

Public Affairs Update June 1-30, 2021



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.

The digital FY2020 Annual Report can be found here:

https://www.scguard.ng.mil/Portals/45/Documents/annual%20reports/Annual%20Report%202020.pdf?ver=xZKjG_hQx_wl_Sot2WUB8Q%3d%3d

South Carolina National Guard Training, Missions, Current Events:

South Carolina National Guard talks about the 100 days of summer

On this episode of the Palmetto Guardian we talk with U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer 4 Carl Brown, South Carolina National Guard state safety manager, U.S. Army Warrant Officer 1 James Reaves, South Carolina National Guard safety specialist, and U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Terry Addis, South Carolina National Guard safety specialist, about the 100 days of summer and how to stay safe during the summer months.

Podcast: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yi5aca3xHD4>

Health and Wellness workouts

Coaches from the Health and Wellness section of Service Member and Family Care offer an exercise to help improve your health and fitness.

Overall sprint-drag-carry: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6tjDnK1ljAM>

Carry portion of sprint-drag-carry: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fAf5xJlcW5Y>

Drag portion of sprint-drag-carry: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vCZKICHnqLs>

Hand release push up: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9lrXUrUdVNk>

Chief of the National Guard Bureau visits Charleston to meet with Southeast Region Adjutants General

The South Carolina National Guard supported the Southeast Region Adjutant General meeting June 30, 2021, in Charleston, South Carolina, hosted by U.S. Army Gen. Daniel Hokanson, Chief of the National Guard Bureau. The adjutants general, senior enlisted leaders, and their spouses, from South Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, Kentucky, Georgia, Puerto Rico, Florida, North Carolina, and Virginia gathered to discuss topics that impact their states and territories.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157719532922135>

246th Army Band Summer Tour

The 246th Army Band, South Carolina National Guard, conducts their 2021 summer tour, June 25-July 4, at locations throughout the state.

Greenville concert: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157719487300561>

Carolina Celebration of Liberty:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157719469925236>

Early Independence Day: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157719460429458>

South Carolina National Guard 122nd Engineer Brigade to celebrate 75th anniversary

The 122nd Engineer Battalion of the South Carolina National Guard will recognize its 75th anniversary during a community celebration, July 18, 2021, in Edgefield, South Carolina. The event will take place in the Edgefield Town Square on Main Street, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. It will be open to the public and admission is free. As part of the event, the U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers assigned to the 122nd Engineer Battalion will march in formation from the South Carolina National Guard Edgefield readiness center to Main Street, followed by a recognition ceremony highlighting the history of the unit and honoring former leadership. The town of Edgefield will have vendors on site with food for purchase, static displays, and activities for children including a bounce house and a rock wall.

Press Release:

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/399903/south-carolina-national-guard-122nd-engineer-battalion-celebrate-75th-anniversary>

South Carolina National Guard talks about Independence Day

On this episode of the Palmetto Guardian we talk with John Freeman, South Carolina Military Museum weapons curator, and Heather McPherson, South Carolina Military Museum curator of history, about the importance of Independence Day and the reopening of the South Carolina Military Museum exhibits that have been closed since March of 2020.

Podcast: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ulTmF2CsbjA>

South Carolina National Guard hosts career and resource fair

The South Carolina National Guard Service Member and Family Care office hosts a career and resource fair, June 24, 2021, at the State Fair Grounds in Columbia, South Carolina. The career fair is used to help connect service members and families with local employers, state agencies, and organizations that provide military and veteran services, in order to gain employment or advance their career. It is also an opportunity for service members who have been on orders in support of COVID-19 response efforts to obtain civilian employment with their transition from active duty.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157719451400763>

1980th returns from deployment

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 1980th Support Detachment, South Carolina National Guard, return home June 23, 2021, with family, friends, and South Carolina National Guard leaders greeting them in Columbia, South Carolina, after a deployment to the Middle East in support of Operation Spartan Shield.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157719447546248>

South Carolina National Guard talks about LGBTQ awareness month

On this episode of the Palmetto Guardian we talk with Megan Hall, South Carolina National Guard LGBTQ special emphasis program member, and Jennifer Wolff, South Carolina National Guard behavioral health specialist, about bringing awareness to the LGBTQ community, as well as educational resources that are available to service members and their families.

