order to respond to all-hazards events. The Cyber Yankee Exercise is a Region 1 National Guard defensive cyberspace operations exercise designed to enable collective training and technical assessment with the simulation of a realistic environment to include network owners and a live opposing force. The section also supports the annual Governor's EPPI exercise, which includes exercise development with DEMHS, participation and staffing the exercise controller cell, and capturing key after action review points in order to sustain and improve future emergency operations and training. This section continues to work closely with DEMHS to incorporate the integration/merger of WEB EOC and DAART for better workflow and tracking by multiple agencies.

Additionally, the J-7 has a key role in the operation of the New England Disaster Training Center (NEDTC), a premier training facility designed to bring local, state and federal agencies together to train and exercise interagency disaster preparedness. Recent and recurring training at NEDTC includes the Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) Mobile Field Hospital, Connecticut Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Team training, Connecticut State Marshal training, Connecticut Fire Academy and many other agencies.

#### **Strategic Plans and Security Cooperation (J-53)**

The J-53 is responsible for the State Partnership Program (SPP) with the Oriental Republic of Uruguay. The purpose of the SPP is to conduct engagements which support US strategic goals. The CTNG SPP establishes enduring military-to-military and military-to-civilian relationships through mutually beneficial exchanges. These relationships and exchanges assist the U.S. Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM) and the US Department of State in advancing policy goals in the Western Hemisphere. This year marked the 20th anniversary of partnership between Connecticut and Uruguay and was commemorated by the first visit of the Uruguayan tall ship ROU Capitan Miranda to New London since 2000. The J53 conducted six engagements with Uruguay, including the program's first virtual engagement. In fact, CTNG was the first SPP to conduct a virtual engagement in the USSOUTHCOM area of responsibility following the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. This year's events centered on Cyber Defense, Joint Command and Control as well as COVID-19 response efforts. CTNG is currently working on a plan to permit CTNG personnel to conduct Overseas Deployment Training (ODT) in Uruguay in the coming years. Vital to the successful execution of the SPP is the presence of a CTNG member embedded at the US Embassy - Montevideo. The current Bilateral Affairs Officer (BAO) assumed the position in November 2019, playing an integral role in planning and executing engagements with our partner nation.

# **Counterdrug Task Force (J-32)**

The CTNG Counterdrug Task Force provided more than \$1.01 million in federal support to Connecticut's drug interdiction and drug demand-reduction activities. The Counterdrug Task Force is a joint organization, consisting of 12 permanent and temporary soldiers and airmen on Title 32 Full Time National Guard Counterdrug orders.

In 1988, Congress created the National Guard Counterdrug Program to allow state National Guard units throughout the country to provide assistance in the war on drugs. The mission of the CTNG Counterdrug Task Force is to provide counterdrug support to local, state and federal Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) for the purpose of drug interdiction, and to support Community Based Organizations (CBOs) in the education of adults and youth on the negative effects of drug use.

Our goal is to assist in reducing the distribution, trafficking and manufacture of illegal drugs, to assist in reducing drug related crimes and to increase public awareness of the harmful effects of drug abuse. The Task Force deprives transnational organized crime networks of revenue, helps more of our citizens break the cycle of drug abuse and reduces the adverse consequences to our communities. By working with our partner LEAs and CBOs to ensure the safety, security, and prosperity of Connecticut's citizens, the task force strives to reduce the size of the illegal drug market in Connecticut.

Our analysis support personnel support law enforcement officers at the CSP Statewide Narcotics Task Force, DEA, HSI, FBI, Hartford Police Department (HPD), United States Postal Service (USPS), USCG, and the Connecticut Intelligence Center (CTIC). Our support to investigations at these agencies resulted in the seizure of 142 pounds of cocaine and crack cocaine, two pounds plus 583 bags of heroin, 10 pounds plus 5,650 bags of other opiates, 142 pounds of marijuana, 69 weapons, one vehicle and \$1,487,445 of currency. These results reflect the tremendous efforts our National Guard members contribute to our law enforcement partners.

The CTNG Counterdrug Task Force partnered with the DEA, CSP and local police departments in support of National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. This event provided a venue for citizens of Connecticut to remove 6,958 pounds of potentially dangerous prescription drugs, particularly controlled substances, from their medicine cabinets and safely dispose of them. This is the fourteenth time we have partnered with DEA and Connecticut law enforcement agencies to assist our fellow citizens. The total amount of unwanted prescription drugs removed to date is in excess of 91,000 pounds.

#### **Security, Protection Office (J-34)**

The CTNG Protection Office provides more than \$1.9 million in federal support to antiterrorism, physical security and emergency management activities. Responsibilities include installation and maintenance of electronic security systems to monitor firearms vaults and ammunition supply points, as well as access control and closed circuit television systems used to monitor expensive assets, such as material at aviation facilities and Army helicopters. Other critical enabling pieces are robust partnerships developed over the years with our Local, State and Federal law enforcement agencies, and sister services with whom we coordinate for the sharing of threat information. We fully support our Army and USAF Antiterrorism Officers in the development of security plans for personnel, equipment and facilities. Additionally, the office has the responsibility for the organizational physical security program which ensures proper storage and control of over \$90 million of mission critical items.

The overall intent of this program is to protect soldiers, airmen, contractors, Connecticut Military Department civilian employees, their family members, government property, and facilities against natural, human or technological hazards. The program seeks to prepare for, mitigate against, prevent from occurring, respond to and recover from the potential effects of any incident by providing guidance, timely information and training. This is accomplished by conducting compliance inspections, exercises, disseminating protection advisory messages to our soldiers, airmen and civilians and the use of random force protection measures. The office conducts physical security inspections and surveys of our facilities to verify and improve overall security. All CTNG members have been trained and are encouraged to report suspicious activities involving them or our facilities to law enforcement for action or investigation.

We fully support CTIC by providing manpower and advice on security related topics that support protection. CTIC membership includes National Guard, USCG, federal, state and local law enforcement officials all working together to analyze information and synthesize facts to thwart acts of terrorism. Specifically, the office works with regional intelligence liaison officers to analyze trends and develop mitigation methodologies to protect CTNG personnel, facilities and equipment.

This year's training continues to focus on force protection though training and site security improvements. The office conducted a table top antiterrorism exercise focusing on how senior leaders should react in the event of an active shooter and tested the Desktop Alert notification system. The program is also emphasizing insider threats and ways to identify and report them at the earliest stage. This office regularly conducts protection working groups, training meetings, assessments and exercises to assist in the execution and verification of our established plans. After action reviews are conducted after all exercises to capture best practices and identify any shortfalls in planning and execution phases. The protection working group then reviews all deficiencies and develops sound and realistic solutions.

