



# STAND-TO!

Stand-To: n. Procedures prior to first light to enhance unit security  
*A daily compendium of news, information, and context for Army leaders.*

## STAND-TO! Edition: Thursday, June 17, 2010

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### Today's Focus:

## ARNG Job Connection Education Program

### SENIOR LEADERS ARE SAYING

"My goal is to significantly reduce our overhead costs in order to free up the resources needed to sustain our force structure, to modernize and to create future combat capabilities while living within the current top line. No organization within the department, including my own office, will be excluded from these efforts. All of the savings will be applied to fund personnel and units, force structure and investment in future capabilities."

-Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates testifies before the Senate Appropriations Committee that Defense Department leaders are looking to find more than \$100 billion in overhead savings over the next five fiscal years, starting in fiscal 2012.

[Gates: Budget request reflects Pentagon's reform agenda](#)

### WHAT THEY'RE SAYING

"It's a major stress reliever. It helps out because you find yourself thinking about your truck rather than worrying about home or stress at work."

- Pfc. Nathan Mills, who in his free time enjoys competing radio-controlled trucks on the Raptor Race Track, a 100-foot track built by a small group of race fans, feels that this hobby is a great way to fight stress

[Radio-controlled enthusiasts motor along](#)

### TODAY'S FOCUS

#### ARNG Job Connection Education Program

##### What is it?

Job Connection Education Program (JCEP) is an Army National Guard (ARNG) employment initiative designed to help improve the quality of life of National Guard Soldiers who are unemployed or under-employed. This is done by improving their ability to seek, obtain, and retain civilian employment through assessing their skills and experiences that lead to updated resumes, effective interview training, job search training, and education and job expositions. The JCEP goal is to connect Soldiers to civilian employment opportunities. JCEP staff work individually with Soldiers and closely with local employers to establish formal relationships that match skills and requirements with potential employers. Classroom activities and practical exercises result in improved Soldier self-confidence, more job interviews, and improved employment rates. Currently, JCEP is operating as a pilot test program

out of the Sandage Armory in Fort Worth, Texas.

### **What has the Army Guard done?**

In the past ARNG has focused on education benefits but due to multiple deployments and a slow economy, the unemployment rate among ARNG Soldiers has risen to 11.29 percent. Meanwhile the U.S. rate is still at 9.7 percent, according to Civilian Employment Information and the Department of Labor May 2010 unemployment report. The ARNG Employment Branch has developed several initiatives/programs besides JCEP to assist Soldiers in connecting with employers. One initiative is the Employer Partnership Office (EPO). The ARNG began partnering with the U.S. Army Reserve in June 2009 and brought the program to ARNG Soldiers in October 2009. EPO assist Soldiers through its website and Program Support Managers (PSMs) to conduct job searches by Military Occupation Skill, civilian job title, or region. Soldiers can apply and submit resumes from this site directly to one of over 900 EPO business partners and Fortune 500 companies.

### **What continued efforts does the Army Guard have planned for the future?**

The ARNG will continue to focus on readiness and ways to create quality employment skills training and opportunities for Soldiers by assisting Soldiers to capitalize on previous experiences and training. Build relationships and processes that foster employer readiness when ARNG Soldiers are mobilized. Develop a JCEP in 54 states/territories.

### **Why is this important to the Army and the Army Guard?**

JCEP is essential to the sustainability and retention of the ARNG. Soldiers are having problems marketing themselves and finding employment. JCEP provides the confidence and opportunity for Soldiers to attain job skill training and gain civilian employment while serving in the ARNG.

#### **Resource:**

[Army National Guard](#)

### **INFORMATION YOU CAN USE**

- [Early Bird News Site](#)
- [Stories of Valor](#)
- [Army Public Affairs Portal](#)
- [Strategic Communication Coordination Group \(SCCG\) Workspace](#)
- [Information Papers with "2010 Army Posture Statement"](#)

### **A CULTURE OF ENGAGEMENT**

- [Community Covenant](#)
- [Bloggers Roundtable](#)
- [Louisiana Guard begins 'New Horizons' in Haiti \(The U.S. Army\)](#)
- [U.S. Army reservists aid Indonesia in humanitarian effort \(The U.S. Army\)](#)

### **CALENDAR**

#### **June 2010**

*National Safety Month*

June 13: [Drill Sergeant of the Year 2010 Competition](#)

June 14: [Army 235th Birthday](#)

June 25: 60th Anniversary of the [Korean War](#)

## SOCIAL NETWORKING

- [Army Media Player](#)
- [Flickr: Army images](#)
- [YouTube: Army videos](#)
- [Twitter: Army updates](#)
- [delicious: Army links](#)
- [Facebook: Army's fan page](#)

## PROFESSIONAL WRITING

[Army Professional Writing](#)

## WHAT'S BEING SAID IN BLOGS

- [Fuel cells: a potential solution to current challenges](#)
- [Family Readiness Groups \(FRGs\)](#)
- [In the heat of the night](#)
- [One day at a time](#)

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## STAND-TO! NEWS

### ABOUT THE ARMY

- [Army recalls more than 13K armor plates \(Military Times\)](#)
- [Army shifts back to buttons. Is Velcro losing its grip? \(Christian Science Monitor\)](#)
- [Surveys to look at reserve-component medical board process \(The U.S. Army\)](#)
- [Army testing new JLTVs \(The U.S. Army\)](#)
- [Soldiers first to graduate from language detachments \(The U.S. Army\)](#)
- [Slideshow: The 2010 Drill Sergeant of the Year Competition - Day 3](#)

### OVERSEAS OPERATIONS

- [Petraeus backs 'responsible' Afghanistan pullout \(Business Week\)](#)
- [Military and Pentagon leaders urge patience for Afghan mission \(New York Times\)](#)
- [Militant group expands attacks in Afghanistan \(New York Times\)](#)
- [Experts: U.S. has no long-term political strategy for Afghanistan \(McClatchy Newspapers\)](#)
- [Taliban can keep weapons under new peace initiative \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)
- [Give U.S. troops time to win, generals say \(San Diego Union Tribune\)](#)
- [Third Army conducts drawdown conference \(The U.S. Army\)](#)
- [U.S. mission in north Iraq: Get Kurd and Arab forces cooperating \(Los Angeles Times\)](#)

### OF INTEREST

- [Arlington National Cemetery headstones found lining stream bed \(Washington Post\)](#)
- [Robert Gates: Need war funding by July 4 \(Politico\)](#)
- [For civilians at war, pay shouldn't be a worry \(Washington Post\)](#)
- [Suicide rivals the battlefield in toll on U.S. military \(NPR\)](#)
- [Man seized at Army post had land mine \(Boston Globe\)](#)

### WORLD VIEW

- [U.S. government 'should spearhead \\$300 million plan to tackle Agent Orange' \(London Daily](#)

Telegraph)

- [Iran may be ready to resume nuclear talks, says Ahmadinejad \(Guardian\)](#)
- [U.S. expands Iran nuclear sanctions \(Al Jazeera\)](#)
- [Taliban 'seizes Pakistani troops' \(Al Jazeera\)](#)
- [Kyrgyzstan's crisis is 'immense', says Red Cross \(BBC\)](#)

**SPORTS**

- [Sports at a glance](#)

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