

The background of the cover is a photograph of several soldiers in camouflage uniforms and berets, equipped with rifles, positioned in a dense forest. They are surrounded by tall trees and thick green ferns. In the foreground, a body of water reflects the surrounding greenery. The title 'Buckeye GUARD' is prominently displayed at the top left, with 'Buckeye' in a script font and 'GUARD' in a large, bold, sans-serif font. Below the title, the issue date 'Fall 1995' is printed. A large, stylized red 'AT 95' is overlaid on the lower left side of the image. At the bottom, a red horizontal line separates the title area from the main article title, 'Soldiers support Task Force 148 at Grayling', and the page range 'Pages 8-13' is located in the bottom right corner.

# *Buckeye* GUARD

Fall 1995

AT 95

---

Soldiers support Task Force 148 at Grayling

Pages 8-13

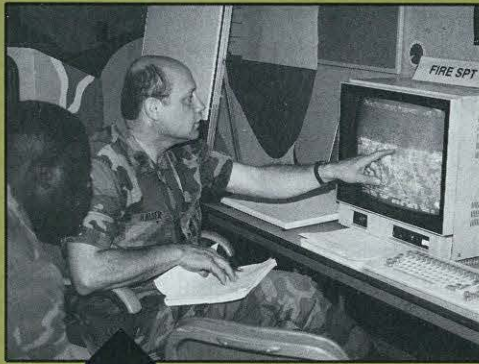




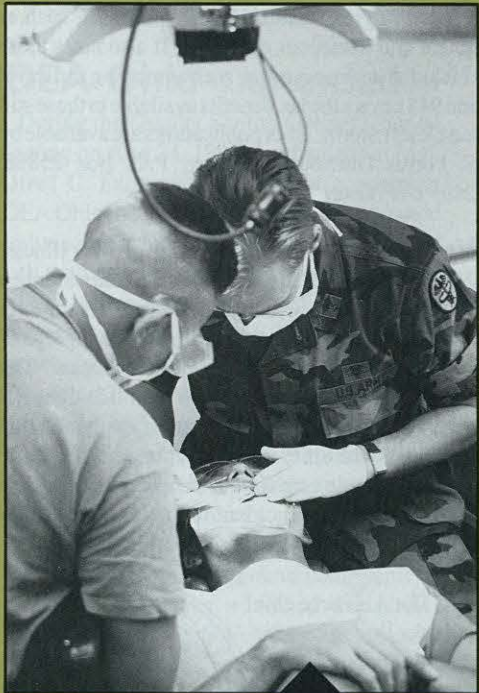
## **Soldier for a Day**

*Lieutenant Governor Nancy P. Hollister listens as Maj. Stephen C. Ulrich explains the 145th MASH's mission as a field medical clinic.—Photo by Sgt. Joe Levack*





16



8



20

# Buckeye GUARD

Fall 1995, Vol. 19, No. 3

## F E A T U R E S

- 8 AT95 The Picture Story**  
Task Force 148 captured by cameras of the 196th Public Affairs Detachment
- 16 Hi-Tech Training**  
Computer based warfighting goes on-line at the Ohio Military Academy
- 19 Distance Learning**  
Air Guard offers NCO Academy program at home station
- 20 "Buckeye" Division Accepts Surrender**  
Former adjutant general recalls historic surrender of Japanese forces on Luzon
- 22 Freedom Flight America**  
Vintage Aircraft commemorate WWII

## D E P A R T M E N T S

- |                          |                     |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 4 National Briefs        | 26 Buckeye Briefs   |
| 5 Feedback               | 28 All About People |
| 25 Drug Demand Reduction | 30 Benefits         |

**ABOUT THE COVER:** While on patrol during AT95, members of Charlie Company, 1/148 Infantry search for suspected enemy activity at Camp Grayling, Mich.  
*Photo by Sgt. Joseph Levack, 145th MASH.*



# Buckeye GUARD

FALL 1995, VOL. 19, No. 3

The *Buckeye Guard* is published quarterly by the Public Affairs Office, Ohio Adjutant General's Department, 2825 W. Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789, (614) 889-7000. The views and opinions expressed in the *Buckeye Guard* are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army or the Adjutant General of Ohio. The *Buckeye Guard* is distributed free to members of the Ohio Army and Air National Guard and to other interested persons at their request. Circulation 22,000.

## ADJUTANT GENERAL'S DEPT.

**State Commander-in-Chief**  
Gov. George V. Voinovich

**Adjutant General**  
Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander

**Asst. AG, Army**  
Brig. Gen. John S. Martin

**Asst. AG, Air**  
Brig. Gen. Gordon M. Campbell

**Command Sergeant Major**  
State CSM Richard L. Wehling

**Senior Enlisted Advisor-Air**  
Chief Master Sgt. Dale T. Williams

## PUBLICATION STAFF

**Public Affairs Officer**  
Maj. James T. Boling

**Editor**  
Master Sgt. Robert L. Jennings

**Associate Editor**  
Staff Sgt. Diane L. Farrow

**Editorial Assistant**  
Michelle D. Noel

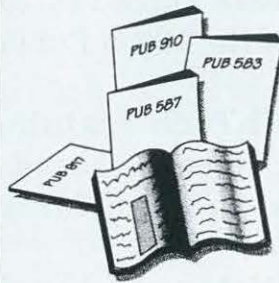
**Contributors:**  
196th PAD Journalists  
HQ STARC IO Journalists  
Air National Guard Journalists  
Unit Public Affairs Representatives

The *Buckeye Guard* staff always welcomes articles that cover interesting Guard personalities and unique unit training. Deadlines for submissions are:

**Winter:** October 15  
**Spring:** January 15  
**Summer:** April 15  
**Fall:** July 15

## NATIONAL NEWS

**Air Force removes official photos.** The Air Force is removing official photographs from the personnel records of officers, colonel and below, who are meeting promotion boards. Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman eliminated the photo requirement when he took office in October, saying the photos were an unnecessary expense. People had to have a new photo taken every time they received a new decoration, he said. Military personnel officials began removing photos Jan. 1 from records being screened for upcoming promotion boards. Photos will also be removed any time an individual's record is pulled. Officers also can remove photos from their records at the base level and keep them or turn them in to the base visual information center for recycling. Official photos may still be required for people applying for special duty assignments. (AFNews)



**Tax information available.** Two publications containing federal tax information are available from the Internal Revenue Service for military people. Publication 3, "Tax Information for Military Personnel," covers general tax information for the military. It contains types of income included in gross income for tax purposes, such as bonuses for reenlistment and hazardous duty pay. It also notes those types of income not included in gross income, such as moving and travel expenses. Publication 945 covers the tax benefits available to those still involved in Operation Desert Storm. Both publications are available by writing to the IRS, Forms Distribution Center, P.O. Box 25866, Richmond, VA 23289. (AFNews)

**DoD concludes: No single Gulf War illness.** There is not "a" Gulf War illness, according to the Defense Department. Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs Stephen Joseph told Pentagon reporters Aug. 1 that 10,000 systematic clinical evaluations of active-duty people and their families leads him to conclude that "no single disease or syndrome is apparent." According to Joseph, there are "multiple illnesses with overlapping symptoms and causes." The comprehensive study shows no evidence of a new or unique illness. Joseph said this does not mean a lot of Gulf veterans are not really sick, they certainly are. Joseph further explained that the recent study is not the last word on the Gulf War Syndrome; more independent scientific research will be conducted. "Our No. 1 objective is to provide care for our people," he said. For more information, or to get treatment, call the toll-free Gulf War incident reporting line, 1-800-472-6719. (AFNews)

**Chief gets tough on accountability.** The Air Force chief of staff has removed five officers from flying duties for three years for their involvement in the shutdown of two U.S. helicopters over northern Iraq in April 1994. Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman also gave these five plus two others officers letters of evaluation for "failure to meet Air Force standards in job knowledge, job judgment and leadership." He said he issued the evaluations because the failures of the officers to meet Air Force standards were not appropriately reflected in their performance evaluations. The general said Air Force standards require that people display the extraordinary discipline, judgment and training that their duties require and the American people expect. Fogleman has made a video to help reinforce and ensure all Air Force and civilian members fully understand the need to adhere to high standards of performance and that they will be held accountable for those standards. The tape is mandatory viewing for all officers, senior NCOs and senior executive service members. (AFNews)



**How to locate soldiers.** "How to Locate Anyone Who is or Has Been in the Military" may be the answer for those looking for old friends or unit members and missing relatives with a military connection, even without their Social Security number. The latest edition of this book contains valuable information on how to locate active-duty soldiers, Guard and Reserve members, and former soldiers and retirees. The book also offers quick and easy ways to cut through red tape, use the Social Security Administration and Internal Revenue Service, substantiate VA claims, find out if a veteran is deceased, and more. If you can't find a copy in your local exchange, write for an order coupon: MIE Publishing, PO Box 5143, Burlington, NC 27216 or call toll-free 1-800-937-2133. (Army Families)



## FEEDBACK FROM THE FIELD

IDEA OHIO	
SUBJECT: <input type="checkbox"/> TRAINING <input type="checkbox"/> SUPPLY	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PAY/ADMIN <input type="checkbox"/> PERSONNEL	
<input type="checkbox"/> MAINTENANCE <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	
DO NOT COVER	DO NOT COVER
I have reviewed the following references in preparing my idea.	
Print Name: _____	
Use the back of this form to describe your idea. Plain paper may be used for continuation. Submit to your unit commander.	
This document will be forwarded through channels for review. If adopted, implementation will be at the level appropriate for the idea submitted.	
COMPANY CDR: _____	
BN/SQDN CDR: _____	
GP/BDE CDR: _____	
MSC CDR: _____	
IDEA OHIO	

### IDEA Ohio expanded

During the Quality Senior Advisor Council meeting on Aug 24, 1995, our facilitator, Maj. Alfred C. Faber asked for input concerning IDEA Ohio—the NGNET mailbox established to share ideas, information, opportunities and such with guardmembers across the state.

Realizing that the average soldier does not have access to NGNET or E-Mail, I suggested that a hard copy method be established so that all soldiers have the opportunity to submit suggestions and ideas. Commanders could then forward the idea by NGNET or by hard copy. Blank forms would be available on every bulletin board at every armory.

Of course, unit leaders must emphasize that this is not a forum to expound complaints or grievances, but rather a method that allows every soldier to make helpful recommendations.

**2nd Lt. Troy R. Kisner**  
HQ, 371st Support Group

**EDITORS NOTE:** Lt. Kisner's idea was reviewed by Brig. Gen. Steve Martin, and, as a result, IDEA Ohio forms will soon be available at each armory location.

### Training a well-honed Army, MP skill

Training: the act, process or method of one who trains, the knowledge of experience acquired by one who trains, the state of being trained—imagine that!

Sometimes to fully appreciate a concept you must break it down into its simplest forms. The United States Army understands this idea. If you have ever attempted to teach or in some way instruct young people, I would venture to

say you would be impressed with the way the Army conducts basic training.

As a member of the 323rd Military Police Company, I can tell you that the training in most Ohio Army Guard units is very good. The training in the 137th S&S battalion, which includes the 323rd MP company, is exceptional.

When I joined the 323rd in the early 70's, training was a bit lax. But the mere presence of then 1st Sgt. Thomas Calverd suggested we mean to take of care of business here. Even though he was a no nonsense kind of man, he had genuine concern for his people. I believe the most important thing he passed on to his NCOs was the concept that training and taking care of your people go hand in hand.

Over the years the 323rd has been tested on their skill often. The unit was activated for the blizzard of 1978, a snow emergency in 1980, the Weston tornado of 1984, Desert Storm in 1990 and the Lucasville riot in April of 1993.

The number of awards and citations the unit has received over the years have been many, and I feel they reflect the fine job our senior leadership has provided. The unit performs well because we train hard and take care of each other.

As in other organizations, sometimes the focus breaks down. The 323rd manages to function exceptionally well because, even if leaders occasionally lose focus, the young soldier will continue to train hard and support each other. Training young soldiers is very much like parenting. You raise your children to be responsible and do the right thing. At times you may find it very difficult to practice what you preach, but if you have been consistent and genuinely concerned, your young ones will carry on those traditions and make you proud.

**Spc Thomas T. Gonzales**  
323rd MP Co.

### A family in need

On July 5, Staff Sgt. Jonathan Conception, a citizen-soldier of Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 148th Infantry, Ohio Army National Guard suffered a heart attack due to a blood clot. He was in intensive care for several days and will require follow-up care and a heart catheterization.

He had just accepted a new civilian full-time job and is not eligible for any medical insurance benefits. As a result, the Conception family is responsible for paying medical bills that may well exceed \$20,000.

Will you find it in your heart to help a soldier who has given up so much of his family time to serve his nation, state and community? If so, please send a check or money order to:

SSG Conception Fund  
c/o CPT Malcolm S. Ritchie  
575 North College Street  
Newcomerstown, Ohio 43832

If you are not able to send money, please donate food or any baby supplies (for his 5 month old daughter) directly to our armory at 232 E. Crawford St, Findlay, Ohio 45840-4805.

Thank you for assisting a citizen-soldier in need.

**Capt. Malcolm S. Ritchie**  
HHC, 1/148th Inf. Bn.

### Buckeye Guard looking for soldiers, airmen to profile

The *Buckeye Guard* staff plans to start running articles which highlight the civilian aspect of Ohio guardmembers' lives. So if someone in your unit has an interesting career or hobby, send a brief letter of explanation to:

AGOH-PA  
ATTN: Buckeye Guard Profiles  
2825 W. Dublin-Granville Road  
Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789

So that the proper research can be completed, please include your name, unit, home and work phone numbers in addition to the person you're recommending. Readers can look forward to the first article of this kind in the winter issue of the *Buckeye Guard*.

*FAX your Letters to the Editor to DSN 273-3820 or commercial (614) 766-3820. Mail letters to AGOH-PA, ATTN: Buckeye Guard, 2825 West Dublin Granville Road, Columbus, OH 43235-2789. All submissions are subject to editing based on space and style considerations.*





# Command Focus

Brig. Gen. John S. Martin, Asst. Adjutant General for Army

## Retention begins day of enlistment

The high attrition rate being experienced in the Ohio Army National Guard has profound and multifaceted implications. It is the single biggest contributor to a less than desirable readiness rate in our units. As an organization, we spend an inordinate amount of energy and dollars to replace trained and qualified soldiers who choose not to remain a member of our organization. Until attrition can be brought down to a more reasonable level, the Ohio Army National Guard will not fully achieve its potential.

