

529th CSSB Soldiers to mobilize for federal duty in Europe

Approximately 70 Soldiers assigned to the Virginia National Guard's 529th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion Headquarters will enter federal active service for duty in Poland in January 2024, according to an announcement made Oct. 18, 2023, by Maj. Gen. James W. Ring, the Adjutant General of Virginia.

The unit was alerted to prepare for a possible mobilization more than a year ago and just recently received their official notification to deploy. The troops will serve under the command of U.S. Army's 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade to provide sustainment command and control and support to forward-stationed U.S. and allied forces in the region. Their mission will be part of a rotation of forces conducting multinational training and operations with allies and regional security partners to increase military interoperability, build contingency response capabilities and deter adversaries in Europe.

"Once again, the experienced logisticians of the 529th are answering the call to deploy overseas and provide world-class sustainment support to critical operations supporting the interests of the United States and our allies," Ring said.

Read more at <https://ngpa.us/27255>



A Soldier assigned to the Virginia Beach-based 529th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion takes part in Joint Readiness Training Center rotation 23-8.05 July 28, 2023, at Fort Johnson, Louisiana.

Virginia National Guard News Headlines

1030th Soldiers travel to South Korea for Ulchi Freedom Shield 23

More than 30 Virginia National Guard Soldiers from the Gate City-based Headquarters Detachment, 1030th Transportation Battalion, 329th Regional Support Group traveled to Camp Humphreys, Korea, to participate in Ulchi Freedom Shield 23 Aug. 18- 30, 2023.

Read more at <https://ngpa.us/27261>

Inaugural ROTC marksmanship match hosted by VNG MTU

The Virginia National Guard's Marksmanship Training Unit hosted 64 cadets from 11 Virginia colleges and universities during their inaugural ROTC Pistol Championship, held Sept. 30, 2023, at Fort Barfoot, Virginia.

Read more at <https://ngpa.us/27262>

VNG chaplain participates in chaplains course in Finland

First Lt. Stanley Bouadi, a chaplain assigned to the 529th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, participated in the International Young Chaplains Course with military chaplains from 12 other nations Sept. 25-29, 2023, in Helsinki, Finland.

Read more at <https://ngpa.us/27265>

VDF Officer Candidate School commissions four new officers

The Virginia Defense Force commissioned four new officers during a graduation ceremony Sept. 16, 2023, at the National Museum of the United States Army at Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

Read more at <https://ngpa.us/27266>

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<http://nationalguard.com/va>

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Va. Defense Force

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Earn \$1,000 with the VNG Referral Enlistment Program

<https://ngpa.us/26606>

Mother, son take oath to join 192nd Wing together

Two of the Virginia Air National Guard's newest recruits are 17-year-old Emmanuel McClain and his mom, Tobe McMillian, who took the oath of enlistment into the VaANG from Col. Brock Lange, commander of the VaANG's 192nd Wing, Sept. 18, 2023, at Joint Base Langley-Eustis in Hampton, Virginia.

"This is really cool," Lange said as he prepared to administer the oath to both mother and son. "This is one of the first things I get to do as the wing commander."

McMillian, who is rejoining the military after an 18-year break in service, will serve in the Virginia Beach-based 203rd Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineers, or RED HORSE, Squadron.

After completing Air Force Basic Military Training and technical school, McClain will serve with the Langley-based 192nd Maintenance Group.

"Every Airman is a recruiter," Lange explained to mother and son as they joined the 192nd. "We have a team of people to get you through challenges and to work together. Always communicate with us so we can remove barriers so you guys are ready to take the fight to the enemy when you need to."

McMillian, who currently works for the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development as a budget analyst, served 10 years in the active-duty Air Force and was stationed at Joint Base Andrews when she decided to leave the service.

"I actually got out because I was pregnant with Emmanuel," she recalled. "I was due with him in October and I got out in August."

McClain, who graduated from high school earlier this year, is interested in going to college to study cyber security. His work supervisor is retired from the Army and motivated him to consider joining the military to help pay for college, he explained.

Once McClain and his mom started looking into his joining the military, McMillian realized it was something she could pursue again too.

The two, who both live in White Plains, Maryland, credited VaANG recruiter Staff Sgt. Ewa Lach for making their dual enlistments happen.

"I was thinking about coming back in but I didn't know I could," McMillian admitted. "As he started looking into it, I began asking more questions. Then I was told there was an opportunity for me too. We weren't thinking about doing it at the same time but Staff Sgt. Lach made it so easy that we could do it together."

Enlisting this time was a little different for McMillian. She found herself asking more questions and paying closer attention than she did the first time she enlisted, more than 25 years ago.

"I don't remember all this stuff last time," she said. "I do think things have evolved and become a lot more transparent now so that you know exactly what you're doing and where you're going and when you're going."

"And maybe because I'm older now and paying attention," she laughed.



Tobe McMillian and her son Emmanuel McClain take the oath of enlistment into the Virginia Air National Guard from Col. Brock Lange, commander of the VaANG's 192nd Wing, Sept. 18, 2023, at Joint Base Langley-Eustis in Hampton, Virginia.

While Lach credits McMillian's attention to detail during the process, McMillian pointed out the recruiter's attention to detail as well.

"She's been super thorough," McMillian said of Lach. "I didn't know some of the things I was signing up for originally. This time she made sure I knew and he knew what we were getting into."

"With Tobe being a finance person, she's very detail oriented, so I wanted to make sure she was included and updated in the process the whole time," Lach explained.

Attention to detail is important with recruits, especially with prior service, according to Lach.

Read more at <https://ngpa.us/27243>

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