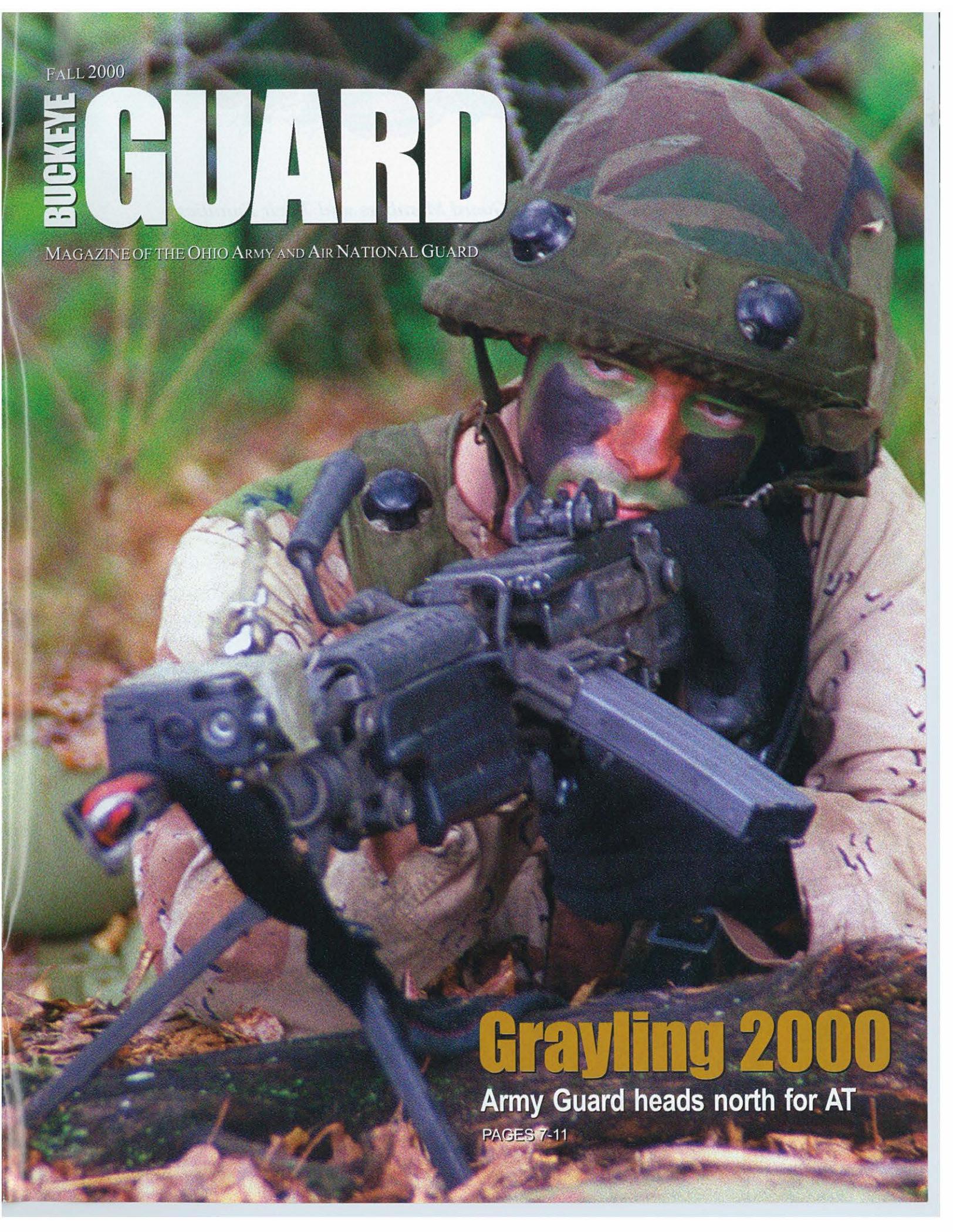


FALL 2000

BUCKEYE GUARD

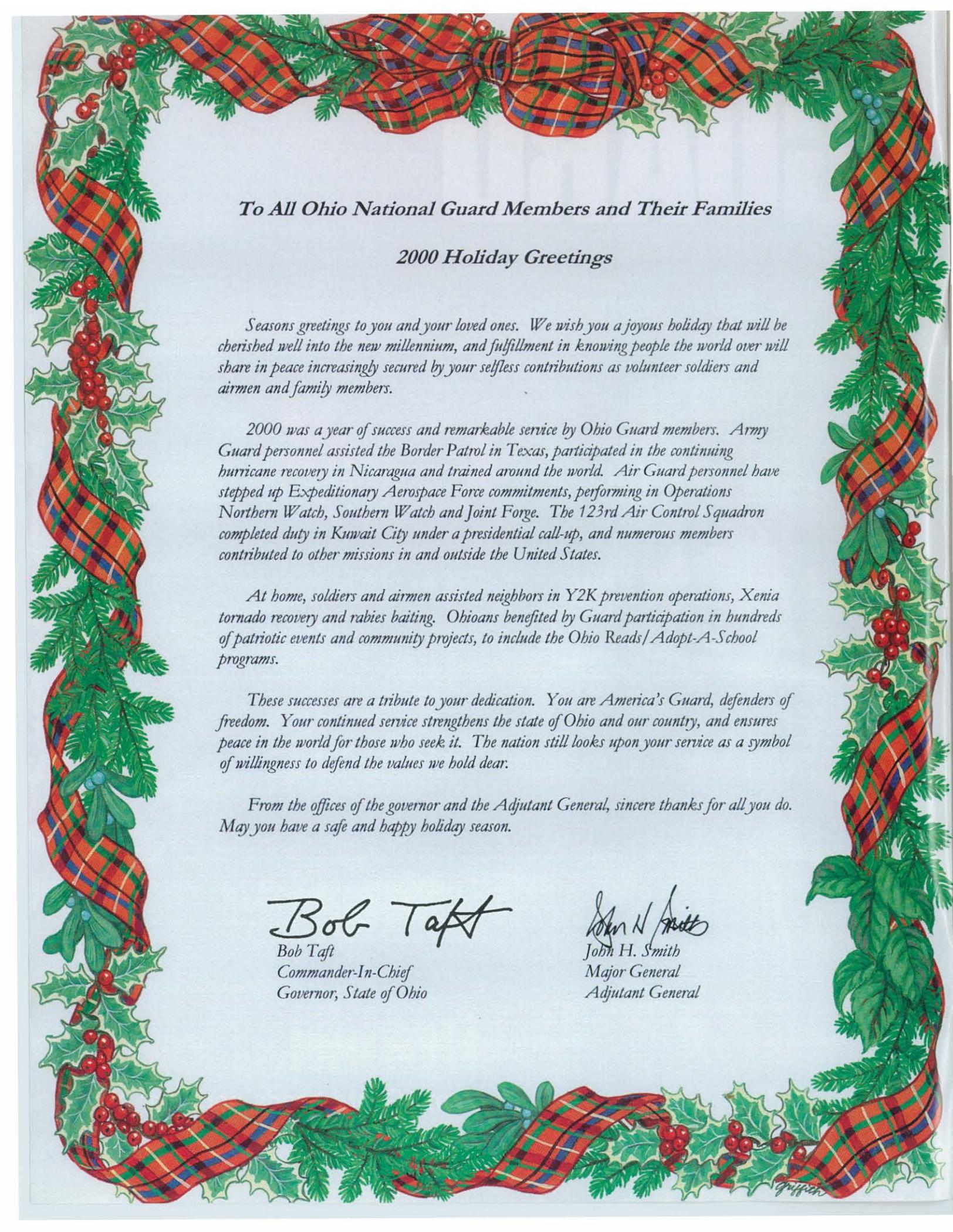
MAGAZINE OF THE OHIO ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD



Grayling 2000

Army Guard heads north for AT

PAGES 7-11



To All Ohio National Guard Members and Their Families

2000 Holiday Greetings

Seasons greetings to you and your loved ones. We wish you a joyous holiday that will be cherished well into the new millennium, and fulfillment in knowing people the world over will share in peace increasingly secured by your selfless contributions as volunteer soldiers and airmen and family members.