Retention of our soldiers must be a concern of every officer and NCO. Everyone in the organization must contribute toward the goal of retaining soldiers. I can't think of a requirement of greater importance.

Retention starts the day a new soldier is sworn in, and doesn't end until that soldier retires after a successful career. Every situation that a new soldier encounters in the unit leads toward an attitude on his/her part regarding future intentions relative to retention. Every day we must all be cognizant of what needs to be done in our units to foster retention.

The following letter entitled, "A Father's Dilemma," is a real-life, true representation of how one of our fellow soldiers has been treated as he went about the process of joining the Ohio Army National Guard. Keep in mind that while anonymous, this letter is true—it actually happened. I ask that each of you make every attempt to insure that this does not repeat itself in your organization.

### A Father's Dilemma

As a career National Guardsman, and one that believes in the programs that the Ohio Army National Guard has to offer, I loaned my only son to the program for a mere six years.

He enlisted in December 1994 and, for a time, both he and the "old man" were as proud as could be. As a high school junior, he had it all. Working

for Cub Foods, he would take a leave of absence for the summer, complete basic training, return in time for his senior year in high school, and be able to continue to work, go to drill, and attend school. He would even be able to use the money saved from basic training and drill to buy the new car he wanted.

Upon graduation from high school, he could get another leave of absence from Cub Foods, attend AIT, and return home in time to attend Ohio State University. Everything looked marvelous. The Ohio National Guard would be paying 60 percent of his tuition, he would receive the Montgomery GI Bill,

continue to work part time, attend OSU and drill one weekend a month. Heck—he could be 22 years old before he had to make any life-long decisions.

Originally, he was temporarily disqualified due to flexibility in his lower legs, but he was determined to succeed. His second physical found him qualified for service and he was immediately sworn into the Ohio Army National Guard.

The dates given to him by MEPS for his first drill were on a holiday and when he realized the mistake, he tried to call his unit sponsor. But, of course, the phone number given to him by MEPS was also wrong.

Once he made contact with the unit, he was informed that he would begin drill in

January and continue drilling until his departure for basic training in June. A discrepancy was immediately realized. He was expected to drill for five months, or 20 Unit Training Assemblies (UTAs), even though a new enlistee can only be paid for 12 UTAs before going to basic.

When he brought this up, he was told that he could only be paid for 12 assemblies, but he could drill the additional days for retirement points. They were asking a 17-year-old to miss two days work for retirement points. Retirement

is the last thing on the mind of someone his age.

Well, he finally got to his first drill and he learned a lot. He learned how to clean someone else's M-16, how to clean the dining facility and how to do PT in his blue jeans. He also learned that his first pay was probably going to be late, he wasn't getting his uniform and that the unit eats MREs on Saturdays even though

they have a mess section. What an impression!!

Riding with another soldier to a nearby training area, my son found himself a unit sponsor—even if it was unofficial. This soldier told him, "This is my last drill, man. They're throwing me out and I can't wait."

The second drill was quite uneventful because most of the unit was out of state. He ate MREs and went out behind the armory to swing golf clubs with a few other soldiers. The good news was that one of the section sergeants took him under his wing and showed him around the unit. Immediately following drill, my son came home and told me that he was changing his MOS, basic training dates and location. When I asked him why, he told me it was due to the section sergeant's concern. This section sergeant now became his

*"My son found himself a unit sponsor.... (who) told him 'This is my last drill man. They're throwing me out and I can't wait.'"*



sponsor and made an everlasting impression.

Two or three days after my son's second drill, his assigned sponsor finally made contact. However, he called me and not my son. The sponsor was concerned that my son had weighed-in two pounds overweight. I said thank you very much, got off the phone and researched the regulation. Unfortunately the unit was using AR 600-9 and not the procurement standards in AR 40-501. In actuality, my son was below the maximum allowable weight by 22 pounds.

His third and final drill, a MUTA-5, included the diagnostic APFT, working with his new section and being issued a uniform. When he got home from drill he paraded around the house just as proud as can be until I finally had him take off his uniform for dinner. When he took off his boots, I noticed he was wearing white athletic socks, not the Army issue green wool. When I asked why, he told me that the supply sergeant didn't have any.

I also noticed dark spots on the back of his socks, and, after closer inspection, I realized the spots were blood from huge blisters I found on the back of his feet. He had been issued boots that were one entire size too small. I was quite upset because he was only a couple weeks short of basic training, and I was concerned the he wouldn't be able to ship unless the blisters were healed. We took the necessary precautions and, fortunately, everything worked out.

Before leaving for basic training, my son was working overtime to earn enough money to prepay his next three car payments. Everything was working out and he was only waiting for his drill check. After becoming concerned about his pay, I made a few phone calls and learned that the unit coded him for five UTAs in May, which brought his total to 13. Since he could only be paid for a total of 12, the computer spit out his records, and his pay was delayed. He left for basic without his pay, and, of course, dad had to make his car payment.

The day finally came for him to ship off to basic training; well, at least we thought so. I drove him to the MEPS at 5:30 in the morning. Even though it is the unit's responsibility to take

him to MEPS and no one even made arrangements, dad wouldn't have missed it for the world. Once he cleared the MEPS, he sat there for several hours and dad returned to work. With a late in the day flight departure he had nothing to do but wait. Then the flight was cancelled and he was informed that he would have to remain overnight in the MEPS contracted motel, even though he lives 15 minutes away. Dad protested and they let him go with the understanding he return no later than 10:00 a.m.

When my son got to MEPS the next morning, he was told he had an early afternoon departure and the taxi would pick him up at noon. He and I agreed that we would meet in the USO lounge at the airport and we'd be able to spend the last hour together. Well, I arrived at the airport, went to the USO lounge and saw his signature; but he was nowhere to be found. When I asked the attendant if he had seen my son, he told me "Your son said he loves you and he's sorry he missed you, but they moved up his flight time, so he's on his way."

A few hours later he called me and said he was in Nashville and even though he was disappointed, he understood the confusion. Three days later he called me and wished me a Happy Father's Day, adding that he was actually looking forward to the start of training. He also said "See you soon." His simple phone call was the best Father's Day gift I could have.

In closing, you probably wonder why I wrote this letter. Well, I have heard all the discussions over the last few years about our retention problems. Here is the answer: until we start caring about our soldiers, the problem cannot be solved. Any one of the situations used throughout this letter can turn a good soldier into a dissatisfied soldier; yet, every one of these situations could have been resolved with the simplest of effort.

I might add that my son is resilient, and he continues to be proud and dad continues to be proud of him. But what could I say if he came home and said "I quit." ■

## Command Profile



### Col. Warren Drouhard Jr. 179th Airlift Group

Age: 52

Occupation: Air Commander

**Life has taught me:** To be flexible, to be prepared for opportunities, to be ready early, that integrity is irreplaceable and family support is all important.

**If I could have just one day all to myself, I would:** Go back in time and live a day as an 1830's mountain man.

**The one film I would liked to have starred in is:** Jeremiah Johnson.

**When no one's looking I:** Eat jelly beans.

**When I was little I wanted be:** A bugler in the cavalry.

**The worst advice I ever received was:** Take calculus.

**The best advice I ever received was:** Go to college.

**If I could dine with anyone, past or present, I would invite:** Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain, a civil war leader with the 20th Maine Infantry.

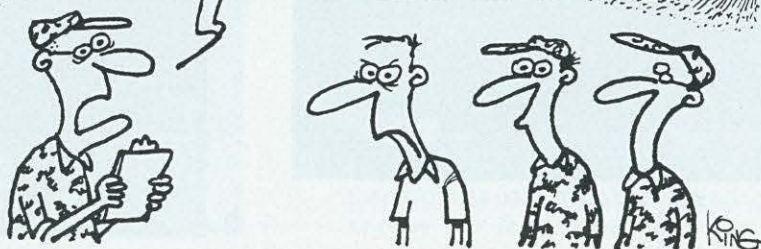
**The best moment of my life happened when I:** Was present for the birth of my son and daughter.

**My favorite book:** Killer Angels.

**My favorite movie:** Last of the Mohicans.

**If I could leave today's guardmembers with one piece of advice it would be:** Real success hinges on job performance, so do the best you can at your present job, be prepared and maintain personal integrity.

KAWOUSKY, BEFORE YOU E.T.S., PICK UP YOUR UNIFORMS. THEY JUST CAME IN!





# AT 95

On Saturday, July 8, Task Force 148 (TF148) began its journey north to Camp Grayling, Mich. The task force, composed of units from the 37th Armored Brigade, was supported by units of 73rd Troop Command, 112th Medical Brigade and the 16th Engineer Brigade.

Upon reaching Camp Grayling, TF148 occupied their assembly area and prepared to conduct lanes training and situational training exercises. The training period was both physically and mentally challenging as soldiers coped with intense heat and a harsh environment while performing their wartime missions.

Their story, captured by the cameras of the 196th Public Affairs Detachment, unfolds on the pages that follow.



1



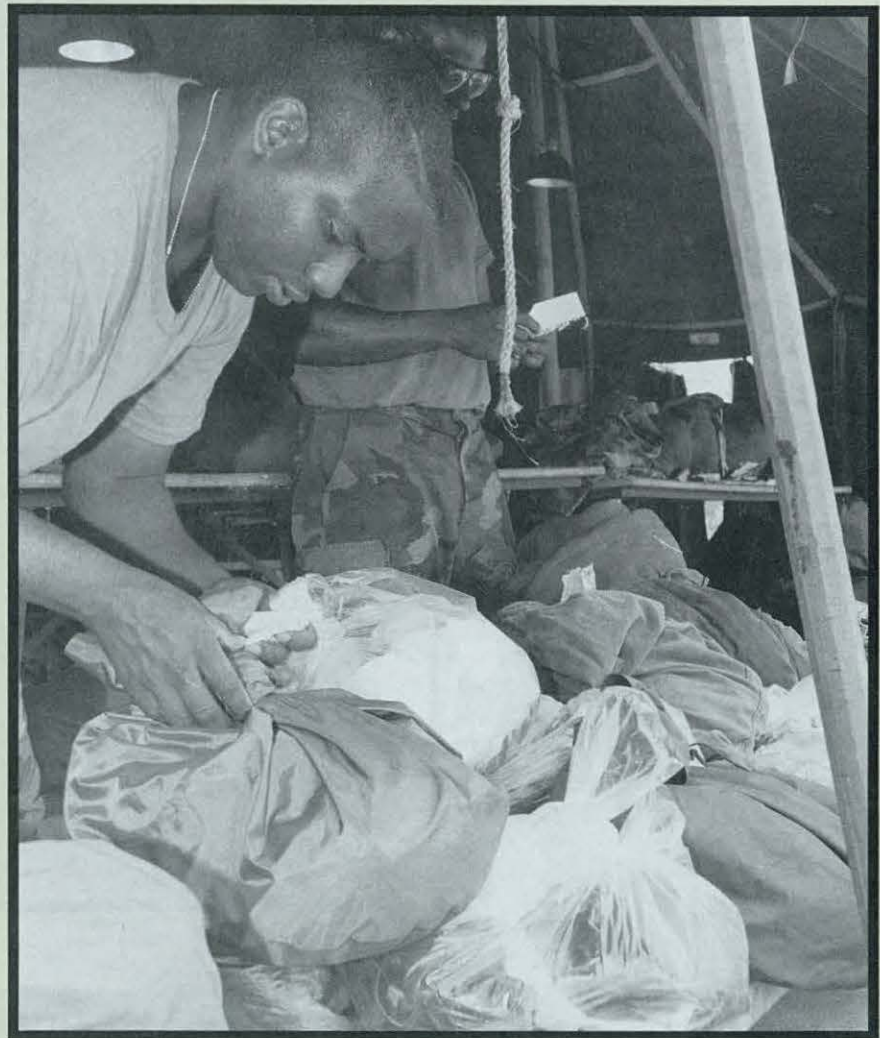
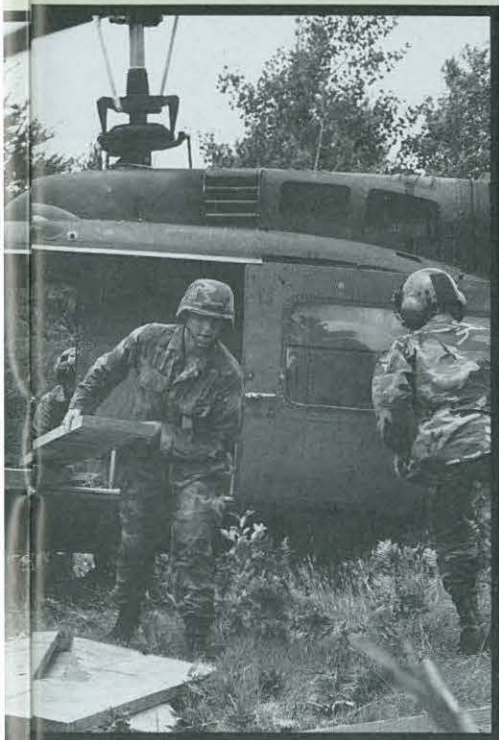
2



3

Buckeye Guard





4

**1. HOOAH!:** While on patrol, soldiers from Charlie Company 1/148 Infantry, secure a bridge for crossing during infantry lanes training. — *Sgt. Joe Levack*

**2. SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES:** Members of the 112th Med. Bde. remove a training aid from a smoke filled building during fire fighter evacuation training. — *Spc. Rick McGivern*

**3. HELPING A NEIGHBOR:** Ohio Guardsmen unload a lift of pine boards in support of efforts by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to build a walkway through Michigan state forest wetlands. — *Cpt. Stephen Tompos*

**4. NOW SERVING # 1,702:** SGT Richard Miller prepares a soldier's laundry for pickup as part of the in-field services provided by the 637th Service Co. — *Master Sgt. Robert Jennings*



# AT95



1



2



3





4  
**1. TIMING IS EVERYTHING:** Mortar batteries used precision, accuracy and timing to put "steel on target" and keep the enemy off balance during AT95. — *Sgt. Joe Levack*



**2. GOING MY WAY?:** Members of the 145th MASH, with support from an active duty UH-60 (Black Hawk) helicopter and crew from Ft. Knox, perform emergency litter evacuation training. — *Sgt. Joe Levack*

**3. ALL TOGETHER NOW:** Members of the 145th MASH are in synch as they erect a field hospital tent. — *Sgt. Joe Levack*

**4. WHO'S WATCHING YOU?:** The 85th Reserve Training Command provided OPFOR to enhance lanes training during AT95. — *Cpt. Doug Dankworth*

5  
**5. FILL 'ER UP:** PFC Mark Frazer, 1486 Trans. Co., refuels a thirsty tractor at the South Camp refuel point. — *Master Sgt. Robert Jennings*



# AT95

**F**ollowing are short synopses of various unit activities during Annual Training 1995 (AT95) at Camp Grayling, Mich., July 8-22. These briefs were submitted primarily by Unit Public Affairs Representatives.

