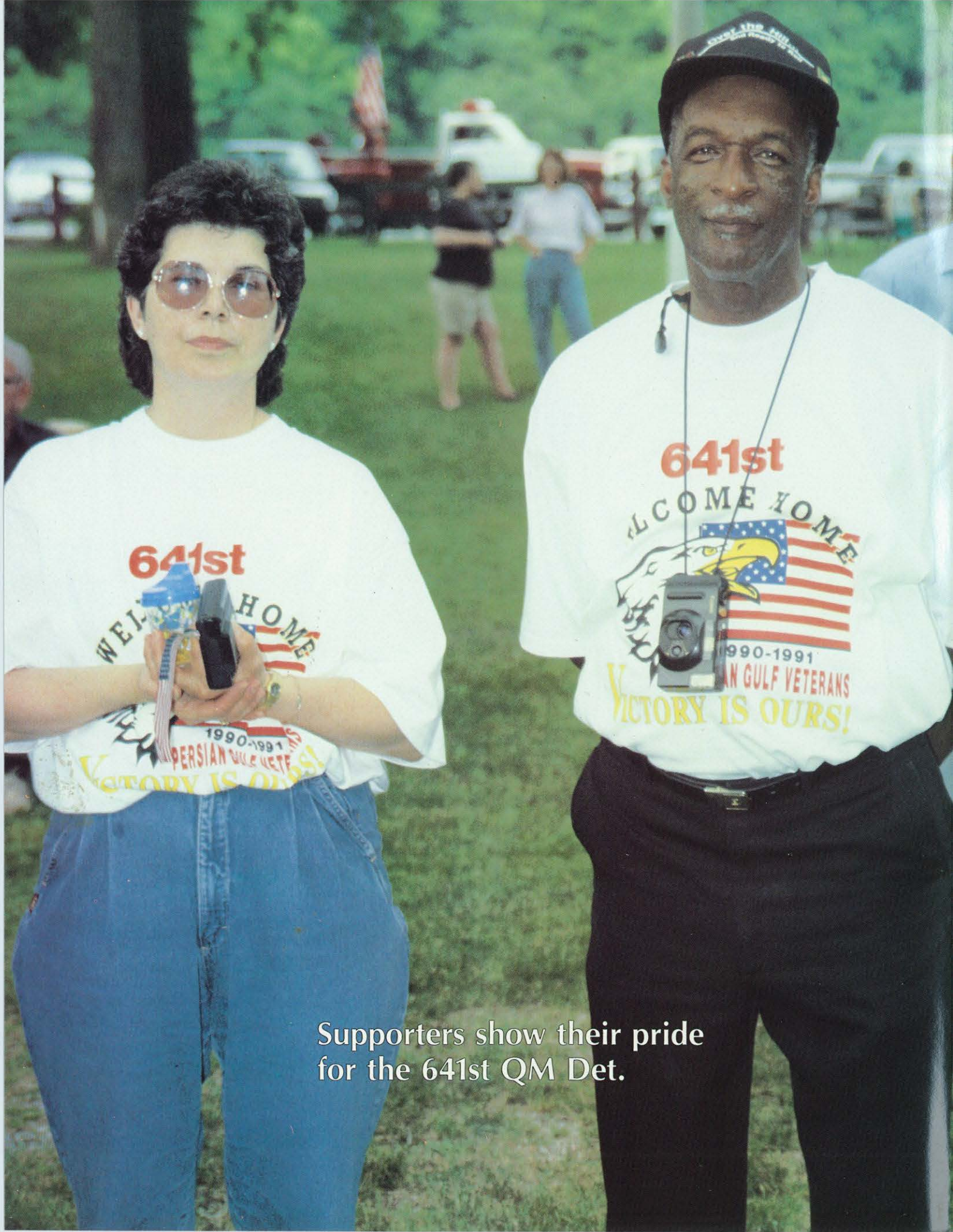


# *Buckeye* **GUARD**

Spring Issue 1991

641st QM Det. Return from  
Operation Desert Storm





Supporters show their pride for the 641st QM Det.

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*Members of the 641st QM Det. listen to the greeting of local dignitaries upon their return from Desert Storm. (Photo by MSG Jim Hall, 196th Public Affairs Detachment.)*



*Local supporters of the 641st QM Det., Covington, show their pride of the unit upon its return from Saudi Arabia. (Photo by MSG Jim Hall, 196th Public Affairs Detachment.)*



*A radio operator for the 166th Infantry Brigade establishes communications during an aerial support movement operation. (Photo by Spec. J.D. Biros, 196th Public Affairs Detachment.)*



*The river may be wide, but not wide enough to slow down Pfc. Jim Hart of the 166th Scouts. (Photo by Spec. Ken Fischer, 166th Scouts.)*

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**GUARD**

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**ADJUTANT GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT**

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Brig. Gen. John S. Martin

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**PUBLICATION STAFF**

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

**Contributors:**  
Air National Guard Photojournalists  
Unit Public Affairs Representatives

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

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

**Senior Enlisted Advisor-Air**  
Chief Master Sgt. Jon Wilkinson

**Editor**  
Sgt. Nancy J. Dragani

196th PAD Photojournalists  
HQ STARC IO Photojournalists



# Desert Shield/Desert Storm Desert Victory!

## President Bush Addresses Congress

*Editor's Note: With the Persian Gulf War ending, President Bush spoke to a joint session of Congress on 7 March. The following is an excerpt of that speech. (Reprinted from the Reserve Officers Association National Security Report)*

WASHINGTON, D.C.—When I spoke in this House about the state of our union, I asked all of you: If we can selflessly confront evil for the sake of good in a land so far away, then surely we can make this land all that it should be. In the time since then, the brave men and women of DESERT STORM accomplished more than even they may realize. They set out to confront an enemy abroad and, in the process, they transformed a nation at home.

Think about the way they went about their mission—with confidence and quiet pride. Think about their sense of duty, about all they taught us about our values, about ourselves.

We hear so often about our young people in turmoil, how our children fall short, how our schools fail us, how American products and American workers are second class. Well, don't you believe it. The America we saw in DESERT STORM was first-class talent. And they did it using America's state-of-the-art technology.

We saw the excellence embodied in the

Patriot missile and the patriots who made it. And we saw the soldiers who know about honor and bravery and duty and country and the world-shaking power of these simple words.

So, to everyone here and everyone watching at home, think about the men and women of DESERT STORM. Let us honor them with our gratitude. Let us comfort the families of the fallen and remember each precious life lost.

Let us learn from them as well. Let us honor those who saved us by serving others.

Let us honor them as individuals—men and women of every race, all creeds and colors—by setting the face of this nation against discrimination, bigotry and hate. Eliminate them.

I'm sure many of you saw on television the unforgettable scene of four terrified Iraqi soldiers surrendering. They emerged from their bunker broken, tears streaming from their eyes, fearing the worst. And then there was the American soldier. Remember what he said? He said, "It's okay. You're all right now. You're all right now."

That scene says a lot about America, a lot about who we are. Americans are a caring people, a generous people. Let us always be caring and good and generous in all we do.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Tonight, I ask every community in this country to make this coming fourth of July a day of special celebration for our returning troops. They may have missed Thanksgiving and Christmas, but I can tell you this: For them and for their families, we can make this a holiday they'll never forget.

In a very real sense, this victory belongs to them, to the privates and the pilots, to the sergeants and the supply officers, to the men and women in the machines and the men and women who made them work. It belongs to the Regulars, to the Reserves, to the National Guard. This victory belongs to the finest fighting force this nation has ever known in its history.

We went halfway around the world to do what is moral and just and right. We fought hard and, with others, we won the war. We lifted the yoke of aggression and tyranny from a small country that many Americans had never even heard of, and we ask nothing in return.

We're coming home now—proud, confident, heads high. There is much that we must do, at home and abroad, and we will do it. We are Americans.

May God bless this great nation, the United States of America. Thank you all very, very much. □

## Guard Profiles



**Name:** John S. Martin

**Age:** 49

**Occupation:** Assistant Adjutant General for Army

**Life has taught me:** To always hear both sides of the story before jumping to conclusions.

**If I could have just one day all to myself, I would:** Be bored; I would rather take my wife sailing.

**The one film I would like to have starred in is:** Patton

**When no one's looking I:** Nap or people watch.

**When I was little I wanted to be:** Older, but now I don't know why I was in such a hurry.

**The worst advice I ever received was:** To never volunteer—progress can't be made without sticking your neck out.

**The best advice I ever received was:** Make at least one positive contribution each day.

**If I could dine with anyone, past or present, I would invite:** Schwartzkopf, Patton and Robert E. Lee.

**The best moment in my life happened when I:**

1. Graduated from Michigan
2. Graduated from Flight School
3. Married Linda

I'm still not sure about the order of priority.

**My favorite book:** Any book on flying or sailing.

**My favorite movie:** Dr. Zhivago

**If I could leave today's guardmembers with one piece of advice it would be:** Get yourself prepared for tomorrow. Good things come to those who are ready when opportunity knocks.

## SHOOTERS CORNER

by Maj. Vincent Jiga  
State Marksmanship Coordinator

The rifle portion of the state outdoor championships was held on April 13, 14 during a two day downpour. We had 37 rugged individuals who spent the two days in rain suits and boots to get through. We were not quite so lucky on the following weekend when we tried to run the pistol and machinegun matches. The wind blew so hard we couldn't keep a target

up so we had to postpone the matches. The machinegun matches have been rescheduled for Camp Perry on September 20-21 and the pistol matches have been rescheduled for Rickenbacker ANGB on June 22-23.

