

Jumper promoted, takes command of VaANG

Col. Catherine M. Jumper, former Director of Air Operations on the Virginia National Guard's joint staff, was promoted to brigadier general in a ceremony Nov. 6, 2022, at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia. She succeeds Brig. Gen. Toni M. Lord as the Virginia National Guard Air Component Commander, and Lord is retiring after 39 years of service. Family, friends, fellow service members and distinguished guests from the 192nd Wing and Joint Force Headquarters-Virginia attended the ceremony. Her father, retired Gen. John P. Jumper, the 17th Chief of Staff of the United States Air Force, served as the presiding official for the ceremony.

"This is a proud day for the Jumper family," Gen. Jumper said. "I will say that one characteristic of Cathy is that everything she touches, she always makes better. People ask me, 'to what do you contribute to your success?' The first thing is luck and timing - none of us who have been successful have done that without being in the right place at the right time. But the other is family support. In Cathy's case, [her husband and sons] know and understand that being part-time in the Virginia Air National Guard is more like being full-time."

Read more: <https://ngpa.us/22857>



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Virginia National Guard News Headlines

1-111th Field Artillery officially ends mission in Iraq

Virginia National Guard Soldiers assigned to the Norfolk-based 1st Battalion, 111th Field Artillery Regiment, 116th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, conducted a transfer of authority ceremony Nov. 12, 2022, at Al Asad Air Base, Iraq, to officially end their short-range air defense mission.

Read more: <https://ngpa.us/22853>

Rohler succeeds Pegg as 329th RSG commander

Col. Dennis Rohler took command of the Virginia National Guard's Virginia Beach-based 329th Regional Support Group from Col. Todd Pegg Nov. 20, 2022, in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Read more: <https://ngpa.us/22855>

Gloucester JROTC cadets visit Virginia National Guard aviation facility

Gloucester High School's junior ROTC cadets gained a peek into the Virginia Army National Guard's aviation capabilities during a visit Nov. 8, 2022, to the Army Aviation Support Facility, in Sandston, Virginia.

Read more: <https://ngpa.us/22856>

VDF Radio Group supports Jamboree-on-the-Air in Great Falls

Members of the Virginia Defense Force Radio Group supported scouts taking part in the 65th Annual International Jamboree-on-the-Air and Jamboree-on-the-Internet Oct. 15, 2022, in Great Falls, Virginia.

Read more: <https://ngpa.us/22852>

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For information about joining the Virginia Army National Guard, the Virginia Air National Guard or Virginia Defense Force, visit the appropriate link below:

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<http://nationalguard.com/va>

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Va. Defense Force

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Join the Virginia National Guard Alumni Network

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HART demonstrates capabilities for SWVA emergency managers

Virginia National Guard aviation crews and Chesterfield County Fire and Emergency Medical Services Scuba Rescue Team members provided a hoist rescue capability demonstration for emergency managers from across southwestern Virginia Nov. 16, 2022, in Tazewell, Virginia. The VNG aviators and Chesterfield rescue crews make up the Virginia Helicopter Aquatic Rescue Team, providing rotary wing rescue hoist capabilities which can conduct aerial rescue evacuations.

In addition to local emergency managers from the city of Bristol and Tazewell, Giles, Grayson and Wise Counties, officials from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management also observed HART's demonstration of rescue hoists. The southwestern Virginia region, with mountainous terrain and low valleys susceptible to flood events, doesn't have as many tactical rescue resources as other parts of the state, making their familiarity of HART's capabilities an important part of their emergency planning.

"We try to provide the same services to our southwestern Virginia counterparts that someone in a more urban portion of the state would see," explained Bryan Saunders, the VDEM emergency services program manager. "By being able to execute HART and get them in the air and get them on scene and execute rescues will save time, possibly save injuries for our rescuers, and get folks back in service for the next call out quicker."

In addition to weather disaster response, HART's unique aerial evacuation capabilities might also be useful for other rescue situations, including injured or endangered hikers on remote mountain trails not easily accessible by ground.

"Obviously there's a lot of areas where a hoist could help considerably," said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Shane Leipertz, the HART standardization pilot. "If you feel, looking at the rescue, it would reduce the overall risk to the rescue team and the victim by deploying that hoist, that's the time to start considering it. Whether that's a six or eight hour egress, whatever that case is, if it looks like it would reduce the risk to your teams, that would be the time to call."

"We don't have the resources down here to deploy for those rooftop-type rescues or extended carry-outs, because someone's down the Appalachian Trail and we just can't access it," said Saunders. "State Police can provide some of that resource, but what HART brings to us is a game-changer and a resource multiplier. We can get them in theater, they have longer loiter times, longer cables. They have heavier payloads they can lift."

During the event, HART personnel provided an overview of the program's history and capabilities, before a practical demonstration. VNG aviators flew a specially-outfitted UH-60 Black Hawk, deploying technical rescue specialists from Chesterfield Fire over a simulated patient, demonstrating different types of hoist rescues, including a basket for non-ambulatory victims. The capability augments limited resources already in place in the region, including local emergency responders and Virginia State Police.

"By bringing HART on board, all that does is give us another tool in the toolbox to execute these rescues and provide a service to



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the citizens of the commonwealth and Southwestern Virginia, who have often felt left out," said Saunders.

During domestic operations, the VNG receives missions from VDEM and responds as part of a multi-agency team with other state and local agencies to provide support capabilities requests by Virginia communities. VDEM determines where capabilities are allocated, and the VNG does not respond to direct requests for assistance. Localities looking for VNG support should make their requests to VDEM.

Read more: <https://ngpa.us/22854>

MORE ON THE WEB

VNG combat engineer earns coveted Sapper Tab

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Photos: 116th HQs returns to Va. after duty in Kosovo

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Photos: Virginia's veterans honored at Roanoke parade

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