

## 529th CSSB recognized as Distinguished Unit of the Regiment

The Virginia National Guard's Virginia Beach-based 529th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 329th Regional Support Group was one of eight units recognized as a Distinguished Unit of the Regiment during the Quartermaster Regimental Honors and Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony June 5, 2015, at Fort Lee, Va. Brig. Gen. Ronald Kirklin, the 53rd Quartermaster General and Commandant of the Quartermaster School at Fort Lee, and Command Sgt. Maj. Jimmy J. Sellers, the 12th Regimental Command Sergeant Major of the Army Quartermaster Corps, attached a streamer to the unit colors to signify the achievement, and Maj. Dennis Rohler and Command Sgt. Maj. Timothy D. White represented the battalion at the ceremony.

"The eight units we are inducting today are as good as it gets," Kirklin said. "Many of us have served in or fought along side each of these units and can attest to their high performance and unwavering support and dedication to mission accomplishment."

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2015/06/09/7608/>



**Brig. Gen. Ronald Kirklin and Command Sgt. Maj. Jimmy J. Sellers attach the Distinguished Unit of the Regiment streamer to the organizational colors of the Virginia National Guard's 529th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion.**

### Virginia National Guard News Headlines

#### 203rd RED HORSE Squadron conducts training mission in Guam

Airmen from the Virginia Air National Guard's 203rd RED HORSE Squadron are serving rotations on a joint tasking to Anderson Air Force Base, Guam, from March 24-June 24, 2015, providing construction support, along with their sister unit, the 202nd RED HORSE Squadron based out of Camp Blanding, Fla.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2015/06/10/7589/>

#### Commonwealth Challenge hosts cadets for athletic, academic competition

Cadets from seven Challenge programs and Jamaica competed in a four-day academic and athletic competition hosted by the Virginia Commonwealth Challenge Youth Academy May 28-31, 2015, at Camp Pendleton, Va. Teams competed in various sports, chess, a drill competition and an academic bowl.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2015/06/04/7579/>

#### 329th RSG units conduct AT at Fort Pickett

Two transportation companies and one military police company from the 329th Regional Support Group conducted annual training May 16-27, 2015, at Fort Pickett, Va., and with each unit on a different readiness cycle, the company leaders were able to tailor their training to their specific needs.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2015/06/04/7614/>

#### NORTHCOM training courses prepare JFHQ to respond

Nearly 40 members of the Virginia Army and Air National Guard completed two, back-to-back U.S. Northern Command-sponsored training courses June 8, 2015, in Sandston, Va. Soldiers and Airmen needed to complete the Joint Operations Center Training Course and the Joint Staff Training Course.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2015/06/16/7633/>

### Mark Your Calendars!

**June 30: Youth Camp registration deadline**

Registration for the 10th Annual Virginia National Guard Youth Camp must be received by June 30, 2015. The camp will be held at Camp Pendleton in Virginia Beach from July 26-31 for children or siblings of Virginia National Guard personnel between the ages of 8 and 12. The cost is \$125 per child.

For more information, contact Joe Duerksen, Lead Child and Youth Coordinator for Virginia National Guard Family Programs, at [joe.m.duerksen.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:joe.m.duerksen.ctr@mail.mil) or 804-519-8421.

## 29th ID, Va. Guard commemorate 71st anniversary of D-Day

Senior leaders of the 29th Infantry Division and members of the 29th Division Band joined thousands of Americans, French and citizens of other Allied countries at ceremonies commemorating the 71st anniversary of the Allied invasion of Normandy at events June 6, 2015, in Bedford, Va., Yorktown, Va., and on the beaches of Normandy, France.

Maj. Gen. Charles W. Whittington, commanding general of the 29th Infantry Division, and a small delegation, including members of the 29th Division Band, traveled to France to represent the division during commemoration ceremonies there.

Brig. Gen. Blake C. Ortner, deputy commanding general of the 29th Infantry Division, joined members of the 29th Infantry Division Association in placing a memorial wreath for the division at the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford, Va. In addition, Maj. Gen. Timothy P. Williams, the Adjutant General of Virginia, and Brig. Gen. Walter Mercer, the Assistant Adjutant General of Virginia – Army, presented a wreath at the D-Day Memorial honoring the United States of America along with other Allied countries who took part in the invasion.

“One of the greatest honors is to come out and represent the division and recognize those individuals who really made a name for the 29th ID,” Ortner said. “To be able to be part of a division that has that sort of legacy really makes you want to continue that and not do anything that would let them down. To come out here and recognize those individuals that made those sacrifices is probably the greatest honor of being part of the 29th.”

Col. Todd Hubbard, chief of fires for the 29th ID, represented the division at a wreath-laying ceremony in Yorktown, Va. Hubbard joined American and French military officers at the ceremony, held in conjunction with a celebration honoring the arrival of “The Hermione,” a replica of the French ship built in 1778 which helped defeat the British Army at Yorktown in 1781.

“When you come to Yorktown, we first think of our Revolutionary War and how our French Allies helped us gain our independence,” Hubbard said, adding that the American and French relationship continued in World War I and II. “So today, we are grateful for the veterans of those past conflicts,” Hubbard said. “We strive to emulate them as we struggle in the uncertain and ambiguous environment of today’s world. America and France continue the strong relationships enjoyed in the past.”

Members of the 29th Division Band performed both in France and at the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford where retired Air Force Col. Arnald D. Gabriel conducted the band during a special concert following the ceremony. Gabriel was a combat machine gunner with the 29th Infantry Division in Europe during World War II where he earned two Bronze Star Medals, the Combat Infantryman Badge and the French Croix de Guerre. He went on to serve as the commander and conductor of the U.S. Air Force Band, Symphony Orchestra, and Singing Sergeants from 1964 to 1985. He retired in 1985, after 36 years of military service.

“America owes a debt of gratitude to those courageous members of our nation’s armed forces, especially those who



**Maj. Gen. Charles Whittington and a French translator speak at a memorial ceremony at Omaha Beach National Guard monument to pay respect to veterans who served during World War II June 5, 2015, Normandy, France.**

made the ultimate sacrifice,” said Dame Mary Sigillo Barraco of Virginia Beach, guest speaker at the ceremony in Bedford. “It is because of their sacrifice that the freedoms and liberties of which I speak shall be preserved for all future generations to come.”

Barraco was an American teenager living in Belgium when World War II broke out. She joined a resistance group and aided downed allied pilots, hid Jewish citizens, and snuck supplies to those held in Nazi prisons and detention camps. She was eventually captured and subjected to torture by the Gestapo.

“To many people, what happened that long ago is past history,” she said. “But to those of us who lived through it, it was yesterday, it is today, and if we do not remember, it will be tomorrow.”

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2015/06/16/7621/>

### MORE ON THE WEB

**Photos: Bedford Infantrymen Conduct Live Fire Exercise**

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10153425008871474.1073741886.305350521473/>

**Video: 2-183rd Cavalry conducts night raid**

<https://www.facebook.com/2nd183rdCav/videos/911740758866974/>

**Photos: 29th ID Deputy Commander visits 116th IBCT**

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10153430475986474.1073741887.305350521473/>

**Photos: UAS platoon trains with New York Guardsmen**

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.601020150001520.1073741856.117166128386927/>

**Photos: Engineers continue construction in Henry County**

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/vanguardpao/sets/72157654061814629>

**Video: Sappers conduct demolitions training**

<https://www.facebook.com/VaNationalGuard/videos/10153372164443560/>



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