

ANNEX O
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

I. MISSION

The Vermont National Guard conducts Military Assistance to Civil Authorities (MACA) operations during periods of disaster or emergency to quickly restore acceptable levels of public safety and human welfare for the citizens of Vermont.

II. AUTHORITY

Title 3 VSA – Section 212
Title 20 VSA – Parts 1 and 2
Vermont Constitution, Articles XVI and XVII
United States Constitution, Article 1, Section 8
Vermont National Guard Emergency Standing Operating Procedures (ESOP)

III. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

State agency and department heads and their staffs develop, plan and train to internal policies and procedures to meet preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery needs as identified in this plan including annexes, appendices, tabs and other supporting documents including the State Hazard Mitigation Plan. Training includes not only what may be accomplished within the agency but multi-level, interagency training and exercises to develop and maintain necessary capabilities.

Emergency or disaster situations within the State of Vermont or in support of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) require the placement of National Guard members on State Active Duty to provide military support to civil authorities in order to save lives and protect property.

The situation and assumptions in section ii of the Base Plan also apply.

IV. ORGANIZATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Military Department is the division of Vermont State government consisting of the Vermont National Guard and all military components of the State and is commanded by the Adjutant General. The Department Headquarters is located at Camp Johnson in Colchester with units located at National Guard Armories throughout the State. The Adjutant General (Quartermaster General) is elected biennially by the Vermont General Assembly.

The Vermont National Guard conducts MACA operations using task force organizations. Units are organized into task force teams as per the Vermont National Guard Emergency Standing Operational Procedures (VTNG-ESOP). Each task force organization is unique based on availability of personnel, equipment and specific mission requirements.

The Vermont National Guard is listed as a support agency for SSF1 (Transportation), SSF2 (Communications), SSF3 (Public Works & Engineering), SSF4 (Firefighting), SSF5 (Emergency Management, Recovery & Mitigation), SSF7 (Resource Support), SSF8 (Health

& Medical Services), SSF9 (Search & Rescue), SSF10 (Hazardous Materials), SSF11 (Agriculture & Natural Resources), SSF12 (Energy) and SSF13 (Law Enforcement).

The Vermont National Guard shall be prepared to provide a qualified agency representative for the Incident Coordination Team (ICT) in the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) upon request when the SEOC activation level is III or higher.

The Department maintains the following capabilities to fulfill those responsibilities:

A. FLOOD, WINDSTORM OR EARTHQUAKE EMERGENCY

The Vermont National Guard's mission is to assist civil authorities upon request and when authorized in the following activities:

1. Transportation Support
 - a. Rescue and Evacuation
 - b. Medical Evacuation
 - c. Movement of:
 - Fresh Water
 - Emergency Food
 - Other Supplies
2. Air and Ground Reconnaissance
3. Mobile Communications
4. Emergency Power Supply
5. Housing (to the extent it does not interfere with military missions) for:
 - a. State Police Operating Centers
 - b. Emergency Management EOC
 - c. Red Cross Activities
 - d. Displaced Persons
6. Traffic Control
7. Security and Guard Duty (Prevent Looting, etc.)

B. SEARCH AND RESCUE

The primary Search and Rescue mission is to provide immediate assistance to minimize injury or to effect the saving of human life. Such assistance may include, but is not limited to, providing manpower, aircraft, transportation, shelter, mess facilities, communications, and logistical support.

The Vermont National Guard may also be utilized in the search and rescue of:

1. Personnel involved in the crash of a military or civilian aircraft.
2. Lost or missing persons.

C. DROUGHT RELIEF

Furnish technically trained personnel and National Guard equipment to augment State personnel and equipment in order to insure that adequate water is made available to areas affected by water shortages in the State of Vermont.

D. CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL/RADIOLOGICAL OPERATIONS

Plan for, coordinate, and control employment of forces and resources made available for temporary assistance to civil authorities prior to and during an Emergency Management or Civil Disturbance emergency; and be prepared to support Emergency Management operations in adjacent States under EMAC. Specific VTNG response plans for a radiological emergency at the VT Yankee facility are contained in the Radiological Emergency Response Plan to the VTNG-ESOP.

E. CIVIL DISTURBANCE

On order of Governor, the Adjutant General will designate units of the Vermont National Guard to move to specific objective areas and take assignments as requested or authorized to assist civil authorities in restoring law and order.

F. FOREST FIRE SUPPRESSION

Assist in providing a logistical support base camp from which fire crews can operate to contain/extinguish forest/wild land fires in Vermont.

G. WINTER STORM (SNOW/ICE)

Furnish technically trained personnel and National Guard equipment to augment State personnel and equipment to insure that required emergency operations are restored following a severe snow/ice storm.

All capabilities listed above are detailed and further described in the VTNG-ESOP, a copy of which is located at Vermont Emergency Management Headquarters in Waterbury.

V. IMPLEMENTATION

The Commander-In-Chief (Governor of Vermont) or, in the Governor's absence the Lieutenant Governor or, in the absence of both, the Adjutant General has the authority to place National Guard members on State Active Duty to provide military support to civil authorities.

The members of the Vermont National Guard placed on State Active Duty will always be subject to the military chain of command while OPCODE to the civil authorities in charge.

VI. ADMINISTRATION

The Plans, Operations and Military Support Officer (POMSO) is responsible for the maintenance of a log and/or record of number of personnel, hours worked (including overtime), and other costs and expenses (including direct costs) in the administration of

disaster related responsibilities, and to later determine total VTNG costs for possible use by the Governor in making a request for a Presidential Disaster Declaration.

VII. CONTINUITY OF GOVERNMENT

In accordance with the provisions of title 20, “agency heads will in addition to any deputy authorized pursuant to law, designate by title three emergency interim successors and specify their order of succession. These designations shall, each year, be reviewed and revised, as necessary, to ensure their current status.”

Line of succession for the Department is as follows: