



# Personal Messages and Topics of Interest from The Adjutant General of Colorado

SEPT 2023



Hello everyone! Hopefully, you are aware of our CONG Priorities: **People, Readiness, and Modernization**. It is important that you understand these priorities and how you contribute to them. People (YOU) are our #1 priority; our readiness is dependent on our people. I want to ensure that the CONG is a place where you are welcomed, valued, respected, and heard; where there are opportunities for you to grow and develop as a leader; and where you are part of a cohesive, well-trained, and disciplined team. One way to be heard is through the DEOCS survey. It is your vehicle to tell us how we can get better and improve our culture and, ultimately, the CONG. Your command teams will use your feedback to identify areas to improve at the unit level. You can make a difference, and I appreciate you taking the time to be heard!

## PEOPLE

### COARNG Soldier Highlight



SGT Do, currently assigned to the COARNG's 1158th Space Company, shares his story of why he serves and what led him to the Colorado National Guard.

"Life in America was all new to me", Do said. "Not knowing how to speak the language made it difficult to interact with people."

This was just the beginning of a path that would take overcoming a communication barrier to a global level. [Read SGT Do's story...](#)

### DEOCS Drives Change

Following the feedback received from the 2022 DEOCS, the 140th Civil Engineer Squadron Command Team launched several People and Readiness initiatives. First, they integrated Guardsmen with DMVA civilians in each of the construction trade shops to enhance training. Then they formed diverse teams of Airmen and civilians to decide on organizational SMART goals. Finally, the unit is experiencing a significant increase in high performing, cohesive teams after they returned from a Deployment for Training at Yokota Air Base, Japan. [Read more about the 140<sup>th</sup> CE here...](#)

## READINESS

### TAG Match Builds Readiness

The annual Adjutant General competition not only provides competitive marksmanship events, but it also builds team camaraderie and Soldier and Airmen readiness. The CTS instructors work diligently to provide unique training scenarios that enhance combat skills and challenge each competitor in an unfamiliar environment. This year there were 70 competitors and over 20 award winners. I encourage you to form a team or compete individually at next year's competition.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K2nIMdqny-k>

### SOD-K deploys to UFS 23

Fifteen Soldiers from SOD-K participated in Ulchi Freedom Shield 23.2. At the start of the exercise, the detachment integrated with the joint staff, partner forces, and 20th Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosives command to provide staff and component leaders with subject matter expertise in CBRNE Weapons of Mass Destruction operations and Tactics, Techniques and Procedures. Additionally, they coordinated with 21st Special Operations Squadron to execute a site survey of an "off peninsula" site to determine feasibility of use for future training exercises and deployments.



### PD Corner: Kevin Hines: Cracked Not Broken

Kevin shares his personal story of surviving a suicide attempt off the Golden Gate Bridge and discusses the importance of mental health and suicide prevention. We need each one of you on our team and we want you and your family to know there is help available.

J9 helpline 1 (866) 333-8844

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=QEflkvdeWWw&t=35s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QEflkvdeWWw&t=35s)

### We Want To Hear From You!

If you have story suggestions or have something you'd like to share please send us an email with specific details at:

[Ng.co.coarng.mbx.tag-talks@army.mil](mailto:Ng.co.coarng.mbx.tag-talks@army.mil)