

# 100 DAYS

“MAKING IT HAPPEN”

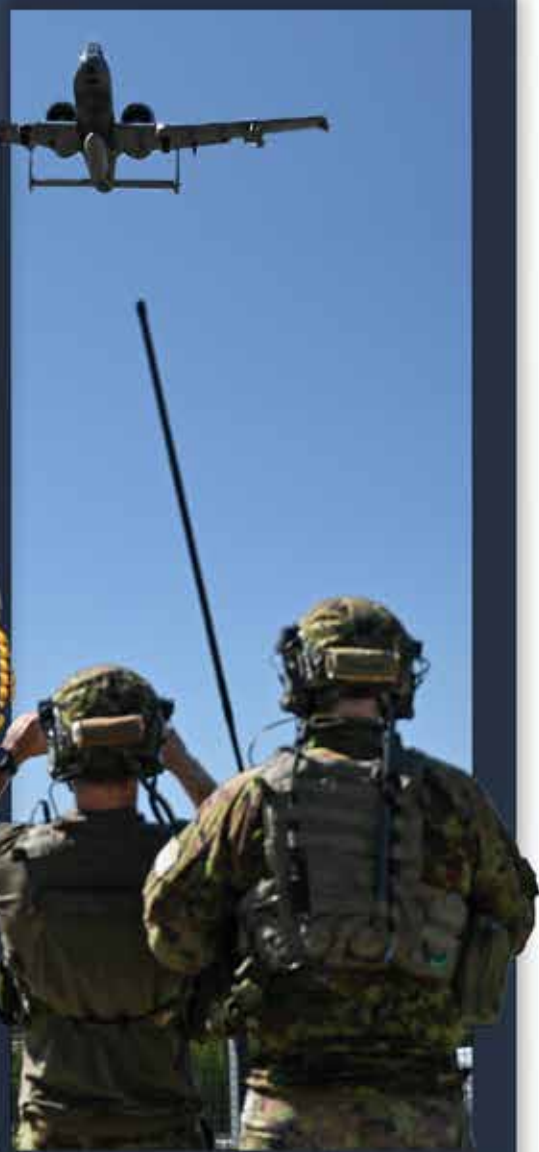


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## LETTER FROM THE ADJUTANT GENERAL



**MAJOR GENERAL**  
**JANEEN L. BIRCKHEAD**  
*THE ADJUTANT GENERAL*

Gov. Moore,

I am very pleased to submit this report covering the Maryland Military Department's accomplishments over the first 100 days of your administration. Without a doubt, the women and men of the Maryland National Guard and the Maryland Defense Force, along with the Department's civilian workforce, have embraced your goal of making this Maryland's decade.

Maryland's flag is on full display as our members stand side-by-side with their active-duty brethren in defense of democracy. In May, the Maryland Air National Guard sent 118 members and six A-10 aircraft to participate in Exercise Air Defender 2023, a multinational exercise in Europe involving air forces from 24 nations that was especially significant given Russia's continuing aggression towards its neighbors and its hostility towards NATO. Our support for democracy in Europe is nothing new; this year, we also marked the 20th and 30th anniversaries, respectively, of our partnerships with Bosnia-Herzegovina and Estonia. After visiting both countries and hosting visits by their senior leaders here, I am happy to report that our partnerships with these two countries have never been stronger.

At home, we remain a ready, resilient force upon which you can rely. Maryland Army National Guard helicopters assisting with aerial firefighting operations successfully suppressed a 700-acre, eight-alarm brush fire in Baltimore County at the Soldiers Delight Natural Environment Area. We also continue to contribute to our community in other ways, such as the Maryland National Guard Freestate ChalleNGe Academy, which conducted its 60th class completion ceremony in June. This year is the 30th anniversary of the program.

Your efforts on our behalf, including the Healthcare for Heroes Act you signed into law at Warfield Air National Guard Base in May, have been instrumental in enabling us to continue providing the world-class service you and the people of Maryland expect and deserve. I especially want to thank you for your ongoing support of our efforts to revitalize the runway at Martin State Airport. These crucial renovations are key to the continued viability of our Air National Guard and will pay dividends to the state for decades to come.

It has been our honor and privilege to serve you and the State of Maryland during these past 100 days, and we look forward to continuing to do so over the months and years to come.