This office works closely with NGB, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the CTNG Facilities Management Office to complete the physical security upgrades to our recruiting offices, standalone facilities and critical sites as directed under the post-Chattanooga building security initiative. The J-34 remains committed to providing the most current information related to the all-hazard threat methodology utilizing the proven risk management process, to assist senior leaders in determining the best employment of our resources. The CTNG's goal is to work seamlessly with federal, state and local partners before, during and after an incident utilizing the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Army Emergency Management principles.

# **Directorate of Logistics (DOL) G-4**

The G-4 provides logistics management in the areas of supply, equipment management, transportation, maintenance, logistics automation and logistics mobilization support to the Connecticut Military Department. The G-4 ensures that all personnel assigned to the CTARNG are properly equipped and fed; that \$705 million in equipment is accounted for and maintained in accordance with established Department of the Army Directives; and that all units are properly resourced to perform their federal wartime or state missions, to include DSCA or Homeland Defense missions within the state.

The directorate's logistics expertise, equipping guidance, traffic management and logistics sustainment to subordinate units is in support of extensive training throughout the year. The G-4 also provided focused logistics support to CTARNG units deploying in support of operations around the world. The directorate also ensured that all returning equipment is accounted for and enrolled into a RESET maintenance program to guarantee that all equipment is fully mission capable to support future state, federal and training requirements.

The directorate conducts a robust unit assistance and inspection program. Teams spend time with units throughout the year to teach best practices and promote compliance with established supply and property accountability procedures. The assistance visits are often associated with upcoming unit inspections to reduce redundancy.

The directorate launched an aggressive excess management plan that has reduced the amount of excess military equipment to well below the national standard of 0.5%. The CTARNG has led the nation in this area for the past five years and this ongoing effort has produced tremendous results, ensuring that our limited resources were not wasted on obsolete or obsolescent equipment.

The directorate's surface maintenance section operates three field maintenance shops (or FMS, located in Middletown, Windsor Locks and Danbury), one Unit Training Equipment Shop (or UTES, located in East Lyme) and the Combined Support Maintenance Shop (CSMS) and RESET section (located in Windsor Locks).

The current total budget managed by the G-4 logistics section is \$7,582,800.00. This figure is further broken down as follows: \$5,530,000 in Operations and Maintenance, \$1,698,900 in Pay and Allowances, \$223,900 in Equipment RESET, and \$130,000 in Equipment RESET personnel pay and allowances.

# **Construction and Facilities Management Office (CFMO)**

The Connecticut Army National Guard is engaged in a continuing facility transformation program, moving CTARNG forces from antiquated, single-purpose state armories into multipurpose, federally/state funded, joint-service Armed Forces Reserve Centers (AFRC), Readiness Centers, and FMSs. These modern military facilities are designed to support state and federal armed forces requirements for national defense, homeland security and disaster response. Our motto, "Always Ready, Always There," embodies why the CTARNG continues to strive for acquisition and maintenance of mission essential facilities that provide for the overall health, safety, training and readiness of the force. These improvements advance the quality of life and mobilization capabilities for CTARNG Citizen Soldiers, as well as meeting health and life safety needs that arise due to the age of the facilities.

The Adjutant General's vision for the future of the CTARNG is to have modern facilities throughout the State, in order to provide for service members and their families, as well as provide coverage for any State missions. Several sources of Federal funding provide construction and maintenance dollars to ensure the facilities in the State are of the highest quality for our soldiers and citizens.

The first source for major federal funding for projects is the Military Construction (MILCON) program funded through the Future Year Defense Program (FYDP). CTARNG is congressionally programmed for a \$17.5 million Readiness Center in FY22 to be constructed on surplus State property in Putnam. The Putnam facility will meet TAG intent for a Readiness Center to provide support for the outermost communities of North East Connecticut. Currently the Putnam property has undergone abatement and demolition in preparation for construction. In June of 2020 the Architect and Engineer firm completed the 30% schematic design for the new Readiness Center.

The second source for federal construction funding for the CTARNG is the Sustainment, Restoration and Modernization (SRM) program. SRM funding leveraged by state bonding has allowed for the completion of a number of major SRM projects in 2019-2020. These include the construction of a range support building at East Haven Rifle Range, design and construction of a new Operations building at East Haven Rifle Range, new boiler

and heating systems installation at the New London Armories, designs for a new stand by generator and window and door replacement at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Windsor Locks and the replacement of the flat roof on the Hartford Armory. In addition to these projects, we continued our extensive statewide lead abatement projects to bring our facilities into compliance with new federal lead contaminant standards for former indoor firing ranges and lead paint at the Branford and Waterbury armories. Other projects include interior renovations for the Enfield Armory and construction of a standalone storage facility.

Another component of the SRM program is energy funding. CTARNG completed construction of a new standby generator for Enfield Armory, designs for a standby generator for the New London and New Haven Armories as well as conversions to LED lights at facilities statewide. These projects will increase the energy resiliency of CTARNG facilities and provide necessary back up power for State emergency missions.

The final component of SRM is demolition and turn-in of obsolete facilities. The CTARNG has continued an aggressive Connecticut Department of Administrative Services (DAS) excess property process and demolition program to ensure our State has the space to build. Over the past two years, more than 13,000 square feet of obsolete facilities have been demolished between East Haven Rifle Range, Putnam and Stones Ranch Military Reservation.

# **Aviation Operations**

The Army Aviation Support Facility (AASF) and Windsor Locks Readiness Center (WLRC), located on 37 acres at the northeast corner of Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks, provides a full range of rotarywing and fixed-wing aviation capability to the Connecticut National Guard. The AASF and WLRC are home to 16 Army Aviation units. Aircraft assigned to these facilities consist of six CH-47F Chinook heavy helicopters each capable of lifting 33 passengers and/or cargo totaling 26,000 pounds, five UH-60A/L Blackhawk utility helicopters each capable of carrying 11 passengers or 8,000 pounds of cargo, three HH-60M Medical Evacuation (MEDEVAC) helicopters each capable of transporting up to six patients and one C-12U Huron turboprop airplane capable of carrying up to eight passengers or cargo.

The WLRC is an 110,000 square foot facility housing all Army Aviation units currently assigned in Windsor Locks. Completed in the fall of 2013, the WLRC provides the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 169<sup>th</sup> Aviation Regiment with state of the art facilities to train and prepare for their state and federal missions. The State Army Aviation and State Safety offices are co-located on the first floor of the readiness center. Additionally, the WLRC is home to STARBASE-Connecticut, a youth education initiative promoting science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) to grade school children from urban environments.

The AASF provides training, maintenance and logistics support to approximately 300 CTARNG aviation soldiers in their respective military skill sets. These specialties encompass all facets of Army aviation including aircraft maintenance and repair, fuel handlers, aviators and air crewmembers and a host of other skills required to support such a complex organization. Extensive aircraft maintenance, logistics and training operations are conducted on a daily basis out of the AASF.

