

ALABAMA GUARDSMAN



**62nd Troop
Command
welcomes
new leader**

**Task Force
Tarpon hosts
CrossFit Camp
Phoenix Games**

**1103RD CSSB
DEPLOYS TO
AFGHANISTAN**

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On The Cover

Members of the 127th Area Support Medical Company participated in a field training exercise during annual training earlier this year. The 127th ran a Battalion Aid Station treating a mix of simulated and live patients in a deployed, forward operating base environment. (Photo by Sgt. Daniel Crocetti, 127th ASMC)

Adjutant General

Mentoring is key factor in Guard's future



**Maj. Gen.
Perry Smith**

I recently travelled to Romania to observe one of our State Partnership Program exchanges between the Alabama National Guard's 161st Medical Battalion (Multi-

functional) and the Romanian Medical Directorate. During these events we share lessons learned and best practices. In the 20 plus years that we have been visiting and hosting Romanians, I believe that we have

mentored and provided a contribution to the development of the Romanian military into a more mature, NATO-trained, interoperable force.

On my return flight, as I was thinking of the progress made in the Alabama-Romanian partnership, I started to think about how we could apply the principles of the relationship between Alabama and Romania – a more mature force with a less mature, but no less dedicated force – to our own organization.

It is easy for more experienced and more mature Soldiers and Airmen to hoard institutional knowledge for any number of reasons: it's sometimes easier to do something for one's self than to teach someone else how to do

it; one might feel that teaching younger warriors about important tasks and processes could jeopardize his or her own key, perceived irreplaceable position. We need to be sure, however, that those who are more experienced and mature pass along lessons learned to ensure a premier fighting force for the future of this state and nation.

There are several tools we can use to aid us in mentoring our junior Soldiers and Airmen. Officer and noncommissioned officer professional development sessions are a key mentoring tool for our organization. Formal and informal counseling sessions, emphasis on accurate and substantive evaluation reports, and continually (Please see **MENTORING**, page 5)

State Command Sergeant Major

The evolution of the noncommissioned officer



**Command Sgt.
Maj.
Eddie Pike**

Gen. George Washington knew that the Continental Army was comprised of brave and loyal warriors who were determined to fight for independence at all costs. He also

realized that his army was disorganized and needed more refined roles and responsibilities. He entrusted Gen. Fredrich von Steuben with standardizing duties and responsibilities of commissioned officers, as

well as noncommissioned officers. His regulations for order and discipline, also known as the Blue Book, would be that defining moment in history when someone in authority realized the need for middle managers and trainers in the development of troops. His doctrine established specific responsibilities for corporals, sergeants, first sergeants, quartermaster sergeants, and sergeants major, which were the NCO ranks in 1778. Von Steuben believed that the selection of noncommissioned officers was an extremely important task, and insisted that merit and good conduct were essential traits for those being selected.

The increased empowerment of
Alabama National Guard

the noncommissioned officer during the Revolutionary War had a direct impact on our success on the battle field, which resulted in victory over and independence from British rule. We can only speculate on what the outcome of the Revolutionary War might have been without Gen. von Steuben's regulations for order and discipline and Gen. Washington's good judgment to apply these new tactics. The old days of noncommissioned officers being selected by officers based on friendship or kinship were hopefully gone forever.

In the past, one of the biggest problems with keeping quality non- (Please see **NCO**, page 5)

Snapshots

A look at some of the recent highlights from the Alabama National Guard



Alicia Embrey/photo

The 226th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade participated in a 9/11 remembrance ceremony at Camp Phoenix in Kabul, Afghanistan. Dozens of service men and women from the Kabul Base Cluster attended the event to remember those affected by 9/11.



Daniel Crocetti/photo

Members of the 128th Ground Ambulance Company (Ashland, Ala.) compete in an inner company Litter Obstacle Course competition at Fort Gordon, Ga. The competition broke the company into multiple four-man teams who ran the obstacle course while being graded for time and standard of care.



Nicole Waggoner/photo

The 1/131st Aviation Battalion flew four Blackhawk helicopters to Fort McClellan as part of a combined mission. The pilots earned flight time while they transported Soldiers to the ranges for weapons qualification.

(MENTORING continued from page 3)

evaluation reports, and continually challenging and training ourselves to be better leaders and managers are all ways we can give junior Guardsmen the mentoring they deserve.

