

WOLVERINE GUARD

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TAG TALK

MAJOR GENERAL PAUL D. ROGERS

TAKE CARE OF OUR PEOPLE



One of the most important priorities for the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs remains taking care of our people – Soldiers, Airmen, civilians and their families. Over the past quarter we have continued to strengthen our workforce, enhance readiness, and provide meaningful support programs that reflect our commitment to those who serve and their families. In challenging circumstances, the dedication of our personnel has never been more evident, and the achievements highlighted in this issue are a testament to their resilience and excellence.

Our servicemembers demonstrated their exceptional capabilities during Exercise Northern Strike, where we saw formations from across the globe train rigorously to maintain readiness and interoperability with our joint and partner forces. Meanwhile, in a significant milestone for infrastructure and readiness, Michigan became the first state to complete modernization of all of our Army National Guard armories – providing safer, more functional spaces for training, operations, and community engagement. In addition, the Michigan Veteran's Home was ranked #1 out of 422 homes in the state, reflecting the dedication, compassion, and professionalism of all those who care for our veterans every day. These accomplishments ensure our Guardsmen and veterans have the resources they need to succeed while reinforcing our commitment to their well-being and the DMVA member-for-life mentality.

Personnel development and recognition remain at the heart of our mission. This issue features a career recap of Major General Bryan Teff, highlighting his distinguished service and contributions to the state's military readiness. This issue also showcases stories about Guardsmen like Colonel Hyo "Jeana" Cho, who joined our organization from the D.C. Guard, and other outstanding Soldiers, whose dedication and professionalism set the standard for excellence throughout the Michigan National Guard. Celebrating the success of our people is critical to fostering morale, retention, and continued excellence.

Our commitment to taking care of people is not just a phrase; it is a guiding principle that informs every decision we make. From training exercises to infrastructure upgrades, from recognizing individual achievements to hosting professional development experiences, DMVA remains steadfast in its dedication to the men and women who serve, ensuring they have the resources, support, and recognition they deserve. As we look forward to the coming months, let us continue to prioritize our people, because when we take care of them, we strengthen our Guard and our community as a whole.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul D. Rogers".



Family Programs



The Soldier & Family Readiness Program assists Service Members and their Families with:

Education Concerns

Employment Assistance

Unit and Family Readiness

Family & Relationships

Non-Medical Administrative Casework, including:

Financial Crisis

(loss of income, job, etc.)

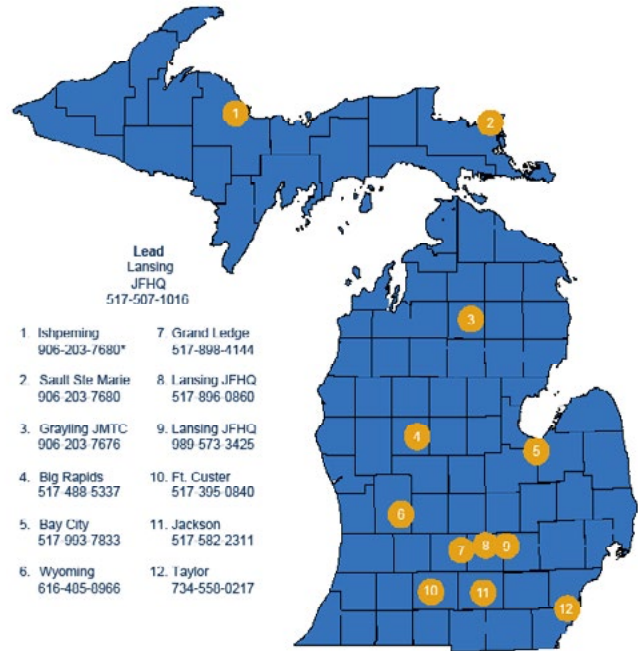
Under-Employed

(career assistance)

Unexpected Life Events

(car accident, medical diagnosis, house fire, flood, loss of transportation, etc.)

We can also assist in addressing other Guard and Family concerns by advocating through Command and partnering organizations.



FREE
NON-MEDICAL
COUNSELING
Service Members and
Dependents Eligible

Free, confidential counseling includes:

- Child, Youth, Family Counseling
- Relationship/Marital Counseling
- Resiliency, Coping skills
- Conflict Resolution, Anger Management
- Grief & Loss
- Deployment Concerns/Stress/Reintegration
- General Soldier & Family Stress

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ASSISTANCE IN:

- Personal budget/financial planning
- Money management techniques
- Credit counseling
- Debt repayment options
- Retirement and estate planning
- Saving and investing
- Tax planning

FOR MORE FAMILY PROGRAMS, CLICK [HERE](#).

LEADER SPOTLIGHT

COL HYO "JEANA" CHO



Col. Hyo "Jeana" Cho (center) pictured with Executive Officers, Directors, and Aide-de-Camps of the Chief and Vice Chief of the National Guard Bureau. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Zachery Sheeley)

Sgt. Catherine Brooks **Michigan National Guard**

In 2019, when Col. Hyo "Jeana" Cho learned she had been selected for battalion command through the Title 10 federal officer board process, her next step seemed simple: remain in the District of Columbia, where she had spent her entire military career. But D.C. had no available command positions, forcing her to look beyond the only organization she had ever known.

That unexpected obstacle opened the door to something new.

Through the Title 10 federal officer board process, her name was released to every state with a logistics battalion and eight expressed interest. Two

quiet influences, however, nudged her toward Michigan. Members of her leadership circle — her supervisor and a trusted warrant officer — were both from Michigan and spoke highly of the organization. At the same time, Col. Scott Meyers, then serving as both human resources office director and commander of the 272nd Regimental Support Group, was actively recruiting talent from outside the state.

Cho still did her due diligence. What she found surprised her. Both the adjutant general and governor had recently assumed their roles, signaling momentum and a forward-leaning vision. From her position in the National Guard Bureau G-4 Supply Branch, she worked with all 54 states and territories. Michigan consistently stood out.

"They were engaged. They were professional. And I was genuinely impressed," she said.

What impressed her most was Michigan's approach to developing senior leaders. While many states hold tightly to their strongest officers, Michigan routinely sends its best to Title 10 assignments, developing them at the national level and bringing them back stronger.

"That told me everything I needed to know about the TAG's long-term priorities," Cho said. "So when the opportunity came, it wasn't a hard decision. I knew I wanted to come here."

After returning to NGB, she did not expect another opportunity, as O-6 command is highly competitive, particularly for Title 10 officers. When Michigan reached out again in 2025, her answer was immediate.

"Absolutely," she said.

Transitioning to Michigan gave Cho her first true look at how a state National Guard operates. Coming from the D.C. Guard, which lacks a traditional state structure, she had long wondered how the full enterprise fit together. As chief of the joint staff, she now sees that system firsthand, from the Army Guard and Air Guard to State Operations, the Military and Veterans Affairs Agency and the Veterans Homes.

That visibility also gives her influence. She can identify friction points before they grow, ensure information flows smoothly across organizations and help replicate successful processes. If the Air Guard pioneers a new approach, she can help share it with the Army Guard. If a gap exists between Michigan Veteran Affairs Agency resources and Soldiers preparing to transition out of the military, she can work to close it.



Col. Hyo "Jeana" Cho, Chief of the Joint Staff and Commander of the 272nd Regimental Support Group (File photo).

At its core, her job is simple: bring people together.

"The fact that when we come together as a group, share information with each other, help each other out, then find solutions together...that is the exciting part for me," she said.

Her leadership style is deeply rooted in her education, much of which she pursued under demanding conditions. She earned her doctorate while serving through two combat deployments, balancing missions, academic research and deadlines. The experience sharpened her critical thinking and taught her to challenge her own assumptions.

"I debate myself constantly," she said with a laugh. "I'm the prosecutor and the defendant."

She also deliberately sought environments that pushed her outside her comfort zone. For Command and Staff, she bypassed the Army program and applied to the Marine Corps, where only three National Guard officers are selected each year. Later, she chose a Harvard fellowship over the Army or Air War College, immersing herself in a community of civilians, international students and professionals with vastly different perspectives.

"It reminded me that the world doesn't revolve around the military," she said.



"And that perspective matters."

That outlook shapes how she leads today: with curiosity, humility and a genuine desire to understand others. What energizes her most in her current roles is not the ceremonies or milestones, but the moments when connections finally happen — when the Army, Air and state partners align and information begins to move smoothly.

"That's why many of us stay in the military," she said. "The teamwork. The problem-solving. Laughing together. Getting through the tough days together."

Exercises like Northern Strike give her more of those moments: new challenges, new solutions and new opportunities to grow. What keeps her grounded, however, is quieter. Two foundations shape her life: her husband and her faith. Her husband, a retired colonel, offers her honesty without sugarcoating the truth and keeps her aligned with her values.

"He keeps me grounded, and I do the same for him," she said.

She also welcomes candid feedback from teammates, including the friends, peers, former coworkers and Soldiers she leads. She avoids the term "subordinates," believing it implies

separation rather than shared purpose. At the deepest level, her quiet, private faith provides her peace, humility and perspective.

"When I feel myself drifting from my values, I always come back," she said. "My faith does that for me."

That grounding shapes her leadership philosophy. She has never viewed Soldiers as numbers or tasks, but as people with purpose and potential. Her goal is to help them become the best versions of themselves.

"I think about the end of life," she said.

"You have the power to change lives in this profession."

— Col. Jeana Cho

"When I die one day, I want to be proud of the person I was — not the rank, not the money, but the person."

She believes deeply in character, integrity and the energy people put into the world. She gives freely of her time, mentorship and support, believing she has been blessed in return. Most of all, she wants service members to understand the weight of their influence.