From July 1, 2019 thru June 30, 2020, the AASF executed nearly 3,000 flight hours in support of state and federal missions. Additionally, the AASF provided support for the air movement of personnel and equipment, joint training exercises, aviation support to state and federal agencies such as the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), DHS, Diplomatic Security Services, Department of the Interior, USCG, USAF, U.S. Army, U.S. Military Academy at West Point, the Governor's Office, and the Office of the President of the United States.

Both the CH-47F Chinook and UH-60A/L Blackhawk helicopters provide the state of Connecticut and the nation with an aerial firefighting capability. Throughout the year, CTARNG aviation aircrews train and prepare for aerial firefighting duties based on RED FLAG warnings around the state. Our CH-47F and UH-60A/L aircraft are both able to respond to widespread fire emergencies with 2,000 and 600-gallon water buckets, respectively.

Annually, aircrews receive training and familiarization on aerial recovery operations utilizing a rescue hoist mounted on the UH-60 helicopters. It provides the State of Connecticut and the nation with a unique recovery capability in the event of an emergency or natural disaster. Additionally, our MEDEVAC aircraft are equipped with an external rescue hoist, a nose-mounted Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) camera and internal litter system to provide an aerial medical treatment and evacuation capability to the state.

The AASF and WLRC routinely provide reception services for deploying and redeploying CTNG soldiers. The Army National Guard ramp in Windsor Locks maintains the capability to serve as a personnel and equipment staging area for both commercial and military aircraft. In conjunction with the NEDTC, the AASF and WLRC also offer classroom space for exercises conducted by local, state and federal agencies.

The CTARNG Aviation Program has an outstanding safety record which spans more than 36 years without a Class A or B (major) accident or mishap. It is one of only a few states in the nation to receive the Distinguished Aviation Safety Award from NGB.

# **State Safety Office**

The State Safety Office (SO) plans, manages and administers the safety program for the CTARNG IAW program and policy guidance established by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), DoD, the Department of the Army and NGB. The SO advises TAG, commanders of subordinate units, directors and other key staff on appropriate safety measures and alternative courses of action to achieve critical mission goals with a minimum risk to people and property. The SO also develops and issues safety guidelines for training activities and for other activities, which impact directly or indirectly on military readiness throughout the CTARNG.

During the past year, the SO conducted eight Organization Inspection Programs (OIP) inspections on four major commands and four separate units, inspecting their Commander's Safety Program. Through the inspections and staff assistance visits, the SO shared lessons learned and best practices in order to produce a safe work environment. The SO assisted battalions in completing the Army Readiness Assessment Program (ARAP) to ensure Commanders understood their units' risks and mitigation efforts. The SO directly supported the CTARNG response to the statewide COVID-19 pandemic through providing on site assessments, developing risk mitigation, educating the force, and providing the leadership with regular updates.

Three national organizations conducted inspections on CTARNG safety programs: The Quality Assurance Specialist, Ammunition Surveillance completed an inspected the state's arms, ammunition, and explosives program; NGB Communications-Electronics Command Radiation Safety Program inspected our radiological commodities program; and NGB Safety Division conducted an on-site Composite ARNG Safety Development & Assessment Program. The CTARNG met all requirements on all the inspections and received several individual commendations.

The SO consists of a Safety Manager and Safety Specialist, plus part-time Safety Officers. The SO's annual budget is approximately \$45,000. The SO works closely with the Occupational Health Office to mitigate hazards in the workplace and monitor workforce health.

The Safety Manager identifies specific safety problems and formulates appropriate control measures through the use of the Risk Management System. The Safety Specialist ensures compliance with the OSHA regulations to include the conduct of surveys and inspections of work sites and storage areas such as ammunition, chemical and radiation storage facilities, warehouses, motor pools and repair and maintenance facilities. The Safety Manager recommends measures to maintain required levels of safety.

In addition, the Safety Manager assisted the Construction Facilities Management Office in the design review phase of new facilities in order to ensure the proper Life Safety Codes are incorporated. The SO devotes particular attention to the National Fire Protection Association and National Electric Codes, as part of the OSHA Standard.

The Safety Manager also develops and conducts a comprehensive safety education program. The Safety Manager creates and publishes safety training materials to educate our forces in the identification and mitigation of hazards that could occur in the conduct of operations. The SO manages an overall program effort to reduce off-duty and on-duty accidents, particularly the prevention of traffic accidents involving service members in military and privately owned vehicles (to include motorcycles).

The SO is integral in pre-accident planning and post-accident investigation. The SO is prepared to work closely with first responders and incident commanders to control accident sites and mitigate the risks inherent to those sites.

The SO conducted extensive training in hazard identification and mitigation. The SO also provides personal protective equipment to aviation and ground maintenance personnel as well as motorcycle operators. Safety emphasis for the upcoming year includes the facilitation of motorcycle safety courses to promote safe riding practices, privately-owned vehicle safety and off-duty personal safety.

# **Inspector General**

The Office of the Inspector General serves as an extension of the eyes, ears, voice and conscience of TAG, providing a continuing assessment on the state of the economy, efficiency, discipline, training, morale, esprit de corps and combat readiness of the Command. The IG leads and promotes an inspection program that provides a full-service evaluation of operational, administrative and logistical effectiveness per applicable statutes and regulations. The IG provides assistance and attempts to resolve all matters at the lowest level, and properly conducts inquiries into complaints and thoroughly investigates allegations of impropriety while being accurate, impartial, fair and steadfast in the course of all duties.

With an emphasis on inspections and the leadership approach of working with the chain of command to solve soldier/airman issues at the lowest level, the CTNG continues to have a low rate of assistance requests and highly regarded inspection programs. The IG aggressively coordinated the OIP, which integrated command, staff, and IG inspections throughout the command. The IG also leveraged internal and external audits, staff assistance visits, management control mechanisms, and oversight functions to ensure the CTNG is a compliance based organization.

During the past year the IG continued to improve upon the commands OIP regulation, developed and executed a state-wide OIP workshop that trained 82 JFHQ Inspectors and dozens of subordinate unit staff members and OIP Coordinators. Additionally, the JFHQ Inspection Team executed Command Inspections on four CTARNG Major Commands and four separate units, and the CTANG Wing IG executed the Commanders' Inspection Program within their organization. These inspections provided the Commanders a status of the readiness, efficiency, state of discipline, and resources within the CTNG. The IG also successfully completed external Intelligence Oversight inspection conducted by NGB's IG office.

The IG program has been indispensable to the command by proactively identifying unit issues and trends, providing an accurate picture of combat readiness and giving leaders a management tool that identifies requirements in order to prioritize resources.

#### **Recruiting and Retention Battalion (RRB)**

The RRB is responsible for strength maintenance by enlisting quality men and women into the CTARNG. Working in tandem with unit commanders, the RRB also assists in retaining soldiers already serving in the CTARNG. The CTARNG currently sits at 95% of the retention mission this fiscal year. The RRB closed 2019 accessing 462 soldiers and officers into the CTARNG against the state's national mission of 471 accessions. In FY 2020, the RRB accessed 381 soldiers and officers through June 30, 2020 toward our state mission of 700 reflecting a year over year improvement of 20%.

