

Public Affairs Update Jan. 4-31, 2020



Here is the latest summary of stories and coverage of South Carolina National Guard Soldiers and Airmen supporting the National Guard mission to provide ready units to conduct operations that support and defend our fellow citizens, the Constitution of the United States of America, and South Carolina, whenever and wherever the threat arises or the need exists.

The South Carolina National Guard is a premier organization of diverse Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen who are Ready, Relevant, Resilient and Responsible to our communities, state, and nation in time of need, and who are led by competent, capable, caring, and professional leaders and live by the values of loyalty, excellence in all we do, accountability, duty, emphasis on community, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage.

Priorities of Public Affairs coverage include real-world crisis events, joint exercises, training, high-visibility community events, deployments and homecomings, newsworthy situations that support current events and South Carolina National Guard support or involvement, special emphasis events that support recognized DoD themes or campaigns, and designated patriotic holidays and events that support the South Carolina community, and the adjutant general's priorities of recruiting and retention, professional military education, individual and collective training, and accountability through effectively leveraging limited resources according to laws, regulations, and policies to maximize individual and unit readiness. The most recent annual report for the SC Military Department can be found here:

<https://www.scgard.ng.mil/Portals/45/Documents/annual%20reports/Annual%20Report%202019.pdf?ver=2019-12-09-120622-060>

Please contact the South Carolina National Guard Public Affairs office for coverage of events that meet the criteria. View Flickr links in Chrome for best results.

Upcoming, please join us at the State House Tuesday, Feb. 25, for the SC Military Department Day to honor and recognize the service members and employees who make up this organization and the capabilities of the department to meet our federal and state mission. Flyer attached or visit the Facebook event page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/463986504271742/>

Please also share with your Soldiers that they can find the postings for full-time employment opportunities on the South Carolina National Guard website, accessible without a CAC card: <https://www.scgard.ng.mil/Resources/Employment-Opportunities/>

Podcasts

Most recent episodes:

Episode 50: TAG Match and new individual weapons qualification process with Staff Sgt. Eric Lawrence and Staff Sgt. William Cox

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CzhZgeZa9Ys>

Episode 51: Military spouse with Kim Erskine

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kHFLeWSVZfg>

Episode 52: Community Relations with Capt. Cody Denson

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uUy7HDVawBg>

Episode 53: German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge with U.S. Marine Corps Maj. Charles Richardson

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5-uOP4U-iBc>

Episode 54: Partnerships during Best Warrior Competition with German Armed Forces Master Sgt. Maik Nattkemper and Sgt. Thorsten Walter

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-uf72Fc3ICc>

Episode 55: Best Warrior Competition preparations with 1st Sgt. Kevin Williams

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=on1vGHqfIPY>

Episode 56: Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year, Staff Sgt. Kenneth Wingard, and Soldier of the Year, Spc. Jordan Allen

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zembz-B0Ssk>

To find all the South Carolina National Guard Palmetto Guardian podcasts, check them out on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2r1PR9jrrCkKhAWksPCJxw>, or listen to them in the iTunes store by searching "Palmetto Guardian"

Relevant

South Carolina National Guard enhances cyber initiatives with new facility

The development of a new South Carolina National Guard facility in Aiken, South Carolina is expected to begin fall of 2020, with a focus on enhancing cybersecurity initiatives for the state.

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/360768/south-carolina-national-guard-enhances-cyber-initiatives-with-new-facility>

https://www.aikenstandard.com/education/governor-supports-funding-to-build-dreamport-cyber-facility-at-usc/article_eb96767e-37ba-11ea-a321-cfdcb5aea294.html

<https://www.govtech.com/security/South-Carolina-Campus-to-House-National-Guard-Cyberfacility.html>

<https://edscoop.com/usc-aiken-dreamport-cybersecurity-collaborative-cyber-center-south-carolina/>

124th Engineer Company keep it constructive

In the engineering office at Erbil Air Base, Iraq, there is a whiteboard displaying an ever-changing list of improvement projects. Almost daily, military and civilian personnel come through the door asking for assistance...U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Gerald D. Sutton, a 124th Engineer Company squad leader, said their newer personnel with his South Carolina National Guard unit were gaining a lot of experience by operating heavy equipment.

