



THE

*Maryland*

Summer 2012



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OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE MARYLAND MILITARY DEPARTMENT



Maryland is known as the “Old Line State.” The name refers to the small group of Maryland Patriots that fought in the Battle of Long Island, Aug. 27, 1776. Those brave Soldiers became known as “The Maryland 400.”

The American Revolutionary War could have come to an end at that battle had it not been for the Maryland 400 who sacrificed themselves to allow the Colonial Army to get away.

*The Maryland Line* is a publication for the service members, Families and friends of the Maryland Military Department, as well as community members across the state of Maryland.

The editorial content of *The Maryland Line* is the responsibility of the Maryland National Guard Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs Officer.

**Submissions:**

The Maryland National Guard Public Affairs Office fully supports submissions for *The Maryland Line*.

Please send articles and high-resolution photos to:  
[PAOMD@md.ngb.army.mil](mailto:PAOMD@md.ngb.army.mil).

The articles should be in Microsoft Word format and include the author’s name. Spell out all acronyms, abbreviations and full unit designations on the first reference; include caption information for photos - who is in the photo, what is happening, the location, when the photo was taken; and provide the name of the photographer.



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***Baltimore enjoyed the “Star-Spangled Sailabration,” during the weeklong bicentennial commemoration of the War of 1812. Dozens of tall ships and naval warships from around the world were open to the public for tours. The harbor was also the site of air shows by the Navy’s Blue Angels over the weekend. The Maryland Military Department worked with various federal, state and local agencies as part of the three year celebration that will end in 2014. (Photo by Sgt. Breeanna Dubuke)***







**MARYLAND**  
Military Department

To All the Members of the Maryland Military Department:

Our state and nation have asked much of the Maryland National Guard over the last eleven years, and you should be proud of your service at home and abroad. Our challenge over the next several years will be to maintain our individual and unit readiness as we transition to an era of reduced deployments and reduced funding. At the same time, we must sustain the level of care for our Soldiers, Airmen, civilian employees and their Families.

In recent years, the military has seen an alarming increase in the rate of suicides. We in the Maryland National Guard and the Military Department have also lost friends and colleagues to suicide. Most of our suicides are not related to the experiences of combat. Everyone faces challenges in their life, and while these challenges may seem insurmountable at times, know that there is always help available from your Guard Family. Look out for one another, and help a friend when they need it.

Everyone must understand the risks to our force and the available services and programs. The Maryland National Guard offers resiliency classes to help members recover from adversity. Our Family programs offer in-depth assistance through a wide variety of groups and events and our renowned Partners in Care initiative provides support to MDNG members and their Families to help our Soldiers and Airmen through life's problems.

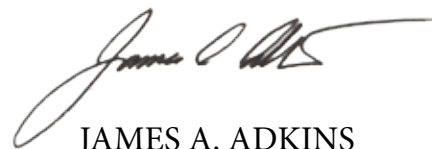
Seeking help is not a sign of weakness; it is a sign of strength showing that you have the resolve to overcome the issue. You do not have to go through problems alone. Your Military Department Family is here to help in every possible way.

If you think your colleague may be considering suicide, follow the "ACE" process. ASK them directly if they are considering hurting themselves. If the answer is yes, or you are unconvinced, CARE for your friend by getting them help immediately. Finally, ESCORT them to an authority who can help - a counselor, chaplain or other trusted person. You may help save someone's life.

Remember, we are all members of a team, and we can work together to overcome adversity.



Sincerely,



JAMES A. ADKINS  
Major General  
MDARNG  
The Adjutant General

# Maryland Air Guard officer promoted to brigadier general

Photo by Staff Sgt. Benjamin Hughes

Story by Ret. Lt. Col. Mike Milord

A member of the Maryland Air National Guard became a general officer July 20, during a ceremony held at Warfield Air National Guard Base in Middle River, Md.

Col. Paul C. Maas Jr., of Catonsville, Md., was promoted to the rank of brigadier general and appointed as the chief of staff of the Maryland Air National Guard.

"I began serving with Paul 33 years ago - life was a lot simpler then," said Brig. Gen. Allyson Solomon, Maryland National Guard assistant adjutant general-Air. "Paul is the right leader who will help navigate the Maryland Air Guard in the years to come. You can depend on him - his Family knows that well. Those who know him in the Air National Guard know he will give you honest feedback. We are depending on him to develop our strategic outlook in the near and distant future."

Joined by Solomon, Maas' wife, Donna; daughter, Taylor; and father, retired Senior Master Sgt. Paul Maas Sr.; exchanged Maas' colonel's eagles for single silver stars.

"I'm honored. ... I'm still excited and still enjoy serving in the Air Guard," said Maas.

Maas added of his success, that a strong foundation at home can be the building blocks of any military career.

"Without Family support, there is no Air National Guard career. Donna and Taylor have always supported my Air National Guard career," said Maas. Maas was born in Baltimore, and enlisted into the Maryland Air National Guard in 1978, serving as a computer operator. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in February 1986 through the Air National Guard Academy of Military Science at McGhee Tyson Air National Guard Base in Knoxville, Tenn. and was assigned as a social actions officer in the 135th Tactical Airlift Group. He went on to serve



**Brig. Gen. Paul Maas, Jr., Maryland Air National Guard chief of staff, recites the Commissioning Oath given by Brig. Gen. Scott Kelly, 175th Wing commander, during a promotion ceremony at Warfield Air National Guard Base in Baltimore, Md., July 20.**

as an executive support officer for the 135th Support Group, and as commander of the 175th Communications Squadron.