The RRB staff is stationed throughout Connecticut in National Guard armories, facilities and at our eight storefront recruiting offices. The RRB annual budget for 2020 is \$1 million. The marketing and advertising section of the RRB normally executes contracts and agreements for CTARNG branding to be on display at popular locations and state schools in Connecticut (to include facilities at the University of Connecticut and Dunkin Donuts Park, home to the Colorado Rockies' AA-affiliate, the Hartford Yard Goats). Event cancellations in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic limited access to certain markets, requiring RRB to refocus efforts to virtual advertising and social media platforms. The RRB supports all unit deployment and redeployment ceremonies, numerous community events to include Memorial Day parades, veterans commemorations, and countless public service visits to schools and universities throughout the state.

Enlisted Strength Maintenance, consisting of Recruiting and Retention NCOs as well as a Recruit Sustainment Program (RSP) for newly-enlisted soldiers, is a facet of RRB's organization. This year, the RSP has maintained its accreditation certificate from the NGB, maintaining an initial entry graduation success rate of over 86%. The RSP is currently ranked 26 of 54 in the nation overall in all metrics. However, it continues to ship nearly nine of every ten enlisted members with a rate of 99.4% and is viewed as a leader in resilience, physical fitness, life skills, and behavioral health training alongside basic training preparation, as its overall success rate is 83%.

Challenges facing the RRB include a lack of dedicated publicly available and visible office space on state university and community college campuses wherein membership grants a soldier in good standing 100% tuition free while attending. Access to public high schools varies from district to district.

# **United States Property and Fiscal Office (USPFO)**

Pursuant to Title 32, U.S. Code, the USPFO oversees federal funding and equipment supplied to the CTNG to support unit readiness. In carrying out this statutory mission, the USPFO pays all National Guard personnel in the state, provides and accounts for federal funds and property, purchases equipment and services and pays for operations and maintenance of facilities and equipment. The USPFO makes returns and reports on federal funds and property as required.

This year the federal government, through the DoD, has provided \$257,103,015 to the CTNG for its operations, maintenance and personnel. Additionally, the total value of federal property administered by the USPFO for the CTNG is approximately \$884,354,276.

Federal Equipment and Supplies	ARMY	AIR
Total Value	\$776,400,142	\$107,954,134
Federal Expenditures	ARMY	AIR
Construction	\$13,084,865	\$234,277
Pay & Allowances	\$38,197,420	\$30,105,653
Operations & Maintenance	<u>\$143,802,800</u>	\$31,678,000
Total	\$195,085,085	\$62,017,930

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The Comptroller Division is responsible for all financial management operations of the CTARNG including budget planning and execution, accurate funds accounting and management of disbursements, to include the payment of travel vouchers, civilian and military payrolls and government purchases. This Division also oversees the DoD travel programs and system to facilitate required travel of CTARNG personnel.

The Purchasing and Contracting Division makes all major federal purchases for both the Connecticut Army and Air National Guards to include the solicitation and award of contracts of all sizes for a wide range of goods and services. This division awards and administers large-scale, high profile National Guard project contracts such as facility construction and improvement and equipment procurement; manages Military Interdepartmental Purchase Requests (MIPRs) and the Government Purchase Card Program (GPC); administers State-Federal Cooperative Agreements; prepares Inter-Service and Intra-Government Service Agreements and Memorandums of Agreement; and supervises the Non-Appropriated Fund (NAF) Contracting Officer.

The Transportation Division manages and directs the commercial traffic management programs for the CTARNG including contracting for and coordinating the commercial movement of personnel, units and equipment in support of training and overseas deployments; providing technical traffic management advisory services; and formulating commercial traffic management programs and policies. The Transportation Division also works closely with the G-4's Defense Movement Coordinator (DMC) on supporting unit movement plans and requirements. In providing customer support, this division uses and interprets DoD Joint Travel Regulations, Technical Manuals, and Department of Transportation (DOT) Regulations, Comptroller General Decisions and Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 49 (Transportation) and 29 (OSHA/Hazard Management).

The Data Processing Center (DPC) manages all information technology requirements for the USPFO including maintaining common core information databases, administering systems and supporting production services for other divisions as well as other CTARNG directorates and units. DPC ensures the integrity and security of multiple types of fiscal and property data and manages data access and reliability controls. DPC's responsibilities include planning and implementing life-cycle technology equipment improvements, ensuring sufficient systems and data storage redundancy and developing and testing a COOP to sustain information technology systems in the event of an emergency. DPC also provides help desk support to individual USPFO employees and other members of the CTARNG.

The Supply and Services Division of the USPFO consists of five branches that provide logistical support to more than 3,500 soldiers of the CTARNG. It receives and oversees the accountability of all federal property provided to units of the CTARNG in coordination with the G-4. The Material Management branch processes the bulk acquisition of food, fuel, ammunition and medical supplies, material and services. The Property Management branch coordinates incoming and outgoing equipment transactions and helps maintain the proper accountability of more than \$776 million in major Army end items and equipment. The Connecticut Supply Depot (CSD) located at Camp Hartell in Windsor Locks serves as the central shipping and receiving point for the CTARNG, processing all non-aviation equipment transfers and shipments. The CSD also manages the turn-in process for all outdated or non-mission capable equipment. The Ammunition Supply Point (ASP), part of the CSD, is responsible for the receipt, storage and issue of ammunition to CTARNG units and out-of-state units training at Camp Nett at Niantic and at SRMR. The Central Issuing Facility (CIF) section also located in Windsor Locks is responsible for the receipt, storage, issue and turn-in of more than \$6.4 million in Organizational Clothing and Individual Equipment (OCIE), providing CTARNG soldiers with all required personal equipment to perform their federal and state missions. The Budget Analysis Branch manages all supply and services funds utilizing the Army-wide Global Combat Support System-Army (GCSS-Army) and General Fund Enterprise Business (GFEB) systems.

The Internal Review (IR) Division is an independent assessment entity serving the USPFO and TAG. It provides a full array of internal review services to the commanders and staff of the CTARNG and CTANG in accordance with Generally Accepted Government Audit Standards (GAGAS) issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. The IR Division is an integral part of TAG's system of internal controls and serves to assist managers in effectively discharging their fiscal stewardship responsibilities. The IR Division conducts functional area internal reviews and audits to determine accountability; compliance with regulations; the extent to which

organizations are using their resources economically and efficiently; and whether they are meeting target performance measures in the most cost-effective manner. The IR Division auditors are vigilant during internal reviews and audits in identifying suspected fraud, waste, mismanagement or improper/illegal acts involving federal resources. The IR Division also serves as the audit focal point for all external audit agencies.