I want to congratulate the winners of the rifle match and thank all those who participated, as well as their commanders for supporting them in this effort. □

### Ohio National Guard Outdoor Rifle Championships

#### Precision Combat Rifle Match—Individual

Match Winner	SSgt. Thomas Kwiatkowski	200th RHCES
First Open	SSgt. John D. Avery	200th RHCES
Second Open	SPC David Dupont	HHC 112th Engr Bn
Third Open	MSgt. Roger E. Eberly	200th RHCES
First Novice	SPC Ronald McDougall	Det 1 HHC 148th Inf Bn
Second Novice	TSgt. Bernard W. Nystrom	200th RHCES
Third Novice	SPC Richard S. Barna	54th RAO
Fourth Novice	Sgt. Craig M. Boston	200th RHCES
Fifth Novice	SFC Calvin E. Bankhead	HHC 112th Engr Bn

#### Precision Combat Rifle Team Match

##### First Place Team—200th RHCES

MSgt. Roger E. Eberly	TSgt. Bernard W. Nystrom
SSgt. Richard L. Eberling	Sgt. Craig M. Boston
SSgt. Lawrence J. Krasniewski	SSgt. Thomas E. Kwiatkowski
Team Captain MSgt. Bill Pifer	Team Coach TSgt. Terry Eishen

##### Second Place Team

###### 112th Engr Bn

SPC Larry Dunlap	SPC Dennis J. Jaeger
SSG Roy A. McLeod	SFC Calvin E. Bankhead
SPC David Dupont	SGT David Odum
Team Captain and Coach WOC Stanton Stout	

##### Third Place Team

###### 737th Maint Bn

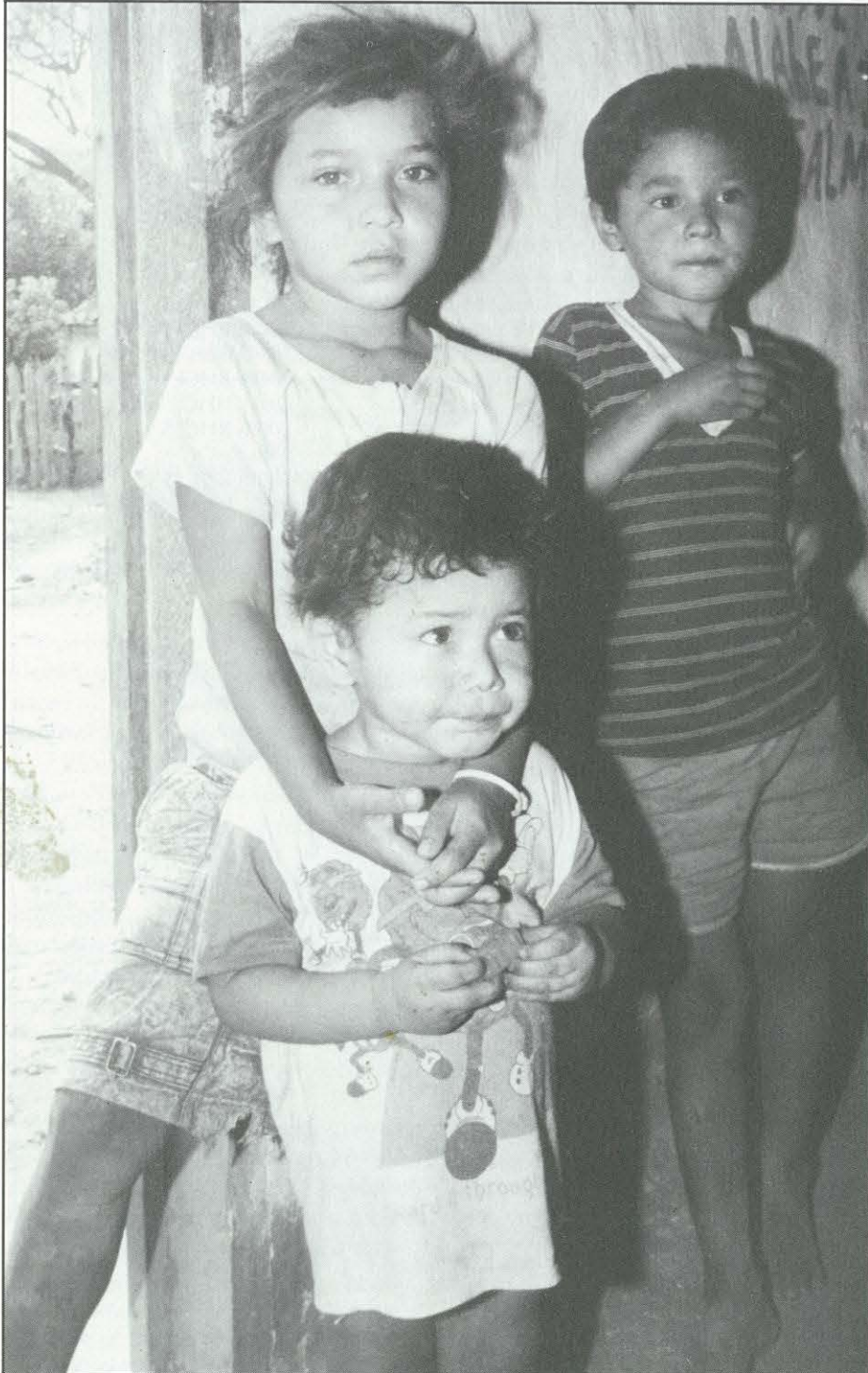
SPC Laura Pifer	PFC Mark Hatfield
SPC Donald M. Farrow	SPC Duane F. Lewis
SGT Ronald K. Watt	SGT Valerie K. Perkins
Team Captain SGT Valerie K. Perkins	

If you want more information on how to get a program started in your unit, call me at (614) 889-7424 days, or (614) 855-3304 evenings.

*South of the border*

# Helping build education in Honduras

by Sgt. Danny Devine  
29th Public Affairs Detachment



CAMP MACORA, Honduras— Trading in his printer's ink for 10-penny nails, Sgt. Gary Taylor helped hammer a better future for children in this remote Honduran village.

Taylor, a print shop supervisor for Buckeye Graphics in Columbus, brought his carpentry skills to this small Central American country—about the size of Tennessee—and helped build a two-room schoolhouse.

A member of the Ohio Air National Guard's 160th Prime BEEF team based out of Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base, south of Columbus, the Reynoldsburg native temporarily traded his civilian job for two weeks of National Guard annual training deep in the rugged mountainous Honduran countryside.

The Ohio Air National Guard Base Emergency Engineering Force (Prime BEEF) construction unit is working in conjunction with other National Guard, Reserve and Active U.S. military units building schools and drilling water wells for the Hondurans.

In each of these projects, the engineers of the 1st Honduran Engineering Battalion work alongside their American counterparts.

The unit is part of a multi-person Joint Task Force here to help build a road leading from the fertile Aguan Valley in the north-central part of Honduras to the established national transportation network farther south.

Part of Taylor's training in Honduras involved operating in extreme (106 degree) heat and learning additional skills that will

*Three Macora village children are intrigued by the quick assembly of the new schoolhouse being built for them by the Ohio Air National Guard's 160th Prime BEEF team from Rickenbacker Air Force Base, Columbus, Ohio. (Photo by Spc. Rick Roth, 29th Public Affairs Detachment, Maryland Army National Guard)*

make him a greater asset to his Prime BEEF team.

"I've never done a roof before," said Taylor, wiping the perspiration from his forehead. "The Hondurans are going to show us how to do that, they're the experts."

The airmen coped with the language barrier by employing the international parlance—sign language.

"I do speak a little bit of Spanish," Taylor said, "but they pretty much know what they're doing, so it doesn't take much to communicate."

A 1987 graduate of Ohio State University in Columbus with a finance major, Taylor has a six-month old son at home waiting for his return.

"I miss the family, but it's not bad," Taylor said, nodding toward his Honduran partner, soldier Jose Hernandez. "I like working with them."

Hernandez, whose home is a seven-hour trek to the east near Lake Yojoa, liked the dual role of both learning and teaching.

"We learn a lot of things from the Americans," Hernandez said, through an interpreter. "But we can teach them a few things too," he added with a smile.

The combination of talents from the two nations help produce dazzling results.

And the Honduran residents are the first to agree.

"It's a big help that we get from the American Guardsmen," said the village schoolmaster, Antonio Perez Cortez. "This church (which doubles as the schoolhouse) can only hold about 25 children now and the new one can hold up to 75 villagers."

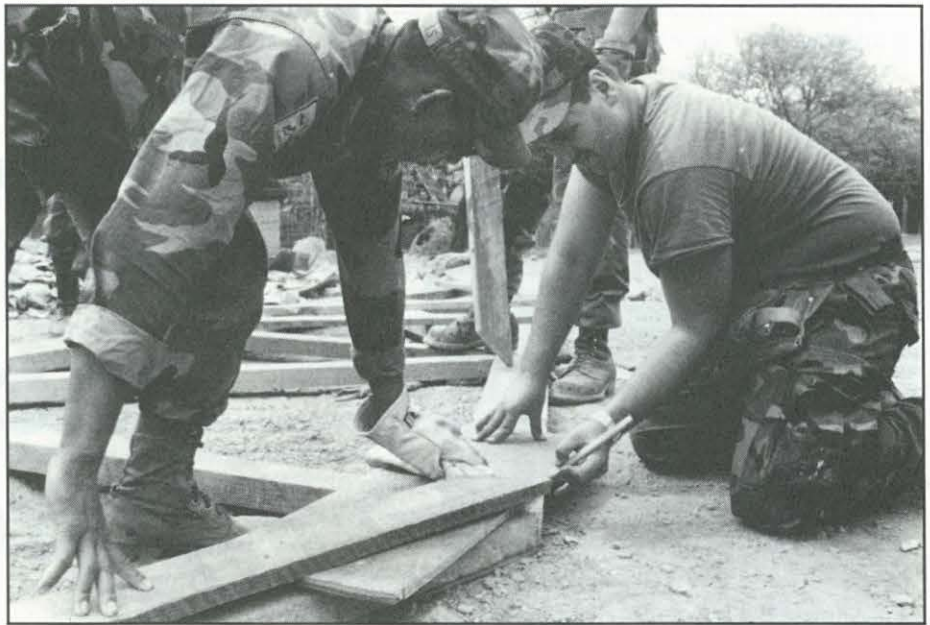
The Prime BEEF unit is one of several Air National Guard units that were diverted to Saudi Arabia in support of Operation Desert Storm.

"The Air National Guard members' professionalism and dedication to the job makes us understand how good they really are," said Joint Task Force commander Lt. Col. Jerome B. Sidio, of the U.S. Army.

"The on-the-job skills they possess often exceed those of the active Army. It's very exciting to work with them," he added.

A nine-year veteran of the Ohio Air National Guard, Taylor joined his unit to pay for his college tuition.

The training value of a project of this magnitude is often overlooked, but for many, the opportunity represents a chance



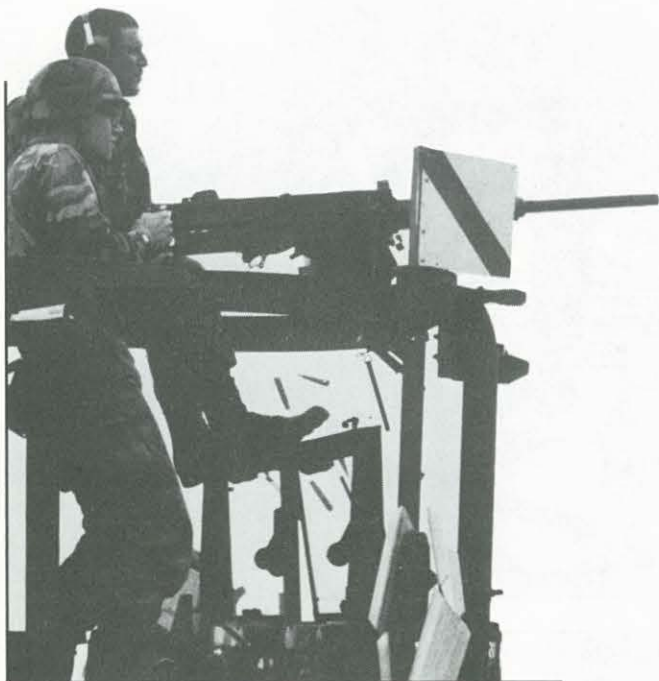
of a lifetime by improving skills for the guardmember.

"I like this kind of training," Taylor said. "I even got to learn how to lay brick for the first time."

The significance of the Air National Guard member's work, along with the quality of their performance, has prompted military officials to schedule a North Carolina Air National Guard unit to set-up a base camp in early December for the next year's project.