I encourage each junior Guardsman to find a leader who you respect and whose career path you would like to approximately emulate

(NCO continued from page 3)

commissioned officers in the Army was the inability to retain these leaders after a conflict was finished. Those who volunteered, or in later years were drafted into military service, would normally return to the job or occupation they held prior to entering military service. This turbulence among the NCO ranks was difficult to prevent and even harder to remedy. For many years, the United States did not have a large standing Army during peacetime; therefore the build-up of leadership was greater during a military conflict or declaration of war.

During the Vietnam War, the Army experimented by creating the Noncommissioned Officer Candidate Course to train the most promising recruits to be sergeants and staff sergeants. Many referred to this program as Shake and Bake. These select individuals would attend ten weeks at the NCO Candidate Course and then be placed in a stateside unit for ten weeks to gain practical experience. The top five percent of graduates were promoted to staff sergeant, and all others were promoted to sergeant and later sent to Vietnam to serve in lead-

and ask that individual to be your mentor. Every good senior officer or noncommissioned officer should be thrilled to have that request come from a less experienced, but no less dedicated Soldier or Airman. You should ask your mentor for advice about difficult decisions regarding your career or any other professional considerations.

ership positions. Keep in mind that most of these NCOs had less than nine months time in service when they arrived in Vietnam to serve as team leaders or squad leaders.

In 1971, the Army created the Noncommissioned Officer Educational System (NCOES) to increase the professional quality of the NCO Corps, and to provide the Army with trained and dedicated NCOs to fill positions of increased responsibility. This system has been tailored over the years, but currently has the same concept of providing valuable training for NCOs of all grades and responsibility levels, and has resulted in enhanced readiness throughout the United States Army.

Even with education and training, the NCO Corps needed to earn the trust and respect of officers at all levels of leadership, from the platoon leader to Army chief of staff. Noncommissioned officers had to overcome the stigma of being rule breakers rather than enforcers of rules. For many years noncommissioned officers wore the stripes, but had no real responsibilities or authority over Soldiers. Today's noncommis-

Those who may be mentors or hope to be in the future, you should be approachable and be kind, but be truthful and firm. It is up to our senior Guardsmen to ensure the future of our organization by mentoring the junior troops. This is one of the fundamental tasks of leaders and we need to take it seriously. Lead from the front!

sioned officers have much more leadership authority and involvement in the decision making process than did their predecessors.

They have also resumed the roles of primary trainer, counselor, and mentor of Soldiers, which has provided commissioned officers with the ability to command, schedule training, and plan for the future needs of the Army.

Many believe that our current level of NCO empowerment is the result of more than 12 years of counterinsurgency operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, which required commanders to delegate much more authority to NCOs because of decentralized command and control.

As noncommissioned officers, we must remember our place in the pecking order, and continue to create an environment that promotes good conduct and discipline among our ranks.

For the NCO Corps to maintain empowerment, it must prove that it is worthy of such empowerment, or we will slowly return to that place and time when NCOs wore the stripes but had no real power or authority.

Soldiers shave heads to show support



Contributed/photo

Sgt. Maj. Joseph Lawson, 1st Theater Sustainment Command and Sgt. Maj. Mike Oakley, 135th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, pose for a photograph showing their shaved heads. These Soldiers joined about 30 other National Guard Soldiers in a show of support for people back home. Oakley, a resident of Centerville, Ala., organized the event as a respectful and fun way to let people back home know they aren't forgotten.

by SSG James Burroughs

135th Expeditionary Sustainment Command

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait - About 30 Alabama National Guard soldiers from Birmingham's 135th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, currently deployed to Kuwait, shaved their heads in support of cancer victims back home.

Sgt. Major Mike Oakley, a native of Centerville, organized the event. About 30 other soldiers joined him in a respectful and fun salute to cancer victims back home.

"We wanted to show loved ones who

had cancer that they are not alone or forgotten," said Oakley. "People in Alabama do so much to show their support for us overseas and we wanted to use this as a way to show them we haven't forgotten them."

The 135th ESC is currently deployed to Kuwait. Their mission is to oversee logistics operations and planning throughout the Middle East.

The Soldiers who participated are Maj. Brad Stark, Staff Sgt. James Burroughs, Capt. Stephen Giles, Maj. Christopher Johnson, Sgt. 1st Class Bobby Daugette, Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Jatko, Staff Sgt.