#### CONNECTICUT ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

The CTARNG consists of four Major Commands (MACOMs) with 47 units stationed in 17 state readiness centers, three Army aviation facilities, eight maintenance facilities and five training facilities. The CTARNG has a total of 3,546 soldiers comprised of 2,731 traditional (part-time) soldiers and 830 full-time federally employed soldiers along with an additional 62 federal civilian employees. The CTARNG comprises 68% of the Military Department's personnel strength and provides more than \$185 million of federal funding to the state annually. The CTARNG also possesses more than \$688 million in federal equipment and supplies.

# 143<sup>rd</sup> Support Group (Regional) (RSG)

The 143<sup>rd</sup> RSG, headquartered in Middletown, is a brigade-level command tasked with providing properly manned, equipped and organized units to protect life, property and the preservation of peace, order and public safety in DSCA for disaster response, humanitarian relief, civil disturbance and homeland defense. When activated for federal service, the 143<sup>rd</sup> RSG operates as a Base Support Integrator (BOS-I) and executes mission command for contingency bases, in order to support JRSOI to facilitate theater operations. In theater, the RSG is responsible for managing facilities, providing administrative, logistical and life support for soldiers and ensuring the security of personnel and facilities on contingency bases. The RSG provides mission command of assigned units during homeland security, homeland defense, and civil support missions within the United States, to include managing the reception, staging, onward movement and integration of supporting forces. When not deployed, the 143<sup>rd</sup> RSG provides mission command for training, readiness and mobilization oversight of assigned forces.

The 143<sup>rd</sup> RSG is the higher headquarters for four subordinate battalions which consist of a majority of the CTARNG's combat service support elements of aviation, engineer, medical and logistics. Thirty distinct companies and detachments with an assigned total of 1,404 soldiers comprise the command. The 143<sup>rd</sup> RSG and subordinate units are located in 10 armories, readiness centers and facilities throughout Connecticut. The 143<sup>rd</sup> RSG has 92 active soldiers to ensure continuous operations for payroll, training and logistics support.

During the state fiscal year, the 143<sup>rd</sup> RSG supported the deployment of Bravo Company, 2-104<sup>th</sup> Aviation. Additionally, the 143<sup>rd</sup> RSG ensured ready and available forces across the four battalions in the group. The unit also staged teams and equipment to respond to multiple potential winter storms. The 143<sup>rd</sup> RSG stands ready to provide support to the citizens of Connecticut in the event of an emergency or DSCA situations.

The 1st Battalion (General Support), 169th Aviation Regiment commands a Headquarters Company, a Medium Helicopter Detachment that operates six CH-47F Chinook helicopters, an Air Assault Company that operates five UH-60A/L Blackhawk helicopters, a MEDEVAC detachment that operates three HH-60M Blackhawk helicopters, an Aviation Maintenance Company, and a Forward Support Company. During Fiscal Year 2019, the battalion completed over 2,000 flight hours in support of state and federal missions. Elements of Bravo and Delta Companies, 2-104th Aviation deployed in support of Operation Freedom Sentinel. Additionally, the battalion provided support in the form of air movement of personnel and equipment for air assault training, joint training exercises, air movement support to state and federal agencies such as the DEEP, USCG, USAF, U.S. Army, U.S. Military Academy at West Point, and the Governor's Office. The battalion's personnel supported the state's COVID-19 response with preparation for missions/tasks requiring aviation support. The battalion's June 2020 AT was conducted at its home station in Windsor Locks, conducting 24-hour operations and exercising collective and mission essential task list (METL) training.

The 192<sup>nd</sup> Multi-Functional Engineer Battalion commands a Headquarters & Headquarters Company, a Forward Support Company (FSC), a Multi-Role Bridge Company (MRBC), an Engineer Support Company, two Fire Fighter Detachments and a Well Drilling Detachment. The battalion is responsible for increasing the combat effectiveness at the division and corps level by accomplishing mobility, counter-mobility, survivability, and general engineering tasks. The Headquarters Company recently returned from a deployment to Kuwait in support of Operation Freedom Sentinel in July of 2019. In August 2019, the 250<sup>th</sup> Engineer Company (MRBC) was the first unit in over 15 years to bridge the Black River near Fort Drum, New York. We also welcomed the 256<sup>th</sup> Firefighter Detachment and its seven personnel home from a 10-month deployment to Romania in support of Operation Freedom Sentinel in November of 2019. The 192<sup>nd</sup> Engineer Battalion's firefighter detachment shared their station with the Town of East Lyme Fire Department for more than 30 days during the closure of U.S. Route 1 in their respective town. This agreement facilitated the local fire and emergency medical response to a population of more than 5,000 people.

Additionally, the 192<sup>nd</sup> Engineer Battalion is responsible for providing the Governor with fully manned, equipped and trained units to support DSCA operations throughout Connecticut and the northeast. This year, the 192<sup>nd</sup> Engineers participated in Connecticut's COVID-19 pandemic response with 15 soldiers on 502(f) orders who staffed numerous command and control positions, conducted transportation missions, established Mobile Field Hospitals, and worked in conjunction with DPH nurses in conducting field sanitation and inspections of nursing facilities across the state.

The 143<sup>rd</sup> Combat Sustainment Support Battalion (CSSB) was a key contributor to the logistical efforts undertaken during the COVID-19 pandemic DSCA operation. The 143<sup>rd</sup> CSSB federally mobilized 115 soldiers, focusing its efforts on running the state Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Warehouse and delivering PPE throughout the state. The unit was responsible for over \$200 million of PPE and conducted 30-40 deliveries of supplies daily, statewide. The CSSB also delivered over 1,000 temporary beds to the Hartford Convention Center and various Connecticut colleges, universities and hospitals to bolster the state's COVID-19 response capabilities and response. Daily deliveries to Points of Distribution (PODs) and Civilian Points of Distribution (CPODs) provided PPE for hospitals, state agencies and municipalities including private business. The 143<sup>rd</sup> CSSB employed mission command of its three subordinate units during the DSCA operation: the 1048th Medium Truck Company, the 102<sup>nd</sup> Army Band and the 130<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment (PAD). The CSSB's headquarters conducted modified AT at the Waterbury Armory and SRMR, concentrating on individual soldier skills and leader development. The 1048th Truck Company conducted their fifth consecutive NGRF validation, ensuring the unit remained trained on tasks including site security, civil disturbance control, critical infrastructure protection and personnel security. A qualified NGRF provides its state with a rapid response capability focused on incidents requiring security support. The 102<sup>nd</sup> Army Band conducted 23 missions before their schedule was reduced due to the pandemic. The 130th PAD increased their social media presence and worked with the RRB to help tell stories of soldiers in the CTARNG. They did an exceptional job covering different stories about the pandemic, as well as a host of unit-based activities to showcase the diverse jobs available in the CTARNG.