By that time, the village schoolchildren and their headmaster will be studying their lessons under the roof that Taylor and his Prime BEEF team helped to build. □

*Top: Sgt. Gary Taylor of Reynoldsburg, Ohio is aided by Jose Amaya, a soldier in the 1st Honduran Engineer Battalion. Left: Antonio Perez Cortez, schoolmaster in the village of Macora, and two of his pupils watch Ohio guardmembers construct a new school. Above: More than 80 heavy vehicles are used during a road construction project in Central Honduras. (Photo by Spec. Rick Roth, 29th Public Affairs Detachment, Maryland Army National Guard.)*



# Fire, Lead and Styrofoam



Story and photos by Spec. J.D. Biros  
196th Public Affairs Detachment

CAMP ADDERBURY, Ind.—“It’s now coming into range,” shouts the burly master sergeant.

The gunner tightens his grip on the .50 caliber machine gun and sights an enemy aircraft low on the horizon. Rhythmic vibrations shake the 5-ton truck as the .50 caliber comes alive, spitting lead, fire and shell casings into the air.

Tracers skim through the sky, dancing around nose and wings of the aircraft. The pilot, however, fears nothing. The pilot brings the aircraft closer to the gunner.

“Put the bullet where the plane will be—make ‘em connect,” the master sergeant shouts.

The gunner continues to rain lead and fire on the aircraft, but the pilot refuses to back down. Ammunition quickly runs low as the weapon fires a volley of projectiles into the air.

But all it takes is one bullet—that’s all it ever takes.

“Heads up,” the sergeant yells when it’s evident the pilot is no longer in control of the aircraft. The plane passes less than 10 feet above the gunner before crashing into a parked ambulance.

The gunner, sergeant and crew members cheer. The pilot, however, looks around

like a guilty school boy who has just hit a baseball through a neighbor’s window.

This combat scenario of intercepting low-flying threat aircraft with small arms fire was experienced recently by troops in the 166th Infantry Battalion. The soldiers each took a turn behind a truck mounted .50 caliber machine gun trying to shoot down a radio-controlled model airplane. The Ohio National Guard Small Arms Readiness Training team provided the .50 caliber vehicles and the airborne drones.

According to 2nd Lt. David Sayre, range OIC for the day, the battalion, especially Company D, is placing a strong emphasis on using the .50 caliber machine gun. In September 1988, Company D was converted from a combat support element to a TOW company. The TOW unit is adding two .50 caliber vehicles to accompany two TOW vehicles.

The extra fire power of the .50 caliber is needed to protect a convoy in a combat situation or ambush.

Before loading, charging and firing the mounted .50 caliber, the soldiers received instructions on targeting an approaching aircraft. SART team member, Master Sgt. Richard Evans, stressed the importance of using tracer rounds to intercept an aircraft instead of the gun sights.

In today’s high tech combat environment, a gunner cannot wait until a plane is “within

*Top: Pfc. John Hance claims his aerial victim with the help of a .50 caliber machine gun. Above: Safe from harm’s way, Sgt. Russell Cornet pilots the aerial drone from behind the machine gunners. Opposite page: A member of the Ohio Guard SART team collects the remains of a downed “bogey” during range fire operations at Camp Adderbury, Ind.*





range" before firing the .50 cal. Now, high performance combat aircrafts can use a computer to lock onto a ground target and launch an air-to-ground missile. Evans said the best defense against the computer tracking system is to fire the .50 caliber at the first opportunity. Putting lead in the air might discourage the antagonist from getting too close.

Following the verbal instruction, each soldier received one case of .50 caliber plastic ammunition to feed through the machine gun mounted on top of the 5-ton truck. The SART team "pilots" then launch a radio-controlled drone to dive, swoop, barrel roll and antagonize the gunner.

The extra fire power of the .50 caliber is needed to protect a convoy in a combat situation or ambush.

Before loading, charging and firing the mounted .50 caliber, the soldiers received instructions on targeting an approaching aircraft.

"I've done a lot of things in the Army—that has got to be the most fun," Evans said.

Sayre said the battalion is hoping to incorporate a "moving" range where a vehicle is being driven along a road and is attacked by an enemy aircraft. The vehicle crew can then retaliate by throwing lead and fire into the path of the aircraft.

"We're working with the SART team to develop the range... in two years we hope to be able to do it," Sayre said.

For members of Company D, the first time experience is one they'll probably never forget. Pfc. John Hance can attest to that.

During the exercise, Hance claimed the first kill when he shot out the engine in the drone. His downed aircraft collided into an ambulance on the range.

Hance was presented the destroyed drone after the engine, servo motors and transmitter were removed for later use. He was excited with his trophy, but wondered how he would take it home with him.

"The HMMV is kinda' tight inside," he said. □

## 'Crash and burn' is part of bad guy role

CAMP ADDERBURY, Ind.—He smiles. He smirks. Sometimes he frowns.

He can get into the worst, most dangerous situation, but manages to survive. Other times he crashes and burns.

Burning might not always be the case, but for Sgt. Russell Cornetet, it's disappointing whenever a plane he's controlling is shot down.

During one training exercise at the Camp Adderbury heavy machine gun range, two of Cornetet's styrofoam drone airplane models took .50 caliber rounds, causing him to lose control. One drone did an exploding cartwheel when it hit the ground, while the other smashed into an ambulance that was on the range for medical support.

And what did the members of the 166th Infantry Battalion do? They cheered. They were the ones training on aircraft interception with small arms fire.

Cornetet said he felt bad about having the plane crash into the ambulance so he climbed up to the top and checked for damage. No damage, just a fractured plane part or two.

That's the risk of the game though.

While soldiers are learning proper procedures of defending against enemy aircraft, a bullet will tear through the drone and cut off the radio receiver. The only thing left for the pilot to do is yell "heads up" and watch the drone impact with the ground.

Usually after a crash, the engine, fuel tank and servo motors can be salvaged, but at times the drone is beyond repair. In the case of the ambulance collision, the damaged drone was presented to the gunner who successfully shot it out of the air.

Cornetet is a member of the Ohio National Guard Small Arms Readiness Training team. The group provides a number of functions for the Guard concerning small arms weapons.

The services of the SART team are frequently in demand by Guard units; sometimes requiring numerous weekends in a row. But the team of eight seems to enjoy themselves, whether they're piloting drones or teaching about foreign and domestic weapons.

Cornetet is one of two model airplane pilots in the team. His counterpart is Staff Sgt. Michael Cors. Both formerly belonged

to the 210th Air Defense Artillery Detachment which currently serves as a Stinger platoon in the 73rd Infantry Brigade. During the restructure of the 210th, Cornetet and Cors were absorbed into the SART team to continue their function as drone pilots. Both pilots have flown model airplanes at the Dayton Airshow and at Rick-enbacker Air National Guard Base airshow.

The drones are expendable styrofoam models resembling enemy aircraft. The engine, servo motors and fuel tanks are reusable and can fit into different drones. The models can sustain several hits from plastic .50 caliber bullets, but occasionally a round will pierce an engine or receiver, causing the drone to drop to the ground. Often times though, if the servo motors respond to the transmitter, the pilots can safely glide in a drone for repair or refitting.

The troops firing the .50 calibers prefer to see a dramatic crash. Their cheers often confirm their choice of landing.

For the most part, Cornetet seems satisfied standing behind the "enemy lines", making air raids on his targets.

It banks. It rolls. It climbs. Sometimes it crashes. But it benefits training. □

# 43 installations targeted

## DoD announces base closures

by Sgt. 1st Class Linda Lee  
American Forces Information Service

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney targeted 43 stateside military installations for closure in an April 12 Pentagon briefing. He also recommended reducing or realigning forces at 28 other installations.

“By 1995, the number of people in the U.S. military will be about one-fourth smaller than it is today,” said the defense secretary. “Smaller forces need fewer bases. It’s a simple as that.”

According to DoD officials, the 31 major closures out of the 43 proposed would cost about \$5.7 billion during fiscal 1992–1997. Reduced operations would save about \$6.5 billion, for a net savings of about \$850 million. DoD expects to save about \$1.7 billion a year in operating expenses beginning in fiscal 1998.

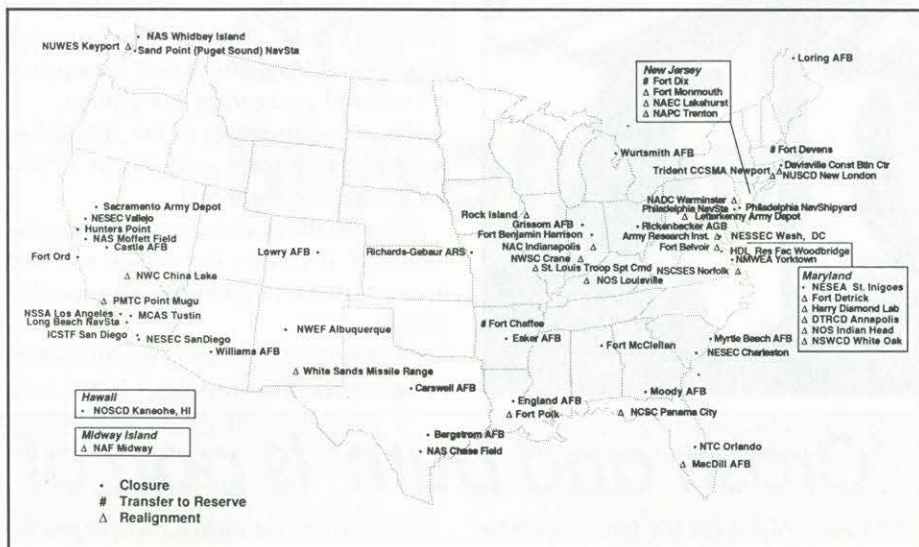
Installations and facilities recommended to the Presidential Bipartisan Commission on Defense Base Closures and Realignments for closing are:

### Army

- Fort McClellan, Ala.
- Fort Chaffee, Ark.
- Fort Ord, Calif.
- Sacramento Army Depot, Calif.
- Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind.
- Fort Devens, Mass.
- Fort Dix, N.J.
- Harry Diamond Laboratory Research Facility, Woodbridge, Va.

