



DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY

Tennessee National Guard

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The volunteer spirit and Tennessee, an inseparable combination since 1780 when Colonel John Sevier called for “100 good men”—and 200 answered—has been a source of pride for generations of Tennesseans.

The name, “The Volunteer State,” later was sealed in history forever when a Tennessean, President James K. Polk, issued a nationwide call for a total of 50,000 volunteers to fight in the war with Mexico. Tennessee had a quota of 2,600, and 26,000 stepped forward. The number was so large that it required that “lots” be drawn to see who would be allowed to go.

Today, that spirit is still alive and well with the Tennessee Military Department and the Tennessee National Guard. More than 14,000 Tennessee men and women are members of the Tennessee Army and Air National Guard. They serve as full partners with active duty American men and women worldwide to make up the “Total Force” of American defense.

Nationwide, the Army National Guard contributes more than half of the Army’s total combat strength for about nine percent of the total budget. The Air National Guard performs about 35 percent of the total Air Force missions for about six percent of the entire annual Air Force budget.

America simply cannot defend herself or go to war without the National Guard. The Tennessee Guard is the 7th largest National Guard organization in the United States.

History

The official military history of the state of Tennessee dates to June 1, 1796, when President George Washington signed the act of Congress admitting Tennessee as the 16th state. In 1774, militias were formed in the areas of Sullivan and Carter counties to face a threat from the Shawnee Indians. The militia and Indians fought a decisive battle at Point Pleasant (Kenawa).

John Sevier and Issac Shelby, in 1780, led mounted Tennessee riflemen to another decisive battle of Kings Mountain. With the fledgling United States in the throes of a revolutionary war, Sevier and Tennessee militiamen won the battle considered the turning point of the war in the southern states.

An act of the 45th General Assembly in 1887 created the military organization known as the Tennessee National Guard.

The Tennessee Army National Guard has participated in every principal war in which America has been engaged. During World War I, the 30th (Old Hickory) Division from Tennessee helped smash the Hindenburg Line, the strongest defensive system devised at that time. In World War II, the German High Command regarded the 30th Division as “Roosevelt’s Shock Troops.”

Dual Mission

National defense is one of the dual missions of the National Guard. The federal mission of the Tennessee National Guard is to provide the President and the Secretary of Defense with units capable of performing wartime missions.

The other role of the National Guard is to be a state military force under the direction of the Governor. The state mission is to provide the Governor with units capable of performing missions in accordance with the Tennessee Emergency Response Plan. The Tennessee Constitution authorizes the Governor to assume the role of “commander-in-chief” of the state. The Guard may be called upon to maintain order in emergency situations, to rescue civilians whose lives are in danger, and to assist during natural disasters.

The Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) is the agency responsible for managing the State’s response to emergencies and disasters that affect the citizens of Tennessee and its local governments. All state and federal disaster response mechanisms in Tennessee are coordinated by TEMA.

Responding Within Tennessee

The Guard has been called upon to assist local residents when floods ravaged portions of Tennessee. When fireman strikes occurred in 1978 in Memphis and in 1980 in Nashville, the Guard deployed hundreds of soldiers to assist their officials and residents.

During March of 1993, Tennessee was blasted by a severe winter storm that dumped record amounts of snow in some portions of this state. Thousands of people were without power in their homes and hundreds were stranded in snowdrifts of 10 feet or more along the highways. This late-winter blizzard saw the call-up of more than 2,400 Tennessee National Guard soldiers in the most extensive disaster-relief operation since 1937.

The Tennessee Guard responded repeatedly during 1997 and 1998. As floods waters devastated Carter County in Upper East Tennessee, the Guard was there, helping in rescue and recovery operations. They also assisted in clearing roads of ice and snow on the Cumberland Plateau during a late-winter storm.

In April of 1998, when tornadoes ravaged Lawrence and Wayne counties and continued northward to strike in Nashville, the Guard again was there, helping in disaster recovery and cleanup. They were also there in January of 1999 when unseasonable winter tornadoes swept through Jackson and Clarksville.

Wherever they are needed, throughout this great state, the Tennessee Army and Air National Guard are a major presence. Their unofficial motto: “Always there when you need us.”