"You have the power to change lives in this profession," she said. "No one joins the military to fail. We owe it to them to help them grow into who they are meant to be."

To read this story online, click [here](#).



NORTHERN STRIKE 25



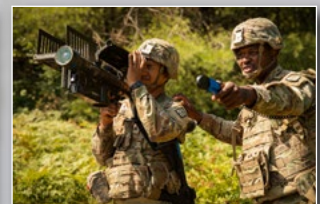
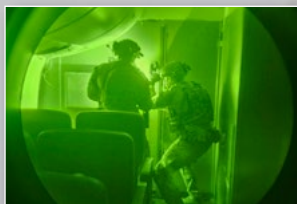
TRAINING FOR TOMORROW'S FIGHT

David Kennedy
Michigan National Guard

CAMP GRAYLING, Mich.—In the swelter of the August heat, the convoys and cargo planes arrive. U.S. Marines, Army reservists and Guardsmen, and international partners who know too well war is no longer theoretical, descend upon Northern Michigan. They pack their gear, trudge the pine forest trails, and listen for the high buzz of drones. Somewhere high above an M109 Paladin gun line, an AC-130 gunship peaks out from the clouds. It's not a combat zone, but the choreography looks familiar.

This is the National All-Domain Warfighting Center, or NADWC, and if it sounds like a battlefield,

cont. on next page





Soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 222nd Field Artillery Regiment, Utah Army National Guard, and British soldiers with 214 (Worcestershire) Battery, 104th Regiment Royal Artillery, operate M109A6 Paladin howitzers to provide fire support for various units during Northern Strike 25-2, Grayling, Michigan, Aug. 11, 2025. (U.S. Army photo by Daniel Garas)

that's the point. Here, from the maneuver areas of the north woods to the air bases scattered like islands across the state, the U.S. military and its partners rehearse for wars that haven't started yet.

"This is training how we'll fight," says Capt. Mason White of the 2nd Battalion, 222nd Field Artillery Regiment, Utah Army National Guard. His soldiers scanned the skies above as he spoke, where drones, now an everyday feature of modern conflict, could be hovering unseen and nearly silent.

In the Northern Strike command post, the exercise planners call it multi-domain operations—land, sea, air, cyber, space. They talk

in acronyms: JADC2, CEMA, DCO. Beneath the jargon, though, is something urgent. This team is trying to imagine the unimaginable, creating the

*"This is
training how
we'll fight,"*

*— Capt. Mason White
Utah National Guard.*

challenges of a war that does not yet exist, to train service members from all walks of life on how to address them.

Drones are incorporated

everywhere. They are cheap. They are ubiquitous. They are deadly. In Ukraine, grenades are dropped in tank hatches like it's a video game. In the Middle East, they move in swarms, overwhelming air defenses. At the NADWC's Camp Grayling, service members train to kill the drones before the drones kill first.

"The challenge with drones is learning to deconflict airspace," says British Army Warrant Officer 2 David Pepper, 2nd Battalion, Royal Irish Regiment, "Also managing the airspace with suicide drones and [friendly] manned aircraft like helicopters." Pepper is from Northern Ireland. This is his first time at Northern Strike.

Here these drones are hunted like birds. In a training area referred to as “The Cage,” algorithms flag their flight paths. The first attempts to disable them are electronic in nature, jamming their signals. When this fails, service members are introduced to a 30mm automatic cannon, which can rip into the sky from atop a mine-resistant vehicle. Nearby, a sergeant wipes sweat from his brow and stares into his computer monitor, tracking pixels for the next engagement.

But tech isn’t the only reason they come to train here. Terrain matters, and Michigan is an analog for half the world. Here there are thick forests like the Baltics, rolling hills like Poland, and great inland seas dotted with islands like the South China Sea.

These men and women who have spent years training for

conflict in the Middle East, and then Europe, must also now train for the Indo-Pacific, where the distances are vast. At the NADWC, the distances between training locations, more than 900 kilometers between Battle Creek and Calumet, make logistics and communication a challenge and second chances a rarity. Over 17,000 square miles of special use military airspace, including over the Great Lakes, give pilots and maritime planners the closest thing to the ocean you can find in the American Midwest.

“This place could be the Baltics or the first island chain, or anywhere,” says U.S. Army Capt. Nik Discher, who helps plan the exercise. “It’s supposed to challenge you and make you uncomfortable.”

In Lake Huron an unmanned maritime vessel provides targeting data to aircraft overhead,

while at Wurtsmith Airport in Oscoda, a B2 bomber makes its grand entrance on the runway. In Grayling, long convoys of military trucks churn dust. In command posts throughout the training areas, signals are jammed and communications severed. The young leaders in the field are learning: what good is your infantry platoon when your comms are down? This war isn’t just kinetic, it’s in all-domains, all at once.

While service members train for war, Michigan is leveraging its role as the industrial engine of America once more to get cutting edge technology into the hands of service members at the point of contact. Here service members train on drones and power generation systems developed in metro-Detroit, air-mobile secure facilities built in Cadillac, and expeditionary manufacturing of replacement parts at the forward line of troops.

“It’s the arsenal of democracy again,” says Sgt. Maj. Bryan Goff, who leads industry integration. “Northern Strike is a proving ground; only this time we’re integrating sensors, networks, and AI-driven tools to synchronize effects across every domain.”

At Northern Strike, the reserve component of the U.S. military proves it’s more than a weekend

U.S. Army National Guard firefighters of the 1049th Engineer Detachment, Montana Army National Guard, respond to a nighttime fire training scenario during Northern Strike 25-2 at Grayling Army Airfield, Michigan, Aug. 4, 2025. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Brayden Stephan)



force. It's a bridge between civilian and soldier, defending the homeland and conducting expeditionary operations. The job now is to be ready for the war they hope never comes.

And so, they rehearse again and again. They seize objective after objective. They simulate medical evacuations alongside international partners. They use electromagnetic warfare to jam each other's radios. They listen for the buzz of a drone, hope it's friendly, and plan for the next move if it's not.

At dusk, a platoon from the 1st Battalion, 24th Marines, fresh from raiding an objective, lays in security, awaiting the UH-60 Blackhawks to arrive on the landing zone for exfiltration. After a week of sustained operations, they are sunburned and quiet.

"This is the most realistic training I've had as a Marine," said U.S. Marine Cpl. Terron Wade.

It's not real. Not yet.

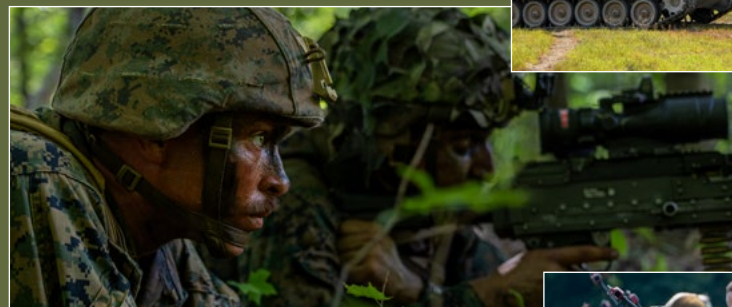
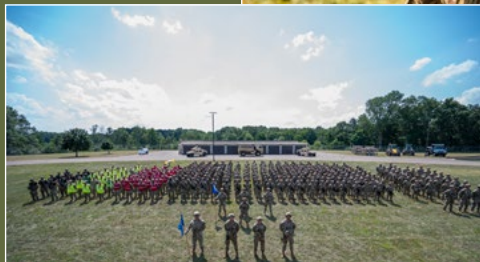
But it could be.

And that's why they're here.

To read this article online click [here](#).

FROM THE FIELD

In-depth shots from this year's version of Northern Strike





U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Bryan J. Teff, cuts a ceremonial cake during his retirement reception at Battle Creek Air National Guard Base, Michigan, Sept. 6, 2025. The cake cutting symbolizes unity and celebrates the conclusion of Teff's distinguished military career. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by: Tech. Sgt. Bethany Rizor)

FINAL FLIGHT

Maj. Gen. Bryan J. Teff retires after more than 30 years of service

1st Lt. Michael Sian
110th Wing

Battle Creek, Mich. — Maj. Gen. Bryan J. Teff, who rose from a cadet at the U.S. Air Force Academy to commander of the Michigan Air National Guard, and most recently, a mobilization assistant to the combatant commander of North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), retired after more than three decades of service.

Teff, a command pilot with more than 3,600 hours in the cockpit, including 433 in combat, said his interest in aviation didn't begin until his time at the academy.

"My initial interest was being able to serve the nation while getting a great education," Teff said. "Over my four years there, I developed a keen interest in aviation and was very excited to attend pilot training after graduation."

He went on to fly the A-10 Thunderbolt II and later the MQ-9 Reaper, transitioning from traditional attack aircraft to remotely piloted platforms. That flexibility defined a career that took him through key leadership positions at the state and national levels.

One of his career highlights came in 2003, when the 110th Fighter Squadron deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"We were there on day one of the conflict and forward deployed within the first two weeks," Teff said. "We were an elite fighter unit...our maintenance was the best in the world. We had the most experienced pilots, and we executed to near perfection every day."

Teff joined the Michigan Air National Guard in 1998 after serving on active duty, drawn to what he described as a culture of excellence. He rose through the ranks, serving as commander of the 110th Wing in Battle Creek, Michigan, and later leading the Michigan Air National Guard's 2,500 Airmen. His tenure included guiding the force through the COVID-19 pandemic, while also overseeing strategic initiatives, such as the Kelly Johnson Joint All Domain

Innovation Center and the National All Domain Warfighting Center.