### Air Force

- Williams Air Force Base, Ariz.
- Eaker Air Force Base, Ark.
- Castle Air Force Base, Calif.
- Lowry Air Force Base, Colo.
- Moody Air Force Base, Ga.
- Grissom Air Force Base, Ind.
- England Air Force Base, La.
- Loring Air Force Base, Maine
- Wurtsmith Air Force Base, Mich.
- Richard-Gebaur Air Reserve Station, Mo.
- Rickenbacker Air Guard Base, Ohio



- Myrtle Beach Air Force Base, S.C.
  - Bergstrom Air Force Base, Texas
  - Carswell Air Force Base, Texas
- ### Navy
- Naval Station Long Beach, Calif.
  - Hunters Point Annex, Naval Station Treasure Island, Calif.
  - Naval Air Station Moffett Field, Calif.
  - Naval Space Systems Activity, Los Angeles, Calif.
  - Integrated Combat Systems Test Facility, San Diego, Calif.
  - Naval Electronics Systems Engineering Center, San Diego, Calif.
  - Naval Electronics Systems Engineering Center, Vallejo, Calif.
  - Naval Electronic Systems Security Engineering Center, Washington, D.C.
  - Naval Training Center/Recruit Training Center, Orlando, Fla.
  - Naval Ocean Systems Center Detachment, Kaneohe, Hawaii
  - Naval Electronic Systems Engineering Center, St. Inigoes, Md.
  - Naval Weapons Evaluation Facility, Albuquerque, N.M.
  - Naval Station Philadelphia, Pa.
  - Naval Shipyard Philadelphia, Pa.
  - Construction Battalion Center Davisville, R.I.
  - Naval Electronic Systems Engineering Center, Charleston, S.C.
  - Naval Air Station Chase Field, Texas

- Naval Mine Warfare Engineering Activity, Yorktown, Pa.
  - Naval Station Puget Sound, Sand Point, Wash.
  - Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Wash.
- ### Marine Corps
- The Marine Corps Air Station Tustin, Calif.

DoD criteria that pinpointed installations for closure or realignment included current and future mission requirements, force structure, cost, manpower and return on investment, Cheney said.

The eight-member bipartisan panel has until July 1 to make recommendations to President Bush. The president then has two weeks to respond to the commission, either accepting the report and sending it to Congress or rejecting it. If the president rejects the list, the commission has until Aug. 15 to provide a second one. The president’s final deadline to submit the realignment and closure list to Congress is Sept. 1.

Congress has 45 days to enact or reject the list from the time the president submits it. Congress must accept the whole list or none of it; it cannot adjust the list. If Congress does not meet the 45-day limit, the list takes effect automatically. □

## Units gear up for chemical training

by Spec. Brian Lepley  
HQ STARC (-Det 1-5)

COLUMBUS—While fear mounted of Iraqi chemical weapons being used during the Persian Gulf War, Ohio Army National Guard units stepped up chemical training in many different ways.

The 107th Chemical Company was no exception. Attached to the 107th Armored Cavalry Regiment, the only chemical unit in the Ohio Army National Guard added all NBC-related common tasks to their last range fire exercise.

"Col. Martin (then 107th Regimental Commander, now Assistant Adjutant General, Army) suggested that 107th units increase training in chemical warfare areas, in light of the war," said 1st Lt. Scott Smith, the chemical company commander. "We accomplished all NBC tasks at range fire, including drinking and going to the bathroom in MOPP level four."

He said chemical companies have been attached to large units with great numbers of vehicles, like the 107th Regiment, to provide more efficient decontamination.

The company was activated September 1, 1989 and held its first drill in January 1990. Because of that, and the demanding nature of the training, the unit's authorization of 73 people is currently at less than half.

"We have 30 men now. The length of basic training and the MOS school is four months long and requires a high general technical (GT) score," Smith said. "Another problem is because we're classified as combat arms, we can't have women in the chemical positions or as officers."

With the renewed emphasis on prevention of chemical attack and decontamination, the unit has received some of the Army's newest equipment. One example is mobile smoke generating machines, as opposed to stationary ones that previously had to be on the ground. Laying smoke cover is another mission for the 107th.

The unit also has the latest in nerve agent detection, the M8-A1 alarm. □

# Silver dollar sales aid War Memorial fund

## American Forces Information Service

Public sales of a limited-edition Korean War commemorative silver dollar will raise up to \$7 million for a new memorial planned in Washington, D.C.

The U.S. Mint is selling proof and uncirculated versions of the legal-tender dollar, which commemorates the 38th anniversary of the Korean armistice. Discount prices through May 31 are \$28 for a proof coin and \$23 for an uncirculated one; respective full prices starting June 1 are \$31 and \$26.

The Korean War Veterans Memorial fund receives \$7 for each coin sold. Retired Army Gen. Richard Stilwell, who heads the memorial fund advisory board, received the first dollar minted in first-strike ceremonies May 6 in Philadelphia.

Sales are limited to 1 million coins, the lowest authorized mintage of any modern U.S. commemorative silver dollar, Treasury officials said. The Mint sold more than a million each of six of the seven commemoratives it's issued since 1983.

The front, designed by John Mercanti, depicts an infantryman charging up a hill with naval ships in the foreground and an F-86 Sabre jet overhead. The back, by James Ferrell, features a map of Korea and an American bald eagle.



Front View



Rear View

For more information or to order, call toll-free 1-800-652-3838 (301-436-7400 in the National Capital Region), or write to:

**Customer Service Center, U.S. Mint**  
10001 Aerospace Drive  
Lanham, MD 20706.

## Spotlight on Excellence

# 180th receives top Air Force, Ohio Awards

by Tech. Sgt. Lon Mitchell  
180th Tactical Fighter Group

TOLEDO EXPRESS AIRPORT—The 180th Tactical Fighter Group recently received the prestigious U.S. Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. The award was presented by Ohio Governor George V. Voinovich in a formal military ceremony at the Mansfield Lahm Airport.

During the ceremony, the governor spoke of the sacrifices made by the guardmembers, and his desire that the families and employers know how much the Guard is appreciated.

"I was brought up in a generation that was taught that your freedom was not free, that you have to pay a price to keep your liberty," said Gov. Voinovich during the presentation. "What we have been through in Operation Desert Storm has taught us we have to be ready at all times."

The Air Force Outstanding Unit Award was presented to the 180th TFG for "exceptionally meritorious service that clearly sets the unit above and apart from similar units."

"This award symbolizes what our proud organization is all about, total dedication and the desire to be only the best," said Col. John Smith, Group Commander. "This award truly reflects the professionalism, pride and integrity that has always been exhibited by every member of the 180th."

The 180th was the first Air National Guard unit in the Tactical Air Command to experience combat since the Vietnam War. The unit provided close air support throughout Operation Just Cause, the American military action to oust Panamanian strongman Manuel Noriega.

"We never failed to meet a mission," said Smith. "We have always talked about Total Force and the readiness of the Guard. Just Cause proved that readiness. Our aircraft were ready. Our people were ready. We accomplished the mission."

This is the second time the 180th has received the Outstanding Unit Award. The first award was presented in 1982.



**Governor Voinovich presents an Ohio flag to Col. John Smith, commander of the 180th Tactical Fighter Group. Voinovich visited the 180th to present the unit the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. (Photo by TSgt. Scott Ridge)**

In the same ceremony, Gov. Voinovich presented the Air Force Airman's Medal to Maj. Dennis Gill. Gill was honored for heroism. In 1988, while piloting an A-7D, he experienced engine failure at low altitude. Despite deteriorating flight condi-

tions, he successfully guided the aircraft away from populated areas.

The citation reads, "Risking personal safety he initialized ejection at less than 250 feet making certain no innocent lives would be jeopardized." □

TOLEDO—For the second consecutive year, the 180th Tactical Fighter Group has received the Ohio Tactical Fighter Flying Safety Award. The award was presented to the unit by Col. Tom Powers, Ohio Air National Guard Chief of Operations.

"Fiscal Year 1990 was full of accomplishments for the 180th and all done safely," said Powers. "This award is indeed notable considering the first part of the year included Operation Just Cause."

The 180th, stationed at Toledo Express Airport, flew more than 20 combat sorties during Operation Just Cause.

During the award period, the 180th flew nearly 3,000 training sorties and logged more than 4,000 flying hours.

"The success achieved by the 180th cannot be attributed to any single program or to even a few programs," said Col. John Smith, Group Commander.

"Our accomplishments and our excellent safety record were achieved by personnel throughout the organization."

"Our aircraft mission capable rate for 1990 was the highest ever, and one of

the highest, if not the highest, of any A-7 unit in the Air National Guard."

Also recognized during the ceremony was the 180th Logistics Plans and Programs Office. The section was selected from the 91 flying units in the Air Guard as the 1990 Outstanding Military Logistics Plans and Programs Unit. The office received the Clarence W. Long Award for its exemplary inspection results, voluntary participation in test programs and development of innovative logistics procedures.

The logistics office is tasked with developing the plans for efficiently moving deployed personnel and their equipment from one location to another.

"This includes planning the airlift, aircraft loading, housing and meals," said Lt. Col. James Kaifas, 180 Deputy Commander for Resources.

As a result of their selection as the top Air Guard logistics office, the 180th will be considered for the 1990 Outstanding Air Force Logistics Plans and Programs Unit of the Year. □

# Aviation Battalion lands in Ohio National Guard

**Story and photo by Spec. Brian Lepley  
HQ STARC (-Det 1-5)**

RICKENBACKER ANGB—The 2nd Battalion, 137th Aviation Regiment landed in the Ohio Army National Guard, September 1, 1990.

Tasked with providing aviation command and control staff support, target acquisition and reconnaissance aircraft support for the Ohio Army National Guard, the unit was created as a result of new force modernization philosophy by the National Guard Bureau (NGB).

"The changes brought about from NGB resulted in the 73rd Infantry Brigade and two engineer groups losing their aviation authorization," said Maj. Craig Ceneskie, 2/137th executive officer. "I think they decided it would be more efficient to have those assets consolidated."

The 2/137th, commanded by Lt. Col. Donald Nelson, has three types of assigned aircraft: the UH-1 utility helicopter, the OH-58 observation helicopter and the U-21 utility airplane. Their missions come from any major command needing air support in the Ohio Army Guard.

Headquarters Company, Company B and Company C (-) are stationed at Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base. However, the rest of the unit is split among five other states.

"Company A (-) is located in Bismark, N.D., with HHC Detachment 3," Ceneskie said. The battalion also has an HHC Detachment in Parkersburg, W. Va., North Little Rock, Ark., Helena, Mont., and Rapid City, S.D.

**Right: Sgt. Randy Fuller cleans hanger bearings in rotor drive shaft. Above: Lt. Col. Donald Nelson and Staff Sgt. Robert Williamson check the tail rotor gear box on an OH-58 scout helicopter.**

If the 2/137th is called to active duty, all of the units would be integrated as one. While the integration concept is new to the Guard, Nelson believes the idea has been part of the active Army's philosophy for some time.

"It's been a trend for some time, consolidating one type of mission into a single unit. I know that's been happening with medical units," the commander said.