The 118th Multifunctional Medical Battalion (MMB) commands a headquarters, a headquarters detachment, the 141st Medical Company (Ground Ambulance), and 142nd Area Support Medical Company (ASMC). With almost half of the medical personnel within the CTARNG assigned to the 118th MMB, the battalion is considered the subject matter expert on various Army medical operating systems such as medical care, mental health, preventive medicine, medical logistics and medical ground evacuation. All training is focused on improving subordinate unit readiness in response to possible state and federal missions. In July 2019, the 118th MMB, the 141st and the 142nd ASMC conducted AT in Glen Jean, West Virginia for the World Scout Jamboree, supporting medical command and control, emergency medical services and medical evacuations, supporting over 50,000 BSA, and Scouts from over 167 countries. From mid-March 2020 through July, the 118th provided personnel to support COVID-19 response operations. The units provided medical material inventories, ran mission testing for Guardsmen and civilians and conducted environmental inspections on 27 nursing homes across the state with DPH personnel. The 141st and 142nd train annually with Hartford Hospital's Center for Education, Simulation and Innovation (CESI) to keep current on cutting edge medical advancements and continuing credit hours in order to sustain their National Registry EMT certifications. Additionally, the units participate in community partnerships

with the DEA during its twice-annual National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, providing medical personnel and transportation. The 141<sup>st</sup> and the 142<sup>nd</sup> also provide supplemental medical support to other CTARNG units for road marches, weapons qualifications and various other training missions.

# 85<sup>th</sup> Troop Command

The 85<sup>th</sup> Troop Command is the brigade-level headquarters for the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 102<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment (Mountain), the 192<sup>nd</sup> (MP) Battalion, the 242<sup>nd</sup> Engineer Detachment Construction Management Team, and the 14<sup>th</sup> CST. In total, the command is comprised of three battalion-level units comprised of 14 company-level units and detachments totaling 1,328 soldiers and four airmen. The 85<sup>th</sup> Troop Command and subordinate units are located in 11 armories, readiness centers and facilities across Connecticut. The 85<sup>th</sup> Troop Command has 102 active soldiers to ensure continuous operations for payroll, training and logistics support.

The federal mission of the 85<sup>th</sup> Troop Command is to field a force trained to the Army standard that can mobilize, achieve Mission Essential Task List proficiency and successfully deploy and re-deploy. The state mission is to provide units manned, equipped, organized and trained to function in the protection of life, property and the preservation of peace, order and public safety in military support to civil authorities for disaster response, humanitarian relief, civil disturbance and homeland defense. The 85<sup>th</sup> Troop Command provides mission command of assigned units during homeland security, homeland defense, and civil support missions within the United States. It also serves as the brigade headquarters for the Connecticut's NGRF.

Over the last year, the 85<sup>th</sup> Troop Command has prepared three subordinate units for deployment. The 192d Military Police (MP) Battalion Headquarters deployed overseas to conduct strategic level detention operations in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, the 242nd Engineering Detachment deployed to Jordan and a portion of the 928<sup>th</sup> MWD Detachment deployed to the Central Command Area of Responsibility.

When the COVID-19 pandemic struck, the 85<sup>th</sup> Troop Command mobilized in response to the Governor's call. Beginning March 16, 2020 and lasting beyond the end of the state fiscal year, soldiers assigned to 85<sup>th</sup> Troop Command built eight alternate care facilities (to include the construction of over 1,500 FEMA or state-owned patient beds), performed 24/7 security at six alternate care facilities and the CVS rapid testing site in New Haven, conducted 571 nursing home inspections, conducted 2,633 COVID-19 tests and provided logistical support to the Title X Urban Augmentation Medical Task Force (UAMTF) at Stamford Hospital. In addition, 85<sup>th</sup> Troop Command soldiers assembled over 100,000 COVID-19 test kits and delivered over 50,000 of those kits to requesting entities throughout the state.

The 1-102<sup>ND</sup> Infantry Regiment (Mountain) supported the COVID-19 pandemic response efforts, supplying a task force comprised of more than 450 soldiers. "Task Force Iron Gray" successfully assisted DPH with the distribution of PPE at Branford and New Britain Armories and the setup of the CVS COVID-19 testing site in New Haven. The task force also provided access control points and 24-hour security at multiple locations. Task Force Iron Gray provided transportation of Title 10 medical providers to and from the Stamford Hospital and set up step-down medical facilities at Stamford Hospital, UConn Health Center in Farmington and multiple state universities to include Central Connecticut State University (CCSU), Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU), and Western Connecticut State University (WCSU).

The  $192^{nd}$  MP Battalion is a corrections/detention battalion headquarters designed to provide mission command, staff planning, security, personnel accountability, personnel services (administration, finance, ministry, and medical) and logistical support (supply, field feeding services and routine facility maintenance) for the operation of a confinement facility for U.S. military prisoners; or a detention facility for detainees in any environment worldwide. The  $192^{nd}$  MP Battalion Headquarters is currently deployed overseas, conducting strategic-level detention operations in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The  $192^{nd}$  MP Battalion has three subordinate units – the  $143^{rd}$  MP Company (headquartered in West Hartford), the  $643^{rd}$  MP Company (headquartered in Westbrook) and the  $928^{th}$  MP Detachment (headquartered in Newtown).

The 143<sup>rd</sup> MP Company's mission is to provide support to an area of operations in any of the MP functions. MP operations focus efforts on civil order maintenance, threat mitigation, and personnel and asset protection, regardless of the operational environment. These technical capabilities and tactical tasks combine to form the MP disciplines (police operations, detention operations, and security and mobility support) that enable the elements of combat power, supporting the generating force and operations across the range of military operations. Additionally, the company serves as Connecticut's NGRF in order to provide military support to civilian authorities and respond to state emergencies. Over the last 12 months, the 143<sup>rd</sup> MP Company focused on its first crew served weapons gunnery qualification and platoon movement techniques. The unit also provided a platoon of soldiers to support COVID-19 operations with Task Force Iron Gray, responsible for constructing multiple field hospital step-down units, COVID-19 test kit assembly and distribution for the Connecticut DPH and nursing home inspections to ensure the safety of Connecticut's elder population. This year, the 143<sup>rd</sup> MP Company's AT consisted of individual, squad and platoon movement techniques, battle drills, land navigation and a ruck march.

The 643<sup>rd</sup> MP Company recently returned from a deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and is transitioning from a corrections/detention company (designed to manage compounds within an enemy prisoner of war/civilian internment facility) to a combat support company (similar to the 143<sup>rd</sup> MP Company), capable of providing support in any of the MP functions. The company has already received over 250 additional weapons systems, an assigned personnel allocation growing the unit by nearly one third and an expected future acquisition of over 80 tactical vehicles. The company's focus on individual soldier training is a top priority to transition its personnel from Corrections Officers (Military Occupational Specialty: 31E) to MP (31B). The company expects to be fully qualified in these tasks by the end of summer 2021. The 643<sup>rd</sup> MP Company also provided a platoon of soldiers to support COVID-19 response operations during the spring of 2020.