In 1999, he transferred to the Maryland Air National Guard Joint Force Headquarters, serving as lead officer to establish the 175th Information Operations Squadron, supporting the National Security

Agency at Fort Meade, Md. In 2004, Maas was appointed as the deputy commander of the 175th Mission Support Group. Then in 2008, he became the commander of the 175th Mission Support Group.

In his civilian career, Maas held several positions in sales and management in the information technology field, most recently as director of federal sales for Dell, Inc.

"Managing a dual career, civilian and military - it's like climbing a steep mountain," said Maas. "The professional enlisted teams I've had the privilege to serve with have been outstanding."

Maas earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Maryland and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Baltimore.

Among his many awards, Maas has received the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Air Force Achievement Medal, the Maryland Commendation Medal and the Maryland National Guard State Active Duty Service Medal with one device.

"With the challenges ahead in the Department of Defense budget, the Air National Guard has a unique role to play. I look forward to being a part of it," said Maas.



# Md. Operation: **Military Kids** brings



*Story and photos by 2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly*

The Maryland Operation: Military Kids hosted its annual summer get-away camp for children with military parents at the Western Maryland 4-H Education Center in Swanton, Md., July 22-28.

Nearly 140 children, ages 8-13, with active duty, National Guard and Reserve component parents from all military services participated in the week-long summer camp. The children came from states throughout the region, to include Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and Pennsylvania, to get a chance to meet other children who understand what it's like to be a military

***The camp provided time for plenty of outdoor activities to allow the children to work and play together.***



***Campers practice performing a 'round house kick' during their martial arts class.***



***The campers learned how to paddle a canoe as a team as part of the activities during the week-long summer camp.***



# children of service members together

child.

“We want these kids to get a chance to be around other military kids and see that they aren’t alone,” said Jayne Fitzgerald, Md. OMK project director.

Fitzgerald added that most of the children attending the camp have experienced a parent deployment overseas while serving in the military. In some cases, there are children of wounded warriors and others who have lost a parent in the military, but most are able to relate their experiences to one another and learn different ways of coping during a deployment.

Kinsley Wilde, Maryland National Guard Child and Youth Program coordinator for Western Maryland, explained that once the children realize how much they have in common, they quickly bond with their peers. Connections are made based on what service their parents are attached to and friendships are created that can last past the week.

During the camp, the children participate in swim lessons and

sessions, canoeing, martial arts training, archery, outdoor cooking lessons, movie nights, capture the flag, as well as other teamwork and confidence building activities. They also attend classes that relate directly to being a military child, such as mental health classes, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder education sessions, and resiliency lessons.

The Maryland National Guard has participated in the summer camp since the beginning of the Md. OMK in 2005.

Fitzgerald explained that each year the camp has grown in numbers, with 120 children last year, and this year there were so many children signed up that some had to be wait-listed. The OMK coordinates the camp and reaches out to partner organizations, such as the Maryland National Guard Child and Youth Program, to inform military Families and coordinate the registration. The camp is 100 percent funded by the OMK with no cost to the Family, with donations accepted, and



registration is first come, first served.

“We are very lucky to have such a great partnership with Operation: Military Kid,” said Wilde.

The Maryland National Guard Child and Youth Program also hosts their own annual camp for children of Maryland Air and Army National Guard members called Homefront Challenge. It is traditionally held at the end of June at the 4-H Camp at the Rocks in Street, Md. Registration is coordinated through the Child and Youth Program in the spring.

***Campers practice a punch during their martial arts class.***





# Guardsmen, Royal Marines Recall

Story and photos by  
Capt. Wayde Minami

Overshadowed by the larger, more dramatic confrontations at Washington, Fort McHenry and New Orleans, the Battle of Caulk's Field, near the Eastern Shore municipality of Chestertown, was little remembered – until today.

As part of the ongoing state commemoration of the War of 1812, Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins, the adjutant general of Maryland, and British Lt. Col. Colby Corrin, Royal Marine liaison officer to the U.S. Marine Corps

Combat Development Command, laid wreaths at the site of the engagement Aug. 31, in memory of the British and American blood spilled there.

During the ceremony, both Adkins and Corrin attested to the closeness of American-British relations, with Adkins referring to the United Kingdom as "America's closest ally" while Corrin, two of whose children

are American, likened the conflict to a family spat. Corrin, himself a veteran of the war in Afghanistan, noted that Americans and Britons have fought more wars together as allies than they ever did as enemies.

landed the force with intention of surprising the militia in camp and capturing them before they could march to reinforce the defenses at Baltimore.

Fortunately for the Marylanders, pickets had warned them of the Parker's approach, and Lt. Col. Philip Reed, commander of the 21st Regiment, was able to position his troops to meet the advancing force. Although his 174-man regiment outnumbered the British, they were critically short on ammunition.

Firing across a moon-lit cornfield, the men of the 21st Regiment soon exhausted their ammunition and were forced to withdraw, but not before inflicting some 25 casualties on the British – including Parker, who was mortally wounded and died within minutes. The militia had suffered only three wounded during the 30-minute engagement. The British, battered and bloody, broke off the



**Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins, the adjutant general of Maryland, and British Lt. Col. Colby Corrin, Royal Marine liaison officer to the U.S. Marine Corps Combat Development Command, render a salute at the Caulk's Field Monument near Chestertown, Md., during a ceremony to honor casualties at the War of 1812 battle site, Aug. 31.**

The atmosphere was markedly different from when British Marines and the Maryland militia last met in Caulk's Field, 198 years ago.

In the early morning hours of Aug. 31, 1814, a force of 124 British sailors and Marines led by Capt. Sir Peter Parker, an English baronet, clashed with militiamen of Maryland's 21st Regiment in the rolling Kent County farmland. Parker had



# 1812 War Dead at Caulk's Field

attack and fell back to their ships. Local newspapers would soon crow over the lopsided outcome.

