



Division of Military  
and Naval Affairs

# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



# The Adjutant General

## DMNA Supports State and Nation in 2023

Governor Hochul,

Your Army and Air National Guard and your State Defense Forces (Naval Militia and the New York Guard) along with the civilian employees of the Division of Military and Naval Affairs achieved great things in 2023, carrying on the traditions of “Always Ready, Always There.”

I like to look back at previous Adjutant General Reports which started in 1846 for interesting facts and comparisons. In 1923, 100 years ago, Brigadier General Edward J. Westcott, the Adjutant General reported the following to Governor Alfred E. Smith:

- 20,694 members of the National Guard assigned; today we have 20,100 +/- total personnel.

- \$640,475.56 was spent on the National Guard; today our economic impact exceeds \$1.5 billion.

- They reference the “War Department,” today it’s the Department of Defense.

- Major General John F. Ryan (famous Commander of the 27th Infantry Division in World War I) retired in May of 1923.

For 2023, the Division of Military and Naval Affairs, the New York National Guard, and our State Defense Forces were integral to civil support operations across the State. These included the close-out operations for the COVID-19 expenditures, several natural disasters and storm responses, and the New York City asylum seeker support mission (started on September 26, 2022). In addition, we concluded the New York Army National

Guard’s largest overseas (Title 10) with more than 3,100 Soldiers deployed. The New York Air National Guard remained continually deployed and supported Title 10 operations across the globe.

For the third year in a row (FY-2021, FY-2022, and FY-2023), the New York Army National Guard was rated #1 nationally of 54 States and Territories for recruiting and retention. We appreciate your visit to our headquarters on December 28, 2023, to recognize our success. For 2023, the New York Army National Guard received a ranking of 118.12 in a scoring system the Army National Guard uses to evaluate State effectiveness in recruiting and retaining Soldiers. A score of 100 means a state met its recruiting goals and a score above that indicates recruiting goals were exceeded.

We ended 2023 with an assigned Army National Guard strength of 11,140 Soldiers, well above the authorized strength of 10,362.

I am also proud to say that our Air Guard—the largest in the country—met its recruiting and retention goals with 5,807 Airmen at the end of 2023.

And our unique New York Naval Militia (only 6 in the nation) reported a strength of 3,153 Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen at the end of 2023.

I am also pleased to report that the New York Guard, our volunteer State Defense Force, reorganized itself in 2023 to provide a much more capable and responsible force to assist the civil support operations



*Maj. Gen. Ray Shields*

here within the State.

Federal military missions saw 3,133 New York Army National Guard Soldiers deployed in Africa, Europe, the Middle East, and on the Southwest border during 2023. These missions ranged from training Ukrainian troops to securing military bases in the Horn of Africa and assisting the U.S. Border Patrol.

The New York Air National Guard also deployed 1,516 Airmen on federal missions during 2023. They served in places as different as Antarctica and Qatar in support of our National Defense Strategy.

At the same time, our state’s military personnel met their commitments to our citizens here at home.

Major General Ray Shields assumed duties as the 54th adjutant general for the state of New York on October 1, 2018. In this position, General Shields is responsible for providing trained and ready National Guard forces for both state and federal missions. Shields also serves as Commander of the New York Army National Guard.

Shields, a resident of Saratoga Springs, was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the New York Army National Guard through the Reserve Officers Training Corps program in May of 1983 after graduating from the State University of New York at Albany.

He has served in a variety of military positions to include platoon leader, infantry company commander, battalion staff officer, battalion commander, brigade staff officer, brigade executive officer and deputy commander, brigade chief of staff, New York Army National Guard chief of staff and New York National Guard director of joint staff.

Shields served in Afghanistan in 2008-09 as chief of staff for the 27th Infantry Brigade Combat Team and Combined Joint Task Force Phoenix, a NATO training mission.

During his service Shields has been involved in the New York National Guard response to Superstorm Sandy, several

snowstorms, Lake Ontario flood control missions, the response to Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria in 2017, Hurricanes Florence and Michael in 2018, the COVID-19 response of 2020-22 and the current Asylum Seeker Support Mission.

Shields holds a bachelor’s degree in history from the State University of New York, Albany; a master’s degree in public administration from Marist College, and a master’s degree in strategic studies from the Army War College.

His military education includes the Army Strategic Education Program, the Army Command and General Staff College, the Army War College, the National Security Studies Management Course at Syracuse University, the Army Senior Leader Development Program, and the General and Flag Officer Homeland Security Executive Seminar taught by Harvard University and the George C. Marshall European Center for Strategic Security Studies Senior Executive Seminar.

Shields’ awards include the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star, the Meritorious Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Medal and the Combat Infantryman Badge.


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During 2023, 2,823 New York Military Forces service members served on the mission to assist New York City in coping with the thousands of asylum seekers coming to the city. At the same time, our Joint Task Force Empire Shield continued its long-term mission of assisting law enforcement at transportation hubs and other critical locations in New York City.

Our men and women also stood ready to respond to emergencies as part of the Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Teams and the Homeland Response Force.

Meanwhile, our Army and Air National Guard military funeral honors team provided military funeral honors at services for 9,083 veterans during the year. This important program provides a final military honor to salute veterans and their families for their service.

I am proud of the story this report tells, and proud of the men and women who accomplished so much during 2023.



RAYMOND F. SHIELDS, JR.  
Major General, NYARNG  
The Adjutant General



*Maj. Gen. Ray Shields, the adjutant general, speaks with Army National Guard Sgt. Kenneth Miller, holding his two-month-old daughter Oriyah, and his five-year-old son, Dominic, at the deployment ceremony for the 642nd Aviation Support Battalion, January 22, 2023, in Ronkonkoma, N. Y.*

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The Annual Report is published each year electronically under the provisions of New York Executive Law Section 164, and is intended to provide the public with information on the programs and financial activities of the Division of Military and Naval Affairs.

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The Division of Military and Naval Affairs and the New York National Guard can be found online at: <https://dmna.ny.gov>

**FRONT COVER:**

*Top photo: New York Army National Guard Sgt. Robert Williams, assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 53rd Troop Command, prepares to fire at the start of a rifle qualification attempt on Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania, July 10, 2023.*

*Bottom photo: An LC-130 Hercules assigned to the 109th Airlift Wing arrives at Resolute Bay, Nunavut, Canada, March 7, 2023. The 109th provided tactical airlift support for Guerrier Nordique 2023, a joint force arctic exercise.*



# New York State Division of Military and Naval Affairs

The New York State Division of Military and Naval Affairs (DMNA) is the state executive agency responsible to the governor for managing New York's Military Forces.

Major General Raymond Shields Jr., the adjutant general of New York, serves as both an agency commissioner and the commander of the New York Army National Guard.

The governor is the commander-in-chief of the New York Military Forces.

At the end of 2023, New York's military force strength totaled 20,415. Strength for each component was:

- Army National Guard: 11,140.
- Air National Guard: 5,809.
- New York Naval Militia: 3,157.
- New York Guard: 309.

The New York National Guard is the fourth largest in the country behind those of Texas, California, and Pennsylvania.

The first citizen military force, in what became New York, was the Burgher Guard, organized by the Dutch East Indian Company in 1640 to help pro-

tect New Amsterdam and New Netherlands from their English neighbors in Massachusetts and Virginia or from hostile natives.

After New Netherlands became the English colony of New York in 1665, a militia, modeled on the system used in Massachusetts and other English colonies, was put in place.

New York also gets the credit for giving the country the term National Guard for its Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen.

In 1825, the 2nd Battalion, 11th Regiment of the New York Militia, renamed themselves the National Guard to honor the Marquis de Lafayette, a hero of the American Revolutionary War who was visiting New York City.

Lafayette had commanded a force called the "Guard de National" in the early days of the French Revolution, so the unit renamed itself in honor of that unit. The name caught on.

In 1862, New York renamed the New York Militia the National Guard.

During the Civil War while more than

460,000 New Yorkers fought in the United States Army and Navy, New York National Guard units were called out for emergencies. These included the Confederate invasion of the north in June 1863 that was turned back at the Battle of Gettysburg and the draft riots in New York City, which occurred a few weeks later.

Since New York had the largest state militia in the nation, other states began using the National Guard name and by the end of the 19th century most states used that name.

The Adjutant General of New York is appointed to the position by the governor and confirmed by the New York State Senate.

The Adjutant General is simultaneously a federally recognized general officer in the Army or Air National Guard and a state agency commissioner. The Adjutant General is responsible for agency administration and maintaining, equipping, and training of personnel and facility readiness.

The New York Army and Air National Guard are part of the Reserve components of the Army and the Air Force, alongside the Army Reserve and the



New York Army National Guard Maj. Gen. Michel Natali, left, the assistant adjutant general, Army; and New York Air National Guard Command Chief Master Sgt. Michael Hewson, the senior enlisted advisor for the New York Air National Guard, salute following the presentation of a wreath during a Memorial Day ceremony held at New York National Guard headquarters in Latham, New York on May 25, 2023.



Michael Searing and his older brother John are sworn into the U.S. Army by 2nd Lt. Jesse Deteresa as part of a Make a Wish event in Gloversville, N.Y., January 8, 2023. The event was organized by Make a Wish and the New York Army National Guard for Michael, where he was sworn in as a Soldier for a day, and received a military escort to the Albany airport, where he boarded a flight to Disney World with his family.

U.S. Air Force Reserve. Unlike those two forces, the Army and Air National Guard also respond to state emergencies under the direction of the governor.

The Adjutant General reports to the governor through the Deputy Secretary for Public Safety.

National Guard Soldiers and Airmen normally serve in "Title 32" status. This means they are paid for by the federal government but are under the orders of the governor as the commander in chief of the state national guard.

New York National Guard Soldiers and Airmen in Title 32 status can be loaned to other states to help respond to emergencies through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact process and remain under the orders of the governor.

New York Army and Air National Guard members can also be "federalized" and placed under the orders of the President of the United States to conduct missions in the United States or overseas. This is known as "Title 10" status, for the section of United States code which governs the active duty military.

During a state emergency, Army and Air National Guard forces responding are placed on state active duty. This means their salaries are paid by the state and military equipment is borrowed by the state which is responsible for maintenance and fuel costs.

The New York Naval Militia and New York Guard are state only forces which do not deploy on federal missions.

The DMNA state budget allocation for the 2023-24 New York State fiscal year was: \$217,194,375.

This broke down into:

- State Operations: \$140,393,575.
- Aid to Localities: \$1,000,000.
- Capital Projects: \$75,801,000.

Estimated federal spending for the New York National Guard was \$989 Million.



*Command Sgt. Maj Edwin Garris receives the colors from Major General Raymond Shields during his change of responsibility ceremony at the Joint Force Headquarters in Latham, N.Y., July 7, 2023. During the ceremony, responsibility as the state command sergeant major for the New York Army National Guard transferred from Command Sgt. Maj. David Piwowarski to Garris.*



*New York National Guard headquarters military and civilian staff listen as Maj. Gen. Ray Shields, the adjutant general of New York, speaks during a visit by New York Governor Kathy Hochul to the headquarters building in Latham, New York on December 28, 2023. Hochul visited the headquarters to mark the New York National Guard's recruiting success during 2023. The New York Army National Guard was first in Army Guard recruiting for the third time in federal fiscal year 2023.*

# Civil Support Operations in 2023

The Division of Military and Naval Affairs provides trained personnel and equipment when called upon by the governor of New York to respond to weather and other emergencies in New York and within the territory of the United States.

The Director, Joint Staff, Army Brig. Gen. Isabel Smith, and Joint Operations Officer, Air Force Col. Edward Cook, oversee civil support missions at the direction of the adjutant general.

During 2023, 3,334 members of the New York Army and Air National Guard, the New York Naval Militia, and the New York Guard responded to nine specific state civil support response missions. These ranged from the response to the continuing migrant influx in New York City, to a team conducting financial and logistical tasks as part of the wrap up to the two and a half year COVID-19 pandemic mission.

This amounted to a total of 855,044 duty days in state service during the year.

The New York Military Forces also continued to maintain Joint Task Force Empire Shield, a state security force of 700 personnel operating in New York City in support of city, state, and federal law enforcement agencies.

The Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and New York Guard volunteers of the New York Military forces normally respond to state emergencies in a State Active Duty (SAD) status. This means they are paid by the state during their time on duty at their military rank. Under New York state law all personnel in military grades up to E-4 are paid at the rate of E-5, a sergeant in the Army.

While on state active duty, the state also assumes the responsibility for maintenance of any federally owned military vehicles or other equipment, which can include helicopters, used during the mission.

In cases where the president has declared an event a federal disaster,

Army and Air Guard personnel may respond in federally paid status as defined in Title 32 United States Code, Chapter 5 subsection 502 (f).

This means they are paid by the federal government at their military pay grade, but still operate under the orders of the governor.

Additionally, with the consent of the governor, National Guard Soldiers and Airmen can deploy to other states and territories in a SAD status under the terms of Emergency Management Assistance Compacts. These compacts allow states to lend each other personnel and equipment, which can include both civilian and National Guard assets, during emergencies.

Among the specific state missions undertaken during 2023 were:

## COVID Close Out

Beginning in March 2020, NYMF supported COVID-19 operations throughout New York State from all components of the New York National Guard.

At the beginning of 2023, 279 service

members continued to provide logistical and administrative support to medical supplies and test kit logistics operations and financial reconciliation tasks in support of the DMNA budget office. As 2023 progressed, operational requirements declined, and remaining forces focused on financial reconciliation of expenses related to the operation. At the close of 2023, 34 service members remained on duty.

## Asylum Seeker Resource Support

Beginning September 29, 2022 and continuing through 2023, DMNA assisted New York State to provide administrative and logistical support to shelters housing migrants seeking asylum in New York City. Eventually, locations housing migrants expanded beyond New York City to motels in Buffalo and Rochester.

Service members from all components mobilized to provide administrative and logistical support at more than 72 shelter hotels and humanitarian relief centers assisting more than 11,000 migrants. A total of 2,813 New York Military Forces members served



*New York Governor Kathy Hochul speaks with New York National Guard leaders during a meeting at the 5th Avenue Armory in Harlem on Sept. 25, 2023 prior to a press event at which she announced that 150 more New York National Guard personnel would be added to the ongoing migrant support mission in the city. The New York National Guard has just over 2,100 troops on duty in New York City and at hotels in Erie and Monroe counties providing logistical and administrative support to state officials overseeing shelter operations.*

on this mission during 2023. The breakdown of forces was:

Army National Guard, 1,931.

New York Naval Militia, 515.

Air National Guard, 216.

New York Guard, 151.

At the close of the year, 2,133 service members remained on duty doing this important work.

### March 2023 Winter Weather

On March 13, DMNA mobilized 103 service members from both the New York Air and Army National Guard in preparation to respond to severe winter weather in the Hudson Valley and the Capital District areas. There were few negative effects from the storm and all personnel were deactivated on 14 March.

### Orange County Wildland Fire

On April 14, DMNA mobilized 10 Soldiers and two New York Army National Guard UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters to support the Department of Environmental Conservation and the Office of Fire Prevention and Control in responding to a wildland fire in vicinity of the towns of Blooming Grove and Port Jervis in Orange County. The aircraft were used in a backup role and forces were deactivated on April 16.

### Support to the Special Olympics

From June 10-11, DMNA provided a color guard and a baggage detail consisting of 14 service members from Joint Task Force- Empire Shield for the U.S. Special Olympic Team departure ceremony at John F. Kennedy Airport in New York City.

### New York Naval Militia Support to Operation Lake Thunder

From July 28 to July 31, DMNA supported the U.S Coast Guard and various New York Agencies with nine service members, two patrol boats and a mobile command post from the New York Naval Militia as part of a joint border patrol effort known as Operation Lake Thunder on the Niagara River and Lake's Ontario and Erie.

The purpose of this operation was to increase the interoperability between the New York Naval Militia and partnered agencies on Lake Ontario in



*New York Army National Guard Spc. Maria Hurtado provides food to a migrant at the Port Authority Bus Terminal reception station in New York City, January 12, 2023. The New York National Guard established a station at the bus terminal where migrants being dropped off could wait until city officials arrived to take them to a hotel.*

upstate New York while also interdicting illegal cross border traffic.

During their patrols, the three-member Naval Militia crews embarked Coast Guardsmen and Homeland Security agents with law enforcement authority to issue citations or make arrests as required.

The crew of Patrol Boat 280 hailed and stopped a recreational boat that wasn't responding to Coast Guard efforts to stop the vessel. That boat's crew also escorted a boat that was towing a disabled boat out of a squall on Lake Ontario.

### Eastern New York Rain Event

On July 10, DMNA mobilized a Swift Water Rescue Team consisting of five Airmen, one vehicle, and a boat and trailer from the New York Air National Guard's 109th Airlift Wing in response to severe flooding in Northeastern New York. The force remained as backup to civilian first responder teams and was demobilized the same day.

### Hurricane Lee Response

On September 14, DMNA mobilized 69 personnel and twelve vehicles from the New York Air and Army National Guard at F.S. Gabreski Air National Guard Base and the Farmingdale Armed Forces Reserve Center to prepare for potential flooding and from Hurricane Lee storm surge. The Soldiers and Airmen were not required for operations and deactivated on September 20.

Governor Kathy Hochul visited the Soldiers and Airmen at the Farming-



*Governor Kathy Hochul announces deployment of 150 additional National Guard personnel to support response to asylum seeker crisis at the 369th Regiment Armory in Harlem.*

# Civil Support Operations

dale Armed Forces Reserve Center to thank them for being ready to respond.

## Watertown Water Main Break

On October 19, DMNA mobilized 18 Army National Guard Soldiers with eight vehicles to assist local, and state agencies respond to the large water main break that left residents without potable water. The Soldiers transported 10 pallets of canned water from the Capital District to a staging area in Watertown, New York. Personnel and equipment were deactivated October 20.

The New York National Guard mobilized forces for two state emergency response exercises as well during 2023.

From May 9 to 11, DMNA supported the New York State Police with four

New York Naval Militia members and one patrol boat as part of chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and high explosives detection exercise. The goal was to improve interoperability between various federal, state, county, and city agencies working on the Hudson River in the Capital Region.

DMNA also executed an annual interoperability exercise called Empire Challenge. Fifty-one service members from the New York Guard, Naval Militia and Joint Task Force Empire Shield participated.

The exercise was conducted at locations across New York State with a command post established in Brooklyn, New York. The purpose of this event was to practice, refine, and validate communications platforms and devices between the New York

Military Forces the New York Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, the Civil Air Patrol, and various other agencies.

Throughout 2023, DMNA was prepared to provide forces from the New York Air and Army National Guard to support the District of Columbia National Guard in the event of an emergency or major operation in the district.

The New York National Guard was prepared to respond with a joint task force headquarters, one multi-purpose response force including military police and logistical support. Planning also called for augmenting the DC National Guard joint task force with 30 Soldiers and Airmen.

The standby mission ended on October 1, 2023, at the end of the federal fiscal year.



New York Air National Guard Senior Airmen Eric Wolf of the 106th Rescue Wing signals an HC-130J Combat King II to proceed forward for take off, June 21, 2023 at F.S Gabreski Air National Guard Base in Westhampton Beach, New York. The C-130J and its crew assisted the U.S. Coast Guard in the search for the missing submarine. Inset photo shows the view from the window of the HC-130J at 500 feet over the Atlantic Ocean on June 21, 2023 while the crew searched for the submersible, lost while diving on the wreck of the Titanic.



## Joint Task Force-Empire Shield (Steady State Operations)

Joint Task Force Empire Shield (JTF-ES) is the New York National Guard's long-term state active duty security force in New York City. At the end of 2023 there were 707 personnel assigned to the mission of augmenting local, state, and federal law enforcement entities at major transportation hubs.

Throughout 2023, JTF-ES conducted persistent anti-terrorism and homeland security operations, reinforcing law enforcement at two airports, seven transportation infrastructure hubs, nine bridges and tunnels, and two DMNA facilities.

The core mission of JTF-ES is directly supported by New York Naval Militia Patrol Boats, which conduct maritime security operations at three strategic locations within the New York Harbor. They work with the US Coast Guard and participate in randomized antiterrorism screening programs.

During 2023, JTF-ES executed 568 airport security missions, 568 transit hub security missions, 993 bridges and tunnel force protection missions, and 993 physical security missions.

Additionally, the task force Naval Militia contingent conducted 522 boat



*New York Air National Guard Master Sgt Josh Spegnola, a member of the 2nd Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team stands in protective gear on the Watervliet Arsenal in Watervliet N.Y. Aug. 2, 2023 during an exercise. Spegnola and the CST were participating in a training exercise where they had to clear a house reported to have hazardous materials. The Watervliet Arsenal is the only cannon manufacturing plant in the United States.*

missions. The Naval Militia team also located a boat to offer support in anticipation of Hurricane Lee's impact on the New York City/Long Island region.

JTF-ES also facilitated the transportation of 13 distinguished military visitors from the military services, the National Guard Bureau, and state

partners from Brazil and South Africa in and around the New York City Metropolitan Area.

JTF-ES participated in nine Multi-Agency Super Surge and Regional Alliance Incorporating Local, State, and Federal Efforts (MASS/RAIL-SAFE) missions aimed at flooding rail hubs with security forces. The task force collaborated with various law enforcement entities to increase personnel, detect potential threats, and coordinate patrols of railroad stations, subway stations, and rights-of-way.

Task force members also enhanced security presence on trains.

Finally, JTF-ES maintains a 24/7 Quick Reaction Force consisting of 20 Service Members, prepared to deploy throughout the state at a moment's notice.

## Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Teams (Steady State Operations)

The New York National Guard maintains two Civil Support Teams-Weapons of Mass Destruction: the 2nd CST-WMD based at Stratton Air National Guard Base in Scotia, and the 24th CST-WMD based at Fort Hamilton in Brooklyn.

These are more commonly known as



*New York Governor Kathy Hochul greets New York National Guard Soldiers and Airmen she mobilized in case Hurricane Lee hits Long Island at the Farmingdale Armed Forces Reserve Center in Farmingdale New York on Sept. 14, 2023. The governor deployed 50 troops and vehicles out of an abundance of caution as the storm made its way north along the East Coast.*

the Civil Support Teams (CSTs) and their Soldiers and Airmen are highly trained first-responder units that support civil authorities responding to a weapon of mass destruction incident.

The CST mission is to support civil authorities during a chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear (CBRN) incident by identifying hazards, assessing current and projected consequences, advising on appropriate response measures, and assisting with requests for additional state and/or federal resources. CSTs will normally be the first National Guard units to arrive at a WMD incident.

To accomplish their mission, CSTs prepare by participating in both military and civilian emergency response training. CST Team Members complete advanced training at several Department of Defense schools, alongside other agencies such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Department of Justice, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Department of Energy.

Additionally, CSTs are equipped with high-end detection, analytical, and protective equipment, as well as satellite, secure, and cellular communications to provide connectivity with both Civilian and Military Forces.

The 2nd CST conducted 11 steady-state (stand-by) missions and 18 training exercises.

The 24th CST conducted 14 steady-state (stand-by) missions, 19 Secure the Cities Maritime missions, 90 Advise & Assist events, and 25-unit training events/exercises.

### **Homeland Response Force (Steady State Operations)**

In concert with the New Jersey National Guard, the New York National Guard contributed forces to the FEMA Region II Homeland Response Force (HRF), a planned CBRN response force of 570 Service Members. If activated, the HRF increases the operational capability and flexibility available to Governors responding to CBRN incidents within their state.

Members of the HRF conducted specialized training to familiarize members with comparable civilian hazardous materials response equip-



*New York Governor Kathy Hochul meets New York National Guard Soldiers and Airmen mobilized for the threat of Hurricane Lee striking Long Island, at the Farmingdale Armed Forces Reserve Center in Farmingdale, New York on Sept. 14, 2023. The governor deployed 50 troops and vehicles out of "an abundance of caution" as the storm made its way north along the East Coast.*

ment, as well as the incident command structure that enables the HRF element to seamlessly integrate with civilian first responders. The intent of the HRF is to augment state or local authorities by providing enhanced response, rescue, relief, and recovery capabilities that states, localities, and other federal agencies may lack in a CBRN event. Over the course of this year, HRF units conducted a multiple phase large scale exercise validating their ability to deploy and respond to a CBRN event as well as providing standby support to the 78th United Nations General Assembly.

Significant training events conducted during the year include two large scale collective training events with 187 and 353 personnel, respectively, a staff exercise with 31 personnel, a Search and Rescue Course with 19 service members, and support to the United Nations General Assembly with 26 service members.

### **Citizen's Preparedness Corps (Steady State Operations)**

The New York National Guard continued to support the Citizens Preparedness Corps program, which trains individuals to prepare, respond to, and/or recover from a disaster or emergency. A fundamental portion of

the course teaches attendees about items that they should procure prior to emergencies.

At designated training sessions sponsored by the governor's Office, a free Disaster Preparedness Kit is given to each participant to ensure they each have the necessary equipment and supplies to maintain their safety during an emergency.

The mission is comprised of 23 service members, organized into nine teams across the state of New York. From January to November 2023, the teams travelled a total distance of 58,656 miles across the state of New York and conducted an impressive 780 events, reaching a total of 24,274 attendees. 40 events were conducted in four non-English languages, along with American Sign Language. During the 150 events sponsored by the NYS Governor's Office, 8,403 preparedness kits were distributed.

### **Critical Infrastructure Protection Mission Assurance Assessments Detachment (CIP-MAA) (Steady State Operations)**

The CIP-MAA Detachment is composed of 21 New York Army National Guard Soldiers who have the skills and training to conduct assessments of critical defense assets involving

transportation, defense, energy, and communications infrastructure.

In 2023, the CIP-MAA Detachment conducted six site assessments – five at locations throughout the Eastern half of the United States and one in Europe.

The detachment works in direct support to Headquarters, Department of the Army, Mission Assurance Program. However, under limited circumstances they have the capability to conduct missions in support of New York State entities.

The team includes a mission

analyst; electrical specialist; cyber specialist; transportation specialist; water, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning specialist; a communications specialist; a petroleum, oil, and lubricants specialist; along with a photographer and team leader. The detachment is based at the New York State Armory in Leeds.

### **Cyber Support to NY State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) Steady State Operations**

During 2023, DMNA provided five Army National Guard military com-

puter experts to the DHSES Cyber Incident Response Team. This team provides cyber-security expertise for counterterrorism, critical infrastructure, and cyber-security risk assessments in support of authorities at all levels of government throughout the state.

The Army Guard team helped complete 46 mission assignments ranging from securing state critical infrastructure assets to cyber security assessments, legislative reporting, cyber exercises, and incident responses.



*Jan Kerr, a lieutenant with the New York State Forest Rangers, with the assistance of New York National Guard Soldiers assigned to the 42nd Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade, tests his radio equipment after making modifications to it to make it possible to communicate with National Guard troops during a joint mission more efficiently in Latham, N.Y., April 15, 2023. In the past, state police elements and Guardsmen used different radio types and had to switch between them, which is something they have been trying to overcome in recent years.*

# Honoring New Yorkers in 2023

New York National Guard Soldiers and Airmen provided military funeral honors for the families of 9,083 veterans during 2023.

Federal Public Law 106-65, enacted in 2000, mandates that the military provide honors at the funerals of any former members of the United States military—including members of the reserve components and National Guard—who were not dishonorably discharged.

Providing these services is the responsibility of the Army and Air National Guard.

In 2023, New York Army National Guard honor guard Soldiers conducted 7,100 funeral honors services, while their New York Air National Guard counterparts provided services for 1,983 families.

In 2022, 9,824 families were served by Army and Air National Guard Honor Guards, and in 2021, the funeral honors were conducted 10,431 times.

The New York Army National Guard runs a statewide funeral honors program operating in eight detachments across New York. The program was budgeted for \$2,950,000 in 2023. Most of the money covers personnel costs, but the team also leases vehicles to use for their missions.

At the end of 2023, the New York Army National Guard had 39 Soldiers working on funeral details full-time and 48 Soldiers who volunteered part-time. The Soldiers are in National Guard Title 32 status.



*Soldiers of the New York National Guard honor guard stand at attention after performing a 21 gun salute at the funeral of 1st Lieutenant John Thomas at the Rose Cemetery in North Rose, N.Y., May 20, 2023.*



*New York Air National Guard Master Sgt. Edison Aguilar, the 105th Airlift Wing honor guard program manager, salutes a memorial flag after presenting it to U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Benjamin Thomas, the commander of the 105th Civil Engineer Squadron, during a memorial service for Mario Scaduto in Yonkers, N.Y., December 16, 2023. Scaduto retired from the 105th CES fire department as a Tech. Sgt. and continued to serve as a civilian employee until just a few years ago.*

Funeral honors requests for Army honors come directly from funeral directors or family members, who must provide documentation indicating veterans' status.

