

Va. Beach MP platoon begins federal active duty

Senior leaders from state government and the Virginia National Guard joined family members, friends and members of the community in bidding farewell to the Virginia Beach-based Delta Platoon, 229th Military Police Company, 529th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 329th Regional Support Group Oct. 18, 2015, in Virginia Beach, Va., at a ceremony to mark their start of federal active duty. The platoon of approximately 30 Soldiers will report to Fort Bliss, Texas, for approximately 30 to 45 days of additional training before heading to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, where they are expected to conduct security operations for approximately nine months.

“You are part of a great history,” said Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe. “You are joining a group of 15,000 Virginians who have served our nation and our commonwealth on federal active duty. On behalf of the commonwealth of Virginia, thank you for all that you do, and most important thank you to all the families.”

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2015/10/20/8149/>



Family members, friends, members of the community and senior leaders bid farewell to Delta Platoon, 229th Military Police Company, Oct. 18, 2015, in Virginia Beach, Va.

Virginia National Guard News Headlines

Va. Guard officer recognized for lifesaving efforts

Capt. William J. White, Jr., a physician's assistant with the Fort Pickett-based 34th Civil Support Team, was honored with a Lifesave Award Oct. 6, 2015, at the Chesterfield Fire and Emergency Medical Services Annual Awards Ceremony for the lifesaving efforts he took in April during his morning commute.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2015/10/08/8119/>

Cedar Bluff-based engineers conduct AT in Germany

Nearly 60 Soldiers from the Virginia National Guard's Cedar Bluff-based 1033rd Engineer Company, 276th Engineer Battalion, 91st Troop Command conducted their two-week annual training Sept. 7-29, 2015, at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center in Hohenfels, Germany.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2015/10/08/8146/>

200th Weather Flight supports World Cycling Championship operations

Airmen from the Virginia Air National Guard's Sandston-based 200th Weather Flight, 192nd Fighter Wing provided weather support for the Union Cycliste Internationale Road World Cycling Championship held Sept. 18-27, 2015, in Richmond, Va.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2015/10/09/8155/>

ChalleNGe Class 44 transitions from candidates to cadets

Members of Class 44 of the Virginia Commonwealth ChalleNGe Youth Academy transitioned from candidates to cadets during a ceremony Oct. 15, 2015, at Camp Pendleton in Virginia Beach, Va., after completing the physically taxing, two-week acclimation phase.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2015/10/18/8136/>

Mark Your Calendars!

Nov. 7: U.S. Postal Service suggests deadline for mailing packages overseas

The U.S. Postal Service's first suggested deadline for mailing packages by way of Standard Post is Nov. 7, 2015.

The deadlines are the same for all methods of mailing, for all overseas APO, FPO and DPO ZIP codes, with notable exceptions for some mail going to and from the AE ZIP 093, which covers overseas contingency areas.

More information is available at <https://www.usps.com/ship/apo-fpo-dpo.htm>.

Langley Airmen return from supporting ISIL airstrike missions

Active duty and Virginia National Guard Airmen assigned to the 94th Fighter Squadron and 149th Fighter Squadron returned Oct. 8, 2015, to Langley Air Force Base, Va., after a six-month deployment to the Middle East. Approximately 200 members of the 1st Fighter Wing and 192nd Fighter Wing, operating the F-22 Raptor, were assigned to United States Central Command as part of a theater security package, providing support and stability to the region.

"We're incredibly proud of our Airmen and the work they did over the course of this six-month operational deployment, but it's great to have them home," said Col. Pete Fesler, 1st Fighter Wing commander. "It's been quite a while since we've had the entire 1st and 192nd Fighter Wings together, and we plan to celebrate this rare occasion."

The Airmen were deployed in support of Operation Inherent Resolve where U.S. and coalition forces are conducting targeted airstrikes in Iraq and Syria as part of the comprehensive strategy to degrade the self-proclaimed Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, or ISIL. The 94th and 149th Fighter Squadrons were accompanied by additional support personnel from Virginia Air National Guard's 192nd FW and the 633rd Air Base Wing.

