

Veterans honored at ceremonies across Virginia

Virginia National Guard Soldiers and Airmen honored the service and sacrifice of men and women of the Armed Forces Nov. 11, 2024, at ceremonies across the Virginia in honor of Veterans Day.

At the Commonwealth's Veterans Day Ceremony at the Virginia War Memorial in Richmond, Virginia, U.S. Army Gen. Gary M. Brito, Training and Doctrine Command Commanding General, was the keynote speaker, and Maj. Gen. James W. Ring, the Adjutant General of Virginia, also delivered remarks. The Troutville-based 29th Infantry Division Band provided ceremonial music, and members of the Virginia Defense Force volunteered their time to parking assistance.

The Pulket family was recognized as the Virginia War Memorial's Military Family of the Year. Second Lt. Ethan Pulket, a VNG Soldier assigned to 1st Battalion, 111th Field Artillery Regiment, 116th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, is fourth generation military service and fourth generation 29th Infantry Division, with both of his parents serving in the Army National Guard and the division.

Read more at <https://vngpao.info/52a7yex7>



The Pulket Family is recognized as the Virginia War Memorial Military Family of the Year at the Commonwealth's Veterans Day Ceremony Nov. 11, 2024, at the Virginia War Memorial in Richmond, Virginia.

Virginia National Guard News Headlines

Waller Depot announced as site for future museum
 The Virginia National Guard's S. Gardner Waller Depot in Richmond, Virginia, has been selected as the site for the future Museum of the Virginia National Guard according to an announcement made Nov. 13, 2024, by Maj. Gen. James W. Ring, the Adjutant General of Virginia.
 Read more at <https://vngpao.info/yc6866sp>

New, improved VNG central issue facility open for business
 After two months of intense work, Virginia National Guard Soldiers officially re-opened the Virginia Army National Guard's Central Issue Facility during a ceremony Nov. 15, 2024, at Defense Supply Center Richmond, Virginia.
 Read more at <https://vngpao.info/2wva6fmr>

VNG Soldier balances science, service on path to success
 As a first-generation American and the first in her family to attend college, Spc. Mariel Gomez has broken new ground with every step she's taken. She holds an undergraduate degree in sustainable biomaterials from Virginia Tech.
 Read more at <https://vngpao.info/578wxtmd>

VNG Officer Candidate School accepting applications
 The Virginia National Guard's 183rd Regiment, Regional Training Institute will host Pre-Officer Candidate School at Fort Barfoot for Soldiers interested in attending traditional or accelerated Officer Candidate School.
 Read more at <https://vngpao.info/yckm54c3>

Join the Virginia Army National Guard, Virginia Air National Guard or the Virginia Defense Force

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

Va. Army National Guard
<http://nationalguard.com/va>

Va. Air National Guard
<https://go.usa.gov/xGmKG>

Va. Defense Force
<http://vdf.virginia.gov/joinvdf/>

Join the Virginia National Guard Alumni Network
<https://go.usa.gov/xzGT3>

529th CSSB ends mission in Poland, returns to USA

Approximately 40 Soldiers assigned to the Virginia National Guard's Virginia Beach-based 529th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 329th Regional Support Group returned to the United States Nov. 19, 2024, after serving federal active duty in Poland since January 2024. The Soldiers will conduct administrative tasks at their de-mobilization station of Fort Cavazos, Texas, to begin transitioning back to a traditional National Guard status, but an exact date for their return has not been finalized.

A group of about 20 529th Soldiers already returned home, and a small contingent of Soldiers are conducting transportation support in Poland and will return later this month.

Brig. Gen. Charles B. Martin, Commander of the Virginia Army National Guard, Col. Juanita F. Rohler and Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph R. Viera, the 329th RSG command team, and Col. Gregory J. Geiger, commander of the Mobilization Support Brigade, greeted the Soldiers and thanked them for their service. The 329th command team also presented challenge coins to select Soldiers for outstanding duty performance.

The 529th conducted a transfer of authority ceremony with the Georgia National Guard's 110th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion Nov. 6 in Zagan Palace in Zagan, Poland.

"Task Force Cavalier, the day has finally arrived for us to hand over this mission," said Lt. Col. Carlos Maldonado, commander of TF Cavalier at the TOA. "While January 28, the day we left Virginia, seems like a lifetime ago, it also feels like time flew by. I cannot express how grateful I am to you for making this an absolute success for the 529th as we continue to add to the history of our unit and the Virginia National Guard on NATO's Eastern Flank."

The 529th took responsibility for logistics, maintenance, and supply missions based at Forward Operating Site Karliki, Poland, in March 2024 and acts as the headquarters element for Task Force Cavalier. They oversee operations and training for more than 550 Soldiers from four different subordinate units from active-duty Army, Army Reserve and Army National Guard.

"You showed tremendous resiliency," Maldonado said in regard to the challenges the unit faced early on in the mission. "You overcame and absolutely crushed the mission. Through it all, Cavalier you persevered."

Maldonado said TF Cavalier conducted 261 missions covering more than 260,000 miles, which he said is roughly one round trip to the moon. The task force moved 316 20-foot containers of ammunition, and he said if those were stacked end to end, they would stretch the length of three football fields. They also transported 227,000 gallons of fuel, which he said is enough to power a standard car for about 6.8 million miles or enough to drive around the Earth 270 times.

Conducting the TOA at Zagan Palace symbolized the TF Cavalier commitment to community involvement during their deployment.

"I am especially proud of our community engagements, conducting visits to schools, orphanages and participating in



Virginia National Guard senior leaders welcome the 529th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion command team back to the United States Nov. 19, 2024, at Fort Cavazos, Texas, after serving on federal active duty in Poland.

local events and festivals, Maldonado said. "TF Cavalier took our role as a part of the Zagan community seriously and enjoyed interacting with the Polish people and Polish Army, who were always respectful, kind and helpful. I am especially proud of TF Cavalier supporting flood response operations in September, further cementing the trust and friendship that we have built with the town of Zagan."

Read more at <https://vngpao.info/2dkf6twp>

MORE ON THE WEB

192nd MDG Det-1 trains with Henrico Fire Department

Photos on Flickr at <https://vngpao.info/yc2dt4df>

192nd MDG administers mass influenza vaccinations

Photos on Flickr at <https://vngpao.info/2nh5cs7a>

VNG RRB names top recruiters, leaders

Photos on Flickr at <https://vngpao.info/2p8sw9x9>

Secretary Crenshaw visits VDF training at Fort Barfoot

Photos on Flickr at <https://vngpao.info/ycknk4zp>

Patterson takes command of 192nd SFS

Photos on Flickr at <https://vngpao.info/2p8h9t3j>



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