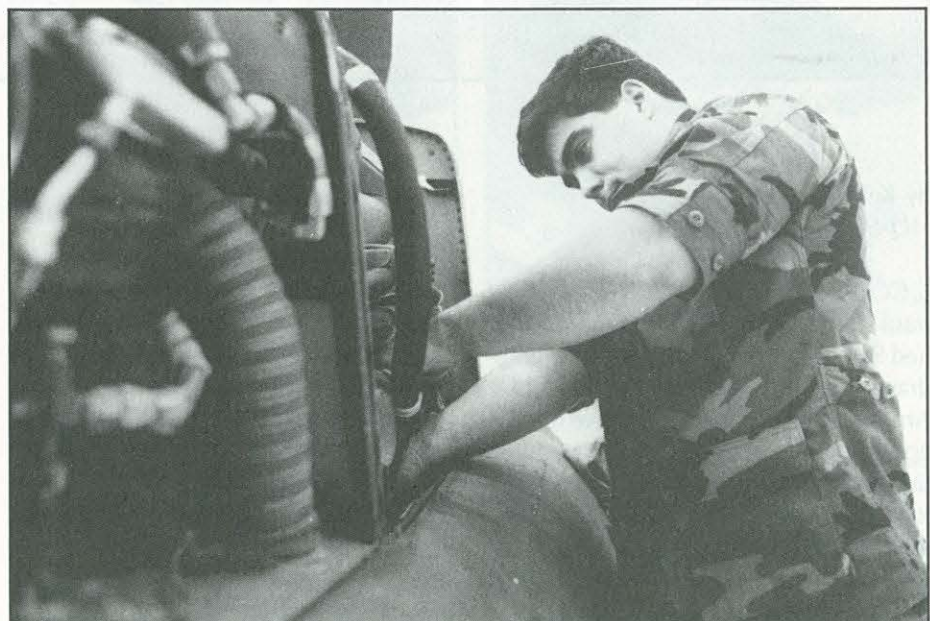
"Because it happens in the active Army doesn't mean the NGB follows right away," Ceneskie added. "Bureau is able to delay changes like those until they study the best way to accomplish it (consolidation of units) with their available assets and personnel."

The 2/137th is at 73 percent strength already. This was possible, according to the executive officer, because the unit was able to absorb the people whose slots were eliminated in other units.

"A side benefit to the change is creating upward mobility for those personnel. Instead of being a few aviation people in an infantry unit, for example, they are now

in an aviation environment," Ceneskie said.

The 2/137th becomes the third aviation unit of the Ohio Guard. The unit serves the rest of the Guard while the 1/137th Aviation Regiment is primarily maintenance support and the 4/107th Cavalry is composed of combat aircraft. □



# Waiting for their return

## National Guard extends a helping hand to families



by Kelli D. Blackwell  
HQ STARC (-Det 1-5)

COLUMBUS—One hundred thousand Iraqi soldiers graciously surrender to Allied Forces. Saddam Hussein's army withdraws from Kuwait. Thousands of U.S. Armed Forces troops have festive returns home. The media covers most everything. During the nightly news, viewers continue to see families, friends and even pets anxiously waiting for planes and buses to arrive. Onlookers are emotionally touched to see the hugs and tears of joy.

Unfortunately, 300,000 of American troops remain in the Middle East. Their families still wait. Their loved ones still need support.

The Family Assistance Program of Headquarters, State Area Command (STARC) in Columbus conducted a Family Support Group Workshop, April 6 and 7 at Stouffer's Inn in Dublin. Attendees were 64 family support group leaders with their 67 children, whose spouses have been mobilized.

*Top: Sgt. Major Terry Shaeffer assists with the coloring of a poster for Gov. George Voinovich.*

Capt. Mark Burger of the Family Assistance Office said the 83rd Army Command, Air and Army Guards, Naval Reserve and the U.S. Coast Guard were represented at the workshop.

According to Lt. Col. John Fenimore, also of HQ STARC, the mission of the State Area Command Family Assistance Program is to support all partially mobilized units, and is available to all branches of the military.

"This is a 'train-the-trainer' workshop," Fenimore said. "We're going through all subject matters (financial, health care, counseling, etc.) that group leaders need to know."

The leaders and regional trainers then return to their home units to inform and train their support groups.

While the parents/leaders attended the class, the children who ranged in age from 6 weeks to teens were cared for and entertained by Army Guard retirees called back to active duty during Desert Storm. On Saturday, the children aged three and above went to the Columbus Zoo; Sunday afternoon they went to the Center Of Science & Industry (COSI).

In one of the rooms where the three to nine year olds played, Cpt. David Graetz, chaplain, said, "You can tell the kids miss their dads. I think it's really neat that a lot of the volunteers here are men. The kids took to them really well."

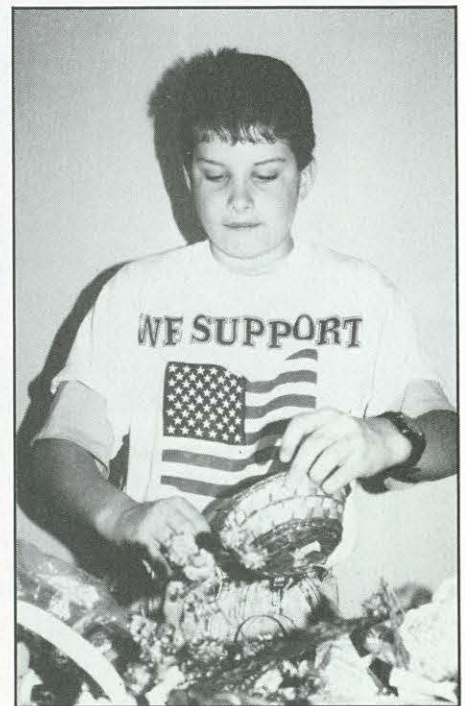
A couple of the younger children cried. CW4 Robert Cline held two little ones on his lap as he bounced and comforted them. A nine-year-old girl took the hand of a sergeant to have him join in a game of hide-and-seek.

"They're just... kids," Master Sgt. Allen Popham said. "Normally, they had mom and dad together, then one's gone away. Only mom's left. And especially with the younger ones, they don't want mom out of sight."

A three-year-old named Jay was given a container of orange juice. He took a couple of swallows, then made a face and said, "Gwoss!" He drank some more, made a raspberry sound, then ran off to play. Later in the day Jay had an accident. His mother said he's had problems with his bladder ever since his father left.

Josh, 13 years old, from Grove City, said his father has been in Saudi Arabi since August. He has one sister and two brothers. "Sometimes it's hard with dad gone. Mom's always on the phone." He said his father may be home in a few months.

Jennifer, 14, from Columbus, said her father is also in Saudi Arabia and has been gone seven months. She said with her father away, home life "... changes every day. You just have to get in your mind that he's going to be gone from a long time, so, you get used to it."



Group leader Cheri Newbold of Toledo said the family assistance programs are very useful in helping families get together and solving common problems.

"The only real problem we've had is with the parents of guardmembers calling and coming to meetings saying that they want their sons and daughters back," Newbold said. "The husbands and wives are, for the most part, managing."

The Family Support Program is always available to help military families in need. For more information, call 614-889-7192. □

**Top:** Ten-year-old children express their thanks to the governor with color and imagination. **Left:** Command Sgt. Major Lloyd Marvin passes out markers to color the mural. **Above:** Before departing to COSI in Columbus, a 12-year-old Toledo boy puts the finishing touches on a basket.

# With open arms...



*Above: Sgt. Reggie Johnson is welcomed home by his daughter, Ciara. Johnson and the rest of the 337th Personnel Service Company returned from active duty in support of Operation Desert Storm. Right: Spec. Michael C. Makowski uses a fellow guardmember's back to sign his name.*







*Left: Staff Sgt. Mills Q. Capehart shows off his American pride. Above: Spec. Douglas S. Brigner is re-united with his dog, Queenie. His aunt, Cheryl Benson, also welcomed home Capehart. Below: Brandon Johnson, son of Reggie Johnson, waves his flag at the 337th Personnel Service Company's homecoming.*



**Photos by Spec.  
Andrew Allinson**



# The Hunt is On

## *Guard Unit hosts an Easter celebration*

**Story and photos by Sgt. Lori King  
196th Public Affairs Detachment**

BARBERTON—Nearly 3,000 colorful plastic Easter eggs dotted the front and backyard of Company H, 2/107th Armored Cavalry Regiment armory as children waited eagerly to claim the eggs as their own.

It was the day before Easter, and about 100 children were greeted by the Easter bunny and a Ninja Turtle as they entered the building for the Easter party. Inside, two players of the Canton Invaders soccer team signed autographs and the Massillon Museum Puppeteers set up their stage for the afternoon puppet show.

Sgt. Marvin Robinson was more excited

than usual. Though his daughter couldn't join him that day, he was anxious to see how successful the unit's first Easter party would be.

And a success it was. He said other units, particularly those family members of soldiers serving in Operation DESERT STORM, were invited to attend the day long festival and about 40 of the 60 soldiers in the host unit were on hand to either entertain their own children or help throughout the day.

"It was a large turnout, with a lot of smiles on everyone's faces," Robinson said. "Even as cold as it was, we still had a good turnout. If it had been another 30 degrees warmer, I wouldn't doubt there would have been another 100 kids."

"This helped to bring our unit closer together as a family," he added.

Throughout the day, the guests devoured about 500 hot dogs, four Dairy Queen ice cream cakes, 175 apples and lots of candy. They enjoyed a variety of prizes and, of course, the eggs.

The cost for the whole event—\$31.

Nearly all of the food and prizes were donated by the community, said Tammy Nicholson, the coordinator of the Easter party. "I can't believe how good they (local businesses) have been. Few people told me no," said Nicholson, wife of motor pool sergeant Staff Sgt. Tim Nicholson.

"At first, when we began planning this a month ago, we only had a small hand-



*Left: Li'l Monster gets assistance from Dad and the Easter Bunny during the age group hunt. Below: Little ones enjoy collecting their allotted 12 Easter eggs strewn on the lawn of the armory in Barberton. After these youngsters filled their baskets with 12, they were then told to swipe up whatever was left. Opposite page: The Easter bunny offers candy to Jamie Raymond, daughter of Sgt. James Raymond of Co. H, 2/107th Armored Cavalry Regiment.*

ful of helpers and a budget of \$25. We were worried about serving our own 50 kids. We couldn't figure out what to do.

"Then we realized people would probably donate. We ended up going to 73 places for donations and came up with about \$2,000 and prizes galore.

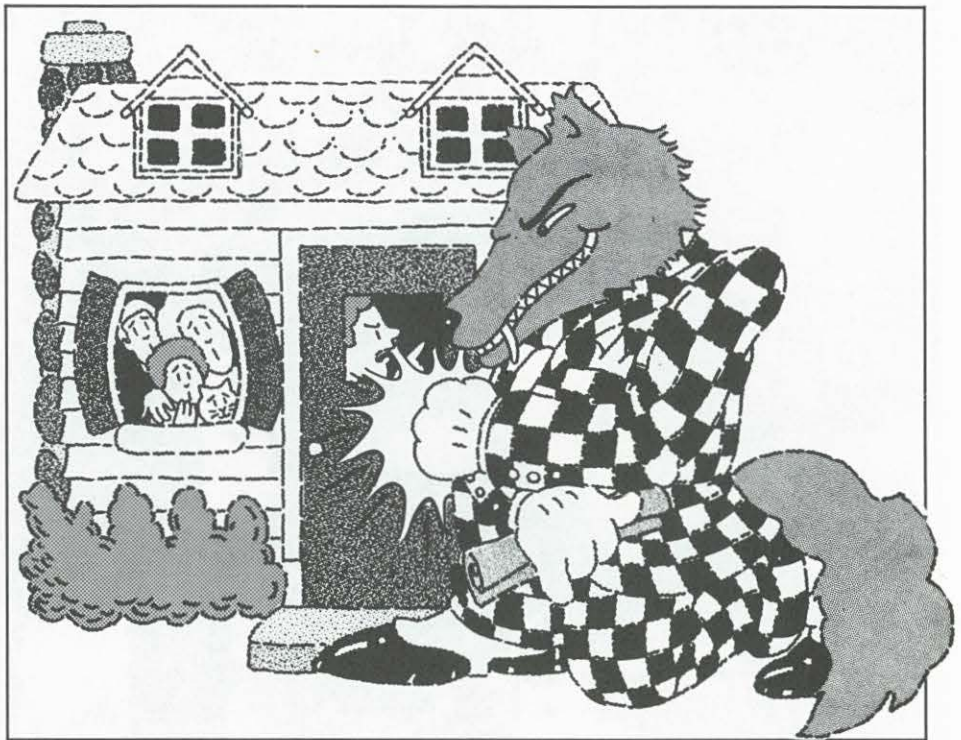
Then, Nicholson said, they decided to invite other unit members and their children.