Requests for honors also come from Army Casualty Assistance Centers at Fort Drum in Jefferson County, and Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst in New Jersey.

The New York Air National Guard supports the funeral honors program with base honor guards located at the five air bases and Eastern Air Defense Sector in New York.

The 107th Attack Wing, based at Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, provides personnel for that base honor guard who serve alongside members of the United States Air Force Reserve's 914th Airlift Wing.

The New York Air National Guard reported 22 Airmen with a full-time funeral honors mission, and 68 volunteers, at the end of 2023.

The Air Guard personnel on full-time honor guard duty are in Title 10 federal duty status. They receive their funeral taskings through the Air Force casualty assistance Center at Joint

Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst and from funeral directors and families.

Soldiers and Airmen on the details are trained to ensure that everything they do meets exacting standards. These range from the uniforms they wear, to how they fold the flag presented to families.

By law, every veteran is guaranteed a two-person funeral detail.

Mandated honors include folding a flag and presenting it to the family. While one detail member presents the flag, the other plays taps on an electronic bugle.

Retired military personnel, and those who passed away while on active duty, are entitled to honors that involve as many as nine or more Soldiers or Airmen. These can include a rifle-firing party and pallbearers.

Ideally, honors are conducted at the gravesite, but honor guards must be flexible, according to honor guard officials. Funeral directors usually schedule their graveside events from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., so honors must be conducted at other times than calling hours or wakes.

Heavy traffic in the New York City



*Soldiers of the New York National Guard honor guard transfer the remains of 1st Lieutenant John Thomas at the Rose Cemetery in North Rose, N.Y., May 20, 2023. Thomas was killed in action during a World War II bombing mission over Ploiești, Romania. 51 of the 177 planes that took part in the raid were shot down, including Thomas', and his body was not positively identified until 2022.*

and Long Island areas can make getting to services promptly difficult. Long distances between communities in western New York and North Country have the same impact in reverse, according to honor guard officials.

Teams must also be prepared to travel outside New York. On Dec. 20, four Airmen from the 109th Airlift Wing in Scotia, helped inter Air Force Staff Sgt. Jacob Galliher—who was killed in a special operations aircraft crash—in Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

The Army and Air Guard honor guards, which are responsible for Long Island and New York City, including the Calverton National Cemetery—where over 275,000 people are interred—are among the busiest in the state.

Since the Department of Defense began implementing the funeral honors law, the New York Army National Guard has provided honors over 187,000 times.

Over time, the number of funeral honors being provided by the New York Army and Air National Guard has declined as the number of veterans living in New York has decreased.

According to the website USA Facts, in 2022, there were 580,856 veterans living in New York, down 35 percent from 2012.

According to the Veterans Administration, the number of veterans in New York is dropping at just over 3 percent annually, according to the Veterans Administration.

The World War II generation, with 16 million veterans, was the largest group of veterans for years. But now, according to the National World War II Museum, only an estimated 119,000 World War II veterans are still living.

During 2023 the New York Army National Guard's detachments conducted the following funeral honors:

- Albany: 667

- Camp Smith (Hudson Valley): 805
- New York City: 1,004
- Long Island: 2403
- Buffalo: 861
- Rochester: 621
- Binghamton (Southern Tier): 214
- Syracuse: 525

The New York Air National Guard's base honor guards have conducted the following funerals in 2023:

- 105th Airlift Wing, Newburgh, Hudson Valley: 240
- 106th Rescue Wing, Westhampton Beach, Long Island: 640
- 107th Attack Wing, Niagara Falls (with Air Force Reserve's 914th Refueling Wing): 432
- 109th Airlift Wing, Schenectady: 234
- 174th Attack Wing, Syracuse: 367
- Eastern Air Defense Sector, Rome: 70

# Counterdrug Task Force

The New York National Guard Counterdrug Task Force provides military support to local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, as well as to community-based organizations working to reduce drug use and demand in New York.

The program is managed by Army National Guard Col. Michael Murphy, the New York National Guard counterdrug coordinator. The main office is at Stratton Air National Guard Base in Scotia.

During 2023, 113 New York Army and Air National Guard personnel were assigned to the task force. Seventy members worked in support of investigation analysis missions, while 20 Airmen and Soldiers supported the drug demand reduction outreach component of the program. Another 23 people managed the program.

During federal fiscal year 2023, the task force conducted 177 missions providing support for 51 law enforcement entities.

The 70 service members working in the investigative analysis effort, aided narcotics investigations conducted by

law enforcement using their military skill sets. They aid narcotics investigation efforts through the development of graphs, mapping, pattern analysis, research, database queries, compiling of raw data and assisting in development reports.

These experts worked with County Crime Analysis Centers and conducted 42 missions employing military provided equipment and software for law enforcement use.

These included:

- Mini-Z, a handheld backscatter imaging system which allows operators to scan hard to reach area for smuggled drugs.
- The Tru-Narc Handheld Narcotics Analyzer which allows operators to do an onsite analysis of drugs recovered by law enforcement.
- Cellenbrite software which speeds up data analysis.

The New York Counterdrug Task Force participated in 387 narcotics cases in fiscal year 2023. These cases resulted in 1,331 seizures. These seizures were:

- \$131 Million in illicit drugs.
- \$10 Million in seized US currency.
- \$2 Million in Property and Vehicle seizures.

The drug demand reduction outreach specialists assisted community anti-drug groups using their organizational and administrative skills. They assisted the groups in expanding and analyzing and developing their efforts and supported 434 community events.

The counterdrug task force experts supported drug take back programs to remove unused medications from homes to prevent misuse and addiction.



*The New York National Guard Counter Drug Task Force, seen at their headquarters in Scotia Glenville at the Stratton Air National Guard Base, N. Y. August 2023.*

# NY Army National Guard Facilities

The Division of Military and Naval Affairs maintains a constellation of 71 facilities across New York. These support the 11,000 Soldiers of the New York Army National Guard, and the 3,500 military vehicles and 35 Army aircraft they operate.

These facilities provide spaces to train Soldiers, conduct administrative functions, and maintain and store vehicles and equipment.

The buildings, and the engineering staff who maintain them, also play a crucial role when the New York National Guard responds to state emergencies. They are used to mobilize, stage and support Soldiers and Airmen who respond to natural disasters and other emergencies under the orders of the governor.

During 2023, for example, Task Force Asylum Seeker, which supported the influx of migrants to New York City, employed National Guard armories in Staten Island, Queens, Harlem, and Buffalo to support the 2,813 personnel assigned to the mission.

The goal of the division's Facilities Management and Engineering Director is to ensure that the infrastructure, supporting state and federal missions, is adequately constructed and maintained and meets the technological needs of a 21st Century military force.

Many of these installations are over 100 years old, have large castle-like structures, and are on both state and federal historic registers.

Armories constructed since 1930 are typically brick masonry structures, some with large drill halls. Others, built in the 1950s and 60s generally have smaller drill hall spaces.

The total size of the agency's supported infrastructure is approximately 5.4 million square feet, located on 3,409 acres.

The Division of Military and Naval Affairs currently maintains:

- 36 New York state armories;
- 15 field maintenance shops;
- 4 National Guard readiness cen-



*Soldiers assigned to the 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment, conduct a battalion change of command ceremony at the unit's historic armory on Lexington Avenue in New York City, Oct. 22, 2023. During the ceremony, Lt. Col. Adam Bojarski assumed command from Lt. Col. Shawn Tabankin, who led the unit since 2021.*

ters, with one serving federal reserve units as well;

- 4 Local training areas in Dunkirk, Newark, Youngstown and Guilderland;
- 3 Army Aviation Support Facilities in Ronkonkoma, Latham and Rochester;
- 3 Combined Support Maintenance Shops;
- 2 Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team facilities; one at Stratton Air National Guard Base in Scotia and one at Fort Hamilton in Brooklyn;
- The Maneuver Areas Training Equipment Storage Site (MATES) at Fort Drum;
- Barracks, ranges, and offices at Camp Smith in Cortlandt Manor;
- A warehouse and Central Issue Facility at the Watervliet Arsenal, and
- The New York State Military Museum in Saratoga Springs.

DMNA ensures the viability of the agency infrastructure through continual maintenance, and the design and construction of facility upgrades.

During 2023, DMNA executed 52 contracts valued at \$52.4 million for design, construction, and renovation at armories across New York.



*Workmen completing a new second floor area in the former drill shed of the New York State Armory in Jamaica, Queens on March 7, 2023. The \$100 million renovation of the armory, which takes up a city block, is due to be finished by the summer of 2024.*

These included significant projects, like construction of a field maintenance shop in Troy and building upgrades like a \$5 million project in Lockport.

# NY Army National Guard Facilities

There were also more minor projects, like \$2 million spent to replace the roof at the 131-year-old armory that houses the New York State Military Museum in Saratoga Springs.

Another \$7.8 million was spent on maintenance of New York Army National Guard facilities during 2023.

The facilities and engineering directorate employed 184 people at the end of 2023.

There were 160 New York State employees and 24 federal civilian employees who maintain the buildings and grounds and conduct centralized project planning.

There is a central staff at state headquarters, but the bulk of these employees work at the facilities across New York.

The facilities staff executes projects to correct environmental, health and safety hazards, and ensure building code compliance. Proposed projects are evaluated to ensure they meet agency goals and readiness objectives.

Modernization and automation of electrical and mechanical systems

with energy conservation considerations are undertaken as part of the agency's capital plan.

Efforts to reduce fossil fuel consumption have a significant priority.

Considerable improvement in utility demand reductions have been made by replacing roofing, heating, and electrical systems with modern applications. In addition, older windows and doors are being replaced to improve the overall efficiency.

In coordination with the state's Build Smart NY and the Governor's Executive Order No. 22, DMNA is pursuing carbon reduction programs, and retro-commissioning studies of agency buildings. Retro-commissioning projects ensure that buildings' energy systems and equipment were installed as intended by their design and are being properly operated and maintained.

Projects fall into three categories, with their own funding and cost-share structures. These are environmental projects; sustainment, restoration, and modernization, or SRM projects; and military construction or MILCON

projects.

Environmental projects are conducted to ensure compliance with federal and state mandates. These include underground and above ground fuel storage tank projects, wastewater treatment for permit compliance, and removal of lead, fuel, asbestos, and other contaminants.

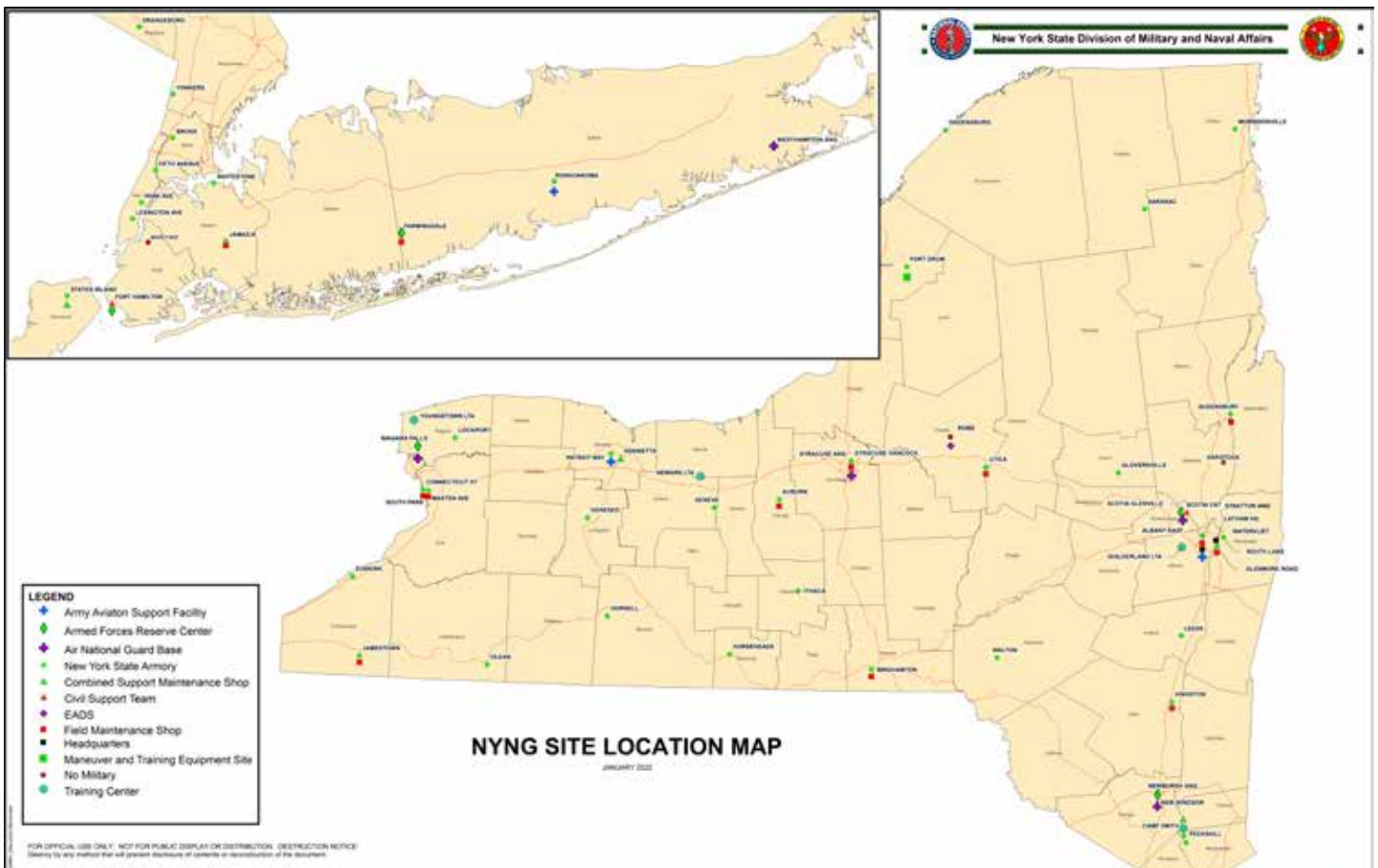
SRM projects include replacing and upgrading heating systems, along with roof, window and door replacements, stair and railing repair, paving, space reconditioning, mechanical work and health and safety initiatives.

Modernization of building space is especially important to meet the requirements for training and storage generated by new equipment.

All work must meet requirements for historic buildings set by the New York State Historic Preservation Office.

MILCON projects are large-scale projects with significant federal funding included in the federal defense budget for new construction or major renovations.

The agency's major MILCON project, launched in 2021, is a three-year,





\$85.2 million contract to renovate the 140,787 square foot Jamaica, Queens armory in New York City.

The building is the home of the 1st Battalion, 258th Field Artillery, and the 442nd Military Police Company and the 42nd Infantry Division Artillery, or DIVARTY.

The federal government and New York State share the cost of the upgrades with the federal government covering 75% while the state government will pay for 25%. Congress appropriated up to \$91 million to fund the project. At the end of 2023, the scheduled work was just over 85% complete.

The New York State Office of General Services continued to provide oversight and construction management services during the year. LiRo Program and Construction Management, PE P.C., which is part of the LiRo Group headquartered in Syosset, Long Island, with offices in Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Queens, is the construction manager.

CHA Consulting, Inc., which is headquartered in Albany and has offices in Brooklyn, is the designer of record. Suffolk Construction Company, headquartered in Boston but with a New York City office, is spearheading the project as the prime contractor.

The Art Deco style building was built in 1936 when artillery was towed by horses and the original design reflected that fact. There was a stable with space for 138 horses used to pull the 104th Artillery's 75-millimeter guns left over from World War I. A harness shop to repair the horse's harnesses was also included.

The work on the armory includes new plumbing, electrical, HVAC, information technology systems, window replacement, and a roof replacement. New locker rooms will be installed, ensuring adequate space for female Soldiers.

The massive "drill shed" area of the armory, designed initially with a dirt floor and used for training horses, will become military vehicle parking and a state-of-the-art field maintenance shop.

A 38,000-square-foot second-story



*New York National Guard and Office of General Services officials join together for a symbolic groundbreaking ceremony, marking the start of construction for a maintenance facility March 31, 2023 at the Glenmore Road Armory in Troy. Pictured are, from left, Maj. Gen. Ray Shields, the adjutant general of New York, Jeanette Moy, commissioner of the Office of General Services; Col. Pat Clare, New York National Guard director of logistics; Keith Buchholz, National Guard Bureau comptroller; Maj. Michael Costello, field maintenance supervisor; Bridgett O'Hanlon, Office of General Services deputy commissioner for design and construction; and Gary Yaple, director of facilities for DMNA. The new facility will replace a maintenance shop built in 1971.*

readiness center is being constructed within the drill shed to accommodate additional units and training without expanding the building footprint.

The original marble-clad lobby and wood-paneled conference room will be restored.

A similar project at the 5th Avenue Armory in Harlem, home of the famous Harlem Hellfighters, upgraded that historic facility into a state-of-the-art training and logistics location. That project cost \$62 million over five years and was completed in 2022.

In 2023, DMNA continued work on a \$12 million state-funded project to renovate the Bronx armory that began in 2022.

Located in what was once the administrative area of the massive Kingsbridge Armory complex, the building houses Army National Guard recruiters and a battery of the 1st Battalion, 258th Field Artillery. DMNA received beneficial occupancy and the unit was in the process of reoccupying facility at the end of 2023.

During 2023, work continued on a \$3.7 million project to upgrade the entrance to the state headquarters building in Latham, launched in the

fall of 2022. The project was about 99 percent complete by the end of 2023.

The 5,085 square-foot addition enclosed open space that initially separated the two halves of the facility and created a new reception area.

Originally, a driveway ran under the elevated walkway connecting the two sections. Following the 9/11 attacks, the drive was eliminated, but the separation and walkway remained.

Building systems upgrades, including LED lighting, wireless access points and camera system will enhance energy-efficiency and security.

The entrance approach was enhanced for visitors and staff by new sidewalks aligned with the new entrances and landscaping.

New York State Office of General Services Division of Design and Construction managed the renovation. They, in turn, engaged the services of architecture in collaboration with MJ Engineering (civil design), Spring Line Design (structural design), and Jade Stone Engineering (building systems design) to develop the design.

The Office of General Services awarded the work to four prime contractors: AOW Associates, Inc.

(Construction Contract), Lacorte Companies, Inc (Electrical), S & O Construction Services, Inc (HVAC Contract), Tri-Valley Plumbing & Heating, Inc. (Plumbing Contract).

In March of 2023, the agency initiated the construction of a new Field Maintenance Shop adjacent to the 42nd Infantry Division headquarters at the Glenmore Road Armory in Troy.

The \$16.4 million project, 18,808 square foot masonry and insulated metal panel building will house three general purpose work-bays which allow six military vehicles to be serviced inside simultaneously. There will also be outdoor concrete aprons allowing additional vehicles to be serviced there in good weather.

The facility also complies with the latest environmental measures. These include photovoltaic roof panels and a battery storage system which will generate more power than the maintenance shop will use, and a storm-water retention system that saves rainwater to wash vehicles.

The contract also requires 75 percent of construction waste generated be recycled or reused.

The new facility will replace a maintenance facility built into the existing armory building when it was constructed in 1970 and 1977. That 11,000-square-foot field maintenance shop was built to handle jeeps and 2.5-ton trucks.

The unit that has occupied the armory since the early 1990s, the 42nd Infantry Division, is now equipped with the latest satellite communications trucks, armored wreckers, and command and control vehicles which require more space.

At the end of 2023, the project was 41 percent complete. The exterior brick veneer of the metal building was in place and concrete slab inside poured. Construction is anticipated to be complete in October 2024.

During 2023, DMNA obtained \$13 million in state funding to begin the design work to fully renovate and upgrade the Lexington Avenue Armory in Manhattan, the home of the historic 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry.

DMNA received an additional \$9



*Alfredo Carias, the maintenance supervisor at the Masten Avenue New York State Armory in Buffalo, receives the State Conspicuous Service Medal from Maj. Gen. Ray Shields, the adjutant general of New York during a July 20, 2023 ceremony in Latham, N.Y. Carias was called to respond to the snow emergency in Buffalo December 24, 2022 that saw over four feet of snow bury the city. Carias was the only state employee able to arrive at the armory, which took two hours of travel through heavy snow, a normal 30 minute commute for Carias.*

million in state funding for design and construction management in 2022 and an additional \$4 million in 2023, for a total of \$25 million in design. Today the project is fully designed and awaiting to be placed on the bid calendar.

The project is anticipated to cost \$120 million to construct, with \$90 million in federal money and \$30 million in state financing.

This project was included on the National Guard's fiscal year 2024 unfunded priorities list for congressional action. Built in 1904, this armory remains largely as it was. Prolonged inadequate funding resulted in the deterioration of this structure and poses risks such as system failures that disrupt operations, higher operating and life cycle costs, health, safety hazards, and further escalation of deferred maintenance or repair backlog.

The building's poor condition negatively impacts Soldiers, potential recruits, and the local community's

perception of the National Guard.

When military requirements permit, armory space can be used by community groups, as well as other state and federal agencies.

Planning is also underway to add additional space to the Glenmore Road Armory in Troy, which houses the 42nd Infantry Division headquarters and at the DMNA headquarters in Latham.



*A memorial plaque in the New York State Armory in Jamaica, Queens on March 7, 2023 during ongoing \$100 million renovations. The massive armory, which takes up a city block, is due to be finished by the summer of 2024. The work involves gutting and rebuilding the interior and adding a second floor inside the old drill hall section of the building.*

## Camp Smith Training Site

The New York National Guard has been using Camp Smith Training Site, located in the town of Cortlandt Manor, as a training area since 1882, when it was known as the Peekskill Camp.

New York City National Guard units leased farmland to train on until 1895, when the state purchased property, and then began acquiring more land. The camp once consisted of 2,000 acres but more remote sections were turned over to the state for public use, and the Division of Military and Naval Affairs now owns 1,582 acres.

In the early 20th Century, the property was named for Governor Al Smith and has kept the name ever since.

The cantonment area covers 95 acres and includes weapons ranges, training simulators, a New York National Guard Readiness Center, dining facilities, a consolidated maintenance shop, barracks, and visitor's quarters.

Camp Smith is used for training by the New York Army and Air National Guard, the New York Guard, and the New York Naval Militia.

Members of the Army, Air Force and Marine Corps reserves train at Camp Smith, as do National Guard members from other state and cadets of the United States Military Academy just up the Hudson River at West Point.

Federal, state, and local law enforcement use the ranges for training as well.

Camp Smith is the home to the headquarters of the 53rd Troop Command, one of the New York National Guard's two general officer commands, and the New York Guard, the state's volunteer defense force.

The camp is also host to the 42nd Infantry Division Band; Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment; the 138th Public Affairs Detachment and the 106th Regional Training Institute, which conducts training at Camp Smith.

During 2023, elements of the 1st Battalion, 258th Field Artillery maintained

offices and drilled at Camp Smith while the Jamaica, Queens armory renovation continued.

Camp Smith staff are also responsible for the range and facility management of the Youngstown Training Area, an 860-acre maneuver and range training site located in western New York.

Because of its Hudson Valley location, Camp Smith has served as a key hub during New York National Guard responses to state emergencies in downstate New York.

Camp Smith is home to the Joint Task Force responsible for operating in the Hudson Valley region during disaster response operations.

Camp Smith's two barracks buildings can house 585 people during normal usage and 1,140 personnel during surge operations.

Another 112 people can be housed in O'Brien Hall, the visitors' quarters. The dining facilities are used for troop meals.

During 2023, renovations were completed on the McKoy Farmhouse, which was purchased by New York during World War I, to provide additional guest lodging. New York Army National Guard engineers completed the work on the building as part of



*New York Army National Guard Spc. Johanna Lopez and Sgt. Luis F. Rodriguez, assigned to the 1156th Engineer Company, serve traditional Indian food during a Sikh cultural event hosted on Camp Smith, N.Y., Oct. 14, 2023. The company hosted the event as part of a series of quarterly drills aimed at introducing Soldiers to diverse backgrounds.*



*New York Army National Guard Soldiers of the 53rd Troop Command, headquartered at Camp Smith, step off for their Sexual Assault & Prevention Month 5-kilometer run, April 19, 2023.*

## Camp Smith Training Site

their engineering training.

Camp Smith is the site of the Army National Guard's annual statewide Best Warrior Competition and the annual Adjutant General's Match shooting competition.

The Combined Support Maintenance Shop that provides maintenance support to New York Army National Guard elements on Long Island, New York City, and in the Hudson Valley is located at Camp Smith. The facility includes three general purpose work

bays, an inspection bay, and a weld- ing bay, as well as a washing bay.

There are also rooms where elec- tronics, weapons, generators, and other military equipment can be repaired. The facility incorporates an energy efficient design and LED illumination. The heating, ventilation and air conditioning system incorpo- rates state of the art technology to save energy. The building uses radi- ant floor heating in the work bays and geothermal heating and cooling in the administration areas.

Camp Smith main- tains eight ranges for Soldiers and Airmen to qualify and train with rifles, pistols, hand grenades and grenade launchers.

Camp Smith con- tinues to modernize Building 75 with flex- ible and reconfigurable spaces to meet other training requirements such as "mission com- mand" and equipment fielding. The building can also be used for staging troops and

equipment during state emergency response missions.

Camp Smith provides Army-certified subject matter expert operators to facilitate training for units utilizing the Simulations Center in Building 70.

The operators also provide support for a variety of Training Aides, Devic- es, Simulators, and Simulations. The staff can support individual weapons qualifications, crew served weap- ons training, and training on heavy weapons, special purpose weapons, individual and crew gunnery, convoy operations, and field artillery. The training team can operate all the simulators concurrently and can produce over 300 trained personnel in one typical National Guard training weekend.

Simulators available include:

- Engagement Skills Trainer II, a computerized electronic range sys- tem that allows Soldiers to conduct marksmanship training without using ammunition and exercising in several simulated tactical situations on indi- vidual and crew served weapons.
- Ten Un-stabilized Gunnery Train- ers - Individual (UGT-I), a computer- based simulator that connects the body of a weapon to a virtual reality system and is used to augment train- ing on crew-served weapons. The simulator mimics firing from a vehicle turret and can replicate the M2 heavy machinegun, the M240B machine gun and the MK19 grenade launcher.
- Virtual Convoy Operations Trainer (VCOT), which utilizes four computer vehicle stations to allow teams to practice convoy and gunnery proce- dures in a 360-degree virtual environ- ment.
- Call for Fire Trainer, which enables 12 Soldiers to practice the skills needed to direct fire support from artillery, mortars, close air support or naval gunfire.
- Range in a Box (RIAB), which is a mobile reprogrammable remote target engagement system with 21 targets which can be employed for training with live rounds or as a simulation in an array of environments.

There are also six rappel and climb- ing lanes marked out on the cliffs near



*New York Army National Guard Soldiers compete in a rifle match during the 44th annual Adjutant General's Combat Marksmanship Skills Competition at Camp Smith Training Site, New York, on Sept. 8, 2023.*



*New York Army National Guard Master Sgt. Melissa Guckian, assigned to the 53rd Troop Command, checks a target following a firing iteration during the New York Army the 44th annual Adjutant General's Marksmanship Competition at Camp Smith Training Site, New York, on Sept. 8, 2023. The three day event conducted by the New York Army National Guard to promote excellence in marksmanship training and offers Soldiers, Airmen and State Militia members the opportunity to test their marksmanship skills and weapon systems in a battle-focused environment.*

## Camp Smith Training Site

O'Brien Hall.

Along with plenty of maneuver space for basic tactical training, Camp Smith boasts:

- A leadership reaction course
- Urban assault course
- Land navigation course
- A military operation in urban terrain facility
- A running track
- The post parade field.

A 15-station distance learning center is also available for training courses and online education.

The Department of Army validated Camp Smith as being able to host a modern automated range that will meet the new individual weapons qualifications standards for Soldiers. Camp Smith staff continues efforts to prepare this future project for success.

Camp Smith hosts tactical training

by Officer Candidate School and noncommissioned officer courses, as well as military occupational specialty (MOS) courses conducted by the 106th Regional Training Institute.

