



THE MINUTEMAN

A 53rd Troop Command Quarterly Newsletter

Message from the Commander



Soldiers and Families of the 53rd Troop Command,

I wish you all the very best during the upcoming holidays and for a safe and prosperous 2018!

Thank you for all you have done for your units, the NYARNG and for

our state and country during the past year. Over this period, the 53rd TC saw its Soldiers deploy and redeploy from the Middle East, assist New York State and local authorities with winter storm and spring flooding response missions.

During an unusually intense hurricane season, our Soldiers once again responded to the call for forces to the US Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico to assist civil authorities and, most importantly, their people recover from the devastation that this year's storms brought to the Caribbean. Still other 53rd TC Soldiers continue to receive, assemble and package the untold amount of donated supplies for onward shipment to those impacted areas. The spirit of generosity from the citizens of New York during time of crisis for other Americans is alive and well in our Soldiers.

As we move into a New Year, we will more than likely be confronted with more challenges in addition to normal training and missions. I urge you to con-

tinue to be ready for whatever we are called upon to do. Individual readiness not only refers to your skill level 1 tasks, but also your equipment, your military education, your personnel and medical records, your health and most importantly-your families. Your personal and collective readiness is the reason we are able as an organization to quickly and effectively respond to our State and Nation's call.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Brigadier General Michel Natali
Commander of the 53rd Troop Command



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Message from the CSM

Greetings 53rd Troop Command,

Let me begin by welcoming home the Soldiers of 152nd Engineers, 105th and 442nd Military Police units. These units and Soldiers illustrated the “true” meaning of a National Guard Soldier: as a Guard Soldier you’ll respond when disaster strikes at home or aboard. You’ll also answer the call when your country needs you around the world. This is our unique dual mission – serving both community and country.

This is what these Soldiers did when hurricane Irma almost destroyed Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands leaving citizens without food, water, electricity and other daily human needs for months. Without a second thought, many of our young men and women immediately volunteered to help knowing the conditions in these territories would be abysmal. They stayed for months assisting in several missions to bring stability back to these areas, and from all reports received, they did an OUTSTANDING job! Even though we brought most of our Soldiers back home, the mission continues as we still have 59 Soldiers who volunteered to stay and continue to help stabilize these territories.

I would be remiss if I didn’t also send a special shout out and thanks to TF Donation Support. They also did an amazing job of seamlessly gathering all the donations from several areas within the state of New York and getting them to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. There is a lot of behind the scenes work and coordination needed to execute a mission of this size and everyone involved did a fantastic job. Again, kudos to TF US Virgin Islands, TF Puerto Rico and TF Donation Support. You are the epitome of what we call a “Citizen Soldier,” and you made us all proud to be a 53rd Troop Command Soldiers!

It’s holiday season! Time to reflect on the good memories, celebrate and spend time with friends, family and your Band of Brothers. With that being said, I ask (and beg), let’s do this responsibly! We all know the story and have seen the movie more than once where Soldiers are having either a formal outing and/or celebrating an event and either get into an alcohol related fight, sexual misconduct or accident. We all know the outcome related to these unfortunate actions.

Since we know better, let’s do better! Drink responsibly, and if you are a leader of Soldiers - no matter what level you are - make sure when you see something going too far to the left you immediately correct it. That’s what LEADERS do!

On that note, I wish you and your family a very joyous and safe holiday season.

Command Sergeant Major Corey K. Cush
Senior Enlisted Advisor for the 53rd Troop Command



HR Professionals and Leaders,

A lot of great work is being done by our HR Professionals since last issue! Over the last 3 months, we have mobilized units in a State Active Duty status to support the relief operations in the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. Moving personnel and equipment to these destinations has never been done in such a quick timeframe in the NYARNG. What we've done has been unprecedented, and thanks to all the HR Professionals throughout our formations who made this possible. Additionally, the 53rd Troop Command has just wrapped two successful Military Personnel Directorate run Unit Manning Roster Workshops. Myself and my team appreciate all your efforts in making this one of the most productive.

I wish you and your families a truly happy and healthy season.