"We hope the spouses of the soldiers serving in the Gulf crisis had a good time," Nicholson said. "I know the kids did."

The unit hopes to plan one event a quarter, including a picnic this summer and an Easter party next year.

"I was really nervous, but it came together well," said 1st Sgt. Mike Mosolovich. "There were a lot of late nights here in the armory. I don't have enough good words to say." □





# VA

## *Benefits waiver can complicate taxable income*

**by Rudi Williams**  
**American Forces Information Service**

A senior military officer who sold his home a few years ago recently wrote to the Department of Veterans Affairs inquiring about his current eligibility for a guaranteed home loan. The response was a shocker.

"You are indebted to VA in the amount of \$18,900, plus interest," the VA letter said. The people who bought the officer's home defaulted, the bank foreclosed, and VA had to make good on its loan guarantee.

Taken aback, the officer immediately requested a waiver of indebtedness under the Veterans' Benefit Amendments Act of 1989. "No one told me the guy I sold the house to had defaulted on the loan and the property had gone into foreclosure—neither VA nor the lender," he said.

Under the act, veterans are not liable for debt foreclosures on loans made after Jan. 1, 1990, unless there is indication of fraud, misrepresentation or bad faith. Holders of older loans, such as the stunned officer, can request a waiver based on the law. Veterans can also request reconsideration of indebted-

ness for VA benefits overpayments and VA-guaranteed home loan debts for which waivers had been denied.

VA's next letter made the officer happy: "The debt has been cleared, and no further action is required by you," it read in part.

But his happiness was short-lived. Less than a month later came another letter, another shocker: "You are reminded that a discharge of indebtedness, such as a waiver, is considered taxable income and must be reported by you to the Internal Revenue Service. A report of this waiver will be provided by the Veterans Administration to the Internal Revenue Service in accordance with IRS regulations."

VA and IRS officials confirmed the letter was real and not a mistake. Depending on the circumstances, the officer may have to pay taxes on money he has never seen. "

"Whether or not forgiven mortgage debt constitutes taxable income is extremely complicated," an IRS spokesman said. Every case is different, and the tax service considers each on its various facts and circumstances, he explained, adding the best advice IRS has for taxpayers in this situation is to seek the help of an experienced professional tax preparer.

The officer found himself in financial straits with VA and IRS because he let a seemingly trustworthy veteran assume his VA-guaranteed home loan, but he didn't obtain a release from liability from the lender and VA. Without such a release, the original owner is technically responsible for the property if his buyer defaults.

VA spokesman Bonner Day said thousands of veterans and active duty service members have experienced the same problem, and many of them were unaware of the waiver law. He emphasized that VA tries to contact original owners, but such efforts are often fruitless because military people move frequently.

"VA has always had a waiver program, but Congress liberalized the rules beginning in December 1989," Day said. "In April, May and June 1990, there were 11,158 loan liquidations; in July, August and September, 9,948 liquidations; in October, November and December, there were 8,660; and in January and February of 1991, there were 5,316 liquidations."

Waivers of indebtedness are not granted automatically: "In fiscal 1989, 13,796 waiver requests were considered and 2,734 granted. In fiscal 1990, 14,246 were considered and 8,150 granted," Day continued. "In determining whether to grant a waiver, the veteran's degree of fault and financial situation are considered. Waivers are generally denied to veterans who make no effort to pay the debt and who insist on just walking away from the debt even though they may have financial resources."

When VA rejects a waiver and the veteran can't pay, the first target of the collection process is income tax refunds. Military pay and retirement pay may be targeted; Social Security payments are not taken, Day explained.

There is an appeal process. "After appeals are exhausted at a VA regional office, a waiver request may be appealed at the Board of Veterans Appeals and ultimately, the Court of Veterans Appeals," Day said.

"When VA contacts an original homeowner concerning a defaulted home loan, it's for the purpose of urging the original homeowners and the new owner to work together to make good on the mortgage," Day said. "The initial goal is to reinstate the loan, not to urge foreclosure," he said. The waiver is an option only when there is no hope the loan will be made good and the property is hopelessly lost to the current and previous owners.

He said the moral of the story is: Don't allow anyone, even a trusted friend, to assume your VA-guaranteed home loan without getting a release from liability from VA and the mortgage holder.

The IRS spokesman said tax publications outlining the ins and outs of selling a home include: Publication 523, *Tax Information on Selling Your Home*; and Publication 544, *Sales and Other Dispositions of Assets*.

They're available free from IRS by calling toll-free 1-800-829-3676 or by writing to:

**Internal Revenue Service**  
P.O. Box 25866  
Richmond, VA 23289. □

## Guard members may buy special plates despite activation orders

COLUMBUS—It appears that some guardmembers were interested in purchasing the special plates, but because of activation orders for Desert Storm, a spouse or designated representative obtained the regular plates. This made them ineligible to apply for the National Guard plate until next year.

Charles D. Shipley, Director of Highway Safety has reviewed this matter and has offered to assist where possible. Any person who inadvertently purchased a regular license plate due to activation for Desert Storm, will be assisted by the BMV in obtaining National Guard license plates this year. A procedure has been put in place to credit the purchase price of the regular plate towards the fee to be collected for the National Guard plate.

The Special Plates Division of the BMV will handle any inquiry. Written correspondence regarding this matter may be mailed to: Special Plates Division, Bureau of Motor Vehicles, P.O. Box 16520, Columbus, Ohio 43266-0020.

Telephone inquiries may be directed to Sandy Young at (614) 752-7800. □

### ***Worth Repeating***

**"Being ready is not what matters. What matters is winning after you get there."**

— Lt. Gen. V.H. Krulak,  
U.S. Marine Corps

**"It is enough for the world to know that I am a soldier."**

— Gen. William T. Sherman,  
U.S. Army

**"The shots that hit are the shots that count."**

— anonymous

**"The surest way to prevent war is not to fear it."**

— John Randolph,  
U.S. politician

**"Some cause happiness wherever they go; others whenever they go."**

— anonymous

# 'High-tech' Desert Storm display opens at USAF Museum

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, Ohio— People from Ohio and surrounding states are being drawn to the Operation Desert Storm exhibit at the U.S. Air Force Museum near Dayton. The temporary display features "high-tech" munitions and guidance systems that helped hasten Iraq's defeat.

The 11 items include a GBU-10 laser-guided bomb used to destroy bridges, an AIM-9 "Sidewinder" missile used to shoot down Iraqi aircraft and an ALQ-131 electronic countermeasures pod used to jam enemy radar.

Museum officials have been planning a permanent exhibit ever since U.S. forces were deployed to the Persian Gulf in August. Repeated requests from visitors, however, prompted museum staffers to respond immediately with a temporary display.

A collection of color photographs from the Gulf War is included in the exhibit located in the museum's modern flight gallery.

Among the 200-plus aircraft and major missiles permanently exhibited at the museum are 10 types of aircraft used in Desert Storm. Outdoors are the A-10 Thunderbolt II (also known as the "Wart-hog" and "Tank Killer"), F-15 Eagle and

the airborne laser laboratory version of the KC-135 Stratotanker.

Indoors, near the Desert Storm display, are the B-52 Stratofortress bomber, A-7 Corsair II, F-4 Phantom II, UH-1 Iroquois helicopter, F-5 Freedom Fighter and U-2 reconnaissance aircraft similar to the TR-1 used for surveillance of the battle area.

Another Desert Storm-type aircraft, the AC-130 "Hercules" gunship, is housed in the museum's annex. Some 30 more aircraft are displayed there, including five presidential planes.

Curator Jack Hilliard said other than the two Desert Storm aircraft suspended

from the ceiling of the modern flight gallery, the aircraft are displayed so that visitors can walk freely around and in some cases directly under them. Visitors also may experience sitting in a cockpit of an F-4 fuselage that is alongside the full-size Phantom fighter.

The Air Force Museum, located about five miles northeast of downtown Dayton, is open seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Hours at the annex are from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on weekdays and to 4 p.m. on weekends.

Admission to the museum is free. For more information, contact public affairs at (513) 255-4704/3286. □

*Final adjustments are made on a temporary Desert Storm display by staff at the U.S. Air Force Museum at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. Above their heads is a GBU-15 modular-guided weapon system. Such 2,000-pound bombs were used to stop the flow of oil that Iraqi forces had released into the Persian Gulf. (Photo courtesy of USAF Museum public affairs)*



# Reservists exemplify 'magnificent' performance

by Rudi Williams  
American Forces Information Service

"This victory belongs... to the regulars, to the Reserves, to the National Guard. This victory belongs to the finest fighting force this nation has ever known in its history," President George Bush said of Operation Desert Storm before Congress in March.

"Magnificent," is the way Army Gen. Colin Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, described the reserve components' performance to the lawmakers in a congressional hearing.

The performance of the National Guard and Reserve has been "one of the major success stories of the entire operation," Army Gen. Edwin H. Burba Jr., commander of Forces Command, told Congress.

And to dispel any lingering doubt about the quality of the reserve forces, Stephen M. Duncan, assistant secretary of defense (reserve affairs), barraged lawmakers with examples of their outstanding performances during an April House Appropriations Subcommittee hearing.

"In an action that lasted only a few minutes, company B of the 4th Tank Battalion, 4th Marine Division, a reserve unit from Yakima, Wash., destroyed or stopped 34 of 35 enemy tanks," Duncan said. "In four engagements, Company B accounted for 59 enemy tanks, including 30 of Iraq's most modern T-72s. Elements

of the 926th Tactical Fighter Group were the first to score air-to-air kills in the A-10 fighter. The unit was credited with two air-to-air kills, and in the last days of combat, one pair of pilots from the 926th destroyed 20 Scud launchers."

In a Pentagon interview, Duncan, who spent 18 years as a reservist, said complaints about the reserve components frustrate him because the complaints often reflect a lack of understanding about how the Total Force Works. The quality of reservists today, including National Guardsmen, is dramatically higher than it was 10 or 15 years ago, he said, adding reserve forces can't be compared in general terms because of wide variations in their missions and training.

Duncan noted some guard and reserve units have missions that would put them into immediate combat. "For example, you can match Air National Guard and Reserve pilots against active pilots any day of the week," Duncan said. "Why?

Because most of them and their crews have served on active duty and have logged nearly as many hours of flight time as their active duty counterparts. In the other reserve forces, there are people who can perform just as well as their active component counterparts for particular types of missions."