Classes conducted by the 106th Regional Training Institute in 2023 were:

- A 21-day basic Infantry (11B10) Military Occupational Specialty Qualification (MOSQ) reclassification course. Ten Soldiers graduated the course.
- A 10-day Small Unmanned Aircraft System Operator Course, which certifies personnel to operate the RQ-11B Raven Small Unmanned Aircraft System. Twenty-four Soldiers graduated the course in 2023.
- A two-day course, Small Unmanned Aircraft System Leadership Integration Course that train's leaders on the basic skills required to plan, support, and execute operations over various terrain/climate conditions with Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (SUAS). Students review SUAS capabilities,

how to incorporate SUAS into the planning process, and how to effectively integrate the systems and knowledge into operations. Eight Soldiers graduated from the course.

- A five-day Maneuver Tactics Foundation Course for infantry and Officer Candidate School (OCS) instructors. Five Soldiers graduated the course.
- A five-day Combatives (hand to hand combat) Level I training course and a 10-day Combatives Level II training course. Forty-nine Soldiers graduated the course in 2023.
- A 10-day Common Faculty Development Instructor Course for military instructors. Ten Soldiers graduated the course in the fiscal year.
- A five-day Holistic Health & Fitness Course (H2F), a physical fitness development course aimed at helping Soldiers improve their health and fitness. The course also incorporates elements of the Army Holistic Health and Fitness System. Thirty-six Sol-



New York Army National Guard Pfc. Brandon Will of the 27th Infantry Brigade Combat Team participates in the Engagement Skills Trainer (EST) at Camp Smith, N.Y., February 4, 2023. The EST simulates live-fire exercises in a virtual reality setting, in this case operating a M240B machine gun in a convoy in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

## Camp Smith Training Site

diers graduated the course in FY23.

- A Pre-Officer Candidate School and OCS Phase 2, course taught in conjunction with the Connecticut Army National Guard, which results in Soldiers being commissioned as Army second lieutenants. Five Soldiers graduated OCS in 2023.

- A 6-day Health Care Specialist (68W) Sustainment Course, which trains and recertifies 68W health care specialists to maintain their qualifications. Fifty-three Soldiers graduated the course.

- A four-day GSA (government) Bus Driver Training Course, which awards the driver qualification training and skills on the 44 passenger GSA bus. Fifty-three Soldiers graduated.

- A four-day Combat Lifesaver Course, which trains nonmedical Soldiers to provide emergency care as a secondary mission. Sixty-three Soldiers graduated the course.

- A five-day Company Commander and First Sergeant Pre-Command course, which acts to expand company command team knowledge in critical areas. Forty Soldiers graduated the course in FY23.

Camp Smith facility managers are in the final planning stages, alongside the New York Power Authority, to install a photo-electric array which will meet the installation's electronic requirements. Camp Smith personnel are also continuing ongoing efforts to bury overhead utilities on the campus. This increases energy resiliency, optimizes electric load balancing, improves aesthetics, and helps identify additional opportunities for energy conservation.

Camp Smith facilities staff have also reached the final stages of a \$1.5 million undertaking to refurbish its drinking water treatment process. The new filtration process will ensure removal of emerging contaminants in accordance with the strictest guidance levels adopted by the state Department of Health and will ensure the highest quality drinking water for New York Military Forces' members training at the camp.



*Competitors at the 44th Annual Adjutant General's Marksmanship Competition receive a safety brief during live fire at Camp Smith, N.Y., Sept. 8, 2023. The three-day event held annually at Camp Smith features multiple marksmanship challenges in which troops from the New York Army and Air National Guards and State Guard are given an opportunity to compete.*



*New York National Guard Staff Sgt. Daemon Walton, assigned to the 222nd Chemical Company, performs a flexed arm hang during the State Best Warrior Competition at Camp Smith, N.Y., April 4, 2023. The State Best Warrior Competition is an annual event at Camp Smith in which junior enlisted Soldiers and non-commissioned officers from various units across New York state compete in several events intended to test their military skills and knowledge, as well as their physical fitness and endurance.*

# Camp Smith Training Site

| Personnel Trained on Ranges |              | Personnel Using Training Areas |               | Facility Use         |                |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Army National Guard         | 3,313        | Army National Guard            | 38,471        | Barracks             | 128,597        |
| Air National Guard          | 0            | Air National Guard             | 16            | Classrooms           | 29,240         |
| U.S. Army Reserve           | 0            | U.S. Army Reserve              | 1,716         | <b>Total:</b>        | <b>157,837</b> |
| U.S. Army                   | 0            | U.S. Army                      | 0             | <b>Simulator Use</b> |                |
| Other DoD                   | 37           | Other DoD                      | 1,642         | Army National Guard  | 6,527          |
| Non-DoD                     | 3,134        | Non-DoD & NY Guard             | 4,020         | U.S. Army Reserve    | 546            |
| <b>Total:</b>               | <b>6,484</b> | <b>Total:</b>                  | <b>45,865</b> | Other DoD            | 141            |
|                             |              |                                |               | Non-DoD              | 128            |
|                             |              |                                |               | <b>Total:</b>        | <b>7,342</b>   |



# Youngstown Training Area

| Personnel Trained on Ranges |          | Personnel Using Training Areas |               |
|-----------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Army National Guard         | 0        | Army National Guard            | 16,612        |
| Air National Guard          | 0        | Air National Guard             | 0             |
| <b>Total:</b>               | <b>0</b> | U.S. Army Reserve              | 0             |
|                             |          | Other DoD                      | 513           |
|                             |          | New York Guard                 | 300           |
|                             |          | <b>Total:</b>                  | <b>17,425</b> |

# New York Army National Guard

The New York Army National Guard is the fourth largest Army Guard in the country, with a strength of 11,140 Soldiers at the end of 2023. Only Texas, Pennsylvania, and California had larger Army Guards.

That force is broken down into 9,671 enlisted Soldiers, 1,224 officers, and 245 warrant officers.

At the end of the year, the New York Army National Guard stood at 107.6 percent of its authorized strength of 10,405 Soldiers.

Of the 9,674 enlisted Soldiers, 5,879 were junior enlisted Soldiers, while 3,795 were non-commissioned officers.

During 2023, there were 1,301 full-time military personnel in the New York Army National Guard. Eight hundred and fifty-nine of these people were full-time Soldiers serving in Active Guard and Reserve Status.

Another 442 were Title 32 dual-status technicians who work full-time supporting the New York Army National Guard. They are classified as civilian federal employees but who are required to also serve in the Guard in a similar job.

There were also 195 Title 5 civilian employees supporting the New York Army National Guard in 2023.

The New York Army National Guard operates 2,264 vehicles. These range from basic Humvees to five-ton cargo trucks and semi-trailers.

The New York Army National Guard also operates 35 aircraft: one fixed wing C-12 passenger/cargo plane, 30 helicopters and four RQ-7BV2 small unmanned observation aircraft.

Twenty percent of New York Army National Guard Soldiers —2,253 personnel— were women at the end of 2023. In the active duty Army, 15.6 percent of Soldiers are women.

Twenty-seven percent of New York Army National Guard Soldiers —3,050 men and women— were Black, while 62.5 percent —6,965 personnel—were White. In the active



*New York Army National Guard Spc. Ricky Baker, assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry, conducts vehicle maintenance on Fort Drum, N.Y., during annual training August 14, 2023.*

Army these percentages are 20.3 percent and 53.6 percent, respectively.

There were 861 members of the New York Army National Guard who identified as Asian, or 7.7 percent of the force. In the active Army that percentage is 6.9 percent.

Finally, Hispanic background Soldiers, 2,179 in total, accounted for 19.5 percent of the force. In the active Army 17.6 percent of Soldiers identify themselves as Hispanic.

Major General Ray Shields, the adjutant general of New York, is the commander of the New York Army National Guard.

Major General Michel Natali, the assistant adjutant general, Army, oversees the day-to-day functions of the New York Army National Guard.

Command Sgt. Major Edwin Garris is the New York Army National Guard's 8th New York State Command Sergeant Major.

The New York Army National Guard Command Chief Warrant Officer is Chief Warrant Officer 5 Mark Shumway.

The Army National Guard is one of the two reserve components of the Army. The other is the Army Reserve.

The Army Reserve is a federal-only force, and its units are focused on logistics and sustainment missions. The Army Reserve does not respond to state emergencies.

The Army National Guard's structure is built around combat forces, with some logistics and support units. Army National Guard Soldiers respond to state emergencies at the direction of the governor.

The New York Army National Guard was rated first out of the 54 state and territorial Army Guard's for recruiting for the second time in 2023.

At the beginning of fiscal year 2023, the New York Army National Guard was authorized a strength of 10,209 Soldiers and had 10,706 personnel assigned.

The New York Army Guard finished the fiscal year with 10,969 Soldiers in the ranks. According to New York National Guard officials, this reflected an increase of 270 soldiers, 760 Soldiers above the authorized strength for New York's Army Guard.

During the year, Army National Guard recruiters enlisted 1,617 new Soldiers, while bringing in 73 new officers. There were 1,731 person-



nel who extended their service while 1,371 finished their service contract, retired, or transferred.

During federal fiscal year 2023, the New York Army National Guard earned a rating of 118.12 percent in the scoring system the Army Guard uses to track recruiting and retention.

A score of 100 percent means the state met its recruiting goals. Scores above 100 percent indicate a state exceeded those recruiting goals.

During 2023 a total of 3,133 New York Army National Guard Soldiers—28 percent of the force—were in federal military status deployed overseas or within the United States.

At the same time, 1,931 Army National Guard Soldiers—17.5 percent of total strength—were volunteering for the migrant support mission for New York City.

This total includes units which had deployed in 2022 and returned during the year, as well as those which deployed in 2023 and were expected to return during 2024.

Units deployed during 2023 were:

The 369th Sustainment Brigade headquarters and 369th Special Troops Battalion, which deployed 258 Soldiers in the Middle East and returned from deployment in June 2023.

3rd Battalion, 142nd Aviation, which

deployed 232 Soldiers and returned from the Middle East in May 2023.

A detachment from B Company, 642nd Aviation Support Battalion which deployed 27 Soldiers and returned from the Middle East in May 2023.

A detachment from the 27th Infantry Brigade Combat team, which deployed 140 Soldiers in support of the Joint Multinational Training Group Germany to train Ukrainian troops and returned from deployment in April 2023.

The 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment, which deployed 1004 Soldiers to the Horn of Africa and returned from deployment in May 2023.

A Company, 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry, which deployed 131 Soldiers as part of the 69th Infantry's task force and returned from deployment in June 2023.

Det. 5 of C Company of the 2nd Battalion, 245th Aviation Regiment, which mobilized six Soldiers to the Horn of Africa and returned from deployment in August 2023.

B Company, 3rd Battalion, 126th Aviation, which deployed 70 Soldiers to the Middle East in February 2023.

The 642nd Aviation Support Battalion which mobilized 405 Soldiers for deployment to the Middle East in February 2023.

The 222nd Military Police company, which mobilized 159 Soldiers in May 2023 for deployment to Poland and the Baltic States in support of NATO.

The 4th Finance Detachment, which mobilized 18 Soldiers in June 2023 for deployment to Europe in Support of the European Command.

The 10th Main Command Post-Operational Detachment, which mobilized 37 Soldiers to support the 10th Mountain Division Headquarters in Europe in June 2023.

The 101st Expeditionary Signal Battalion which mobilized 362 Soldiers for deployment to the Middle East in August 2023.

The 173rd Cyber Protection Team, which mobilized 13 Soldiers in August to support cybersecurity operations at Fort Meade, Maryland.

Detachment 2, A Company, 1-224 Aviation, which mobilized 21 Soldiers in September 2023 to serve in support of the Border Patrol on the Southwest Border.

The 1427th Transportation Company, which mobilized 125 Soldiers in October 2023 to serve in support of the Border Patrol on the Southwest Border.

The 1569th Transportation Company, which mobilized 125 Soldiers in October to serve in support of the Border Patrol on the Southwest Border.



*New York National Guard Soldiers assigned to Task Force Orion, 27th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, display a flag signed by the players from the National Football League's Buffalo Bills in Grafenwoehr, Germany, Jan. 5, 2023. The task force deployed to support the Joint Multinational Training Group – Ukraine mission to ensure the combat effectiveness of Ukrainian military personnel training.*

During 2023, at total of 3,728 Soldiers attended required military schools.

New equipment acquired by the New York Army National Guard during 2023 ranged from new sighting systems for the M320 grenade launcher, to new robot systems for combat engineers to Urban Operations Kits designed to allow Soldiers to access buildings more readily during urban combat.

A number of improved computer systems, communications systems, and improved guidance electronics including the M1156 systems which use GPS signals to turn artillery rounds into precision guided munitions.

The New York Army National Guard is divided into three major commands, the 42nd Infantry Division, the 53rd Troop Command, and Joint Force Headquarters.

## 42nd Infantry Division

The 42nd Infantry Division is commanded by Major General Joseph Biehler. The division senior enlisted leader is Command Sgt. Major Arthur Reyes. The division is headquartered at the Glenmore Road Armory in Troy.

The 42nd Infantry Division's major subordinate commands are the 27th Infantry Brigade Combat Team and the 42nd Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade.

The assigned strength of the 42nd Infantry Division at the end of 2023 was 5,503 personnel: 4,717 enlisted Soldiers, 153 warrant officers, and 633 officers.

The **Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion**, 42nd Infantry Division, whose Soldiers make up the division staff sections and supporting elements, has a strength of 767 Soldiers. The commander is Lt. Col. Bryon Linnehan and the senior enlisted leader is Command Sgt. Major William Dearnitt.

The headquarters battalion includes a signals and intelligence organizations as well as the 42nd Infantry Division Band, which has a strength of 35 musicians.

The 10th Main Command Post-Operational Detachment, abbreviated as MC-POD, is also a component of

the division. The 80 Soldier unit is designed to deploy and augment a division headquarters in combat. The command post is deployed in support of the 10th Mountain Division. The commander of the 10th MC-POD is Lt. Col. Alvin Phillips and the senior non-commissioned leader is Sgt. Maj. Nathan Hawker.

The 42nd Infantry Division was organized on Long Island in 1917 when National Guard elements from 26th states were combined to form a division that could quickly deploy to France. The division's first chief of staff and later commander, Douglas MacArthur wrote that the division would stretch across the United States "like a rainbow" giving the division its "Rainbow Division" nickname.

In World War II the division fought across southern Germany, taking major cities like Munich, liberating the infamous Dachau concentration camp, and eventually occupying Vienna, Austria.

The division was assigned to the New York Army National Guard in 1947 and in 1993 it was converted into a multi-state division. Today the division has elements in New York, New Jersey, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Connecticut.

In 2004 and 2005 the division was mobilized and deployed to Iraq to serve as the headquarters of Task Force Liberty, a 20,000 Soldier force occupying the area north of Baghdad.

In 2020 the division served as the headquarters for Task Force Spartan Shield, a 10,000-Soldier Army Force operating in the Middle East.

From June 2-11, 600 of the division's headquarters Soldiers took part in a Warfighter exercise at Fort Indiantown Gap near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Warfighter is a headquarters exercise that uses computers to simulate the command tasks division level headquarters units have to take during combat.

## 27th Infantry Brigade Combat Team

The 27th Infantry Brigade Combat Team is a light infantry brigade composed of three infantry battalions, a cavalry squadron, an artillery battal-

ion, a combat engineer battalion, and a brigade support battalion, with an assigned strength of 3,666 Soldiers in New York at the end of 2023.

The brigade is headquartered at the Thomson Road Armory on Hancock Field Air National Guard Base in Syracuse. Elements of the brigade are located across New York from Farmingdale on Long Island to Jamestown in western New York. One battalion is assigned to the Massachusetts Army National Guard.

The brigade is commanded by Col. Bradley Frank. The brigade command sergeant major is Command Sgt.



*New York Army National Guard Spc. Robert Gallup, assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry, disassembles an M240B machine gun during annual training at Fort Drum, N.Y., August 14, 2023.*

Major Kevin Roeser.

The 27th Brigade Combat Team traces its history back to the 27th Division which fought with the British Army during World War I and was famous for breaking through the Hindenburg Line at the end of the war.

During World War II the 27th Division fought in the Pacific, invading the Islands of Makin, Saipan, and Okinawa.

Following the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, the brigades Soldiers were assigned to security duties at air-

ports around New York. 27th Infantry Brigade Combat Team units deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait in the years following those attacks.

The subordinate elements of the 27th Infantry Brigade Combat Team are:

The **1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment**, headquartered at the Lexington Avenue Armory in Manhattan with elements in Farmingdale.

The battalion strength was 856 at the end of 2023. The commander is Lt. Col. Adam Bojarski. The senior enlisted leader is Command Sgt. Major Jason Zeller.

Nicknamed “ The Fighting 69th”, the battalion traces its lineage back to an Irish American militia unit organized in New York City in 1849. Since 1851, the battalion has been leading the New York City St. Patrick’s Day Parade.

During the Civil War, the battalion reportedly earned its nickname from Confederate General Robert E. Lee. During the battle of Fredericksburg In 1863, he reportedly acknowledged the regiment as “that Fighting 69th regiment.”

The battalion fought with the 42nd “Rainbow” Division during World War I in France, where the Soldiers’ exploits became the subject of the 1940 movie “The Fighting 69th.”

The 69th fought in the Pacific in World War II, where it invaded Makin Atoll and fought on Saipan and Okinawa.

The battalion led the New York National Guard response to Ground Zero in September 2001, then mobilized units to secure critical Army installations, including the United States Military Academy at West Point.

In 2005 the 69th Infantry was responsible for securing “Route Irish” in Baghdad, Iraq. As 2023 began, the battalion was mobilized and deployed to the Horn of Africa as Task Force Wolfhound.

The **2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry Regiment**, is headquartered in Utica and has elements at Camp Smith, Geneseo, Gloversville, Ithaca, Leeds, and Morrisonville. The commander is Lt. Col. Frank Engle, and the senior enlisted leader is Command Sgt.

Maj. Valentin Arreola. The battalion strength in 2023 was 746.

The 108th served in France in World War I as part of the New York National Guard’s 27th Division. In World War II, the 108th was assigned to the 40th Division of the California National Guard and fought in the Philippines.

In 2004, the battalion was deployed to Iraq with the 1st Infantry Division and fought in the Battle of Samarra.

In 2012, the battalion was deployed to Afghanistan under the control of the 82nd Airborne Division and provided security force assistance for Afghan Army and Police units in Regional Command – West.

As 2023 opened, the battalion had Soldiers mobilized and deployed to the Horn of Africa as part of Task Force

Wolfhound. Those Soldiers returned in the spring of 2023.

The **1st Battalion, 182nd Infantry Regiment**, is a part of the Massachusetts Army National Guard assigned to the 27th Infantry Brigade.

The battalion is headquartered in Melrose, Massachusetts, with companies in Ayer, Braintree, Dorchester, and Middleboro and in East Greenwich, Rhode Island.



*New York Army National Guard Soldiers assigned to the 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry, deployed as part of Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa participate in the French Desert Commando Course from Jan. 29 to Feb. 2, 2023, at the Centre Dentrainment Au Combat Djibouti. Participants who successfully completed the training, which was hosted by the French 5th Overseas Interarms Regiment, received the prestigious desert commando badge.*



*New York Army National Guard Soldiers assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry Regiment conduct mortar dry fire training during annual training at Fort Drum, N.Y., August 14, 2023.*



A Soldier assigned to Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment, fires his M4A2 rifle during a range near Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, Jan. 10, 2023. More than 1,200 New York Army National Guard Soldiers deployed for security operations in Djibouti, Kenya, and Somalia in 2023.

The commander is Lt. Col. Thomas Clark, and the senior enlisted leader is Command Sgt. Maj. Peter Pouliot.

The 182nd Infantry traces its history back to the formal organization of the Massachusetts Bay Colony militia in 1636. It fought in King Phillips War in 1675 and in every American War — except the Mexican War— since. The battalion's flag carries battle honors for having fought on Lexington green on April 19, 1775 at the start of the Revolutionary War.



New York Army National Guard Capt. Graham Forman, commander of Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment, poses for a photo during a small arms range near Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti on Jan. 10, 2023.

During World War II the regiment was incorporated into the Americal Division, formed from American units in French New Calidonia, and fought in the South Pacific.

As 2023 opened, the battalion was deployed in Kuwait as part of Task Force Spartan, the Army force in the Middle East.

The **2nd Squadron, 101st Cavalry Regiment, (Reconnaissance, Surveillance, and Target Acquisition)** is headquartered at Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station and has units in Buffalo, Geneva, and Jamestown.

The squadron is commanded by Lt. Col. Gary Barney. The senior enlisted leader is Command Sgt. Maj. Jonathan Cross. Strength at the end of 2023 was 395 Soldiers. The squadron is the only cavalry unit in the New York National Guard. It's mission is to serve as the eyes of the 27th brigade, collecting intelligence information and locating the enemy.

The squadron can trace its history back to the Buffalo City Guard organized in 1838. The 101st Cavalry was organized in 1920 after World War I and during World War II fought in the European campaign.

The squadron deployed to Afghani-

stan in 2008.

In 2017 the squadron deployed to Ukraine as part of the Joint Military Training Group-Ukraine, which enabled the training of the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

In 2022 and 2023, the squadron deployed a reinforced cavalry troop to serve with Task Force Wolfhound in Djibouti. Those Soldiers returned from deployment in the spring of 2023.

The **1st Battalion, 258th Field Artillery Regiment**, is headquartered in Jamaica, Queens, and has elements in the Bronx and New Windsor. During 2023, the battalion was headquartered at Camp Smith and other elements relocated to the Harlem Armory, while its headquarters was being renovated.

The battalion commander is Lt. Col. Eric Emmerling, and the senior enlisted leader is Command Sgt. Major Jack Martilotta. Strength at the end of 2023 was 667 Soldiers.

The battalion is nicknamed "The Washington Greys" because one of its forebearer organizations escorted George Washington during his presidential inauguration in New York City in 1789.

Battalion Soldiers fought in Europe

in World War II, secured Ground Zero in 2001 and the USMA at West Point in 2002 and 2003, before deploying to Iraq in 2004, where the artillerymen served in lieu of military police to secure logistics convoys supporting the coalition security effort.

The battalion has two batteries of five 105-millimeter M117 howitzers and one battery of six 155 millimeter, M777A2 howitzers. The 152nd Brigade Engineer Battalion is headquartered in Buffalo with elements in Manhattan, Lockport, Syracuse, and Rochester.

The battalion has two engineer companies, along with a signal company which supports the brigade, and an intelligence company which includes an unmanned aerial vehicle section. The battalion is commanded by Lt. Col. Bryan Reed and the senior enlisted leader is Command Sgt. Maj. Sean Goodridge. The battalion's strength was 551 Soldiers at the end of 2023.

The battalion was first formed in 1942 and was assigned to the 27th Division in the Pacific.

The unit was re-designated as the Brigade's Special Troops Battalion in 2007 and deployed with the Brigade to Afghanistan in 2008 and to Kuwait and Afghanistan in 2012.

The battalion was again redesignated as an Engineer Battalion in 2018.

The **427th Brigade Support Battalion** is headquartered in Syracuse with companies in Fort Drum, Buffalo, and Rochester. The battalion is responsible for supply, maintenance, and medical support for the units of the 27th Infantry Brigade Combat Team.

The battalion is commanded by Lt. Col. Delbert Gustave. The senior enlisted leader is Command Sgt. Major Edward Dowd. At the end of 2023 the battalion was assigned 337 Soldiers.

Forward support companies of the battalion are assigned to each of the brigade's battalions to provide logistics support directly. Those Soldiers are counted as part of that battalion's strength.

In 2012, the battalion deployed to Afghanistan to provide maintenance and logistics.

## Exercise Northern Strike 2023

From August 5 to 19, 619 27th Brigade Soldiers participated in Northern Strike 2023, as Task Force Hunter a fires exercise conducted at Camp Grayling, Michigan by the Michigan National Guard.

The exercise brought together about 7,000 U.S. military personnel from more than two dozen states, as well as about 650 military personnel from five international partners.

The brigade's headquarters deployed 55 Soldiers of the brigade fire support element. Their role is to deconflict artillery fire and aircraft missions through the same airspace. During the exercise they cleared 246 artillery missions totaling 2,795 rounds from two artillery battalions, and coordinated air strikes on 25 targets.



*New York Army National Guard Spc. Andrew Harris, a combat medic assigned to Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment, converses with a Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force medic during a small arms range near Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti on Jan. 10, 2023.*

The 1st Battalion, 258th Field Artillery sent 362 Soldiers to the training and conducted certification training for its artillery firing platoons. They also conducted a battery defense, direct fire exercise. The battalions gunners fired 1,474 rounds between 12 guns during the training.

The 427th Brigade Support Battalion trained 101 Soldiers in defending their support areas, as well as qualifying on crew served weapons, while also providing support to the elements of



*New York National Guard Soldiers assigned to Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa participate in the French Desert Commando Course from Jan. 29 to Feb. 2, 2023, at the Centre Dentrainment Au Combat Djibouti. Participants who successfully completed the training, hosted by the French 5th Overseas Interarms Regiment, received the prestigious desert commando badge.*

the task force..

Fifty-seven Soldiers from 152nd Brigade Engineer Battalions unmanned aerial vehicle detachment conducted observation missions in support of the fires training and used their small aircraft to retransmit messages.

And the 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry dispatched 44 Soldiers who conducted gunnery exercises and conducted section and platoon training lanes.

Overseas deployments included:

### Joint Military Training Group-Ukraine

In April of 2023, 140 27th Infantry Brigade Soldiers finished a nine-month assignment training Ukrainian Soldiers at the Army's training site in Grafenwoehr, Germany as the lead element of NATO's Joint Multinational Training Group-Ukraine.

Over the course of nine months, Task Force Orion oversaw the U.S.-led training of Armed Forces of Ukraine soldiers on more than 15 different systems and equipment. The New Yorkers also assisted in the training of more than eight Ukrainian battalion tactical groups in combined arms and joint maneuver.

The 140 Soldiers, organized as Task Force Orion—for the brigade's nickname of Orion, the hunter—served as the command and administrative elements for the training group.

From April to December 2022, training focused on instructing Ukrainian military personnel on how to use the American weapons systems and equipment sent to Ukraine. This included the Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicle.

From January to April the training included combined arms maneuver and staff training for Ukrainian battalions, brigades, and corps.

General Daniel Hokinson, the chief of the National Guard Bureau, and General Mark Miley, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, visited the joint training group during the 27th brigade deployment.

### Task Force Wolfhound

In June 2023, a 1,130-Soldier task force built around the 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment, which

included Soldiers from the 2nd Squadron 101st Cavalry and the 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry, completed a nine month security mission at U.S. military locations in Djibouti, Somalia, and Kenya.

During the deployment, Task Force Wolfhound provided 24-hour perimeter security for five U.S. installations across the three African countries.

Working alongside international forces, Task Force Wolfhound conducted more than 450 mounted and dismounted patrols to protect U.S. interests abroad.

The task force also staffed the East Africa Response Force (EARF).

Founded in the wake of the 2012 attack in Benghazi, the EARF consists of a specially trained and equipped rifle company postured to respond at short notice to a broad range of military operations, such as crisis response and security augmentation of U.S. embassies and facilities.

During the deployment, the EARF conducted multiple emergency deployment readiness exercises.

Maj. Gen. Jami Shawley, the commander of Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa, said the men and women of Task Force Wolfhound had carried out that mission well.

In addition to the EARF, Task Force Wolfhound led the Camp Lemon-

nier quick reaction force and helped secure multiple U.S.-flagged vessels at the Port of Djibouti.

Task Force Wolfhound Soldiers trained alongside international partners from Djibouti, France, Italy, Japan, and Spain.

The New York National Guard Soldiers also participated in Exercise Bull Shark 2022, a twice-yearly Spanish-led personnel recovery exercise, and Exercise Wakri 2023, a French exercise to reinforce combat capabilities and partner interoperability.

Task Force Wolfhound Soldiers also completed the French Desert Commando Course, and 15 Soldiers became U.S. citizens during a special ceremony at the U.S. embassy in Djibouti.

### The 42nd Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade

The 42nd Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade, usually known as the 42nd CAB, is headquartered in Latham at the New York National Guard headquarters building.

The brigade has administrative responsibility for aviation assets assigned to the New York Army National Guard. The brigade's organization allows it to deploy and command a mix of Army aviation assets to include AH-64 Apache attack helicopters and Grey Eagle unmanned reconnais-



*Fifteen New York Army National Guard Soldiers assigned to Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa recite their oath of allegiance during a naturalization ceremony at the U.S. Embassy in Djibouti City, Djibouti, Mar. 10, 2023. The Soldiers were deployed with the 27th Infantry Brigade Combat Team to conduct security operations, returning to New York in the summer of 2023.*

sance aircraft.

