

Major General William B. Lynch
USAF, Ret.
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Major General William B. Lynch distinguished himself while serving as the Adjutant General of Pennsylvania. As the senior National Guard Officer in the state and a member of the governor's cabinet, he exercised joint command, control and supervision over more than 20,000 Army and Air National Guard personnel serving at over 100 installations and also provided services to 1.2 million veterans, including six veteran's homes and a residential school for veterans' children.

Throughout his career, General Lynch's extraordinary abilities and knowledge of policy and doctrine put him at the forefront of several critical issues. His advocacy with congressional leaders and senior military leaders was based on his experience as a combat-proven fighter pilot, staff officer, and head of one of the nation's most vigorous State-level Military and Veterans' Affairs Departments. He led the way in successful efforts to base a Stryker Brigade in Pennsylvania, the only Stryker Brigade allocated to the National Guard.

General Lynch saw that the vital mission of the 193d Special Operations Wing, an electronic warfare asset which provides a one-of-a-kind capability to the Department of Defense, would be limited by the use of EC-130E, built in the 1960's. He therefore set about the task of upgrading to the EC-130J, a revolutionary updating of the design. Over a multi-year program, he personally worked with the Air Force, the National Guard and Congress to designate a new aircraft and upgrade the suite of electronics. As a result of Lynch's efforts to modernize the 193d will be preserved for use in future conflicts, providing Combatant Commanders with even greater capabilities in strategic situations. He also saw a need to modernize aerial refueling capability nationwide and almost single-handedly developed an Air National Guard and Reserve task force to support the Air Force tanker modernization plan. The ultimate result was a unified national plan to cascade active duty KC-135R model tankers to the Reserve forces. This plan will allow a reduction in the more costly to operate KC-135E models and an increase in money available for the national tanker modernization program.

General Lynch's leadership, tenacity and extensive experience as both an active duty and National Guard officer combined with a marked courage of his convictions make him a nationally recognized voice for the creative and intelligent use of America's citizen-soldiers.