2000 was a year of success and remarkable service by Ohio Guard members. Army Guard personnel assisted the Border Patrol in Texas, participated in the continuing hurricane recovery in Nicaragua and trained around the world. Air Guard personnel have stepped up Expeditionary Aerospace Force commitments, performing in Operations Northern Watch, Southern Watch and Joint Forge. The 123rd Air Control Squadron completed duty in Kuwait City under a presidential call-up, and numerous members contributed to other missions in and outside the United States.

At home, soldiers and airmen assisted neighbors in Y2K prevention operations, Xenia tornado recovery and rabies baiting. Ohioans benefited by Guard participation in hundreds of patriotic events and community projects, to include the Ohio Reads/Adopt-A-School programs.

These successes are a tribute to your dedication. You are America's Guard, defenders of freedom. Your continued service strengthens the state of Ohio and our country, and ensures peace in the world for those who seek it. The nation still looks upon your service as a symbol of willingness to defend the values we hold dear.

From the offices of the governor and the Adjutant General, sincere thanks for all you do. May you have a safe and happy holiday season.

Bob Taft

Bob Taft
Commander-In-Chief
Governor, State of Ohio

John H. Smith

John H. Smith
Major General
Adjutant General

BUCKEYE GUARD

Volume 24, No. 4

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Guardmembers and their families are encouraged to submit any articles meant to inform, educate or entertain *Buckeye Guard* readers, including stories about interesting Guard personalities and unique unit training. E-mail us at buckeye@tagoh.org. Deadlines are:

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



Photo by SFC Bob Mullins, HQ STARC (-)

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Log on to the Ohio National Guard website to learn more about the organization.

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SSgt Shawn Chalfin sings during a 555th Air Force Band holiday performance. Earlier in 2000, the "Triple Nickel" traveled to England to perform. See page 20.



Photo by SSG Diane Farrow, HQ STARC (-)

SFC Jayne E. Cera, an RTIC drill sergeant leader, dismisses a student after an error during a drill and ceremony presentation. See pages 18-19.

ABOUT THE COVER:

SPC Justin D. Kelley of Bravo Company, 1-148th Infantry, Bowling Green, mans an M-60 machine gun while serving as enemy OPFOR (opposing forces) during annual training at Camp Grayling, Mich. Photo by SPC Michelle Morgan, HQ STARC (-)

Recipe for retention has key ingredients



BY MAJ GEN PAUL J. SULLIVAN
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL, AIR

On Sept. 30, 2000, the Ohio National Guard completed its most successful recruiting and retention year ever. We can all be very proud of the strides we have made in attracting and keeping high quality soldiers and airmen in our organization.

Together we overcame significant competitive

marketplace factors and enabled the Ohio National Guard end strength to improve substantially, while almost every other state was losing ground or struggling to stay even. Thanks to everyone's efforts, especially those of our recruiters and retainers, our personnel strength is at historic highs.

That is the good news.

We all deserve to take a moment to enjoy the success that Fiscal Year 2000 brought. Unfortunately, we can take only a brief rest in our efforts to "respond when called, with ready soldiers and airmen."

None of the competitive forces have changed. Unemployment is still low, so our members have many choices for full- and part-time employment. Family stress is still high. A recent U.S. Census Bureau report indicated that in 1998, of mothers with children age 1 or younger, 59 percent of them were working as compared with 31 percent in 1976. The same report indicates that in 51 percent of families, both spouses were working, as compared with 33 percent in 1976.

We have some impressive benefits to offer young women and men to attract them to our Guard, but what is it that will keep them in the organization? We must offer stability, camaraderie, and a sense of pride and purpose. *Stability*, in that our people, on average, stay with us far longer than their civilian counterparts; *camaraderie* from shared experiences, working hard and playing hard; *pride* in the knowledge that our members join and serve their nation, state and community in an organization that can trace its roots to the founding of the country; and *purpose* from the effective use of the one nonrenewable resource that our people offer—their time.

