

Unit-level exercise conducted for the first time

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# Virginia Data Processing Unit conducts cyber exercise



Soldiers of the Virginia National Guard Data Processing Unit's Network Warfare Branch monitor network traffic during the unit's Cyber Forward exercise conducted Oct. 16 in Fairfax.

The Fairfax-based Virginia Army National Guard Data Processing Unit conducted a unit-level cyber defense exercise Oct. 16, 2010 to test the unit's technical capability in preventing, identifying and responding to unauthorized access to U.S. Army computer networks and websites. The one-day simulation exercise called "Operation Cyber Forward" was the first time the DPU had conducted a unit-level exercise to test their cyber defense skills.

"The exercise was a resounding success," said Lt. Col. Adam Volant, commander of the DPU. "We reached another milestone in the unit's history with the completion of this first unit-level exercise. Our Soldiers left hungry to learn more, to continue training and honing their skills."

The exercise was based on a scenario where a foreign military power initiates deliberate cyber attacks against U.S. Army computer assets. The enemy had the ability to conduct denial of service attacks capable of disrupting US and Allied operations.

Read more: <http://vko.va.ngb.army.mil/VirginiaGuard/news/oct10/DPUexercise.html>

## Virginia National Guard News Headlines

### 29th ID Soldiers conduct pre-mobilization training for Afghanistan mission

Maryland and Virginia Army National Guard Soldiers from the Fort Belvoir-based 29th Infantry Division are conducting their final training Oct. 12-31 in order to prepare for their upcoming federal mobilization for duty in Afghanistan.

Read more: <http://vko.va.ngb.army.mil/VirginiaGuard/news/oct10/ADABpremob.html>

### Virginia Guard kicks off 2010 Combined Federal Campaign

The Virginia National Guard kicked off the 2010 Combined Federal Campaign Oct. 14 with a reception at the Army Guard Headquarters in Building 316 at Fort Pickett. Sixteen non-profit organizations from around Virginia attended the event to provide information on the services they offer.

Read more: <http://vko.va.ngb.army.mil/VirginiaGuard/news/oct10/CFC.html>

### ODU honors Virginia Guard with football ceremony

Old Dominion University President John Broderick expressed appreciation for the Virginia National Guard by presenting senior leaders with a game ball during a ceremony at the Monarchs home football game against Cal Poly- San Luis Obispo Oct. 9 in Norfolk.

Read more: <http://vko.va.ngb.army.mil/VirginiaGuard/news/oct10/ODUgame.html>

### Local children participate in National Public Lands Day project at Fort Pickett

Student volunteers from the Nottoway Intermediate School Talented and Gifted Program helped plant native shrubs, warm season grasses and wildflowers on a 1/2-acre plot in the Twin Lakes recreation area Oct. 16 at Fort Pickett.

Read more: <http://vko.va.ngb.army.mil/VirginiaGuard/news/oct10/NPLD.html>

## Mark Your Calendars!

### Oct. 22: Fort Pickett Masquerade Ball

Fort Pickett will host its 2nd Annual Masquerade Ball from 7 to 12 p.m. Cost is \$25 per person or \$40 for a couple and proceeds benefit the Fort Pickett MWR.

### Oct. 23: Fort Pickett Fall Festival

Fort Pickett will host its 2nd Annual Fall Festival and Open House 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the hangar on the airfield featuring static displays, a fishing casting tournament and games for kids.

### Nov. 3: 29th Infantry Division ADAB Departure Ceremony

A departure ceremony for Soldiers of the 29th Infantry Division taking part in the Afghan Development and Advisory Board mission will be held at Fort Belvoir at 2 p.m.

# Virginia Soldiers making an impact in Afghanistan

The Virginia National Guard's Virginia Beach-based 529th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion continues to make a positive impact in Afghanistan by providing critical sustainment support to coalition forces in their area of operations as well as helping improve quality of life and promoting economic development in local Afghan communities.