But as Adkins and Corrin placed their wreaths at the Caulk's Field Monument, there was no hint of the rancor that had once marked American-British relations. Instead, both officers emphasized the shared values of loyalty and commitment to duty.

"The militia fought to defend their homes," Adkins noted. "The British sailors and Marines did their duty for king and country. Both fulfilled their obligations bravely and honorably."

***Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins, the adjutant general of Maryland, and British Lt. Col. Colby Corrin, Royal Marine liaison officer to the U.S. Marine Corps Combat Development Command, stand at attention during a ceremony to honor casualties at the War of 1812 battle site, Aug. 31.***



***Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins, the adjutant general of Maryland, and British Lt. Col. Colby Corrin, Royal Marine liaison officer to the U.S. Marine Corps Combat Development Command, bow their heads at the Caulk's Field Monument near Chestertown, Md., as Chaplain (Col.) Sean Lee reads the benediction during a ceremony to honor casualties at the War of 1812 battle site, Aug. 31.***

***Wreaths flank the Caulk's Field Monument near Chestertown, Md., following a ceremony to honor casualties at the War of 1812 battle site, Aug. 31.***





# MD-HART CONDUCTS OPERATION: REAL DEAL

Story and photos by  
Lt. Col. Charles Kohler

More than 50 members from the Maryland Helicopter Aquatic Rescue Team conducted an all hazard helicopter and swift water rescue operation on Wednesday, Aug. 1, at several locations in Baltimore County.

The exercise was called "Operation Real Deal" designed to test the aviation/rescue assets of the Maryland National Guard, Baltimore County Police Department, and Baltimore County Fire Department personnel that make up the MD-HART. The members had to respond to various types of rescue scenarios as well as multiple victims throughout the Baltimore County area. The base of operations for the training was the Essex Skypark. The additional areas were the head waters of Back River as well as Mt. Vista Regional Park and the Gunpowder River.

The MD-HART multi-mission capability includes: vehicle rescue in swiftwater and flood zones; structure rescue through window, door and balcony insertion; rescue from rooftop and tree; mountain and wilderness extrications; and swiftwater and mass rescue capability. These capabilities are all delivered through hoist and short-haul capable helicopters.

They are also trained to deliver hazard risk assessments and resource allocation while having trained eyes on the disaster site. In 2010, the MD-HART Team was awarded the highly acclaimed "Higgins and Langley International Swiftwater/Flood Rescue Award" for program and team development. The MD-HART program has also been observed and used as a model for the development of helicopter rescue response programs in other states.







*Opposite page: (Top) Participants in Operation: Real Deal receive a briefing before the beginning of the exercise. (Center) A member of the rescue team walks toward a Maryland Army National Guard UH-60 Blackhawk. (Bottom) Passengers prepare for a rescue mission. This page: (Left) A member of the rescue team is lowered from a UH-60 Blackhawk into the water to help a victim. (Top) A Maryland National Guard UH-60 Blackhawk takes off for a mission. (Bottom) A member of the rescue team secures a victim and is raised back to the safety of a UH-60 Blackhawk.*

# 2012 Grand Prix of Baltimore: Win

Story and photos by Spc. Margaret Taylor

**L**ike a swarm of angry hornets, the buzz started in the distance, droning from somewhere just out of sight. A green flag fluttered along the empty raceway under a road-spanning Sunoco banner. Crowds pressed close to doubled chain-link fences, necks craning for a first glimpse, as music thumped and announcers hollered from the Fan Village next to Oriole Park. A few raindrops speckled the asphalt from brooding clouds overhead as the angry buzz grew louder and louder still.

Then, with a sudden deafening ferocity, the first wedge-shaped racecar whipped around the far corner, screaming toward, by and past the spectators – in and out of sight in mere seconds – followed closely by two dozen others in thunderous competition.

Twenty-five teams met on the streets of Baltimore Sept. 2, for the IZOD IndyCar Race, the final event of the 2012 Grand Prix of Baltimore.

The Grand Prix opened Aug. 31, and fans were able to watch their favorite teams in the IZOD IndyCar, American Le Mans, USF2000, Star Mazda and Firestone Indy Lights series test the track, with competitions Saturday and Sunday.

Many of the cars sported the decals and colors of well-known corporate racing sponsors like Verizon, Dr. Pepper, Target, and DHL. One car, with its digital camouflage paint and neon orange trim, stood out from the rest: No. 4, the National Guard IndyCar.

Partnered with Panther Racing since 2008, the National Guard is the only branch of the U.S. Armed Forces currently represented on the domestic Grand Prix circuit. This partnership is one of several National Guard Bureau campaigns to make the American public more aware of the Guard.

Other venues have included American Motorcyclist Association motorcycle racing, NASCAR, and the World Wrestling Entertainment, Inc., which allow Guard representatives to interact in communities all across the country, said Amanda Perez, a project manager with Docupak, one of the National Guard Bureau's marketing associates.

The No. 4 car racing around the track Sunday afternoon, with its proud Guard logo on display, was not the only tribute to service members during the Grand Prix weekend.

***The National Guard car, No. 4, driven by J. R. Hildebrand, takes a corner on lap 19 of 75 during the IZOD IndyCar Series race, which concluded the 2012 Grand Prix of Baltimore, Sept. 2.***

Aug. 30, fans had the opportunity to meet the National Guard driver, J. R. Hildebrand, at a special signing session in Bel Air, Md., for service and community members. Sgt. Stanley Fortiz, 291st Army Liaison Team assistant operations noncommissioned officer, attended the event and was publicly recognized Sunday as a hometown hero.