These are significant challenges in an environment of tight budgets and limited training opportunities. We have notable challenges remaining with increased OPTEMPO (operations tempo) stemming from deployments supporting the active components and humanitarian missions in needy countries, excessive ancillary training, aging equipment and facilities, and diversifying our force.

Recently, Congress passed legislation that indicates a growing awareness of "quality of life" issues in the military, to include pay raises.

In Ohio, we are making every effort to ensure that our local, state and federal elected representatives are aware of the pressures on our Guard today, our families and our employ-

ers. This is in keeping with the recognition that National Guard Bureau has focused on our families and employers in naming 2000 the "Year of the Family" and 2001 the "Year of the Employers."

Efforts are under way to provide a health care option for members of the Guard and Reserve of all services. Child-care options are being studied, and it is my hope to have a plan for child-care assistance for both our full-

time and traditional forces. Dental care is now available, not just for our guardmembers, but also for their families. New legislation provides access to TRICARE for Medicare-eligible retirees, where any expenses not covered by Medicare will be paid by TRICARE.

We are also studying the possibility of extending the 100 percent tuition-paid Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program as a retention incentive (which would require a change to the current legislation).

Telecommuting will be tested this year, allowing supervisors to authorize off-site work, as long as certain audit criteria are met.

All these efforts may provide additional incentives for our members, but the key ingredients—stability, camaraderie, pride and purpose—can come only from the culture of our organization and the professionalism of our leadership. Now, as always, the future of the Ohio Guard is in our hands. ■

"We must offer (to our guardmembers) stability, camaraderie, and a sense of pride and purpose."

Input from *Buckeye Guard* readership proves invaluable

About a year ago, the *Buckeye Guard* magazine distributed a readership survey in order to get a feel for the general demographics of our audience, and their thoughts on the magazine, what they like and what could be improved.

Thanks to all of you who participated. Every opinion was taken into consideration to help us plan the changes that we think have improved the overall quality of the magazine.

In response, you may have noticed that the *Buckeye Guard* received a face lift of sorts in the past year.

Many of the topics we covered have remained the same, but the presentation of the articles has changed significantly. The layout of the magazine has been reformatted to present a more modern appearance, and you also may have noticed the change to full color throughout.

One reader wrote that the *BG* needed "more color photographs of the troops in action—not just "mug shots." The current use of color on all pages, not just the covers, allows for more color action photographs that are used to help tell the story in each article.

A large number of you requested more stories about retirees. The past few magazines have featured historical articles on some of the Ohio National Guard's involvement in World War II. Articles that highlight the Ohio Guard's participation in

our country's history will continue to appear on a semi-regular basis. Our organization has a rich history and there are many more stories to be told about our heroic Army and Air Guard veterans.

Many of you also asked for "stories with more emphasis on the soldiers and not the leaders," and accordingly, "Faces in the Guard" appeared. This section provides biographical sketches of junior officers and enlisted personnel within our 15,000-member family.

There were also some requests that were not as easy to accommodate.

The *BG* is a joint-service magazine, therefore articles appear about both Army and Air Guard units and personnel. About one fourth of the readers said that there was too much coverage of the

Air Guard; another fourth said there was too much coverage of the Army Guard; most of the remaining half of respondents said there was equal coverage. One reader commented: "In some issues there are more articles about Air units, but in the next there is usually more Army, so it all balances out."

Though an effort is made to cover both organizations, the magazine's staff is small. Visibility in the magazine is usually a direct reflection of input from the field.

We realize we don't please everyone. One reader wrote, "The *Buckeye Guard* is an excellent magazine, great effort and attention is put into making it a superb publication, but nobody reads it...I ask every month about some article in the *BG* and nobody knows what I'm talking about. It's truly a waste of time, effort and money. I'm in the minority—I like it."