Other units, though, require training—sometimes a significant amount of training—before they can be deployed, he said. "We design it that way. That's the Total Force," he explained. "We try to integrate the capabilities of the active and reserve components to obtain the most military capability for the least cost."

Duncan touts reserve forces personnel as highly motivated, intelligent and experienced, and he noted hundreds of them went through intense training before deploying to the Persian Gulf.

"They surprised a lot of people by turning out to be smarter than those people expected. It suggests to me that you can take a motivated, intelligent reservist, apply some training techniques you didn't use in the past and come up with a soldier who's able to perform a mission in a much shorter time than we realized," Duncan said.

"I continue to urge the reserve components to explore new ways to train their people," he continued. "It doesn't have to be weekend drills. There may be other kinds of training that can be tried. Computer simulators at reserve centers

offer great potential. We need to focus on what we can do and not assume that we should train reservists in the 1990s the same way we did in the 1970s."

He said the Persian Gulf conflict's effects on recruiting and retention are unknown. He expects few problems, however, because all the armed forces are reducing in size.

"We're trying to figure out how to manage downsizing," he said. "If we find that we need to focus efforts to recruit some specific skills, we'll do that. Many people are telling us we'll have problems getting enough nurses, doctors and other medical specialists—but at the same time, many of those who were called up are asking to stay on active duty."

In testimony before Congress, Duncan summed up the reserve component story: "Whatever the future holds, we are absolutely secure in our belief that the reserve forces of the United States are, today, the best in the world." □



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Duncan touts reserve forces personnel as highly motivated, intelligent and experienced, and he noted hundreds of them went through intense training before deploying to the Persian Gulf.

"They surprised a lot of people by turning out to be smarter than those people expected. It suggests to me that you can take a motivated, intelligent reservist, apply some training techniques you didn't use in the past and come up with a soldier who's able to perform a mission in a much shorter time than we realized," Duncan said.

"I continue to urge the reserve components to explore new ways to train their people," he continued. "It doesn't have to be weekend drills. There may be other kinds of training that can be tried. Computer simulators at reserve centers

offer great potential. We need to focus on what we can do and not assume that we should train reservists in the 1990s the same way we did in the 1970s."

He said the Persian Gulf conflict's effects on recruiting and retention are unknown. He expects few problems, however, because all the armed forces are reducing in size.

"We're trying to figure out how to manage downsizing," he said. "If we find that we need to focus efforts to recruit some specific skills, we'll do that. Many people are telling us we'll have problems getting enough nurses, doctors and other medical specialists—but at the same time, many of those who were called up are asking to stay on active duty."

In testimony before Congress, Duncan summed up the reserve component story: "Whatever the future holds, we are absolutely secure in our belief that the reserve forces of the United States are, today, the best in the world." □



# News you can use

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For additional information please contact our publicity office at (614) 491-2515.

## GM offers discount to Storm veterans

General Motors Corp. is offering all active duty military people and reserve component soldiers who were activated in support of Operation Desert Storm up to \$800 off the purchase of a new GM vehicle.

The company announced the program March 20 in a salute to the armed forces participation in Gulf war.

Eligible service members and their spouses will be entitled to \$300 off the purchase of a new GM car or light truck when they finance through GMAC. GM will also match up to an additional \$500 of the purchasers down payment, bringing the potential savings to \$800.

Local GM dealers have more information on this special benefit. □

## Stop-loss program concluded

COLUMBUS—The Army National Guard has lifted the stop-loss program, according to Chief Warrant Officer 3 Albert Milner, Ohio Army National Guard military personnel technician.

The stop-loss program, implemented in January to retain personnel who were needed to support Operation Desert Storm, prevented military members from leaving the service at the end of their obligation.

Milner said that with the exception of guardmembers still on orders to support the operation in the Middle East, the stop-loss program ended for Army guardmembers on March 9. Ohio Army National Guardmembers activated for Desert Storm will be retained until their official release from active duty. When they revert to National Guard status, they will be allowed to retire or leave service at the end of their enlistment. □

## REUNION NOTES

148th Infantry Regiment Veterans  
37th Infantry Division

Camp Perry Training Site  
Port Clinton, Ohio

August 23 & 24 1991

For More Information please contact:

Hank Donnell  
8117 Scarborough Ct.  
Indianapolis, IN 46256

## Activities planned for Camp Perry

PORT CLINTON—On September 14, Camp Perry will be the location for a trio of activities sponsored by the Ohio National Guard.

In addition to the National Guard Retired Officer/Enlisted reunion, a Commander's Call for Battalion Commanders and higher has been scheduled for September 14 and 15.

The highlight of the weekend is the Ohio National Guard Public Awareness Day; a joint open house with representatives from all the units and activities stationed at Camp Perry.

Representatives from the Ohio Air and Army National Guard will be on hand to perform practical demonstrations on new and unique equipment, demonstrate the Leadership Reaction Course, the Bayonet Course and the Driver's Training Course and the display and demonstration of training devices like smoke grenades, trip flares, star clusters and mine fuses.

The open house will be on September 14. For more information please contact Lt. Col. Stephen Schaeffer at (419) 635-4101. □

## Medals honor Desert Storm participants

Service members deployed to the Southwest Asia for Operation Desert Shield/Storm are eligible to receive a medal recognizing their service.

The Southwest Asia Service Medal, established by an executive order from President Bush, will be awarded to U.S. military personnel who served in the Persian Gulf area during the operations. The medal was designed by the Institute of Heraldry.

According to the Department of Defense announcement, the medal's front side was designed to recognize the joint-service nature of the operation. It depicts a tank, armored personnel carrier, helicopter, ship and aircraft, with a desert and seascape.

The medal's reverse side shows an upraised sword, entwined by a palm frond to symbolize military might and preparedness in defense of peace. The medal is suspended from a sand-colored ribbon with red, white, blue, green and black stripes—the colors of the coalition members.

Policy on eligibility and wear will be announced soon. □

The Department of Defense has announced that they will authorize the award of the National Defense Service Medal to participants of Operation Desert Shield/Storm.

"The outstanding performance of our armed forces during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm merits special recognition," Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney said when announcing the award.

Military members serving on active duty after August 2, 1990, are eligible for the award. DoD officials have not set a closing date.

According to Col. Ken Deutsch, of the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, the decoration was established in 1953 by presidential order and is awarded at the discretion of the secretary of defense. This will be only the third time the medal has been authorized since its creation.

The medal indicates honorable participation in a particular national emergency, campaign, war or expedition.

The medals are available at the Wright Patterson Air Force Base clothing sales store, and are on back order at the Beightler Armory Complex Post Exchange. □

## Programs will benefit families of KIA/MIAs

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The United Service Organizations and Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc. recently announced a series of programs to benefit the families of American service personnel. The Yellow Ribbon Summer is designed to benefit the families of American service personnel killed or missing in the Persian Gulf war and to salute all members of the armed forces and their families.

The programs include a \$1.2 million scholarship fund, and free admission summer long for a day's visit at any one of the company's family entertainment parks.

The children and spouses of American soldiers killed in the Persian Gulf will benefit from a new \$1.2 million August A. Busch, Jr., Desert Storm Scholarship Fund, officials of the two organizations announced.

"This program will enable many family members of our American war dead to gain access to careers that otherwise might have been beyond their financial means," said Chapman B. Cox, president of the USO, which will administer the program.

The fund will be financed with a \$1 million gift from Anheuser-Busch and a \$200,000 gift from the August A. Busch, Jr. Charitable Foundation. It is intended

to benefit all of the children and spouses who choose to participate. According to the latest information, some 300 Americans are listed as killed or missing in action.

"Recipients of the scholarships will be able to use the funds at any college, junior college or accredited school of vocational training," Busch said. "Neither financial need nor academic achievement will be factors in allocating support."

Cox noted that parents of children not yet ready for college or vocational training may have scholarship dollars set aside for them now.

"Hopefully, this will enable some families to begin planning now for the future education of children who are quite young," Cox said. "That means the program could benefit these children in two ways. For some, it will open educational doors that would otherwise have remained closed—the opportunity, for instance, to attend a school that would have been too expensive. For others, it will serve as an incentive to finish high school and pursue an advanced education that they might not otherwise have even considered."

In discussing Yellow Ribbon Summer, Busch said all military members and their

immediate families, approximately six million people, may visit one of the company's seven family entertainment parks free of charge from Armed Forces Day, May 18, through Labor Day, September 2. The seven parks include the four Sea World parks in San Diego, San Antonio, Orlando and Aurora, Ohio; Busch Garden parks in Williamsburg, Va., and Tampa; and Cypress Gardens in Winter Haven, Fla.

"We are gratified that the USO is joining us as a partner in these celebrations, and working with them, we intend to make these events memorable tribute to those who serve us so well and so valiantly," Busch said.

Supported solely by individual contributions, the United Way and the Combined Federal Campaign, the non-profit USO receives no federal funds. USO celebrated its 50th Anniversary of providing service to service people on February 4, 1991. Today's USO serves more than two million American military personnel and their families through Airport Centers, Fleet Centers, Family and Community Centers, Intercultural and Orientation Programs and Celebrity Entertainment tours at 170 locations worldwide. □

# People

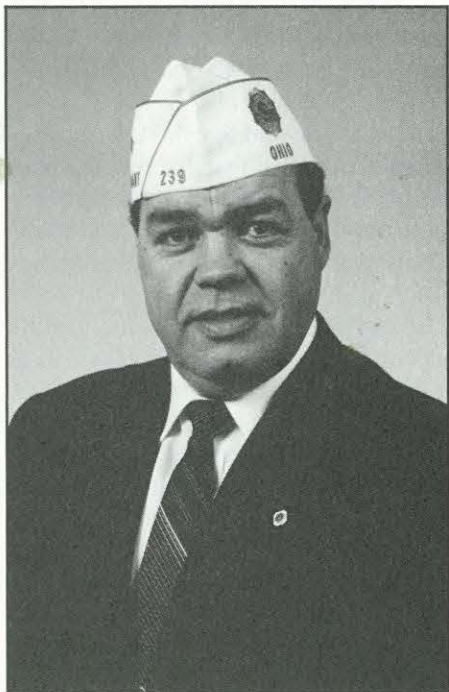
## *Guardsmen chosen as American Legion Adjutant*

COLUMBUS—An Ohio National Guardsman was recently named to the American Legion's Ohio Adjutant office. Sgt. 1st Class Stu Sears, a staff member of the Ohio Military Academy at Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base accepted the position on April 19.

Sears joined the Ohio Legion headquarters staff January 1986 as Assistant Finance Officer and was named Post Activities Director July 1989. In December 1990, he was selected for the position of Assistant Adjutant.

Sears is a Vietnam veteran and was awarded the Bronze Star and letters of Commendation for Meritorious Service as a combat correspondent.

He has 14 years of military service with the U.S. Army and the Ohio Army National Guard. □



*Adjutant Stu Sears*

## 371st Support Group changes hands

by Dan Darragh  
HHC, 371st Support Group

KETTERING—Calling it “clearly the crowning time for me in my military career,” Col. William LaPrise passed the command of the 371st Support Group to Col. Harry H. Shaw III during a recent ceremony at the Kettering armory.