## Armed Hueys Battle from Above

Pilots and crew chiefs of the 2-137th Aviation Battalion took to the air during AT95. Flying two UH-1H helicopters equipped with M60D ("Air-60's") and door gun mounts, six-man crews rotated through Aerial Gunnery Qualification. Pilots converged on target areas where crew chiefs, supplied with one M60D and 800 rounds of ammunition, engaged single and multiple targets ranging at distances from 50 to 600 meters. All participants qualified. *Submitted by Spc. Gwendolyn Hoogendoorn, HHC, 2-137th Avn. Bn.*

## Gunning for Weapons Master

Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Cooper of the 2/107th Armored Cavalry spent AT95 preparing two fellow NCOs to go to Army master gunner school at Fort Knox, Ky. this September. Cooper, who is squadron master gunner for the 107th, explained that on active duty only the top one percent of the armor community gets chosen for master gunner school and there is a 50 percent attrition rate at school for those personnel.

"The master gunner is the commander's technical adviser for all gunnery related issues," said Cooper, a 1994 graduate of the master gunner's course. He added that this school is especially important to unit readiness NCOs in Guard armor units; soldiers must get master gunner qualified within two years from taking the job. *Submitted by Capt. Douglas Dankworth, 196th PAD.*

## Mighty Ducks win mock Olympics

On July 19, after a grueling physical fitness test, members of the 1486th Transportation and the 211th Maintenance Companies pushed themselves even further by competing in the "Transportation Olympics." The eight events included a pentathlon, a wheel barrel race, a serpentine relay, a relay dressed in drag (a drag race), a trailer double stacking event, a tractor trailer relay and a push me/pull me event.

Commander of the 112th Transportation Battalion, Lt. Col. George D. Kinney, played the part of Zeus. His duties included officiating, bearing the ceremonial torch (a chem light) and wearing the official laurel wreath.

After a tough fight, the 1486th second platoon, "The Mighty Ducks," took first place. Quoting his team's motto, Sgt. Bill Sheppard said, "Winning this award was like water off of a duck's back." The 211th Maintenance Company placed second and third place was awarded to third platoon from the 1486th. *Submitted by Spc. Michael A. Yee Jr., 1486th Trans. Co.*

## Training on the Lanes

During AT95, members of Detachment 1, 1487th Transportation Company participated in lanes training, where platoons were tested on several individual tasks. In order to pass the lane, all tasks must be performed to standard. If a lane is not passed, training will be done on weak areas, and the platoon will go through the lane again.

A unit from the 85th Training Division evaluated the detachment and two other platoons from the 1487th on three different lanes: "Conduct a Convoy," "Defend a Convoy" and "Cross a Chemically Contaminated Area." Only one of the lanes had to be repeated by the detachment.

The detachment and two platoons performed "Cross a Chemically Contaminated Area" as a company, earning the respect of the evaluators; they said it was the first time this task was passed at company level. As a whole, the evaluators rated the 1487th as one of the best transportation units they had ever seen.

The detachment also qualified on M16A2 rifles, M60 machine guns and the M203 grenade launcher, and practiced soldiering tasks such as radio communications, map reading and decontamination of skin and equipment. Night drive, driving the unit's semi-tractors under blackout conditions, was also done. The final day of training consisted of a truck rodeo to test the driving skills of the soldiers. *Submitted by Sgt. Ronald L. Partin, Det. 1, 1487th Trans. Co.*

## Soldiering with the Infantry

For B. Co., 1/148th Infantry, AT95 started with five days of rigorous lanes training. Simulating real battle situations, each platoon was tasked with a mission and was evaluated on their performance. "It's all about speed, precision and being attentive," said 1st Lt. Stewart Orr, Commander of B. Co. "If one of these elements is lacking, it could cost lives in a real combat situation."

Without missing a beat, B Co. switched gears and went through a day and night of land navigation. "Next to his weapon, the most important thing to an infantry soldier is his sense of direction," said Staff Sgt. William T. Moyer, acting 1st Platoon Sergeant.

Two days were devoted to weapons qualification, one day was spent on NBC training and two additional days of lanes training rounded out the field problem. *Submitted by Spc. John E. Moshier, B Co. 1/148th Inf. Bn.*

## Supporting the Force

"The mission of the 237th Forward Support Battalion is to provide everything combat units need to carry out their mission," says 2nd Lt. Sherri Sikute, HHD commander. HHD coordinates personnel services, communications, supply and all support needs for the battalion. Company A provides fuel, subsistence and ammunition. Company B provides maintenance, while its detachment is part of the vehicle maintenance team that goes to the front line units to repair vehicles. Company C provides medical support.

The 237th acts as the "middle man" between the combat units and the rear storage areas—taking requests from the combat units, getting and transporting the supplies they need, and providing other support required by units.



In addition to supporting combat units, the 237th also has to conduct defensive operations—meaning they have to dig foxholes; camouflage their tents, vehicles, and themselves; practice light and noise discipline; bury the power cables between the generators and tents; and carry weapons.

“Because we’re close to combat units, there is a possibility of attack by enemy forces,” said Sgt. 1st Class Jon Huff, first sergeant for HHD. “We have to practice some infantry tactics to defend ourselves as well as do our jobs providing and sustaining for combat units.” *Submitted by Staff Sgt. John K. Harris, Battalion Retention NCO, HHD 237th FSB.*

## ‘Bearly’ surviving AT95

Having deployed a maintenance team in support of “Task Force North,” Company B, 237th FSB, was surviving AT95 without incident—that is, until the final day of tactical training.

Hearing a very quiet “Oh my God, it’s a bear,” from Spc. Lisa Little, I thought, “She’s got to be kidding.” But when I looked in her direction, I saw this cute little bear cub.

Weighing about 200 pounds, it was wandering aimlessly about, apparently looking for something to eat. As the bear walked past the HMMWV, I could hear Sgt. Chuck Hill say “Uh oh.” I got out of the Hummer as quietly as possible, grabbing the camera and nervously opening the case.

When I got around the corner and snapped a picture, the cub turned to look at me, trying to figure out what I was doing. When the bear realized that there was no danger, he just walked away.

A few words to the wise: Though bears may look cute and playful, they are wild animals which should be treated with respect. If you must have food in your area, hang it from trees in sealed bags. Seal trash containers and empty them as often as possible. If you do happen to encounter a bear, don’t run and don’t raise your hands to them. Standing on two legs with two paws in the air is how bears fight—the bear may think that you are challenging him. Your best move is not to; just remain calm and quiet until the bear goes away. *Submitted by Spc. Christopher D. Lewis, Co B, 237th FSB.*

## Riding the Tracks

The mission of AT95 for Company C, 237th Forward Support Battalion was M113 New Equipment Transition Training (NETT).

Two and a half years ago, when the 237th was reorganized to support an armored rather than infantry brigade, the brigade’s main source of transportation was converted to tracked vehicles. During this year’s annual training, Company C, a medical company, was finally getting the chance to add their evacuation assets of HMMWV ambulances with tracked treatment and evacuation vehicles.

Company C’s combat mission is to treat and transport wounded soldiers from the front lines to a pick-up point which is considered a cleared zone. Simulating the travel between the battle ground to the cleared zone, some members of Company C got to drive M113s for the first time.

Training on the rough trails at Camp Grayling was likened to “bajaing” by Spc. Frances A. Ulrich. Though driving on dirt trails and through hilly

terrain was considered fun to some, unit members got their share of bumps, bruises, aches and pains. And two of the three days spent training on the M113 were under extreme heat. While most units were on light duties because of the heat, Company C was receiving hands-on training on breaking track and checking oil. *Submitted by Spc. Michael R. Sanders, Co. C, 237th FSB.*

## Adding Spice to Life

The mess section of the 371st Support Group, and especially Sgt. Johnny Titcombe, made AT95 a memorable and palatable experience for soldiers in the unit.

“Sgt. Johnny,” by vocation, is one of the very finest in food preparation, and by nature, one of the funniest men on the face of the earth. He provides a double edged contribution to morale—quality food for physical nourishment and quality humor for the nourishment of the mind and spirit. His every move, sprinkled with energy and rolled in folly, spreads cheer within the unit. Johnny dollops everything he makes with a genuine concern and caring.

A strong believer in teamwork, Sgt. Titcombe insists that every compliment he receives be relayed to the other three members of the mess team: Sgt. Willie Styles, Spc. Sherry Newbourn and Spc. Jeffrey Pilkenton. Each member is important to achieving the high standards they set for themselves.

On behalf of the 371st Support Group, hats off to you, Sgt. Johnny. Thank you for the never-ending care and smiles you bring into our lives. *Submitted by Pfc. Andrew North, 371st Support Group.*

## Cobras take Flight

Capt. Joseph A. Barber banked to the left, brought his Cobra attack helicopter around the air control tower and headed south along the treeline, about 100 feet above the western edge of Range 40. An overcast morning sky made for good visibility as Barber slowed the craft to a hover and turned to the east to engage the targets spread out for more than a mile in front of him.

Chief Warrant Officer D.K. Taylor, the instructor pilot in the seat behind Barber, was busy checking the weight, temperature and RPM “redlines” of the aircraft as he awaited clearance from the tower to fire the TOW missile. Once the order to “go hot” was received, Taylor told Barber which target to engage. A burst of flame and a split second later, the target was engaged and destroyed.

During AT95, the 2-107th came to Camp Grayling for the first time as a squadron to qualify and train with armaments of the Cobra helicopter. This year was particularly important because the 2-107th is transitioning from the S-model to F-model Cobra. “The F-Model has some new technology and a more sophisticated firing system,” Taylor said. “It’s more accurate.”

The mission is also in transition for the 2-107th. Scout helicopters are no longer assigned to the unit. According to Chief Warrant Officer David Turner, E Platoon, the new Cobras now perform both the scout and attack missions. *Submitted by Rick McGivern, 196th PAD.*





MG Richard C. Alexander escorts Lt. Gov. Nancy P. Hollister to a training site at Camp Grayling, Mich.

# SOLDIER FOR A DAY

## Lt. Gov. Hollister experiences Guard training

Story by Capt. Stephen T. Tompos  
196th Public Affairs Detachment

**F**ly into an unknown area, fire an M-16 rifle, witness an ambush, chopper to a Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH), fly back home ... mission complete.

This might be a typical day for a soldier, but for Lieutenant Governor Nancy P. Hollister who visited Ohio Army National Guard soldiers during annual training at Camp Grayling, Mich., this was an opportunity to experience first-hand the leadership in the Guard and witness the contributions women make to the State of Ohio.

The lieutenant governor spent a full day traveling to unit field locations, receiving briefings from key leaders and interacting with soldiers during training.

Immediately upon her arrival, Hollister—donned in a full battle dress uniform—visited medical units qualifying with their weapons and fired an M-16 rifle at a simulated 250-meter target. She received a safety briefing on the M-16 and was coached by Capt. Diana McDonough, 383rd Medical Company (CLR). “I was honored to be selected to show her the range,” McDonough said. “She was very interested in the unit’s training and the range activity.”

“The lieutenant governor was very excited about having the opportunity to fire the M-16. She did really well—she put three rounds down-



The lieutenant governor listens as a soldier explains the use of MILES equipment.

range and her third shot was dead center,” said McDonough.

McDonough believes the visit will give the lieutenant governor a better understanding of the National Guard and its missions. “Since there is a high percentage of women in the Guard, this visit also gives her a better understanding of the roles women play.”

As the former mayor of Marietta, Hollister is certainly familiar with the Guard’s state mission. She has worked directly in disaster situations with Guard units and believes in the organization’s value to Ohio communities. “The Guard has a great commitment to community service,” Hollister said. “Whether it’s a national or state emergency or their anti-drug message.”

The lieutenant governor also observed soldiers firing at an automatic weapons qualifying range. This piqued her interest since a similar range is being developed at Camp Perry, Ohio. Once built, the Camp Perry range will allow for state-of-the-art weapons training at a much more economical expense to the state.

Following range training, Hollister visited the 137th Service and Support Battalion, where she was taken to the Tactical Operations Center (TOC) and briefed on unit training by Capt. John Spagnola, Battalion S-2/S-3.

According to Spagnola, she was very interested in the charts and maps of the area and, hours after the briefing, she remembered all of





**LEFT:** Lt. Gov. Nancy Hollister observes SGT Thomas Hoskins, 145th MASH, as he simulates treating a wounded soldier. **BELOW:** CPT Diana McDonough, 383rd Med. Co., coaches the lieutenant governor on firing the M-16 rifle.

the key personnel involved in the training.

"She memorized the challenge and password and when we went to a dismount point later, she remembered everyone and everything," said Spagnola. "She was very attentive and her attention to detail was exceptional."

The lieutenant governor was also very interested in hearing about soldiers' careers in the private sector and in learning more about their diverse backgrounds.

"When she visited our tactical briefing tent, she went around asking everyone what they did in their civilian life as well as in the military," Spagnola said. "What really impressed me was she brought a few things up that I mentioned to her in the TOC."

The captain says Hollister's visit was a very significant event.

"It's very important for our political leaders to actually see what we do," Spagnola said. "So when an issue comes up concerning cutbacks or expansion, they can apply what they've seen in the field to what they're voting on. Hopefully we can have more people like her visit us."

Tasting an MRE (Meal Ready to Eat) for the first time, the lieutenant governor dined on corned beef hash and beef stew for lunch. "She said she liked them and she was pleased to try what the soldiers were eating," said Sgt. 1st Class Emanuel Davis, food service sergeant for the 135th MP Company. "I've had a chance to feed dignitaries at other annual trainings," Davis said smiling, "but this was a lot more exciting."

During lunch, Hollister spoke with the battalion's commander, Lt. Col. Christine Cook, and military police guardmembers who served in Operation Desert Storm and during the Lucasville prison riot.

