



150th Communications Flight Mission Brief

Innovate-Communicate-Dominate

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The Cyber Threat



- Cyber threats are simply a reality for our world today
 - Financial Impacts
 - FBI estimates \$1.87B in US from Cyber Attacks in 2020
 - Data Loss
 - Private and sensitive information lost
 - Ransomware
 - Global Ransomware attacks estimated cost \$6 Trillion in 2021

ALBUQUERQUE NEWS

UNMH looks into cyberattack, offering affected patients assistance





New Mexico National Guard



- MAJ GEN Ken Nava – The Adjutant General
 - Also heads Dept of Military Affairs
- NM Army National Guard and NM Air National Guard (NMANG)
 - ~4,000 New Mexican serving in New Mexico
- NM National Guard COVID Response
 - From testing to feeding people to administering vaccines – helping New Mexicans!





150th Special Operations Wing



- 150th SOW is main NMANG unit
 - The “Tacos”!
 - Located at Kirtland AFB
 - Missions: training AF Special Ops aircrew, maintain aircraft, provide intelligence support to the AF
- 150th Communications Flight (soon to be Squadron) sub-unit of 150th SOW





150th CF Cyber Capabilities



- 55 Trained Cyber Airmen (15 full time & 40 part time)
 - Part time force has diverse cyber civilian employment (Secret Service, AFRL, SNL, VA)
- Active Cyber Defense for Networks
 - Vulnerability Assessment, Network monitoring, threat ID and mitigation
 - Snort, Wireshark, Varonis, Cyberspace Vulnerability Assessment/Hunter
- IT Customer Support for NMANG
 - Cyber surety, helpdesk, infrastructure, client systems, radios





150th CF Federal Mission



- Ready to Defend the Nation
 - President is Commander-in-Chief
 - Deployed in 2019-2020 to the Middle East
 - Ready to deploy again in 2023
- Mission Defense Team
 - Cyber Defense of Air Force Weapons Systems (C-130 Aircraft)

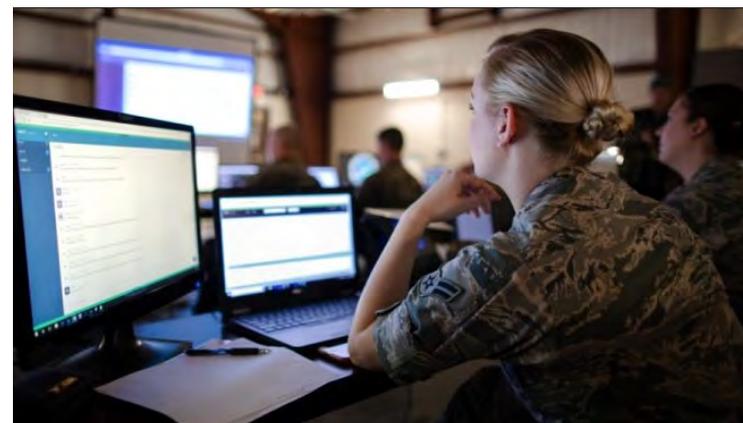




150th CF State Mission



- Ready to help New Mexicans in any emergency where we are called upon
 - Governor is Commander-in-Chief
- “State Active Duty” is mechanism to use National Guardsmen for State emergency response
 - Paid for with NM State funds





Federal Authority

- DoD allows for National Guard cyber forces to “coordinate, train, advise, and assist” state, local, and private critical infrastructure organizations
- Limitations:
 - No law enforcement
 - No offensive cyber operations





State Legal Authority



- N.M. Stat. § 20-2-3 (2018):
- B. The governor may also order any member of the national guard to active state service for a period not to exceed a cumulative total of four months within a calendar year for any individual member for the following reasons:
 - **(1)** to protect critical infrastructure in the state from a cyber security threat or security vulnerability;
 - **(2)** to protect an information system owned or operated by the state from a cyber security threat or security vulnerability;
 - **(3)** to protect information that is stored on, processed by or transiting on an information system owned or operated by the state from a cybersecurity threat or security vulnerability;
 - or**(4)** to identify the source of a cyber security threat.



Historical NM Cyber Missions



- Election Support to Secretary of State Office since 2018
 - Personally thanked by Sec of State, Ms Maggie Toulouse Oliver
 - DHS stated collaboration between SoS, DHS, and 150th was best in the country!
- 2018 Grid-Ex Power Industry Cyber exercise with PNM
- 2021 Legislative Session – longest in Air Guard history





Future Plans



- Nov 2021 – Election Support
- Jul 2022 – Training with Mescalero Apache Telecom in partnership with CNM and PNM
 - Train tribe on cyber defense – protecting critical infrastructure
- Ongoing – Mission Defense Teams protecting AF weapon systems





Questions?