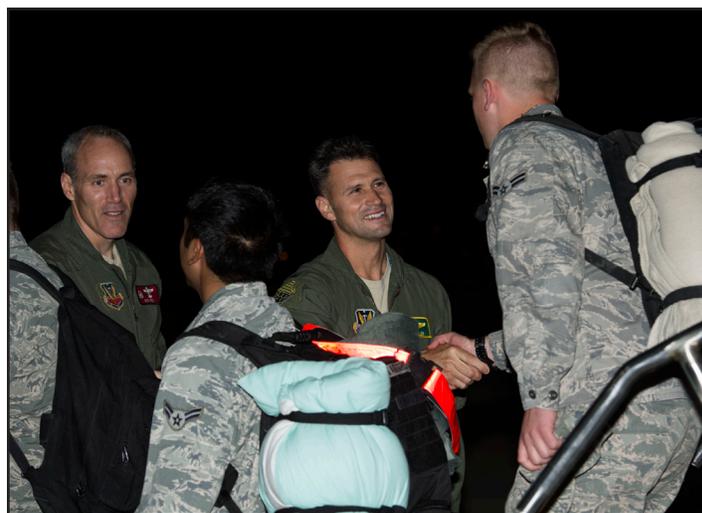
"This deployment was a success not only because of the incredible efforts of the Airmen from the 149th FS and 27th FS, but many others who supported them," said Col. Bob Grey, 192nd FW commander. "Some of those unsung heroes include the 192nd Supply Chain Management Squadron, integrated with the 735th Supply Chain Operations Group, who ensured critical aircraft parts made it to the F-22 maintainers in theater, and the Airmen from the 192nd Intelligence Squadron, partnered with the 497th Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Group, who provided vital pre- and post-mission analysis. This team effort was essential to mission success and demonstrated the unique, full-spectrum capabilities of the 192nd FW."

The 149th FS traces its heritage to the 328th FS, a P-51 unit based at Royal Air Force Bodney, England, during World War II. Commanded by the leading P-51 ace of the war, Maj. George Preddy, the Blue Nose Bastards of Bodney would be decommissioned at the close of the war and then reinstated in 1947 as the 149th Fighter Squadron based in Richmond, Virginia. Mobilized for the Cuban Missile Crisis and 9/11, the 149th FS moved to Langley AFB and transitioned to the F-22 in 2007 as part of a Total Force Integration with the 1st Fighter Wing.

"I couldn't be more proud of the incredible job our Airmen have done over the past six months," said Col. Pat McAtee, 192nd Operations Group commander. "It's a great feeling to finally welcome them home!"

Also known as the "Hat in the Ring Gang," the 94th FS is the second oldest active fighter squadron in the United States, tracing its origin back to the dawn of military aviation over the trenches of World War I.

Langley AFB's three fighter squadrons operate the F-22 Raptor. The F-22 Raptor, America's premier air dominance



Col. Pete Fesler, 1st Fighter Wing commander, and Col. Robert Grey, 192nd FW commander, greet Airmen returning from a deployment at Langley Air Force Base, Va., Oct. 5, 2015.

fighter, protects U.S. and allied forces by engaging and destroying enemy forces, equipment and defenses in the air or on the ground.

The federal mission of the 192nd Fighter Wing is to maintain the highest possible degree of combat readiness in order to be an effective combat unit to the U.S. Air Force upon mobilization to federal active duty. Airmen in the 192nd will execute directed tactical fighter missions designed to destroy enemy military forces, supplies, equipment, communications systems and installations. The 192nd Fighter Wing currently flies and maintains the F-22A Raptor in the 149th Fighter Squadron.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2015/10/13/8128/>

MORE ON THE WEB

Photos: TRADOC leaders tour Recruit Sustainment Program at Camp Pendleton

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/vanguardpao/sets/72157660078841015>

Photos: ROTC cadets compete in Ranger Challenge at Fort Pickett

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/vanguardpao/sets/72157659997182021>

Photos: Rep. Wittman tours Camp Pendleton

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/vanguardpao/sets/72157659864852916>

Photos: Va. Guard senior leaders visit TF Normandy

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/vanguardpao/sets/72157659361875828>

Photos: Medical Strike Team trains at Camp Pendleton

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