Through all these changes and challenges, Teff said, “I was very fortunate to have an awesome leadership team plus a very engaged State Command Chief. The outcome was very positive, and the results showed over the next several years.”

Teff also left his mark on the Michigan National Guard’s premier training event, Exercise Northern Strike, which has grown into one of the largest joint reserve component exercises in the country. The idea, he said, grew out of Battle Creek A-10 pilots’ participation in Northern Lightning in Wisconsin in the early 2000s. In 2012, while commander of the Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center, Teff oversaw the first Exercise Northern Strike, initially an Air Force-only exercise. By 2014, it had evolved into a joint event that continues to expand today.

Another initiative under his leadership was the establishment of a wellness center at the 110th Wing, designed to centralize services for Airmen and families — from chaplain support to mental health to financial counseling. Teff recognized the importance and value of wellness programs within the high-demand, low-density operations of the 110th Wing.

“We wanted to provide support ... in a single facility where access to these services was in one central location,” Teff said.

Teff’s assignments also included higher

headquarters roles at the Air Force Sustainment Center and as mobilization assistant to the NORAD commander, where he advised on homeland defense operations. Over the course of his career, he also participated in multiple overseas operations, including Southern Watch, Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom, Freedom Sentinel, and Inherent Resolve.

Asked what he is most proud of, Teff pointed not to missions or medals, but to people.

“I am most proud of the people I have worked with and the part I played in their development,” he said. “When you

“When you see people develop into great leaders and achieve success, it is very satisfying when you know you had a role in their development.”

*— Maj. Gen. Bryan J. Teff
Michigan Air National Guard*

see people develop into great leaders and achieve success, it is very satisfying when you know you had a role in their development.”

Looking ahead, Teff said he believes the Air National Guard will play an increasingly central role in the nation’s defense.

“The missions, equipment, and facilities will always change, but our people define who we are,” he said. “Our airmen and families are the key ingredient behind our success.”

To read this story online, click [here](#).



U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Bryan J. Teff receives his retirement certificate during a ceremony at Battle Creek Air National Guard Base, Michigan, Sept. 6, 2025. The certificate formally recognizes his honorable service and more than three decades of dedication to the Air Force and the nation. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by: Tech. Sgt. Bethany Rizor)



U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Bryan J. Teff career spans more than 3 decades. (Courtesy photos)



LAW OF THE LAND

Michigan National Guard partners with MSU Law School to host West African military legal professionals

1st Lt. Michael Sian
110th Wing

EAST LANSING, Mich. — On Aug. 21, 2025, judge advocates from the 110th Wing and Michigan National Guard Joint Forces Headquarters joined faculty from the Michigan State University College of Law to host five legal professionals from the Armed Forces of Liberia and the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces.

This engagement, part of a three-day State Partnership Program event, introduced partner nation representatives to U.S. criminal justice system legal framework while

strengthening relationships and fostering dialogue on the rule of law.

During the visit, participants exchanged best practices on working with juries, discussed the importance of jury trials relating to due process, and explored current challenges facing law professionals involving the evolution of technology and artificial intelligence.

“It was such a unique opportunity and honor to host legal professionals from Liberia and Sierra Leone,” said Veronica Valentine McNally, Director of Trial Advocacy, Michigan State University College of Law. “Despite

coming from different legal systems, we found that many of our trial challenges are remarkably similar. The discussion was deeply engaging and mutually enriching, allowing us to learn from one another and grow as legal professionals.”

The delegation also toured the Michigan State Capitol and met with U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Ravindra Wagh, Assistant Adjutant General-Army, Michigan Army National Guard, U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Scott House, Michigan National Guard executive integrator for the Sierra Leone State Partnership Program, and Command Sgt. Maj. Matthew



U.S., Liberian, and Sierra Leonean service members pose for a photo during an engagement with Michigan State University College of Law faculty. The event fostered dialogue on the U.S. criminal justice system and the importance of the rule of law. (Air National Guard photo by 1st Lt. Michael Sian)

Hopkins, Senior Enlisted Advisor, Michigan Army National Guard. Conversations centered around the importance of the rule of law, as a foundation for democratic success.

“The rule of law is the cornerstone of any thriving democracy,” said Brig. Gen. Ravindra Wagh. “Our discussion with our West African partners reaffirms how essential this principle is to the stability, security, and the success of a nation’s people.”

This visit builds on ongoing cooperation. In 2024, Michigan National Guard judge advocates traveled to Sierra Leone to strengthen professional ties and observe a military court-martial. Looking ahead, the Michigan National Guard JAG Corps is coordinating a follow-on engagement in Liberia later in 2025 to continue advancing this partnership.

To read this story online click [here](#).



U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Ravindra Wagh, Assistant Adjutant General-Army, Michigan National Guard presents a military coin to service members from the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces Legal Directorate in Lansing, Michigan, Aug. 21, 2025. (Air National Guard photo by 1st Lt. Michael Sian)

SILENT SWARM



Innovation, experimentation come to Alpena

Story by Senior Master Sgt. Dan Heaton
127th Wing

ALPENA, Mich. — Fifty companies, representing more than 65 experiments, joined the U.S. Navy, Michigan National Guard (MING) and other agencies in Alpena, Michigan, for two weeks in July to showcase new and emerging technologies designed to allow the military to address evolving threats and stay at the forefront of new advances.

During the series of technology experiments, private companies, academic institutions and military organizations used swarms of unmanned systems to “attack” and “defend” locations in Thunder Bay, off the coast of Alpena in Lake Huron. As the two forces conducted their operations, all parties collected data on which technologies offered the greatest advantages.

“The hypothesis for Silent Swarm is to identify those systems that can outmatch and have an impact in the most challenging environments,” said Rob Gamburg, project lead for Silent Swarm at Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane Division (NSWC Crane).

Silent Swarm 25 was coordinated by NSWC Crane with support from the Naval Information Warfare Center Atlantic, Army C5ISR Center and the Air Force Test Center. The exercise was centered at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Great Lakes Heritage Maritime Center in Alpena and the Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center (Alpena CRTC), part of the MING’s National All-Domain Warfighting Center. It is sponsored by the U.S. Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for

Research and Engineering, Integrated Sensing and Cyber.

During the exercise, participants set up radars, antennas, and radio systems; launched unmanned aerial systems and small unmanned surface vehicles; and operated unmanned land vehicles from about a half dozen locations along the Thunder Bay shoreline and on Thunder Island in the bay. Meanwhile, the Navy, Air Force and other government observers collected data, gaining valuable insight into which technologies may offer the best offensive or defensive strategies. For the MING, supporting Silent Swarm marked the second major technology experimentation exercise of the summer. In May, the MING co-sponsored the inaugural Uncrewed Triple Challenge (UTC) along with several other state agencies. The UTC



Paul McDonald, a Silent Swarm 25 participant, works with an unmanned aerial vehicle after conducting a controlled crash during Silent Swarm in Alpena, Michigan, July 21, 2025. Participants use Silent Swarm to experiment with emerging technologies and operational concepts involving autonomous systems and spectrum maneuvering. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by 1st. Lt. Elise Wahlstrom)

was a sort of triathlon for unmanned vehicles, with a package transported by water across Thunder Bay, delivered by air to the Camp Grayling Joint Maneuver Training Center (CGJMTC) and driven on land along a course at Camp Grayling.

“To build an agile, lethal and ready warfighter, we must continuously experiment with and adapt the best technologies the market has to offer,” said U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Paul D. Rogers, adjutant general and director of the Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. “Events like Silent Swarm are critical for accelerating innovation, allowing the Joint Force to test, train with, and rapidly integrate emerging capabilities to stay ahead of evolving threats and maintain our strategic edge.”

Silent Swarm has been held at the Alpena CRTC every year since the exercise’s inception. In 2025, the size of the overall event held steady at about 500 participants, compared to the previous year, but the complexity of the experiments increased.

“We are learning from each other with every iteration, which is exactly what we hope to see,” Gamburg said.

Events such as Silent Swarm and the UTC enable rapid technological development by leveraging subject matter experts from across business, academia and the military. They also allow innovators to experiment in an operationally relevant environment, such as the waterways and air space around Alpena.

“The NADWC has become the venue of choice for experimentation and military training,” said Col. Michael Whitefoot, commander of the Alpena CRTC. “We have built the infrastructure and have the environmental conditions that allows for a robust scenario, across a wide spectrum of applications.”

The MING’s NADWC includes the nearly 148,000 acres of training space at the CGJMTC and 17,000 square miles of special use military airspace at the Alpena CRTC. The NADWC provides units with training capabilities across all five warfighting domains: land, air, maritime, cyber and space.

To read this story online, click [here](#).