Cook, Ohio's first woman to take a battalion command, pointed out that the adjutant general is supportive of placing females in key leadership positions. After talking to several women soldiers, Hollister said she was "very impressed with the professionalism of the women to compete and get the job done."

In addition to learning more about the soldiers' civilian careers, families and their hometowns, the lieutenant governor briefly discussed the new force structure. "National defense is first, but we need everything at our disposal to support the state," Hollister said.

She said the loss of Ohio units has been "painful and difficult." But in the end, she feels we will be better able to meet the challenges of the future.



To emphasize their importance in regard to the state's civil defense posture, the MPs demonstrated a simulated military police ambush as the lieutenant governor departed the 137th Service and Support Battalion.

Arriving back in cantonment, Hollister toured the post hospital and then headed to the parade field for an airlift to the 145th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH). She was briefed on aircraft safety and then flown to the 145th MASH training area by Capt. Geraldine E. Shutt, commander of Headquarters Company, 2-137th Aviation Battalion.

"My flight vest was something the lieutenant governor was very interested in—especially the survival radio," Shutt said. "I explained that's what Air Force Capt. Scott O'Grady used when he was shot down over Bosnia."

Shutt believes that the visit raised Hollister's interest in the National Guard and understands the importance of having such a high-ranking woman visit the troops. "With all my years in the Guard, I have not had the opportunity to meet such a woman of power."

Of the more than 10,000 Ohio Army guardmembers, over 2,300 soldiers were at annual training during the lieutenant governor's visit. After only seeing one-fourth of the Ohio Army National Guard, she expressed a spirited interest in seeing more Guard training in the future. ■



# WAR GAMES

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Diane Farrow  
HQ STARC (-Det. 1-5)

Ask any foot soldier where he first battled an enemy, you may hear vivid descriptions of torrid deserts, tropical jungles or wooded terrain. But ask some members of the 612th Engineer Battalion about the location of the opposing force (OPFOR) they faced last June and they are likely to describe the basement floor plan at the Ohio Military Academy (OMA) at Rickenbacker Airport in Columbus.

Illuminated by the glow of computer screens, leaders from each line unit in the battalion were busy defending their sector from the Soviet 22nd Motorized Rifle Division, who was moving east towards Alsfeld, Germany. The engineers spent hours assessing the terrain, setting up obstacles and destroying bridges and just as much time digging in to their defensive positions—all in an effort to deny the enemy their objective.

Outside, 200 yards away in a GP Medium tent, the Tactical Operations Center (TOC) was forced to respond to this activity. With his eyes fixed on a wall-size map, the battalion operations officer (S-3) plotted the latest move of one of his units. Three field phones rang at once as other companies sought guidance for their next advance. One unit reported losing an M-2 (Bradley Fighting Vehicle), and nine personnel in their own mine field.

"This is not good," the S-3 grumbled.

But it is good, or so says Master Sgt. Robert W. Marsh, threat instructor for OMA's ARTBASS program. ARTBASS, short for Army Training Battle Simulation System, is the academy's newest high tech training tool: a computer program that provides real-time simulation of wartime operations.

"You don't have to win to learn," Marsh said. "With ARTBASS, the idea is to go away with knowledge." And Ohio soldiers have been able to do just that since September 1994, when the 1/107th Armored Cavalry first trained on this equipment.

The Ohio Military Academy has the active Army to thank for receiving this system—one of nine in existence. After acquiring an even higher tech system, the Army retained one ARTBASS set-up in Fort Lewis, Wash., and dispatched the remaining to the National Guard in various states.

An ARTBASS exercise is broken down into three phases: off-line editing, initialization and run.



"Off-line editing is conducted well before the units show up at OMA," said Maj. Philip A. Richardson, ARTBASS Team Chief. "This is when units build the battle scenario.

"Battles are not 'canned,'" he asserted.

Richardson explained units pick one of seven potential geographical areas and the type of threat force they'd like to fight. Then the ARTBASS staff spends three to six mandays building the friendly and enemy forces in the computer. In the case of the 612th, the battalion was attached to the 37th Infantry Brigade, which was defending against a Soviet motorized rifle regiment moving east into Central Germany.

"Our mission was really twofold," said Lt. Col. David Boyer, commander of the 612th Engineer Battalion. "First, we had to come up with a brigade plan so the ARTBASS team could front-load the battlefield with friendly and enemy units. Then we came out here to play our real-world support role as an engineer battalion."

The second phase, or initialization, occurs in the first few hours of the three-day exercise. In this phase, units are positioned in their assembly

areas, and command and control graphics are added.

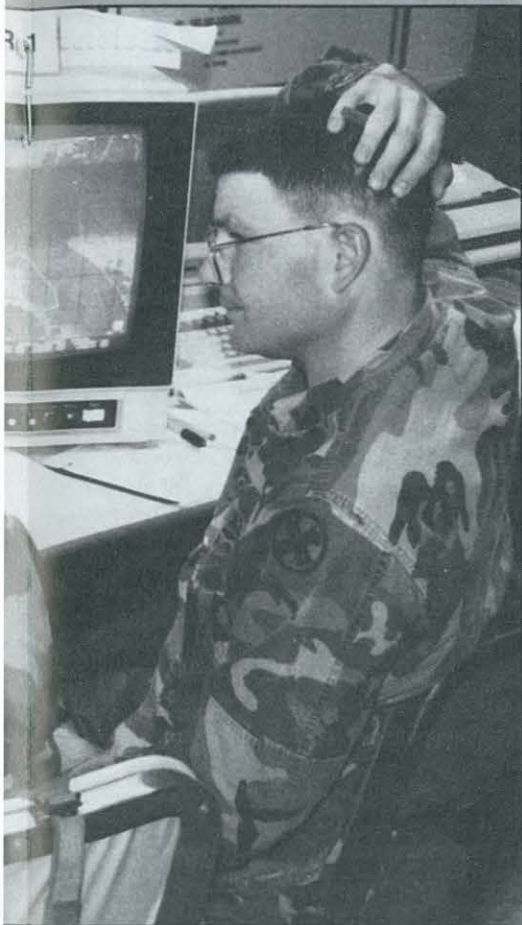
"When company-level players start moving, shooting and communicating, the third phase has begun," Richardson said. "This doesn't mean they're engaged in battle, just that they are getting ready. That's what these folks have been doing all night long," he added, nodding towards the room full of soldiers. "Just like a real battle, this is a 24-hour-a-day operation."

When the 612th arrived Friday night, they set up tents for the TOC, ALOC (Administrative/Logistic Operations Center) and billeting. This done, the battalion staff remained in the TOC and ALOC, while unit representatives headed to the computer room, where the ARTBASS system is divided into six stations.

Company "players" were set up at two maneuver stations, one administrative/logistics station and one fire support station. With operations order in hand and field phones at their side, players move their units with a menu-driven, multifunction keyboard. Assis-



*ARTBASS is meant to test the communication  
between company and battalion staff.  
You don't have to win to learn.*



**1LT Thomas D. Wolf, Co. B, 612th Eng. Bn., (right) contemplates his next move in a "cyber-battle" at OMA.**

ing two company teams at each station, ARTBASS Team "interactors" punch in the commands that tell the computer what to do.

While those four stations share a common area, the threat cell and brigade cell are isolated. Staffed by two members of the ARTBASS Team, the threat cell represents the "bad guys" and responds to the actions of the engineer battalion. The brigade cell replicates the higher headquarters—for requesting reconnaissance flights, additional personnel, or equipment the battalion doesn't have.

"ARTBASS is meant to test the communication between company and battalion staff" Richardson said. The battle staff has to remain at the TOC and ALOC, and are not allowed in the computer room once the hostilities begin, he explained.

"It's exciting," Boyer said. "We've done these kinds of exercises before, but they were

paperwork driven—only a few people got excited. The computer keeps things moving."

"You're looking at a screen with threat forces in red and friendly in white," said Capt. Dean Ervin, commander for Company A in St. Mary's. "During the battle, the red is moving closer and closer to you, and, as they fire, little streaks of white lightning shoot from one graphic to another.

"You actually see the hole in your defense when you lose a unit, and you have to deal with it. That's when realism comes into play."

Though the ARTBASS system brings visions of video arcades to mind, players don't have the control to single out a target and shoot. Providing objectives and managing positions is the player's primary responsibility. The computer responds as real soldiers would—following orders, firing when fired upon—and the results can be just as unpredictable.

Ervin said players needed to constantly monitor the status reports from units in the field. When the computer reported that a platoon was running low on supplies, the logistics officer (S-4) needed to be notified so that additional food, fuel or ammo could be sent.

And just because the system is computerized, doesn't mean mistakes don't happen.

"We ordered more supplies for one of our platoons, and later, while my guys were getting dangerously low on ammo, the unit next to them was suddenly getting resupplied," recalled Ervin. "Evidently our location was misread, so we called the S-4 to redirect them to the right people."

Boyer, who first encountered ARTBASS with his battalion last November, seemed impressed with both the equipment, which "allows any unit to tailor the exercise to their training need," and the staff. "They are incredible," he said. "We tell them what we want to do, and they make it happen."

As battalion commander, the lieutenant colonel counted on his operations officer—Maj. Timothy French—to follow through on the advance plan, conceived months ago. "He's the most important cog in the wheel," Boyer said. "If there's changes to the plan, he's got to be fully involved."

With all this weight on his shoulders, French still managed to take things in stride. "This is purely a learning experience," he said.

But he did add that his past experience with ARTBASS left him better prepared for June's battle. "It definitely improved

staff planning and built our confidence in how to maneuver task force fights."

The most obvious bonus this system offers is maximum training with minimal spending.

"The only cost involved for units drilling would be the cost of bringing the personnel here," Richardson said. "The equipment was given to us by the Army, and the full-time civilian who maintains it is salaried by the Army through 1996 and by NGB in 1997 and 1998. So, as far as the state's concerned, we're paid for through '98."

"Short of taking the entire battalion to the National Training Center or the Joint Readiness Training Center, it would be impossible to engage in a mock battle of this magnitude," Boyer said.

"Having and using ARTBASS in Ohio exposes the battalion staff to an intensity level similar to that of a modern battlefield—without having the traditional concerns of limited training dollars, environmental impact or time and weather constraints."

"I played three Reforgers in the active Army," said Staff Sgt. Daniel P. Jeremy, a personnel staff NCO for HHC, 612th Eng. Bn., in Walbridge. "Here, you can do in a weekend what we did in three weeks."

Richardson says ARTBASS offers a viable option for Ohio's 25 battalion-size units looking for staff training opportunities. "It's a chance to determine a unit's strengths and weaknesses, and a great way to train up for other exercises." ■



**MAJ Timothy French (right) and 1LT Sheldon A. Goodrum pinpoint the location of an engineer squad in need of reinforcements.**





**Brig. Gen. Larry Warren, Illinois Adjutant General, observes ANG communication specialists at work.**

**B**aseball wasn't the game at hand when the "Yankees" played in New York last June. The players were military service members and the game was a simulated low-intensity conflict entitled "Global Yankee '95."

Members of the 251st Combat Communications Group, Springfield, Ohio, and three of its subordinate units, the 269th Combat Communications Squadron (Springfield), the 264th Combat Communications Squadron (Chicago, Ill.) and the 239th Combat Communications Squadron (St. Louis, Mo.) participated in the multi-service exercise at Fort Drum, N.Y.

Operating out of a mere fraction of the 107,000 acres at Fort Drum, the soldiers participating in this joint service exercise were primarily from the Northeast region of the United States. Global Yankee, which ran from June 14-28, was orchestrated by the 152nd Air Control Group (ACG) New York Air National Guard, and combined over 55 U.S. and Canadian personnel which simulated air, land and sea combat against aggressor forces in the southern European theater.

The 251st CCG and its subordinate units provided high frequency, UHF and SHF, satellite and teletype services for the Air Operation Center (AOC). The group also participated in augmenting the air traffic control mission coordinated by the 114th Air Traffic Control Flight. The predominating force behind this effort was from the 264th CBCS, who deployed 108 personnel to provide technical support for the communications systems command and control.

"Two-hundred and thirty-seven thousand pounds of equipment were shipped by air, and 12 vehicles were convoyed from our unit in Chicago to support this exercise," said Lt. Col. Thomas Costello, the 264th commander. "This provided good experience and technical training for our people, who, in conjunction with

# 251st CCG heads to Fort Drumm for Global Yankee '95

Story by 1st Lt. Paul Harrison, 251st Combat Communications Group

the Marines, provided a complex communications network."

In addition to being a joint exercise that included all branches of the service, much of Global Yankee's appeal was its significant cost-effectiveness for the American taxpayer. Using a new military training approach, this exercise drew from "clusters" of units within a geographic area, while providing realistic, quality training for a fraction of the cost of the traditional wide-area approach.

"Most joint training events are costly because of the large expense of getting the players to the exercise site," explained Col. Ted Dodson, exercise director from the 152nd ACG. "At Global Yankee, transportation cost was minimal."

Another unique aspect of this exercise is the way in which it was organized. Typically, for an operation of this magnitude, the scenario is created and planners go "shopping" for the right players from various units across the country. The architects of Global Yankee '95, however, used a "reverse tasking" method

whereby those clusters of units were invited to train at a common site and the training script was built around them—allowing each unit to get the training it needed.

The vast communications network established at Global Yankee was used to support a number of exciting training missions: an air assault landing of troops from the 27th Brigade, live bombing missions on the range at Fort Drum, day and night search and rescue missions, a psychological warfare program and scientists from Rome Labs tested new technologies in telemedicine, electronic intelligence and passive radar. A wide variety of aircraft was used to support Global Yankee '95, including F-15s, F-16s, A-10s, B-1B Bomber, KC-135 Tankers, C-130, C-141 and C-5 Transports, as well as P-3 and E2C Naval aircraft.

By exercise end, Global Yankee '95 included over 2,000 active duty, Guard and Reserve troops from all branches of the armed services. ■



**Service members set up the operations tent for Global Yankee '95.**



# Going the Distance

## Air Guard teaches new NCO school via satellite

Story by Capt. Ann Marie Coghlin  
HQ, Ohio Air National Guard

An option to the Noncommissioned Officer Academy In-Residence Program has received high marks from students and administrators after seven locations participated in the validation phase that ran from Jan. 3 through May 26.

