

From: [Al Bunting](#)
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Subject: UPDATE: 4/1 -#2
Date: Monday, April 01, 2013 11:46:30 AM

Top:

[Guard budget prioritizes homeland missions](#)

Threatened Guard base gets new mission, jobs

MANSFIELD, Ohio — An Air National Guard base that has faced possible closure twice in the past eight years will get about 200 new jobs — a move that a base commander and area officials attribute largely to community support.

Officials have been waiting for some good news for a long time, Col. Gary McCue, commander of the 179th Ohio Air National Guard base in Mansfield in north-central Ohio, told the Mansfield News Journal. [[Read More](#)]

GEN. GRASS: AT HISTORIC PEAK, NATIONAL GUARD FACES CHALLENGES, SHOULD STAY OPERATIONAL

WASHINGTON (3/23/13) – At a historic peak of excellence, the National Guard faces significant challenges and should remain an operational force, Army Gen. Frank Grass told U.S. Congressmen on Wednesday.

<http://www.nationalguard.mil/news/archives/2013/03/032513-Grass.aspx>

LT. GEN. CLARKE'S PRIORITIES: MINIMAL BUDGET TURMOIL, OPTIMUM FORCE MIX, CONCURRENT MODERNIZATION WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON (3/25/13) - Minimizing budget turmoil and working with the active duty Air Force and the Air Force Reserve to both find the optimum mix of forces and ensure concurrent modernization of the components of the total Air Force are the new director of the Air National Guard's immediate priorities, he told Congress last week.

<http://www.nationalguard.mil/news/archives/2013/03/032513-modernization.aspx>

LT. GEN. INGRAM: ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ACCESSIBLE, CAPABLE, READY, GREAT VALUE TO AMERICA

WASHINGTON (3/25/13) - The Army National Guard is accessible, capable, ready and a great value to America, its director told Congress this week.

<http://www.nationalguard.mil/news/archives/2013/03/032513-Ingram.aspx>

Thought for those of you using TRICARE and live in the NE: TRICARE is and will experience more and more cuts—I personally use US Family Health Plan—it's a DoD contractor and an alternative to TRICARE

-no, I do not consult for them—smile

Truly, it's a great program and their customer service is the best---I am pretty familiar with TRICARE and can state with no equivocation that this is a much better provider

Women Break Ground in Army Combat Roles The question of whether women can serve in Army roles previously restricted to men is being answered on Fort Bragg, where the male-only world of artillery has opened to female soldiers. [Read More](#)

Air Force releases plan for carrying out structure changes

The Air Force released a document Thursday that provides a state-by-state description of force structure changes that it plans to implement to comply with the 2013 National Defense Authorization Act. "We've developed guiding principles to ensure that as we make decisions, we continue to have a strong foundation for what is best for our Air Force," said Lt. Gen. James F. Jackson, chief of the Air Force Reserve Command. The NDAA calls for the Air Force Reserve to eliminate 57 aircraft. [Air Force Link](#) (3/28)

Air Force moves forward with restructuring plan

The Air Force will move forward on force structure changes and retiring aircraft all slated to be cut before the budget fight, which put everything on hold.

The service's fiscal 2013 National Defense Authorization Act implementation plan states the service will cut 55 aircraft in 2013 that had been approved in the 2011 and 2012 budgets, including C-21s, F-16s and multiple C-130 variants. The service also plans to cut 14 more MC-130Ps and C-5s in fiscal 2014, according to the plan. [[Read More](#)]

OPPORTUNITY IS WHAT YOU MAKE OF IT, SAY FEMALE GUARD MEMBERS

MADISON, Wis. (3/26/13) - Challenges are not the same as limitations, according to three female Wisconsin National Guard members — two officers and one enlisted — who shared the varied experiences of their military careers as part of a Women's History Month observance March 21.

<http://www.nationalguard.mil/news/archives/2013/03/032613-Opportunity.aspx>

Car dealer charged with mistreating guardsman

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — A north Alabama car dealer was indicted on federal charges of refusing to lower the interest rate in a vehicle deal with a National Guard member who was sent to war. [[Read More](#)]

C-17's arrival completes JBLM Globemaster fleet

JOINT BASE LEWIS-MCCHORD, Wash. — A \$200 million military cargo plane has arrived at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, becoming the 49th and final Boeing C-17 Globemaster III to be permanently stationed at the Puget Sound base. [[Read More](#)]

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Pentagon budget cuts will be less than expected, Hagel says

The spending bill passed by Congress reduces Pentagon budget cuts this year from \$46 billion to \$41 billion, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel said Thursday. Army Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the Pentagon would have a better idea of how it plans to implement budget cuts in about two weeks. [Bloomberg](#) (3/28)

Russia reportedly may create base network in Afghanistan after 2014

[The Hill/DEFCON Hill blog](#) (3/28)

Construction begins on Army Reserve center in Ill.