Throughout the weekend, fans met with their favorite teams and saw various cars up close. One of the highlights of the Grand Prix was Sunday morning, when about 40 current and former service members and sponsor affiliates rode in a two-seater IndyCar.

The lucky few – fire-suited, helmeted and jittery – took turns riding in four cars provided by IZOD, Hewlett-Packard, and the National Guard. Each car went a full lap around the twisty 2.4-mile track at speeds topping 120 miles per hour.

“Don’t need coffee in the morning after that,” said a breathless Veronica Hall, whose husband works for Emergent Biosolutions, one of Panther Racing’s sponsors for the 2012 Grand Prix.

“It was great,” agreed Coast Guard Capt. Kevin Kiefer, Baltimore sector commander, who also took a spin in one of the IndyCars.

At a luncheon later that day, Panther Racing welcomed its many friends and partners, extending a particular greeting to the service members at the gathering, several of whom were in uniform.

“It’s an honor and privilege to have you here today,” said John Barnes, CEO of Panther, who spoke shortly after driver J. R. Hildebrand.

Other speakers at the gathering included Col. Rodney Lewis, Senior Fellow of Joining Forces, and Kevin Schmiegel, executive director of the nationwide initiative, Hiring Our Heroes. Both Barnes and Schmiegel





# for National Guardsmen and women



**Veronica Hall and Evert-Jan Moller of Emergent Biosolutions, Mike Wernicke of the U.S. Coast Guard and Coast Guard Capt. Kevin Kiefer beam after finishing their IndyCar ride-alongs at the 2012 Grand Prix of Baltimore, Sept. 2.**

emphasized the importance of uniting the National Guard's many unemployed Citizen Soldiers and Airmen with the civilian workforce, and expounded Hiring Our Heroes aims for getting 500,000 veterans hired by 2014.

"This is not a charity," Schmiegel said. "This is an opportunity for America."

The gathering reached a high point when Barnes presented Sgt. Fortiz with a Hometown Hero plaque, recognizing the Soldier's two combat tours in Iraq and his ongoing distinguished service in the Maryland Army National Guard.

Shortly before the IndyCar race began, Fortiz was acknowledged again in a public ceremony broadcast on national television. Also recognized was Col. Gregory Gadson, Fort Belvoir, Va. garrison commander, The distinguished wounded warrior, who has served the U.S. in every major conflict in the last 20 years, greeted each driver before he or she took to the track.

Then the IndyCar Series race began.

Though No. 4 climbed through the ranks to the third spot by the middle of the 75-lap, 180-mile race, car damage and a few other misfortunes ultimately kept the team off the podium. Nevertheless, the 2012 Grand Prix of Baltimore was a win for National Guard Soldiers and Airmen, as well as anyone who has ever served.



**Sgt. Stanley Fortiz, 291st Army Liaison Team assistant operations noncommissioned officer, receives a hometown hero award from John Barnes, the CEO of Panther Racing during the 2012 Grand Prix of Baltimore, Sept. 2.**



## Sailabration, Baltimore: War of 1812 Bicentennial

*Story by Spc. Margaret Taylor*

For more than 30 years following the American Revolution, the nations of western Europe treated the U.S. like an annoying younger sibling.

Though Great Britain and much of the continent were embroiled in the prolonged Napoleonic Wars, some (like Great Britain) still found time to harass the upstart across the Atlantic. British ships continually interfered with American trade vessels, and diplomatic cries for a cease and desist were ignored.

This changed in the War of 1812 (1812-1814), fought between Great Brit-

ain and the United States throughout and along North America's east coast and on the Great Lakes. Though the geographical and political shape of the U.S. remained unchanged when the war ended in late 1814, the new country had achieved two lasting and profound victories.

The infant American Navy – made up primarily of privateers – had outdone time and again the best in the world: the British Royal Navy.

And, for the first time ever, Americans began to draw together in a spirit of national pride. This was epitomized in a poem penned

during the Battle of Baltimore in 1814, which would later become the nation's anthem.

To celebrate this pivotal war, thousands of visitors flocked to Baltimore June 13-19 for the Star-Spangled Sailabration, an international maritime and air festival that kicked off the first of a 3-year commemorative series.

During the daytime, various air and watercraft exhibitions were featured, which included flyovers by the U.S. Navy's Blue Angels and a mock-fire exercise conducted aboard Navy special warfare combat craft vessels.



**(Left) Dozens of tall ships and naval warships from around the world were open to the public for tours during the Sailabration weekend, June 13-19. (Photo by Sgt. Breeanna Dubuke). (Below left) Sgt. 1st Class Tina Sievers, Maryland Army National Guard's recruiter, helps a boy into a climbing harness, June 16. (Photo by Spc. Margaret Taylor)**



**(Above center) The harbor was also the site of air shows by the Navy's Blue Angels over the weekend. (Photo by Sgt. Breeanna Dubuke) (Above right) The Brazilian flag aboard the Cisne Brauco and the 1812 American flag flap merrily in the breeze in Baltimore's Inner Harbor. (Photo by Spc. Margaret Taylor)**

The evenings were filled with concerts, tributes to *The Star-Spangled Banner*, and tremendous fireworks displays.

Though the events primarily celebrated the prowess and glory of the Navy, each American military service branch was represented.

"This is an opportunity to get out in the community," said Sgt. 1st Class Tina Sievers, a recruiter with the Maryland Army National Guard's Recruiting and Retention Battalion. She helped to operate the Guard's climbing tower, an activity oriented toward chil-

dren.

"It's an honor to do it," she said.

Behind the scenes, the Maryland Defense Force echoed the role it played 200 years ago. Then, as now, the all-volunteer force provided professional support and manpower to the state militia (now the National Guard) to complete the mission successfully.