There were many other readers who said they enjoy the magazine and requested that we "keep up the good work." A couple of the types of articles readers favored most were unit stories (32 percent of the respondents liked them best) and military news (29 percent preferred them most). Sports and fitness stories derived little interest (35 percent liked them least).

We do realize time is at a premium for nearly everyone and accept the challenge to compete with other mediums and sources of news. With our

recent changes, it is our hope that even more people now will enjoy the magazine.

Again, we appreciate all the responses, both positive and negative, that readers submitted. The *BG* is a magazine written for the Ohio citizen-soldier about the units and personnel in the Ohio Guard, and we want to present interesting and informative articles that our readers cannot find anywhere else. Your comments and suggestions on how we can improve the publication are always welcome in our mailbox.

BUCKEYE GUARD STAFF



Unit in search of previous 179th APS members

Summer 2001 will mark the 25th anniversary of the 179th Aerial Port Squadron, located at Mansfield-Lahm Airport. A reunion of previous members is being planned.

If anyone has any addresses, phone numbers and/or e-mail addresses of previous unit members, please forward them to: 179th Aerial Port Squadron, 1947 Harrington Memorial Road, Mansfield, Ohio 44903-0179.

SMSGT ROBERT A. ROGERS
179TH AIRLIFT WING

Retired public affairs soldiers plan reunion for mid-2001

Former members of the 196th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment held a reunion last year in Oglebay Park, W. Va. The meeting among the retired members of the MPAD was the first preparation for a larger reunion slated for 2001 in Columbus.

Along with their spouses and children, retired Staff Sgt. Kenneth White, retired Capt. Jim Day and former Staff Sgt. Stephen Jablonski gathered for a weekend of fun and activities in northern West Virginia.

Former and current members of the 196th MPAD will be contacted in the near future, if they have not been already, concerning the upcoming 2001 reunion in Columbus. Members currently in the Guard who are interested in coordinating or otherwise participating in the reunion, or anyone with questions regarding preparations can contact me at (734) 416-5405.

CPT (RET.) JIM DAY
196TH MOBILE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DET.

OHIO NATIONAL GUARD

Historical Highlights



The first Ohio governor to alert the militia, now called the National Guard, for state active duty was Gov. Thomas Kirker, in September 1807. Settlers in the western part of the state around Greenville, on the Indiana border, were so alarmed by the threat of a potential Indian uprising that they contacted the governor for assistance.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Historical Highlights* are compiled by retired Judge (Col.) Robert D. Walker, a veteran of the Ohio National Guard's 37th Infantry Division.



Photo by Army News Service

Army soldiers model the black beret which will become standard headgear Armywide in 2001.

The black beret: It's not just for Rangers anymore

Black berets, now worn by soldiers in elite Ranger units, will become the Army's standard headgear beginning next June, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki announced recently.

"It is time for the entire Army to accept the challenge of excellence that has so long been a hallmark of our special operations and airborne units," Shinseki said. Adopting the berets will be "another step toward achieving the capabilities of the objective force" of Army transformation, he said.

Soldiers will begin wearing the beret June 14, "the first Army birthday of the new millennium," Shinseki said. National Guard and Army Reserve soldiers will also wear the black beret.

Shinseki said special operations and airborne soldiers will continue to wear their distinctive berets. Soldiers in airborne units wear maroon berets and Special Forces wear green berets.

The BDU cap will still be used in the field, even after the Army adopts the black beret for garrison wear as part of its ongoing transformation, Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack L. Tilley said.

"The saucer cap and garrison cap could go away," Tilley said, "But those are things we've got to work out." He said the BDU cap will remain the optimum headgear in the field when the Kevlar helmet isn't worn.

Ranger units may select a different color for their beret, Tilley said.

He predicted that the berets may help recruiting, but said that had nothing to do with the reasoning behind the decision to adopt them. **ARMY NEWS SERVICE**

Lone Star division returns from Bosnia

More than 750 Texas Army National Guard soldiers returned home during the first week of October, following a spring and summer of peace-keeping duty in Bosnia.