SHOTS FROM AROUND THE STATE

ON TIME AND ON TARGET

U.S. Marines with 1st Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, I Marine Expeditionary Force Information Group, observe close air support with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron (HMLA) 775 during Northern Strike 25-2 at Camp Grayling, Michigan, Aug. 15, 2025. Marines participating in the exercise continue to train and enhance the survivability and the lethality of the naval expeditionary force, while fully integrating with joint forces and multinational partners. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Peyton Kahle)



TERROR FROM THE NORTH

U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Ahmed Alsawafy, a machine gunner with Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division, locks in his sight during an offensive raid training event for training exercise Northern Strike 25-2 at Camp Grayling, Michigan, Aug. 9, 2025. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Aaron TorresLemus)





ECHOES OF THE PAST

Non Commissioned Officers from the Michigan National Guard learn about Civil War artillery tactics while standing just yards from the infamous Dunker Church, as they participate in a staff ride to the Antietam National Battlefield, Sharpsburg, Md., Sept. 10, 2025. Staff rides are immersive educational tours utilized by military units to study past battles, requiring active participation and consist of a three-phase exercise: a preliminary study, a field phase, and integration. Each group member assumes the role of a leader participating

in the battle, which allows them to better understand tactical decisions made from their perspective. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Daniel Garas)



A NEW ERA

U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Bruce Hedrick, command chief master sergeant of the 127th Wing, unfurls the general officer flag for Brig. Gen. Leah Voelker, 127th Wing commander, during her promotion ceremony at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Michigan, Dec. 5, 2025. Voelker, a KC-135 Stratotanker pilot, assumed command of the 127th Wing during a ceremony attended by family, friends and wing members. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Jacob Hessen)



STEALTHY SPIRIT

U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Daunte Dassinger, a security response team member assigned to the 509th Security Forces Squadron, establishes a Protection Level 2 perimeter for B-2 Spirit stealth bomber aircrew changeover, Aug. 5, 2025, in Oscoda, Michigan. The flight crew changeover was conducted during Exercise Northern Strike, a National Guard Bureau sponsored training event designed to build readiness with joint and partner forces in all domains of warfare. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Whitney Erhart)

ANYTIME, ANYWHERE



The 110th Wing's Air Operations Center tests itself by redeploying to Alpena during Northern Strike

By Tech. Sgt. Andrew Schumann
127th Wing

Integrating the Air Operations Center (AOC) into the Air Force's Agile Combat Employment (ACE) concept is critical to maintaining command and control (C2) in a degraded environment. During Exercise Northern Strike 25-2, the 110th Wing took this challenge head-on by rapidly deploying a joint team from Battle Creek Air National Guard Base to the Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center (CRTC).

"The purpose of the AOC Forward experiment was to demonstrate agile, operational C2 in contested and degraded environments, said U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Ignacio Perez, the 217th Combat Operations Squadron deputy, strategy division. "After demonstrating the ability to rapidly deploy, the team set up and began using new

technologies to generate air tasking orders. The team operated out of Battle Creek during the initial stages of the exercise until the scenario forced them to relocate."

According to Perez, a U.S. Army helicopter then flew the team and their equipment more than 250 miles to Alpena CRTC, where they embedded with the 23rd Air Task Force.

"This experiment was more than a proof of concept—it was a demonstration of how the Michigan Air National Guard is relevant and postured for tomorrow's missions," added U.S. Air Force Col. Michael Clow, 217th Air Operations Group commander. "We combined operational C2 expertise with distributed operations, leveraging ACE, modern technology, and joint integration to maintain mission effectiveness under degraded

conditions. These are the scenarios that prepare our Airmen to lead and win alongside the Joint Force, anytime, anywhere."

The team included master air attack planners, ATO production technicians, airspace technicians, cyber defense operators, communications technicians, and the Michigan National Guard's 51st Weapons of Mass Destruction–Civil Support Team (WMD-CST) deployable communication capabilities and operators.

"In addition to serving local, state, and federal authorities as Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive subject matter experts, the 51st WMD-CST possesses advanced communications systems that exceed the capabilities of many traditional communications units. U.S. Air Force Maj. Jeff Overhulse,

51st WMD-CST deputy commander. "The 51st WMD-CST demonstrated these capabilities, providing crucial communications and enabling key AOC Forward experiment objectives. The collaborative efforts by the Airmen and Soldiers of the 51st are a testament to the joint war-fighting spirit and the multi-capable nature of the WMD-CST program."

The team used a variety of repurposed laptops preprogrammed with applications needed to conduct operations. They also utilized multiple commercial communication options to ensure success.

"Paired with multiple commercial communication options, C2Core enabled the team to push boundaries and test emerging technologies and concepts essential for success in peer competition." Staff Sgt. Devin Wiley, 217th Air Communications Squadron client systems supervisor.

The integration of the AOC Forward into a joint, multinational exercise like NS 25-2 was a learning opportunity for all involved.

"This mission is purely experimental in nature. While it provided training simply by executing, our training goal is to learn and innovate on how we can best execute," said U.S. Air Force Maj. Cylde Inman, 217th COS,

chief Standards and evaluations and assistant director of operations. "By integrating with 23 ATF, we are able to train those personnel on AOC operations as part of their certification as well as prove we could integrate globally across multiple classifications with coalition partners."

While a few experiments like this have been conducted in the past, this iteration seized the initiative to understand the full spectrum of operations.

"A key experiment objective focused on understanding what the full spectrum of C2 ACE operations really means," said U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Micah Sage, an information warfare planner with the 217 AOG who oversaw full spectrum operations for the experiment. "What the joint team learned is exciting because it allows us to plan for future operations."

The experiment also focused on the ability to detect and defend against various cyber threats.

"Our Airmen are trained to hunt for advanced threats, contain malicious actors, and harden networks against intrusion," said U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Paul Motycka, 272nd Cyber Operations Squadron cyber warfare operator. "By integrating with the AOC Forward experiment, we were able to

showcase how cyber operators not only defend information systems, but also ensure mission assurance in contested environments. This experiment proves that cyber defense is inseparable from air operations—it's how we guarantee that command and control remains resilient and effective against evolving threats."

After completing documentation from this experiment, the 217 AOG plans to share its findings with AOC counterparts and program offices across the Air Force.

"Through Northern Strike 25-2, the 110th Wing has proven we are ready and relevant for the future fight," said U.S. Air Force Col. James Rossi, 110th Wing commander. "By empowering our Airmen to make decisions at the lowest level in a demanding, multi-domain environment alongside our joint and multinational partners, we're honing the skills, adaptability, and teamwork needed to survive and operate in contested environments. This experiment showcased that readiness and scalability are not limited by location—they're driven by the innovation, integration, and determination of our people"

To read this story online, click [here](#).





MVAA

Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency

2025 Michigan Military and Veterans Gala awards

DETROIT, Mich. — On Saturday, Nov. 8, the 2025 Michigan Military and Veterans Gala drew more than 350 military service members, veterans and their families to honor both those who have served our state and nation and those who advocate on their behalf. Held in downtown Detroit, this year's ceremony honored the following:



2025 Commanders Group Michigan Veteran of the Year: [Kimberly Napoleon](#)

About award: Presented to the Michigan veteran who has contributed the most to benefit veterans and their families, including their service as a member of a veteran organization and their work in their community.

About awardee: Ms. Napoleon is a proud U.S. Army veteran who served from 1987 to 1996, supporting major operations including Just Cause, Desert Shield and Desert Storm as a purchasing agent. A trailblazer in veteran leadership, she made history in 2024 as the first female Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Michigan, leading the department to All-American recognition during its 125th anniversary year. She currently serves as Michigan's National Legislative Committee Member and Vice Chairwoman of the VFW National Legislative Service Committee, advocating for veterans' priorities on Capitol Hill. Ms. Napoleon is also a Life Member of the Disabled American Veterans, the American Legion and several Black veteran organizations. Deeply committed to service, she has held multiple leadership and mentoring roles in veteran and community programs, including suicide prevention and veterans' justice initiatives. Just a few months ago, she was appointed by Gov. Whitmer to the Michigan Veterans Trust Fund Board of Trustees.

2025 Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA) Employee of the Year: [Shawn George](#)

About award: Presented to the DMVA employee who has demonstrated excellence in the performance of their job duties in serving the veterans who served our country with honor.

About awardee: Shawn George works at the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base and consistently exceeds expectations as the lead maintenance mechanic for the 110th Civil Engineer Squadron. His exceptional leadership, unwavering dedication and commitment to excellence have been instrumental in ensuring the operational readiness of the base, directly impacting the Wing's ability to execute its vital MQ-9 and U.S. Air Forces in Europe and U.S. Air Forces in Africa missions. As the lead for a 12-person maintenance team, Mr. George is responsible for the upkeep and functionality of property and equipment in 38 buildings across 315 acres. This includes preventative maintenance, repairs and responding to emergent issues. Mr. George was unable to attend the 2025 Michigan Military and Veterans Gala. The Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs accepted the award on his behalf.



2025 Michigan Army National Guard Recruiter of the Year: *Sergeant First Class Brad Plaska*

About award: Presented to the recruiter who has achieved the most enlisted accessions in the state for the production year.

About awardee: Sergeant First Class Bradley Plaska finished fiscal year 2025 with 31 enlistments, ranking him 18th in the nation out of more than 2,000 recruiters.



2025 U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Employee of the Year: *Raylea Carr*

About award: Presented to the VA employee who has demonstrated excellence in the performance of their job duties in serving veterans.

About awardee: Raylea Carr is a healthcare provider at the Lansing VA Clinic and has provided above and beyond care to all veterans she comes in contact with. Ms. Carr is selfless and provides integral healthcare needs. She makes patients feel comfortable at their appointments, asks questions and stays up to date with their care.



2025 Outstanding Michigan Air National Guard Recruiter of the Year: *Technical Sergeant Ashley Emswiler*

About award: Presented to the recruiter who has achieved the most accessions in the state for the production year.

About awardee: Technical Sergeant Emswiler distinguished herself with exceptional meritorious service while assigned as a production recruiter and retainer, at Selfridge Air National Guard Base. Over the past year, her exemplary ability, diligence and devotion to duty were instrumental factors in the accession of 45 members into the Michigan Air National Guard, which was 220% percent of her assigned annual goal. Technical Sergeant Emswiler's efforts enabled the 127th Wing to achieve manning goals and mission accomplishment.



2025 Veteran-Friendly Volunteer of the Year: *Volunteers at Michigan Veteran Homes at Chesterfield Township*

About award: Presented to a non-veteran Michigan volunteer who has demonstrated outstanding service and impact to the veteran or military community and/or a veteran organization through giving their time, passion and serving those who served our nation.

