



State of Wyoming Military Department Office of the Adjutant General

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Maj. Gen. Ed Wright to retire March 31, 2011

CHEYENNE – Maj. Gen. Ed Wright, Wyoming’s adjutant general, plans to retire as adjutant general March 31, 2011, after eight years in the position, all during wartime.

“My 37 years of military service have been full of adventure, culminating as the adjutant general for the last eight years. There is no better position in our military than that of adjutant general,” Wright said. “Working with Soldiers, Airmen, families, employers and veterans has been the most gratifying experience in my career. It has been an honor working side by side with all of them.

“The professionalism, loyalty and sacrifice our Soldiers, Airmen and families make on behalf of this state and nation every day are inspiring. They are that 1 percent of the population which makes it possible for the other 99 percent to enjoy the freedom and abundance of this great nation.”

Wright was appointed as Wyoming’s adjutant general in 2003, by Gov. Dave Freudenthal. The general took office May 15, 2003, capping a 37-year military career.

“I am extremely proud of the service that Gen. Wright has provided to the state of Wyoming, and particularly to the men and women of the National Guard. He has been a dedicated advocate for all of the issues related to the men and women in the Guard, but

particularly to the service of those who have been deployed and to their families,” said Freudenthal.

As Wyoming’s adjutant general, Wright oversees the Wyoming National Guard’s 1,866 Soldiers, 1,191 Airmen, the Wyoming’s Veterans Commission, Oregon Trail State Veterans Cemetery, Camp Guernsey Joint Training Center, Wyoming’s Youth ChalleNGe Program, and a number of other programs.

He also has served on national advisory committees, including treasurer of the Adjutants General Association of the United States, principal member of the Army Reserve Forces Policy Committee, and on the National Guard Association’s board of directors. Prior to his appointment as adjutant general, Wright, as a traditional guardsman in a civilian capacity, was an associate superintendent of Campbell County School District.

During Wright’s tenure, the Wyoming National Guard has deployed more than 3,000 personnel overseas for Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Joint Endeavor, and other missions. Wyoming National Guard personnel also deployed in support of hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Ike, and to help guard the nation’s southern border as part of Operation Jump Start.

Wright worked closely with the governor and state legislature to expand the area and training capability of the National Guard training site at Camp Guernsey and to strengthen the legal protections of deployed service members, families and veterans.

The Wyoming Air National Guard gained four C-130s, added an active duty Air Force squadron, Camp Guernsey Joint Training Center gained 41,000 acres, and new buildings were constructed on F.E. Warren Air Force Base to house the Army Aviation Support Facility and the Joint Force Readiness Center.

“I freely choose to retire because it is simply someone else’s turn,” Wright said. “I remain committed to the Wyoming Military Department through the next legislative session. It remains my goal to hand a stronger, better department to my successor.”

The adjutant general is appointed by the governor as a cabinet-level agency director.

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