Vickie Taylor, Lt. Col. Rufus Washington, Sgt. 1st Class Tyron Love, Maj. Charles Kennedy, Sgt. 1st Class Clarence Harris, Capt. David Moore, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Gregory Gay, Spc. Jason Kilpatrick, Maj. Michael Hubbard, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Paul Kalagian, Staff Sgt. Chris McCormack, Staff Sgt. Ronald Martin, Master Sgt. Ronald Bozeman, Maj. Mark Goodwin, Sgt. Maj. Mike Oakley, Capt. Terrence Garner, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Christopher Parham, Sgt. 1st Class Victor Timmons, Master Sgt. Dennis King, Sgt. Maj. Lawson, Staff Sgt. Anthony Ridenour and Staff Sgt. Edward Stidham.

Alabama deploys National Guard unit to Afghanistan

by Sgt. Brenda Thomas
Public Affairs Office

The Alabama Army National Guard's 1103rd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, out of Eufaula, has been called to active duty in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The 1103rd held a departure ceremony in Eufaula at the Lakepoint Resort & Conference Center, Saturday, Sept. 7, 2013.

More than 60 Alabama National Guard Soldiers from the 1103rd are deploying to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The 1103rd CSSB will be a central mission command headquarters conducting and enabling the United States Central Command (CENTCOM)



Brenda Thomas/photo

EUFULA, Ala. -- Soldiers of the 1103rd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion stand at attention during a departure ceremony held for them here Sept. 7. The unit will deploy to Afghanistan later this fall.



Brenda Thomas/photo

Friends, family and fellow Soldiers attended the event to show their support of Alabama's 1103rd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion.

Materiel Retrograde Element (CMRE) mission in Afghanistan. It will work as an enabler for base closure, mobile container assistance, and materiel redistribution.

The 1103rd CSSB will continue to undergo extensive training at a mobilization station before deploying later this fall.

State and local officials, as well as senior Alabama National Guardsmen, attended the ceremony to send off the Soldiers of the 1103rd.

The Alabama National Guard has called more than 21,000 personnel to active duty since 9/11 and remains a top contributor among the nation's National Guard organizations.



CROSSFIT CAMP PHOENIX GAMES - 2013 -

by Sgt. Brenda Thomas
Public Affairs Office

Service members and civilians working in the Kabul Base Cluster were invited to participate in the CrossFit Camp Phoenix Games, held at CrossFit Camp Phoenix in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Hundreds of spectators piled into the “box” (CrossFit gym) at Camp Phoenix to cheer on their fellow service members in this grueling test of fitness.

CrossFit is defined as constantly varied, functional movements performed at high intensity. These athletes, known as Crossfitters, specialize in not specializing, meaning they are not great at any one physical activity, but are generally good at all physical activities.

The idea is to be prepared for any challenge that arises. From ascending ropes and pushing weighted sleds, to running while carrying a load and jumping over

obstacles, the workouts presented each day in CrossFit constantly change and challenge aspects of strength, coordination, agility, flexibility, speed and accuracy.

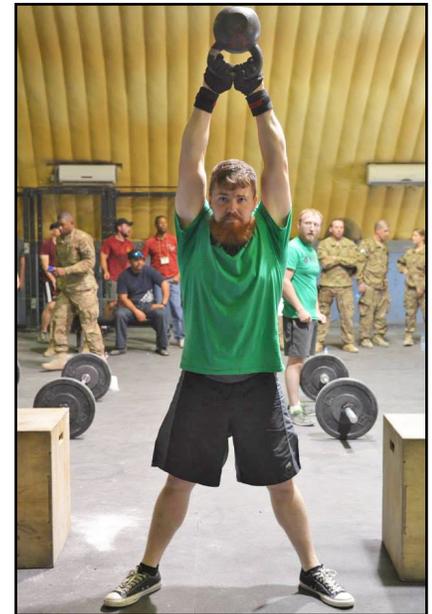
With more than 6,000 affiliates worldwide, CrossFit is rapidly growing in popularity, especially among military, police and firefighters. In their jobs, these professionals need to be physically prepared for anything, and CrossFit promises just that.

There is also the community aspect that keeps people motivated and coming back day after day. “Something that is different about CrossFit compared to most other sports is that CrossFit athletes tend to be amazing sportsmen, always cheering regardless of who is winning or losing,” said Capt. Shawn Doll, currently deployed to Kabul with the 226th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade. “If it’s a personal record people are pumped for you.”