Desert Storm

Some 3,600 men and women of the Tennessee National Guard, both Army and Air, were called to active duty during Operations Desert Shield and Storm, providing one of the highest number of participants of any state in the U.S., again upholding the “Volunteer” tradition. The 130th Rear Area Operations Center from Smyrna and the 176th Maintenance Battalion Headquarters from Johnson City were among the first Tennessee units called to active duty.

Other Army National Guard units called to support Operation Desert Storm were: 776th Maintenance Company, Elizabethton; 1175th Quartermaster Company,

Carthage; 251st Supply and Service Company, Lewisburg; 212th Engineer Company, Tracy City; 1174th Transportation Company, Dresden; 663rd Medical Detachment, Smyrna; 268th Military Police Company, Ripley; 300th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital, Smyrna; 775th Engineer Company, Camden; 155th Engineer Company, Waverly; Headquarters, 196th Field Artillery Brigade, Chattanooga; 181st Field Artillery Battalion, Chattanooga; 269th Military Police Company, Dyersburg; 118th Public Affairs Detachment, Nashville; 568th Personnel Service Company, Smyrna; and the 213th Health Services Liaison Detachment, Smyrna.

Air National Guard units deployed were: 134th Air Refueling Group, Knoxville; 118th Tactical Hospital, Nashville; 164th Tactical Clinic, Memphis; 134th Services Squadron, Knoxville; 164th Mobile Aerial Port Squadron, Memphis; and the 118th Aeromedical Evacuation Flight, Nashville.

War on Terrorism

The War on Terrorism immediately propelled the Tennessee National Guard to a new level of commitment. The Tennessee Guard has been at the very forefront since the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11, 2001.

On that fateful day, the 134th Air Refueling Wing was immediately called upon to fly countless missions refueling fighter and CAP aircraft throughout the entire east coast. The 164th Airlift Wing deployed four aircraft within 20 hours. The 118th Airlift Wing deployed 110 personnel within 22 hours. The 228th Combat Communications Squadron deployed to Qatar to provide combat communications to American forces deployed in the Middle East.

A total of 103 Army Guard soldiers were deployed to provide security at six Tennessee airports for a period of nine months. More than 80 soldiers from the 168th Military Police Company in Ripley and Dyersburg deployed in a matter of hours as additional security at Milan Arsenal and the Holston Army Ammunition Plant. An additional 45 soldiers provided added security at the Tennessee State Capitol and Legislative Plaza.

More than 2,200 soldiers and airmen from the Tennessee Army and Air National Guard initially were deployed in support of Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom. As of March 2005, the Tennessee National Guard had more than 4,000 soldiers and airmen deployed, and from Sept. 11, 2001 to March 5, 2005 more than 9,500 of its soldiers and airmen had been deployed. This represented more than two-thirds of the entire Tennessee National Guard. The Guard units mobilized included:

(ARMY) The 3-115 Field Artillery Battalion; 168th Military Police Battalion; 267th, 268th and 269th Military Police Companies; Company C, 46th Engineer Battalion; 771st, 776th, and 777th Maintenance Companies; 130th Support Center (CORPS RAOC); Company E, 107th Aviation; B and C Companies, 230th Engineer Battalion; 730th Quartermaster Company; 1-146th Medical Company (AIR AMB); 1171st, 1174th and 1175th Transportation Companies; 105th Personnel Services Battalion; 173rd and 568th Personnel Services Detachments; 30th Finance Battalion; 1128th, 1129th and 1130th Finance Detachments; 155th and 212th Engineer Companies; 775th Engineer Detachment; the 1-181st Field Artillery Battalion (MLRS); the 230th Army Liaison Team (ALT); Troops N, P & T, 4/278th Armored Cavalry Regiment; Headquarters and Battery A & C, 2-115 Field Artillery Battalion; 230th Area Support Group (ASG); 278th Regimental Combat Team; Headquarters, 194th Engineer Brigade; Headquarters & Company A, 230th Engineer Battalion; 779th Maintenance Company; Headquarters, 196th Field Artillery Brigade.

(AIR) The 118th Airlift Wing; the 134th Air Refueling Wing; 228th Combat Communications Squadron; 164th Airlift Wing; and 241st Engineering and Installation Squadron.

These soldiers and airmen work hand in hand with their active duty counterparts providing security for Tennessee and the United States.