Work began last week on a roughly \$11 million Army Reserve facility in Illinois. The 38,880-square-foot facility will include a training building, storage space and an organizational maintenance shop. [American City Business Journals/St. Louis](#) (3/28)

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Base in Ohio will shut down on Fridays

[Dayton Daily News \(Ohio\)](#) (3/28)

TSA expedites screening for wounded warriors

The Transportation Security Administration announced plans to expedite airport security screening for wounded warriors at airports nationwide. "In recognition of the sacrifices of our men and women in uniform, we have revised our screening requirements to allow expedited screening for this trusted group of citizens," said John Halinski, TSA's deputy administrator and a 25-year U.S. Marine Corps veteran, in a statement. [CNN](#) (3/28)

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Military will use new brain scanner to detect injury

[CNNMoney/Fortune](#) (3/29)

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USS Stennis Group Commander Reprimanded

- [Drone Industry Worries About Privacy Backlash](#)
- [Hagel Counters Threats From North Korea's Kim](#)
- [Furlough Days Cut: Exceptions in Works](#)
- [TSA Allows Wounded Warriors Expedited Screening](#)
- [Def Tech: Army Eyes Samsung Smartphones](#)
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- [Army Wants to Ground Heavy Training Pilots](#)
- [Pilot in Overturned Sex Assault Case Reassigned](#)
- [Sequester Cuts Smaller Than Feared so Far](#)
- [DoD Buzz: SOCOM May Pick Truck Winner Soon](#)
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- [Adding On Capabilities for Combat Helos in Europe](#)

Fewer Furlough Days Expected for DOD Civilians

Defense Department civilian employees now face up to 14 days of furloughs by the end of the fiscal year due to budget sequestration and [not up to 22 days](#) as originally thought, said Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel on Thursday. "We are going to be able to reduce and delay these furloughs, but not eliminate furloughs," Hagel told reporters during a Pentagon briefing. Still, he said, "this is good news." The change resulted from a revised estimate of the shortfall DOD faces for the remainder of Fiscal 2013 under the sequester. Originally pegged at \$46 billion, DOD's projected spending cuts now stand at \$41 billion, said Hagel. Following Hagel's briefing, a senior Pentagon official told reporters that the furloughs would not start until mid-June—vice late April, as originally thought—with furlough notices set to go out in early May. The furloughs would happen over seven two-week pay periods, with employees likely told not to come to work for two days during each of those pay periods, said the official. DOD officials are still working to determine which employees would be exempt. (Hagel-Dempsey [transcript](#)) (Includes AFPS [report](#) by Nick Simeone)

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Breedlove tapped to lead U.S. European Command

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel has formally announced Gen. Philip Breedlove is the president's nominee to become the next head of U.S. European Command.

"We need to get that position filled," Hagel told reporters at a news conference. "Not only is he particularly well qualified, but the job that Adm. [James] Stavridis has done over there has been significant. He needs a little relief." [[Read More](#)]

"The Aviators" comes to Tinker, highlights KC-135, E-3 missions

03/28/2013 05:04 PM CDT

Air Force cancels Red Flag-Alaska training

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — The Air Force is canceling its flight training exercise scheduled for April in Alaska.

An announcement from Pacific Air Forces says Red Flag-Alaska is being set aside because of budgetary concerns. [[Read More](#)]

Anniversary of US Pullout from Vietnam

Forty years ago, on March 29, 1973, the last US ground troops withdrew from Vietnam, marking the end of direct US involvement in the Vietnam War. President Nixon addressed the nation that day, saying: "For the first time in 12 years, no American military forces are in Vietnam. All of our American POWs are on their way home." The withdrawal came two months after the United States, South Vietnam, and North Vietnam concluded the Paris peace accords. They failed to bring peace as Saigon would ultimately fall on April 30, 1975, to North Vietnamese communist forces, ending the long conflict. (C-Span [webpage](#) with video of Nixon's address.)

For a selection of *Air Force Magazine* articles over the years on the Vietnam War, see:

[Commissioned in Hanoi](#)
[Leaving No One Behind](#)
[The Lessons of Vietnam](#)
[Linebacker II](#)
[Return to Vietnam](#)
[Stennis Slams McNamara](#)

About the Air Force Association

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