More than 80 competitors, 40 teams of two, showed up to battle it out in three consecutive WODs (workouts



All service members and civilians in the Kabul Base Cluster were invited to compete in the CrossFit Camp Phoenix Games in Kabul, Afghanistan. Men and women of all ages and all fitness levels came together under one roof to test their fitness in a series of CrossFit workouts. Movements included pull-ups, muscle-ups, kettlebell swings, and olympic weightlifting. (Photos by Staff Sgt. Sandra Lucas, 226th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade.)



of the day). The WODs were written by coaches at CrossFit Camp Phoenix, and included movements such as pull-ups, box jump overs, burpee muscle-ups, and several olympic lifts. “We wanted to challenge several aspects of fitness including weightlifting, gymnastics, and cardiovascular endurance. It’s about total body fitness; being ready for anything thrown at you,” said 2nd Lt. Jes Smith, also deployed to Kabul with the 226th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade.

CrossFit is unique in that it is scalable to all fitness levels. Whether you are a mother of three looking to get a little healthier, or a lifelong athlete looking for a new challenge, CrossFit can be tailored to your individual goals.

The CFCP Games had three divisions, Rx (as prescribed), scaled, and women’s. An Rx athlete is expected to complete the WOD as it is written, usually including more difficult movements and heavier weights. The scaled division may have some modified movements (i.e., pull-ups instead of muscle-ups), and lower weights to lift. The women’s division was also different in movements and weight requirements.

A trained judge was assigned to each competitor to ensure they met movement standards, and to keep track of their scores. At the end of the day, the athletes with the highest scores were presented certificates and crowned the fittest men and women in Kabul.



Information contributed by 2nd Lt. Jes Smith, 226th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade

Army Sgt. Inge Teal-King motions for a vehicle to come forward at an access control point. Teal-King is part of the external security force of the 128th Military Police Company.

128th MP Company

"Respect and Honor"

Story and photos by Spc. Chalon Hutson

To those who travel across Naval Station Guantanamo Bay every morning and pass through Access Control Point Roosevelt, the faces of the 128th Military Police Company have become familiar.

The company, which is part of the Alabama Army National Guard is tasked with several important missions to Joint Task Force Guantanamo.

The external security force stands guard at the various gates and checkpoints, and the job allows the guards to meet new people every day.

"The best thing about this job is talking to everyone," said Army Sgt. Jared Price who is often seen in the mornings with a positive attitude toward those going to work. "We try to keep everybody motivated."

Price said that many people are determined to be unhappy in the morning, but he doesn't let that affect the way he treats everyone else. He motions vehicles to come through the ACP, conducts an inspection with a partner, and greets them, often with what he calls a "word of the day."

The work he does can often get monotonous, so instead of saying "have a nice day" as a vehicle departs, he will say "have an immaculate day" or whatever the word of the day is. This can get people's attention, and Price said that sometimes people just



Spc. Chantelle Colbert (right) and Spc. Sophia Starks (left) observe a naval vessel in the distance off the coast of Guantanamo Bay. Colbert and Starks are part of the external security force of the 128th Military Police Company.

need to speak with someone with a positive attitude in the morning to start the day off right.

Their job does not come without challenges, though. Army Sgt. Inge Teal-King also believes that the best part of her job is being able to interact with everyone who comes through the checkpoint. She has had trouble adapting to GTMO's weather, however.

"Some of the challenges I would say would have to be the weather. I was born in December, and I am a cold weather baby," she said. "My father is retired from the military, formerly from Germany. Cold weather is all I know. Adapting to this weather is a challenge."

Adapting to the heat and guarding an ACP is not the only job that Soldiers in the 128th have. Many are part of a QRF, or Quick Reaction Force. Some of these Soldiers are a maverick or roaming patrol, traveling on Humvees ready to respond to any situation. Others who are part of the QRF often spend days training for possible situations they would have to react to.

"I don't think a lot of people realize exactly how much we train," said Army Staff Sgt. Kevin Thompson, the training non-commissioned officer for the QRF. "We train every day. ... We aren't always waiting around for something to happen. We are preparing if something happens."

Thompson said that they train often with their less-than-lethal weaponry. They have a variety of equipment to help prepare if they should encounter a situation they must respond to.

"We train hard, we train often. ... If something happens, we are ready," said Army Sgt. Devin Lanier, with the QRF. Soldiers in the QRF are not always out guarding the gate and don't always interact with people, so Lanier believes there may be a "mystique" to their job.