The brigade is commanded by Col. Jason Lefton. The senior enlisted leader is Command Sgt. Major James Holloman.

The brigade was assigned 1,070 Soldiers at the end of 2023.

Within New York, the brigade includes an assault helicopter battalion, an aviation support battalion, an air ambulance company, and a CH-47 heavy lift helicopter company.

The 42nd Aviation Brigade traces its origins back to 1947 when the New York Army National Guard consolidated its L-19 "Bird Dog" artillery spotting aircraft in a company at Miller Field on Staten Island. In 1959 a 42nd Aviation Company was created at Huntington Station.

By 1963, the aviation assets of the 42nd Infantry Division were organized as the 42nd Aviation Battalion.

By 1986, the battalion had grown and was reorganized as the Aviation Brigade, 42nd Infantry Division and in 1995 it was renamed as a Combat Aviation Brigade.

The brigade deployed to Iraq in 2005 as part of the 42nd Infantry Division deployment and to Kuwait in 2013 in support of Army forces in the region.

The **3rd Battalion, 142nd Assault Helicopter Battalion** operates 20

UH-60M Black Hawk helicopters and has elements at the Army Aviation Support Facilities in Latham and Ronkonkoma. One of its companies is made of units from the Connecticut and Maine Army National Guards.

The commander is Lt. Col. Paul Bailie. The senior enlisted leader is Command Sgt. Major Dolan Brammer. The battalion had an assigned strength of 384 in New York at the end of 2023.

The battalion's companies are:

- Headquarters and Headquarters Co. in Farmingdale
- A Company in Latham
- B Company in Ronkonkoma
- C Company, part of the Connecticut and Maine Army National Guard
- D Company in Latham
- E Company in Farmingdale

The **642nd Aviation Support Battalion** is headquartered at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Rochester.

The battalion provides aviation logistical support for the brigade's units and exercises command and control over two helicopter companies based at the Rochester flight facility.

The battalion is commanded by Lt. Col. Henry Chandler. The senior enlisted leader is Command Sgt. Maj. Deborah Mallet. The battalion's assigned strength at the end of 2023

was 579 personnel.

The battalion's companies are:

- Headquarters and Support Com-



*New York Army National Guard Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment, celebrate St. Patrick's Day while deployed to Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, Mar. 17, 2023.*

pany in Rochester

- A Company in Dunkirk and Olean
- B Company in Ronkonkoma
- C Company in Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn
- C Company (MEDEVAC), 1st Battalion, 171st General Support Aviation Battalion in Rochester
- Det. 1, B Company (CH-47), 3rd Battalion, 126th General Support Aviation Battalion in Rochester

Overseas deployments included:

Almost 70 percent of the 42nd CAB's Soldiers were deployed to the Middle East during 2023 in support of the Army's Task Force Spartan Shield.

The 3rd Battalion, 142nd Aviation, and a detachment of the 642nd Aviation Support Battalion, conducted missions from January through May, headquartered at Camp Beuhring, Kuwait.

The Soldiers flew missions in support of Task Force Spartan, the U.S. Army's 10,000-Soldier force in the region, with 22 UH-60M Black Hawk



*Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III meets with Soldiers assigned to the New York Army National Guard's 27th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, deployed to support the 7th Army Training Command combined arms training of Ukrainian Armed Forces battalions in Grafenwoehr, Germany, Feb. 17, 2023.*



*New York Army National Guard Spc. Alexander Bazhenov, a chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear specialist with the 222nd Chemical Company, fires an M17 pistol during the State Best Warrior Competition on Camp Smith, N.Y., April 5, 2023. Competing Soldiers were tasked with firing a variety of weapons during the event.*

Kuwait, Iraq, Jordan, and Syria during their deployment.

B Co., 3rd Battalion, 126th General Support Aviation Battalion, mobilized 70 Soldiers and deployed 4 CH-47F Chinook helicopters for deployments across the Middle East. The unit's higher level deployment headquarters is in the Massachusetts Army National Guard.

### 53rd Troop Command

The 53rd Troop Command is headquartered at Camp Smith Training Site in Cortlandt Manor near Peekskill. The command is responsible for 4,644 Soldiers whose units are spread across New York.

The 53rd Troop Command is commanded by Brig. Gen. Jack James. The senior enlisted leader is Command Sgt. Major Marc Maynard.

The 53rd Troop Command has two major subordinate commanders, the 153rd Troop Command and the 369th Sustainment Brigade .

The units of the 53rd Troop Command are focused on combat support and combat service support operations and range from a chaplains detachment to a sustainment brigade headquarters. Elements falling directly under Headquarters, 53rd Troop Command had a strength of 147 Soldiers at the end of 2023. These elements included:

helicopters. The battalion provided transportation for personnel and cargo in Kuwait and Iraq under the command of the 36th Combat Aviation Brigade from the Texas Army National Guard.

The battalion's Soldiers flew 5,030 hours and moved 6,384 passengers and 129 tons of cargo. The unit also flew many distinguished visitors around the region, including Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin.

In January, the battalion participated in Exercise Juniper Oak, a major U.S. Central Command exercise with Israeli forces.

In February, the New York Army Guard aviators participated in a multinational live fire exercise to mark Kuwait's liberation from Iraqi forces in the Persian Gulf War.

The battalion's Soldiers also served as the aviation element for a regional crisis response task force. The New York Army National Guard aircrews teamed up with an infantry battalion and trained to transport and insert those Soldiers during air assault operations.

The 642nd Aviation Support Battalion mobilized over 400 Soldiers in January 2023 who deployed to Kuwait to serve under the Mississippi Army National Guard's 185th Expeditionary

Combat Aviation Brigade.

The 642nd conducted maintenance on ground vehicles and aircraft, while also transporting supplies and providing support for the brigade's communication network. The battalion also provided personnel to help the 185th's support operations staff run an efficient operation as they moved people and equipment across the region.

Soldiers of the 642nd operated in



*New York Army National Guard Soldiers assigned to the 42nd Infantry Division Band's rock and roll music performance team, play at Camp Smith, N.Y., May 2, 2023.*



# New York Army National Guard

- 138th Chaplain Support Team
- 138th Public Affairs Detachment
- 173rd Cyber Protection Team
- 2nd Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team
- 24th Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team
- The 53rd Digital Liaison Detachment

During state emergencies, the 53rd Troop Command serves as the headquarters for operations in the Hudson Valley region and is also responsible for operations conducted at Camp Smith to support forces in New York City.

## 153rd Troop Command

The 153rd Troop Command is commanded by Col. Christopher Guilmette. The senior enlisted leader is Command Sgt. Maj. Anthony Giambordino. The brigade-sized command, headquartered at the Connecticut Street Armory in Buffalo, had a strength of 1,606 troops at the end of 2023.

The 153rd Troop Command has responsibility for an engineer battalion, an explosives ordnance disposal battalion and a military police battalion.

The **102nd Military Police Battalion** is headquartered in Auburn and has elements in Rochester, Hornell, Buffalo, Latham, and Utica. The battalion is commanded by Lt. Col. Andrew Miller. The senior non-commissioned officer is Command Sgt. Major Adam Meyer.

The battalion's strength at the end of 2023 stood at 609 Soldiers.

The battalion traces its history back to the 16th Battalion of the New York National Guard in 1898. Along the way, the unit served as a combat engineer battalion in World War I and as an infantry battalion in World War II. The unit then became an anti-aircraft and then armored cavalry unit before becoming the 102nd Military Police Battalion in 1959.

The battalion's subordinate elements are:

- 222nd Military Police Company in Rochester and Hornell
- 105th Military Police Company at

Buffalo's Masten Avenue Armory

- 206th Military Police Company in Latham and Utica
- 272nd Military Police Detachment (Theater Detention Reporting Center), specializing in prisoner of war facilities

The **204th Engineer Battalion** is headquartered in Binghamton, with units in Camp Smith, Buffalo, Olean, Horseheads, and Walton. The battalion is commanded by Lt. Col. Nicholas Whaley. The senior enlisted leader is Command Sgt. Major David Youngs.

The battalion was assigned 650 Soldiers at the end of 2023.

The battalion was organized in 1967 from Army National Guard units in south-central New York and inherited those military honors denoting service in World War I in Europe and World War II in the Pacific.

The battalion consists of engineer companies specializing in building roads, engineering support, and constructing buildings.

The 204th Engineer Battalion's companies are:

- Forward Support Company in Binghamton
- 1156th Engineer Company (vertical) specializing in buildings located at Camp Smith Training Site
- 152nd Engineer Support Company in Buffalo and Olean
- 827th Engineer Company (horizontal) specializing in roads, in Horseheads and Walton
- 204th Engineering Detachment (quarry), specializing in producing crushed stone

The 204th Engineer Battalion has been heavily involved in disaster

response here in New York and has deployed companies to Afghanistan and to NATO nations in support of military construction projects.

The **501st Ordnance Battalion** (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) based at the Armed Forces Reserve Center in Glenville, is configured to command up to five explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) companies in a combat theater. It also provides oversight of two non-EOD companies when not deployed.

The battalion's strength at the end of 2023 stood at 301 Soldiers.

The battalion is commanded by Lt. Col. Justin Coutts. The senior enlisted leader is Command Sgt. Maj. Michah Bowman.

The battalion traces its history back



*New York Army National Guard Staff Sgt. Daemon Walton, assigned to the 222nd Chemical Company, administers medical care to a training dummy during the Combat Lifesaver tasks at the State Best Warrior Competition on Camp Smith, N.Y., April 5, 2023.*

to the 105th Infantry Regiment, which fought in World War I and in the Pacific in World War II, and before that to 2nd New York Infantry organized in 1898. The unit, because it was from upstate New York, was historically known as "The Appleknockers" and the 501st inherited that traditional historic nickname.

The battalion's companies are:

- 1108th Ordnance Company ( Explosive Ordnance Disposal), in Glenville
- 1427th Transportation Company (medium truck) in Queensbury and Fort Drum

• 466th Medical Company (Area Support) in Queensbury

### 369th Sustainment Brigade

The 369th Sustainment Brigade is headquartered at the 5th Avenue or Harlem Armory, in New York City and has elements in New York City and the Hudson Valley. The brigade is organized so it can control a number of support units at division and corps level. It serves as the higher headquarters for three battalions.

While the brigade is part of the 53rd Troop Command for administrative purposes, it is aligned with the 42nd Infantry Division as its support element in the event the division as a whole is committed to combat.

The brigade is commanded by Col. Patrick Clare. The brigade's senior non-commissioned officer is Command Sgt. Major Leylan Jones.

The 369th Sustainment Brigade, known as "The Harlem Hellfighters", traces its history back to the 15th Infantry (colored) organized by the New York National Guard prior to World War I. In 1917, the regiment mobilized and deployed with the new federal designation of the 369th Infantry Regiment.

The regiment fought with the French Army because the segregated United States Army only wanted to use them as laborers and support troops.

While fighting as a component of a French Division, the 369th Soldiers were awarded a host of French hero-



*New York Army National Guard 2nd Lt. Adebisi Adewole-Olowe, assigned to the 719th Composite Truck Company, receives her officer's rank from her husband Staff Sgt. Temitope Olowe during a commissioning ceremony for Officer Candidate School Class 68 at the Museum of American Armor, Old Bethpage, N.Y., August 13, 2023. Seven new officers were pinned during the OCS graduation ceremony.*

ism medals. They were in combat for 190 days, longer than any other American Soldiers in World War I.

The 369th Soldiers were given the nickname "Hellfighters" by the German Soldiers they fought against.

Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, who later became the first African-American general officer, commanded the regiment in 1938.

During World War II the regiment served in the Pacific as an anti-aircraft artillery unit.

As the 369th Transportation Battalion, the unit deployed during the Persian Gulf War of 1991.

The unit was reorganized as the 369th Sustainment Brigade in 2006. Since then, its Soldiers have deployed to Kuwait in 2016 and 2022 in support of Task Force Spartan Shield.

The **369th Special Troops Battalion** executes the missions of the sustainment brigade. The battalion consists of 337 Soldiers. Another 1,171 Soldiers in smaller company sized elements report to the the brigade through the 369th Special Troops Battalion.

The 369th Special Troops Battalion is commanded by Lt. Col. Michael Bedryk. The senior enlisted Soldier is Command Sgt. Maj. Edgar Ponce.

The company sized elements are:

- 187th Signal Company in Farmingdale
- 1501st Quartermaster Company (field feeding) in Orangeburg and with detachments in Troy and Rochester
- 145th Maintenance Company on Staten Island
- 133rd Quartermaster Company (composite support) at Fort Hamilton
- 719th Transportation Company at Harlem and Camp Smith
- 1569th Transportation Company in New Windsor

The **101st Expeditionary Signal Battalion** is organized to establish and maintain theater wide satellite communications when deployed. The battalion is headquartered in Yonkers and is commanded by Lt. Col. Paul Mulligan. The senior enlisted leader is Command Sgt. Maj. Javier Lugo.

The battalion's strength in 2003 stood at 557 Soldiers.

The battalion can trace its history back to a provisional Signal Corps organized by the New York National Guard in 1886 in New York City. The unit's ancestors fought in World War I, World War II in the Pacific and in the Korean War. The battalion deployed to Afghanistan in 2012 and has deployed to the Middle East twice, in 2018 and in 2023. The elements of the battalion are:

- Headquarters Company in Yonkers
- A Company in Peekskill
- B Company in Orangeburg
- C Company in Yonkers

The 104th Military Police Battalion is headquartered in Kingston. The commander is Lt. Col. Nicholas Paolini and the senior enlisted Soldier is Command Sgt. Maj. Nicholas Pardi.

The battalion's assigned strength at the end of 2023 was 634 personnel.

The **104th Military Police Battalion** can trace its history back to a company organized in October 1775 in Poughkeepsie nicknamed the "Poughkeepsie Invincibles." Other units in the battalion lineage fought in the Civil War and as artillery units in World Wars I and II. The battalion was created from the 156th Field Artillery in 2006 when the New York Army National Guard reorganized. The unit deployed to Iraq in 2007 and 2008 as part of the Iraqi Surge campaign.

The battalion's subordinate units are:

- Headquarters Detachment in Kingston
- 442nd MP Company (combat support) in Farmingdale
- 272th MP Detachment (law and order) at Camp Smith
- 222nd Chemical Company at Fort Hamilton
- 107th MP Company at Fort Hamilton

The **27th Finance Management Battalion**, headquartered at the Whitestone Armory in Queens, serves as the higher headquarters for four finance detachments. These elements handle Soldier finances during deployments, as well as dealing with

other military financial matters.

The battalion's strength at the end of 2023 was 191 Soldiers. The battalion is commanded by Lt. Co. Sara Mitchell.

The battalions elements, all located in Queens are:

- 4th Finance Detachment
- 7th Finance Detachment
- 14th Finance Detachment
- 37th Finance Detachment

During 2023, 1,060 Soldiers assigned to 53rd Troop command were

deployed overseas, or within the United States on missions.

The 369th Sustainment Brigade returned from a deployment to the Middle East in June of 2023 following a deployment of 258 Soldiers to the Middle East in support of Task Force Spartan Shield, the 10,000 Soldier force operating in the region.

The brigade headquarters provided command and control of five direct reporting battalions. The brigade provided support to Soldiers spread across 12 countries in 30 locations. The brigade's Soldiers earned more

than 300 awards during the deployment.

The 101st Expeditionary Signal Battalion mobilized 340 Soldiers in August for deployment to Kuwait and the Middle East in support of Task Force Spartan Shield. The battalion is responsible for establishing communications nodes across the Central Command operational area. In May, the 222nd Military Police Company mobilized 159 Soldiers who deployed to Poland and the Baltic states after 30 days of training at Fort Bliss, Texas. The company established its headquarters in Poland and deployed detachments in support of NATO brigade combat teams deployed in the Latvia, Lithuanian and Estonia in support of brigades deployed to deter Russian aggression.

In June, the 4th Finance Detachment mobilized 18 Soldiers who deployed to Stuttgart, Germany in support of European Command.

In August, the 173rd Cyber Protection Team, which specializes in computer and network security support, mobilized 13 Soldiers in support of cybersecurity operations at Fort Meade, Maryland.

In October, the 1427th and 1569th Transportation Companies mobilized 250 Soldiers for deployment to the Southwest Border in support of Border Patrol operations. The Soldiers provided logistical and administrative support and were not conducting border security missions directly. They were deployed on 440 day orders.

### Joint Force Headquarters

Joint Force Headquarters constitutes New York Army National Guard units falling directly under the control of the New York Army National Guard headquarters. These include the Soldiers who are assigned to New York National Guard/DMNA headquarters, recruiting, medical command, the Camp Smith garrison, two small aviation detachments, and a training unit.

The strength of the Joint Force Headquarters elements at the end of 2023 was 993: 724, enlisted personnel, 227 officers, and 42 warrant officers.

The **106th Regiment, Regional Training Institute (RTI)** conducts



*New York Army National Guard Soldiers sprint downrange at the start of the rifle marksmanship event during the 52nd Winston P. Wilson Small Arms Championship on Camp Robinson, Arkansas, May 3, 2023. The event provided New York team members with their first opportunity to compete on a national level.*



*New York Army National Guard Sgt. 1st Class Rosanna Lamarre, a construction engineering supervisor assigned to the 1156th Engineer Company, sets up a conference call at Camp Smith, N.Y., Oct. 14, 2023.*

military occupation specialty training and skills training classes for New York Army National Guard Soldiers at Camp Smith Training Site. The 106th RTI is commanded by Col. Jeffrey L. Csoka, and the senior enlisted leader is Command Sgt. Maj. Morgan Cady.

At the end of 2022, the 106th was assigned 83 personnel. The 106th RTI has two subordinate training battalions.

During 2023, 357 Soldiers graduated from the 13 courses offered by the 106th RTI.

The 1st Battalion, 106th Regiment, is a cadre infantry training battalion which provides professionally trained and certified instructors. The battalion conducts the 11B Infantryman Course, Maneuver Tactics Foundation Course, Combatives Level 1 and 2, and the Small Unmanned Aircraft System Course. The battalion is commanded by Lt. Col. Terry Benson. The chief instructor is Master Sgt. Dennis Hammrack.

The 2nd Battalion, 106th Regiment, is a Modular Training Battalion that plans, resources, and executes training. The battalion instructs Officer Candidate School, the 68W (Medical Specialist) Sustainment Course, the Combat Lifesaver Course, a CPR Course, the Future Leader Course,



*New York Army National Guard Officer Candidate Katherine Murrell briefs a squad plan to New York and New Jersey Army National Guard and Albanian trainee officers during a joint training exercise on April 17, 2023 near Rogozhine-Kryevideh, Albania. Eight New York and New Jersey Army National Guard officer candidates participated in two weeks of training with Albanian officer cadets April 10-24 as part of a State Partnership Program exchange.*



*New York National Guard Sgts. Thomas Mulhern, left, and Klayton McCallum, members of the 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry, move a simulated casualty under a wire obstacle during the Army Best Medic Competition January, 24, 2023 at Fort Johnson, Louisiana.*

the Holistic Health & Fitness Course, GSA Bus Driver Training, and the Common Faculty Development Instructor Course. The battalion is commanded by Lt. Col. Aaron Lefton. The battalion's chief instructor is Master Sgt. Dante Bello.

The **New York Army National Guard Recruiting and Retention Battalion** is tasked with recruiting new Soldiers and helping current Soldiers remain in the New York Army National Guard. The battalion is headquartered at the Watervliet Arsenal with elements across the state. The battalion's strength stood at 290 at the end of 2023.

The battalion commander is Lt. Col. Josh Heimroth, and the senior enlisted leader is Command Sgt. Major Anthony Abbate. During 2023 the recruiting and retention battalion was best in recruiting for "large" Army National Guard state's for the third time, and rated best in the entire Army National Guard for the second time.

In May, General Daniel Hokanson, the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, met with New York Army National Guard recruiters in Saratoga Springs to thank them for their efforts in 2022.

On December 28, Gov. Kathy Hochul visited the Division of Military and Naval Affairs headquarters to thank the New York Army National Guard recruiters, and their Air Guard coun-

terparts, for their outstanding efforts in recruiting.

At the end of the year, the New York Army National Guard was 107 percent of authorized strength.

New York Army National Guard **Office of the State Surgeon and Medical Readiness Detachment**, formerly known as Medical Command or MEDCOM, are responsible for the health and wellness of New York Army National Guard Soldiers.

In addition to providing medical readiness services to New York Army National Guard commanders through the three regional clinics, the Office of the State Surgeon serves as the highest medical authority in the New York Army National Guard and supervises contracted services, case management, continuing medical education, 68W recertification, and establishes clinical practice guidelines.

Col. Matthew Liepkie is the Medical Readiness Detachment commander and Col. William LeCates is the New York State Surgeon. The full-time administrative officer and Deputy State Surgeon is Lt. Col. Luis Garcia. The office is headquartered at the Watervliet Arsenal.

The Medical Readiness Detachment was assigned 115 Soldiers at the end of 2023.

The Medical Readiness Detachment executes medical readiness



*New York Army National Guard 1st Lt. Peter Clark, a member of Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry reviews defense plans with Kenyan Defense Forces during a base defense drill at Camp Simba, Kenya, May 18, 2023. The Soldiers of Task Force Wolfhound, a security force based on the 69th Infantry, worked with the Kenyans to review actions in defense of the base.*

weekends to evaluate Soldier health. The Medical Readiness Detachment works with the Office of the State Surgeon and reports directly to the New York Army National Guard operations directorate to coordinate with units.

During 2023, the detachment conducted 14 medical readiness weekend events and evaluated 7,030 Soldiers.

In conjunction with the Office of the State Surgeon, the detachment coordinates distribution and administration of more than 10,114 flu vaccinations for Soldiers during the 2023–24 cycle.

Throughout 2023, the Office of the State Surgeon and Medical Readiness Detachment supported mobilizations and deployed Soldiers in support of mission conducted by the combatant commands across the world.

The **Camp Smith Garrison** overseas the Camp Smith Training Site

in conjunction with the state Camp Smith Training Site director.

The garrison commander is Lt. Col. Michael Rodriguez. The senior enlisted leader is Command Sgt. Major Jason Lehman. The strength of the garrison was 57 personnel at the end of 2023.

Small units which fall under Joint Force Headquarters include:

- Detachment 5, C Company, 2nd Battalion 245th Aviation Regiment, which flies the C-12 fixed wing passenger aircraft
- Detachment 2, A Company, 1-224 Aviation which flies UH-72 utility helicopters
- The 1025th Judge Advocate General Detachment
- The 1076th Judge Advocate General Detachment

During 2023, Detachment 2, A Company 1st Battalion 224th Aviation

Regiment mobilized 21 Soldiers in September 2023 to support the Border Patrol on the Southwest Border.

Six Soldiers assigned to Detachment 5, Charlie Company, 2nd Battalion, 245th Aviation Regiment, began 2023 deployed in Djibouti flying cargo and passenger support missions with their C-12 aircraft.



*New York Army National Guard Sgt. Nedp Edouard, assigned to Alpha Battery, 1st Battalion, 258th Field Artillery Regiment, executes the three-repetition maximum deadlift during an Army Combat Fitness Test in Buffalo, N.Y., Nov. 5, 2023.*

# Annual Training

| Unit Name                                     | Start Date | End Date  | Location                                 |
|---|------------|-----------|--|
| JFHQ  | Year-Round | 9/30/2023 | CAMP SMITH, NY                           |
| 106th Regiment (RTI)                          | Year-Round | 9/30/2023 | CAMP SMITH, NY                           |
| 153rd Troop Command                           | Year-Round | 9/30/2023 | CONUS                                    |
| 53rd Troop Command                            | Year-Round | 9/30/2023 | CONUS                                    |
| 138th Public Affairs Detachment               | Year-Round | 9/30/2023 | CONUS                                    |
| 138th Chaplain Detachment                     | Year-Round | 9/30/2023 | CAMP SMITH, NY                           |
| B Company, 126th Aviation Regiment            | Year-Round | 9/30/2023 | FARMINGDALE, NY                          |
| C Company, 1st Bn, 171st Aviation             | 1/23/2023  | 2/6/2023  | FORT INDIANTOWN GAP, PA                  |
| 642nd Aviation Support Bn                     | 1/23/2023  | 2/6/2023  | FORT INDIANTOWN GAP, PA                  |
| B Company, 126 Aviation Regiment              | 1/23/2023  | 2/6/2023  | FORT INDIANTOWN GAP, PA                  |
| 27th Finance Battalion                        | 3/5/2023   | 3/19/2023 | CAMP SMITH, NY                           |
| 101st Expeditionary Signal Battalion          | 3/13/2023  | 3/27/2023 | FORT INDIANTOWN GAP, PA                  |
| C Company, 1st Bn, 171st Aviation             | 4/24/2023  | 5/8/2023  | ROCHESTER, NY                            |
| Recruiting & Retention Bn                     | 5/1/2023   | 5/8/2023  | VARIOUS                                  |
| 42nd Infantry Div HQ                          | 5/30/2023  | 6/13/2023 | FORT INDIANTOWN GAP, PA                  |
| Detach 2, A Company, 224th Aviation           | 5/31/2023  | 6/14/2023 | CONUS                                    |
| 42nd Expeditionary Aviation Brigade           | 5/31/2023  | 6/14/2023 | FORT INDIANTOWN GAP, PA                  |
| 3rd Battalion, 142 Aviation (Rear Detachment) | 5/31/2023  | 6/14/2023 | FORT INDIANTOWN GAP, PA                  |
| 272nd MP Detachment                           | 6/1/2023   | 6/15/2023 | FORT DRUM, NY                            |
| 53rd Digital Liaison Detach                   | 6/2/2023   | 6/16/2023 | FORT INDIANTOWN GAP, PA                  |
| 102nd MP Bn                                   | 6/3/2023   | 6/17/2023 | FORT DRUM, NY                            |
| 204th Engineer Bn                             | 6/3/2023   | 6/17/2023 | FORT DRUM, NY                            |
| A Company, 204th Engineer Bn                  | 6/3/2023   | 6/17/2023 | FORT DRUM, NY                            |
| 501st Ordnance Bn (EOD)                       | 6/3/2023   | 6/17/2023 | FORT INDIANTOWN GAP, PA                  |
| 1427th Transportation Company                 | 7/8/2023   | 7/22/2023 | CAMP ETHAN ALLEN, VT                     |
| 1569th Transportation Company                 | 7/14/2023  | 7/28/2023 | FORT DIX, NJ                             |
| A Company, 2nd Bn, 108 Infantry               | 7/15/2023  | 7/29/2023 | FORT DRUM, NY                            |
| 466th Area Support Medical Company            | 7/16/2023  | 7/30/2023 | CAMP ATTERBURY, IN                       |
| 187th Signal Company                          | 7/16/2023  | 7/30/2023 | CAMP SMITH, NY                           |
| 369th Special Troops Bn                       | 7/16/2023  | 7/30/2023 | CAMP SMITH, NY                           |
| 145th Maint Company                           | 7/17/2023  | 7/31/2023 | FORT DIX, NJ                             |
| 133th Quartermaster Company                   | 7/22/2023  | 8/5/2023  | FORT PICKETT, VA                         |
| 466th Area Support Medical Company            | 7/31/2023  | 8/14/2023 | CAMP ATTERBURY, IN                       |
| 27th Infantry Brigade                         | 8/5/2023   | 8/19/2023 | CAMP GRAYLING, MI                        |
| 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry                  | 8/5/2023   | 8/19/2023 | CAMP GRAYLING, MI                        |
| 2nd Squadron, 101st Cavalry                   | 8/5/2023   | 8/19/2023 | CAMP GRAYLING, MI                        |
| 152nd Brigade Engineer Bn                     | 8/5/2023   | 8/19/2023 | CAMP GRAYLING, MI                        |
| 1st Battalion 258th Field Artillery           | 8/5/2023   | 8/19/2023 | CAMP GRAYLING, MI                        |
| 427th Support Bn                              | 8/5/2023   | 8/19/2023 | CAMP GRAYLING, MI                        |
| 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry                 | 8/5/2023   | 8/19/2023 | CAMP GRAYLING, MI                        |
| 7th Finance detachment                        | 8/5/2023   | 8/19/2023 | JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-<br>LAKEHURST, NJ |
| 104th MP Bn                                   | 8/6/2023   | 8/20/2023 | FORT DRUM, NY                            |
| CYBER Tm 173                                  | 8/12/2023  | 8/26/2023 | SEA GIRT, NJ                             |
| 727h MP Detachment                            | 8/16/2023  | 8/30/2023 | FORT DRUM, NY                            |
| 222nd Chemical Company                        | 8/16/2023  | 8/30/2023 | FORT DRUM, NY                            |



*New York Army National Guard Brig. Gen. Jack James, deputy commander of the 42nd Infantry Division, and Col. Patrick Clare, commander of the 369th Sustainment Brigade, render honors as the formation passes the reviewing stand during the New York City Veterans Day Parade in New York, N.Y., November 11, 2023. The 369th returned to their hometown of New York City from deployment overseas and participated in the city salute to veterans.*



*New York Army National Guard Soldiers present the colors of their command, the 53rd Troop Command, during the unit's change of command ceremony at the Joint Force Headquarters in Latham, N.Y., December 3, 2023. During the ceremony, command of the unit transferred from Brig. Gen. Joseph Biehler to James, who returned to the command after leading the unit from 2019-2021.*

# Army National Guard Aviation

The New York Army National Guard operates a fleet of 30 helicopters, one C-12 seven passenger plane, and four RQ-7BV2 Shadow unmanned aerial vehicles at the end of 2023.