About awardees: Michigan Veteran Homes at Chesterfield Township (MVHCT) has more than 200 volunteers who

work regular weekly or monthly schedules to ensure veteran members receive consistent support and engagement. These volunteers have donated more than 7,200 hours of their time to improve the quality of life for MVHCT members. Volunteers assist with outings and activities, visit members one-on-one in their rooms through the Care Share Buddy program, and provide support through No Member Dies Alone when a member is nearing end of life. The Chesterfield volunteers also host three large group activities Monday through Friday and two weekend programs each week. These volunteers are vital for transporting members to and from programs, as well as offering support and companionship during events and outings. Accepting the award on behalf of the volunteers at the MVHCT are Hilary Kuretech, volunteer and donations coordinator; Samantha Brooks, director of activities and Shannon Burgess, activity therapy aid.



2025 Veteran Service Provider of the Year: [Maureen Adams](#)

About award: Presented to the veteran service provider who has demonstrated noteworthy impact on our veteran population in connecting to benefits, employment, education, healthcare, quality of life and/or innovative programming.

About awardee: Ms. Maureen Adams is a veteran service officer in Berrien County. She has expanded services offered to veterans and their families including annual Stand Down events for more than 200 veterans. The Dine and Discover events she implemented provide important veteran information along with a meal. The Vietnam War-era Veterans celebration attracted a large crowd of veterans and community members. A booth at the Berrien County Fair reached out to veterans who would not normally go to the office.



2024 National Guard Volunteer Award: [Gary Tanner](#)

About award: Presented to individual that exemplifies the true meaning of the purple concept within the National Guard Family Readiness Program.

About awardee: Gary Tanner is a U.S. Army veteran who's outstanding efforts with the Wounded and Returning Warrior Program of the American Legion Department of Michigan have been exceptional and shown support for both Army and Air National Guard members, veterans and their families throughout Michigan. He epitomizes the spirit of collaboration and unity among the American Legion and Michigan National Guard.



Veteran Service Officer Eric Martin pins Vietnam War veteran George Bowen Jr.

MVAA VSO Pins Vietnam Veteran, Secures Disability Rating

MARQUETTE, Mich. — Decades after returning home from Vietnam, a Marine Corps veteran was finally honored for his service and pinned by the very Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (MVAA) veteran service officer (VSO) who helped secure full disability benefits for his mental health wounds.

George Bowen Jr. was a Marine from 1971 to 1975 during the Vietnam War. Shortly after his separation from the military, Bowen began suffering from a severe substance

use disorder that would consume most of his life. The addiction caused him to become unpleasant to work with and tarnished his reputation within the small town where he lived.

“No one really knew what George did while in the service,” MVAA VSO Eric Martin said. “His family said that it was never talked about.”

Due to his addiction and mental health struggles, Bowen

worked with numerous local VSOs since 2012. It became a regular occurrence for him to miss appointments and disappear for days. It was not until he moved to [Michigan Veteran Homes \(MVH\) D.J Jacobetti](#) in Oct. 2024 that his challenge of receiving recognition for his service-connected conditions would be acknowledged.

Following his move, Martin was contacted by a social worker to further assist Bowen. Within a short time, Martin was able to locate key evidence that had previously been overlooked to support Bowen's claim. As a result, Martin filed an appeal, and the VA granted Bowen a 100% disability rating for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) with back pay totaling more than \$14,000.

"George's story is a prime example of that not all cases are going to be easy," Martin said. "His rating has helped his family and all of those who were impacted by his severe substance use disorder to have a better understanding on why he suffered for so many years."

Bowen and his family expressed immense gratitude for Martin's assistance and plan to start a yearly college scholarship in Bowen's name with additional ideas including event sponsorships and donations to support groups for others in recovery. The family's goal is to share Bowen's story to help decrease the stigma around mental health and addiction.

Bowen's recognition continued when Martin had the honor of pinning him with a Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin. During a visit to MVH D.J Jacobetti, Martin was able to present the pin to Bowen and formally thank him for his service.

"He was so proud of his pin that he told multiple staff members that he couldn't wait to show his father," Martin recalled. "He doesn't remember that his father passed away many years ago, but this pin had filled him with so much excitement to show his dad."

As a veteran himself, Martin is passionate about serving others and ensuring fellow veterans get the recognition they deserve.

"I find my job as a VSO extremely rewarding because I can see the impact that my work has on an individual," Martin said. "To have the ability to change someone's life for the better is an amazing feeling."

To read this story online, click [here](#).

To find a VSO in your area, visit [Michigan.gov/VSO](#).

If you are a service member or veteran or the family

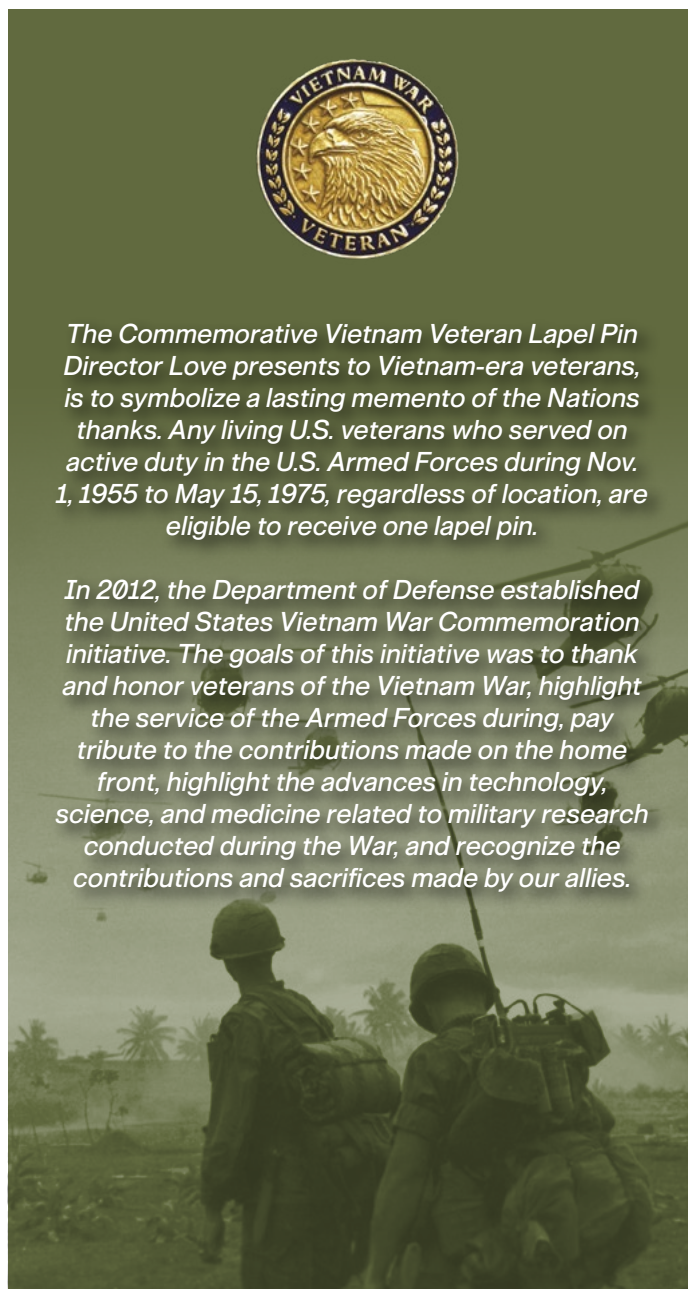
member and need support, please contact the Michigan Veterans Resource Service Center at 1-800-MICH-VET (1-800-642-4838) to learn more about veteran benefits and resources.

Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency - The MVAA is the central coordinating agency, providing support, care, advocacy and service to veterans and their families. As a state agency, MVAA works to identify and break down barriers veterans face in employment, education, health care and quality of life, to make Michigan a great place for veterans and their families to call home. More information about MVAA is available at [Michigan.gov/MVAA](#) or by reading our [FY24 Annual Report](#).



The Commemorative Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin Director Love presents to Vietnam-era veterans, is to symbolize a lasting memento of the Nations thanks. Any living U.S. veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces during Nov. 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975, regardless of location, are eligible to receive one lapel pin.

In 2012, the Department of Defense established the United States Vietnam War Commemoration initiative. The goals of this initiative was to thank and honor veterans of the Vietnam War, highlight the service of the Armed Forces during, pay tribute to the contributions made on the home front, highlight the advances in technology, science, and medicine related to military research conducted during the War, and recognize the contributions and sacrifices made by our allies.





Retired Lt. Col Jim Roesbruck, of the Antietam Institute, speaks to Michigan National Guardsmen participating in a staff ride to the Antietam National Battlefield, Sharpsburg, Md., Sept. 10, 2025. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Daniel Garas)

By Daniel Garas Michigan National Guard

A huge battlespace, an appreciation for command and control, and shock at the brutality of 19th-century combat were just a few of the takeaways after a group of Michigan National Guardsmen participated in a staff ride to the Civil War battlefield at Antietam, Maryland, September 9-10.

Noncommissioned Officers (NCOs) from the Michigan National Guard traveled to Maryland to study Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee's Maryland campaign of 1862. Over the course of two days, NCOs first visited battlefields around Sharpsburg to learn how a series of actions at Harper's Ferry, South Mountain, and Fox's Gap would set the stage for the single-bloodiest day in American military history.

"Reading about a battle in a book or seeing it in a movie is one thing, but actually being here on the ground yourself is completely different," said Sgt. Stephan Brayden with the 46th MP command. "The whole experience of a staff ride completely changes the way you see the battle."

Staff rides are professional development exercises utilized by militaries where groups travel to battlefields to analyze the tactics, terrain, the leaders, and the strategic impact of their decisions. To observers, staff rides may appear like a glorified sightseeing tour, but when performed correctly, staff rides teach invaluable leadership lessons that transcend time and tactics.