- MAJ John Harder, 53rd Troop Command G1

Blended Retirement System Training Requirements **Change 1 to MNP LOI**



Soldiers eligible to opt-in must complete the mandatory JKO training at the following link: <https://jkodirect.jten.mil>; course number 1332 - "Blended Retirement System (BRS) OPT-IN Course" Train-

ing should be completed prior to 31 DEC 2017. Soldiers will still have any opportunity to conduct the training after 1 JAN 2018. The decision is irreversible, so please ensure your Soldiers are educated on the advantages and disadvantages of both options. Additionally, this change to the LOI allows for certified Personnel Financial Counselors to conduct unit level group training in lieu of the JKO course. For more information, please refer to the policy which is housed on the MILPO Gateway. <https://ngnyorclweb.ng.ds.army.mil/mnp/gateway.html>. Soldiers who are eligible to opt-in can be found on PRIME.

FY 2018 53rd Troop Command HR Recognition Program

The competition is in full swing! Right now the 102 MP BN is in the lead, with the 104th MP BN in close second. GREAT JOB!

Keep it up and remember this is a competition with many different components, so just because you are clobbering the competition in one category, does not mean you will be the overall winner.



FY 2018 EPP LOI Released

HR Professionals throughout our formations should be well versed in some of the changes to this year's LOI.



The most notable change is the expanded zones of consideration. Based on favorable results of the multi-state Pilot program, and enhancing the enlisted promotion boards, the expanded zone of consideration is now authorized with promotion boards conducted on or after 1 October 2017. NYARNG will consider all qualified Soldiers who meet the expanded zone of consideration time-in-grade and time-in-service requirements during the life of the promotion list. Soldiers must meet minimum TIG/TIS requirements (IAW AR600-8-19) before selection for promotion.

2017 has been full of great accomplishments for the 53rd Troop Command! Time and again, our Soldiers have proven their technical and tactical competence as warfighters, and their expertise as well as empathy during civil support operations.

Our units have conducted high visibility deployments in both Iraq and Afghanistan. Their missions ran the gamut from protective services and VIP security to providing engineer support on special operations. The 369th Sustainment Brigade completed a successful deployment to Kuwait that required them to manage teams deployed across the theater and to regularly put themselves in harm's way.



Moving forward, we can expect our deployment OPTEMPO to remain high. We have units postured to deploy in early 2018 and several more who have been identified to prepare to deploy rapidly in support of world-wide contingency operations. Of course, we hope a political solution will lessen the likelihood of contingency deployments, but our readiness is critical now more than ever.

At home our troops have been called to provide support to domestic emergencies with not only increasing frequency, but larger numbers than in the past. Winter Storm Stella demonstrated our flexibility in assuming new missions such as rapid route closures.

The response to Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands further demonstrated the readiness and flexibility of our Soldiers and units to take on no-fail missions in complex and austere environments. The rate that our Soldiers were prepared to deploy was unprecedented. It is without question that those Soldiers deployed to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands saved lives and set the conditions for follow-on forces to continue their work.



On behalf of the 53rd Troop Command G-3 shop, thank you to all of the family members and friends who have supported our Soldiers so they may serve their country and the State of New York. Thank you to our Soldiers and engaged leaders at all levels; you are the very best this nation has to offer in the support of our communities and the fight against those who would do us harm.



We operate in a dynamic, fast-paced environment and support contingencies around the world as well as those domestic operations in our own back yards. Our logisticians remain committed to staying one step ahead through integrated support and preparation. Joint planning, strategic placement of assets, and garrison training such as drivers training and equipment PMCS are some critical considerations for logisticians that Lieutenant General Aundre F. Piggee, Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4, articulates in the September-October 2017 issue of Army Sustainment magazine.

Recently, more than 300 Soldiers within the 53rd Troop Command returned home having supported relief efforts to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands in the wake of Hurricane Maria's devastating path. In doing so, we were witness to the tremendous efforts put forth by our men and women on the ground while preparing and shipping equipment to and from the affected areas. Soldiers worked with civilian agencies and across services while relying on one another to stage, warehouse and load equipment at designated locations. Integrated support from senior leaders at the Joint Operations Center and MNL with Soldiers in subordinate units, combined with focus and attention to detail, is what laid the foundation for mission success.