The Distance Learning Seminar Program is designed to give the traditional guardmember an opportunity to complete Professional Military Education without attending the five-and-one-half week in-residence course. The program is taught in a seminar setting at home station and classes are taught by an accredited instructor via tapes or live broadcasts from the NCO Academy at McGhee-Tyson Air National Guard Base in Knoxville, Tenn. The final two weeks of the program are in-residence at McGhee-Tyson.

One of the test sites for the new program was at the 178th Fighter Group at Springfield-Beckley Municipal Airport from January through the end of May. Master Sgt. Christopher Muncy, 178th Communications Flight Customer Support Supervisor, was the Ohio program director.

"One of the biggest advantages of the distance learning seminar program was that participants spent only two weeks away from home," Muncy said. The NCO Academy has traditionally been offered only as a five-and-a-half week in-residence program held at seven active duty bases and McGhee-Tyson.

The 15 Ohio students, 12 from the 178th, two from Wright-Patterson and one from the 269th Combat Communications Squadron attended home station training classes two nights a week for 38 weeks, for three hours each night. After completing that phase, they attended a two week in-residence program at McGhee-Tyson, which concluded with graduation ceremonies.

Though designed initially with the traditional guardmember in mind, this format ben-



Photo by MSgt. Chris Muncy, 178 FG.

**Students of the Distance Learning Seminar pose for a photo at the Springfield-Beckley Air Base classroom.**

efits technicians, AGRs and even special needs Air Force members. "It benefits single parents, business owners, single-person shops and the sponsoring unit by costing less days and money," Muncy said. Instead of having to leave their responsibilities for almost six weeks, they are gone only two.

"It's the way to go," said Tech. Sgt. Nancy Helmick, a 178th information manager. "In-residence course just aren't practical when dealing with employers."

Tech. Sgt. Carolyn Henry, 178th CCA, had originally signed up to take the correspondence course and did not enjoy it. She was impressed with the in-residence program at McGhee-Tyson and how polished the graduates were. So when she heard about the distance learning option, she signed up.

"It made it easier to meet family and civilian job obligations," Henry said. She also enjoyed the opportunity to learn about the military jobs of other people in the class.

The class worked closely during the program and chose the motto "Go the Distance" from the movie *Field of Dreams*.

"It means hang in there and don't give up," said Helmick. Henry said it represented the goals she wanted to reach through the course—college credits and promotion eligibility.

Students also enjoyed the immediate benefits from the twice weekly evening classes. Both Henry and Helmick said they were able to apply

the things they learned to their civilian jobs. Henry said one of the advantages of the classes was the information on quality because it applies to both her military and civilian jobs.

Muncy said the curriculum, which is the same as the in-residence program except for the physical fitness requirements, teaches students to be effective, quality supervisors. The 219 hours of course material consists of comprehensive and applied knowledge and is worth 12 semester hours through the Community College of the Air Force.

The home station course consisted of live feedback via the ANG Warrior network, followed by discussion and instruction of the lesson plan by one of the four Ohio instructors, Muncy said.

Field instructors or facilitators have to have at least an associate degree, attended the NCO Academy in-residence, attended the field instructor facilitator course and have commander's approval.

In addition to seminars, coursework included demanding homework, four speeches, four writing assignments, team exercises and four objective tests.

All the Ohio students did well academically, but Staff Sgt. Blaine Powell, 178th FG MXS, received the Ruth Stevens Academic Achievement Award and was named Distinguished Graduate of the entire program. A total of 101 students graduated the validation class. ■





# Former adjutant general remembers most destructive war in history

*Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few.*

Story by Master Sgt. Robert L. Jennings  
196th Public Affairs Detachment

—Sir Winston Churchill

Fifty years after the most destructive war in history, many voices from World War II are now silent. Much of what remains can only be found in museums and history books, and personal accounts are often sketchy.

Sylvester T. Del Corso is the exception. He recalls every battle, every conflict, every mission and every order with pride. After many battles, much suffering and countless sacrifices, Del Corso proudly held the pen that inked the unconditional surrender of Japanese forces in Northern Luzon.

The former adjutant general of Ohio is neither shy nor apologetic but rather reflective as he speaks of a time when the world was at war and Ohioans answered the call...

Del Corso: "I've always liked the military and spent many hours as a child watching soldiers train at the National Guard armory in my hometown, Berea, Ohio. One day a soldier asked me, 'Why don't you just join?' I told him I was only 16 and he said, 'Well tell 'em you're 18.' The commander of that unit was my next door neighbor and he knew I wasn't old enough, but swore me in anyway on Sept. 18, 1928. Heck, in those days they were happy to get anyone to join. I graduated from Baldwin Wallace college in 1937 and received my commission that same year."

A few years later, in the wake of mounting aggression by Germany in Europe, President Franklin D. Roosevelt activated the National Guard to train for combat readiness.

Del Corso: "The 37th was the best fighting force in the Pacific. That's because we were the best trained. Each week we had over 60 hours of daylight training and three nights of maneuvers in the swamps of Fort Polk, La.

"After the attack on Pearl Harbor and war was declared, members of the division whose term of service had expired during the training period returned to the 37th. None of them wanted to go to war with anyone else. We had trained together and we wanted to fight together."

The 37th landed in April 1943 on Guadalcanal and quickly established a reputation as fierce and resourceful combatants. On New Georgia, they took the strategically important Munda airfield and proved concentrated artillery fire could be effective in jungle warfare. As second in command of a combat regiment, Del Corso remembers that mission vividly as a defining moment of the war.

Del Corso: "We won every battle. But I will admit our toughest

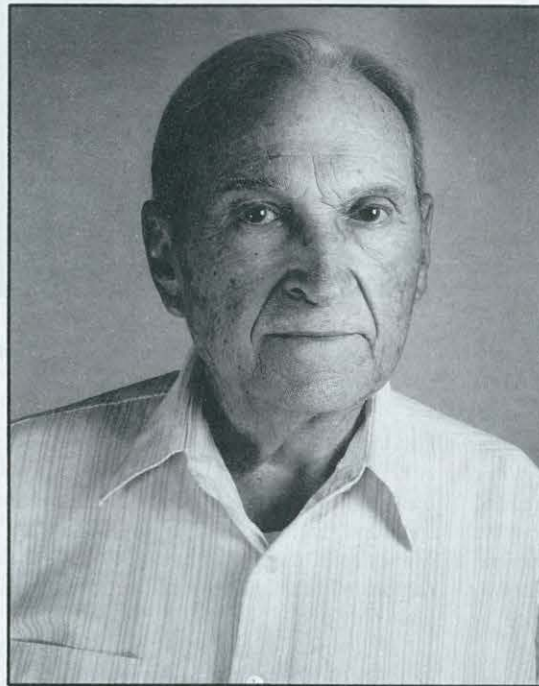


Photo by Joe Hofbauer, TAG Photo Lab

engagement was for Hill 700, in March of 1944 on Bougainville. We were pitted against the Japanese's 6th Division, considered invincible—Their battle cry: 'We'll drive the Americans into the sea.'

"We let them come at us. The fighting was fierce to sporadic for 21 days. We knew exactly what they were going to do, and we were ready. But they fought and died to the man; they just kept coming."

When the smoke cleared, the 37th's superiority was evident. The Japanese had lost nearly 8,000 soldiers and another 2,000 were critically injured. The Buckeye unit's losses were minimal in comparison.

Del Corso: "We annihilated the famed 6th Division. The commander of their Fourteenth Area Army, General Tomoyuki Yamashita, the famed 'Tiger of Malaya,' wanted to know who did it. When he found out who we were, he assigned a lieutenant general to track our movements and keep him informed of our whereabouts. Yamashita would later admit that his army was not prepared for the tactics we employed."

On Jan. 9, 1945, the 37th stormed ashore at Lingayen Gulf on the island of Luzon in the Philippines. The division raced straight down the central plains toward the captured city of Manila, taking strategic heights and airfields along the way.

Del Corso: "We moved rapidly to reach Manila. We liberated street after street and house after house. The Japanese knew that Manila was lost and set out to destroy it. The city was reduced to rubble, and many tortured and killed Filipinos were left in the wake of the fleeing enemy."

The Japanese retreated north and established an impassable pocket of resistance called the Shimbu Line. The line had three terrain features of strategic importance: Mounts Pacawagon and Sugarloaf, which overlooked Manila, and Mount Binicayan.

Del Corso: "We drew the toughest of them all, Mount Pacawagon. The corps commander looked at our plans and said they were workable. He anticipated three to eight days maneuvering to reach the top. We told him, 'General, we'll be on that mountain by nightfall.' And he said if we took it, he'd buy us all a drink—we had to have a little humor, you know.

"Shortly after midnight, on April 21, we moved to the base of the





File Photo

LTC Del Corso (seated left) accepts the surrender of a Japanese commander on Northern Luzon in the Philippines, September 3, 1945. The signing represented the end of WWII, and the ultimate defeat of the Axis Powers.

mountain using the cover of darkness. With the radio on, only one word was spoken, 'ready.' This was the signal for the 135th Field Artillery to begin offensive fire. In typical style of a 37th attack, we saturated them with heavy artillery for more than an hour. Before evening fell, we had taken the mountain. The Corps commander couldn't believe it but true to his word, he brought us a sack of booze."

The war would last just three more months. The American Juggernaut swept through northern Luzon and turned toward the inevitable mission of invading Japan. Of course this would not happen because soon, Japan would agree to an unconditional surrender. America's atomic might had hastened an end to the war.

By now it's a familiar tale: The 37th Infantry Division was an immovable force in the Pacific Theater. Initially its ranks were filled entirely with Ohioans and replacements were draftees. They spent a record 600 days in combat. Maj. Gen. Robert S. Beightler was the only National Guard division commander to lead his unit throughout WWII, turning down command of the now historic Manhattan Project to remain with his troops.

For their efforts, Beightler and his 37th "Buckeye" Division were assigned to accept the surrender of Japanese forces in the Philippines Sept. 3, 1945, one day after representatives of Japan's emperor surrendered to Gen. of the Army Douglas MacArthur in Tokyo.

Del Corso: "All the other forces quickly left the island so it was the 37th's responsibility to round up POWs, protect them from the

Filipinos, and accept the official articles of surrender on Luzon. At Baugio, in the central plains, Gen. Beightler presided over the official surrender of Japanese forces by their field leader, General Yamashita.

As executive officer of the 145th Regimental Combat Team, I presided over the surrender up north—the regimental commander, Col. Loren G. Windom, was on special assignment to another island.

During the signing I asked my adversary, he was a 65-year-old Colonel, how long it had been since he'd seen his family? He said 12 years. He would never return to his family, because three days later a delegation of Filipinos took him to Manila where he was hung for war crimes. The irony is, initially I refused to turn him over to the Filipinos until they brought official war-

rants—through a twist of fate, I had become my enemy's protector.

"We returned home to not much fanfare. We left as a team, but because demobilization occurred at different ports, we came home as individuals."

Five decades later, Del Corso lives in Worthington, Ohio, along with his granddaughter, just a few miles from the state's National Guard Headquarters, where he was adjutant general from 1968-1971. He spends much of his time carrying on the legacy of the 37th "Buckeye" Division by speaking to veterans groups, historians and those too young to remember the war. The retired general is outspoken about the role of today's military and thinks soldiers and civilians can learn many valuable lessons from events of the past. ■

---

***"The irony is, initially I refused to turn him over to the Filipinos until they brought official warrants—through a twist of fate, I had become my enemy's protector."***





Col. Robert Morgan (5th from left) poses with the crew of "Memphis Belle" in England, May 1943.

# Vintage warbirds invade Ohio

Story by Sgt. 1st Class Candace J. Kline  
Command Historian

**A**nticipation changed to excitement as the faint drone of the AT-6 trainer filled the air at Wright Patterson Air Force Base. This vintage aircraft marked the arrival of *Freedom Flight America* to the Dayton area.

*Freedom Flight America*, recognized by the Department of Defense's World War II Commemoration Committee as an official 50th Anniversary Commemorative event, started in Long Beach, Calif. on July 28. Approximately 300 World War II-era aircraft participated in a historic flight from Long Beach to Floyd Bennett Field in Brooklyn, N. Y., a World War II-era Naval Air Station.

This patriotic flight, with stops in several cities across America, was organized by Morey Darznies who came with his family from Latvia in 1950. The purpose of the flight was to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II and pay tribute to the veterans who fought for freedom.

As the formations flew over, circled and touched down at Wright-Patterson, one could imagine the relief felt by crews as their victors returned to the safety of the United States.

Nearly 100 warbirds, including the TBM Avenger, B-25 Mitchell, PV-2 Harpoon, C-121 Super Constellation, C-47 Goony Bird, P-51 Mustang, L-19 Bird Dog and others landed at Wright Patterson AFB on Aug. 7. They were displayed for the public Aug. 8 and departed the next day for Andrews AFB near Washington, D.C.

Whitey Wannemacher flew his vintage AT-6 trainer, "Silver Lining," from Monument, Colo. Wannemacher, a corporate pilot for the Colorado Division of Wildlife, and his wife Phyllis have owned the plane since 1983. It was built in April 1943 at Dallas, Texas. He flies nearly every weekend and participates in 15 or 16 air shows each year.

"Silver Lining" is an advanced trainer which was used in World War

II to train pilots to fly other aircraft in the war. "It is less stable and harder to fly than most planes, such as a P-51 Mustang, so pilots trained in an AT-6 could fly almost anything," explained Wannemacher.

Like most privately-owned vintage aircraft, Wannemacher has painted his plane with its original colors and markings. He has, however, upgraded the equipment in the warbird by adding a modern radio and a handheld global positioning system for navigation.

George Novotny, a World War II fighter ace with eight aerial victories, traveled from Michigan to see the display of warbirds with his wife Ruth. He was hoping to see P-47 Thunderbolts. He flew these with the 325th Fighter Group, also known as the Checkertail Clan because the tails of their planes were painted with a yellow and black checkerboard. Though there were no P-47s, he was excited to see the other vintage planes on display.

Novotny, born and raised in Toledo, wore a t-shirt, picturing himself and his P-47, "Ruthless Ruthie." He also flew P-40s and P-51s during his stint in the U.S. Army Air Corps from 1942 to 1945. He flew a P-40 Warhawk in North Africa where he achieved three aerial victories and a P-47 Thunderbolt in Italy where he scored five more. He then ferried P-51s from Casablanca and Algiers to Italy before returning home with the distinction of fighter ace.