The 529th deployed in May 2010 to the remote forward operating base at Shindand Air Base in Afghanistan and operates in Regional Command-West Afghanistan where they are the first U.S. sustainment battalion to locate in the area and conduct operations. Working directly with Italian, Spanish and Afghan forces, the unit's mission is to provide supply, maintenance and transportation support to U.S. and coalition warfighters throughout the region that covers the four large western provinces of Herat, Farah, Badghis and Ghor.

The battalion has command and control over several active duty units: the 104th Transportation Company from Fort Benning, Ga., the 183d Maintenance Company from Fort Carson, Co. and the 226th Quartermaster Platoon from Fort Stewart, Ga.

The 529th supports more than 5,000 personnel operating in an area approximately the size of Virginia with a population of 3,000,000 Afghans. In the first six months on duty, the battalion's units have driven more than 84,000 miles in 300 missions and provided more than 1,558,000 gallons of fuel and 1,650,000 gallons of potable water to coalition forces.

The battalion established and operated the only Supply Support Activity in Regional Command-West, providing all classes of supply to all units in the region. The SSA has increased in size from 48 to more than 155 customer units since the battalion's arrival and has increased its inventory by more than 60%.

Soldiers from the 529th began participating in the Commander's Emergency Response Program in the villages around Shindand Air Base, and the program provides funds to resource projects in the local communities to assist the local populace with certain life support needs, such as potable water production, power generation and other infrastructure developments.

The battalion's supply officer, Capt. Eric Quinn of Blackstone, conducted a site survey Oct. 1 for the installation of a water well at the local village of Kariz-e Bibi, and the battalion has partnered with the Italian Army and the United States Agency for International Development for the Shindand District.

Most of these projects are small, but very meaningful to the villages. The Italian Army unit in Shindand provided a project officer, Capt. Luca Bordoni, to assist in the planning of the well project and work closely with Quinn to bring the combined assets of both forces together to provide the best possible support.

Quinn met with the Italian project officer and the USAID representative, Behzad Roohi, at the village's Mosque where an old well had gone dry. "The old well that is currently there is broken and needs to be drilled deeper," said Quinn. "It is a big deal to the people living in the village to have a well to provide water at their Mosque."



**Capt. Eric Quinn stands next to Behzad Roohi with Capt. Luca Bordoni and two locals from the village of Kariz-e Bibi during the site survey.**

The well project will cost approximately \$4,000, which will employ a local contractor and ensure jobs for the local community, said Quinn. The contractor was chosen by the village elder and has been assisting in similar projects in conjunction with coalition forces for nearly 10 years.

With the average annual income for rural Afghans being under \$500 and an unemployment rate of nearly 40%, such a project will have a significant impact on the local economy, said Quinn. Frequently, only one man will work for his entire extended family of 20 or more. An additional well project being coordinated by Quinn at a nearby village will provide an added \$2,800 to the local community; further securing jobs to the area and stimulating economic growth and stability.

Read more: <http://vko.va.ngb.army.mil/VirginiaGuard/news/oct10/529thupdate.html>

## MORE ON THE WEB

### Central Virginia Area Combined Federal Campaign

<http://cfcofcva.org/>

### Download the 2010 CFC brochure

[http://cfcofcva.org/documents/CVA\\_CharityList2010\\_WEB.pdf](http://cfcofcva.org/documents/CVA_CharityList2010_WEB.pdf)

### National Public Lands Day

<http://www.publiclandsday.org/>

### Virginia National Guard on Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/VirginiaGuard>

<http://www.facebook.com/vanguardpao>

### Virginia Guard Public Affairs Flickr Photostream

<http://flickr.com/photos/vanguardpao>

### Virginia Guard Public Affairs YouTube Channel

<http://www.youtube.com/vanguardpao>

### Virginia Guard Public Affairs on Twitter

<http://twitter.com/vanguardpao>