The New York Army National Guard State Aviation Officer is Col. Jason Lefton, who is also the commander of the 42nd Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade.

In federal fiscal year 2023, New York Army National Guard aviators flew 2,45.2 hours, and was budgeted \$1.4 million to cover those flying hours.

New York Army National Guard aircraft are based at three Army Aviation Support Facilities, or AASF.

These three facilities provide a base for the traditional part-time Army National Guard Soldiers assigned to

aviation units, as well as the full-time personnel who conduct maintenance and flight operations during non-drill periods.

AASF # 1 is located at Long Island Mac Arthur Airport in Ronkonkoma.

B Company of the 3rd Battalion, 142nd Assault Helicopter Battalion, operates 10 UH-60M Black Hawk helicopters at this facility. The unit provides airlift for people and cargo.

A single UH-60L model, an earlier version of the Black Hawk, is also based here and is due to be configured into a UH-60V model. This aircraft will have most of the capabilities of the UH-60M helicopter.

AASF#1 is commanded by Major Daniel T. Collier.

AASF #2 is located at the Frederick

Douglas Greater Rochester International Airport. Three Army National Guard aviation elements are based at this flight facility.

C Company, 1st Battalion, 171st General Support Aviation Battalion operates seven UH-60L Black Hawk helicopters which are configured as medical evacuation aircraft. These helicopters are configured to carry litters and have a hoist capability.

Detachment 1 of B Company, 3rd Battalion, 126th General Support Aviation Battalion normally flies seven CH-47F Chinook heavy lift helicopters from the Rochester facility. These aircraft can carry up to 36 passengers or 12 tons of cargo. During most of 2023, the bulk of the company was deployed to the Middle East so only three Chinooks were available in



Two U.S. Army UH-60M Black Hawk helicopters assigned to the New York Army National Guard's 3rd Battalion, 142nd Aviation Regiment, conduct deck landings on the USS Lewis B. Puller in the Persian Gulf, Nov. 10, 2022. The battalion was deployed in 2023 to the Middle East and attached to the 36th Combat Aviation Brigade and conducted the deck landing qualifications to learn the operating procedures of the U.S. Navy. The battalion completed its mission May 6, 2023.



Rochester.

AASF #2 is also home to four RQ-7BV2 small unmanned aerial vehicles, or UAVs, which provide an eye in the sky for the Army Guard's 27th Infantry Brigade Combat Team.

The UAVs are flown by Detachment 1 of Delta Company of the 152nd Brigade Engineer Battalion. The detachment consists of 26 people, including 13 aircraft operators and nine maintainers. The UAVs are launched from a ramp and land like a larger plane on any flat terrain.

Lt. Col. Eric R. Fritz is the commander of AASF #2.

AASF# 3 is located at Albany International Airport in Latham and is located next to the Division of Military and Naval Affairs headquarters.

Alpha Company of the 3rd Battalion, 142nd Assault Helicopter Battalion operates 10 UH-60M Black Hawks at the facility. The unit provides airlift for people and cargo.

Detachment 2 of Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 224th Aviation Regiment operates two UH-72A Lakota light utility helicopters at AASF #2. The aircraft are dedicated to homeland response missions and are outfitted with forward looking infrared radar and hoists, which allow them to be used for search and rescue missions.

They are also used to support New York National Guard Counterdrug Task Force missions in support of local and state law enforcement.

Detachment 5 of Charlie Company, 2nd Battalion, 245th Aviation Regiment operates a C-12 seven-seat passenger plane from the flight facility. The C-12 is a military version of the Beechcraft King Air 200 turboprop plane used to transport passengers and priority cargo.

Lt. Col. LTC Paul Ballie is the commander of the AASF# 3.

Six hundred and sixty members of New York Army National Guard aviation units were deployed during 2023.

Two hundred and fifty Soldiers assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 142nd Assault Helicopter Battalion were on duty in the Middle East serving as part of the Army's Task Force Spartan



*Sgt. Robert Espinal and Spc. Reynaldo Castillo, combat medical specialists assigned to the 642nd Aviation Support Battalion, New York Army National Guard, check the inner thigh heartbeat of Laska, a military working dog, supervised by MWD handlers assigned to Area Support Group - Kuwait, on September 22, 2023, at Camp Buehring, Kuwait. Combat medical specialists from the 185th Aviation Brigade trained to safely stabilize MWDs injured on duty, which included assessing vital signs, recognizing and treating shock and heat injuries, and where to apply intravenous fluids.*

when the year opened.

The 142nd Soldiers conducted missions throughout Kuwait and Iraq with 22 UH-60M Black Hawk helicopters, operating as part of the 36th Combat Aviation Brigade from the Texas Army National Guard.

By the time they turned over the mission on May 6, 2023, the New York National Guard aviators had flown 5,030 hours, moving 6,384 passen-

gers and 129 tons of cargo. Among those passengers was Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin.

In January, the battalion's Soldiers also participated in Exercise Juniper Oak, a U.S. Central Command Exercise with Israeli forces.

Three hundred and eighty Soldiers of the 642nd Aviation Support Battalion, which has elements in Farmingdale and Rochester, mobilized for deploy-



*Members of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps prepare for a flight on New York Army National Guard UH-660 Black Hawk helicopters as part of an introduction to the National Guard at Army Aviation Support Facility #3, Latham, New York, May 18, 2023. The Cadet Corps is a youth program for children ages 10-18 that introduces them to various maritime services and career fields.*

# Army National Guard Aviation



*Brendan Toubman, a student at Bishop Gibbons High School in Schenectady, N.Y., sits in a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter at the National Guard's flight facility in Latham, N.Y., Nov. 4, 2023. Brendan was recognized by the Bus Stop Club and the New York Army National Guard for his selfless service towards his older brother with autism.*

ing support for the brigade's communication network. The battalion also provided personnel to help the 185th's support operations staff run an efficient operation as they moved people and equipment across the region.

Forty-five Soldiers of Detachment 1, B Company, 3-126th General Support Aviation Battalion, also mobilized in January and deployed four CH-47F Chinooks to Kuwait in support of the Army's Task Force Spartan during 2023.

Six Soldiers assigned to the Army National Guard's C-12 detachment were deployed to Djibouti in the Horn of Africa as 2023 opened. They returned home in August after completing 373 missions totaling 813 flying hours. They carried 738 passengers and 48,244 pounds of cargo during that deployment.

On October 21, 2023, Soldiers of Det. 2, A Company, 1st Battalion, 224th Aviation Regiment deployed to Arizona on a federal mission to support the United States Border Patrol with their UH-72 Lakota helicopters. The aircraft flew 350 mission hours during 2023.

New York Army National Guard aircraft are also available to support civil operations within New York.

Each spring aircrews at each flight

facility refresh their training on the techniques for using 660-gallon buckets slung underneath a helicopter to fight wildland fires.

New York Army National Guard aircraft are also used to move priority cargo and personnel during state missions.

The Soldiers at AASF #2 supported the Rochester Airshow in September by hosting the Air Force Thunderbirds aerobatics team at the facility. A UH-60L medical evacuation helicopter was also put on static display during the air show.

UH-60M Black Hawks were also on static display during the New York State Fair and the Erie County State Fair, as well as the Geneseo Air Show in September.

Three UH-60L's based in Rochester took part in a funeral flyover at Western New York National Cemetery in June.

Aircrews based on Long Island supported two sessions of the Dense Urban Leader's Orientation Course in conjunction with the National Center for Urban Operations. They provided multiple aircraft for aerial observation in and around NYC for the supported units and facilitated discussions about aviation operations in urban areas.

Long Island based aircrews also provided transportation support to

ment in January. After training at Fort Cavazos, Texas they served in Kuwait, Iraq, Jordan, and Syria as part of the 185th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade of the Mississippi Army National Guard.

The 642nd conducted maintenance on ground vehicles and aircraft, while also transporting supplies and provid-



*New York Army National Guard Soldiers assigned to the 642nd Aviation Support Battalion stand in formation during a farewell ceremony held on January, 22, 2023 at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Ronkonkoma, New York. The Soldiers deployed to Kuwait in support of Operation Spartan Shield, the U.S. Army presence in the Middle East.*



*A Brazilian delegation and New York National Guard Soldiers and Airmen pose for a photograph at a Manhattan heliport as they prepare to board a New York Army National Guard UH-60M Black Hawk helicopter assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 142nd Aviation Regiment, for a flight to Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania on April 18, 2023. The Brazilians were heading to the Pennsylvania base to observe a training exercise. The Brazilians were visiting New York as part of the New York National Guard's State Partnership Program relationship with that nation's military.*

the Vice Chief of the National Guard Bureau and the National Guard senior enlisted leader during their visits to the New York metropolitan area.

From July 26 to 27, New York Army National Guard aviators provided medical evacuation aviation support to West Virginia Army National Guard Special Forces training with Italian Special Forces units. This joint training exercise allowed aviation assets to perform confined area landings requiring communication with ground forces and precise crew coordination. Upon landing, Special Forces members practiced securing a landing zone and hot load procedures.

In October, the 3rd Battalion, 142nd Aviation dispatched four UH-60M Black Hawk helicopters and crews to support a Marine Special Operations Command Ravena exercise in Gulfport, Mississippi. The Marines use this exercise to evaluate the readiness of their special operations forces.

The New Yorkers supported numerous missions including infiltration/exfiltration, kill/capture helicopter assault mission, and casualty evacuation. The New Yorkers flew a total of 112 hours during the exercise.

On September 21, 2023, aviators from across the state teamed up to

support a Siena College ROTC field training exercise. The movement required a multi-ship flight consisting of four UH-60Ms and a CH-47F trans-

porting ROTC cadets from Albany International Airport to Camp Ethan Allen in Vermont.



*Soldiers assigned to the 642nd Aviation Support Battalion, New York Army National Guard, receive the 185th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade unit patch in a ceremony on July 14, 2023, at Camp Buehring, Kuwait. The ceremony represented the command structure change for the 642nd ASB, which has been deployed as part of the 185th ECAB, Mississippi Army National Guard, since February, conducting aviation operations supporting operations Inherent Resolve, Spartan Shield, and New Normal.*

# New York Air National Guard

With a strength of 5,807 Airmen, the New York Air National Guard is the largest state Air National Guard organization in the country.

New York Air National Guard's five wings operate 45 aircraft, ranging from the MQ-9 Reaper remotely piloted aircraft to the C-17 Globemaster III strategic airlifter.

The New York Air National Guard also includes the Eastern Air Defense Sector, which is responsible for air defense east of the Mississippi, along with a headquarters element at New York National Guard Headquarters in Latham.

Major General Denise Donnell is the assistant adjutant general, air and the commander of the New York Air National Guard. Command Chief Master Sergeant Michael Hewson is the senior enlisted advisor for the New York Air National Guard.

The Air National Guard is one of the two reserve components of the United States Air Force alongside the Air Force Reserve. National Guard Airmen, unlike members of the Air Force Reserve, also respond to state domestic operations at the direction of the governor.

The New York Air National Guard has a history stretching back prior to World War I when the 1st Aero Company was organized by the New York National Guard in July 1916 in Mineola. Today the 102nd Rescue Squadron of the 106th Rescue Wing can trace its lineage back to this first air unit.

During 2023, the New York Air National Guard operated:

- 14 MQ-9 Reaper remotely piloted aircraft assigned to the 174th Attack Wing.
- Ten LC-130H Hercules, equipped with skis to land on ice and snow, and two C-130H Hercules tactical transports assigned to the 109th Airlift Wing.
- Nine C-17 Globemaster III strategic airlifters assigned to the 105th Airlift Wing.

- Six HH-60G Pave Hawk search and rescue helicopters and four HC-130J Combat King II search and rescue planes assigned to the 106th Rescue Wing.

The 107th Attack Wing operates the MQ-9 but is not assigned any aircraft.

The New York Air National Guard also includes the 222nd Command and Control Squadron, a part of the 107th Attack Wing, which manages satellites in support of the National Reconnaissance Office in Virginia.

Of the 5,807 Airmen in the New York Air National Guard at the end of 2023, 1,020 were officers and 4,787 were enlisted Airmen. The enlisted Airmen were further broken down into 1,192 senior non-commissioned officers, 2,202 non-commissioned officers, and 1,393 junior enlisted Airmen.

There were 1,152 women in the New York Air National Guard, or 19.8 percent of the force. Women account for about 21 percent of the active duty Air Force.

Eighty one percent of New York Air National Guard members were white, while 10.8 percent were Black. Of the force, 3.4 percent listed themselves as Asian while 15.5 percent of New York Air Guard members classified

themselves as Hispanic.

About 15 percent of the active duty Air Force members identify as Black, while 4.3 percent consider themselves of Asian heritage. About 16 percent of active duty Airmen said they were Hispanic.

## 105th Airlift Wing

The 105th Airlift Wing flies nine C-17 Globemaster III strategic airlifters from Stewart Air National Guard Base in Newburgh.

The wing is part of the Air Mobility Command and flies cargo and transport missions around the world. The wing commander is Col. Ryan F. Dannemann. The wing's senior enlisted leader is Command Chief Master Sgt. Joseph A. Cincotta.

During 2023, wing Airmen flew 270 missions, carrying 9,786 tons of cargo and 5,038 people.

These missions ranged from supporting international exercises such as Air Defender in Europe to evacuating servicemembers from locations in the Middle East and Africa. The wing also carried New York National Guard Soldiers to the arctic and had two aircraft circumnavigate the globe.

Fifty-one missions were conducted,



*An LC-130 Hercules from the 109th Airlift Wing arrives at Resolute Bay, Nunavut, Canada, March 7, 2023. The 109th is providing tactical airlift support for Guerrier Nordique 2023, a joint forces exercise.*



*A New York Air National Guard HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter assigned to the 106th Rescue Wing in Warren Grove, N.J., May 6, 2023. New York Air National Guard members trained with Massachusetts Army National Guard Special Forces personnel, simulating combat rescue of a friendly casualty.*

carrying 5,444 tons of cargo and 1,979 people for Air Mobility Command.

The wing also flew 117 local training missions and flew 110 Guard Lift missions carrying 4,242 tons of cargo and 3,059 people while supporting training.

The wing's aircrews flew 2,855 hours, had a mission capable rate of 81.6% and conducted 763 sorties. A sortie is defined as an aircraft taking off, conducting a mission and landing.

The wing's strength at the end of 2023 was 1,410 broken down into 1,235 enlisted Airmen and 175 officers.

This includes the 213th Engineer Installation Squadron. The 213th Engineer Installation Squadron is responsible for the engineering, installation, removal and relocation of ground communication-electronics systems, emergency and programmed, mobile, on-site, maintenance and modification of these systems.

The wing's 105th Base Defense Squadron is the only one of its type in the Air National Guard and deploys and trains regularly with the active Air Force's 820th Base Defense Group. The Airmen are trained for missions "outside the wire" in a combat zone to secure forward air bases.

The 105th Airlift Wing traces its history back to an Air National Guard

fighter squadron organized at the Westchester County Airport in 1946. The wing transitioned to a cargo mission in 1961, and then from 1971 to 1984 had the mission of flying the O-2A forward air control aircraft.

In 1984 the wing began flying the C-5A Galaxy and flew that massive cargo aircraft until 2012 when wing aircrews began flying the C-17. During the withdrawal from Afghanistan, 105th Airlift Wing Airmen transported

2,524 evacuees and played a crucial role in getting personnel and equipment into that country to conduct the withdrawal.

During 2023, wing Airmen took part in two key State Partnership Program events. There were 217 Airmen who participated in federal deployments. 53 Airmen served on Joint Task Force Empire Shield and 109 supported Operation Asylum Seeker.



*A New York Air National Guard Special Missions Aircrewmember assigned to the 106th Rescue Wing looks out of an HH-60G Pave Hawk, preparing for a training exercise at Francis S. Gabreski Air National Guard Base, Westhampton Beach, N.Y., February 2, 2023. The 106th Rescue Wing conducted a Forward Area Refueling Point exercise with Marines from Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 773, Marine Aircraft Group 49, to maintain mission readiness.*

## New York Air National Guard

On April 5, the wing hosted U.S. Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. CQ Brown, Jr., for an awards ceremony recognizing the actions of seventeen Airmen during the withdrawal from Kabul in August 2021.

Master Sgt. Byron Catu, a crew chief at the 105th, was awarded the Air Medal with Valor, a previously unattainable award for non-flight crew members. Catu received the award for his actions during Operation Allies Refuge.

Two aircrews led by Capt. Robert Dana and Lt. Col. Dominic Conlan, the aircraft commanders during the mission, were awarded Air Medals. The crews receiving the award also included Staff Sgts. Benjamin M. Hinderman, Joshua A. Kuritzky and Anthony Waldropt Jr., security forces Airmen tasked with defending aircraft in high-threat areas and previously ineligible for this award.

During the ceremony, a C-17 Globemaster III was named "The Spirit of Allies Refuge" in honor of the 105th Airlift Wing's heroic actions taken dur-

ing Operation Allies Refuge.

From February 22 to March 23, the wing supported exercise Guerrier Nordique, an annual joint training exercise with Canadian Armed Forces designed to test military operational capabilities in the extreme cold conditions of Resolute Bay, Nunavut, Canada.

The 105th was tasked with tactical airlift support transporting Soldiers and equipment between the 2nd Canadian Division's area of responsibility and Resolute Bay on a C-17 Globemaster III. Over the course of twenty-three flights, the 105th moved 285 passengers and over 180,000 pounds of cargo.

In February, the wing carried members of the Montana National Guard to Florida for a joint Civil Support Team exercise alongside the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.

In April, the wing carried several Sikorsky HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopters from the 176th Wing in Anchorage, Alaska to Gulfport, Mississippi to participate in Exercise Southern Light-



*Dr. Robert Donnell, a retired Navy officer, pins two-star rank on his daughter, Maj. Gen. Denise Donnell, the commander of the New York Air National Guard, during her promotion ceremony on Jan. 6, 2023 at Stratton Air National Guard Base in Scotia, N.Y. At right is her brother, John Donnell, a technical sergeant in the Michigan Air National Guard.*

ning Strike, a joint exercise hosted by the Mississippi National Guard.

From April 18-21, the 105th Medical Group's Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) response task force participated in a State Partnership collective training event with New York's State Partner Brazil at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania.

From May 5-7, the 105th Base Defense Squadron teamed up with the 106th Rescue Wing and an Operational Detachment Alpha from the National Guard's 20th Special Forces Group to hone their skills during Exercise Jaw Breaker 2023 at Warren Grove Bombing Range in Ocean County, N.J. Over the course of three days, Airmen and Soldiers were thrust into scenarios designed to recreate missions' military members might be tasked with in a hostile deployed environment.

From May 5-13, the 105th's CBRN Task Force participated in the African Partnership Outbreak Response Alliance with State Partner South Africa, Lusaka and Zambia. This alliance was created in 2014 to mitigate the threat of emerging and re-emerging pathogens in Africa due to lack of early warning detection and response.



*Army General Dan Hokanson, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, thanks New York Air National Guard Sgt. Tiffany Stewart, an air transportation specialist assigned to the 105th Airlift Wing in Newburgh, N.Y., following his administering her oaths of service in Times Square, New York City as part of the National Guard's 9/11 remembrance and commitment to service, September 11, 2023.*

During May 9-12, the wing hosted the Air National Guard Production Assessment team to help the unit increase aircraft availability. Implementing the team's recommendations will enable the 105th Airlift Wing to meet its daily requirements outlined in the National Defense and National Military Strategy documents.

In June, the wing hosted U.S. Air Force Brig. Gen. Thomas Sherman, Director of Security Forces, and U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Donald Gallagher, Security Forces career field manager. They presented the 105th Base Defense Squadron with the Security Forces Outstanding Air Reserve Component Unit Award for the year 2022.

The wing also hosted the U.S. Navy Blue Angels in June while they performed at the 2023 New York Air Show.

From June 19-22, the 105th CBRN Task Force participated in a Search and Rescue Medicine Course with the Israeli Home Front Command at Camp Atterbury, Indiana.

From June 12 through June 23, the Wing participated in Exercise Air Defender 2023, the largest deployment exercise of air forces in NATO's history. The exercise involved around 10,000 military personnel and 235 aircraft from 25 nations. Approximately 100 U.S. aircraft from 42 states also participated, with over 2,500 New York Air National Guard personnel from 50 units across the country playing vital roles in ensuring the success of this exercise.

Pilots and aircrew with the 105th flew 18 missions as a part of exercise Air Defender 23 totaling 365 flying hours. During the exercise, multiple C-17

Globemaster III aircraft assigned to the 105th AW transported 738 passengers and over 1 million pounds of cargo to multiple countries in Europe.

The 105th also had a key role in providing an air bridge in support of the exercise. This meant transporting over 150 passengers and 117,500 pounds of cargo from Stewart Air National Guard Base to Germany. The cargo ranged from equipment and vehicles, all the way to MQ-9 Reaper drones.

In July, 17 Airmen flew around the world while supporting both Exercise Air Defender and Exercise Mobility Guardian. The crew picked up 30 personnel supporting Exercise Air

On August 24, the Joint Surgeon General's Office recognized Detachment 1, Medical Element, of the 105th Medical Group as the top performing unit of 27 across the country throughout 2023.

Also in August, seven defenders assigned to the 105th Base Defense Squadron completed Air Assault School at West Point, enhancing their interoperability with the Army in joint operations. It is often called "the 10 toughest days in the Army" because of its difficulty.

From September 11-21, the 105th CBRN Task Force participated in a response tabletop exercise in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

On October 14, the wing honored the heroes of the New York Police Department and the New York Yankees during a C-17 winglet art unveiling ceremony. There are two different emblems representing the NYPD's heroism and the Yankees on each side of all nine of the 105th's C-17s. The emblem on the right winglet is a depiction of a 9/11 memorial representing the eternal remembrance of September 11, 2001. The emblem on the left is the iconic logo of the New York Yankees

baseball team, which has represented New York State since 1901. These emblems symbolize the freedom and camaraderie that our C-17s represent all around the world.

In October, three 105th Maintenance Group Airmen traveled to Edwards Air Force Base in California, where a 105th C-17 was modified with microvanes to improve fuel efficiency. Microvanes are small fin-like additions that attach to the fuselage to reduce drag.



*A C-17 Globemaster III from the 105th Airlift Wing sits on the ramp at Kuwait International Airport on June 30, 2023. Seventeen Airmen from Stewart Air National Guard Base, Newburgh, N.Y., flew around the world carrying the 123rd Contingency Response Team in support of exercise Air Defender 23 and Mobility Guardian 23.*

Defender and 75 tons of cargo from Germany and moved them to the Philippines and Guam to support Mobility Guardian before returning home, after circumnavigating the globe.

On August 5, Maj. Gen. Raymond Shields, Jr., the Adjutant General of the New York, presented the Bronze Star Medal to Maj. Lance Marchesseault, a pilot with the 105th Airlift Wing. This esteemed award was given for Marchesseault's brave actions during Operation Allies Refuge in 2021.



the eastern tip of Long Island, and operates four HC-130J Combat King II search and rescue aircraft and six HH-60G search and rescue helicopters.

The 106th is one of three rescue wings in the Air National Guard and deploys Airmen and aircraft worldwide to provide combat search and rescue, and personnel recovery capabilities for U.S. and allied forces.

The wing also conducts search and rescue and personnel recovery missions in support of federal and state authorities when required. Wing Airmen also respond to state emergencies when called upon by the governor.

The wing is commanded by Col. Shawn P. Fitzgerald, a combat rescue officer, who is also a veteran of the United States Army. The senior enlisted leader is Chief Master Sergeant Edward P. Rittberg.

At the end of 2023, the wing had an authorized strength of 1,043 Airmen and an assigned strength of 1,115.

Strength consisted of 958 enlisted Airmen and 157 officers.

Seven Hundred and eighty one enlisted Airmen and officers were drill status Guardsmen who train on weekends and during their annual training

*A New York Air National Guard HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter assigned to the 106th Rescue Wing is providing security and ready to conduct combat rescue operations over Warren Grove, N.J., May 6, 2023. New York Air National Guard members trained with Massachusetts Army National Guard Special Forces personnel, simulating combat rescue of a friendly casualty.*

From August to November, the wing supported the Air Mobility Command Aeromedical Evacuation mission. 28 Airmen flew 17 missions for a total of 759 flying hours, transporting 560 patients, 2,040 passengers and 2.1 million pounds of cargo.

On December 2, the Air National Guard Command Chief visited the wing to meet with leadership and ensure the voices of the enlisted force are heard.

The Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear Task Force Medical Element, a detachment of the 105th Medical Group, continued its annual support of the United Nations General Assembly by providing standby, rapid emergency medical response capabilities to the National Special Security Event. A National Special Security Event is an event of national or international significance deemed by the Department of Homeland Security to be a potential target for terrorism or other criminal activity.

The wing received \$200,000 for two innovation projects through the Medical Group and Communications Flight.

During 2023, the 105th Civil Engineer Squadron invested \$1.4 million into engineering projects, mainly repair and sustainment work, at locations on the base. They also received a

\$2.8 million grant to upgrade battery storage on the base's microgrid. The squadron spent \$5 million to maintain infrastructure, environmental compliance, and provide aircraft rescue and firefighting coverage for Stewart International Airport.

### 106th Rescue Wing

The 106th Rescue Wing is based at F.S. Gabreski Air National Guard Base in Westhampton Beach, near



*A C-17 Globemaster III from the New York Air National Guard's 105th Airlift Wing arrives at Resolute Bay, Nunavut, Canada, March 4, 2023. The C-17 carried members of the Royal Canadian Armed Forces who participated in Guerrier Nordique 2023, a joint-force exercise testing combat capability and lethality in sub-zero temperatures.*





*A 109th Airlift Wing aircrew flies an LC-130 Hercules over the Baffin Bay in Greenland, May 12, 2023. The 109th travels to Greenland annually to provide airlift support for the National Science Foundation and train service members in the Arctic environment.*

period.

There were 257 Active Guard and Reserve members of the 106th Rescue Wing who are considered full-time military personnel. Another 77 wing members are Title 32 dual-status technicians who are both part-time Guardsmen and full-time civilian employees.

Finally, 26 federal civilian employees supported the wing in 2023.

During 2023, 416 Airmen took part in operational deployments to the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Kuwait, Djibouti, Niger, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Germany, Italy, Japan, Singapore, and South Korea between April and October.

As part of that effort, the wing deployed and retrieved 60 tons of equipment, four HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopters, and two HC-130J aircraft to locations in the Middle East, Singapore, and Africa.

The wing sent 168 personnel to participate in the annual Red Flag combat training exercise at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, from March 12 to 23. The wing deployed HH-60Gs

and HC-130J aircraft to Nellis to participate in the Air Force's new training program for rescue wings.

Known as JT-JUMPR, short for Joint Test-Joint Updating Measurements for Personnel Recovery, the training allows pilots to exercise their ability to survive in combat and for personnel recovery specialists to train on extracting downed Airmen.

Fifty-five members of the wing served as part of Joint Task Force Empire Shield, the New York National Guard security force in New York City, during 2023. Twenty-nine Airmen served with Joint Task Force Asylum Seeker, the New York National Guard's support for New York City's effort to cope with a massive migrant influx in 2023.

In August, the wing deployed 80 Airmen, two HH-60G Pave Hawk search and rescue helicopters, and one HC-130J Combat King II to Brazil to participate in Operation Tapio, a Brazilian search and rescue training exercise. The deployment was part of the State Partnership Program relationship New York has with the Brazilian military.

In June, when the submersible Titan imploded while diving on the wreck of the Titanic, the 106th Rescue Wing was part of the U.S. and Canadian effort to locate the missing craft. On June 19, 20 and 21, the 106th launched HC-130J aircraft on search missions in coordination with the United States Coast Guard.