In Army Sustainment magazine's November-December 2017 issue, Sgt. Maj. Edward A. Bell, the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff G-4, describes how logisticians have kept pace through the Army's changing strategies and structures over the last two decades. One of the keys to success he mentions is that we are "built upon this concept of being a team of teams that empowers." There is no better illustration of this concept than when our Soldiers respond with little notice to the call from our Governor, President and fellow citizens. As we sustain the Army and innovatively adapt to future strategies, we say thanks to our current and past Soldiers for their commitment to basic technical proficiency, self-improvement and attention to detail to keep logistics one step ahead.

To join our teams, refer to local recruiters throughout the state. Major vacancies include:

92G culinary specialist



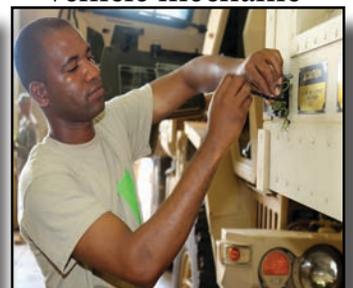
88M motor transport operator



92A automated logistical specialist



91B wheeled vehicle mechanic



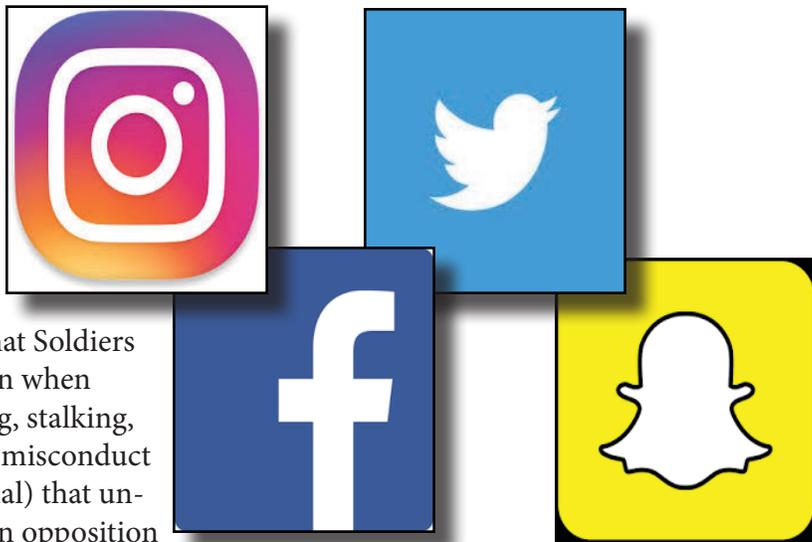
SJA Corner

Commonly known as “JAGs,” judge advocates represent the command in various administrative, investigative, and punitive settings where Soldiers are named respondents. While they advise and assist commanders with preserving military morale, good order, and discipline, judge advocates also provide legal assistance to individual Soldiers.

Facebook. Twitter. Snapchat. Instagram.

In 2018, it is likely that our Soldiers have one or more of the above referenced social media accounts and potentially accounts with other social sites as well.

In the wake of recent cases where service members got into trouble for their online misconduct, the 53rd Troop Command reemphasizes that Soldiers are held to the standards of the Army Values even when using social media. Harassment, bullying, hazing, stalking, discrimination, retaliation, or any other types of misconduct (e.g., commenting, posting and linking to material) that undermine dignity and respect are fundamentally in opposition to our values and are prohibited under AR 600-20.



New York Army National Guard Soldiers who violate AR 600-20 are in violation of New York Military Law Section 130.88, and commanding officers may impose disciplinary punishments under New York Military Law Section 130.15.



For example, service members must be careful not to comment, post, or link to material that shows contempt for public officials, which include the president, vice president, secretary of defense, deputy secretary of defense, secretary of the navy, or governor and legislature of any state in which he or she is located or performing duty in.

Soldiers are representatives of the Army regardless of whether their social media profile indicates they are a Soldier or not.