Podcast: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qlyc6MOS-Sw>

South Carolina Air National Guard supports Operation Healthy Delta 2021

More than 40 Airmen from the South Carolina Air National Guard (SCANG) deployed to the Midwest to participate in Operation Healthy Delta 2021, a Department of Defense sponsored Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) program designed to provide military training opportunities by delivering key services to local citizens in underserved communities. Swamp Foxes from the 169th Medical Group and 169th Force Support Squadron provided medical and food service support in three locations in Sikeston, Missouri, Caruthersville, Missouri and Metropolis, Illinois June 14-24.

Story:

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/399429/south-carolina-air-national-guard-supports-operation-healthy-delta-2021>

South Carolina National Guard attends cyber boot camp at The Citadel

The Citadel Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Institute (CDCI) launched its inaugural National Guard Cyber Boot Camp, June 7-18, 2021 at The Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina. Twenty-Eight South Carolina National Guard Soldiers from units assigned throughout the state participated in the Cyber Leaders Development Program.

Story:

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/399517/south-carolina-national-guard-attends-cyber-boot-camp-citadel>

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157719448316784>

South Carolina National Guard talks about PTSD awareness month

On this episode of the Palmetto Guardian we talk with Mrs. Lisa Mustard, South Carolina National Guard behavioral health office, and Mr. Eric Beasley, licensed professional counselor and former service member, about PTSD awareness.

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

South Carolina National Guard talks about employment services

On this episode of the Palmetto Guardian we talk with Elisa Edwards, South Carolina National Guard employment services director, about employment services and the upcoming job fair, June 24, 2021, at the State Fair Grounds in Columbia, South Carolina.

Podcast: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b97ykePr1DE>

Senior leader visit to JRTC

Senior leaders with the South Carolina National Guard visited U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers and Colombian Army soldiers conducting training at the Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) at Fort Polk, Louisiana, June 15, 2021. U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Van McCarty, the adjutant general for South Carolina, U.S. Army Col. Edward Cloyd, 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade commander, and U.S. Army Col. John McElveen, 59th Aviation Troop Command commander, visited with Soldiers from the 1-118th Infantry Battalion, the 1-151st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, and Company B, 2-238th General Support Aviation Battalion, each from the South Carolina National Guard, as well as a platoon from the Colombian Army Counternarcotics Brigade, during their training at JRTC.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157719418254039>

Story:

https://www.army.mil/article/247575/colombian_army_trains_at_jrtc_conducts_staff_talks_with_army_south

125th Cyber Protection Battalion change of command

The 125th Cyber Protection Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, conducts a change of command ceremony at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina, June 13, 2021, to recognize the outgoing commander, U.S. Army Lt. Col. William "Mel" Medlin, and welcome the incoming, U.S. Army Maj. Daniel Byrnside.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157719418005604>

South Carolina National Guard prepares for hurricane season

The South Carolina National Guard conducted a hurricane rehearsal of concept (ROC) drill June 12, 2021, at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina, in order to continue to refine planning and preparations for the 2021 hurricane season.

Story:

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/399103/south-carolina-national-guard-prepares-hurricane-season>

117th Engineer Brigade conducts change of command ceremony

The 117th Engineer Brigade, South Carolina National Guard, conducts a change of command ceremony at McCrady Training Center in Eastover, South Carolina, June 12, 2021. The ceremony was held to recognize the outgoing commander, U.S. Army Col. James Fowler, and welcome the incoming commander, U.S. Army Lt. Col. (promotable) Kevin Berry.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157719400577194>

218th MEB conducts annual training

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, Headquarters Support Company and 111th Signal Company, South Carolina National Guard, conduct the second week of their annual training at the Charleston Readiness Center in Charleston, South Carolina, June 12-19, 2021. U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers conducted medical training, defensive driver's training, and prepared for the Army Combat Fitness Test.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157719418285249>

218th MEB conducts combined arms exercise

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, South Carolina National Guard, conduct tactical operations during the South Carolina National Guard's combined arms exercise at McCrady Training Center in Eastover, South Carolina, June 6-11, 2021. The 218th MEB and 12 tactical control units improved proficiency in designated mission essential tasks while operating against opposing forces.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157719392142423>