Respectfully,

Janeen L. Birckhead  
Major General, MDARNG  
The Adjutant General

# PRIORITIES

Our success depends on developing disciplined Soldiers, Airmen, and Civilian Support from diverse backgrounds who are committed to serve. Our conduct on and off duty will be of the highest caliber – this is combat readiness!

## DIVERSITY:

An organization that seeks diversity of background, skill sets, and thought. The organization provides our Soldiers and employees the ability to expand their military and civilian careers by leveraging existing systems, training, and opportunities while seeking new partnerships and innovative approaches to improve the organization.

## DISCIPLINE:

An organization that provides well-organized and orderly administration for our Soldiers and employees. The Maryland Army National Guard upholds standards while maintaining dignity and respect. Personnel at all levels will continually evaluate our culture and performance to learn from the past and improve our future.

## DEDICATION:

An organization committed to providing the best for its Soldiers and employees and remaining a part of, and responsive to, the community which we serve. The organization embraces its heritage while encouraging innovative ways of thinking and accomplishing missions.





## PEOPLE

- Gov. Moore, Lt. Gov. Miller, Senate President Ferguson, and Speaker Jones held a bill signing event at the Warfield Maryland Air National Guard Base on May 12. Six bills were signed including the Healthcare for Heroes bill. Approximately 80 guests attended the event including local and state political leaders and Maryland National Guard (MDNG) leadership.
- Ms. Allyson Sue Hash, spouse of an MDNG member and state employee with the Military Department, was named 2023 Armed Forces Insurance Spouse of the Year.
- Maryland Air National Guard (MDANG) 175th Wing recruiters received the Air Force Recruiting Service's Chief Master Sgt. Brad W. Esposito Team Leadership Award for their accomplishments in the first quarter of FY23. The nine-person team recruited 45 Marylanders into the Air Guard.
- Staff Sgt. Chase Stewart and Spc. Adam Merton represented the Maryland Army National Guard (MDARNG) at the Army National Guard Regional Best Warrior Competition at Fort Barfoot, Virginia, from May 15 to 19.
- YouTuber and blogger Ryan McBeth produced several videos featuring the MDARNG's 115th Military Police Battalion during the unit's training at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania, from June 4 to 6.

**RECRUIT, RETAIN, AND SUSTAIN HEALTHY, RESILIENT, AND PROFESSIONAL SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN**



- MDANG A-10s performed a flyover for Preakness and Aberdeen Proving Ground's Future Forces Exploration Demonstration Day.
- MDANG A-10 aircraft participated in the Ocean City Air Show on June 10.
- The MDANG conducted A-10 fighter flyovers in support of Fourth of July parades held in Kingsville, Towson, and Arbutus with the 229th Army Band providing music on the ground.



# READINESS

- The MDARNG's 169th Cyber Protection Team and the MDNG's 175th Cyber Operation Group conducted joint defensive cyber operations with Exercise Cyber Blitz from March 2 to 5 to improve techniques and capabilities for defending critical cyber infrastructure.
- On May 18, the MDARNG's 58th Expeditionary Military Intelligence Brigade conducted Fulcrum Strike 23, a training exercise at the Laurel Readiness Center.
- The MDARNG's 231st Chemical Biological Radiological and Nuclear Company trained at the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, Louisiana, from May 18 to June 16 to assist the New Jersey Army National Guard as it prepares for deployment to Syria.
- MDARNG's 1229th Transportation Company participated in Operation Patriot Press, a multi-state convoy mission from Pennsylvania to Illinois in support of the Army Material Command.
- MDARNG's 1229th Transportation Company, 1st Battalion, 175th Infantry Regiment, the 115th Military Police Battalion, and the militaries of Estonia, Germany, and the United Kingdom participated in the Military Reserve Exchange Program, providing a reciprocal opportunity for allied partners to conduct training.



- The MDANG sent 118 members and six A-10 aircraft to support Exercise Air Defender 2023, a German-led, multinational exercise focusing on operational and tactical-level, live-flying exercises involving air forces from 24 nations and 220 aircraft.
- Ukrainian-born MDANG Chaplain (Capt.) Vladimir Steliac conducted expeditionary training at the U.S. 7th Army Training Command's Grafenwoehr Training Area in Germany in support of Ukrainian chaplains.