Their training not only allows them to learn to trust their equipment but also each other. Lanier described a training exercise where they threw rocks at each other with protective gear on. It allowed them to practice a possible scenario, as well as have fun with each other.

"We look after each other. We are a real close team. ... When we go inside, we have to rely on each other. We are all we have," he said. "From the time we got here until now, I feel that we have really bonded with each other and come together. And we are getting the mission done."

After a long work day in the GTMO sun, Soldiers in the 128th have a variety of ways to enjoy their time off. Several of them participate in the various Morale, Welfare, and Recreation activities on the base, while some enjoy watching movies, playing board games, going swimming, diving, snorkeling, golfing and more.

In fact, Price enjoys his time here so much that he joked he was afraid he would be sent a bill for this vacation.

So, whether they are with the external security force, the quick reaction force, or one of the other important jobs to the JTF-GTMO mission, the Soldiers of the 128th MP Company are staying true to their company motto, "Respect and honor," by being professionals and trying to enjoy GTMO at the same time.

Alabama Guard's 62nd Troop Command welcomes new commander



Brenda Thomas/photo

The passing of colors ceremony is a tradition that symbolizes the passing of responsibility, authority, and accountability of command from one leader to another. Once passed from the outgoing commander around to the incoming commander, the guidon is returned to the front of the formation. The new commander then officially assumes his or her role.



by **Sgt. Brenda Thomas**
Public Affairs Office

The Alabama National Guard's largest major command, the 62nd Troop Command, welcomed a new commander as Brig. Gen. Charles Gable relinquished command to Col. John Hill, Sept. 15, 2013.

"All good things must come to an end," Gable said. "Commanding is such a privilege. A lot of responsibility comes with it, but also a lot of satisfaction. I am proud of all we have accomplished together."

Brig. Gen. Gable has commanded the 62nd Troop Command since November 2011. He will continue service in the Alabama Guard in a yet to be announced position.

Many different kinds of units fall under the 62nd Troop Command to include engineers, field artillery, aviation, firefighters, and the 1/167th Infantry, which recently returned from deployment.

"Gen. Gable commanded the largest major command in the state. He has done a fantastic job bringing Troop Command forward," said Maj. Gen. Sheryl Gordon, assistant adjutant general. "Col. Hill is a battle-tested soldier and is extremely qualified for the job, and we wish him success."

"I am here to serve the individual soldiers," said Hill. "I want to continue the success of Troop Command and continue to make the Alabama Army National Guard better: to increase readiness, to increase its capability, and to help make the unit more qualified to perform tasks at hand."

Chris Davis/photo

Many different kinds of units fall under the 62nd Troop Command, including infantry, engineers, aviation and more. Each battalion is represented at the ceremony with soldiers and their guidons.

History of the Alabama National Guard; Installment Two:

Participation of the Alabama National Guard in other Civil War Battles, including Second Manassas, Sharpsburg, and Gettysburg; History from 1862 through 1903.

by **Master Sgt. Janine Jordan**
Senior Historian

This article is the second installment in a series on the history of the Alabama National Guard. The first installment in the series was published in the March issue of the Alabama Guardsman Magazine (Vol. III 2013), “Background and History of the Alabama National Guard; First Installment: 1807 through the Battle of First Manassas.”

The 4th Alabama in the Battle of Second Manassas, Sharpsburg, Fredericksburg up to North Alabama

Following the Battle of First Manassas (also called First Battle of Bull Run), the 4th Alabama Infantry Regiment spent the winter at Dumfries. Around April 1862, the unit moved to Norfolk and fought at Seven Pines, where eight men died and 19 were wounded. Approximately two weeks later, the 4th Alabama fought at Cold Harbor, where 22 died and 108 were wounded (out of 500 soldiers). Next, the unit fought at Malvern Hill, then moved north to Manassas (for the second time). The Battle of Second Manassas (also called the Second Battle of Bull Run) first revealed Gen. Robert E. Lee’s emergence as an army commander.² The 4th Alabama participated at Boonsboro, then at Sharpsburg, where eight were killed and 36 were wounded.