In September, the wing deployed an HC-130J and aircrew to Greenland to participate in Denmark's Exercise Arctic Light 2023. The wing Airmen paraded members of the Danish special forces as part of the exercise conducted by Denmark's Joint Arctic Command.

Wing Airmen played host to Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Alex Wagner, in May and to the Air National Guard's top noncommissioned officer, Command Chief Master Sgt. Maurice L. Williams, in December.

The 106th Rescue Wing's 101st Rescue Squadron operates six HH-60G Pave Hawk rescue helicopters, which flew 1,559.2 hours in 2023.



In May, 101st Rescue Squadron Airmen trained with Massachusetts Army National Guard Special Forces Soldiers in a joint combat rescue exercise held at the Warren Grove Bombing Range in New Jersey. Dubbed Operation Jawbreaker, the exercise involved the 101st Airmen flying the National Guard Soldiers into a simulated combat zone and then retrieving a casualty.

On December 17, Pave Hawk helicopters from the 101st Rescue Squadron conducted a flyover of Highmark Stadium in Orchard Park to mark the start of a football game between the Buffalo Bills and the Dallas Cowboys.

The wing's 102nd Rescue Squadron, which flies the HC-130J Combat King II, traces its history back to the 1st Aero Company, which was created by the New York National Guard on Long Island in 1915, making it the oldest unit in the Air National Guard.

During 2023, the 102nd put 1,449.2 flying hours on their aircraft.

The 103rd Rescue Squadron is made up of pararescuemen.

These Airmen undergo almost two years of training in which they learn emergency medical skills, combat diving, military parachuting, and survival

*New York Air National Guard Col. Frank Farrelly and 1st Lt. Sinead Kirnan, pilots with the 105th Airlift Wing, perform post-landing checks on a C-17 Globemaster III in Prestwick, Scotland on June 28, 2023. Seventeen Airmen from Stewart Air National Guard Base, Newburgh, N.Y., flew around the world carrying the 123rd Contingency Response Team in support of exercise Air Defender 23 and Mobility Guardian 23.*

The helicopters have additional fuel tanks and an air-to-air refueling capability to extend their range. They can be armed with the GAU-2c 7.62mm mini-gun or GAU-18 .50 caliber machine gun and are equipped with a hoist to rescue patients or downed Airmen.

These HH-60G's are an upgraded model of this rescue helicopter. The systems include color weather radar, improved tactical air navigation, new radar warning receivers, an automatic direction finder and a digital intercommunication system. The aircraft were originally Army UH-60L Black Hawk helicopters which were reconfigured and upgraded for the rescue mission.

In November, 101st Rescue Squadron Airmen were judged the best in the Air Force during a week-long competition dubbed the "Turkey Shoot" for Pave Hawk aircrews held at Avon Park Air Force Range in Florida.

The competition included weapons employment using the .50 caliber machine gun and mini-gun, helicopter air-to-air refueling, degraded navigation, degraded search skills, in-flight refueling, and confined hoisting of recovered personnel.

The 101st Airmen won with the fast-

est times, the best pilot overall score, and the best special missions aviator score. The 101st won even though they operated the older G model Pave Hawks and were competing against the "Whiskey" model aircraft that are currently assigned to Active Duty Air Force rescue units..



*New York Governor Kathy Hochul meets with the leadership team of the 109th Airlift Wing during the Nov. 18, 2023 City of Schenectady 54th annual Holiday Parade. Command Chief Master Sgt. Karolyn De Vito, left, and Col. Christian Sander led a contingent of 50 Airmen in the parade as the parade Grand Marshall.*



Airmen from the 139th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, part of the 109th Airlift Wing, and medics from the Royal Canadian Armed Forces receive quick response training in a de Havilland Canada CC-138 "Twin Otter" aircraft from the 440 Transport Squadron, Royal Canadian Armed Forces in Resolute Bay, Nunavut, Canada, Feb. 26, 2023.

skills. They can deploy from a hovering helicopter by sliding down a rope

or jump from an HC-130 thousands of feet above the land or sea.

The enlisted Airmen are known as pararescuemen, while the officers are qualified as Combat Rescue Officers or CRO (pronounced crow) for short. They are often called PJs, for pararescue jumpers, the names they obtained when they parachuted into action.

The 106th Maintenance Squadron, which repairs the wing's aircraft, played a crucial role in preparing maintainers assigned to the Georgia Air National Guard's 165th Airlift Wing to repair the wing's new C-130J Hercules transports. The Georgia Guard maintenance Airmen spent a month working side-by-side with the New Yorkers.

During 2023, the Operations Group hosted programs for Junior ROTC Cadets and young people interested in science, technology, and engineering fields.

The "STEM Camp" program was run by the wing's mission support group in September. The week-long



Airmen from the 139th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, part of the 109th Airlift Wing, and medics from the Royal Canadian Armed Forces prepare a simulated casualty for evacuation in a de Havilland Canada CC-138 "Twin Otter" aircraft from the 440 Transport Squadron, Royal Canadian Armed Forces in Resolute Bay, Nunavut, Canada, Feb. 26, 2023.

## New York Air National Guard

camp centered its program around the capabilities the 106th Rescue Wing would employ in responding to a fictional earthquake in Estonia.

Twenty-four high school students participated.

The Junior ROTC four-day camp program was held in July. Fourteen cadets learned military skills built around a search and rescue scenario.

### 107th Attack Wing

The 107th Attack Wing is located at Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station where it is a tenant of the 914th Air Refueling Wing of the United States Air Force Reserve.

The 107th operates the General Atomics MQ-9 Reaper remotely piloted aircraft. Aircrew and support staffs operate aircraft that fly missions thousands of miles away from Niagara Falls.

Because no aircraft are assigned to the wing, the 107th Airmen operate aircraft assigned to other MQ-9 units.

The wing is commanded by Col. Andrew Carlson. The senior enlisted leader for the wing is Command Chief Master Sgt. Camille Langenfeld.

The wing also oversees the 222nd Command and Control Squadron, a space operations element headquartered at Griffiss Technology Park in Rome, and the 274th Air Support Operations Squadron at Hancock Field Air National Guard Base in Syracuse.

At the end of 2023, the wing's strength stood at 720: 566 enlisted Airmen and 154 officers.

The wing traces its history back to the World War II 339th Fighter Group. It was assigned to the New York Air National Guard in 1948 and has been a fighter unit, a refueling wing, and an airlift wing during its history. During the Vietnam War, the unit deployed F-100 fighters to South Vietnam. Capt. Joseph L'Hullier was shot down and killed during that deployment.

During 2023, Airmen assigned to the 107th Attack Wing's 136th Attack Squadron flew 240 combat and combat support missions, totaling 3,864.6 hours of flying time.

In January, 18 Airmen assigned to the 107th Attack Wing were recognized for their service during a massive winter storm which hit Western New York over Christmas 2022. Major

General Ray Shields, the adjutant general of New York, presented the Airmen with the New York State Military Commendation Medal for their service during the storm.

In June, the Erie County Executive, Mark Poloncarz, visited Airmen of the 107th to recognize them for their support during the historic snowstorm.

In June, Major Jeffery Bartz, the 107th Attack Wing chaplain, was named the top chaplain in the Air National Guard. Bartz was awarded the Samuel Stone Award which recognizes Exceptional service by Air Force Chaplains.

In August, 107th Airmen landed an MQ-9 at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station for the first time using a new system known as Satellite Launch and Recovery. Previously, a ground control station had been required to land and launch an MQ-9 from an airfield. Because the 107th teams controlled aircraft already launched from another location, that capability was not at their base.

The new technology means that 107th Attack Wing Airmen can fly MQ-9s to any airfield where a ground crew



*An MQ-9 Reaper flown by the New York Air National Guard's 174th Attack Wing arrives at the Frederick Douglas Greater Rochester International Airport on Aug. 9, 2023 to be displayed during an airshow at the airport from August 12-13. It was the first time the 174th was able to fly an aircraft to an airshow, thanks to new control technology. In the past the Airmen had to truck the MQ-9 to an airshow.*

can service one of the aircraft.

This will allow local training flights with MQ-9 aircraft, according to the wing commander.

In September and October, the 107th Attack Wing deployed 54 Airmen to locations in Africa and the Middle East for six month tours using the Air Guard's new Air Force Force Generation system.

In the past, deployers would come from several different wings. Under this model, a wing was tasked to fill various mission requirements. Mo-

participated in were:

Two Global Sentinel 2024 Planning Conferences, held respectively at Vandenberg Space Force Base, California in June and Peterson Space Force Base, Colorado in November.

A NATO exercise held 11-22 November with Germany, Romania, Norway, and Poland, during which planning was conducted for international space domain exercises and determining those nations' exercise priorities/ goals. The team also provided a space domain threat brief to the

JTACS, who are trained to direct ground attacks by manned and unmanned aircraft.

During 2023, the squadron conducted an exercise with their Brazilian counterparts in March, controlling air strikes at Fort Drum's air-to-ground range from A-10 Thunderbolt II tank killers and B-52 Stratofortress bombers.

In August, the squadron's Airmen took part in a two-day exercise in the Adirondack Mountains near Plattsburgh to test new weapons and vehicles as part of a project run by the Air Force Research Lab in Rome called Future Flag.

A dozen Airmen tried out new weapons systems, communications equipment, and vehicles to see how they function in the field.

### The 109th Airlift Wing

The 109th Airlift Wing flies the world's largest ski-equipped aircraft, the LC-130H variant of the venerable C-130 Hercules which has been in service since the 1950s.

The LC-130H "Ski Birds" are used to supply United States science stations in Antarctica and Greenland and provide the U.S. military with the capability to move military personnel and equipment into regions above the Arctic Circle.

On March 15, 2023, a 109th Airlift Wing LC-130H demonstrated that capability by landing 37 Canadian and American Soldiers on frozen sea ice near Little Cornwallis Island in Canada's Nunavut Territory during Canada's Exercise Guerrier Nordique 23.

The wing, based at Stratton Air National Guard base in Scotia, also operates two C-130H Hercules transport which are not configured for snow and ice landings.

The 109th Airlift Wing is commanded by Col. Robert E. Donaldson, who took over command in early 2024. The senior enlisted leader is Command Chief Master Sgt. Karolyn A. De Vito.

The wing is authorized 1,185 Airmen and was assigned 1,162 personnel at the end of 2023.



*U.S. Army and Canadian Soldiers practiced and conducted tactical insertion on an open ice skiway delivered by an LC-130 Hercules skiplane of the 109th Airlift Wing, New York Air National Guard, on frozen oceanic Arctic ice near Cornwallis Island, Nunavut, Canada, March 15, 2023.*

bilizing many Airmen for missions during a certain time range is more effective than mobilizing individuals at different times.

The 222nd Command and Control Squadron is led by Col Frank Casavant. The squadron supports the National Reconnaissance Office located in Chantilly, Virginia. That agency manages U.S. spy satellites.

The 222nd Command and Control Squadron also works with U.S Space Force and U.S. Space Command.

During 2023, the 222nd conducted a number of exchange events with the Brazilian Air Force as part of the National Guard State Partnership Program.

Other key training events the 222nd

NATO Defense Planning and Policy Committee.

Resolute Sentinel 23, U.S. Southern Command sponsored event in Lima, Peru from June 25 to July 11, focused on combat interoperability and disaster response.

Senior Airman Dhurva Poluru, a member of the 222nd was named the Air National Guard's Outstanding Airman of the Year for 2022 in June. Poluru was recognized for his expertise in space domain awareness in support of U.S. Space Command.

The 274th Air Operations Support Squadron, commanded by Col Carl Stumpf, specializes in fielding teams of Joint Tactical Air Controllers, or



*Master Sgt. Geoff Cerrone, a loadmaster assigned to the 139th Airlift Squadron, part of the 109th Airlift Wing, prepares a LC-130 Hercules for departure at McMurdo Station, Antarctica, February 26, 2023. The 109th Airlift Wing flies the only ski-equipped LC-130s in the world and supports the National Science Foundation research efforts in Antarctica every year.*

Of those, 344 Airmen are Active Guard and Reserve members, while there are 113 dual status Title 32 technicians assigned to the wing. The remaining Airmen are traditional drill status Guardsmen.

At the end of 2023, there were 36 Division of Military and Naval Affairs state employees who worked at the wing.

The wing's LC-130H "Skibirds" are aging and becoming harder to maintain. A priority for the New York State Division of Military and Naval Affairs is to work with members of New York's Congressional Delegation to obtain funding to replace these aging aircraft with the latest C-130J model of the Hercules configured for ice operations.

Between October 2022 and March 2023, 109th Airlift Wing Airmen flew 180 missions in support of Operation Deep Freeze, the Department of Defense logistics operation which sustains the National Science Foundation's Antarctic Program.

During the Antarctic summer, 420 wing Airmen deployed to McMurdo Station, the main U.S. research center on the continent. The wing deployed five LC-130H aircraft in support.

The wing was originally scheduled to conduct 46 missions to move supplies and people between Christchurch New Zealand and McMurdo Station. But a shortage of other aircraft required the wing's Airmen to fly 68 missions.

The wing's LC-130Hs play a key role in moving people and supplies two and from science stations across the continent, especially the United State's Amundson-Scott South Pole Station.

Over the course of the 2022-2023 Antarctic support season, the wing's Airmen flew 1,500 hours. They transported 1.2 million pounds of fuel, 2.2 million pounds of cargo and 903 passengers.

From April through August 2023, the 109th Airlift Wing supported research

on the Greenland Ice Cap, while also conducting Barren Land Survival Training for the wing's Airmen at Raven Camp.

Four hundred wing Airmen rotated through the mission during seven deployment periods. Three LC-130 aircraft flew in support.

The 109th's Airmen flew 721 hours ferrying 1,300 passengers, 2.4 million pounds of supplies and 86,000 gallons of fuel to Greenland research stations during the year, from their base at Kangerlussuaq International Airport.

Two classes of 20 Airmen each, learned Arctic survival skills during the Barren Land Survival Training classes.

From February 22 to March 22, 60 109th Airlift Wing Airmen played a key role in the Canadian Forces annual Guerrier Nordique Arctic training exercise.

The 60 Airmen deployed to Resolute Bay in Canada's Nunavut Territory,

where temperatures can reach minus 50 degrees Fahrenheit, with two LC-130 Hercules "Skibirds" to support the exercise.

Over the course of the exercise, the New York Airmen transported 59,000 pounds of cargo and 89 personnel to remote polar camp.

Royal Canadian Air Force CC0-138 Twin Otter aircraft transported the 12 Airmen of the 109th's Polar Camp Skiway Team to a location on the sea ice of Templeton Bay in the Arctic Ocean near Little Cornwallis Island. The team spent a week grooming a 6,000 foot long ice runway, known as a skiway.

This skiway was then used to land 37 Canadian Reserve troops and Vermont Army Guard Soldiers on the ice who flew in from Resolute Bay Airport on Cornwallis Island. The Canadians and Americans established a security perimeter around the landing zone as part of their Arctic warfare training.

The 109th also sent three aeromedical Airman on the mission who teamed up with the Royal Canadian Medical Service to run a medical office in Resolute Bay. They also conducted training to learn how to deal with medical emergencies in the Arctic.

In June, 17 personnel assigned to the 109th Aeromedical Squadron took part in a Department of Defense sponsored Innovative Readiness Training Mission in Covelo California.

The New York Airmen provided no-cost health care and veterinary services to clients of the Round Valley Indian Health Clinic in Covelo. During the mission, conducted in conjunction with active duty military personnel, the medical clinic served 200 patients, the dental clinic treated 214 people and the veterinary clinic treated 133 animals.

In August, 30 of the wing's maintenance personnel spent a week training at the Air Force's Combat Readiness Training Center in Savannah, Georgia. The center conducted a "maintenance university" to train Airmen on maintaining the C-130H aircraft. The 109th provided an LC-130H aircraft for Airmen to train on.

In November, the wing marked its 75th Anniversary. The wing was created as the 139th Fighter Squadron, flying the P-47 Thunderbolt fighter on Nov. 18, 1948.

The 109th began flying ski-equipped LC-130s in 1975, when it was designated to support stations on the joint U.S./Canadian Distant Early Warning Line, created to detect Russian bombers attacking North America.

Also in November, the wing was honored by the City of Schenectady, when the wing was collectively named the Grand Marshall of the Schenectady Holiday Parade. More than 50 Airmen marched in the parade and their float, featuring a small version of a C-130 dubbed "Baby Herc" was

The 174th Attack Wing personnel are also available to respond to state and federal civil support missions when required.

The wing is commanded by Col. John R. O'Connor. The senior enlisted leader is Command Chief Master Sgt. Sonja Williams.

The wing's assigned strength is 1,062 personnel: 840 enlisted Airmen, and 222 officers. Four hundred and thirty-five of the 174th's Airmen attended key Air Force schools during federal fiscal year 2023.

Two hundred and seventy two Airmen are in the Active Guard and Reserve program, while 148 are dual status technicians. Six hundred and



*A New York Air National Guard Tactical Air Control Party Airman assigned to the 274th Air Support Operations Squadron, watches as an A-10 Thunderbolt II assigned to the Maryland Air National Guard's 175th Wing makes a pass during a close air support mission at Range 48 at Fort Drum, New York on March 29, 2023. The 274th, a component of the 107th Attack Wing, specializes in air-ground coordination.*

voted best overall parade entry.

### 174th Attack Wing

The 174th Attack Wing is based at Hancock Field Air National Guard Base in Syracuse and operates the General Atomics MQ-9 Reaper remotely piloted aircraft.

The wing flies Reaper operational sorties world-wide from a command center at Hancock Field, and trains MQ-9 aircrew and maintenance personnel for the U.S. Air Force and foreign air forces.

forty two Airmen are traditional drilling status guard members.

The wing includes the 152nd Air Operations Group whose members specialize in planning air war campaigns and augment the staff of the United States Air Force Europe's Air Operations Center at Ramstein Air Base.

The 152nd Air Operations Group is commanded by Col. Kevin St. John. The senior noncommissioned officer is Command Chief Master Sgt. Christopher Vandermortel.



*New York Air National Guard Tech Sgt. Nick Yurenda and Staff Sgt. Alex Dyrberg, two fire protection specialists assigned to the 174th Attack Wing, douses a fire during a training exercise at Hancock Field Air National Guard Base in Syracuse, N.Y., Aug. 22, 2023. The fire department, which consists of a mix of uniformed and civilian firefighters, is responsible for providing emergency services to Hancock Field and the co-located Hancock International Airport.*

The wing is also responsible for the Adirondack Range, an air-to-ground engagement range at Fort Drum, New York.

The wing traces its history back to 1947 when the 138th Fighter Squadron of the New York Air National Guard was federally recognized. In 1953, the Air National Guardsmen of the squadron became the first to stand strip alert as part of the air defense of the United States.

The wing deployed F-16s to participate in the 1991 Persian Gulf War and flew that aircraft until 2010 when it transitioned to flying the MQ-9.

The wing is assigned a fleet of 14 MQ-9 aircraft. Twelve are based at Hancock Field. Two are deployed forward outside of the United States.

During 2023, the wing's MQ-9s were updated with new satellite communications systems which allows the transmission of higher-quality voice, data, and video transmissions.

In 2023, the aircraft had a readiness rate of 85.91 percent.

The 174th Attack Wing's two flying

elements are the 138th Attack Squadron, which flies operational missions, and the 108th Attack Squadron which is a training unit. The 108th trains MQ-9 pilots and sensor operators, as well as mission coordinators.

During federal fiscal year 2023, the 138th Attack Squadron flew 199 sorties, totaling 3,386.5 hours of operational missions outside the United States.

The 108th Attack Squadron's instructors and students conducted 476 training sorties totaling 3,642.8 flying hours during federal fiscal year 2023. The students also flew 2,506 missions in simulators which would have amounted to 5,025.3 flying hours in real life.

On average, the 108th Attack Squadron flew four aircraft daily on training missions. Students dropped 112 inert training munitions—60 GBU-12 weapons and 52 GBU-38 Joint Direct Attack Munitions— over the course of fiscal year 2023 as part of their training.

The 174th's Field Training Detachment trained 338 students during

federal fiscal year 2023. This included 41 students from allied nations: Italy,



*New York Air National Guard Staff Sgt. Dhruva Poluru, left, a member of the 107th Attack Wing and an Air Force Airman of the Year, joins fellow honoree Tech. Sgt. Jessica R. Brazionis, center, of the 110th Wing of the Michigan National Guard, in a wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia, on Aug. 21, 2023.*



the United Kingdom, and the Netherlands. The training detachment conducted 5,844 hours of instruction during the year.

In March, the Field Training Detachment hosted 45 subject matter experts, MQ-9 maintenance experts, at a Curriculum Advisory Committee meeting intended to determine what subjects MQ-9 maintainers need to know.

As part of the Adirondack Range operations at Fort Drum, the 174th maintains a forward operation location at Fort Drum's Wheeler-Sack Army Airfield. This allows the wing's MQ-9s to be refueled and rearmed without returning to Syracuse. The facility is also used by other aircraft, to include the F-22 Raptor and F-35A Lighting II stealth fighters.

During the year, the wing also supported a contingency location rapid refuel operation when A-10s using the Fort Drum range, refueled at the Ogdensburg International Airport.

The 174th Attack Wing deployed 93

wing Airmen to 12 locations during federal fiscal year 2023.

The 152nd Air Operations Group deployed 11 personnel to two locations during the year.

The 152nd played an important role in NATO air operations monitoring the war in Ukraine. 25 personnel conducted distributed mission operations in support of NATO, while eight group Airmen conducted permanent change of station moves to Ramstein Air Base in Germany to support the Air Operations Center there.

Meanwhile, 62 members of the Group took part in two exercises: Austere Challenge, a weeklong command post exercise, and Astral Knight, a missile defense exercise focused on the Balkans.

In June, the wings leaders hosted 40 employers and community leaders for a mission brief and base tour as part of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve program.

In July, the 174th played host to the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Leadership En-

campment. One hundred and twenty cadets and 30 camp staffers took part in the annual event for the New York Wing of the Civil Air Patrol.

In September, the 174th Attack Wing hosted 51 MQ-9 crews from 36 squadrons across the total Air Force for a two day competition called Reaper Smoke.

The exercise, which included a competition, pitted MQ-9 pilots and sensor operators from active duty, the Air Force Reserve, and Air National Guard against each other during a skills competition to see which crew is the Air Force's "best of the best."

During the competition, the teams conducted a mission simulation which put their MQ-9 skills to the test.

Also in September, the wing hosted it's second "Runway 5K" race. Three hundred fifty runners participated in a race along the runway shared by the 174th and Hancock Field International Airport, as part of this community event.

In August, 120 Airmen established



*Airmen assigned to the New York Air National Guard's 109th Airlift Wing cut snow blocks to make shelters during Barren Land Survival Training at Raven Camp in Greenland, in May 2023. Airmen who are assigned to the wing and fly aboard the LC-130 "Skibirds" the wing flies have to go through the training.*

and defended a simulated forward operating site in a wooded section of the base as part of their annual training. The members of the wing's Mission Support Group spent the four-day Annual Training period setting up living and operating areas, preparing for potential chemical attack, and fighting off enemy probes of their perimeter.

During the New York State Fair, over 200 members of the 174th Attack Wing helped support an Air National Guard exhibit in the fair exhibition hall.

On November 8, Lt. Col. Joshua Carter, the director of the 174th Operations Support Squadron's commanders action group, received the New York State Medal for Valor for actions he took in September 2022 to save a life.

On September 1, 2022, Carter witnessed a vehicle cross two lanes of traffic and crash into a bridge abutment. Carter immediately pulled over, directed his son to call 911, ran to the car, and pulled the driver out of the burning vehicle to safety. As more bystanders stopped to assist, Carter assessed the driver for head injuries and treated the victim for shock.

In December, the Hancock Field Air National Guard Base Fire Department was named the best small fire department in the Air Guard by the Air National Guard Fire Chief's Association.

In December, the wing also opened a new base main gate. The \$4.5 million project improved traffic flow into and out of Hancock Field, while also improving security for the base.

During 2023, the wing also worked with Syracuse University to maintain a satellite campus at Hancock Field to make it easier for Airmen and military family members to obtain their degrees.

### **224th Air Defense Group/Eastern Air Defense Sector**

The 224th Air Defense Group (ADG) is located at the Griffiss Business and Technology Park in Rome. A New York Air National Guard unit employed in place, the 224th ADG conducts the Eastern Air Defense Sector's (EADS) federal mission.

A headquarters unit of the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), EADS is responsible for the around-the-clock defense of the eastern U.S. airspace. EADS reports to the Continental U.S. NORAD Region-1st Air Force, which is located at Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida.

time Guard Airmen in Active Guard and Reserve positions. There are 59 traditional, one-weekend-a-month, drill status Airmen.

A 15-member Canadian Forces detachment, one U.S. Army liaison officer, two U.S. Navy liaison officer,



*New York Air National Guard Staff Sgt. Christen Mills and Tech. Sgt. Brianne Scrobe, loadmasters assigned to the 105th Airlift Wing, load a Humvee onto a C-17 Globemaster III at Wunstorf Air Base, Germany on June 30, 2023. Seventeen Airmen from Stewart Air National Guard Base, Newburgh, flew around the world carrying the 123rd Contingency Response Team in support of exercise Air Defender 23 and Mobility Guardian 23.*

In February 224th Air Defense Wing Airmen tracked and directed the intercept and shoot down of a Chinese spy balloon operating in United States air space. The high-altitude balloon was shot down off the coast of South Carolina by an F-22 Raptor on February 4, 2023.

EADS is commanded by Col. Joseph F. Roos, who is in a federal Title 10 military position. Col. Steven H. Rathmell is the 224th ADG Commander, which is a New York Air National Guard Title 32 position. Both have served in their current positions since May 2023.

The 224th ADG is composed of the 224th Air Defense Squadron, the 224th Support Squadron, the 224th Security Forces Squadron and two detachments in National Capital Region around Washington, D.C.

The 224th has an authorized strength of 363 Airmen. Of these, 304 are full

45 federal civilian personnel and 64 contractors also serve with the air defense group.

During 2023, the Eastern Air Defense Sector and 224th Air Defense Group played host to several high level dignitaries.

On June 28, Gen. Mark Kelly, commander of Air Combat Command, visited EADS. During his tour, he received a detailed operations brief and met with Airmen to discuss their contributions to the mission. Kelly also met with a local government delegation composed of the Oneida County Executive, Rome Mayor, State Senator, State Assemblywoman and Congressman.

On October 26, Frank Kendall, the Secretary of the Air Force, and leaders from NORAD and U.S. Northern Command, the Royal Canadian Air Force, and the Office of the Secretary of Defense visited EADS for the

initial operating capability rollout of the Air Force's new Air Force Advanced Battle Management Systems Cloud-Based Command and Control System.

They were present to underscore the Air Force's commitment to modernizing its air defense capabilities. The event marked a pivotal milestone in the service's modernization of tactical command and control capabilities.

In June, the 224th hosted a Brazilian Air Force group of communications specialists. The group received briefings on air defense operations and met with their counterparts in the air defense group.

On Aug. 17, the New York Air National Guard's 224th Security Forces Squadron was officially activated as an Air Combat Command-gained unit at the Eastern Air Defense Sector assigned to the 224th Air Defense Group. Lt. Col. Michael Kidd took command of the squadron during an official activation and assumption of command ceremony on Dec. 8.

The 224th Air Defense Squadron is commanded by Col. Jennifer L. King and conducts the air defense mission. Airmen in the squadron's Battle Control Center build and monitor a continuous picture of airspace over the United States east of the Mississippi.

When required, the squadron's personnel scramble, direct, and control

fighter jets and other assets to counter threats.

During 2023, the air defense squadron detected, identified, tracked, and responded to 34,173 potential and 378 defined threats, including the Chinese spy balloon. This was the first time the Air Force shot down a high-altitude balloon.

They also supported two Space-X/ NASA spacecraft launches by monitoring airspace over Cape Canaveral, Florida.

While conducting the around-the-clock air defense mission, the squadron executed an ambitious training program, conducting 4,972 exercises or training events. These events included 39 higher headquarters exercises, 30 new system testing exercises, and 458 local exercises.

One of these exercises was AMALGAM EAGLE 23, which involved coordinating with the Western Air Defense Sector at Joint Base Lewis-McCord in Washington state, and the Mexican Air Force.