After completing his overseas tour, Novotny was reassigned to Oscoda Air Base in upper Michigan, where he trained French pilots to fly P-51s. "When I returned to Paris and Normandy for D-Day +40, I was surprised and touched when seven French pilots who I had trained recognized me and thanked me for teaching them to fly the P-51," Novotny said while relating several stories.

As a survivor of the Checkertail Clan and a member of the Thunderbolt Pilots Association, Novotny returned to Europe for D-Day +40, D-Day +50, and an anniversary of the Battle of Britain. Although *Freedom Flight* was small-scale compared to those celebrations, it was an appropriate way to commemorate August 8, 1945. "I arrived home in Toledo



on terminal leave exactly 50 years ago today," he explained.

Another visitor to the *Freedom Flight* festivities was Col. Robert K. Morgan, pilot of the "Memphis Belle," one of the Army Air Force's most famous heavy bombers during World War II. He and his nine-man crew of the B-17 Flying Fortress, assigned to the 324th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) at Bassingbourn, England, were the first to complete 25 combat sorties. They were then rotated back to the United States, but Morgan stayed home for only three months.

In the summer of 1944, Morgan took command of the 869th Bombardment Squadron (Very Heavy), which was equipped with the B-29 Superfortress. On Nov. 24, 1944, he led the first B-29 raid over Tokyo. He completed another 25 missions before returning home in May 1945.

Morgan was available to talk to *Freedom Flight* attendees and sign autographs.

An information booth commemorated the Tuskegee Airmen, an all-black fighter group who flew fighter escort for bombing raids into



Photo by SFC Candace Kline, HQ STARC.

**Whitey Wannemacher relaxes on the wing of his World War II-era plane "Silver Lining" during *Freedom Flight America* at Wright-Patterson AFB.**

Germany. Not a single aircraft they escorted was lost to enemy action.

The appearance of the F-117 Stealth Fighter and a replica of the "Wright Flyer" provided a tribute to aviation and the planes assembled at Wright-Patterson. The Stealth did touch-and-go's during the Monday landing of the warbirds and was part of the static display on Tuesday.

"The Wright Flyer" was also on display and made several flights throughout the day. The "Wright Flyer," the symbol of the birth of flight, and the Stealth Fighter, the symbol of today's technology, sat side-by-side on the tarmac as fitting examples of the history of aviation.

As the celebration's finale, the vintage planes of *Freedom Flight America* participated in a fly-by over the Statue of Liberty before it ended its journey on Aug 14 at Floyd Bennett Field, N.Y. ■

## Honoring those who serve

Once again, nominations are solicited for the *Hall of Fame* and *Distinguished Service Awards*. Selected persons will be honored at the 1996 Ohio National Guard Association Conference

### Distinguished Service Award

Criteria are as follows:

1. Military or civilian personnel are eligible.
2. A person is eligible for nomination at any time.
3. This award may be given for a single act or for performance over an extended period of time.
4. a. An individual must have accomplished an outstanding achievement on behalf of the Ohio National Guard.  
b. The person must be clearly identified as having played a key role in the accomplishment for which the award is to be given.  
c. Although a single accomplishment may be deemed qualification for this award, particular consideration should be given to those individuals who have contributed outstanding service on a sustained basis.

### Hall of Fame

Criteria are as follows:

1. Officers, warrant officers and enlisted personnel who have served in the Ohio National Guard are eligible.

2. A person shall become eligible for nomination three years after retirement from the armed services or three years after death. A member of the Ohio National Guard who is awarded the Medal of Honor while serving in a National Guard status or on extended active duty from the Ohio National Guard may be inducted into the Hall of Fame at any time.

3. Nominations for the Hall of Fame shall cover the entire military and civilian service of the nominee.

Sustaining exceptional performance of all duties, the institution of innovative programs which were unique to their time frame, the enhancement of the combat effectiveness of the Ohio National Guard and the enhancement of public support of the Guard are types of service to be considered.

### Award of Merit

Personnel considered for this award would be those who have made a contribution which did not meet the criteria for the present awards, but whose contribution deserves recognition. This award is to be based on such areas as leadership, longevity, a meritorious act or deed, a project or activity which has contributed significantly to the benefit of the Ohio National Guard, military service performed at a level above the

norm, or to an individual who has served the Ohio National Guard Association over and above what is reasonably expected from the member.

### Nominations

The proposed citation should not exceed 800 words for the Hall of Fame and 500 words for the Distinguished Service Award. The language used should be readily understood by the news media and the general public. Acronyms and military jargon are to be avoided. Citations used in connection with previous awards may be quoted. The full text of these and other supporting documents may be attached for consideration of the Awards Committee.

The following outline is suggested: 1. Date and place of birth; 2. Date and circumstance into military service; 3. Chronological listing of career high-points to include duty assignments, promotions, noteworthy actions or accomplishments, and excerpts from previous citations; and 4. Conclusion.

Anyone may submit nominations for the awards. Nominations along with proposed award citation text and a synopsis of no more than two pages should be submitted to the Ohio National Guard Association, ATTN: Awards Committee, P.O. Box 8070, Columbus, Ohio 43201 by Dec. 1, 1995. ■





Bethany Brooks proudly wears her achievement medals for excelling in fitness and leadership.



Soccer team members prepare for the Army fitness test by running in formation.

# PUSHING THE LIMIT

## Girls soccer team trains to Army fitness standards

Story and photos by Spc. Steve Johnson  
196th Public Affairs Detachment

Football, more commonly referred to as soccer by Americans, has gained significant attention in the U.S., thanks to newsmakers such as Pele, Kyle Rote Jr. and the New York Cosmos.

With the recent creation of Major League Soccer franchises in the U.S., the "sport of feet" has spread like wild fire. Semi-pro, indoor, intramural and youth leagues have formed all over the country, and the recent rejuvenation of the sport is giving aspiring athletes an alternative to the big three major sports—basketball, baseball and football.

Many high schools have incorporated soccer into their athletic programs with great success; one such school is Marion Harding High School in Marion, Ohio.

The school has fielded a boys' soccer team for several years, so this year Athletic Director Dick Henry wanted to achieve gender equality in the school by forming the first ever girls' soccer team.

In the past, girls did participate as a nonsanctioned club team, but with the school

board's approval, the Lady Presidents of Harding High School were officially recognized as a varsity organization.

After eagerly accepting the job as head coach, Tim McGuire enlisted the help of the Ohio National Guard to help get the girls in shape for their first season.

In previous years, Sgt. 1st Class Willis Beam, HQ STARC, conducted fitness camps for the boys' soccer team—developing a physical conditioning program based on the Army fitness standards. This year, the Lady Presidents got a taste of what it was like to work out Army style. Not surprisingly, these determined ladies rose to meet the challenge head on.

During the week-long session, training focused on physical and mental conditioning. The girls endured many repetitions of push-ups and sit-ups, as well as running in formation and an occasional "Gorilla drill," an aerobic routine which entails several exercises within a short time span.

"We're going to work your butts off, but you'll be stronger when we're through," trainer Sgt. 1st Class David Rockow told the girls.

The intense August heat was a major concern during the training, but close supervision by the

trainers and adherence of severe heat guidelines ensured that all participants safely completed the program.

On the final day, the girls were given the standard Army Physical Fitness Test, something that they had been preparing for all week. At first many were afraid of failing, but the support and guidance of the trainers during the week helped them to overcome their fears and apprehensions.

"The training got us mentally and physically prepared for the upcoming season," said Senior Fullback Sarah Nash, who is also a cheerleader for the school's football team.

Lt. Col. Christine Cook and Maj. Debbie Ashenhurst, the first women to be named battalion commanders in the Ohio National Guard, braved the rainy weather to give the girls support and encouragement before the PT test. Cook presented certificates of completion and individual achievement awards for leadership and outstanding PT scores.

Center forward Kim Tevis, the only freshman to try out for the team, earned a special achievement award for her outstanding performance on the PT test, and senior halfback Bethany Brooks received special recognition for her outstanding PT score and leadership abilities. ■



## DDR Program receives national recognition

The Ohio National Guard Drug Demand Reduction Program recently received national recognition from the Adjutant General's Association of the United States (AGAUS). Ohio's adjutant general, Maj. Gen. Richard Alexander, accepted the awards at the annual AGAUS Conference this past June. The KiDSAFE (Kids Identifying Dangerous Situations and Facing Emergencies) Program received a Runner-up Minuteman Mike Award for Outstanding Schools Program.

KiDSAFE is a program designed to educate youth primarily in grades K-4 about home and general safety, and the dangers of drug abuse. The "Identi-kid" portion of the program provides the full identification of youth for their parents' records. Many units, including the 178th FG, 121st ARW, 324th MP Co., 323rd MP Co., HHT & A Troop 2-107th Cav., HQ STARC, Det. 1 1485th Trans. Co., Det. 1 HHC 1-148th Infantry, and the 196th PAD, have all presented variations of the program over the past year.

The adjutant general also accepted an Honorable Mention Minuteman Mike Award for Meritorious Service for the Ohio Guard's efforts in the 1994 Red Ribbon Celebration. The Guard was the sponsoring organization for the celebration in 1994 and Gen. Alexander served as an Honorary Chairperson. Through the Ohio Guard's efforts, more Ohioans heard the drug free message than in any previous campaign.

This year's campaign will be held Oct. 23-29. The statewide kickoff will be held at the statehouse on Oct. 16.

## Ohio to host PRIDE World Drug Conference

Once again the state of Ohio has been selected to host the annual PRIDE World Drug Conference. Parents Resource Institute for Drug Education (PRIDE) puts on the largest drug prevention and awareness conference in the world, bringing adults and youth together from all over the country.

This year's conference will be held March 28-30, 1996, at the Cincinnati Convention Center. In 1993, Ohio hosted PRIDE in what was reported to be the largest attended conference to date.

The Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug

Addiction Services is the lead agency for the conference and is receiving support from many state agencies and local organizations, including the Ohio National Guard.

Personnel interested in volunteering or attending the PRIDE Conference should contact the State Public Affairs Office at (614) 889-7000.

## Ohio Prevention Education Conference set for December

The Ohio Prevention Education Conference (OPEC) will be held Dec. 11-13 at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Columbus. OPEC is the largest gathering of Ohioans interested in raising the level of drug prevention and awareness in the state. OPEC brings together educators, business, prevention professionals and community action groups to discuss the latest issues pertaining to drug abuse in society.

Supporting organizations for OPEC include the Ohio Department of Education, Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services, Ohio Attorney General's Office, Ohio Department of Liquor Control, Ohio Department of Public Safety, the Ohio National Guard and the Ohio Prevention Education Resource Center.

For more information on OPEC contact the State Public Affairs Office at (614) 889-7000.

## KiDSAFE a hit at Family Expo '95

On July 22-23, the Ohio National Guard took part in Columbus' Family Expo '95, which drew more than 20,000 people. The two-day Expo, sponsored by Fox 28 TV and the American Red Cross, featured exhibits just for kids.

One of the most popular displays was the Guard's KiDSAFE booth, which offered Identi-kid processing. Members of the 684th Medical Company, the 16th Engineer Brigade and the 196th Public Affairs Det. prepared



SFC Bertha Collins, 16th Eng. Bde., weighs a youngster at the KiDSAFE booth during Family Expo '95.

more than 750 identification cards for parents looking out for the safety of their kids.

## 'Guard America' makes headway in Ohio

Several Ohio National Guard personnel and their spouses have completed the Guard America Parent to Parent training and are now certified facilitators.

Guard America is a program designed to assist parents in helping their children face the challenges of growing up in the nineties. Over the next few months, they will be soliciting soldiers, airmen and family support group members from units throughout the state to participate in Guard America. It is the Ohio Guard's goal to train at least 500 people (Guard personnel and family members) before expanding the program out into the community. There is currently a strong demand among community organizations to receive the Parent to Parent training.

The Ohio National Guard was selected for this pilot program, due to its track record in working with community organizations through Drug Demand Reduction.

For more information contact the State Public Affairs Office at (614) 889-7000, or the Family Programs Office at (614) 889-7192.





Photo by SFC Bob Mullins, HQ STARC.

**1SG Ron Edwards (center) and acting commander SSG David A. Farnham (right) pose with State CSM Richard Wehling after receiving awards from ONGEA.**

## 122nd Army Band recognized by ONGEA

Ask the 122nd Army Band stationed at Rickenbacker Airport to give and they give without reservation. On Aug. 5, the band was recognized by the Ohio National Guard Enlisted Association for achieving 100 percent membership.

State Command Sgt. Maj. Richard C. Wehling presented a certificate and a plaque to 1st Sgt. Ron Edwards during a ceremony at the airfield.

"I am proud of each and every member of this unit," said Wehling during the ceremony. "Your support of the Enlisted Association helps not only you, but everyone who wears the uniform."

The purpose of the association is to develop a strong and patriotic Guard, to better serve our community and our world, and to make the world a better place in which to live, work and raise our children, said Wehling.

The ONGEA was formed in 1971 and chartered by the Enlisted Association of the United States (EANGUS) in 1972. It is a non-profit corporation, organized to promote adequate security with the state, and advance the status, welfare, professionalism and spirit of genuine Americanism of the enlisted members of the Ohio National Guard. As a non-profit association, ONGEA does not participate in partisan politics or operate for gain.

For more information on the ONGEA, contact Phil Wesley, National Director of Area II at (419) 472-0586. *Submitted by Maj. Robert Johnson, 196th PAD.*

## Echo Co. runs qualifier course

Train the trainer took on a new meaning for the 1/148th Infantry Battalion with the changeover from light to mechanized infantry. Echo Company was charged with training the battalion's soldiers to operate and maintain the TOW system on M-901 track vehicles.

"Last march, the Ohio Military Academy (OMA) tasked E. Company to run this school," said Sgt. 1st Class Ike Wintz, training NCO for the unit. There was no time for error in getting the school up and running for annual training at

Camp Grayling—scheduled July 8-22, 1995.

NCOs from all the units in the 1/148th Battalion were sent to Battle Focus Instructor's Training Course at OMA to become qualified to teach at the E9 Additional Skill Identifier (ASI) school. The soon-to-be instructors were trained during drill weekends in April and May.

"This is an excellent example of how we can train our own soldiers. It also saved an incredible amount of training dollars that we can use for more advance training," said 1st Lt. Jerry L. Jones Jr., commander of Echo Company and officer in charge of the E9 school.