Military Department

The Military Department of Tennessee has 445 state positions with an additional 2,698 full-time federal employees. The Tennessee Army and Air National Guard stands at more than 14,000 officers and enlisted personnel. With a state and federal payroll in excess of \$250 million, and the addition of Homeland Security “pass-through” funds, the Military Department oversees a total budget, including state and federal funds, of over \$625 million. The Adjutant General, a constitutional officer of the state appointed by the governor, is responsible for the leadership and command of the Tennessee Army and Air National Guard, the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, the Tennessee State Guard, and the Bureau of War Records.

War Records Bureau — This division maintains records of Tennesseans who have served in the military forces of Tennessee and in any branch of the armed forces. More than six million records are stored at War Records. This number increases each year due to receipt of personnel files of discharged Tennessee Army and Air National Guardsmen, unit records, field training and training assembly payrolls, strength reports, and military discharges. Records date back to the War of 1812, Seminole Indian War, Mexican War and Civil War.

Tennessee State Guard (TSG) — The TSG was organized under Chapter 36 of the Tennessee Acts of 1985. By this enactment, the State Legislature reorganized the old Tennessee State Guard, which had been formed in 1941, but became inactive after 1946.

The State Guard’s mission is to provide an adequately trained force capable of providing an organized state military cadre under the control of the governor. If the Tennessee National Guard were mobilized and deployed, the TSG could assume administrative control of the armories across the state and perform the state emergency responsibilities normally accomplished by the National Guard.

The State Guard is an all-volunteer force whose members receive no compensation. There are approximately 800 members formed into four brigades headquartered in Knoxville, Chattanooga, Smyrna, and Jackson. The State Guard headquarters is located in Nashville.

Tennessee Army National Guard

Since 1986, the Tennessee Army National Guard has been involved in training missions that span the globe. Participating in such exercises as “Bright Star” in the Middle East and “REFORGER” in Germany, Tennesseans have improved the skills that are absolutely necessary to be a part of this nation’s first line of defense. Japan, Honduras, Korea, Scotland, Bulgaria, and Germany are a few of the locations worldwide where Tennessee Army Guard men and women have trained in past years.

The Tennessee Army National Guard has a total strength of almost 11,000 assigned to 151 units in 88 communities statewide. The Army Guard maintains

more than 3.7 million square feet and nearly 13,000 acres including 99 armories and seven training sites.

The 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment, headquartered in Knoxville, has 60 units stretching from Bristol to Jackson and is the only Enhanced Armored Cavalry Regiment in the National Guard.

The 196th Field Artillery Brigade, headquartered in Chattanooga, has 26 units located from Chattanooga to Memphis and is one of the largest Field Artillery units in the nation.

The 194th Engineer Brigade, headquartered in Jackson, has 19 units throughout Middle and West Tennessee providing engineer support to the military operations throughout the world.

The 30th Troop Command and the 230th Area Support Group provide more than 50 support and combat-support units to help maintain, supply and provide administrative services. These units stretch from the Appalachian Mountains in the east to the Mississippi River in the west.

Tennessee Air National Guard

The Tennessee Air Guard flies worldwide missions on a daily basis and is a full partner with the United States Air Force.

The 134th Air Refueling Group located in Knoxville flies the KC-135 aircraft on in-flight refueling missions throughout the world, refueling both airlift and fighter aircraft.

The 118th Airlift Wing located in Nashville flies the C-130H aircraft on resupply airlift missions, and airdrops troops and supplies throughout the world.

The 164th Airlift Group located in Memphis flies the massive C-5 aircraft on global airlift missions with in-flight refueling.

The 119th Command and Control Squadron is located in Knoxville and was one of the first Air National Guard units to become a part of the United States Space Command. Its mission is to augment the operations center of the United States Space Command (USSPACECOM) which coordinates and directs the use of the Department of Defense's military space forces in providing missile warning, communications, navigation, weather, imagery and signals intelligence, and space support.

The 228th Combat Communications Squadron is located in Knoxville and it is worldwide deployable to set up communication networks for command and control of war fighting forces.

The 241st Engineering Installation Squadron is located in Chattanooga and its worldwide mission is the engineering and installation of communication lines and systems.