Maj. John N. Gould, adjutant to the 10th Maine Regiment, United States Army, part of the 4th Alabama’s opposition at Sharpsburg (called Antietam by the Union soldiers), wrote: “Our comrades went down one after another, with a most disheartening frequency, pierced with bullets from men who were half concealed or who dodged quickly back to safe cover the moment they fired. On all other fields, from the beginning to the end of our long service we never had to face their equals. They were all good marksmen, and the constant call of their officers to aim low appeared to us entirely unnecessary.”



Gen. Robert E. Lee outlines his strategy to divide his forces and attack the enemy prior to the Battle of Second Manassas, with Thomas J. “Stonewall” Jackson, James Longstreet and J. E. B. Stuart. Title of Painting: Will be Moving within the Hour; Battle of Second Manassas. Reprinted with permission. Painting by Mort Kuntzler, Inc. (Kuntzler)

Following this campaign, Gen. Evander McIvor Law became permanent commander of the brigade (Law’s Alabama Brigade) that consisted of the 4th, 15th, 44th, 47th, and 48th Alabama regiments. The 4th Alabama participated at Fredericksburg, where five were killed and 17 were wounded. The lineage and honors of the 4th Alabama Infantry Regiment are carried today by members of the 1st Battalion, 167th Infantry Regiment of the Alabama National Guard, who recently returned from a deployment to Afghanistan.

The 4th Alabama next participated at Suffolk; they marched toward Maryland, then into Pennsylvania. Union activities in middle Tennessee were commanded by Maj. Gen. Don Carlos Buell. He had led part of his army to assist Gen. Grant at Shiloh. He ordered one of his commanders, Maj. Gen. Ormsby Mitchel, to head south from middle Tennessee to north Alabama. In April 1862, Maj. Gen. Mitchel marched his army from Fayetteville, Tennessee, and stormed Huntsville, Alabama, capturing “the railway station, the roundhouse, locomotives, rolling stock, Confederate soldiers on leave, a fledgling foundry,”

and whatever else he wanted. He then sent troops to take Decatur, Alabama, and headed toward Bridgeport, Alabama. He had the idea to take Chattanooga, Tennessee, and the War Department agreed. Mitchel marched the rest of the troops from Mississippi through Florence and Tusculumbia, Alabama, to Huntsville, Alabama. He kept the trains of the captured Memphis and Charleston Railroad rolling, but was stopped by Brig. Gen. John Hunt Morgan and Lt. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest. Forrest had commissioned Capt. Frank B. Gurley to recruit from North Alabama. Those recruits would become the 4th Alabama Cavalry, which fought many battles with Forrest.

The 4th Alabama and Battle of Little Round Top

By June 1863, the Union Army of the Potomac had been beaten at the Battle of Chancellorsville. The Army of Northern Virginia felt invincible and it looked like the chance of negotiating peace could be in the works. On July 1, 1863, Gen. Robert E. Lee's army met the Army of the Potomac, which was under the command of Maj. Gen. George Gordon Meade, at the Battle of Gettysburg. Gen. Lee's forces drove the Union troops back to a defensive spot on Cemetery Ridge. It looked like Lee's army would prevail again. Instead, the Confederates were driven back to Virginia. This ended the chances of peace. The battle for Little Round Top was a pivotal moment in the war. Little Round Top is the smaller of two hills south of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, between the Emmitsburg and Taneytown roads. During the Battle of Gettysburg, the local residents called it Sugar Loaf, among other names. The higher of the two hills was known as Round Top during the time of the battle. It was only referred to as Little Round Top after the battle had ended. The 4th Alabama Regiment, the 5th Alabama Regiment and seven companies of the 47th Alabama Regiment participated in the Battle at Little Round Top. A charge by Col. Joshua Chamberlain of the 20th Maine led to the capture of many Confederate soldiers and ended the assault on Little Round Top.

The 4th Alabama and the Battle of Chickamauga, attack on Knoxville, Battle of the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor, and Appomattox

By fall of 1863, the 4th Alabama moved with Lt. Gen. James Longstreet in the Battle of Chickamauga, losing 14

with 54 wounded out of around 3,000 soldiers participating. The 4th Alabama then moved into eastern Tennessee, and, in the attack on Knoxville, five died and 24 were wounded. After meeting with the Army in Virginia, the 4th Alabama lost 15, and 58 were wounded at the Battle of the Wilderness out of about 250 present; four were killed and 11 wounded at Spotsylvania. The 4th Alabama took part in all the operations up to the second Cold Harbor. Then, for approximately 10 months, it defended Petersburg, taking part in various skirmishes, losing 10 with 30 wounded. Of 1,422 soldiers of the 4th Alabama at Appomattox, 240 died in battle, almost 100 died of disease, and 202 surrendered.