https://www.army.mil/article/231800/engineers_keep_it_constructive

124th Engineer Company fortifies defenses in Iraq

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 124th Engineer Company, South Carolina National Guard, attached to the 206th Engineer Battalion while deployed, fortify base defenses at Al Asad Air Base, Iraq, Jan. 23, 2020.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157712872343731>

Ready

South Carolina National Guard Signal Soldiers conduct FTX

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 151st Expeditionary Signal Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, prepare communication equipment during a field training exercise in Hodges, South Carolina, Jan. 11, 2020. The training exercise is intended to enhance and validate Soldiers' skills utilizing a variety of signal equipment. The 228th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade (TTSB) has trained and validated multiple units at the Hodges training site for stateside and overseas deployments through signal gunnery table training, which focuses on communication platform training.

FTX: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157712625510258>

Senior Leader Visit: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157712655540227>

Best Warrior Competition 2020

The South Carolina National Guard conducted the state-level Best Warrior Competition at McCrady Training Center in Eastover, South Carolina, Jan. 25-29, 2020, to identify the Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) of the Year and Soldier of the Year. The competitors included U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers from units throughout the South Carolina National Guard. The Soldiers were challenged and tested on events to include the Army Combat Fitness Test, interviews, exams, essays, ruck march, Army Physical Fitness Test, swim test, obstacle course, weapons qualification, land navigation, and general Soldier skills. The NCO of the Year and Soldier of the Year for the South Carolina National Guard will go on to compete at the regional-level competition for region III, later this year. The regional competition includes U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers from South Carolina, North Carolina, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, Puerto Rico, Tennessee, and Virgin Islands and will be hosted by the South Carolina National Guard.

Videos: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q75FFIcA34k>

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157712893664203>

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157712864574447>

2-263rd Air Defense Artillery Battalion conducts weapons qualification

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 2-263rd Air Defense Artillery Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, conduct individual weapons and crew served weapons qualification at the range during drill weekend, Jan. 3-5, 2020.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157712655726242>

59th Aviation Troop Command drill weekend training

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with 2-238th General Support Aviation Battalion and 2-151st Service and Support Aviation Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, conduct cargo movement, formation flight, and camera downlink training, with two CH-47F Chinook and one LUH-72A Lakota helicopters, Jan. 12, 2020, in Greenville, South Carolina. The training incorporated several subordinated tasks, and was focused in preparing aircrews and support personnel for the challenges of domestic emergency-response, as well as combat operations.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157712672283513>

1-178th Field Artillery Battalion conducts live fire exercise

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 1-178th Field Artillery Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, conduct a live fire training exercise Jan. 25, 2020 at McCrady Training Center in Eastover, South Carolina. The unit must complete six objectives to be qualified and for crews to be certified in order to go to a large, multicultural, training exercise in Germany later this year.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157712834843481>

McEntire Joint National Guard Base supports Seymour Johnson AFB exercise
F-15E Strike Eagle fighter jets from Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C. and C-130J Hercules military transport aircraft from Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark. descended onto the home of the South Carolina Air National Guard's 169th Fighter Wing as a part of Exercise Agile Lion, Jan. 14-16, testing the Air Force's ability to rapidly deploy with a small footprint.

Story: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/361160/mcentire-jngb-supports-seymour-johnson-afb-exercise>

Video: <https://www.dvidshub.net/video/736231/mcentire-joint-national-guard-base-supports-exercise-agile-lion>

<https://www.dvidshub.net/video/736211/mcentire-joint-national-guard-base-supports-exercise-agile-lion>

<https://www.dvidshub.net/video/736206/mcentire-joint-national-guard-base-supports-exercise-agile-lion>

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/thescang/albums/72157712902868368>

Responsible

South Carolina National Guard welcomes Gov. McMaster

The South Carolina National Guard, 1-178th Field Artillery Battalion, welcomes Gov. Henry McMaster, South Carolina governor, and other members of the South Carolina government to view live fire training activities Jan. 25, 2020 at McCrady Training Center in Eastover, South Carolina. The live fire training included the unit completing six objectives to be qualified and for crews to be certified in order to go to a large, multicultural, training exercise in Germany later this year.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157712836322643>