The 49th Armored Division had commanded the American sector in northern Bosnia—including soldiers in the active Army's 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment and an 11-nation multinational force that included Scandinavian, Russian and Turkish troops—since early last March.

The 49th was the first Guard division to be given charge of active-duty troops since the Korean War. **ARMY NEWS SERVICE**

Survey says: Majority of employers support reservists

The vast majority of American employers have a favorable attitude toward their employees who serve in the National Guard and Reserve, according to a survey conducted by the Department of Defense between October 1999 and January 2000.

The 1999 Reserve Employer Survey is based on telephone interviews conducted with 2,037 large and small employers nationwide.

Although the vast majority of employers expressed a favorable attitude toward the Reserve components, only 6 percent of all businesses in the country employ reservists. Additionally, employers appear generally indifferent to the Reserve status of their job applicants. **AIR FORCE PRINT NEWS**

Caldera notes Army needs more soldiers

Secretary of the Army Louis Caldera said in October the Army needs more soldiers to meet future worldwide missions.

"I think in the post-Cold War world, soldiers are the strategic forces that help us prevent wars. If that is the case, and we project to be as busy as we are, then maybe we need a larger Army than we have today," Caldera said.

Caldera also pointed to record reenlistment figures for the sec-

ond straight year and noted the service had made its recruiting goal for the current fiscal year. The Army also made recruiting goals for the Reserve and National Guard. **ARMY NEWS SERVICE**

ANG set to celebrate 2001 as 'Year of the Employers'

The Air National Guard recently announced its 2001 theme "Year of the Employers" to recognize those employers who support the nation's guardmembers.

Lt. Gen. Russell C. Davis, chief, National Guard Bureau, also made the Army National Guard a full partner in the celebration which supports Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen's initiative to reconnect America with its military. **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

National workshop produces new ideas on family readiness

More than 100 National Guard family program coordinators, retention office managers, volunteers and community managers met Aug. 21 in Phoenix to discuss family readiness issues.

Conferees looked at trends, successes, issues and possible solutions.

Some family support initiatives proposed include more youth camps, spouse programs and child care programs; developing youth exchange programs with Partnership for Peace nations; and a proposal to extend eligibility for post-deployment counseling.

A National Guard Family Program website is nearing completion within the next few months. **AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE**

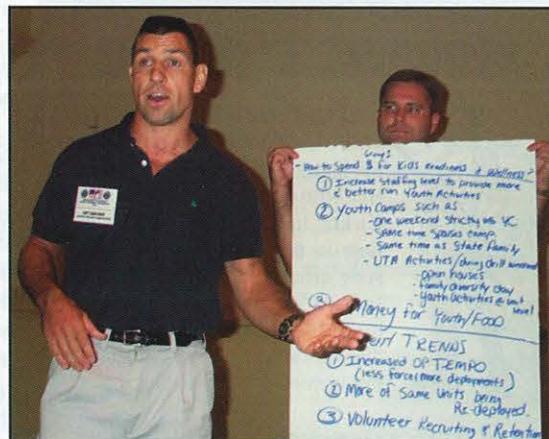


Photo by Linda D. Kozaryn, American Forces Press Service

Ohio Army National Guard CPT John Riker (left) presents findings of a group discussion at the annual National Guard Family Program Workshop.

Faces in the Guard



Spc. Michael S. Conroy
M249 Automatic Rifleman
 Company C, 1-148th Infantry, Delaware

Conroy served four years as a gunner on active duty before returning home to Marion. In 1999, he joined the Ohio Army National Guard, which allows him to further his military experiences and provides financial assistance while he attends Marion Technical College, where he studies criminal psychology. When he is not studying, Conroy plays sports and spends time with his son and daughter, who keep him young.

Senior Airman Jessica E. Meek
Radar Maintenance Specialist
 123rd Air Control Squadron, Cincinnati

Meek, who had considered a career in the military since high school, joined the Air National Guard nearly three years ago. She found the Guard a perfect way to experience the Air Force and still earn educational benefits at home. Originally from Cleveland, Meek attends the University of Cincinnati and is majoring in graphic design. She is single and enjoys many sports, traveling, designing and making clothes, and listening to live music.