During the Civil War, 63 infantry and 13 cavalry regiments from Alabama served the Confederacy, as well as several infantry battalions and one artillery battalion. Eighteen artillery batteries served in total. More than 75,000 Alabamians served the Confederacy, 35,000 of whom did not return home. Two Union cavalry regiments were raised in north Alabama, and, at the end of the war, in April 1865, four regiments of freedmen were raised at Selma. The 4th Alabama participated in 38 skirmishes, including 17 major campaigns.

Alabama National Guard 1864 – 1903

Union forces occupied north Alabama by 1864; on February 17, the Confederate Congress extended military service from ages 18 to 45 to ages 17 to 50. It ordered that males less than 18 and over 45 should comprise the State Reserves and serve only within the confines of the state. These would be classified as First Class Militia. The Second Class of militia was composed of exempt (or unfit) males. Col. William Graham (former Alabama State Treasurer) commanded the State Reserves under Adjutant Hugh P. Watson.

The Alabama State Reserves then came under the command of the Confederate States Army Military District of Montgomery and Maj. Jones M. Withers, a graduate of West Point, who was also a veteran of the Mexican War. Several regiments were organized, and they could be considered to be the ancestors of the four brigades of today's Alabama State Defense Force. The manpower situation became quite serious, and several of them were drafted into Confederate service. These were the 62nd, 63rd and

65th Alabama Volunteer Infantry Regiments. They tried in vain to defend Mobile and Blakely against Rousseau's Raid of July 1864 and Wilson's Raid of April 1865. After the surrender, the Union occupation commander ordered these reorganized local defense companies disbanded. An attempt was made in 1869 to design a reorganized militia but it never got past the planning stage.

Boys and older men who did not participate in the Civil War had stayed behind and formed Home Guards who did their best to defend their homes and towns. After the war ended, there was no official militia, but veterans of the war met periodically in associations. In the early 1870s, individual companies began meeting. In 1874, volunteer military companies began forming, such as the Birmingham Rifles, Jefferson Volunteers, Anniston Rifles and Gadsden's Etowah Rifles, and old elite units reappeared. Some of these were the Montgomery True Blues, Montgomery Grays, Mobile Rifles and Mobile Cadets. The Alabama National Guard's present day 161st Medical Battalion (Multifunctional) in Mobile descended from the Mobile Rifles. In 1877, the Alabama State Troops were formed, and in 1881, the state military establishment officially became the Alabama State Troops. By 1896, there were as many as 2,500 members. The federal government furnished arms and some equipment to them. Individual donors supplied uniforms, armories and other equipment. Most of their state active duty involved intervening in labor disputes or to protect prisoners.

In 1897, the active volunteer militia received their current designation as the Alabama National Guard. The force was to consist of four infantry regiments, an artillery regiment, a cavalry regiment, and a signal corps. In 1898, during the Spanish American War, three regiments from Alabama were mobilized and sent to Mobile and Miami. They had a difficult time in the Florida swamps. Due to mismanagement during the Spanish American War, it became obvious that national militia reform was needed. The Militia Act of 1903 officially transformed the state militia into the National Guard, and for the first time, the National Guard nationwide (including Alabama) fell under federal control.

Present Day National Guard Units with lineage tracing back to the Civil War

The lineage and honors of the 4th Alabama Infantry Regiment (which was organized at Dalton, Georgia, on May 2, 1861), whose exploits have been referenced throughout this brief history of the Alabama National Guard, are carried on by the 1st Battalion, 167th Infantry Regiment, Alabama Army National Guard. Besides the 1/167th Infantry, there are three other units which trace their lineage back to the Civil War: the 711th Brigade Support Battalion (BSB) of Mobile, the 31st Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Brigade of Tuscaloosa, and the 161st Medical Battalion (Multifunctional) of Mobile. Some of the reorganizations of these units are shown in the following four paragraphs.