The 224th Support Squadron, is commanded by Col. Aaron R. Mahoney and is responsible for building, installing, maintaining, and defending radar, communications and information technology systems in support of the air defense mission. The squadron includes communications, logistics, civil engineering, medical, and emergency management personnel with a total FY23 budget authority of \$1,828,047.00.

These Airmen completed thousands of unseen "routine" actions, including 1,400 maintenance inspections, 1,094 unscheduled repairs/corrections, 735 FAA maintenance coordination's, and processed 357 authorized service interruptions.

The 224th Air Defense Group's Detachment 1 is located at Joint Base Bolling-Anacostia near Washington, D.C. and serves as the United States Air Force element of the Joint Air Defense Operations Center responsible for the air defense of the nation's capital.

The detachment provides command and control for air defense systems, sensors, warning systems, & communications means to protect Washington D. C. from aerospace threats.

During 2023, the detachment responded to 191 "tracks of interest" in the Washington, D.C., special flight rules area. A NORAD alert force evaluation found the unit mission ready.

In January, the detachment broke ground on a \$25 million construction project to construct a mission training center, a secure facility, a mission system laboratory, and other new facilities. The work is due to be completed in August 2024.

The 224th Air Defense Group's Detachment 2 is located at the Transportation Security Administration's Freedom Center in Herndon, Virginia. The detachment is responsible for providing real-time situational awareness and coordination of National Capital Region air operations to the federal agencies protecting Washington, D.C. These agencies include the Federal Aviation Administration, Customs and Border, the Transportation Security Administration, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Secret Service, the U.S. Capitol Police, and the Joint Task Force National Capital Region.

The air defense liaison officers assigned to the detachment expedite coordination with the agencies, facilitating employment of NORAD Air Defense assets protecting the national capital airspace. They also display and interpret the EADS air picture alongside those of the Federal Aviation Administration and Customs and Border Protection to enhance interagency awareness. The unit commander also conducts outreach to local flying units to raise awareness of the requirements for flying near Washington, D.C. especially during upcoming National Special Security Events.



*New York Air National Guard Capt. Kevin Sweeney prepares a litter on a 105th Airlift Wing C-17 Globemaster III at Ramstein Air Base, Germany November 23, 2023. The wing spent four months supporting aeromedical evacuation missions out of Ramstein Air Base, Germany.*

## New York Naval Militia



*New York Naval Militia Rear Admiral Michael Perry salutes during change-of-command ceremonies held at New York National Guard headquarters in Latham, New York on Friday, Nov. 3, 2023 as he became the new commander of the 3,000-member New York Naval Militia. Perry replaced Naval Militia Rear Admiral Larry Weill.*

The New York Naval Militia is a state defense force, which enrolls members of the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard Reserve, so that they can serve their state as well as the United States.

The commander is Rear Admiral Michael Perry, who took command in November of 2023.

At the end of 2023, the New York Naval Militia's strength stood at 3,153 service members. Ninety-eight percent of those people belonged to one of the naval federal reserve components. The remainder were either retired military personnel or those who never served in the military.

The Naval Militia's strength included 2,952 enlisted personnel, 191 officers

and ten warrant officers.

Eighty Naval Militia Members were retired military personnel, while 66 were prior service military personnel who had not retired.

There were 1,496 members of the Marine Corps Reserve serving, 1,405 members of the Navy Reserve, and 106 members of the Coast Guard reserve in the force.

The dual-status members put their military skills to work for the state of New York during natural disasters and on state security missions when they go on state active duty orders. Since 2020 Naval Militia members have played important roles in the response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and the migrant crisis impacting New

York City and other regions.

The New York Naval Militia also operates a fleet of 11 patrol boats that can work in conjunction with the Coast Guard and Border Patrol, along with other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies. It is the largest of the five naval militias maintained by New York, Alaska, California, South Carolina, and Ohio.

New York's Naval Militia was originally organized as a seagoing version of the National Guard called the Naval Battalion in June of 1891.

During the Spanish American War in 1898, the New York Naval Militia manned two auxiliary cruisers that took part in the Battle of Santiago, a fight between the U.S. Navy and the

Spanish Navy off the Cuban Coast.

After the founding of the Navy Reserve, the New York Naval Militia refocused its mission from serving as a manpower reserve for the Navy and Marine Corps to serving New York.

The Naval Militia's Military Emergency Boat Service, or MEBS, manages the fleet of nine patrol boats and two landing craft.

The two landing craft, built by Munson Boat Company in Burlington, Washington, can carry 27 people, three tons of supplies or a small vehicle and additional supplies at a speed of 41 miles per hour.

The landing craft—LC-350 and LC-351-- provide the New York National Guard with the ability to deliver people or equipment along New York's 2,625 miles of Great Lake and ocean coastline, as well as the Erie Canal and Hudson River, Lake Champlain, and Seneca and Cayuga Lakes.

The patrol boats include:

- PB-440: a 44-foot catamaran patrol boat that works in conjunction with the Coast Guard and is based at Rosebank, Staten Island
- PB-400: a 44-foot patrol craft operating at Verplanck
- LC-350 and LC-351: 35-foot landing craft



*New York Naval Militia members drive a patrol boat on the Hudson River during an exercise in Hudson, N.Y., April 29, 2023. The New York Naval Militia is the largest in the United States and augments other state military forces in civil support operations.*

- PB-300 and PB-301: 34-foot patrol catamarans
- PB-280 and PB-281: 34-foot boats
- PB-230: a 25-foot boat
- PB-220 and 221: 26-foot boats, normally stored at the New York State Armory in Leeds, N.Y.

During 2023, 770 members of the

New York Naval Militia served on state active duty missions.

Approximately thirty Naval Militia members continued to support the COVID mission assisting the fiscal closeout reconciliation required for the federal government to reimburse New York's costs.

Over 460 Naval Militia members have assisted in the migrant support mission in New York City.

In October, the New York Naval Militia, coordinating with Joint Task Force Empire Shield and the New York Guard, conducted Exercise Empire Challenge from Fort Hamilton in New York. Six boats conducted antiterrorism and radio communication exercises across New York State.

The exercise was observed by a Brazilian Naval Officer as part of an exchange coordinated by the National Guard State Partnership Program.

Exercise Empire Challenge also had airborne communication support from the Civil Air Patrol. These aircraft provided Very High Frequency and High Frequency radio relay capability so New York Guard team members from as far away as Buffalo could communicate with New York City participants.

In July, Naval Militia Patrol Boats



*Members of the New York Naval Militia track the locations of boats on the Niagara River in the Naval Militia Command trailer near Youngstown, New York on July 29, 2023, while supporting a U.S. Coast Guard and Canadian smuggling interdiction effort called Operation Lake Thunder. The New York Naval Militia provided two patrol boats and nine personnel to support the mission.*

## New York Naval Militia

supported the US Coast Guard, US Border Patrol, and New York State Police along with Canadian agencies as part of Operation Lake Thunder on the Niagara River and Lakes Erie and Ontario.

The Naval Militia members operated two Military Emergency Boat Service patrol boats, and their mobile command trailer in support of the three-day mission, which is designed to deter cross border smuggling and illegal immigration and enforce boating safety rules when required.

While conducting the border patrol mission, the PB-280 crew hailed and stopped a recreational boat that wasn't responding to Coast Guard efforts to stop the vessel. The PB-280 crew also escorted a boat that was towing a disabled boat out of a squall on Lake Ontario.

The PB 281 crew, operating on Lake Erie and the upper Niagara River, also responded to a "person in the water" distress call along with other agencies, when somebody fell off a recreational boat.

The Naval Militia crew cruised the shoreline and used a bullhorn to communicate with people on shore. The Buffalo Fire Department found the man safe on shore.

The command post trailer was instrumental in coordinating communications between the agencies as they observe day and night boat traffic on Lake Ontario/lake Erie and along the Niagara River.

During 2023, a new patrol boat detachment was located at the Jones Beach Coast Guard Station. The mission is to support Joint Task Force Empire Shield's security mission by conducting patrols in Eastern side of the New York City Harbor and Western reaches of Long Island.



*New York Naval Militia members underway on board Patrol Boat 280 on the Niagara River near Youngstown, New York, while operating in support of the Coast Guard's smuggling interdiction effort known as Operation Lake Thunder.*



*New York Naval Militia members sail Patrol Boat-440 on the Hudson River during an exercise near Hudson, N.Y., April 29, 2023.*

# New York Guard

The New York Guard is the state's uniformed state defense force. New York Guard members are volunteers who augment the New York National Guard during state emergencies and on security missions.

State guards are authorized under federal law and New York is one of 22 states which has a state-only military force. Unlike the National Guard, state guard personnel cannot be mobilized for federal duty. Members of the New York Guard are not authorized to carry weapons.

The New York Guard is authorized a strength of 804 personnel. As of December 2023, the number of assigned personnel stood at 329. Of those, 84 had prior service in the New York National Guard or another military force.

During mid-December, 131 volunteers, a third of the force, was on state active duty, reinforcing the New York National Guard.

The New York Guard is commanded by Brig. Gen. Pete Riley. Riley is a retired New York Army National Guard colonel who is a veteran of the Iraq War and once commanded Joint Task Force-Empire Shield, the New York National Guard security force in New York City.

The New York Guard traces its history back to World War I when it was created to replace the New York National Guard as a security force inside New York when the National Guard went to war in France. During World War II, the New York Guard was created once again and the force was revived for good in the 1950s during the Cold War.

New York Guard members normally train one or two days monthly and attend a week-long annual training in the summer or fall. Unlike members of the National Guard, they are not paid for attending training.

New York Guard members wear the Army's operational camouflage pattern uniform. But instead of the U.S. Army identification tape and an American flag, they wear a black N.Y.



*New York Guard 1st Lt. Kiana Piedrahita receives her oath of service into the New York Guard by Capt. David Tsin during the unit's Family Day activities September 16, 2023 at the Museum of American Armor in Old Bethpage, N.Y.*

Guard and name tape with silver lettering, New York State Flag and wear black patrol caps.

The New York Guard uses a rank and organizational structure based on those of the Army. New York Guard members are designed as general purpose force available to assist with civil support missions, in a variety of different positions.

New York Guard members most often support logistics, distribution, personnel, and operations. One specialized mission that the New York Guard maintains is a network of shortwave radio stations around the state which can be used for emergency communications. The New York Guard also maintains the Mobile Emergency Response Center (MERC), a satellite communications system.

The New York Guard is organized into three commands. The 10th Area Command has spaces in armories in Buffalo, Rochester and Syracuse. The 56th Area Command drills in Peekskill and Stewart Air National Guard Base in Newburgh. The 88th Area Command has elements at armories in Whitestone, Manhattan, Staten Island, and Garden City.

During 2023, New York Guard personnel took part in 14 state active duty missions and exercises.



*New York Guard 1st Sgt. Joseph Ronda receives the unit colors of the 88th Area Command from Capt. David Tsin during his change of responsibility ceremony in Old Bethpage, N.Y., Sept. 16, 2023. The unit bid farewell to Command Sgt. Maj. Steven Vera as its senior noncommissioned officer during the ceremony.*



*Members of the New York Guard's 88th Area Command march in the Queens County St. Patrick's Day Parade in Rockaway Beach on March 4, 2023. The 88th Area Command traces its lineage to the 88th Regiment New York Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War which was part of the famous Irish Brigade.*

New York Guard personnel were part of the New York National Guard's Asylum Seeker Resource Support mission which began in September of 2022 and is enduring. A total of 162 New York Guard members have supported the mission since its inception and have supported reception operations, logistics support, and administrative functions. As of Dec. 31, 2023, 131 New York Guard members were on that detail.

New York Guard members also participated in the New York National Guard mission to assist Western New York with a severe winter weather event, Orange County wildfires, flood operations in Eastern New York, and the Watertown water main response.

The New York Guard's week-long annual training took place at Camp Smith Training Site from August 13 to 19. During the week, volunteers took part in the New York Guard's initial entry training program, and primary and advanced leadership courses. A



*New York Guard recruits complete their Initial Entry Training March 31, 2023 at the Camp Smith Training Site. Twenty one students graduated the four day training, with Private Scott Gandasegui as the distinguished graduate.*

basic New York Guard officer course was conducted, as direct commissioning training. Communications training

with the MERC and the short-wave network was also conducted.



## Civilian Workforce

The Division of Military and Naval Affairs state and federal civilian workforce of 1,747 people plays a key role in supporting the operations of the New York Army and Air National Guard.

At the end of 2023 DMNA's civilian workforce consisted of 1,332 federal employees, 395 New York state employees, and 20 federally-hired civilian contractors.

Of the 1,332 federal civilians, 695 supported the New York Air National Guard, while 637 supported New York Army National Guard operations.

Federal employees are classified as Title 5 technicians or Title 32 dual-status technicians.

Title 5 technicians are U.S. government employees who are strictly civilians. Many of them are also members of the New York Army or Air National Guard but they are not required to be in the Guard.

Title 32 dual-status technicians are required to be members of the New York Army or Air National Guard. This is where the term "dual status" comes from.

As a condition of their employment, these federal employees must also serve in the New York National Guard. They are paid as civilian employees, but wear their uniforms and work in similar positions—as a mechanic, personnel specialist, medical technician, or pilot—that they perform in during unit drills or training events.

At the end of 2023, 925 dual status technicians worked for the New York National Guard. There were 483 dual-status technicians supporting the New York Air National Guard and 442 assigned to the New York Army National Guard.

The New York National Guard was supported by 407 Title 5 civilian employees. There were 212 of these employees supporting the New York Air National Guard, while 195 supported the New York Army National Guard.

The 20 federal contractors worked for the New York National Guard

Family Programs Office in positions requiring specialized knowledge.

The 371 state employees fill a variety of functions for the DMNA. They play a key role in maintaining the armories and other facilities, work in administrative positions, and manage the expenditure of state monies.

State employees worked in the following positions during 2023:

- State Headquarters employees, 95
- Air National Guard maintenance, 44
- Air National Guard firefighters, 58
- Air National Guard security personnel, 25
- Air National Guard administrative support, 19
- New York Army National Guard armory maintenance personnel, 119
- New York State military museum, 6
- Environmental support, 5



*Major General Denise Donnell, assistant adjutant general, Air, presents the award for outstanding Air National Guard civilian employee to Amber Murray during the National Guard Birthday celebration at the New York National Guard headquarters in Latham, N.Y., December 13, 2023. Murray, whose husband Air National Guard Staff Sgt. Shawn Murray is at right, was picked as the top Air Guard Civilian in the nation.*



*Jovanny Tepos, a station chief with the Hancock Field Air National Guard Base Fire Department, operates a portable radio during a training exercise at Hancock Field Air National Guard Base in Syracuse, NY, Aug. 22, 2023. The fire department, which consists of a mix of uniformed and civilian firefighters, is responsible for providing emergency services to Hancock Field and the co-located Hancock International Airport.*

# State Partnership Program

The New York National Guard maintains State Partnership Program (SPP) training and exchange relationships with the South African National Defense Force and the Brazilian Armed Forces.

The New York National Guard also participates in a bi-lateral exchange program with Israel's Home Front Command and recently initiated a statement of intent with Denmark's Joint Arctic Command.

The State Partnership Program is a Department of Defense Security Cooperation program, which is managed and administered by the National Guard Bureau, executed by the regional U.S. combatant commands, and sourced by the National Guards of the States and territories.

The State Partnership Program originated in 1993 after the collapse of the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact. State National Guards were paired with post-Soviet militaries to assist those leaders learning how the military of a democracy functions.

The program was very successful and began expanding outside of the former Soviet block militaries in the 2000s. Today these partnerships

build capacity and capability within a partner nation's security forces while cultivating personal and professional relationships with United States National Guard leaders.

The New York National Guard's two state partnership programs involve two separate combatant commands.

When conducting security cooperation activities with the South African military, the New York National Guard coordinates with U.S. Africa Command. When working with the Brazilian military, New York leaders coordinate with U.S. Southern Command.

A staff of eight officers and non-commissioned officers manage the program under the direction of the Director, Joint Staff, Army Brig. Gen. Isabel Smith.

Army Maj. Melanie Padilla is the SPP director working within the Joint Operations Directorate. She is also responsible for the bilateral relationship with Israel and Denmark, and other foreign military interactions.

Air Force Maj. Teo Espinal serves as the Brazilian Bilateral Affairs Officer working on Brazilian events at the United States Embassy in Brasilia.



*New York National Guard 1st Sgt Amanda Eldred, assigned to the 466th Area Support Medical Company, reviews a medical bag with Brazilian Army soldiers during a planning conference for Operation Parana held in Foz do Iguazu, Brazil, May 3, 2023. The company sent 15 Soldiers to participate in the humanitarian response exercise from August 12 to 18, 2023.*

Army Capt. Philip Piombino serves as the South African Bilateral Affairs Officer working on South African SPP events at the United States Embassy in Pretoria.

During 2023, the New York National Guard conducted 47 interactions with South African and Brazilian leaders and military members. These ranged from individual Soldier and Airmen training to general officers meeting with their counterparts to major exercises.

## Brazil State Partnership Program

The New York National Guard and the Brazilian Armed Forces entered into a State Partnership Program agreement in 2019. The program developed rapidly, and in April 2023 the relationship with Brazil was named one of two partnerships of the year for 2022 by the National Guard Bureau. Currently there are 100 state partnership program relationships.

The winners were selected based on key leader and subject matter engagements, joint training events, and the capacity to include other government agencies.

The major Brazilian-New York National Guard engagement has been the New York Air National Guard's participation in Brazil's annual Ex-



*Israeli Major Chanan Alexander, assigned to the Israel Home Front Command, provides direction to members of the New York Army National Guard's 827th Engineer Company as they lift a chunk of concrete to extract a simulated casualty, a mannequin, trapped beneath during combined training at the New York State Preparedness Center in Oriskany, N.Y., July 18, 2023.*

ercise Tapio. The August exercise, which takes place at Brazilian Air Base, Campo Grande, focuses on combat search and rescue.

The New York Air Guard deployed 100 Airmen from the 106th Rescue Wing, the 105th Airlift Wing, the 107th Attack Wing, and the 247th Air Operations Support Squadron for the exercise, which ran August 16 to 27.

The bulk of the Airmen —80 personnel— were from the 106th Rescue Wing which deployed two HH-60G Pave Hawk search and rescue helicopters, and one HC-130J Combat King II search and rescue plane.

Most of the Airmen and helicopters were flown to Brazil on two C-17 Globemaster III airlifters flown by 14 members of the 105th Airlift Wing.

Six Airmen from the 107th Attack Wing, which operates the MQ-9 Reaper, participated because of their knowledge of remotely piloted aircraft. The Airmen from the 247th Air Operations Support Squadron, specializing in directing air-to-ground attacks, worked with Brazilian counterparts.

Pararescue Airmen and security forces members from the 106th Rescue Wing also conducted joint training with their Brazilian counterparts.

Gen. Daniel R. Hokanson, the chief of the National Guard Bureau, visited the exercise and spoke with the Brazilian and American participants.



*New York National Guard Sgt. 1st Class Andrew Guckian and South African Army Maj. Labuschagne, review his score at the pistol range at the South African National Defence Force Military Skills Competition in Potchefstroom, South Africa, September 12, 2023. The New York National Guard sent 15 Soldiers and Airmen to compete in the 2023 competition which began on Sept. 9, 2023, and ran through Sept. 16, 2023.*

In November, New York Army National Guard Soldiers took part in another major Brazilian exercise dubbed Southern Vanguard 24 in Macapa, in the Amazon delta.

Forty-four Soldiers from five units participated in the training, which is sponsored by U.S. Southern Command and rotates between nations annually.

Taking part in the training were Soldiers from:

- the 53rd Digital Liaison Detach-

ment, based at the Park Avenue Armory in Manhattan

- the 1st Battalion, 258th Field Artillery, with headquarters at Camp Smith Training Site near Peekskill
- the 133rd Composite Supply Company, based at Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn
- the 466th Medical Company (Area Support) from Queensbury; and
- the 138th Public Affairs Detachment from Camp Smith Training Site

The New York Air National Guard's 105th Airlift Wing flew the Soldiers to and from Brazil on a C-17 Globemaster III transport.

The New York Guardsmen trained alongside Soldiers from U.S. Army South, the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), the 7th Special Forces Group, and the 1st Security Forces Assistance Brigade, as well as over 1,000 Brazilian army personnel assigned to Brazil's 52nd Battalion, 23rd Infantry Brigade.

The New York Soldiers worked with their Brazilian counterparts during the training, which kicked off on November 1 and ran until November 16.

From October 1 to 6, Brazilian Navy Capital de Corveta Gustavo Lemos visited New York City to learn about the New York Naval Militia



*New York National Guard Sgt. Brian Pasquale, a combat medic assigned to the 466th Area Support Medical Company, and Brazilian Army 1st Lt. Jemy Chen, exchange emergency medicine techniques during Operation Paraná III in the State of Parana, Brazil, August 15, 2023. The New York National Guard supported Operation Parana, a joint-simulated humanitarian aid response from August 12-19, 2023, with more than 14 participating countries from the United States and Latin America.*



*New York National Guard Spc. Josh Gonzalez competes in the water obstacle course at the South African National Defence Force Military Skills Competition in Potchefstroom, South Africa, September 12, 2023. The New York National Guard sent 15 Soldiers and Airmen to compete in the 2023 competition which began on Sept. 9, 2023, and ran through Sept. 16, 2023.*

and explore the possibility of Brazil's Navy entering a partnership with the 3,400-member force.

He observed the Naval Militia's Empire Challenge exercise and the routine security missions the Naval Militia conducts in New York Harbor as part of Joint Task Force Empire Shield.

During 2023, the New York Air Guard's 222nd Command and Control Squadron, which specializes with the command and control of United States satellites and works for

the National Reconnaissance Office, conducted four training events with the Brazilian military.

From May 14-19, a delegation from the 222nd visited Brazil's Alcântara Space Center along with representatives from Air Force South and the Space Force's 45th Space Launch Delta to discuss range safety procedures with their counterparts in the Brazilian military.

In July, the 222nd and researchers from the Air Force's Rome Labs,

attended a science and technology workshop in São Jose de Campos, Brazil.

From Dec. 4-8, the squadron hosted four Brazilian officers during a training workshop held at Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. The Brazilian Navy and Air Force officers discussed recruiting, training and retaining space operations personnel with representatives from U.S. Space Command and U.S. Southern Command.

The 274th Air Support Operations Squadron, which specializes in controlling ground attacks by manned and unmanned aircraft, conducted training with six Brazilian's assigned to the Brazil's Para-Search and Rescue squadron at Fort Drum, from March 28 to 30.

The Brazilians worked with the New York National Guard Airmen to direct strikes conducted by A-10 Thunderbolt II fighter bombers and B-52 Stratofortress bombers at Fort Drum's air-to-ground range.

### South Africa State Partnership

The New York National Guard's partnership with the South African National Defense was launched in 2003 and was one of two African continent partnerships launched that year. There are now 18 partnerships between state National Guards and African militaries.

In 2023, the New York National Guard sent 15 Soldiers and Airmen to participate in South Africa's annual South African National Defense Force Military Skills Competition. Teams from African and European nations competed as well.

The event tested competitors' skills in rifle and pistol marksmanship, land and water obstacle courses, grenade throwing, and an 8-kilometer combat run in the rugged landscape.

The team includes six Army Guard Soldiers and nine Air Guard members. The competitors came from the 107th Attack Wing in Niagara Falls, 109th Airlift Wing in Scotia, the Army Guard's 42nd Infantry Division headquarters in Troy, and the 53rd Troop command in Peekskill.

The numbers included a five-woman team of Army and Air Guard members



*New York Army National Guard medical personnel assigned to the 466th Area Support Medical Company work alongside Brazilian Army peers during Operation Paraná III in various training areas in the State of Parana, Brazil, August 16, 2023.*



*Danish Maj. Gen. Søren Andersen, commander of Denmark's Joint Arctic Command, listens as New York Air National Guard Col. Christian Sander, right, demonstrates the skis of one of the 109th Airlift Wing's LC-130 Hercules "Skibird" aircraft at Stratton Air National Guard Base in Scotia, New York on Nov. 7, 2023.*

competing against other women's teams.

The New Yorkers took second place in a team event and several Soldiers and Airmen won individual prizes.

### Israeli Home Front Command

The New York National Guard and the Israeli Defense Force's Home Front Command began conducting exchanges in 2006. In 2019 a formal bilateral security cooperation agreement was signed.

Like the National Guard, Home Front Command is responsible for disaster response and civil defense.

In July, 15 Soldiers assigned to the New York Army National Guard's 827th Engineer Company trained in locating and rescuing people trapped in destroyed buildings with four members of the Home Front Command.

The company is assigned as the search and extraction element of the FEMA Region II Homeland Response Force, staffed by the New York and New Jersey National Guards.

From July 17 to 19, the Israeli experts showed the New York engineers the best ways to move chunks of destroyed buildings without harming survivors. The training took place at the New York State Preparedness Training Center in Oriskany, where there are specially designed "rubble piles" for this type of exercise.



*Senior Academic Officer Raanan Ben-Sinai of the Israeli Home Front Command supervises American personnel assigned to the 827th Engineer Company in the simulated rubble extraction of casualties during training at the New York State Preparedness Training Center in Oriskany, July 18, 2023.*

### Denmark's Joint Arctic Command

Major General Ray Shields, the adjutant general of New York, and Danish Maj. Gen. Søren Andersen, commander of the Denmark's Joint Arctic Command, signed a statement of intent to conduct joint exchanges and joint training during a Nov. 7, 2023, meeting at the Division of Military and Naval Affairs headquarters.

Initial discussions involve staging a combined training exercise in 2025 focused on disaster response.

Headquartered in Nuuk, Greenland, Joint Arctic Command is the Danish force responsible for military operations in Greenland and the Faroes Islands, part of the Kingdom of Denmark.

The New York National Guard's 109th Airlift Wing operates in Green-

land each summer, transporting equipment and personnel to science stations located on Greenland's massive ice cap from a base at Greenland's airport in Kangerlussuaq.

106th Rescue Wing Airman also conducted training with Joint Arctic Command in September 2023 during Denmark's Exercise Arctic Light.

The wing deployed an aircrew and an HC-130J Combat King II search and rescue aircraft as part of the two-week exercise. The 106th Rescue Wing Airmen provided the aircraft used by Danish Special Forces personnel conducting high altitude parachute jumps.

The New York Airmen also conducted airdrops of boats, all-terrain vehicles, and rescue supplies to Danish forces on the ground.

# Military History Museum

The New York State Division of Military and Naval Affairs operates the New York State Military Museum and Veterans Research Center at 61 Spring Avenue in Saratoga Springs.

The museum preserves and tells the story of New Yorkers in our nation's wars. It is not just a New York National Guard museum, although there is a significant amount of New York National Guard material in the collections.

The museum is housed in a historic armory designed by state architect Isacc G. Perry and built between 1889 and 1891 to house the 22nd Separate Company of the New York National Guard.

The museum's holdings include:

- 17,267 photographs
- 16,702 books and articles
- 4,451 military records
- 853 military oral history transcripts
- 1.07 million military unit rosters and 29,284 artifacts

The artifacts include 700 weapons and 2,305 military flags, and a variety of uniforms, military gear, artwork, and personal objects.

During 2023, the museum added 300 objects from 45 donors to the collection. These included a Civil War era knapsack marked with the emblems of the 69th Infantry Regiment of the New York State Militia; a World War I helmet painted with the emblem of the 27th Division; and a pennant for Squadron A of the New York National Guard cavalry used during Mexican border service in Texas in 1916.

Museum displays focus on the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, World Wars I and II, Korea, Vietnam, and the Cold War. There is a unique exhibit on the New York militia and National Guard in the 19th Century.

Plans are underway to create a section on the Global War on Terror campaigns in Iraq and Afghanistan where significant numbers of New York National Guard Soldiers and Airmen served.

The museum complex also includes a maintenance garage which now serves as long term storage. The building has two large and small meeting rooms, an arms room, and a document storage area. It is also home to a New York Army National Guard recruiting detachment.

The museum building was closed to the public from January to July 2023 while a \$2 million roofing project was completed. A special reopening event was held in October, featuring the 42nd Infantry Division Band, which drew 600 people.

During 2023, a total of 4,971 people visited the museum.

The museum staff of six is also responsible for providing historical displays in New York's 32 armories and inventorying historical items in them

or outside. These 5,000 items range from trophies to cannons to tanks.

During 2023, the staff developed displays for the Connecticut Street Armory in Buffalo about the 152nd Engineer Battalion, which was once stationed there, and for the 105th Airlift Wing at Stewart Air National Guard Base in Newburgh to mark the wing's 75th anniversary.