For information and appointments:

Office of Staff Judge Advocate
53rd Troop Command
Camp Smith, Building 500
daniel.d.baek.mil@mail.mil



Soldier Spotlight

Spc. Abraham Matute



“I was honored to be able to serve my country twice in less than a year; once for combat and once for humanitarian reasons.”

Noteworthiness:

Less than a month after returning home from Iraq, Spc. Matute volunteered to deploy to Puerto Rico to support relief operations across the island.

Unit:

1156th Engineer Company

Military Occupational Specialty:

Heavy equipment operator (current), Plumber

Time in Service:

5 years

Spc. Abraham Matute just returned from a year-long deployment to Iraq when he got the call asking for volunteers to help the victims of Hurricane Maria. Without hesitating, he packed his bags and was on a plane three weeks later for Puerto Rico.

“I was honored to be able to serve my country twice in less than a year; once for combat and once for humanitarian reasons,” Matute said.

Matute recalled being part of a convoy that spent over two hours getting to a remote village in the mountains of Puerto



Rico that had been cut off by debris and broken roadways. With no power, no running water and little food supply, the villagers still offered the Soldiers what little food and coffee they had in appreciation for their help.

“When you see people that have next to nothing offer you the very last of their food, you can’t help but feel proud and motivated to continue to help,” Matute said.

The success of the 53d Troop Command’s participation in the relief efforts is a testament not only to the readiness and flexibility of the command, but also from the Soldiers who never hesitated to give everything to help their neighbors.



Unit Spotlight

442nd Military Police Company

The 442nd Military Police Company conducted humanitarian aid and security missions across the Island of Puerto Rico to help the victims of Hurricane Maria.

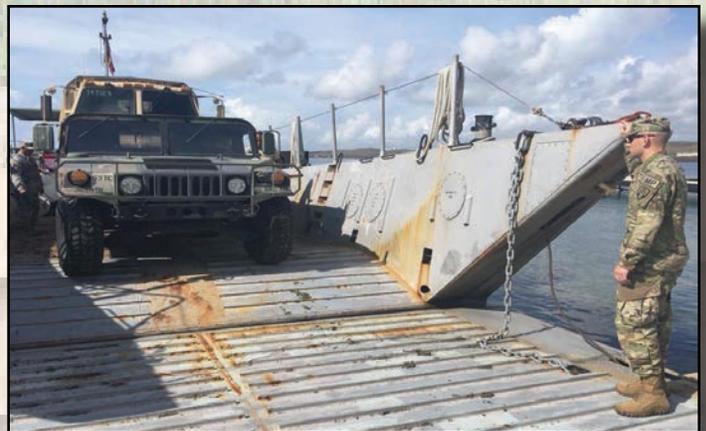


Soldiers with the 442 MP Co. worked hand-in-hand with local government agents and emergency service personnel.



442 MP Co. Soldiers served a vital role by helping to keep the peace so local workers could focus on their jobs.

They utilized and secured mission-essential equipment.



Promotions



PV2

AUMICK	RAVEN	MARCUS
BRUNDIGE	BREANNA	JOY
CENTENO	ORLANDO	ANTHONY
CHARLES	ISAAH	JONAS
CHRISTIAN	LANCE	A
COBA	JOSE	ALEJANDRO
DEJESUS	JERICK	
DEJESUS	CESAR	LENNY
DIDOMENICO	NICHOLAS	DAVID
DOMINGUEZ	TIFFANY	NMN
DYER	HOPE	ANN
JACOBS	GREGORY	JOSEPH
JOSEPH	ROBERT	
KEARNEY	HARLEY	ANN
KELAFANT	TYLER	KENNETH
KING	NOEL	LEON
KINNEY	ALEXANDER	JAMES
LOGAN	RYAN	DUKE
MARTE	ALL	RANDY
MOHAMED	BRANDON	NATHANIEL
MOLINA	CHRISTIAN	
PESANTEZ	KLEVER	ESTALIN
PETKUS	ERIC	MICHAEL
REID	SHAVAUN	KENROY
RIVERA	MARIO	ALBERTO
ROMERO	YANIER	ALEXIS
SAMERSON	VIDAL-	
SANTIAGO DIAZ	KRISTIAN	CARL
SARGEANT	MARK	A
SENATMAX	EMANUEL	
TARKOVSKY	MICHAEL	YURI
THOMPSON	TRAVEEN	S
TURNER	MICHAEL	ANTHONY
WHIPPLE	ANDREW	ROBERT
ZHANG	HONGYUN	