The 1st Battalion, 167th Infantry Regiment was organized in 1836 as the Regiment of Alabama Militia and reorganized in 1846 as the 1st Regiment, Alabama Volunteers. The regiment was reorganized in part in 1861 as the 4th Regiment, Alabama Infantry (4th Alabama), reconstituted in 1875 as the Alabama Volunteer Militia, then 2nd Regiment of Infantry in the same year. There were many more redesignations and reassignments, including a designation as 1st Battalion, 30th Armored Division. The battalion was first designated as the 167th Infantry in 1917, with various designations, name changes, and reassignments since then. The present designation as 1/167th Infantry Regiment was granted in 1950. The redesignations of this unit will be discussed in more detail in an upcoming installment.

The 711th Brigade Support Battalion (BSB) of Mobile has roots which trace back 177 years. Its colors display battle streamers from the Creek Indian War, Confederate service at Shiloh, Murfreesboro, Chickamauga, Atlanta, Chattanooga, Nashville, Mississippi and Alabama. The 711th BSB is descended from the Alabama Artillery and Alabama State Artillery, which was organized in 1836. The 711th's lineage will also be laid out in more detail later in this series.

A few of the 31st CBRN's subordinate units can trace their lineage back 152 years. The Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment of 31st CBRN Brigade can trace its lineage to Captain Rodes' Company of Alabama Volunteers, "the Warrior Guards." This unit was mustered into Confederate service as Company H, 5th Alabama Infantry May 5, 1861. The Headquarters Company began as the Alabama Volunteer Militia, then was reas-

signed as the 2nd Alabama Volunteer Infantry. The 31st has also been designated as the 4th Infantry; the 167th Infantry; the 77th Infantry Brigade, 39th Division; the 61st Infantry Brigade and 62nd Infantry Brigade, 31st Division; the 200th Infantry Regiment; the 2nd Brigade, 31st Infantry Division; the 31st Brigade, 30th Armored division; the 31st Separate Armored Brigade; and the 122nd Chemical Brigade. In 2002, they were designated as Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 31st Chemical Brigade.

The 161st Medical Battalion (Multifunctional) of Mobile, Alabama also participated in the Battles of Gettysburg, Sharpsburg, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Spotsylvania, Shenandoah, and Appomattox, (among others), as Company K 3rd, Alabama Infantry. The unit also participated in the Indian Wars, the Mexican War, both World Wars, and Southwest Asia campaign. The 161st first organized in February 1836 as the Mobile Rifle Company, and mustered in May 1836 in the Regiment of Alabama Volunteers. The battalion was mustered into Federal service May 1846 as 1st Regiment Alabama Volunteers and mustered out June 1846. The unit reorganized April 1861 as Company K, 3rd Alabama Infantry. It mustered into Confederate service, surrendered April 9, 1865 at Appomattox Court House, Virginia, and was inactivated. The unit reorganized April 1872 in the Alabama Volunteer Militia as the Mobile Rifle Company, and became an element of the 1st Infantry Battalion Nov. 1872. In September 1875 the unit was redesignated as Company F, 1st Infantry Regiment. On Feb. 1, 1877, the regiment was redesignated as part of the Alabama State Guards. In 1897, the unit became part of the Alabama National Guard. There were 15 or more additional redesignations until 1996, when they were reorganized as the 161st Medical Battalion.

Earlier this year, soldiers from the 31st CBRN Brigade, the 1st of the 167th Infantry, and the 161st Medical Battalion conducted a staff ride to the battlefield at Gettysburg in order to learn about the battle and apply lessons from the Civil War to today's modern Army. Read more about that trip in a previous (July, 2013) edition of the Alabama Guardsman.

Next installment: History of the Alabama National Guard; Installment Three: 1904 through World War I.

Endnotes:

1Mort Kuntsler, Inc., accessed 07/13/2013, <http://mortkunstler.com/html/art-original-masterworks.asp?action=view&ID=50&cat=132>.

2Jonathan M. Berkey, "Bull Run, Second Battle of," *The Oxford Companion to American Military History*, (Oxford, N.Y.: Oxford University Press, 1999), 95.

3 "4th Alabama Infantry Regiment," Alabama Department of Archives and History, accessed 04/10/2013: <http://www.archives.alabama.gov/referenc/alamilor/4thin.html>

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"History, 31st Chemical Brigade." National Guard Bureau. Available from: <http://www.al.ngb.army.mil/Units/31Chem/history/default.aspx>.

Mort Kuntsler, Inc. Painting: I will be Moving within the Hour; Battle of Second Manassas. Reprinted with permission. Mort Kuntsler, Inc. Available from: <http://mortkunstler.com/html/art-original-masterworks.asp?action=view&ID=50&cat=132>.

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