In 1814, that union won the Battle of Baltimore; in 2012, it ensured the security of visitors touring the assembled military watercraft.

Marching and musical displays by various ship crews, sand sculpting, deep-

ly deep-fried food, and an inter-crew volleyball tournament were some of the many highlights of the week.

The Sailabration, besides marking the bicentennial of the War of 1812, was also a benchmark for how the country has changed and progressed in maturity since then.

The gathering of so many nationalities and militaries shows such a wonderful spirit of international community, said Billy Gezlyn, a Maryland resident who attended the event with his wife and daughter.

"And that's the beauty of it," he added.

# Estonian Air Force pilots deploy

Story and photos by  
2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly

Pilots with the Estonian Air Force, who have been assigned to the Maryland National Guard for the past year, deployed from Weide Army Airfield in Edgewood, Md., Aug. 24.

Once overseas, Capt. Rene Kallis and Capt. Martin Noorsalu will be attached to C Co., 1st Battalion, 169th Aviation Regiment which deployed to Afghanistan earlier this year.

“[Our deployment] is a big step for the Estonian Air Force,” said Kallis.

He added, that the deployment is the first of its kind and that hopefully it will pave the way for more Estonian service members to deploy in the future.

The Estonian pilots learned to fly UH-60 ‘Blackhawk’ helicopters with the Maryland National Guard after completing the qualification course at Fort Rucker, Ala. Kallis explained that the Blackhawk is much different than the aircraft they are used to flying in Estonia, which is much smaller, but they have been conducting plenty of flying hours to get familiar with the new aircraft.

“We’re glad that you’ve made it to this point in your training,” said Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins, the adjutant general of Maryland. “We can’t wait to have you back.”

When the Estonian pilots return from their deployment, they will continue



***(Above) Capt. Rene Kallis and Capt. Martin Noorsalu review their flight plan before leaving on their deployment. (Opposite page) Capt. Rene Kallis and Capt. Martin Noorsalu, along with Family and Maryland National Guard members, walk out to the UH-60 Blackhawk that the Estonian Air Force pilots left in. (Below) Capt. Rene Kallis and Capt. Martin Noorsalu say goodbye to their wives and children during the deployment ceremony, Aug. 24.***





# with Maryland National Guard

*“We want you to feel like one of our Soldiers because you are our Soldiers. You’ve trained for a year with us, you’re going into combat with us, and when you get back, you will still be flying with us.”*

**-Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins  
Adjutant General of Maryland**

serving with the Maryland National Guard, rotating through various positions to include flying, maintenance and operations.

“It will be a tremendous experience and training for you both,” said Adkins. “We want you to feel like one of our Soldiers because you are our Soldiers. You’ve trained for a year with us, you’re going into combat with us, and when you get back, you will still be flying with us.”

The Estonian pilots are assigned to the Maryland

National Guard as part of the State Partnership Program. The National Guard's 65-nation, 20-year-old SPP provides unique partnership capacity-building capabilities to combatant commanders and U.S. ambassadors through partnerships between U.S. states, territories and the District of Columbia and foreign countries. The SPP was launched in Europe as part of the initial outreach by the United States to new democracies in Central and Eastern Europe and the for-

mer Soviet Union.

The Maryland Military Department has had a partnership with Estonia since 1993, and has another partnership with Bosnia-Herzegovina that has been in place since 2003.

C company is a medical evacuation aviation unit that is deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom with approximately 40 members and six of their UH-60 “Blackhawk” helicopters. The helicopters are based at Weide Army Airfield.



# Warrant officers needed to fill critical MOS fields

Story and photos by  
Lt. Col. Charles Kohler

More than 45 enlisted members of the Maryland Army National Guard and sister services had a chance to hear about new career opportunities as warrant officers in the intelligence field Aug. 4, at the Laurel Armory in Laurel, Md.

The intelligence field makes up 28 percent of warrant officer vacancies in the state, which prompted Chief Warrant Officer 5 Walter E. Rose, MDARNG command chief warrant officer, to host the first recruiting seminar targeting this career field.

“All of our senior Military Intelligence warrant officers have retired... there has never been a greater need for warrant officers than now,” said Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins, the adjutant general of Maryland, who provided the opening remarks. “The bottom line is that your skills are needed, and the positions we need to fill are critical. As a former Military Intelligence battalion commander, I know how

important the warrant officers were when we deployed to Kosovo.”

Warrant officers are highly specialized experts and trainers in their career fields. By gaining progressive levels of expertise and leadership, these leaders provide valuable guidance to commanders and organizations in their specialty. Warrant officers remain single-specialty officers with career tracks that progress within their field, unlike their commissioned officer counterparts who focus on increased levels of command and staff duty positions.

“You will be part of an elite group of Soldiers,” said Rose. “Warrant officers make up less than 3 percent of the MDARNG and only the most proficient are selected.”

In today’s MDARNG, the warrant officer corps has grown to more than 148 members working in 9 branches. These branches cover many specialties, including air traffic control technician, construction engineering technician, rotary wing

aviator, human intelligence collection technician and special forces.

Candidates who successfully complete the Warrant Officer Candidate School at Camp Fretterd Military Reservation will be conditionally appointed as warrant officers. The school starts in April and candidates attend class during drill weekends, culminating with a two-week annual training period in September where they receive their commission as an officer.

Anyone who is interested in joining the warrant officer corps should contact Chief Warrant Officer 3 James B. Halsey, warrant officer strength manager, at 410-504-4384. The next WOC class is forming now, and

the selection process begins with preparing your predetermination packet.