The museum also maintains flag and military history displays in the New York State Capitol. During 2023, 12 flags which had been on display were replaced by conserved flags which had not been previously displayed.

Thanks to a private donation, the national flag and the regimental flag of the 111th New York Volunteer Infantry Regiment, used during the Civil War, were conserved.



*A steel combat helmet from World War I, known as a Brodie helmet, worn by Pfc. Bert L. Foote from Johnson City, N.Y., added to the museum collection in 2023. Foote served in Company H, 107th Regiment, 27th Division. The 107th was formed from New York's 7th Regiment at the Park Avenue Armory in New York City.*

The museum holds one of the largest collections of battle flags in the world, including 15 Confederate flags captured by New York troops during the Civil War. Over 600 of these historic flags have been conserved in partnership with the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.

The museum has a significant digital collection and online presence.

The museum holds 907,626 digitized records, photographs, books and articles, many of which are available through the museum's website.

These include:

- 86,779 Photographs
- 811,702 records
- 2,646 books and articles
- 2,158 digitized video and audio veterans' oral histories
- 234 pieces of sheet music

During 2023, the museum added 3,129 digital photographs, and 1,158 digitized books and articles to its electronics collections.

During 2023, the museum's website —<https://museum.dmna.ny.gov/>— recorded 1.5 million page views by visitors. The museum's YouTube collection of veterans video and recorded histories was visited 976,794 times and the YouTube page had 14,412 subscribers.

The museum's website also provides access to various rosters and lists of over 1 million New York military personnel online. Some of these are simply lists of names, others include more information such as the enlistment cards for members of the 369th Infantry in the 1920s, which include addresses and data on jobs.

The website includes the names of New York service members who were killed in World Wars I and II as well as the New York National Guard Soldiers who were mobilized by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt in the fall of 1940, as the U.S. prepared for war.

During 2023, museum library staff responded to 357 requests for information by authors and researchers.

The collection traces its history back to 1863 when the State Legislature



*A 69th Infantry Regiment knapsack, circa 1855, from a 2023 collection addition to the New York State Military History Museum. Known as a "box knapsack," given its wood frame construction and leather surface, it was a popular style of military knapsack in pre-Civil War New York regiments.*

charged the New York National Guard with preserving the history of New Yorkers in the "War of the Rebellion," the official name for the Civil War. The Bureau of Military Statistics was created to collect items and newspaper clippings about New Yorkers and the fight against the Confederacy. The bureau's staff began clipping newspapers and as Civil War regiments demobilized, their flags and documents were deposited with the bureau.

The bureau issued regular reports for a few years and helped

assemble the history of the New York regiments in the Civil War.

Artifacts were originally displayed in the state capitol where many of the state's 950 Civil War battle flags are still stored, rolled up in display cases.

In 2001, the historic armory in Saratoga Springs was designated as the permanent home of the collection. Items in the collection range from the key to Confederate president Jefferson Davis's liquor cabinet — taken by a New York cavalry Soldier in 1865 — to an M-4 Sherman tank parked outside the museum.



*A 1916 Squadron A pennant, made of wool, from the museum collection in 2023. The pennant commemorates the unit's service in Texas during Mexican Border crisis.*

# Family Programs

The New York National Guard supports the families of Soldiers and Airmen through its Family Programs Office.

National Guard families face many of the same stresses that the families of Active Duty service members deal with: overseas deployments and training separations. They also cope with the unique strains of part-time military life, missed weekends and last-minute state active duty missions.

While Active Army families can count on a variety of support structures at a division-sized Army installation, the 11,000-member New York Army National Guard is dispersed across 44 different locations around New York.

To cope, New York Army National Guard commanders develop Family Readiness Groups, staffed by volunteers to assist families. The commanders and the volunteers are assisted by professional Military and Family Readiness Specialists located across the state. The professionals help the volunteers build partnerships with agencies in their community which can help families in need.

These agencies can range from the Veterans Administration to the Red

Cross or local volunteer groups, or even businesses like Home Depot, which helps build wheelchair ramps for military families in need.

The New York Air National Guard relies on an Air Family Readiness Program Manager assigned to each of the organizations five wings.

At the end of 2023, 48 people staffed Family Programs: three Soldiers, 25 federal civilians and 20 federally funded contractors.

There were 17 Military and Family Readiness Specialists working with the Army National Guard units in New York in 10 regions across the state. There were four Air National Guard professionals on duty, with a vacancy at the 105th Airlift Wing.

These personnel supported 186 volunteers working with both Army and Air Guard Soldiers and Airmen and their families.

The remaining professionals worked to support the seven program areas coordinated through family programs.

These are:

- The Resilience, Risk Reduction,

and Suicide Prevention (R3SP) Program which provides training and resources to assist Soldiers and family members in developing skills needed to deal with stress. The program also includes a substance abuse component that includes annual mandatory training and referral services for Soldiers who need assistance

- The Army Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program provides deploying and returning soldiers and their families with a robust support network of information and services available from county, state, federal, and private outreach organizations upon their return home. The goal is to help families cope with the stresses that can come with the return of a Soldier after being away from home for a year

In 2023, the Family Programs Office conducted 13 virtual Yellow Ribbon events and one in-person event, for 2,728 Soldiers and their families. The virtual programs allow participants to attend via Zoom call from their homes without traveling. The in-person event, conducted after the return of the 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry from the Horn of Africa, allowed Soldiers and fami-



A New York National Guard Soldier enjoys the 27th Finance Management Support Unit annual winter family day on January 22, 2023, in Brooklyn, N.Y.



New York Army National Guard Spc. Briana Perez, assigned to the 642nd Aviation Support Battalion, poses with family members at her farewell ceremony held January 22, 2023 at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Ronkonkoma, N.Y. The Soldiers deployed to Kuwait in support of Operation Spartan Shield, the U.S. Army presence in the Middle East.





*Soldiers and families celebrate the mobilization of the 101st Expeditionary Signal Battalion during a unit deployment ceremony at Stewart Air National Guard Base in Newburgh, N.Y., August 8, 2023. The battalion deployed to Kuwait and locations across the Middle East in support of Army forces over the fall.*

lies to meet in person with program providers

- New York National Guard Child and Youth Program exists to provide military children and youth with valuable opportunities for networking and skill development. Building on its philosophy of providing social, emotional, and academic support to military children and youth, the program works to increase awareness of the challenges facing military children and youth and the resources available for these individuals

In 2023, Family Programs conducted 15 virtual day camp programs which were attended by 1,160 young people. Five programs for young people whose parents were deploying were also held in conjunction with the Yellow Ribbon events

- Transition Assistance Advisors (TAAs) built a state network of support with Veterans Affairs and community organizations for service members, Veterans, and their families to access in their community. TAAs provide information and assistance to service members and their families to help

them understand and access state and federal benefits and services through the Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Health Administration, Veterans Business Administration, Military Health System, and the Department of Labor

- Personal Financial Counselors help Soldiers and Airmen and their families manage finances, resolve financial problems, and reach short-, intermediate-, and longer-term goals, such as getting an education, buying a home, and planning for retirement



*Airmen and family members of the New York Air National Guard's 106th Rescue Wing take part in Family Day activities at F.S. Gabreski Air National Guard Base on September 9, 2023.*

- The Family Benefits program provides information to Guard families on how they can access facilities used by active duty military families. This can range how to access the Tri-Care military medical insurance to renting a recreational vehicle from the Morale Welfare and Recreational office at a military facility and using military exchange system and commissary
- The Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System, commonly known as DEERS. Guard family members verify their status through the program which provides them with a Department of Defense identification card. Current status in DEERS is required to access military benefits

The Family Programs office also works with the Department of Defense's Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) program to help Army and Air Guard members and their employers deal with conflicts arising from part-time military service. The ESGR program seeks to educate employers on the rights and responsibilities which federal law requires of part-time military members.

# Chaplaincy



*New York Army National Guard State Chaplain (Col.) Douglas Brock delivers a benediction following the commissioning ceremony for Officer Candidate School Class 68 graduates at the Museum of American Armor, Old Bethpage, N.Y., August 13, 2023.*

New York Army and Air National Guard chaplains provide religious, spiritual, and emotional support to the men and women of the New York National Guard.

Chaplains assigned to Army National Guard battalions, brigades, and division, and Air National Guard air wings, are there to share military life with Soldiers and Airmen.

Chaplain (Col.) Douglas Brock is the state chaplain for the New York National Guard.



*New York Army National Guard Cpt. Joseph Marcoux, a chaplain assigned to the 138th Chaplain Detachment, baptizes Gianna Demestrio inside Chaplain Duffy Chapel on Camp Smith Training Site, New York, Sept. 10, 2023. Gianna, the daughter of two New York Army National Guard Soldiers, is the first known person to be baptized on post.*

Chaplains are responsible for tending to the spiritual and moral well-being of Soldiers and Airmen and their families. They perform religious rites, conduct worship services, provide confidential counseling, and advise commanders on the religious and spiritual needs and morale of their troops.

There are chaplains in both services representing Protestant, Catholic and Jewish faiths.

The New York Army National Guard chaplain's corps consists of 14 chaplains and 23 religious affairs specialists. Army National Guard chaplains serve at the battalion, brigade and higher levels.

The New York Air National Guard has 19 chaplains and 18 religious affairs airmen assigned to its wings.

The religious affairs Soldiers and Airmen are enlisted personnel who assist the chaplain in his or her duties, provide clerical support, serve as the chaplains security in combat, and are also trained to assist in the counseling function.

The Army Chaplains Corps was founded in 1775 when the Continental Congress authorized a chaplain for each regiment in the newly formed Continental Army.

One of the most famous Army chaplains, Father (Lt. Col.) Francis Duffy, was a New York Army National

Guardsmen who served with the 69th Infantry Regiment. He is memorialized with a statue in New York City's Times Square. Air National Guard chaplains are members of the Air Force Chaplains Corps, which was formed in 1949.

During 2023, six Army unit ministry teams, consisting of a chaplain and a religious affairs specialist were mobilized and deployed in support of 1,800 Soldiers who deployed to Europe, Africa, and Kuwait.

During 2023, the chaplains mobilized five Religious Support Teams consisting of 10 Army and New York Guard chaplains, as well as enlisted religious affairs specialist in support of the 2,100 personnel involved in the Asylum Seeker Resource Support mission.

These teams provided counseling, worship services, and religious rites for personnel working at Asylum Seeker Resource sites throughout New York City and Buffalo.

Chaplain (Maj.) Jeffery Bartz, the chaplain of the 107th Attack Wing, was recognized as the outstanding Air Guard chaplain for 2023, when he was awarded the Samuel Stone Award. The award is named after the first chaplain known to have served in one of America's colonial militias.

In September, Chaplain (Capt.) Joseph Marcoux, a member of the 138th



*New York Army National Spc. Ayla Gorokin, left, and Brig. Gen. Isabel Smith and Maj. Gen. Michel Natali, watch as Chaplain (Capt.) Gabriel Kogan lights a candle to honor those who died during a Holocaust Remembrance ceremony held April 18, 2023 at the New York National Guard headquarters in Latham, New York.*

Chaplain Detachment, baptized Gi-anna Demestrio, the daughter of New York National Guard Sgt. 1st Class Steven Demestrio and Spc. Tabitha Demestrio, at the Duffy Chapel at Camp Smith Training Site.

This was the first known baptism at Camp Smith's chapel. Demestrio formerly served as Marcoux religious affairs specialist and the couple said it felt right to have the National Guard be part of this important event.

During 2023, New York Army National Guard chaplains conducted the following:

- Counseling Sessions: 336
- Worship Services: 47 with 162 at tendees
- Religious classes: 108
- Moral leadership classes: 4
- Military funerals: 1
- Memorial Ceremonies: 7
- Invocation & Benedictions at official events: 62
- Hospital visits: 19
- Weddings: 3
- Religious Rites: 3
- Spiritual Readiness programs: 34  
Building Strong and Ready Teams: 3 Couple Events and 3 Individual Events.



*New York Army National Guard Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment, on duty in the Horn of Africa to provide security for U.S. installations, mark St. Patrick's Day with a special Catholic Mass at Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, March 17, 2023.*

The New York Air Guard chaplains conducted the following:

- Counseling Sessions: 100
- Worship Services: 48
- Strong Bonds marriage enhancement events: 2 Couple Events
- Religious Rites: 20
- Funerals: 4
- Invocations for official events: 125
- Hospital Visitation: 13



*New York Army National Guard Chaplain (Maj.) Tim Miller, offers a benediction during the opening of a new Veterans Center in Watertown, N.Y., June 21, 2023.*



*New York Army National Guard Chaplain (Capt.) Joel Levenson, provides a closing prayer at the 2023 St. Barbara's Ball that hosted by the 1st Battalion, 258th Field Artillery Regiment Dec. 2, 2023 at the Sanctuary Roosevelt Island in New York City. The St. Barbara's Ball is an artillery tradition honoring Soldiers in honor of St. Barbara, the patron saint of artillery.*



*New York Army National Guard Chaplain (Capt.) Alex Oommen, a chaplain with the 369th Sustainment Brigade, delivers a benediction during the 187th Signal Company change of responsibility ceremony at Farmingdale Armed Forces Reserve Center, Farmingdale, N.Y., Dec. 17, 2023.*

# Economic Impact 2023

January 17, 2024

2

**New York National  
Guard Economic Impact  
\$989 Million in 2023**



2

January 17, 2024

3

**New York National Guard 2023 Economic Impact  
With 1.55% Multiplier= \$1.533 billion**



\* Average Labor Income Multiplier for Government Sector, IMPLAN Pro, May 2007

3

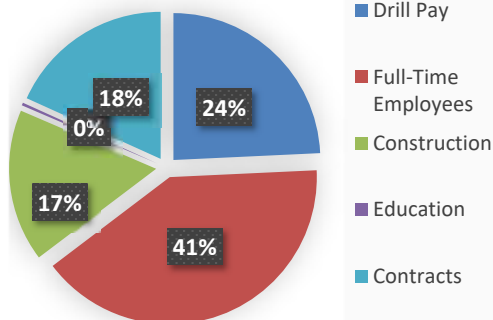
**New York National Guard Economic Impact  
Each State Dollar Spent  
Leverages \$4.80 in federal funding\***

\* Based on \$205.9 million in New York State Tax Dollar Spending on Salaries, Supplies, Facilities and Education



## New York National Guard Economic Impact

**\$240 Million in Traditional (Drill Pay) Guard Salaries  
\$400 Million in Salaries to Full-Time Employees  
\$166 Million in Construction Expenditures  
\$ 3 Million in Education Assistance/Tuition Payments  
\$180.5 Million for Local Service/Supply Contracts**

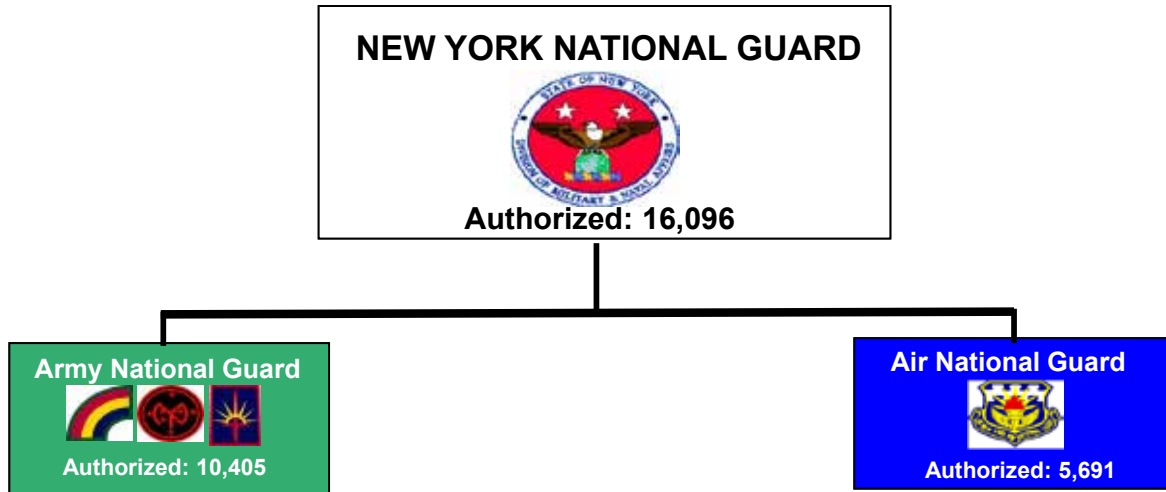


—Financial Data is rounded to nearest dollar.

\*Note: Agency data not audited



## New York National Guard Structure



## Buffalo / Niagara 2023

|                         |                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>TOTAL:</b>           | <b>\$86,897,733</b> |
| National Guard pay:     | \$22,523,774        |
| Full-time Employee pay: | \$30,427,232        |
| Construction:           | \$26,398,118        |
| Education funding:      | \$ 339,891          |
| Local Purchases:        | \$ 7,208,718        |

—Financial Data is rounded to nearest dollar.

\*Salaries Based on Individual Home of Record



# Economic Impact 2023

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## Rochester 2023

|                         |                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>TOTAL:</b>           | <b>\$29,196,509</b> |
| National Guard pay:     | \$11,359,248        |
| Full-time Employee pay: | \$14,133,021        |
| Construction:           | \$ 1,280,298        |
| Education funding:      | \$ 240,462          |
| Local Purchases:        | \$ 2,183,479        |

—Financial Data is rounded to nearest dollar.



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## Syracuse / Fort Drum 2023

|                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>TOTAL:</b>           | <b>\$131,677,313</b> |
| National Guard pay:     | \$29,655,121         |
| Full-time Employee pay: | \$81,637,938         |
| Construction:           | \$ 4,752,733         |
| Education funding:      | \$ 388,693           |
| Local Purchases:        | \$15,242,828         |

—Financial Data is rounded to nearest dollar.



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## Binghamton 2023

|                         |                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>TOTAL:</b>           | <b>\$11,221,527</b> |
| National Guard pay:     | \$ 4,568,891        |
| Full-time Employee pay: | \$ 4,782,574        |
| Construction:           | \$ 986,252          |
| Education funding:      | \$ 182,940          |
| Local Purchases:        | \$ 700,870          |

—Financial Data is rounded to nearest dollar.



## Capital District 2023

|                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>TOTAL:</b>           | <b>\$194,740,462</b> |
| National Guard pay:     | \$ 34,681,404        |
| Full-time Employee pay: | \$112,725,250        |
| Construction:           | \$ 27,087,215        |
| Education funding:      | \$ 760,907           |
| Local Purchases:        | \$ 19,485,686        |

—Financial Data is rounded to nearest dollar.





## Lower Hudson Valley 2023

|                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>TOTAL:</b>           | <b>\$124,153,790</b> |
| National Guard pay:     | \$28,000,448         |
| Full-time Employee pay: | \$60,160,641         |
| Construction:           | \$16,390,075         |
| Education funding:      | \$ 168,942           |
| Local Purchases:        | \$19,433,684         |

—Financial Data is rounded to nearest dollar.



## New York City 2023

|                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>TOTAL:</b>           | <b>\$125,082,750</b> |
| National Guard pay:     | \$48,006,181         |
| Full-time Employee pay: | \$13,466,025         |
| Construction:           | \$57,923,524         |
| Education funding:      | \$ 569,157           |
| Local Purchases:        | \$ 5,117,863         |

—Financial Data is rounded to nearest dollar.



# Economic Impact 2023

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## Long Island 2023

|                                |                      |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>TOTAL:</b>                  | <b>\$130,766,612</b> |
| <b>National Guard pay:</b>     | <b>\$32,152,467</b>  |
| <b>Full-time Employee pay:</b> | <b>\$55,977,329</b>  |
| <b>Construction:</b>           | <b>\$30,435,292</b>  |
| <b>Education funding:</b>      | <b>\$ 259,568</b>    |
| <b>Local Purchases:</b>        | <b>\$11,941,956</b>  |

—Financial Data is rounded to nearest dollar.



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## National Guard Wages By County 2023

| COUNTIES    | GUARDSMEN ASSIGNED ARMY & AIR BY HOME OF RECORD | GUARDSMEN TRAINING PAY FEDERAL BY HOME OF RECORD | FULL TIME EMPLOYEES FEDERAL & STATE BY HOME OF RECORD | FULL TIME EMPLOYEES PAY FEDERAL & STATE BY HOME OF RECORD | TOTAL NATIONAL GUARD PAY BY HOME OF RECORD |
|-------------|---|--|---|---|--|
| ALBANY      | 437   | \$6,569,982                                      | 231   | \$19,188,411  | \$25,758,392                               |
| ALLEGANY    | 51  | \$584,202  | 0   | \$0   | \$584,202                                  |
| BRONX       | 874   | \$9,972,000                                      | 44  | \$2,961,172   | \$12,933,173                               |
| BROOME      | 161   | \$1,821,905                                      | 36  | \$2,188,312   | \$4,010,217                                |
| CATTARAUGUS | 54  | \$577,377  | 13  | \$655,976   | \$1,233,353                                |
| CAYUGA      | 62  | \$992,744  | 25  | \$1,980,614   | \$2,973,358                                |
| CHAUTAUQUA  | 80  | \$837,996  | 11  | \$706,927   | \$1,544,923                                |
| CHEMUNG     | 46  | \$449,747  | 10  | \$534,640   | \$984,387                                  |
| CHENANGO    | 43  | \$623,563  | 8   | \$756,360   | \$1,379,923                                |
| CLINTON     | 26  | \$285,076  | 2   | \$105,962   | \$391,038                                  |
| COLUMBIA    | 46  | \$559,666  | 15  | \$1,395,737   | \$1,955,402                                |
| CORTLAND    | 42  | \$668,245  | 9   | \$772,817   | \$1,441,062                                |
| DELAWARE    | 19  | \$209,239  | 5   | \$497,349   | \$706,588                                  |
| DUTCHESS    | 241   | \$3,715,133                                      | 82  | \$8,483,039   | \$12,198,172                               |
| ERIE        | 734   | \$12,776,049                                     | 193   | \$16,453,742  | \$29,229,791                               |
| ESSEX       | 16  | \$286,083  | 3   | \$265,594   | \$551,677                                  |
| FRANKLIN    | 18  | \$180,191  | 3   | \$166,578   | \$346,769                                  |
| FULTON      | 50  | \$1,116,038                                      | 58  | \$5,194,783   | \$6,310,821                                |
| GENESEE     | 65  | \$1,018,649                                      | 13  | \$1,067,123   | \$2,085,772                                |
| GREENE      | 36  | \$547,288  | 10  | \$1,030,636   | \$1,577,924                                |
| HAMILTON    | 5   | \$103,770  | 0   | \$0   | \$103,770                                  |
| HERKIMER    | 46  | \$776,335  | 28  | \$2,141,624   | \$2,917,958                                |
| JEFFERSON   | 181   | \$2,254,476                                      | 74  | \$5,591,375   | \$7,845,851                                |



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—Financial Data is rounded to nearest dollar.

# Economic Impact 2023

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## National Guard Wages By County 2023

| COUNTIES   | GUARDSMEN ASSIGNED ARMY & AIR BY HOME OF RECORD | GUARDSMEN TRAINING PAY FEDERAL BY HOME OF RECORD | FULL TIME EMPLOYEES FEDERAL & STATE BY HOME OF RECORD | FULL TIME EMPLOYEES PAY FEDERAL & STATE BY HOME OF RECORD | TOTAL NATIONAL GUARD PAY BY HOME OF RECORD |
|------------|---|--|---|---|--|
| KINGS      | 1,215   | \$14,241,736                                     | 55  | \$3,682,066   | \$17,923,802                               |
| LEWIS      | 20  | \$273,855  | 7   | \$522,023   | \$795,878                                  |
| LIVINGSTON | 68  | \$720,349  | 19  | \$1,254,032   | \$1,974,381                                |
| MADISON    | 73  | \$1,742,308                                      | 53  | \$6,501,560   | \$8,243,868                                |
| MONROE     | 469   | \$5,819,634                                      | 102   | \$7,236,712   | \$13,056,345                               |
| MONTGOMERY | 68  | \$1,331,695                                      | 55  | \$5,020,614   | \$6,352,309                                |
| NASSAU     | 663   | \$8,878,567                                      | 53  | \$3,983,957   | \$12,862,524                               |
| NEW YORK   | 372   | \$4,228,087                                      | 22  | \$1,578,566   | \$5,806,653                                |
| NIAGARA    | 218   | \$7,406,359                                      | 112   | \$12,219,416  | \$19,625,776                               |
| ONEIDA     | 226   | \$3,602,483                                      | 221   | \$23,880,048  | \$27,482,530                               |
| ONONDAGA   | 611   | \$17,756,799                                     | 385   | \$41,168,621  | \$58,925,420                               |
| ONTARIO    | 71  | \$924,106  | 17  | \$1,272,107   | \$2,196,213                                |
| ORANGE     | 576   | \$11,600,554                                     | 276   | \$29,677,289  | \$41,277,843                               |
| ORLEANS    | 33  | \$320,858  | 13  | \$1,340,403   | \$1,661,261                                |
| OSWEGO     | 161   | \$4,175,463                                      | 68  | \$7,354,685   | \$11,530,147                               |
| OTSEGO     | 35  | \$421,163  | 5   | \$518,267   | \$939,430                                  |
| PUTNAM     | 97  | \$1,502,099                                      | 14  | \$1,401,874   | \$2,903,973                                |
| QUEENS     | 1,463   | \$17,541,227                                     | 58  | \$4,035,555   | \$21,576,782                               |
| RENSSELAER | 245   | \$3,924,103                                      | 137   | \$11,682,293  | \$15,606,397                               |
| RICHMOND   | 181   | \$2,023,131                                      | 16  | \$1,208,665   | \$3,231,796                                |



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## National Guard Wages By County 2023

| COUNTIES     | GUARDSMEN ASSIGNED ARMY & AIR BY HOME OF RECORD | GUARDSMEN TRAINING PAY FEDERAL BY HOME OF RECORD | FULL TIME EMPLOYEES FEDERAL & STATE BY HOME OF RECORD | FULL TIME EMPLOYEES PAY FEDERAL & STATE BY HOME OF RECORD | TOTAL NATIONAL GUARD PAY BY HOME OF RECORD |
|--------------|---|--|---|---|--|
| ROCKLAND     | 118   | \$1,327,826                                      | 23  | \$2,259,928   | \$3,587,754                                |
| SARATOGA     | 473   | \$9,692,466                                      | 368   | \$36,209,336  | \$45,901,802                               |
| SCHENECTADY  | 314   | \$5,748,788                                      | 240   | \$22,801,247  | \$28,550,035                               |
| SCHOHARIE    | 43  | \$592,925  | 16  | \$1,419,698   | \$2,012,622                                |
| SCHUYLER     | 15  | \$152,908  | 2   | \$169,260   | \$322,168                                  |
| SENECA       | 26  | \$308,277  | 5   | \$308,950   | \$617,227                                  |
| ST. LAWRENCE | 46  | \$599,302  | 11  | \$1,140,572   | \$1,739,874                                |
| STEBEN       | 88  | \$884,794  | 12  | \$437,720   | \$1,322,514                                |
| SUFFOLK      | 1,084   | \$23,273,900                                     | 456   | \$51,993,373  | \$75,267,272                               |
| SULLIVAN     | 56  | \$852,095  | 25  | \$2,660,516   | \$3,512,610                                |
| TIOGA        | 43  | \$416,314  | 6   | \$371,152   | \$787,466                                  |
| TOMPKINS     | 44  | \$589,119  | 1   | \$159,292   | \$748,411                                  |
| ULSTER       | 131   | \$2,561,620                                      | 103   | \$11,816,196  | \$14,377,816                               |
| WARREN       | 80  | \$1,594,035                                      | 34  | \$2,888,166   | \$4,482,201                                |
| WASHINGTON   | 66  | \$742,562  | 24  | \$2,198,955   | \$2,941,517                                |
| WAYNE        | 73  | \$1,070,245                                      | 11  | \$1,046,716   | \$2,116,961                                |
| WESTCHESTER  | 499   | \$6,441,121                                      | 41  | \$3,861,799   | \$10,302,921                               |
| WYOMING      | 34  | \$341,791  | 6   | \$391,172   | \$732,962                                  |
| YATES        | 14  | \$139,428  | 0   | \$0   | \$139,428                                  |
| Other        | 1,351   | \$27,768,882                                     | 153   | \$20,027,811  | \$47,796,693                               |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>14,796</b>                                   | <b>\$240,458,724</b>                             | <b>4,098</b>  | <b>\$399,839,380</b>                                      | <b>\$640,298,104</b>                       |



17  
 —Financial Data is rounded to nearest dollar.