**RAPIDLY RESPOND TO FEDERAL AND STATE MISSION REQUIREMENTS**

# MODERNIZATION, GOVERNANCE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY



- The MDARNG's 70th Regional Training Institute hosted a regional engagement on July 25 at its facility on Edgewood Area, Aberdeen Proving Ground where National Guard leaders from neighboring states convened to collaborate and discuss initiatives to provide Army Soldiers with the most effective training and personal development available.
- The Maryland Military Department has reduced the number of state employee vacancies in the agency from 51 as of January 1 to 33 by May 3 in support of the governor's goal of rebuilding state government by reducing the executive branch vacancy rate by half by the end of 2023.



- Maj. Gen. Birckhead, Brig. Gen. Dougherty, and Col. Collins conducted national congressional delegation visits from July 12 to 14 to ensure MDNG equities are supported at the national level.
- Gen. Daniel Hokanson, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, conducted a meeting with Congressman Ruppersberger about National Guard issues specific to Maryland, including the Martin State Airport runway renovation project.
- Col. Hawkins, commander of MDARNG's 29th Combat Aviation Brigade, attended the Society for American Indian Government Employees 20th Annual National Training Program located in Tulsa, Oklahoma from June 20 to 22.
- Maryland Secretary of State Susan Lee, Maj. Gen. Birckhead, and Bosnia and Herzegovina's Minister of Defense (MoD) conducted an initial meeting on April 13 to advance Maryland's State Partnership Program.

**MAINTAIN RELEVANCE AND INTEROPERABILITY WITH INTERAGENCY PARTNERS AND ADVANCE CAPABILITIES TO ACHIEVE POWER OVER-MATCH AGAINST ANY THREAT**



# STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

- Secretary Lee, Brig. Gen Birkhead, and Bosnia and Herzegovina's Minister of Defense (MoD) conducted an initial meeting on April 13 to advance Maryland's State Partnership Program
- The MDNG Freestate ChalleNGe Academy conducted its 60th Class Completion Ceremony on June 29 where 54 Freestate ChalleNGe cadets were recognized for completing the resident program.
- The MDNG is conducted a learning event for 100 youth members of Boys State at the Camp Fretted Military Reservation on June 23 .
- Members from MDANG's 175th Wing conducted weekly visits to Rossville Elementary School to assist with the GLOW Club, a before-school activity to help children develop social and mental skills.
- CPT 169 is currently working with Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) through the Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) program to help improve AACPS network security posture.
- The 175th COG activated a team of Airmen for four days to conduct defensive cyber operations in support of the Maryland State Board of Elections.
- The MDARNG's 32nd Weapons of Mass Destruction-Civil Support Team responded to Naval Air Station Patuxent River on May 17 to a request from the base commander to identify an unknown substance as a possible biological or chemical hazard.
- Maryland's Helicopter Aquatic Rescue Team (HART), which includes firefighters from across the state and MDARNG Soldiers from the 29th Combat Aviation Brigade as they performed their annual open water rescue training to safely rescue



- Marylanders in the event of severe flooding.
- The MDNG Counterdrug Taskforce assistance led to the arrests of a drug trafficking group distributing fentanyl from the Shipley Hill neighborhood in Baltimore.
- The MDNG Counterdrug program supported the Maryland State Police with analytical support, leveraging multiple software programs to chart transient drug trafficking organization patterns to disrupt drug sales in Cecil County.
- An analyst with the MDNG Counterdrug program in Frederick County supported the seizure of 547 grams of illicit fentanyl, removing approximately 273,500 lethal doses from the community.
- Maj. Gen. Birkhead and Col. Collins conducted their inaugural trip to Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) from June 17 to the 23.



- The MDARNG's 169th CPT hosted a team-building cyber event for members of the Armed Forces of BiH at the Laurel Readiness Center from July 10 to the 14.
- For the second consecutive year, staff from the MDANG's 235th Civil Engineer Flight assisted the United States Air Forces in Europe with projects aimed at building Estonian air force offensive and defensive capabilities.
- MDNG members supported the annual Estonian Spring Storm exercise, a joint military exercise to foster collaboration between the Estonian Defense Forces and NATO allies.
- Members of the MDNG's 32nd WMD-CST attended a Post Disaster HazMat Management Workshop in BiH through the State Partnership Program.
- Maj. Gen. Birkhead hosted a meet and greet at the Fifth Regiment Armory on June 6 with soldiers of the United Kingdom's Princess of Wales & Royal Regiment.

**STRENGTHEN INFLUENCE, CREDIBILITY, AND TRUST ACROSS FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL AGENCIES**



**ALWAYS READY** **ALWAYS THERE**





**5TH REGIMENT ARMORY**  
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