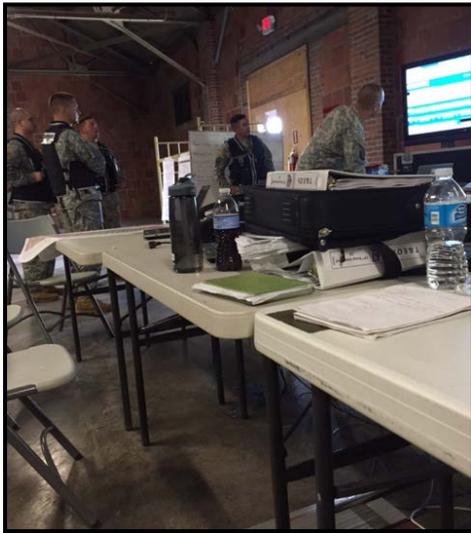




200th RED HORSE

2015 Homeland Response Force (HRF) Support

The 200th RED HORSE Squadron (RHS) Det. 1, Mansfield, OH, hosted the 73rd Troop Command Brigade Homeland Response Force (HRF) during an exercise by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 5 Homeland Response Force on May 2, 2015. The 200th RHS set the stage by creating and maintaining the tent city for the exercise, while supporting Air National Guard members of the 179th Airlift Wing, from Mansfield, as well as the 125th Intelligence and 269th Combat Communications Squadrons, from Springfield, who contributed to the joint exercise. RED HORSE also supported the HRF's June 7 through 26 Special Focus Event (SFE) and External Evaluation (EXEVAL) exercise at Camp Ravenna Joint Military Training Center (CRJMTC). The EXEVAL is conducted every three years in a "Go/No-Go" evaluation.



The exercise trains personnel from enhanced response force packages (CERFP) teams to respond to CBRNE events, as well as training command and control (C2) personnel on civilian authorities and incident commanders. The CERFP teams are able to experience search and extraction (S&E) from a real rubble pile, as well as setting up and running decontamination and medical elements. These elaborate scenarios employ civilian actors to more accurately simulate working with casualties throughout the S&E, decontamination and medical stages. They also take into account real world weather analysis to project and analyze chemical plume models and send teams throughout the state to train effectively on communication and logistics when all elements are truly deployed to various locations.



While the majority of the exercise was performed by the, 73rd Troop Command of Ohio Army National Guard; Ohio Air Guard personnel provided medical, communications, intelligence and operations support. RED HORSE members were integrated into the Future Operations (FUOPS) section of the HRF, and provided vital input and guidance, particularly during the initial set-up and development of Courses of Action needed to ensure mission success of the mission. The RED

HORSE FUOPS team participated in the initial "War Gaming" by providing input into the planning discussions and decisions; including providing knowledge of Air Force and RED HORSE assets available, as well as operations knowledge. The RED HORSE FOUOPS team worked with personnel from operations, communications, intelligence, logistics, medical, and numerous other sections to write Warning Orders (WARNORD), Operation Orders (OPORD) and Fragmented Orders (FRAGORD). These orders were then distributed to each element of the HRF to initiate execution of their assigned tasks and roles. The entire exercise process fully integrated Army and Air personnel from the command level down to the individual soldiers and airmen responding to the simulated events.

The HRF mission statement “When directed the NG Homeland Response Force alerts, assembles and deploys to save lives and mitigate human suffering and prepares for follow on forces” reflects the HRF focus on saving lives and reducing human suffering in the event of a CBRNE incident. The 200 RHS plays a vital role in this mission. They are not only home to the training event at Mansfield, but they provide critical knowledge, skills, and equipment necessary to conduct the actual mission.

In the event of a large scale emergency, the Ohio National Guard must be ready to assist the public at a moment’s notice. The yearly HRF exercise provides the necessary hands on training and familiarity of working together that ensures Army and Air National Guard personnel are ready when the nation calls.



(The 200th RED HORSE Squadron, Ohio Air National Guard, is based out of Camp Perry and Mansfield Ohio, story by Lt Ashley Klase)