The 928th MP Detachment is the only MWD Detachment unit in the Reserve Component inventory. The unit is authorized six Patrol Explosive Detection Dog teams and three Patrol Drug Detection Dog teams. This year the 928th MP DET welcomed two new dogs: Patrol Drug Detection Dog "Victor" and Patrol Explosive Detection Dog "Gandalf" to the kennel. In addition, the 928th MP DET welcomed two new MWD Handlers to the unit – one of which was recognized as the Honor Graduate of his MWD Handler Course above all Active Duty counterparts. The 928th MP DET was called upon to conduct non-stop security missions in support of combatting COVID-19 in addition to multiple United States Secret Service, USCG and Drug Enforcement Agency missions. This year, the 928th MP DET deployed a MWD Handler and Patrol Explosive Detection Dog overseas in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. The Detachment is preparing for another team to deploy for overseas in 2021. MWD teams have supported State of Connecticut force protection details, Connecticut force protection sweeps located at the Bradley Air National Guard Base in East Granby, and MWD demonstrations in support of community awareness and recruiting/ retention events.

The 242nd Engineer Detachment, Construction Management Team (CMT) provides construction management for theater-level troop/activity concentrations and/or facilities within the Combined Joint Operational Area (CJOA). During the last year, the 242nd CMT mobilized and deployed to Jordan in support of Operation Spartan Shield (OSS), where the detachment provides construction project management, base camp master planning, real property administration and engineering survey and design support for multiple bases across the Jordan CJOA. In its pre-deployment training, the detachment executed an externally-evaluated culminating training event focused on the management of four construction projects at the CTC, currently estimated at over \$5 million. The 242 CMT performed surveys totaling almost 1,000 acres and completed designs for approximately 50 projects including base camp master plans.

The 14<sup>th</sup> CST is a joint Army/Air National Guard unit consisting of 22 full-time soldiers and airmen specializing in hazardous materials (Hazmat) detection, emergency response and consequence management. The 14<sup>th</sup> CST provides Hazmat screening and detection capabilities in support of local, state and federal authorities at critical transportation hubs, sporting events, VIP visitations, and high interest events. Additionally, the CST provides a modular emergency response capability that can be scaled to the size and scope of any Hazmat / Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) incident. The CST accomplishes these missions by providing highly-trained personnel and cutting-edge technology focused on identifying hazardous agents/substances, assessing current and

projected consequences, advising on response measures and assisting with appropriate corrective actions and follow on support. The 14<sup>th</sup> CST is an integral part of the Connecticut Military Department's All-Hazards Plan and the national CBRNE Response Enterprise (CRE) of the DOD. The specialized sections of the CST provide command and control, Hazmat environment entry, decontamination, advanced communication, mobile laboratory analysis and medical subject matter experts.

In collaboration with the 928<sup>th</sup> MWD, the 14<sup>th</sup> CST conducted 139 detection and screening missions in support of the CSP, as well as the police departments of Bridgeport, Manchester, Hartford, New Haven and Enfield. These missions also included Transportation Security Administration (TSA), DHS, and the USCG, helping to secure state rail lines, bus terminals, airports, ferry ports and other critical infrastructure. In addition, the CST conducted screening and detection missions in support of the high-attendance events such as the Hartford Marathon, Manchester Road Race, Sailfest, University of Connecticut football games, and the Boston Marathon. Overall, members of the CST conducted more than 2,000 hours of HAZMAT and CBRNE specific training and supported regional CSTs throughout New England, while simultaneously providing expert 24/7, on-call statewide HAZMAT/WMD response coverage.

Additionally, the 14<sup>th</sup> CST has been very active with the state DPH laboratory in support of the state COVID-19 response. The 14<sup>th</sup> CST coordinated and collaborated the use of its mobile laboratory capability that provided testing to over 2,600 civilian individuals over a two-month period from April through June. CST members also conducted inventory and delivery of critical medical instruments and supplies around the state and continue to support mission essential functions for both COVID-19 response and HAZMAT/WMD protection.

# 1109th Theater Aviation Sustainment Maintenance Group (TASMG)

With more than 284 full-time military and civilian employees, the 1109<sup>th</sup> TASMG provides limited aviation depot maintenance, back-up aviation intermediate maintenance (AVIM) and back-up aviation unit maintenance (AVUM) for Army National Guard aviation assets in the 14 northeast states and the District of Columbia (which includes 74 aviation units stationed at 21 facilities with a total of 329 helicopters). While deployed, the mission of the 1109<sup>th</sup> TASMG is to operate a centrally coordinated Theater Aviation Maintenance Program (TAMP). Specific missions include depot maintenance, back-up AVIM, back-up AVUM, providing tailored maintenance contact teams throughout the theater, and performing battle damage assessment and recovery (BDAR) of aircraft and operation of the Theater Class IX (repair parts) Supply Support Activity (SSA).

The TASMG continued to maintain its quality management certifications of ISO 9001:2015 and AS 9110 Rev C (Aviation Maintenance), and was successfully audited this year with no non-conformities found. It also managed the execution of an \$88.5 million budget that includes more than \$52.7 million of aviation Class IX support to regional National Guard aviation units. In coordination with the CTNG's Contracting Office, they continue to execute the largest labor contract in CTARNG, worth an estimated \$6 million annually. Its successful maintenance of our aviation service contract to enhance our federal workforce created an estimated area economic impact of \$21.9 million this year for southeast Connecticut based on purchases and wages.

The TASMG completed over 1,900 aircraft and components maintenance actions, including 43 road trips to the support area with a positive effect on Army National Guard aircraft readiness rates. Four UH-60L Blackhawk aircraft were completely overhauled and painted through the facility's Aircraft Inspection, Maintenance, and Sustainment (AIMS) program. The facility also inducted two CH-47F Chinooks returning from overseas into a RESET program. The TASMG continued working with Army Aviation and Missile Command's Utility and Cargo Program Manager's Offices by providing technical support teams for aircraft survivability equipment updates, as well as modifying military aircraft to comply with changing FAA requirements.

The TASMG maintains its efforts to reduce impacts on the environment and the infrastructure of the Town of Groton and the State of Connecticut. The TASMG has implemented technology that further reduces the amount of hazardous waste generated, which in time will change the facility category from a Large Quantity Generator to a Small Quantity Generator. The 1109<sup>th</sup> TASMG supports the state and its Reduce, Reuse, Recycle program on a

continual basis, educating staff on the benefits of protecting their health as well as the environment while positively impacting the mission.

The TASMG continues to support its federal mission requirements and currently is conducting training in anticipation of a 20-Soldier deployment in support of operations in southwest Asia in early 2022 in order to continue supporting the enduring mission in that Theater of Operations.

