



# INNOVATIVE READINESS TRAINING

Premier Military Training for a  
Secure and Prosperous America



JULY 2021 | NEWSLETTER

## Joint Military Training Value in Texas

IRT missions come in all sizes: large to small, joint to single unit participation, and everything in between. As long as valid training requirements match up with an eligible community's need, then civil-military partnerships are possible. And a state the size of Texas can accommodate just about any IRT mission. This month, we highlight two: one small and one large. These missions are only half of the ones in Texas for FY 2021, which include construction, medical, and civil affairs. Since 2018, the Lone Star State has hosted nine IRT missions and is projected to be home to another seven next year.

From April 28 to June 3, a team of nine officers and 258 enlisted Marines and Sailors satisfied training objectives in task organized forces, horizontal construction, and vertical construction while clearing debris, dredging a lake, building cabins, and replacing roofs at Camp Carter in the central part of the state just outside Dallas. Through this mission, Reservists met annual training requirements while contributing to the camp, gaining core competencies for developing small unit proficiency in leadership and operating small teams in a tactical environment. A recurring mission in partnership with the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), this mission fulfilled a vision for the camp shared with IRT since 2019.

Beginning on June 10 and roughly 400 miles due south in the Colonias of Nueces County, the Army Reserve led an 18-day civil affairs mission to address the needs of rural communities lacking access to medical and public transportation services. Along with the Marine Corps Reserve and the Navy Reserve, more than 500 Joint Service Members supported key utility and resource assessments throughout economically distressed areas where more than 40 percent live below the poverty line, and an additional 20 percent live at or just above the poverty line. Assessments supplied baselines for training in basic medical, dental, and behavioral health skills not addressed during typical weekend drills. For Sailors, this mission furnished civil engineering training in force movement, preventative maintenance, construction management, facilities operation, safety and occupational health programs, and electrical construction. Marine Reservists supported mission activities with training, supplying data networks, high-frequency communications, network extensions, and satellite link capabilities for five medical sites across the area of operation. IRT missions deliver unparalleled military training opportunities across the state of Texas and the country. To learn more about other missions across the United States and its territories, visit [irt.defense.gov](http://irt.defense.gov).



*The Marine Corps Reserve partnered with the YMCA of Metro Fort Worth to conduct repairs and improvements to facilities on Camp Carter.*

### ENHANCE MILITARY READINESS

IRT provides hands-on, real world training to improve readiness and survivability in contingency environments

### STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIPS

IRT builds and strengthens civil-military partnerships, often in remote areas

### BRING BUSINESS REFORM

IRT is a collaborative program that leverages military contributions and community resources to multiply value and cost savings for participants

### IRT TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS

- Joint Training
- Civil Affairs
- Civil Engineering
- Medical Training

### IRT Leadership Team

- Colonel Jaclyn Chatwick, Director
- Colonel George Koklanaris, Deputy Director
- Captain Jennifer Ryan, Operations Officer
- Captain Kelly Machado, Public Affairs Officer
- Senior Master Sergeant Alexander Wilson, Superintendent

### Community Partner Highlight

**Holly Martin**  
Executive Director  
YMCA Camp Carter



"Being a community partner has been a blessing for YMCA Camp Carter and an incredibly rewarding experience. The team that we worked with, from the initial planning process and throughout the entirety of the project, was amazing and always put what was best for Camp Carter as a priority. We are in awe and cannot express our gratitude enough for all the accomplishments, which created a safer, cleaner, more beautiful, and more functional camp environment. These improvements will enable better assistance for the community, opening new program areas to serve more people."

IRT Leaders and staff are closely monitoring the COVID-19 public health situation. We provide updated information on our website concerning its effect on our FY 2021 missions. Please check [irt.defense.gov](http://irt.defense.gov) regularly for the latest information on the IRT program.



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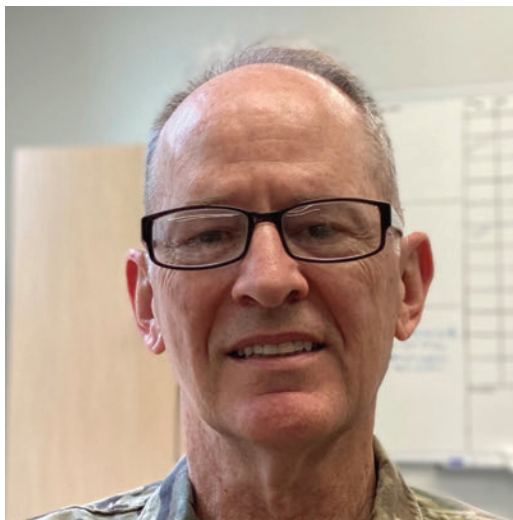
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## SERVICE MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### COL ROBIN E. FONTENOT

AIR FORCE ACTIVE DUTY  
EXPEDITIONARY DENTISTRY CONSULTANT



*“There is no better preparation for our uniformed medics than to actually perform their specialties in non-traditional settings like those of the IRTs. Every aspect of field operations is tested and executed. This, coupled with the satisfaction of helping fellow Americans improve their health, makes IRTs the premier training opportunity for medics.”*

## SERVICE MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### CAPT DAVID P. ANDREWS

US MARINE CORPS RESERVE  
COMMANDING OFFICER, BULK FUEL COMPANY B  
6TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION



*“This IRT project was a great experience for the Marines. Many of the projects required skills outside of the 1391 bulk fuel military occupational specialty, where the preponderance of Marines were assigned. This project leveraged capabilities developed in individuals’ civilian occupations and offered cross-training to enhance our general engineering capacity. This mission was important for us because the Marine Corps deactivated its three Reserve bridge companies, which supplied most of our battalion’s engineering expertise.”*

## IRT EVENTS & MISSIONS

- July 17: Cass Lake IHS Operation Walking Shield Mission Start
- July 18: Fort Belknap IHS/OWS Mission Start
- July 20: Delta Wellness Mission End
- July 22: Operation Gateway Mission End
- July 23: Cleveland National Forest – Dams Mission End
- July 28: Rooster Crow Park DV Day
- July 29: Central Delaware Partnership for Hope Mission Start
- July 29: Rooster Crow Park Mission End

## FY 2021 IRT PROGRAM MANAGERS

- Captain Jessica Campbell  
Army Reserve | Army Active Duty
- Captain Jason Schwartz  
Army National Guard
- Major Andrew Chrestman  
Marine Corps Reserve | Marine Corps Active Duty
- Commander Kent Bubel  
Navy Reserve | Navy Active Duty
- Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Adamich  
Air National Guard | Air Force Active Duty
- Lieutenant Colonel Joshua Furby  
Air Force Reserve