



Ohio Adjutant General's Department

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The National Guard at 382 years

The Minuteman symbol is proudly represented on the Ohio National Guard seal and by statues at many of our installations. It's a symbol for the men and women through our Nation's history who have been ready for military duty "at a minute's warning." Whether serving in uniform or as civilians, Ohio National Guard men and women remain vested in a culture of readiness and volunteer service.

We celebrate the birth date of the National Guard on December 13. It was on that day in 1636 the first militia regiments in North America were organized in Massachusetts. The colony's militia was structured into three permanent regiments to better defend their settlements.

The birth of the Nation's oldest units in the U.S. military is representative of the founding of all the state, territory, and District of Columbia militias that today we call the National Guard.

The National Guard has a rich 382-year history of answering the call to service in our states and for our Nation, while staying connected to our communities to maintain the heritage of the Citizen-Soldier and -Airman.

The Minuteman courage lives on today in every one of our more than 16,000 Ohio Army and Air National Guard members. We provide a capable and ready force to protect the homeland and to act as a combat reserve of the Army and Air Force. The Ohio National Guard is an accessible, seamlessly integrated, and cost-effective, on-demand force for fighting the Nation's wars. The military expertise garnered from the past 17 years of consistent operational use strengthens response efforts within our communities.

To paraphrase a quote from retired Gen. Colin Powell, there are no secrets to our success – just preparation and hard work.

Always ready, Always there!

Maj. Gen. Mark E. Bartman
Ohio Adjutant General