

# Military Department

## Mission and philosophy

We will defend and serve America and Wyoming.

## Results of outcomes

It was business as usual for the Wyoming National Guard in FY04, even though the definition of "business as usual" changed on Sept. 11, 2001.

Business as usual meant the Wyoming Air National Guard continued to successfully perform missions around the world.

The organization began a two-year commitment to provide airlift support for Operation Iraqi Freedom. The flexibility of the mission allows airmen and equipment to rotate into and out of the Kuwait area for the duration, hopefully minimizing the impact on families and civilian employers. About 35 personnel deploy for six to eight weeks to support the mission.

Airmen continually deploy as units or individuals to augment operations around the globe. As an example, the 153rd Civil Engineer Squadron sent 12 firefighters to Baghdad International Airport for 90 days to train Iraqi crash and rescue personnel.

Closer to home, Wyoming Air National Guard crews assisted with firefighting efforts in October 2003. The C-130 crews flew eight aerial firefighting sorties while activated to assist with firefighting efforts in California. The mission used one of the two Modular Airborne Fire Fighting Systems operated by the Wyoming Air National Guard.

Business as usual meant Wyoming Army National Guard soldiers were experiencing, or preparing to experience 365 days of "Boots on the Ground," the U.S. Army's policy for soldiers deployed as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The first Wyoming Army National Guard unit to deploy overseas as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom, the 4th Infantry Division Rear Operations Center, out of Casper, returned to the state 14 months after leaving Wyoming. The unit, known as the ROC, spent one year in Iraq and Kuwait, most of it at Camp Speicher near Tikrit. While deployed the 21 members served in a number of roles, including managing the camp and personnel stationed there.

Unfortunately FY04 marked the first time since the Korean War a Wyoming National Guard soldier died in combat. Capt. Robert Lucero, a member of the ROC, died in Tikrit, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated on Sept. 25, 2003. He was buried in Evansville at the Oregon Trail State Veterans' Cemetery on Oct. 7, 2003. The rest of the unit returned to Casper on April 7,

### General information

Maj. Gen. Ed Wright, the Adjutant General,  
Wyoming National Guard

### Agency contact

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### Other locations

Armories are located in Afton, Casper, Cheyenne, Cody, Douglas, Evanston, Gillette, Lander, Laramie, Lovell, Powell, Rock Springs, Sheridan, Torrington, Wheatland and Worland. The Wyoming Air National Guard base is in Cheyenne. Camp Guernsey Joint Training Site is in Guernsey. The Oregon Trail Veterans Cemetery is in Evansville. The Veterans Commission is in Casper.

### Year established and reorganized

The Wyoming Army National Guard, 1870; The Wyoming Air National Guard, 1946. The Wyoming Military Department was reorganized in 1986, 1998 and 2003.

### Statutory references

Wyoming Statutes Title 19

### Authorized personnel

Total: 2,759. This includes 1,498 Wyoming Army and 1,083 Air National Guard personnel and 178 state employees. Of the 178 state employees, two work for the Oregon Trail Veterans Cemetery and three work for the Veterans Commission.

### Organizational structure

Wyoming Military Department, Wyoming Army National Guard, Wyoming Air National Guard, Oregon Trail State Veterans Cemetery, Veterans Commission

### Clients served

The residents of Wyoming, the citizens of the United States, National Guard Bureau, Department of Defense.

### Budget information

Budget information does not include payroll associated with personnel deployed under the current Presidential Partial Mobilization for Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

Wyoming Army National Guard .....	\$39,681,424
Wyoming Air National Guard .....	56,022,004
State Military Affairs .....	2,219,880
Oregon Trail State Veterans Cemetery .....	156,706
Starbase .....	248,020
Education Assistance Program .....	518,711
Wyoming Military Assistance Trust Fund .....	38,151
Veterans Education .....	40,533
Veterans Commission .....	180,903
Veterans Burial Teams .....	5,474
Operation Noble Eagle .....	1,951,100
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$101,062,906</b>
Federal Funds .....	\$97,546,069
State Funds .....	3,375,198
Other Funds .....	141,639

2004.

Three other Wyoming Army National Guard units left Wyoming for deployments to Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The 1022nd Medical Company was ordered in November 2003 to send 41 Wyoming soldiers to perform aeromedical evacuation missions. The unit was barely home from a nine-month Joint Task Force Civil Support Mission for U.S. Northern Command before deploying to Fort Carson, Colo., and, soon after, to Camp Doha, Kuwait.

The 115th Field Artillery Brigade deployed to various camps in Kuwait. The 65 members of the unit are managing troop and equipment transportation in the area.

The 2-300th Field Artillery Regiment sent 170 soldiers to Iraq to perform route security, transportation and other missions. The group received intensive security training at Fort Dix, N.J. before deploying.

All three units are scheduled to return to Wyoming early in 2005.

Business as usual also meant the Wyoming Military Department's personnel continued to train, honing their skills to defend and assist Wyoming's residents, should the need arise.

One such call came in February. A Wyoming Air National Guard C-130 crew performing a regularly-scheduled training mission diverted to assist rescue efforts to find a downed aircraft on Elk Mountain. The crew located and circled above the scene maintaining radio contact with survivors and pointing ground crews in the direction of the crash site.

Meeting the needs of veterans, families, civilian employers and the state's residents also was business as usual for the Wyoming Military Department.

The successful legislative session ensured financial assistance for families of deployed Wyoming military personnel is available, whether they are active duty, reserve or National Guard. Sen. John Schiffer and Rep. Tom Walsh were instrumental in passing the legislation creating a \$5 million trust fund for the assistance.

The Legislature also provided funds to purchase land adjoining Camp Guernsey's North Training Range, allowing more flexibility to the diverse military, private and government customers from around the country that train there.

Ensuring Wyoming residents are safe when using the Wyoming Military Department's facilities was a primary concern during FY04. The agency received \$1 million from the Legislature to help clean up lead residue found in some areas of the state's 20 armories. The armories are used by many communities as gathering points and emergency shelters. Making them as safe as possible for Wyoming's residents will continue to be a priority for the Wyoming Military Department.

Because long term and frequent deployments are becoming more common for soldiers and airmen, the Wyoming Military Department has increased its outreach

efforts for civilian employers. The Wyoming Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve hosted civilian employers in two bosslifts designed to illustrate the important role guard and reserve members play in America's military.

Wyoming veterans also received increased support from the Wyoming Veterans' Commission in FY04. Increased outreach efforts around the state, thanks to funding for a third full-time employee ensured the state's veterans would continue to receive outstanding support. Gov. Freudenthal also hosted a successful Veterans Summit bringing together 19 partner organizations that adjourned united in one mission: To serve veterans.

## Strategic plan changes

Please refer to the Wyoming Military Department's strategic plan dated Sept. 1, 2004 for changes to the previous plan, dated Sept. 1, 2003.

# Military Department organization chart