Soldiers must meet the following seven administrative requirements before applying:

1. Must be a U.S. citizen
2. General Technical (GT) score of 110 or higher
3. High school graduate or have a GED
4. Secret security clearance
5. Pass the standard 3-event Army Physical Fitness Test and meet height/weight standards
6. Pass the appointment physical for technicians or the Class 1 (warrant officer candidate) flight physical for Aviators
7. All Applicants must have at least 12 months remaining on their enlistment contract.

**Chief Warrant Officer 5 Walter E. Rose spoke to the more than 45 enlisted members about the opportunities available by becoming a warrant officer.**





# Legend visits Maryland Air National Guard

Photos by Tech. Sgt. Chris Schepers

Graphic provided by [http://www.bjmjr.net/tuskegee/making\\_airmen.htm](http://www.bjmjr.net/tuskegee/making_airmen.htm)



*(Top left) Tuskegee Airman Dr. Cyril O. Byron, Sr. looks at an A-10C of the 175th Wing of the Maryland Air National Guard Aug. 11, during his tour of Warfield Air National Guard Base. (Below) Byron listens to Master Sgt. John Lamar, 175th Maintenance Squadron, while getting a close up look at an A-10C's 30mm gun during his tour of the base. (Left) The hat worn Byron as he looks at an A-10C of the 175th Wing of the Maryland Air National Guard.*





# 32nd CST Conducts Operation: Deep Water

Photos and video by Sgt. Aimee Fujikawa

The 32nd Civil Support Team traveled to Western Maryland for training exercise 'Operation Deep Water,' Aug. 20-24.

They ran through Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear detection scenarios throughout the campus and met with Garrett County first responders at the Garrett College for the Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting.

The purpose of the meeting was to get familiarized with each department's capabilities and build relationships for future training.





***Opposite page: Spc. April-Mae Ridenour, 32nd CST Survey Team member, collects samples of unknown materials in the Garrett College Chemistry Lab during Operation: Deep Water. (Above) Members of the Maryland National Guard's 32nd CST pose for a photo with members of the Garrett County Local Emergency Planning Committee at Garrett College. Below: (Top left) Lt. Col. Kevin Warren, 32nd CST commander, and Deputy John Frank, Garrett County Sheriff's Office, discuss the report for day two of training. (Top right) Cpl. Jeffery Jones, 32nd CST, uses the TruDefender to identify an unknown chemical substance. The TruDefender is a technology that can identify chemical substances through transparent packaging. (Bottom left) Staff Sgt. Sharon Ramsey, decontamination noncommissioned officer, scans Spc. April-Mae Ridenour for radiological contamination after exiting a building during training at Garrett College. (Bottom right) Use this QR code to see video of Operation: Deep Water.***





# Transportation Co. receives,

Story and photos by  
2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly

In order to enhance the unit's readiness at home and abroad, the Maryland Army National Guard's 1229th Transportation Co. recently received new trucks and trailers to replace their outdated equipment.

Between April and June, the unit received 42 five-ton Medium Tactical Vehicles, 20 cargo trailers, five rebuilt HUMVEES, a contact maintenance truck, and a standard automotive tool set. The unit conducted a three-week annual training period in August to allow the

Soldiers to be able to familiarize themselves with the new vehicles.

"It's our job to move bulk material, supplies, and to support operations – whether it be state emergencies or tactical operations," said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Theodore Zink, 1229th automotive maintenance technician. "This new equipment provides the unit with a higher state of readiness and reliability to provide the support needed to complete the mission."

The unit used the three-week training period to make sure the Soldiers were familiar with the new equipment. The more experienced members who have previously

worked with the newer trucks provided a training course that was geared toward making sure the driver was able to handle the truck. The operator would be evaluated on their control of the vehicle, their ability to maneuver through obstacles, as well as being able to back up with a trailer attached.

Pvt. Jeremy Mumford, 1229th motor transport operator, explained that the unit was also able to conduct missions with the new vehicles during the training period, such as assisting the Military Police in moving into their newly renovated armory and completing several convoys to Havre de Grace, Camp Fretterd Military Reservation and Camp Baker

Military Reservation. He added that the best part of the new equipment was not having to worry about it breaking down as often as the trucks it replaced.

Zink explained that the older equipment was constantly in a state of disrepair. During drill weekends, training for the truck operators would become a second priority due to maintenance issues that would need to be performed.

"The newer vehicles, with their reliability, are a training enabler," said Zink. "The other equipment was high maintenance and unavailable for training. Now the operators can focus more on driving and completing their mission instead of performing maintenance on equipment that had





# trains on new equipment

low reliability.”

1st Sgt. Adam Erickson, 1229th first sergeant, explained that the unit went from having 60 percent of their equipment needing maintenance, to only having one of the trucks in need of repairs. He added that the old trucks were so far out of their life-cycle that even getting replacement parts was becoming difficult. However, with the new trucks, when someone needs assistance, the 1229th has the resources.

Erickson said that the new equipment allows the unit to be ready to help first responders in the case of a state emergency, such as hurricanes or snow storms. In the past, the 1229th

has been called on to assist firefighters and police officers to get them into places their vehicles were not capable of reaching.

“With these trucks, we can assist with evacuation, ford through high-water areas that would stop virtually any other vehicle, get people out of areas they shouldn’t be in, as well as get the first responders to the areas they need to be in,” said Erickson. “They can drive in snow, rain, whatever your need. The snow storms aren’t slowing down any of these trucks.”

While the new equipment is essential in supporting the state’s readiness, it is also being used to

prepare the Soldiers for their upcoming deployment, next year. The trucks are much closer to what the unit will be operating overseas, with the flat front and similar cab, explained Erickson. This way, the unit members will have a better understanding of what they will be operating overseas and they will know what the expectations are.

