**National Guard/medical maintenance package (2-12-2020)**

**NARRATOR:** For most medical National Guard units across the country, unit-level equipment maintainers aren't in plentiful supply. In the case of the 104th Area Support Medical Company in Reisterstown, Maryland, they have just one.

**STAFF SGT. PATRICK CADDEN:** So that's pretty much where we are. So we have one guy that's responsible for all this and he has about 16 hours a month to try to cover down on all that, so it just doesn't it just doesn't add up.

**NARRATOR:** Filling that maintenance void for most of the eastern United States are small teams from the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Agency’s Medical Maintenance Operations Division based out of the Tobyhanna Army Depot in Pennsylvania.

**ISAAC NEWMAN:** When they show up most of the time, a lot of the time they're just pointed – that's where it's at.

**NARRATOR:** Supervisor Isaac Newman says the team spends roughly 17 weeks a year visiting different National Guard units across 23 states and territories. They work to service some 6,000 to 8,000 pieces of equipment each year, all to support Soldiers in the field.

**NEWMAN:** We've got close to 50 technicians at Tobyhanna, and from November until July have three to four teams on the road, two- to three-man teams on the road for that entire time frame. That enables their mission readiness to be fully ready to go at any contingency or any operation. So National Guard's getting deployed in a theater a lot more often than they ever used to and this is the equipment that they pick up and move out.

**NARRATOR:** During the week-long trip to support the 104th, a three-man team is servicing 150 to 200 pieces of equipment, ranging from mobile X-ray machines to ventilators to lab equipment. Maryland National Guard Staff Sgt. Patrick Cadden says the support from the subject matter experts at USAMMA provide an invaluable line of support for the unit of roughly 75 Soldiers.

**CADDEN:** Oh, this is huge when it comes to our readiness to go out. It's very valuable in making sure our equipment’s ready to go for anything that may pop up.

**NARRATOR:** For Army Medical Logistics Command, I'm C.J. Lovelace.