The staff ride was planned and coordinated by Adam Betz, the Michigan National Guard Command Historian. Assisted by funding from the Michigan National Guard Association of Michigan (NGAM), Betz worked with three licensed battlefield guides from the Antietam Institute to lead the staff ride: Jim Rosebrock, Chris Vincent, and Laura Marfut.



During the staff ride, NCO's visited numerous sites around the Antietam Battlefield, including South Mountain and Fox's Gap, Maryland.

In addition to being licensed battlefield guides, all three are retired Soldiers and provided a tour tailor-made specifically for Noncommissioned officers.

Betz viewed the trip not just as a history lesson but as a powerful teaching tool, especially for NCOs.

“By connecting our NCO corps to their history and showing them the impacts of small-unit leadership, we’re really emphasizing their importance to the organization,” said Betz. “Bringing these kids to Antietam and having them interact with the guides is an invaluable tool and great investment.”

Retired Lt. Col Jim Roesbruck, a licensed battlefield guide and president of the Antietam Institute, hoped the staff ride would not only arm NCOs with a better understanding of the battle but also change how they viewed its impact on the war.

Roesbruck and the Antietam Institute make the case that Antietam — not Gettysburg — was the turning point of the American Civil War. Repulsing the Confederate invasion gave Lincoln enough political leverage to issue the Emancipation Proclamation, and any hopes of England and France intervening on behalf of the Confederacy evaporated.

Before the battlefield tour, Roesbruck had the NCOs examine the battle through a political, economic, social, technological, legal, and environmental (PESTLE) analysis — something all NCOs are familiar with. All factors indicated that the situation in the autumn of 1862 was critical for both sides.

After a string of Confederate victories in the summer of 1862, Gen. Robert E. Lee invaded the North and launched his Maryland campaign. Lee hoped winning a decisive battle on Union soil would sway political support from Lincoln in the approaching midterm elections and convince foreign powers to intervene on behalf of the Confederacy. The South hoped to foment a political nightmare for President Abraham Lincoln that would drive him to sue for peace.

“The United States was an economic power, and Europe was watching the war very closely,” said Roesbruck. “A divided U.S. would be very beneficial to them and would be one less adversary they had to keep an eye on.”

Days before the battle, Union troops

discovered a copy of Lee's battle plan by chance. Unaware and caught off guard by unusually brash Union troop movements, the two armies clashed on September 17th, 1862. The ensuing battle resulted in 22,000 casualties and would become infamous as the single bloodiest day in American military history.

Though a tactical draw, Roesbruck argues that the strategic Union victory was the

NCO's sit at the foot of the Antietam Battlefield Observation Tower, at the end of the Bloody Lane, Sharpsburg, Md., Sept. 10, 2025. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Daniel Garas)

“Bringing these kids to Antietam and having them interact with the guides is an invaluable tool and great investment.”

*—Adam Betz,
Michigan National Guard
Command Historian*

actual turning point of the war— not Gettysburg.

Following the preliminary study, NCOs transitioned to the field portion where they traversed the battlefield and learned how terrain, the fog of war, and personalities impacted the day's battle.

The staff ride concluded at the Antietam National Cemetery with the integration session, where participants shared what they learned. In the glow of the setting sun, they read aloud the names of Antietam's fallen NCOs from Michigan.

For many, including Sgt. 1st Class Andrea Yearsovich, with Recruiting and Retention



Michigan NCO's walk across Burnside Bridge as they participate in a staff ride to the Antietam National Battlefield, Sharpsburg, Md., Sept. 10, 2025.

Battalion, the sheer size of Antietam's battlespace was shocking.

"It was surprising... going from each point and seeing how far apart each battle was," said Yearsovich. "How they were able to move across those huge distances and still maintain morale...it's impressive."

"The whole experience of a staff ride completely changes the way you see the battle."

***—Sgt. Stephan Brayden
46th MP Command***

For other attendees, the challenges of communicating on a 19th-century battlefield seemed to resonate the most.

Matthew Smith, an infantryman with Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 125th Infantry, recounted several instances where he believed instant communication

could have made an impact on the battle.

"When we're doing our maneuver drills, it's [communications] instant," Smith said. "I don't think I'll take comms for granted that much anymore."

Following the staff ride, the group presented their guides with a signed Michigan flag in front of a large monument, a Union infantryman calmly leaning against his rifle at parade rest.

"The American Volunteer" statue was dedicated 18 years after the battle and was considered unusually informal for its era. Despite criticism, Civil War veterans came to admire the statue. They viewed

its depiction of them as citizen-soldiers, rather than professionals, with pride. Something the visiting national guardsmen from Michigan could identify with.

Regardless of a soldier's status, the statue's base bears an inscription that resonates with all servicemembers: "not for themselves, but for their country."

To read this story online, [click here](#).



MICHIGAN ARMY NATIONAL GUARD PROMOTIONS

COL JAMES BLOCKER
COL STEPHEN CHAN
COL JASON EVANS
LTC MICHAEL ALMA
LTC RONNIE BURNS
LTC PETER LEEMAN
LTC ISMAIL TURAY
MAJ RUSSELL HANKINS
MAJ WALTER LUKASIK
MAJ EMILY MORGAN
MAJ STEPHEN RONAN
CPT DEREK BYRD
CPT JONAH DORNBOS
CPT ASHLEY GOODWIN
1LT FAITH ACKLAND
1LT ALI ALAZZAWI
1LT COSETTE CARTER
1LT NICHOLAS DENNISON
1LT JOEL FUNSTON
1LT BRYCE HOUSER
1LT COLLIN METZGER
1LT MITCHELL MORSE
1LT ANDREW POPPENHAGER
1LT JOHN REID
1LT BRAEDEN RICHARDS
1LT SHEA SCHAEFER
1LT JACOB VIAU
1LT BRENDAN WHITFORD
CW4 JAMES ESTEP
CW4 KIMBERLY FERRANTE
CW4 JORDAN MURDOCK
CW4 NICHOLAS WHITE
CW2 CHRISTOPHER MOSBY
CW2 MAXIMILLIAN RICHARDSON
CW2 JOHN VOTZKE
CW2 PEYTON ZIGILA
1SG CAMERON FIORILLOKRIZAN
MSG TIMOTHY CARLTON
MSG CHRISTOPHER EARLS
MSG ASHLEY GILLONS
MSG KRYSTIN KOHLS
MSG ALAN MULLIN
MSG KYLE WOODARD
SFC ALEC CARPENTER
SFC ROBERT ELIZONDO
SFC CALEB FRENCH
SFC DANIELLE GOERGE
SFC SPENCER GUSTAFSON
SFC EMILEE HENSON
SFC JOHN HUBINGER
SFC CARL LIVINGSTON
SFC LUKE NIEWOIT
SFC KATIE PINAR
SFC AARON PRISK

SFC JEREMY TARRIS
SFC AUSTIN TOPOLSKI
SFC NICOLE TRESTRAIL
SFC MATTHEW VANDERWAL
SSG MARK ABBOTT
SSG ALEXANDER ARGENTA
SSG ETHAN BJORK
SSG DAVID BOTTRELL
SSG JOSHUA BROWN
SSG VERONICA CORNEJO
SSG TERRY DREIBELBIS
SSG KASIDEY EASLICK
SSG AUSTIN FALKENSTINE
SSG BRENDEN FERNAN
SSG KEVIN HADLEY
SSG MICHAEL HALIFAX
SSG DUSTIN HENNAUT
SSG MARTIN HENRY
SSG KAITLYNN HENSLEY
SSG AUSTIN HETES
SSG ZACHARY KAPRAL
SSG BRITTNEY KREINER
SSG AIDAN LOWE
SSG PATRICK MAYABB
SSG MICHAEL MAZZUKELLY
SSG ZACHARY MITCHELL
SSG BRANDON PERRY
SSG PIERSEN RILEY
SSG LEWIS ROGERS
SSG JOSHUA STRACK
SSG ELIZABETH TROSPER
SSG JACOB WAINIO
SSG BRYANT WILLIAMS
SGT MASON ALLEN
SGT NICHOLAS ANDERSON
SGT BRENDAN BARRETT
SGT TY BIERMANCLINTON
SGT JOSHUA BOSS
SGT MASON BRIGHT
SGT ANTHONY CACHOLA
SGT TANNER COCHRANE
SGT WALTER CONKLIN
SGT EMELIS DAGGETT
SGT ELIJAH FENSKE
SGT WESTON FOSTER
SGT JAMES GERMANE
SGT IMANI GLAZE
SGT JEREMY HARRELL
SGT DYLAN HEENEY
SGT JAKE HOSEY
SGT JANIYA JORDAN
SGT CONNOR KENDRICK
SGT BRANDON KIRKEY
SGT MATTHEW KNISS