Receiving the new trucks also gave the unit the opportunity to store the equipment more effectively. Previously, the trucks were blocking each other, and multiple vehicles would have to

be moved to be able to get one out. The current layout allows all vehicles to be readily accessible and able to be driven without moving other trucks.

Overall, the new equipment has been positively received by the unit members. From decreasing maintenance issues, to increasing the readiness of the unit, the Soldiers are better able to complete their missions.

“These trucks are new, they’re clean, they work,” said Erickson. “They love it.”





# Maryland Defense Force supports Operation: Safekeeping



Story by 2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly

The Maryland Defense Force answered the call for help from the Maryland Emergency Management Agency to conduct health and welfare checks on residents in Baltimore, July 7, for those who were affected by the heat wave and power outages during the first week of July.

Approximately 40 members of the MDDF assisted the Baltimore Emergency Management Agency in providing necessary water, ice and Meals-Ready-to-Eat to at-risk citizens without power in their homes.

Brig. Gen. (MDDF) Brian Kelm, MDDF commander, praised the MDDF members for their contribution and for volunteering their time to helping those in need.

“They worked hard, and it went really well,” added Kelm.

MEMA was also grateful to the MDDF for their last minute support of the mission - Operation Safekeeping.

“Their support meant a lot to Baltimore City,” said Kenneth Mallette, MD Emergency Management executive director. “They stepped up and did a great job.”

The MDDF is an all-volunteer uniformed state military agency and one of the four components of the Maryland Military Department. The MDDF has the primary mission of providing competent and supplemental professional, technical, and military support to the Maryland Army National Guard, the Maryland Air National Guard, and the Maryland Emergency Management Agency. The MDDF operates under the command of Governor Martin O’Malley, as state commander-in-chief, and fall under the operational control of Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins, the adjutant general of Maryland. State Defense Forces receive no federal funds and are supported entirely by the state.

**Members of the Maryland Defense Force went door-to-door performing health and welfare checks on Baltimore City residents July 7, after the heat wave and power outages during the first week of July.**





## Behavioral Health Summit offers medical education to service members, veterans

Story by Maj. William Fox

The Maryland National Guard partnered with the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Veterans Affairs Maryland Health Care System, and representatives from a number of university and non-profit community partners to conduct the "Behavioral Health Summit II" at the Wicomico Youth and Civic Center in Salisbury, Md., June 27.

The BHSII was a medical education seminar that brought together a host of local professionals, to include behavioral health and primary health care providers, psychologists, social workers, therapists, clergy, veterans, and Soldiers. The conference boasted an attendance of approximately 150 professionals derived largely from the Maryland/Delaware Eastern Shore area with attendees from other counties in Maryland, as well as the states of Delaware, Virginia and the District of Columbia. Participants from the Maryland Defense Force, Delaware National Guard, and Maryland Army National Guard were also in attendance.

The goal of the conference was to increase the awareness and enhance the knowledge and clinical skills of community behavioral health professionals in Maryland to support military service members,

veterans, and their Families. This conference was modeled after the largely successful, first Behavioral Health Summit held in 2010, where more than 400 participants were in attendance.

The Maryland Army National Guard Honor Guard presented the colors during the conference, and Sgt. Ashley Johnson conducted a wonderful rendition of the National Anthem. Mr. Archie Wallace, Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, director of the Commitment to Veterans Program, was the master of ceremonies. Wallace reiterated his, and the state of Maryland's, commitment to addressing the needs of our veterans.

The key note speaker, Dr. Harold Kudler, Mental Health coordinator for the Veterans Integrated Service Network, Veterans Affairs Medical center Durham, N.C., described in great detail what every practitioner needs to know about the behavioral health and other reintegration needs of military veterans and Family members.

Kudler stressed the importance of the Behavioral Health Summit because more than 40 percent of all veterans live in rural areas similar to Wicomico County. This places many veterans at a disadvantage, in that they are some distance from large Veterans Adminis-

tration facilities and metropolitan areas where behavioral health treatment opportunities may be more numerous and available. Kudler was followed by lectures on military culture, neurological issues, post traumatic stress, suicide prevention, and traumatic brain injury and panel discussions.

During the seminar, a Maryland Army National Guard UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter touched down, piloted by a four-member crew who had recently returned from Iraq. The helicopter was open for viewing and crew interaction with conference participants. Overall, the aircraft seemed to be an ice breaker and provided an opportunity for the civilian professionals to meet and speak with aviators who "have been there and done that."

By the end of the summit, the sponsoring organizations and summit participants moved one step closer to reaching their vision in supporting the behavioral health needs of all Maryland military service members, veterans, and their Families. An enthusiastic group of behavioral health professionals departed with an improved awareness of the military culture and armed with new tools to better serve the veterans in their community.







**More than 20 medics from the 1-175th Infantry trained with air ambulance crews from Johns Hopkins University Hospital and the University of Maryland Medical Center Aug. 12. The Soldiers received demonstrations on the specialized aircraft medical equipment, practiced loading and unloading patients, and learned what would be expected of them if required to work together in a real-world emergency. (Photo by Maj. Rick Breitenfeldt)**



**U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations shared \$166,707.41 in "asset sharing" funds with the Maryland National Guard, which were seized during an investigation into drug smuggling and money laundering. HSI presented a poster-size check to Maryland National Guard Col. Marco Harris and Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins, the adjutant general of Maryland, at Camp Frettered Military Reservation (Photo by 2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly)**



**Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins, the adjutant general of Maryland, walks with Brooklyn residents and members of the Irish American Parade committee during the 236th anniversary of the Battle of Brooklyn-Heights. The celebration of the 236th anniversary of the Battle of Brooklyn-Heights, the first and largest battle of the Revolutionary War, took place in New York with re-enactors, parades and military units. (Photo by Lt. Col. Charles Kohler)**