Sgt. 1st Class Leroy A. Ward
Fire Chief
 5694th Engineer Detachment (Fire Fighting), Mansfield

Ward joined the Ohio Guard to further his military career and because he liked the camaraderie Army friendships provide. Prior to joining the Ohio Army National Guard in 2000, Ward served nine years in the Missouri Army National Guard and 12 years active-duty Army. A resident of Pickerington, Ward enjoys teaching fire safety to children, woodworking and spending time with his family.

Airman 1st Class Rashad L. Jones
Information Manager
 178th Fighter Wing, Springfield

Jones, a student at Clark State Community College in Springfield, joined the Guard two years ago for the Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program and for the "opportunity to excel at a career choice that (he) could use for the rest of (his) life." Though he currently works at a local Finish Line athletic footwear store, his goal is to start up a visual design business by 2001. Jones is single and enjoys art, sports and computers.



Spc. Dawn Lee Houk
Water Purification Specialist
 641st Quartermaster Detachment, Kettering

Houk joined the National Guard eight years ago and recently reenlisted for six years to pursue a degree in graphic art using the Guard's scholarship program. Though she holds the title "water dog" as a traditional guardmember, Houk works full-time as a recruiting assistant in the Kettering area. The first woman in her family to serve in the military, Houk spends much of her free time on community service projects and veterans' issues.

TOLEDO

Command profile



Col Thomas E. Schart
 180th Fighter Wing

Age: medium/well.

Traditional Guard Position/Full-Time Occupation: Commander, 180th Fighter Wing.

Hometown: Delta, Ohio.

Marital status: married 30 years.

Children: Brian, 27; Carrie, 25; Amanda, 19; Adam, 15.

Most recent achievement: appointment (Sept. 9) as commander of the best fighter wing in the Air National Guard.

The last good movie I saw was: *The Patriot*.

The book I'm reading is: *Flags of Our Fathers*.

My most prized possession is: a 1964 Gretsch Spitfire guitar.

Heroes: our veterans.

Nobody knows I'm: afraid of heights.

I'm better than anyone else at: euchre.

I'd give anything to meet: Gen. Robert E. Lee.

The three words that best describe me: fair, loyal and compassionate.

If I could leave today's guardmembers with one piece of advice it would be: Enjoy your association with the Guard while you can; time flies and it will be over before you know it!

Warden of Year balances career, family, Guard

Story and photo by
Master Sgt. Robert Jennings
196th Mobile Public Affairs Det.

As you enter his northside Columbus office, you quickly gain insight into the man and his loves. Pictures of his wife and three young sons depict a loving husband and devoted father. Clusters of awards and honors showcase his military and civilian successes. And prominently centered in the room is a symbol of his life's passion for music—an old but brightly polished red, white and blue marching band drum.

This is the office of Ronald D. Edwards, South Regional Director of the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. Edwards is responsible for the day-to-day oversight and operations of 17 prisons, in the Columbus area and stretching south to the Ohio River. Duties include inmate accountability, institutional programming issues and staff concerns.

Hanging above his prized possession is the newest addition to the room's décor—a plaque with an inscription that reads: "North America's Warden of the Year 2000."

"I'm particularly proud of this award because its meaning is twofold," Edwards said as he tapped his fingers on the drumhead, as if trying to score a soundtrack to his 26-year career as a corrections professional. "I am the first Ohioan to receive the award and the first African-American," he said.

The award dates back to the 1950s and was presented to Edwards by the North American Association of Wardens and Superintendents for his exceptional and innovative management skills.

"They flew me and my wife and kids out to San Antonio for the awards reception," Edwards said, again expressing his appreciation for family. "It was a great experience for all of us."

Edwards began his career in 1974 as a corrections officer in Lebanon. After receiving a degree in criminal justice from Wilmington College, he quickly climbed the ranks and held the position of warden in four Ohio prisons before becoming regional director last year.