BROWN	ZANTIA	SHANEY	
BRUECKNER	LAUREN	NICOLE	
BUCINO	GERALD	ANTHONY	
CASTRO	LUIS	FERNANDO	
CHERON	EMMANUEL		
DECONCILIO	SEAN	ANDREW	
ESCALERA	JUSTIN	LUIS	
ESPINOSA	JEFFREY	ESTEBAN	
EUGENE	MARISKA	K	
FELICIANO	TARA	A	
FINNEGAN	VINCENT	PATRICK	
FLORES	GEOVANNI	MIGUEL	
FULLER	AUSTIN	REECE	
GIORDANO	JUSTIN	RYAN	
GORIS		ANTHONY	
HAUSRATH	JONAH	RUBEN	
HOLDEN	ERIN	LYNNE	
JOHNSON	BRIAN	DAVID	
JONES CHRISTOPHER		MICHEAL	
JONES	JANAYA	NADYA	
KANG	NARI		
LONG TAEVIHON	DARIUS	JARROLD	
MARRO	JOHN	DOUGLAS	
MCDONALD	JUSTEN	STEPHEN	
MORTON	TARELAVI		
PAREDESTENECELA	KAYLA	VALEN	
PAUL	TERRAN	BRIAR	
RAMOS	ANGEL	JUNIOR	
REYESCRUCETA	JOEL	RAFAEL	
RICHARDS	DIMITRE	R	
RODRIGUEZ TORRES		NEFFTY	HIRA
ROONEY	SONYA	TARA	
ROUSE	GABRIELLE	ANNA	
SCHAUMLOEFFEL	JOSEPH	HENRY	
SOMERVILLE	JOHN	PATRICK	
TULLOCH	JOVAN	ROJAN	
VALDOVINOS	KELVYN	ARMANDO	
WOLCOTT	SCOTT	A	
YANDA	BRANDON	M	
ZERNIAK	MICHAEL	JOHN	



PFC

ALLEN	KEVON	BERNARD	
ALVAREZ FERNANDEZ		MIGUEL	A
ARCE	JULIANO		
BARAHONA	ISAIASNOE		
BELLANCA	DEVIN	MICHAEL	
BROWN	ISAAC	HUMPHREY	



SPC

ANDERSON	DAVINA	K	
BALTAZAR	MANUEL		
BELTRAN	KENNETH	JOSHUA	
BLAKE	DAVID	LLOYD	

Promotions

BRIGGS JAMES EDWARD
 BROWN AINSLEY R
 BURCH GARY ELWIN
 BURGOS NATALY
 CLARKE JERVISN ALBERTA
 CONSTANTINE JELANI ANTONIO
 CORREA JOHN DAVID
 DEJESUS CRISTIAN
 DEYOE MICHELLE LYNNE
 DIXON NOAHRYAN
 DORTA DESMOND ALEXANDER
 FARNHAM MELINDA KATHLEEN
 FREDERICK ESMERALDA D
 GALUZEVSKIY ALEKSAND R
 GONZALEZ SYHEE DUPREEWILLIE
 GRAMBLE MICHAEL RAYMOND
 GURWITZ ADAMR OBERTJIN
 GUTIERREZ ROGGER FERNAND
 HALLETT KYLE DAVID
 HARDY ANTHONY WAYNE
 HAYNES DANTE ADONIS
 HAZZARD TIMOTHY LEONARD
 HERTZEL CHAIM NOCHUM
 JOHANNESSEN BUTLER JACOBTYL
 JOSEPH FARLEY
 KANTE FATOUMATA
 LOGEL EDWARD ROLAND
 LUDWIG STEVEN TIMOTHY
 MARLOW DAVID LEE
 MCCRAE MELLISHA KARESHA
 MCFARLANE DWAYNE ANDREW
 MERCEDES FERNANDO
 MILLARD DAVID WILLIAM
 MURPHY RYAN WILLIAM
 NAZAR CAROLINA LINDALING
 NEIDHART MICHAEL JOHN
 NELSON WALTER -
 NESTSERAV IVAN -
 NYARKO CHRISTIAN KWAKU
 PAPE JOHN LEONARD
 PATINOCORREA VALENTINA -
 RESIDES KAITLIN MARIE
 RICHARDSON PAIGE COURTNEY
 RODRIGUEZ AYSCEA LYNN
 ROMAN ISAIAH MICHAEL
 SALTO BLANCA A
 SEVILLANO VALENTINA