During the Somalia peacekeeping efforts, when United States army troops were ambushed and killed in a firefight in Mogadishu, the wounded GIs received battlefield medical care from deployed members of the 118th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, Tennessee Air National Guard, from Nashville. The bodies were flown out by C-141 aircrews from the 164th out of Memphis. Aircraft and aircrews from all three flying units were involved in action in Haiti, and they continue to provide support for Operations Joint Endeavor and Joint Guard, the Bosnian peacekeeping mission.

The Tennessee Air National Guard's six units and 3,600 officers and enlisted personnel are worldwide "ambassadors" for the state of Tennessee.

Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA)

The Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) is the third major division of the Military Department. Formerly known as "Civil Defense," the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency is the agency of state government charged with the responsibility for ensuring the state and its local governments are prepared to deal with the disasters and emergencies that affect the state and its citizens.

In time of emergency, the agency provides the Governor essential information regarding the emergency, and it coordinates all required and available resources for immediate and positive response. TEMA is a direct link between state and local government in times of crisis.

TEMA was especially busy during 2003, coordinating responses to deadly tornadoes in Jackson, Tennessee and severe windstorms in Shelby and Fayette counties. TEMA's excellent coordination and response continued as flooding and severe weather conditions resulted in disaster declarations in 75 counties across the state. TEMA is a critical part of the Military Department's Tennessee Emergency Response Plan and is a full partner with the Governor's Office of Homeland Security in organizing, training and exercising with the eleven statewide homeland security districts. TEMA provides the Grants Management function for Department of Homeland Security funds available to local first responders in communities throughout the state.

Planning for preparedness, mitigation and response to emergency tasks that are extremely involved and complex, are addressed daily by TEMA staff. Tennessee has 95 counties with more than 300 incorporated municipalities. Tennessee Code Annotated, through the Tennessee Emergency Management Plan (TEMP), has designated more than 30 separate agencies with emergency service coordinators (ESC) and additional federal agencies that have emergency resources available to assist the state during emergencies. TEMA, with powers from the office of the governor, has the responsibility of coordinating all emergency services at all levels of government within Tennessee.

The agency is divided into four major branches: Planning, Training and Exercises; Operations; Logistics; and Finance Management. There are three regional offices providing area coordinators to assist local government in Alcoa, Nashville and Jackson.

Tennessee National Guard Major Command Headquarters

Joint Force Headquarters, Nashville
196th Field Artillery Brigade, Chattanooga
30th Troop Command, Smyrna
118th Airlift Wing, Nashville
164th Airlift Group, Memphis
241st Engineering Installation Squadron,
Chattanooga
228th Combat Communications Squadron,
Knoxville

Professional Military Education Center,
Knoxville
278th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Knoxville
194th Engineer Brigade, Jackson
230th Area Support Group, Dyersburg
134th Air Refueling Group, Knoxville
119th Air Control Squadron, Knoxville

Major General Gus L. Hargett Jr., Adjutant General

Tennessee Department of Military

Gus L. Hargett Jr. is the 74th Adjutant General of Tennessee. General Hargett was appointed to the state's top military position by Governor Don Sundquist in 2002 and reappointed by Governor Phil Bredesen in 2003. He is responsible for the supervision of the Military Department of Tennessee that includes the Army National Guard, the Air National Guard, the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, and the Tennessee State Guard. General Hargett enlisted in the Tennessee Army National Guard August 31, 1962, serving as an enlisted infantry soldier. Upon completion of Officer Candidate School (Tennessee Military Academy), he was commissioned an infantry officer on August 6, 1966. General Hargett has served in various staff and leadership assignments within the Tennessee Army National Guard and the National Guard Bureau to include assignments as the Assistant Adjutant General, Army; Chief, Mobilization Plans with the III U.S. Corps; Chief, Plans Division Fifth U.S. Army; and Chief, Overseas Deployment Training, HQ, U.S. Army Europe; during Desert Shield/Desert Storm served as Chief Operations/Exercise Division, National Guard Bureau; War College Fellowship, Ohio State; and currently serves as a member of Army Reserve Forces Policy Committee. General Hargett has the distinction of being the first National Guard officer to attend the resident NATO Defense College in Rome, Italy. In 2004, General Hargett completed a two-year term as the Chairman of the Board, National Guard Association of the United States. He is a 1962 graduate of Cumberland University with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and a 1998 graduate of the Tennessee Government Executive Institute. His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, the Meritorious Service Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, the Air Force Commendation Medal, and fourteen other commendation and service awards.