# 169th Regiment Regional Training Institute (RTI)

The 169th Regiment is a component of the One Army School System providing a wide spectrum of residential military training for all three components of the U.S. Army. The 169th consists of a Headquarters, 1st Battalion Officer Candidate School/Warrant Officer Candidate School (OCS/WOCS), 2nd Battalion (Modular Training) and 3rd Battalion (MP Training). The 169th Regiment employs a staff of 10 full-time service members and expands to 60 officers and non-commissioned officers during its monthly training periods. The 169th Regiment and its three subordinate battalions are certified as an, "Institution of Excellence," by the United States Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) – the highest possible rating assigned to training institutions. The 169th Regiment's annual operating budget is approximately \$1,700,000.

The 169th functions as the subject matter expert for MP courses for the entire Army National Guard, ensuring MP training is standardized at each of the nine training sites throughout the nation. The SME coordinates directly with training sites, NGB, TRADOC and the U.S. Army MP School at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

The 1st Battalion, 169th Regiment conducts OCS and WOCS for the northeast region, serving as the regional headquarters for both programs. The OCS/WOCS Battalion conducted a two-week AT for the northeast region at Camp Nett at Niantic, training 102 students from New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and the six New England states. This year, the program graduated two officer candidates and the 10 warrant officer candidates from the program. In addition to its officer candidate courses, the battalion also teaches the Platoon Trainer Qualification Course and Maneuver Tactics Foundation Course.

The 2nd Battalion, 169th Regiment provides training in Health Care, Combat Medic Specialist Military Occupational Specialty Transition (MOS-T) course, National Emergency Registry Medical Technician Basic, Combat Medic Specialist Sustainment, the Combat Lifesaver Course, the Basic Life Support course and the Common Faculty Development – Instructor course. The battalion recently received authorization to teach Comprehensive Medical Training and graduated 28 students this year. The new course replaces Combat Medic Specialist Sustainment and standardizes the biennially-required medical refresher training. In total, the battalion graduated 80 students this year.

The 3rd Battalion, 169th Regiment provides regionalized Basic MP 31B MOS-T. In addition to the MOS-T course, the battalion received a short-notice mission to teach the 31B Advanced Leader Course in both a resident and mobile training team capacity, graduating a total of 193 students from Guard and Reserve units nationwide. The 3rd Battalion graduated 222 total students this year.

#### CONNECTICUT AIR NATIONAL GUARD (CTANG)

The CTANG consists of a headquarters element and the 103d Airlift Wing (AW) known as the, "Flying Yankees." Sub-organizations to the 103<sup>rd</sup> AW include the 103rd Maintenance Group, Medical Group, Mission Support Group and Operations Group, all located in East Granby, and the 103rd Air Control Squadron (ACS), known as "Yankee Watch," based in Orange.

The CTANG manages more than \$96.2 million in federal equipment and supplies, occupying and maintaining 42 facilities presently valued at \$208.4 million. The CTANG facilities are sited on 173 acres of state and federal land.

The CTANG is continuing significant facility improvements and new construction in East Granby due to the C-130H conversion and continuous improvement planning. This FY construction completed on our new \$6.3 million MILCON-funded Small Air Terminal project supporting C-130H cargo and passenger preparation. A new \$7 million MILCON-funded Base Entry Complex and a \$5.4 million renovation of the Security Forces facility are currently progressing with a projected completion of both projects in FY20.

CTANG airmen continue to support the ongoing Global War on Terrorism (GWOT), executing Tactical Airlift and Expeditionary Combat Support (ECS) missions globally. The 103 AW has eight C-130H aircraft and continues to maintain Full Operating Capability as a tactical airlift Wing.

In our state role, we continue to maintain capabilities in support of Homeland Defense (HLD) and emergency response requirements. The 103 AW supports and trains EMS/fire, commodities distribution, power generation/lighting, route clearing, security/crowd control, chaplain services, and austere environment operations. During the past year, we have trained these specific functions in Patriot North (Large Domestic Operations Exercise), Civil Engineer Fire Training, Civil Engineering Construction Training, and Exercise Northern Lighting (Air Control Exercise).

# 103d Airlift Wing (AW)

The 103 AW celebrates its 97th year in 2020, with a long and distinguished history dating back to the earliest days of aviation in our nation. We continue to support the GWOT with unit members serving in many locations throughout the year. The 103 AW completed its second operational deployment in 2019 to Southwest Asia.

The C-130H primarily performs the tactical portion of the airlift mission. The aircraft is capable of operating from rough, dirt strips and is the prime transport for airdropping troops and equipment into hostile areas. Using its aft loading ramp and door, the C-130H can accommodate a wide variety of oversized cargo, including everything from utility helicopters and six-wheeled armored vehicles to standard palletized cargo and military personnel. In an aerial delivery role, it can airdrop loads up to 42,000 pounds or use its high-flotation landing gear to land and deliver cargo virtually anywhere.

#### 103d Air Control Squadron (ACS)

The 103 ACS is located in Orange, CT on 21 acres with five primary buildings totaling 60,965 square feet. Major equipment available for state emergency includes more than 27 tactical vehicles, 16 diesel generators, 20 environmental control units, and a robust tactical communications capability able to provide voice and data services. The squadron has been partially mobilized six times, and participated in seven contingency deployments since Sept. 11, 2001. Always engaged, the unit routinely augments contingency operations overseas.

The unit performs critical Air Battle Management Command and Control functions using the advanced weapons systems TYQ-23A Tactical Air Operations Module from a state of the art 2,500 sq. ft. facility in Orange, Ct. Coupled with leading edge technology Remote Radar and Radio Access (R3), the unit can perform Air Battle Management functions throughout the entire east coast. In the last year, the unit has controlled Major Command level exercises supporting critical Command and Control functions for multiple exercises throughout the contiguous United States and home station ensuring readiness of our personnel.

ACS Command and Control capabilities are critical during Governor and TAG directed state emergency response support. The squadron provides tactical generator, environmental control, soft cover facility, and vehicle support teams for power generation, heating and cooling, transportation, and rescue operations, along with manpower augmentation for asymmetric state emergency support events. The 103d Air Control Squadron has played an integral role in supporting both federal and state agencies in both COVID-19 Testing Facilities power production, medical screening augmentation, soft cover facility deployment, and statewide logistics delivery support.

The 103 ACS is a Low Density/High Demand organization subject to frequent deployment within the Combat Air Forces. The state mission of the 103 ACS is to assist state Command Authority in times of emergency by providing equipment and personnel as needed and directed by the Governor and TAG. The 103 ACS is a Control and Reporting Center (CRC), responsible to an Air Operations Center for providing the critical ground Command and Control, Theater Air Defense and Air Tasking Order execution capability for the Joint Force Air Component Commander. It provides tactical level execution as an Air Force element of the Theater Air Control System (TACS) and supports the Joint/Combined Aerospace Operations Center, the senior element of the TACS, by maintaining positive control of theater airspace and functions as a critical battle management, weapons control, data link, surveillance and identification node. The CRC is augmented by, and shares collateral responsibility for this mission with the airborne elements of the TACS, the Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) and Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System aircraft.