LaPrise, director of pupil services for the Miamisburg School District near Dayton, becomes the Guard's state finance director. Shaw is a Columbus funeral director and was previously commander of Camp

Perry Training Site.

LaPrise commended the men and women of the 371st for their service, saying that he was honored to work with them for the past four and one-half years but never more so than the last six months. During that time, seven of the 371st's 22 units were mobilized in support of Operation Desert Storm. The former group commander noted that all had assisted in the Guard's role in the Gulf war, not just those who were actually mobilized.

He was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal upon his leaving the support group. □

## Ohio gunners take first place

by Lt. Bridget K. Taylor  
Camp Robinson Public Affairs Officer

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—Ohio shooters brought home several trophies during the 4th Army Area Reserve Component Championships, held recently at Camp Robinson. A machinegun team from the 4th Squadron, 107th Armored Cavalry Regiment placed first in the M-60 Light Machinegun Team Championships and a pistol team from Ohio placed third in the National Match Pistol Competition.

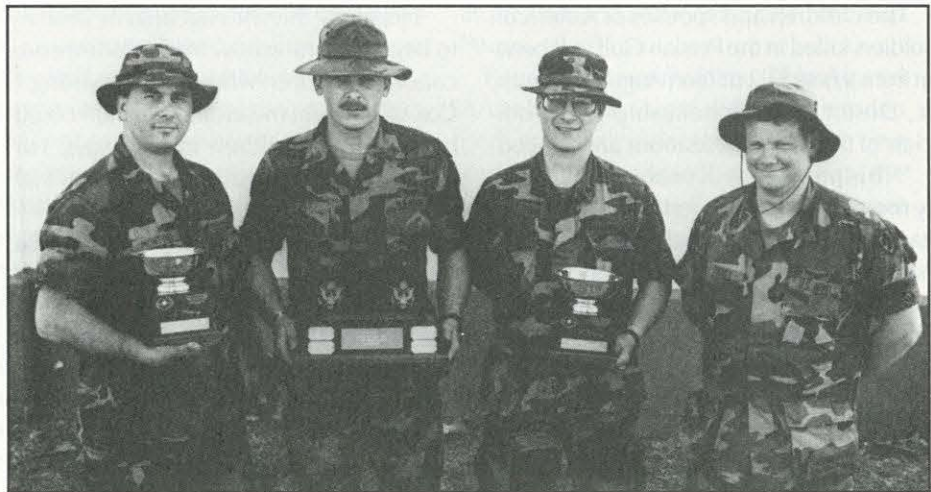
The machinegun team scored 1103, several points ahead of the 2nd place team, Indiana Army National Guard, allowing a clean sweep for the National Guard.

Members of the winning team include team captain Sgt. Joseph G. Gild, Spec. Patrick M. Cooney, Spec. Steve E. Yoders and Spec. Frank C. Montini.

Gild, a resident of Mogadore, also won the Individual Aggregate Championship. The second place award in the Individual Grand Aggregate Match was earned by Yoder, a five year veteran of competitive M-60 shooting. Yoder is from North Canton.

The pistol team, lead by Maj. Vincint P. Jiga, a member of Det. 1, State Area Command (STARC), Columbus, scored 3254 with 75 x-rings, to earn a third place win in the Team Grand Aggregate. Illinois and Indiana National Guard teams placed first and second respectively, in a field of 13 teams from the Army Reserve and National Guard.

Team members included: Jiga, 1st Lt. Willard Long, 1st Lt. David Hill, Sgt. 1st Class George L. Bergholz, Staff Sgt. William G. Wiggers, and Sgt. Kenneth F. Strohm. □



# Chief, Dept. of Veterans Affairs retires

Story and photo by Sgt. Kelli D. Blackwell  
HQ STARC (-Det 1-5)

COLUMBUS—"Why'd I join the Guard? 'Cause one night I was downtown drinking with a friend—he was a lieutenant colonel—and he laughed at my sailor's suit," recalled the 72-year-old colonel. "He asked how old I was (I was 29 at the time), and he said, 'Hell, you're not too old! Come in now and you can get commissioned.' "

"So, I came in as a master sergeant in 1947 and was commissioned in January of '48."

Col. John P. Siemer (Ret.) first joined the military in January 1943, as a Celestial Navigation Instructor of the Army Air Corps, and discharged in 1946. He said the Navy called and asked him to join because they needed celestial navigators.

"The pay was \$24 a drill, and I figured that was a third of house payment, so I joined."

After enlisting with the National Guard, Siemer served in Korea as an infantry company commander and regimental adjutant. He was promoted to captain in 1953, and



Siemer relaxes at home with wife, Peg.

became a lieutenant colonel in 1965. As a lieutenant colonel, Siemer commanded an infantry battalion, an armored cavalry squadron and a combat engineer battalion.

"I was 46 years old when I became a

lieutenant colonel. One son-of-a-gun told me, 'Now that you're a lieutenant colonel, your attitude's going to have to change.' " He rolls his eyes and flips his hand "... Naah!"

As a civilian, the colonel worked as the Rehabilitation Officer with the Veterans Administration from 1946-1950. He retired as Director of Veterans Affairs March 29, 1991.

Reflecting back on the military, Siemer said, "The Army is definitely better trained and better equipped now. Back then, the Guard was more of a club. We met every Tuesday evening and drills lasted just two hours."

Smiling, he continued, "You should have heard the guys hollar when we moved up to four hours."

Siemer has boxes and scrap albums full of letters, newspapers, drawings, and photos of him and the places he's served while in the military.

"I've got good friends in the Guard. I still see them," he said. "I don't think I miss anything—of course I've only been retired for a week." □

# Infantry soldiers assist Operation Orange Ribbon

by Staff Sgt. David Risher  
147th Infantry Battalion

SHADYBROOK—When Ellen Lambing, founder of the local Operation Orange Ribbon, contacted a Cincinnati National Guard unit for support, the response was far greater than she expected.

She originally contacted Capt. Richard Simmons about using the Shadybrook Armory for a Thanksgiving dinner for area families with friends and family involved in what was then Operation Desert Shield.

It was during the planning stages of the dinner that members of the 147th Infantry Battalion began volunteering their services. By the day of the event, 10 members of the 147th had volunteered their time to help make the dinner a success.

The dinner, which attracted more than 400 people, was organized by Lambing,

Dave Warman, Project Coordinator and his wife Jean.

Many of the Guardmembers of the 147th, inspired by the Thanksgiving dinner, continued to assist Operation Orange Ribbon, and in several cases, convinced their wives to participate.

In February, when the Cavalcade of Customs Show was held at the Cincinnati Convention Center, several members from the 147th (and a few wives) worked at the Orange Ribbon booth. Private Vincent Bradley, Sgt. 1st Class Dave Chaney and his wife Jackie, Spec. Jeff Hill, Spec. David Wilson, Sgt. Jim Frey and his wife Becky issued thousands of ribbons and invited the public to sign posters to be sent to local soldiers serving in the Gulf.

During the March drill, Dave Warman presented a Certificate of Thanks to each member for their continued kindness and support. □



Spec. Jeffery Hill, Spec. James Frye and Sgt. Stanley Griffin show the appreciation the 1/147th Infantry Battalion received when they opened their doors to Operation Orange Ribbon and a Thanksgiving dinner to members of soldiers involved in Operation Desert Shield. Dave Warman (in the background) served as project coordinator for the Operation Orange Ribbon event.

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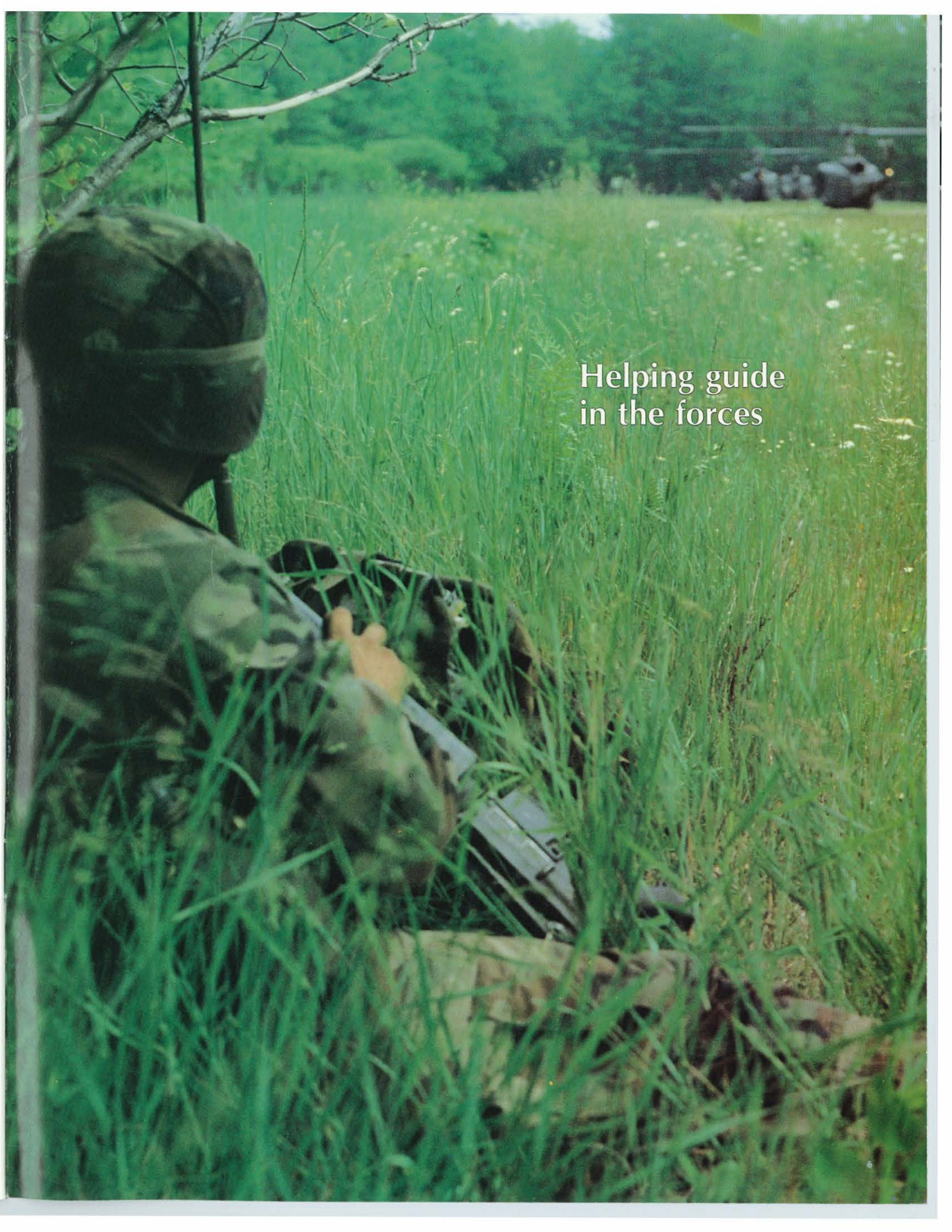
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