ST ROSE DYKE
 SULLIVAN JESSE WADE
 TABOR HOLLY ANNE
 TACURI JUAN CARLOS
 TAYLOR COREY JAMES
 TELFORT PIERRE STERPHELEY
 TERRY VICTOR TYRE
 TIENDREBEOGO CLOVIS SOUTONG
 TYRRELL STANLEY FRANKLIN
 VASQUEZ MICHAEL A
 WATSONCOGHIEL ALECIA MARIE
 WHEELER DONALD ALLEN
 WHITE JONATHAN THOMAS
 WOODMANSEE DOMINIC KENNETH
 YANATOS MATTHEW THOMAS
 YOON HEUNG SEUK
 YOUNG AHRON WILLIAM
 ZAMORA JULIAN ROY
 ZOFFRANIERI ROCCO ANTONIO



SGT

BELLOLUIS ESTEBAN
 BIGGS QUIANNA MICHELLE
 BOWEN TRISTON BRIAN
 CAMACHO EDGARDO JAVIER
 CARDENAS LEONORA EMILIA
 DELIZ ROXANNE LEE
 ELIA JASON RYAN
 FRAIL BRIAN MICHAEL
 HAZELETT STEPHANIE A
 HE JALI
 JOHNSON CAITLIN MARIE
 LEMARIE NATHANIEL ROGER
 LENA ROBERT LAWRENCE
 LEROUGE ROBERTNY DANDRE
 MANGANO JACOB DAVID
 MORGAN WADE T
 PETERSON JUSTINE HUNTER
 ROLDAN RONALD GUILLERMO
 RUIZ LETTY
 RUIZMARQUEZ CRISTIAN DAVID
 TORRES VICENTE S
 WHEELER JEREMIAH JAMES
 WILLIAMSON ALEXANDRA DANIEL

Promotions



SSG

FEIST	NELSON	CORY
GONZALEZ	JESSICA	MIREYA
MARINO	TESSA LYNN	
OKAIN	DAVID	
ORTIZ	ALNALDO	MARIO
RAMIREZ	ACHECO	ELIZABETH
ROWLAND	MICHAEL	CURTIS



SFC

PENA	GINO	FRANCESCO
WHITTED	JUSTIN	MARC



MSG

VARGAS	ALEXANDER	
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2LT

AMODEO	STEPHANIE	CLARICE
KOBAKHIDZE	GEORGE	
NAPPER	NATHAN	JOEL
ROSARIO	SANTOS	GERLIN
URENA	ELIS	MARIA
WADE	KYLE	PATRICK



CPT

RAMIREZ	PAUL	
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MAJ

GUSTAVE	DELBERT	
IVANCIU	MICHAEL	
KELLEY	JEFFREY	J
KENDZIERSKI	ANDREW	JOHN



LTC

BALOG	TODD	MATTHEW
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53rd TC

Quarterly Newsletter

Commanding General

Brig. Gen. Michel Natali

Command Sergeant Major

Command Sgt. Maj.
Corey Cush

Public Affairs Officer

Cpt. Phyonne Reynoldsfolkes

Layout and Design

Staff Sgt. Michael J Davis
138th PAD

Do you know a Soldier or unit that you would like to nominate for the next issue's Soldier Spotlight or Unit Spotlight? If so, please email:

michael.j.davis445.mil@mail.mil

Thank you!



COL

FOWLER	MICHAEL	TODD
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**For this issue of The Minuteman, 15 Sept. - 20 Dec. promotion information was used.*