*More than 75 members of the Maryland National Guard were officially welcomed home during a Freedom Salute ceremony held at the Fifth Regiment Armory in Baltimore, July 1, after their yearlong deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. (Photo by Sgt. Aimee Fujikawa)*

# On The LINE

*Soldiers from the 29th MP Company negotiate a leadership-reaction course during their annual training at Camp Dawson, W.Va., July 14-28. Soldiers were given ammunition boxes, ropes, pipes and wooden planks to help tackle each obstacle, which required them to get their squad from one side of the obstacle to the other. (Photo by Maj. Rick Breitenfeldt)*



*A ground breaking ceremony was held at Webster Field in St. Ingoes, Md., Aug. 29, to officially start construction of the new Tactical Unmanned Aerial Systems operations building. The TUAS ops building will support Co. A, Detachment 1, 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly)*



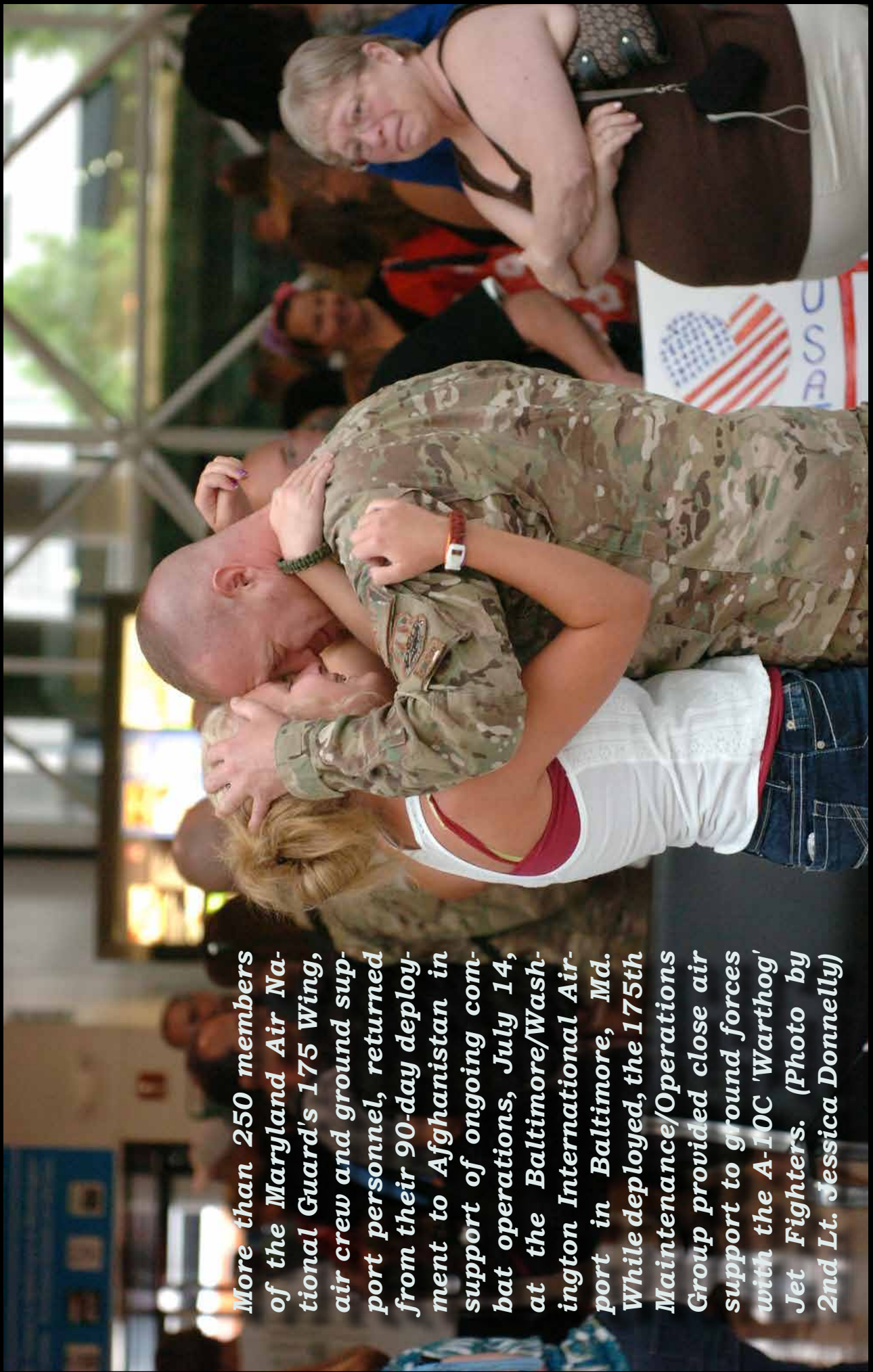
*Retired service members of the 29th Infantry Division celebrate Fourth of July at a Salute to Veterans tribute at North East Community Park in Cecil County, Md., July 3. The retired members participated by raising the U.S. flag while Maryland's 229th Army Band played the National Anthem. (Photo by Sgt. Aimee Fujikawa)*





# FINAL FRAME

More than 250 members of the Maryland Air National Guard's 175 Wing, air crew and ground support personnel, returned from their 90-day deployment to Afghanistan in support of ongoing combat operations, July 14, at the Baltimore/Washington International Airport in Baltimore, Md. While deployed, the 175th Maintenance/Operations Group provided close air support to ground forces with the A-10C 'Warthog' Jet Fighters. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly)



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