At Grayling, 32 students with 11H (tow

gunner) and 19D (Scout) MOSs from the 1/148th and the 107th Cav attended the course which featured state-of-the-art training equipment. Students used the CD ROM Tow Gunnery Trainer, which is a ground-mounted simulation device which allows the tow gunner to track and fire on computer simulated targets. It is also used for vehicle identification purposes. The students were also trained on the Tow Field Tactical Trainer which allows the tow gunner to track a moving vehicle and simulate a fire mission of the tow missile. Both are precision gunnery devices that also have thermal sight capabilities.

The course ended with students taking part in a live fire exercise and with all 32 soldiers being awarded the E9 ASI onto their current MOSs. *Submitted by Spc. John E. Moshier, B. Co., 1/148 Infantry.*

## Ohio Guard celebrates 'Multicultural Day'

Full-time employees of the Ohio National Guard celebrated their heritage at "Multicultural Day" held at Beightler Armory on Aug. 17, 1995.

This was the Ohio Guard's first attempt at combining yearly events such as Black History Month, Women's History Month, National Hispanic Heritage Month and Native American Heritage Week into one big celebration.

Civilian vendors were out on the drill floor providing food, music, dance and entertainment for Guard employees. A few even attended wearing costumes which reflected their ethnic heritage.

"We were really just testing the water this year," said Sgt. Stephon D. Ash, event coordinator. "Eventually we want this to expand to a statewide celebration." If anyone has any ideas, suggestions, or potential vendors for next year's event, please contact Sgt. Ash at (614) 344-1148. *Submitted by Staff Sgt. Diane Farrow, HQ STARC (-Det 1-5).*



Photo by MSG Robert Jennings, State PAO.

**Michelle Perez, daughter of MSgt. Armando Perez, 121 ARW, celebrated her heritage by performing a Spanish dance in costume at Multicultural Day.**

## Amnesty Day for hazardous materials benefits everyone

Members of the 121st Air Refueling Wing were asked to donate base-generated hazardous materials during recent hazardous material amnesty days. A multi-squadron team from the 121st organized the amnesty program following a pre-environmental compliance inspection several months ago.



During the inspection, problems with storage and labeling were noted. Environmental compliance inspections look for hazardous materials which are not securely stored, not properly identified and have expired use dates.

The result of the informal inspection led Col. Homer Smith and Environmental Coordinator Roger Jones to develop the Amnesty Day program. A total of four amnesty days were held, three during the week, and the fourth, July 8, on drill weekend. Air Guard members were encouraged to turn in all products that were no longer needed or listed expired use dates.

According to Amnesty Day team member Staff Sgt. Tracy Springer, 59 full drums of hazardous materials were turned in. The most common products, Springer said, were paint, lubricants and cleaning products.

"It's a lot better," said Springer. "Although I don't think everything is cleaned up, this is definitely going to help."

On Sept. 13, the unit underwent a U.S. EPA environmental compliance inspection. "During the outbriefing, the inspector said he didn't find any problems or violations at the 121st Air Refueling Wing," said Jones. "I'm convinced the Amnesty Day Program helped tremendously." Submitted by Tech. Sgt. Nancy Dragoni, 121st ARW.

### Fifth Third Bancorp supports Guard, Reserve

President and CEO of Fifth Third Bancorp, George Schaefer, signed the Department of Defense's National Committee Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Statement of Support at the bank's headquarters in Cincinnati on July 28, 1995.

The Statement of Support outlines the significant portions of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA). This act clarifies and strengthens the Veteran's Reemployment Rights law and allows for granting of leaves of absence for military training.

To be sure that all of his fellow employees are aware of the USERRA policies, Schaefer signed 400 statements of support, one for each of his company's 400 branches. He requested that each branch manager display it prominently so that all of his employees and customers would be aware of Fifth Third's support.

A 1967 graduate of West Point, Schaefer credits his skills in manag-

ing people to his own military experience. "I am pleased to join with hundreds of thousands of other heads of American companies in pledging our bank's support," he said at the July ceremony. Submitted by George F. Qua, Chairman, Northeast Ohio Committee, ESGR

### Women veterans honored

On May 20, 1995, a stone monument was dedicated in commemoration of all female veterans at the Veterans Park in Austintown, Ohio. The monument is the first of its kind in the United States, other than the one located at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C.

Congressman James Traficant presented the monument to the lady veterans. "It is very exciting to see this area once again honor women. Women have made the ultimate sacrifice during the industrial surge and in the wars. I am honored to be here," Traficant said.

Many female veterans gathered for the dedication, including those from the 838th Military Police Company, Youngstown, who served in Operations DESERT SHIELD/STORM. Sgt. 1st Class Lenore Southerland spoke at the dedication, highlighting the great accomplishments of female veterans through numerous campaigns.

"I think the memorial is fantastic," said Staff



Photo by SSgt. Kelly Sien, 121st ARW.

**A member of the 121st ARW disposes of a can of paint during Amnesty Days at Rickenbacker Airport.**

Sgt. Christal Dawson, also a member of the 838th. "Women are being recognized as equal and this is giving them the chance to show what they have done." Submitted by Capt. Jason Reckard, 838th MP Co.

### Water purification unit walks against MS

Unit and family members of the 641st Quartermaster Detachment, Kettering, participated in a walk-a-thon to raise money in the fight against multiple sclerosis last May.

Starting and ending at Montgomery County Fairgrounds, the route was 10 kilometers of hills and valleys, leaving walkers tired at the close of the day. But the entire team managed to finish the walk, contributing \$5,000 to the cause at hand.

The 16-member group was headed by Spc. Doug Steinke, whose fiance, Cindy Tepsic, was diagnosed with MS earlier this year. Submitted by Pfc. Heather K. Burton, 641st QM Det.

### Buckeye Guard wins national acclaim

The Adjutant General's Association of the United States (AGAUS) awarded the **Buckeye Guard** "Runner Up" for command information programs produced by the National Guard. Ohio's Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander, accepted the honor during a June conference in Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn.



Photo by PFC Heather Burton, 641st QM Det.

**Tired volunteers pose at the finish line after walking 10 kilometers in the fight against MS.**





Photo by SSgt. Kelly Slen, 121st ARW.

**Dr. Akram Sadaka swears in as a new officer in the Ohio Air National Guard.**

### Sadaka first 'catch' for TIGER TEAM

Though the phrase "TIGER TEAM" brings to mind visions of 10-year-olds playing baseball, it actually represents the recruiting program which snagged a new doctor for the rolls of the 121st Air Refueling Wing.

Dr., now Maj., Akram Sadaka was inducted into the Columbus-based Air National Guard unit on July 8, 1995. His commission was the first to result from the efforts of TIGER TEAM—a program instituted to increase the number of medical personnel assigned to the 121st. This recruiting initiative began in December 1994 by virtue of the TQM movement in the military.

Sadaka, who has a family practice in Columbus and Galion, sees joining the Guard as a means to satisfy his fascination with aviation medicine. Though he also works as an aviation medical examiner for the Federal Aviation Administration, he says the Guard will allow him to "enjoy a little more of what I do."

Sadaka received his doctor of medicine in Damascus, Syria, and holds a masters in public health from the Institute of Milwaukee in Wisconsin. Attending Flight Surgeon School is one of first priorities as a member in the Guard.

The doctor resides in Worthington with his wife, Alice, and their three sons. *Submitted by TSgt. Nancy Butcher, 121st ARW.*

### ONGA honors Kaptur

The Ohio National Guard Association (ONGA) recently honored U.S. Representative Marcy Kaptur with the Major General Charles Dick Award for Legislative Excellence.

Congresswoman Kaptur, a U.S. Representative since 1982, was cited by the association for

her dedication to public service, support of military operational readiness requirements and participation in the Ohio National Guard community outreach programs. In addition to her long standing personal and legislative support of the National Guard and its military personnel, Kaptur has been instrumental in securing federal assistance to upgrade the readiness of Toledo's 180th Fighter Group at Toledo Express Airport—including its acquisition and operation of F-16 fighter jets.

Maj. Gen. Charles Dick, after whom the award was named, was an Ohio Senator and National Guardsman, serving the 8th Ohio Voluntary Infantry during the Spanish-American War. As Senator Dick, he sponsored the

Dick Act, which provided for federal support and regulation of the National Guard. The Dick Act established federal funding, training and equipping of the Guard—improving readiness of citizen-soldiers and validating their position as America's primary combat reserve.

The ONGA established the award to recognize legislators and other elected officials who, through their civil service and sustained support of the military, best exemplify the citizen-soldier-statesman qualities of Maj. Gen. Charles Dick. *Submitted by Maj. Jim Boling, State PAO.*

### Cook appointed to VA advisory committee

Lt. Col. Christine Cook, commander of the 137th Service and Support Battalion, Toledo, was recently named Secretarial Appointee for the national VA Advisory Committee on Women Veterans.

Jesse Brown, secretary of Veterans Affairs, made the announcement in June, stating that the lieutenant colonel will hold the position through July 1, 1998. The committee, based in Washington DC, was established in November 1983 to provide advice and consultation to the VA in respect to programs for women veterans.

Cook was nominated by Robert B. Ziegenhine, Veteran Service Officer for the Cleveland Regional Office, Department of Veterans Affairs. "When asked for a nominee, we felt her experience and leadership role in the military would lend itself well to this position," he said.

Cook's experience includes acting as committee chairperson for Ohio's Advisory Committee on Women Veterans since its inception in January 1993. Similar to the national orga-

nization, this all-volunteer committee provides Governor Voinovich with recommendations on the issues, needs and concerns of Ohio women veterans.

"I have a personal commitment to ensure that soldiers understand the scope of their benefits and can access them," said Cook, who kept her post as chair of the Ohio committee. "What needs to be understood is that whatever we improve for women veterans—entitlements, education, facilities—will improve for men as well. *Submitted by Staff Sgt. Diane Farrow, HQ, STARC (-Det. 1-5).*

### Dillon named CSM for 1-134 Field Artillery

For most soldiers, the first day of enlistment in the Ohio National Guard means a crash course in the military way of life. For Command Sgt. Maj. Terry T. Dillon, Jan. 27, 1995 not only meant joining the Ohio Guard, but also taking charge of some 500 soldiers in the 1-134th Field Artillery Battalion.

Though the step from enlisting in the Guard to holding one of the state's highest enlisted positions appears to be quite a leap, the road to this appointment is no less than impressive.

Dillon began his 30-year military career by joining the U.S. Air Force on Jan. 27, 1965. He spent four years in active duty serving in Vietnam as a crash rescuer with the 14th Air Commando Wing. The remaining 26 years he spent with reserve component units, including Company C, 2nd Battalion, 11th Special Forces Group of the U.S. Army Reserve. The recent deactivation of this unit brought Dillon to the Columbus-based 1-134th Field Artillery.

After his appointment to command sergeant major last January, Dillon headed to the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy, a six-month resident course, and the U.S. Army Command Sergeant Majors Academy, both at Fort Bliss, Texas. He characterized the schools as being "mentally and physically challenging."

The special forces trained combat veteran wants to assure his soldiers that though he's tough enough to get the job done, his management style is rather laid back. But he did add that soldiers should expect to go home from drill tired—not from boredom, but from training.

"I expect soldiers to know their job inside and out; that they be professional—in both their military and civilian careers; and that they come to drill weekends ready to train. If that happens," he said, "any soldier can be successful."

He sees the appointment as the beginning of a partnership with the battalion commander, Maj. Matthew Kambic. "We're looking to make



## ALL ABOUT PEOPLE

the 1-134th not only the best artillery battalion in the National Guard, but also in the entire U.S. Army. *Submitted by Spc. Marley Starkey, 1-134th FA Bn.*

### Bowers earns Ohio Cross

A day of recreation turned into a test of courage and strength for one soldier training at Camp Grayling during AT95. Spc. Sidney Bowers of the 684th Med. Co., passed that test with honors, earning an Ohio Cross as his reward.

On July 13, with temperatures soaring well into the 90s, commanders were encouraged to provide relief to their soldiers, however they saw fit. Seizing the opportunity to battle the heat in swimsuits and sandals, several guardmembers headed for Lake Margarethe, a recreation area on post. While many soldiers relaxed on the beach, others paddled kayaks out to a small island, about a mile away from shore.

Without warning, the weather suddenly changed. While a few soldiers decided to stay on the island, others tried to make it back to shore before the storm hit. The first to get his kayak back to the beach, Bowers was amazed at how quickly the sky turned black and how threatening the waves had become.

"I knew others were coming in behind me, so I waited on the beach for them," Bowers said. One of the kayaks, occupied by Spc. Katty Schlemmer, flipped over, leaving her struggling to get to shore. Bowers immediately went in after her.

With Schlemmer safely back on land, Bowers looked for the rest of the kayakers. "We didn't see anyone else in the water, so we left the beach," he said.

"Once we got out of the storm, I noticed the guy from the kayak behind me was missing," Schlemmer said. She expressed her concerns to Bowers, who immediately headed back to the beach. By this time, it was hailing outside and visibility was poor.

"All I saw on the water was a log floating in the distance," Bowers said. "Then I heard a call for help." The log turned out to be Cpl. Mark Chapman, HHC, 112th Medical Brigade.

Though he was told by officials at the beach that the water was too dangerous to enter and to wait for a life jacket, Bowers went in after Chapman. "I could see him going under and knew there was no time to waste."

Chapman's kayak had turned over and rammed him in the back, causing a compression fracture to his spine. Though Bowers brought Chapman safely to shore, the corporal spent two days at a nearby hospital before returning to his unit.

Chapman opted to complete his AT at Gray-

ling, which enabled him to take part in the exercise's final formation on July 21. Swearing that Bowers deserves "every award there is," Chapman read the orders as Col. Lance Talmage, commander, 112th Medical Brigade, presented Bowers with the Ohio Cross, an honor given only to Ohio guardsmen who put their own lives at risk in order to save another. *Submitted by Sgt. Kathy McGee, HQ, STARC (-Det. 1-5).*



Photo by SGT Kathy McGee, HQ STARC.

**Spc. Sidney Bowers (center) embraces new friends, SPC Katty Schlemmer and CPL Mark Chapman.**

### Paying tribute to fallen friend

Every year the Ohio Army National Guard, like any other military group, experiences the death of service members. These deaths may occur because of a training accident, car crash, medical problem or even from an act of violence.