SGT ANTHONY LARNER
SGT JEFFREY LASSEN
SGT JAKUB LONG
SGT JAMES LUMSDEN
SGT LADARYL LYTE
SGT SHANIQUE MADDOX
SGT ALEXANDER MCDONALD
SGT CHANDLER MORAPETERSON
SGT MAKENA NEWMAN
SGT AIDEN OWSLEY
SGT AARON RAY
SGT ANDREW REVORD
SGT MICHAEL ROSMANN
SGT KAITLYN SAVAGE
SGT BRENDAN SOMMER
SGT HENRY STRESSMAN
SGT ELI TEHENNEPE
SGT JOSEPH TREAT
SGT VICTOR UWITONZE
SGT MADDOX VARELA
SGT ERIN WALLACE
SGT JASON WHITTENBURG
SGT MAXFOX WILLIAMS
SGT GABRIEL WYSOCKI
SGT KEITH YOUNG
SGT ERIC ZAVESKY
SPC NABIL ABDI
SPC LAYLA AL-AHMAR
SPC JUSTIN ANTOSZ
SPC SHANE BARNES
SPC JAMES BARRON
SPC RAYMOND BECERRA
SPC BLADE BELDEN
SPC JADEN BOLES
SPC ALEC BUSH
SPC TODD CAMPBELL
SPC WALKER CLAIBORNE
SPC JUSTIN COFFELL
SPC BROOKLYN COLEMAN
SPC JOSHUA COLEMAN
SPC LUKE CONKLIN
SPC CONNOR DALTON
SPC TAMARUS DARBY
SPC GARRETT DISHMAN
SPC BRENDEN DYER
SPC ALEXANDER EICKHOFF
SPC RAELELLIS
SPC JACOB EMANS
SPC TRINITY FALL
SPC DIONNE FINNEY
SPC TYLER FISCHER
SPC ALYSSA FULTON
SPC CHRISTIAN GARCIA
SPC LAMIA GARTH

MICHIGAN ARMY NATIONAL GUARD PROMOTIONS

SPC SHAHEER GREENE MASSENBURG
SPC JOSHUA GUZMAN
SPC ROWAN HADDAD
SPC KALEB HAMS
SPC JORDAN HARRIS
SPC SKYLER HENRY
SPC CONNOR HOKE
SPC MASON HUGHES
SPC NOAH HUNTZINGER
SPC AYOMIDE IBRAHIM ODUMAS
SPC LANDON JACKSON
SPC MARQUIS JACKSON
SPC CINIYA JONES
SPC FISCHER JONES
SPC SEAN KASPRZYK
SPC KIYLA KELLEY
SPC TERRY KELSEY
SPC JACOB KIRBY
SPC ANTHONY KOPKE
SPC ISABELLA LAIL
SPC TAYVON LIDDELL
SPC ETHAN LOCKWOOD
SPC DYLAN LUTZ
SPC PETER MADDOX
SPC PEYTON MCKEAGE
SPC BRADEN MEADOWS
SPC ISMAEL MENDEZ
SPC TERRY MILBURN
SPC KEAGAN MOSS
SPC GRACE MUCKENHIRN
SPC TRISTAN OSULLIVAN
SPC VIVIAN OWSLEY
SPC JERAMIAH PEREZ
SPC STEVEN PETERSON
SPC ALLISON PHILLIPS
SPC KAYLA POTVIN
SPC MIGUEL PUGA
SPC ZAHARA RODRIGUEZ
SPC DAKOTA SAWYER
SPC JOSHUA SCHETTLER
SPC JAYDON SCOTT
SPC GRACELYNNE SHATTUCK
SPC CHARLES SHENK
SPC CADEN SMITH
SPC ISABELLA SMITH
SPC KYNADE SPARKS
SPC JULIEN SPILLMAN
SPC MADALYN SUMNER
SPC JOHN TAP
SPC DAKARIO VALENTINE
SPC NORAH VANDERSTEEN
SPC JESSIE VASQUEZ
SPC LUKE VELEZ
SPC XAVIER WADE

SPC ABIGAIL WARNER
SPC JOHN WAYNE
SPC ALEXANDER WILCOX
SPC JONATHON WILLIAMS
SPC LOGAN WILLIAMS
SPC VINCENT WILLIAMS
PFC AYANNA ADAMS
PFC GAGE ALLEN-BINT
PFC JAMES ASHCRAFT
PFC ANTHONY ATKINSON
PFC DAVIAN BARBA
PFC LILLY BELKNAP
PFC SYNCERITY BELLEVUE
PFC ANTHONY BOWMAN
PFC GAVIN BOWMAN
PFC JORDAN BRADLEY
PFC DESMOND BRANTLEY
PFC DARIANNA BROWNING
PFC JOSHUA BRUDER
PFC JOSEPH BUCHANAN
PFC SIRANI CARDIEL-NIEVES
PFC TRISTAN CHASE
PFC FRANK COLE
PFC CALEB CONERY
PFC GARRETT CONNELL
PFC OSCAR CONNOLLY
PFC CHAD CONROY
PFC ALLISON CORTEZ-LICONA
PFC KEEGAN CROWE
PFC BRIDGETTE DARLINGTON
PFC MEGAN DEWEY
PFC FRANCIS DOMINGUEZ CRUZ
PFC MIREYA DZWONEK
PFC NOAH ENGELSMA
PFC SHANE FARLIN
PFC SAMUEL FODREY
PFC DAYTHAN FRY
PFC AARON GENUS
PFC JAIYANNA GILLETTE
PFC KYLE GOULD
PFC JACOB HALIFAX
PFC BRANDON HALL
PFC LUCAS HALL
PFC BREANNA HARTMANN
PFC ANJELINA HAVILAND
PFC DEVIN HERNANDEZ
PFC JOSIAH HESTER
PFC ISAAC HUIZINGA
PFC NICHOLAS HUNTER
PFC DAKOTA INNES
PFC RAMSES IZAGUIRRE
PFC ALLINSON IZAGUIRRE CRUZ
PFC ELIJAH JACKSON
PFC MAX JAVOR

PFC LASHAYLA JOHNSON
PFC MOLLY JOHNSTON
PFC AEHMORAH JONES
PFC ANDREW KANOUSE
PFC LAJOI KENNEDY
PFC JADAN KING
PFC ANDREW KLEIN
PFC JAYLEN LALLIER-PETROSKEY
PFC ALLAYAH LAWRENCE
PFC NATHANIEL LILLY
PFC ANDRES LOPEZ ROMERO
PFC JONATHAN LOPEZ-ESTRADA
PFC JAQUELYNE LOREDO-MARTINEZ
PFC LILLY LOREN
PFC TRISTAN LUEBKE
PFC JACOB MACKAY
PFC JASMIN MARTINEZ
PFC NANCY MEDINA
PFC GABRIEL MEYER
PFC NOAH MILIUSIS
PFC LUKE MILLIKEN
PFC ROBERT MILTON
PFC KENDALL MINICK
PFC ZACHARY MOHR
PFC ALLEN ROBERT MOLASKI
PFC ERICK MONTER-CABANAS
PFC ROBERT NUNN
PFC MOBOLAJI OJOFEITIMI
PFC CARSON OLDS
PFC KEVIN PARRA
PFC GABINO PECINA
PFC ALETA PIWOWAR
PFC LACEY PLASHEK
PFC BREANA PROBST
PFC CHRISTOPHER QUINN
PFC MICHAEL RAMBO
PFC GABRIEL RAMEREIZ
PFC RODRIGO RAMOS
PFC JAMES RANDLE
PFC JONATHAN RAY
PFC KELBYN REYES
PFC MATTHEW SANCHEZ-RIVERA
PFC LOGAN SCHMIDT
PFC EAN SCHMITT
PFC GRAYCIE SCHROEDER
PFC KALOB SCHULTZ
PFC JAHMARI SCOTT
PFC KYLE SECKLER
PFC KATERYNA SHCHERBATA
PFC HUNTER SHERK
PFC ANGELINA SILVA
PFC PAYTON SIMMONS
PFC GERACY STEPHENS
PFC DARICO STONE