#KnowYourMil with U.S. Army Maj. Karla Evans

This is the story of U.S. Army Maj. Karla Evans with the South Carolina Army National Guard. She talks about her childhood experiences and how that led her to join the military.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VgT9-3KHQgw>

South Carolina National Guard conducts Enlisted Hall of Fame induction ceremony

Retired U.S. Army Sgt. Maj. James York and retired U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Lanny Cobb are inducted into the Enlisted Hall of Fame during a ceremony Jan. 29, 2020 at McCrady Training Center, in Eastover, South Carolina. Induction into the South Carolina National Guard Enlisted Hall of Fame is an honor for senior non-commissioned officers who have gone above and beyond in performance of their duties.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157712892051671>

30th Armored Brigade Combat Team Soldiers attend Basic Leaders Course in Middle East

U.S. Soldiers in the 30th Armored Brigade Combat Team have been able to attend the Basic Leaders Course while deployed in the Middle East, thanks to U.S. Army Central that hosts a class nearly every month.

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/360430/30th-armored-brigade-combat-team-soldiers-attend-basic-leaders-course-middle-east>

South Carolina National Guard participates in Aiken High NJROTC anniversary

U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Brad Owens, South Carolina National Guard director of joint staff, served as a guest speaker for the Aiken High Navy Junior ROTC 50th anniversary celebration in Aiken, South Carolina, Jan. 23, 2020.

Story: https://www.aikenstandard.com/education/aiken-high-alum-returns-home-for-njrotc-s-th-anniversary/article_6f1b9e6a-3dfc-11ea-a16c-2baad32d1c18.html

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157712875885588>

Retirement ceremony for Chief Warrant Officer 4 Shore

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers and their Families attend a retirement ceremony for U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer 4 Steven Shore, Jan. 12, 2020, at the South Carolina National Guard Army Aviation Support Facility location #2 in Greenville, South Carolina. Shore retired after more than 35 years of military service. During his career, Shore was qualified on six different Army helicopters and logged more than 2,800 total flight hours and more than 450 combat flight hours.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157712670664486>

South Carolina National Guard participates in Battle of the Bulge anniversary ceremony

U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Van McCarty, the adjutant general for South Carolina, speaks to World War II veterans during a ceremony recognizing the 75th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge, Jan. 18, 2020 in Columbia, South Carolina. Service members and civilians had an opportunity to experience life as a Soldier during that time through numerous displays and interactions with the veterans. The Battle of the Bulge was the last major German offensive on the western front during World War II, and took place from Dec. 16, 1944 to Jan. 25, 1945.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157712727485106>

South Carolina National Guard conducts quarterly sergeants major meeting in Greenville

South Carolina National Guard sergeants major attend the quarterly sergeants major meeting held at the Army Aviation Support Facility #2 in Greenville, South Carolina, Jan. 16, 2020. 59th Aviation Troop Command hosted the event, and provided transportation to all attendees.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157712700312787>

151st Expeditionary Signal Battalion conducts change of responsibility ceremony

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers of the 151st Expeditionary Signal Battalion (ESB), South Carolina National Guard, conduct a change of responsibility ceremony in Greenville, South Carolina, Jan. 12, 2020 to recognize the outgoing command sergeant major and welcome the incoming. During the ceremony, U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Kappel passed his senior-enlisted responsibilities

to U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Bradley Weathers. Following the event, the 151st ESB conducted a retirement ceremony to honor Kappel and his 28 years of military service.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157712672445773>

Resilient

30th Armored Brigade Combat Team honors legacy of Martin Luther King through mentorship

As America celebrates King's legacy on Monday, Jan. 20, 2020, Soldiers in the 30th Armored Brigade Combat Team deployed in the Middle East are putting his words into action through mentorship. The 30th Armored Brigade Combat Team is comprised of National Guard Soldiers from units in North Carolina, South Carolina, Ohio, West Virginia and Washington. They are deployed to the Middle East to support Operation Spartan Shield.

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/359680/30th-armored-brigade-combat-team-honors-legacy-martin-luther-king-through-mentorship>

Know Your Mil

Do you know a Soldier or Airman with a unique story to tell? Contact the South Carolina National Guard Public Affairs office to help us share their story.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=34j3sUfzpdA>

For more up-to-date information on the South Carolina National Guard, follow us on social media:

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