South Carolina National Guard hosts safety fair

The South Carolina National Guard hosts the annual Safety and Occupational Health Fair at the Bluff Road Armory in Columbia, South Carolina, June 11, 2021, in order to raise awareness on safety issues and to promote occupational health education.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157719400500826>

1223rd Engineer Company builds obstacle course

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 1223rd Vertical Engineering Company, South Carolina National Guard, build an air assault obstacle course at McCrady Training Center, in Eastover, South Carolina, June 10, 2021. The engineers built the course as part of their two-week annual training in order to practice their skills of building structures and maintaining their mission readiness as a unit. The course is intended for future training events at McCrady.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157719394351913>

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157719418019930>

South Carolina National Guard announces next 59th Aviation Troop Command commander

The 59th Aviation Troop Command, South Carolina Army National Guard, conducted a change of command ceremony, June 6, 2021, at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina, to recognize the outgoing commander and welcome the incoming commander.

Story:

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/399200/south-carolina-national-guard-announces-next-59th-aviation-troop-command-commander>

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157719379938079>

South Carolina National Guard participates in Deployment Readiness Exercise

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the South Carolina National Guard participate in a deployment readiness exercise at McCrady Training Center, in Eastover, South Carolina, June 6, 2021, in order to test the state's installation deployment plan, while assessing the ability of subordinate units to meet mobilization and deployment requirements.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157719418428680>

218th Regional Training Institute conducts change of responsibility

The 218th Regional Training Institute, South Carolina Army National Guard, conducts a change of responsibility ceremony at McCrady Training Center in Eastover, South Carolina, June 6, 2021. The ceremony was held to recognize the outgoing command sergeant major, U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Jimmy Murray, Jr., and welcome the incoming, U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Shiver.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157719383057572>

Col. Riedel promotion ceremony

The South Carolina National Guard conducts a ceremony to recognize U.S. Army Lt. Col. Linda Riedel on her promotion to colonel, June 5, 2021, in Charleston, South Carolina.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157719416913746>

South Carolina National Guard begins Phase 1 of Officer Candidate School

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers begin Phase 1 of Officer Candidate School (OCS) conducted by 2nd Battalion (OCS), 218th Regional Training Institute, South Carolina National Guard, at McCrady Training Center in Eastover, South Carolina June 5, 2021. The training begins with physical exercise to test the mental endurance of officer candidates.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157719377229902>

Statement by U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Van McCarty, the adjutant general for South Carolina concerning COVID-19 response efforts

“Today, Governor Henry McMaster announced the end of the State of Emergency Order for the COVID-19 response effort in South Carolina. Under the authority of the Presidential Order, which extended the use of the National Guard and in coordination with the National Guard Bureau, the South Carolina National Guard will continue to support state and local authorities in response to COVID-19 until no longer needed. Upon completion of all mission assignments, we will smoothly transition our service members from active duty to their traditional civilian status by providing a robust multi-agency job fair and transition event on June 24, 2021, starting at 9:00 a.m. at the South Carolina state fairgrounds, 1200 Rosewood Dr. Columbia, SC 29201. We want every service member who supported the COVID-19 support mission for 451 days since March 13, 2020, to have an opportunity to obtain civilian employment, or better civilian employment, before transitioning off active duty. We are grateful for their unrelenting and dedicated service to our state and nation during this unprecedented time.”

Statement:

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/398332/statement-us-army-maj-gen-van-mccarty-adjutant-general-south-carolina>

Swamp Foxes at Al Udeid, Qatar

Two U.S. Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft assigned to the 378th Air Expeditionary Wing, Prince Sultan Air Base, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, perform an integrated combat turn at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, June 2, 2021. Fuels operators and munitions Airmen from the 379th AEW, as well as maintenance Airmen from the 378th AEW, cooperated on the event where live munitions were loaded on an aircraft being refueled with engines running and then returned to the mission demonstrating the capabilities for performing ICTs on transient airframes. ICTs allow for a rapid redeployment of forces to ensure protection of the U.S. and coalition partners in the region. The integration from both base's personnel continues to showcase the interoperability of the Airmen in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/thescang/albums/72157719392078739>

South Carolina National Guard Pride awareness PSA

June is Pride Awareness Month. The Department of Defense joins the Nation in paying tribute to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Community. This month-long celebration demonstrates how LGBT Americans have strengthened our country. Throughout the month we will talk about resources that are available as well as information about the history to educate everyone on the LGBTQ+ community. For more information contact your local VA and search for the Veterans Care Coordinator (VCC) or search for LGBTQ.