MICHIGAN ARMY NATIONAL GUARD PROMOTIONS

PFC BENJAMIN STRAUS	PV2 MICHAEL GOLDSMITH	PV2 HEIDI PHILLIPS
PFC MAXWELL SYNHA	PV2 ULISES GOMEZ FERNANDEZ	PV2 GABRIEL POLLINGTON
PFC CHRISTIAN TAVAREZ	PV2 ALEXIS GRANKE	PV2 JARED QUINN
PFC DEONTE TAYLOR	PV2 JUDAH GRAVES	PV2 BENJAMIN RANJEL
PFC SAMANTHA TERAVEST	PV2 JOHN GREEN	PV2 HUNTER RANVILLE
PFC JOSEPH THIBODEAU	PV2 KRISTA GREGORY	PV2 RYATT REDMOND
PFC WILLIAM VAN NIEJENHUIS	PV2 JAMES GRIEB	PV2 ROBERT REETZ
PFC MATTIE VAUGHN	PV2 TEMPERANCE GUYESKA	PV2 JEREMY REYNERO
PFC HENRIK WALTERSDORF	PV2 GAVIN HACK	PV2 JAMES RUSSELL
PFC ZACHARY WARCHOCK	PV2 JOHN HALE	PV2 ALAN RUTLEDGE
PFC WAYNE WINTON	PV2 NICOLAS HALE	PV2 SHILOH SALIB
PFC ROY WISE	PV2 THOMAS HARRISON	PV2 DESAN SCHNEIDER
PFC FORD YATES	PV2 SONYA HARTOON	PV2 HAILEE SEAWRIGHT
PFC JOHN ZACCHI	PV2 ELIJAH HELDER	PV2 JACKSON SEELY
PFC LIAM ZASTROW	PV2 CHRISTOPHER HENSLEY	PV2 GAVIN SEHY
PV2 ELMARRE ADAMS	PV2 ZACHARY HERRICK	PV2 HUDSON SHAKE
PV2 AJAK AJAK	PV2 ZACHARY HERRING	PV2 TYLER SICOTTE
PV2 LEONARDO ANGULO-TORRES	PV2 BREANNA HOFFMAN	PV2 DEAWON SIMERSON
PV2 MICHAEL ANTUSHEVICH	PV2 TIANA JACKSON	PV2 ANTHONY SIMMS
PV2 ZAKARIYYAH BASS	PV2 ISAAC JOHNSON	PV2 RYAN SMITH
PV2 CARTER BELL	PV2 KIARRA JOHNSON	PV2 LONDON SNELL
PV2 JERSIE BENNETT	PV2 TRAVIS JOHNSON	PV2 ADAM SNYDER
PV2 ROHAN BENSON	PV2 RICARDO JUAREZ	PV2 JOSIAH SOBERS
PV2 LOGAN BLALOCK	PV2 MINSUNG KANG	PV2 NAOMI SOUTHWELL
PV2 KIANA BLOODWORTH	PV2 WESTON KING	PV2 MACEY STANKO
PV2 NICKOLAS BOAZ	PV2 BILLY KLEPI	PV2 SANAIAH STEPHENS
PV2 BRAEDEN BRINKMAN	PV2 JOSIE LACOMBE	PV2 NOLAN STRATTON
PV2 MIKEY BROWN	PV2 ANDREW LADA	PV2 CLAIRE SULLIVAN
PV2 NIGIN BROWN	PV2 DEVIN LAUTZENHEISER	PV2 DAHSIYAH THOMPSON
PV2 ETHAN BURROWS	PV2 JORAM LEON	PV2 JC TILES
PV2 TAYLOR CHATEL	PV2 BRODERICK LEWIS	PV2 ERIC TOMAS-MIRANDA
PV2 SAMUEL CLARK	PV2 PHILLIP LIEBY	PV2 TRACE TOTEFF
PV2 GWENYTH COLE	PV2 WESLEY LLOYD	PV2 COLE TRIFFLE
PV2 SEAN CULLEN	PV2 CODY LOCKABY	PV2 ALEXANDRIA TRIPP
PV2 KARMA DANIELS	PV2 PALOMA MARTINEZ-CORTES	PV2 JAMISON TSCHUPP
PV2 JAMYA DAVIS	PV2 GABRIEL MATTZELA	PV2 SYLVIANA TYNES
PV2 CHRISTIAN DEAN	PV2 JOSEPH MCCRORY	PV2 MUKTA SRI SAI RITH UTTARADI
PV2 JOSEPH DETTORE	PV2 ALEXIS MCNAIR	PV2 CHRISTOPHER VOVILLIA
PV2 MALACHI DILDY	PV2 SKYLAR MEANS	PV2 ALEXUS WAGONJACK
PV2 WILLIAM DOEHRING	PV2 ANGEL MEDINA	PV2 DOMINIC WALKER
PV2 DOMINIC DOLATA	PV2 SIMON MILATZ	PV2 JODI WARFIELD
PV2 MICHAEL DUGGINS	PV2 ALEXANDER MILLER	PV2 JOSHUA WEBB
PV2 COLLIN DURANT	PV2 ISRAEL MONTES	PV2 AUSTIN WEST
PV2 GAGE DYE	PV2 JAVEN MOORE	PV2 TORIGAN WHEAT
PV2 FRANKLIN ECHEVERRI	PV2 SHY-ANN MOORE	PV2 LOGAN WILLIAMS
PV2 HOPE ESCOBEDO	PV2 YAMILET MUGICA GAYTAN	PV2 OMAR WITCHER
PV2 MASON FORD	PV2 DAVID MYERS	PV2 BRIGHT ZORH
PV2 JAMARION FOSTER-JONES	PV2 RICHARD NALETTE	PV2 RUTH ZUNGUNDE
PV2 NOREEN ANDREA FRANCISCO	PV2 COLE NEELEY	
PV2 KLOE FRANKLIN	PV2 MAGNUS OFARRELL	
PV2 DEKARYEA FREEMAN	PV2 ALEXANDER OROZCO-VELAZQUEZ	
PV2 AMY FULLER	PV2 AARON PACE	
PV2 DIANA GALLEGOS	PV2 KATHRYN PEGG	
PV2 JOSEPH GARCIA	PV2 ASHLEY PENNINGTON	

AIR NATIONAL GUARD PROMOTIONS

LT COL	BENJAMIN BATES	AMN	KAHLIL MCLEOD
LT COL	ANTHONY HYLKO	AMN	DILLON ROSE
MAJ	SAUMYA NAGAR		
2ND LT	BRADEN COOK		
2ND LT	JOSEPH DIGIOVANNI JR		
2ND LT	XAVIER LOPEZ		
CMSGT	DOUGLAS SHIPPY		
SMSGT	BRIAN BEST		
SMSGT	JOSHUA JOHNSON		
SMSGT	DEREK LEPPEK		
SMSGT	JOHN MCGOUGH		
MSGT	JEFFERY BARRON		
MSGT	KENNETH DUPRE		
MSGT	TARA JOHNSON		
MSGT	BRANDON PRITCHETT		
MSGT	PAUL WELLMAN		
TSGT	MATTHEW BERGGREN		
TSGT	FORREST DIXON		
TSGT	TORREY GRAY		
TSGT	KEALI KITCHEN		
TSGT	BRITTNEY LAKOS		
TSGT	DEWON LEWIS		
TSGT	OLEKSANDRA SAKHAPOVA		
TSGT	BRANDAN SMITH		
TSGT	TYLER WALKER		
TSGT	BRADLEY ZIEGLER		
SSGT	AUSTIN ALMYDA		
SSGT	JOSHUA BARJAKTAROVICH		
SSGT	ANTHONY BURLEY		
SSGT	RANDALL CAUGHELL		
SSGT	BRUNO CERI		
SSGT	DYLAN FROLING		
SSGT	JAYDEN GILES		
SSGT	WAICHA GONDWE		
SSGT	MITCHELL GRAMS		
SSGT	MARGIE HARMS		
SSGT	JOHN MIKOLAIZYK		
SSGT	ALTEENA O NEAL		
SSGT	AMANDA PARYASKI		
SSGT	CHELSEA SCHROEDER		
SSGT	JOE TRIPLETT JR		
SSGT	AUSTIN WIGGLESWORTH		
SRA	JADEN BENSCHOTER		
SRA	GRANT DAVIS		
SRA	LAILAH FOSTER		
SRA	SHANE HOWELL		
SRA	ALEXANDER KITTO		
SRA	CHEICK KONE		
SRA	ERIC MORGAN		
SRA	DARE OLOGBE		
A1C	JACK CARSON		
A1C	CHARLES HOWARD II		
A1C	TIMUR MATTESON		
AMN	HAILEE ARNOLD		
AMN	HUNTER BLACK		

NATIONAL GUARD RETIREMENTS

MICHIGAN ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

BG	KATHERINE WHITE
COL	BRIAN BURRELL
COL	STEVEN GUST
COL	CHRISTOPHER HYDE
LTC	CAREY JACKSON
LTC	ADAM JENZEN
LTC	CORRINA WHITMOYER
MAJ	RHONDA BLACK
MAJ	ADAM LITTLE
MAJ	CLIFFORD MAYHEW
MAJ	BRIAN VANSINGEL
CPT	RYAN GALE
CW4	JASON BRINK
CW4	BRIAN CHAMBERS
CW4	FREDERICK HYDE
CW4	KERRI KRUCKEBERG
CW4	LORA LINGEMAN
CW4	ERIC TUPA
CW4	RONALD ZIEHMER
CW3	KEITH NELSON
CSM	ANDREW RODRIGUEZ
CSM	JAMES TAYLOR
MSG	TODD BISCHOFF
MSG	MATTHEW CHERRETTE
MSG	MICHAEL NYSTROM
1SG	AARON MILLER
SFC	VIRGIL AKINS
SFC	MICHAEL BRUNGER
SFC	RYAN CHERRY
SFC	MICHAEL KIMBLE
SFC	SCOTT KINNEY
SFC	TRAVIS OSBORNE
SFC	SCOTT PECK
SFC	SCOTT PETERS
SFC	RICHARD ROBERTSON
SFC	BENJAMIN TERPSMA
SFC	VALERIE WATKINS
SSG	JAMES BENNETT
SSG	SABRINA BROWN
SSG	THOMAS CENTERS
SSG	JOSHUA ROSE
SSG	DEREK VANBUREN
SSG	ERIC WILTFANG
SGT	AARON KEEHN
SPC	AARON ROSS
SPC	CYNTHIA SPOHN
PFC	ELISHA LOPEZ

MICHIGAN AIR NATIONAL GUARD

COL	MATTHEW ROBINS
SMSGT	JOHN HARVEY
SMSGT	SKATCH PERUSKI
CMSGT	MAURICE GRAVES
CMSGT	ROBERT SUTTON
MSGT	ANDREA GRABNER
MSGT	ERIC MCCULLEY
MSGT	RYAN SEDLOW
MSGT	ROBERTO TREVINO
TSGT	STANTON AMOS
TSGT	STEVEN BATES
TSGT	HERACLEO LEONES

TAPS

MAJ SALLY MCNAMARA 21 JULY 2025

1SG ROBERT MERRILL 25 JULY 2025

MAJ PATRICIA FRANK 12 AUG 2025

SSG WILLIE TAYLOR 15 AUG 2025

MSG LECIL REECE 20 AUG 2025

MSG JAMES MUIR 29 AUG 2025

SFC VERNON TUBBS 3 SEPT 2025

SSG STANFORD PENN 6 SEPT 2025

LTC GARY HUTSON 9 SEPT 2025

SFC BOBBY GADDY 9 SEPT 2025

LTC ROBERT ESLINGER 11 SEPT 2025

SFC TERRY BRONSON 13 SEPT 2025



FUTURE EVENTS

NORTHERN FORGE 26-1

23-25 JANUARY 2026

CAMP GRAYLING

NORTHERN STRIKE 26-1

26-29 JANUARY 2026

CAMP GRAYLING



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ALWAYS THERE