Though this always seems to happen to some other unit, an act of violence took away Spc. Joseph Rhodes from Echo Company, 1-148th Infantry, Urbana, on Dec. 31, 1994. To honor Spc. Rhodes and let other people know what kind of a man he was, Echo Company created a "Joe Rhodes Soldier of the Year Award" and is in the process of creating a day room to dedicate to their fallen friend.

These gestures seem small compared to the sense of loss felt by his family and everyone who knew him. His death, like anyone's, is tragic; his maybe even more so because of the

way he lived versus how he died.

Spc. Joseph Rhodes kept a constant smile on his face and tried to make sure the people around him did also. He defined the term "zest for life." Everyone he met couldn't help but like him.

After he graduated from Gahanna Lincoln High School in 1991, Joe Rhodes enlisted in the Army. He was part of the 82nd Airborne and loved "jumping." To challenge himself even more, he took up boxing. His full-time job was defending his country and his part-time job was defending his company's honor and colors.

Once he was discharged, he enrolled at OSU as a full-time student. This time he took up a part-time job with the Ohio Army National Guard. He also became involved with *Tae Kwon Do*, a form of martial arts, and kick boxing. Last February he was scheduled to fight for a state championship.

Spc. Joe Rhodes was headed down the road he wanted to be on. His grades were good, he got promoted, he was going for a state title, he had recently turned 21, and at Christmas time he got engaged to his girlfriend. It all ended on Dec. 31, 1994, when, after a small confrontation over a traffic dispute, a man ended Spc. Rhodes' life and his dreams. Though that man was finally brought to justice in the eyes of the law, Echo Company wanted to make sure no one will forget the soldier that was Spc. Joseph Rhodes.

So every time an Echo Co. soldier is named "Soldier of the Year" by his peers or when anyone enters the company day room they will see his name. If there's no one around to tell new soldiers who he was, they can read about him and how he touched the lives of people who knew him. *Submitted by Staff Sgt. Ralph G. Rohner III, E Co., 1-148 Infantry.*



Courtesy photo.

**Spc. Joseph Rhodes**





## Space-A policy clarified for Guard, Reserve

While the military services have made signing up easier, they have not changed Space-Available travel eligibility. The following Space-A information applies to the Guard and Reserve:

- \* Authorized Guard and Reserve soldiers and authorized members entitled to retirement pay at age 60 are eligible to travel in the continental United States and directly between CONUS and Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam and American Samoa.

- \* Active Guard/Reserve members must possess DD Form 2, (Green) Armed Forces of United States Identification Card (Reserve) and DD Form 1853 (Verification of Guard and Reserve Status for Eligibility). Retired Guard and Reserve members, who are entitled to retired pay at age 60, must also have a DD Form 2 (Red) along with a notice of retirement eligibility (provided by the member's unit).

- \* Travel is for the Guard and Reserve members only; family-member travel is not authorized. However, family members may travel with their sponsors after the retired reserve component sponsor is issued the DD Form 2 (Blue) U.S. Armed Forces Identification Card (Retired). Family member travel is authorized only between CONUS and overseas areas. Family member travel within CONUS is not authorized. (*Army Families*)

## 'High One' could devastate retired pay

"High One" is part of the Budget Resolution Act now being considered by Congress. If approved, the measure would cut 3 percent to 5 percent from the pay of people who have been in the military before Sept. 8, 1980. Currently, retired pay is based on a percentage of the pay a service member was receiving his or her last day in the service. Under the new plan, retired pay would be based on the average of what a service member had received over the last 12 months of service. If High One is approved, the Department of Defense may have to readjust high-year-of-tenure rules. Otherwise, service members who receive a longevity pay increase will not be able to take advantage of that increase. Longevity increases occur every even year up to 26 years of service. However, under High One, an E-7 with 24 years of service or an E-8 with 26

years of service would receive retirement pay based on what they were getting at 22 years and 24 years of service, respectively. (*AFNews*)

## CHAMPUS claims address changes

Six states have a new mailing address for CHAMPUS claims and a new toll-free telephone number, effective July 1, 1995.

The six states are: Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, West Virginia, Kentucky and Ohio.

For these states, claims submitted on or after July 1 should be sent to: Palmetto Government Benefits Administrators, CHAMPUS Claims, P.O. Box 100598, Florence, S.C. 29501-0598. Also effective July 1, the new toll-free phone number for the six states is 1-800-471-0704. (*CHAMPUS News*)

## Medical retirement for reservists possible

Some reservists who become physically disqualified for military service because of illness or disease incurred while not on active duty may be eligible for early retirement. To qualify, members of the Selected Reserve must have completed at least 15 but less than 20 years of qualifying service upon the start of administrative discharge procedures. If approved for transfer to the Retired Reserve instead of administrative discharge, they may qualify for retired pay at age 60. In the past, a reservist with less than 20 years of service who had a physical disqualification that was not the result of military service was not entitled to retired pay. Reservists who are physically disqualified through intentional misconduct, willful neglect, willful failure to comply with standards or injury incurred during a period of unauthorized absence are not eligible to transfer to the Retired Reserve. The policy regarding physically disqualifying injuries or illnesses that occur while on active duty has not changed. Reservists discharged in these cases are eligible for a form of retired pay with the same benefits as a medically retired active-duty person, including medical care and commissary and base exchange privileges. (*AFNews*)

## Troops to Teachers program expands

The Troops to Teachers program has been expanded to include service members discharged since Oct. 1, 1990. Previously, only people who separated from the military after Jan. 19, 1994, could apply for the program. The Teacher and

Teacher's Aide Placement Assistance Program, as it is formally known, gives teaching opportunities to people who left the military early because of downsizing. The program also helps terminated Departments of Defense and Energy civilians and some displaced defense contractor employees to receive teacher certification training. Participants in the program work as teachers and teachers aides in schools with children from low-income families and those with teacher shortages. For more information call 1-800-452-6616. (*AFNews*)

## Home loan benefits expand, increase for veterans

Legislation that expands the Veterans Affairs Department home loan guaranty program and extends the entitlement to a new group of veterans and surviving family members went into effect last October.

The maximum loan guaranty entitlement increased from \$46,000 to \$50,750. The increase effectively raises to \$203,000 the loan amount a veteran can obtain without a down payment since most lenders will finance up to four times the amount of the veteran's entitlement. Other changes in the loan program included in the Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act of 1994 are:

- \* extending eligibility for home loan benefits to members of the Selected Reserve who, due to a service-connected disability, are unable to complete the required six years of duty, and to surviving spouses of reservists who die as a result of service-connected causes;

- \* allowing a one-time restoration of the VA loan entitlement if they pay off a VA loan and still own property purchased with that loan;

- \* extending eligibility for VA loan guaranty entitlement to certain individuals who cannot complete the minimum two-year requirement for active-duty service because of certain medical conditions, a reduction-in-force or for the convenience of the government;

- \* allowing veterans who obtained an adjustable rate mortgage to refinance to a fixed-rate loan even if the fixed rate is higher than the current rate of the adjustable rate mortgage; and

- \* allowing up to \$6,000 in energy-efficient improvements to be added to the loan.

For more information call 1-800-827-1000. (*Army Families*)





# Ohio, Michigan join forces to protect wetlands

Story and photos by Capt. Stephen T. Tompos  
196th Public Affairs Detachment

Though Ohio and Michigan are usually considered rivals, especially during football season, National Guard troops from both states joined forces this summer for a mission of preservation.

During annual training at Camp Grayling, the 137th Aviation Battalion and assets from the 148th Infantry Battalion assisted the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in building a 73-mile loop trail to help preserve northern Michigan wetlands.

The trail, known as "The High Country Pathway," is cut through a cedar swamp and loops through the Mackinaw State Forest and Pigeon River State Forest wetlands. The pathway is intended to keep people from walking sporadically through the wetlands, according to Gerrie Caro, Michigan DNR representative.

"The pathway will protect the wetlands by helping people go where we want them to go," Caro said. "Not wherever they want to.

Due to rough terrain that was inaccessible by vehicles, Michigan's DNR asked the Michigan National Guard to help airlift multiple 600-pound loads of treated yellow pine boards into the wetlands to build the pathway.

Seeing this as an opportunity for Ohio and Michigan to cooperate on a joint mission, the Michigan National Guard requested Ohio's involvement in the pathway project.

"It's a great opportunity for the Ohio and Michigan National Guard units to work together, and also for the DNR to look at our assets and see what we can do," said Chief Warrant Officer Bryan Simecki, assistant safety officer for Grayling Army Airfield and liaison between the DNR and the National Guard.

Caro says without the cooperation from the National Guard, the pathway project wouldn't be possible. "It's so exciting to have all of these people come together from different organizations and work together as a team to pull this project off."

The Ohio units involved in this mission seized the opportunity for quality, real-life training.

"This was valuable training while providing a service," said Chief Warrant Officer Terry Ault, pilot commander, B Co. 2/137th Aviation.

"Typically when we do sling load training, we pick up a concrete block, fly a pattern and set it down," Ault said. "That's a lot different than picking up a load of lumber, seeing how it's going to sling and hauling it 16 miles."

This mission was a chance for everyone to use their judgement and skills to adapt to various situations, said Chief Warrant Officer Brian Michael, air mission commander, B Co. 2/137th Aviation.

"There was a lot of talk on the radios...has anybody thought of something else or tried it a different way...that's the kind of real-life training we need to do," Ault said.

The soldiers on the ground receiving the sling loads were also very enthusiastic about using this mission to refresh their skills.

"Who knows if we'll need to do this in a different situation... We may need fuel, water or an extra vehicle airlifted to our position," said



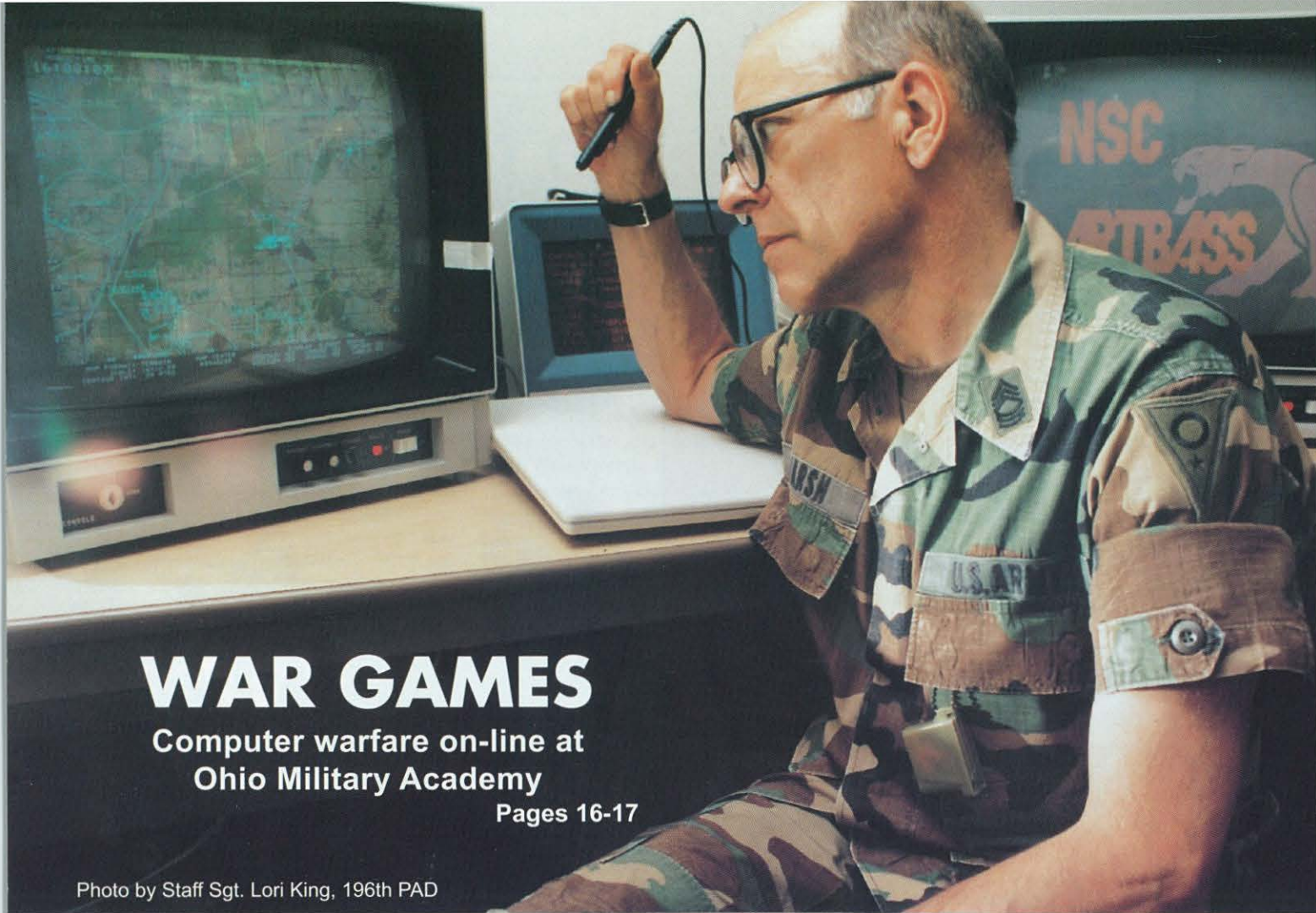
ABOVE: SGT John Cepak (right) signals to release load of lumber as 1LT Wayne Thomas prepares to retrieve sling. LEFT: CPL William Duncan directs team of soldiers to move lumber out of drop zone.

Cpl. William R. Duncan, B Co. 1/148. "If we keep our people up to speed, then we don't need to wait for outside help to come in and hook us up."

"There's a lot of coordination between the man on the ground, who is watching the target with the sling loads coming in, and the man in the bird. There has to be a lot of hand and eye contact between those two," said Sgt. John Cepak, B Co. 1/148 Infantry. "Once you can get that done, you can do any mission you want."

Cepak also had a personal interest in the DNR mission. "I feel really good about this because in my civilian life I am a biology major and I hope to work for the DNR. It's one of the best partnerships I can think of." ■





# WAR GAMES

Computer warfare on-line at  
Ohio Military Academy

Pages 16-17

Photo by Staff Sgt. Lori King, 196th PAD

## *Buckeye* GUARD

*The Ohio National Guard*  
2825 W. Dublin Granville Rd.  
Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789

**OFFICIAL BUSINESS**

**BULK RATE**  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Columbus, OH  
Permit #3754