PSA: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y_SkdaVZTAk

Total Force Integration proved at PSAB

Rooted in a sea of sand, the U.S. Air Forces Central (AFCENT) mission is, in-part, seamlessly accomplished by both active duty and the Air National Guard—proving the concept of Total Force Integration (TFI).

Story: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/397842/total-force-integration-proved-psab>

South Carolina National Guard conducts memorial ceremony

The South Carolina National Guard hosts a remembrance ceremony, June 1, 2021 in Columbia, South Carolina, to honor those who have served as members of the South Carolina National Guard and have passed away over the past year.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157719331864542>

External Media

UNSUNG HEROES: EMS, National Guard put team in teamwork with COVID outreach

The coronavirus pandemic forced new ways of doing things, including testing and vaccination of individuals for an unpredictable virus that still presents challenges. Through it all, providing for the general welfare and safety of communities had to remain paramount, with Orangeburg Emergency Medical Services staff and South Carolina National Guard members providing needed support at vaccination and testing sites spread throughout The T&D Region.

Times and Democrat:

https://www.mdjonline.com/neighbor_newspapers/extra/news/unsung-heroes-ems-national-guard-put-team-in-teamwork-with-covid-outreach/article_a7974a1d-5cac-5607-bf67-b06c6c0cb35c.html

SC National Guard hosts inaugural Cyber Boot Camp at The Citadel

The Citadel Department of Defense Cyber Institute (CDCI) recently hosted the South Carolina National Guard (SCNG) for the inaugural National Guard Cyber Boot Camp.

Counton2:

<https://www.counton2.com/news/local-news/charleston-county-news/sc-national-guard-hosts-inaugural-cyber-boot-camp-at-the-citadel/>

South Carolina National Guard prepares for hurricane season

Post and Courier:

https://www.postandcourier.com/kingstree/news/south-carolina-national-guard-prepares-for-hurricane-season/article_9eba1ad6-d13d-11eb-9cc5-e7bd4f6e31f0.html

Riedel promoted to SC National Guard colonel

History was made this weekend in South Carolina. Colonel Linda Riedel is now the third Black woman to be promoted to Colonel in the South Carolina National Guard.

CountOn2:

<https://www.counton2.com/news/local-news/riedel-promoted-to-sc-national-guard-colonel/>

246th Army Band announces summer concert tour

Counton2:

<https://www.counton2.com/news/south-carolina-news/sc-national-guard-246th-army-band-announces-summer-concert-tour/>

Lexington Ledger:

<https://www.swlexledger.com/single-post/national-guard-band-to-play-at-icehouse-amphitheater-in-july>

Career and resource fair

Counton2:

<https://www.counton2.com/news/south-carolina-news/job-fair-helps-sc-national-guard-soldiers-airmen-on-covid-19-orders-transition-from-active-duty/>

WLTX:

<https://www.wltx.com/article/news/local/job-fair-held-scng-assimilating-this-summer/101-3bf3e9a4-854c-4d39-bb5b-1fe1cc96d763>

ABC Columbia:

<https://www.abccolumbia.com/2021/06/23/sc-military-department-hosting-military-career-and-resource-fair-thursday/>

ABC News 4:

<https://abcnews4.com/news/local/south-carolina-military-department-hosting-career-fair-thursday>

Priorities of Public Affairs

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.scguard.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.

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

	Army National Guard	Air National Guard
Instagram:	<u>@official_scguard</u>	<u>@scairnationalguard</u>
Twitter:	<u>@SCNationalGuard</u>	<u>@theSCANG</u>
Facebook:	<u>South Carolina National Guard</u>	<u>South Carolina Air National Guard</u>
Flickr:	<u>SC National Guard</u>	<u>S.C. Air National Guard</u>
Youtube:	<u>SCNationalGuard</u>	<u>S.C. Air National Guard</u>
DVIDS:	<u>South Carolina National Guard</u>	<u>169th Fighter Wing</u>