With family photos and a memento of his military-music career close at hand, Ron Edwards poses with his North American Warden of the Year plaque (upper left corner).

At first encounter, however, it's difficult to imagine how this likeable man, in his slender well-dressed frame, could be the top administrator in arguably one of world's toughest professions. He's quick with a laugh, is in constant motion and engages everyone he meets with conversation and storytelling. But one shouldn't be fooled by his disarming personality—Edwards has stood face-to-face with some of the most dangerous criminals in Ohio and the United States, and routinely deals in life and death situations.

This constant exposure to the seamy side of the human condition could have made him reclusive and cynical. But Edwards remains even-keeled, balancing his life with a commitment to family, the National Guard and his love for music.

Edwards is a percussionist and the top enlisted soldier in the Ohio Guard's 122nd Army Band. In 1972 he enlisted in the active Army and was promptly rewarded with an assignment in Vietnam as a door gunner in H Troop, 10th Air Cavalry.

After serving two years on active duty, Edwards returned to Ohio and joined the National Guard. Edwards has been a fix-

ture in the band for most of his 26 years in the Guard. "I've always loved to play music, and I love this unit," Edwards said. "In fact, there's nothing else I'd rather do."

Although Edwards is proud of his personal achievements, he seems to get greater satisfaction from helping others. As last year's coordinator for his state agency's Combined Charitable Campaign, he helped raise more than \$742,000, up from \$650,000 the previous year. "We were so successful in years past, I wondered if we could even meet our goal. I'm so thankful for the generosity of our employees."

His Midas touch is at work in the National Guard too. The 122nd Army Band is currently at 130-percent strength; Edwards has had an active hand in the unit's recruitment and retention efforts.

Ironically, though, Edwards sees a lot of musically talented people come into the corrections system. Through his military experience, however, he has helped turn lives around by starting bands inside the prison walls, which allows inmates to express themselves and develop valuable vocational skills.

"It's really a matter of the choices that they make," he said. "We try to do whatever it takes to help them make positive contributions to society once they are released."

According to Edwards, rehabilitation and corrections has grown over the last 20 years—but, he said, those numbers can fluctuate. "When I started in 1974 there were 8,900 inmates in 11 prisons throughout the state," he said. "Today, the state houses 45,000 inmates in 34 prisons."

Edwards said he is encouraged that judges increasingly impose alternate sanctions to nonviolent offenders to keep them out of prison.

Through it all, the top warden in the United States and Canada maintains a positive attitude and an engaging smile. Edwards is a baby boomer who came of age in the Vietnam era and, like many of his generation, refuses to be categorized or stereotyped. He likes rock'n'roll, plays the drums and guitar, and has zest for life.

If striving to be the best at what one does means you must "march to the beat of a different drum," then Edwards is leading the band—and in his case that's true literally as well as figuratively. ■

Under Michigan Skies

Largest Ohio
National Guard
contingent in
more than
decade hits
ground at
Camp Grayling

During either of two, 15-day rotations this summer at Camp Grayling, Mich., Ohio Army National Guard soldiers lived in tents and military vehicles, woke before dawn and trained into the evening.

For many veteran guardmembers, annual training at the 147,000-acre training site in northern Michigan is an annual rite of passage. This year, from July 8 through Aug. 5, more than 2,800 Ohio Army Guardmembers tested their soldiering skills at the numerous firing ranges and maneuver areas at one of the U.S. military's largest training facilities.

The 73rd Troop Command led the first two weeks of training, with several cavalry, transportation, maintenance, medical and military police units assigned. Headquarters, State Area Command (STARC) served as command and control for the last half of AT, with elements of the 37th Armor Brigade conducting Operation Rolling Thunder.

"(At Camp Grayling), our troops can conduct tank gunnery, maneuver, artillery, demolition and barrier construction, as well as small arms firing," said Lt. Col. Richard Willinger, OHARNG training branch chief. He said the installation appeals to Ohio Guard leadership because it offers opportunities for both collective and individual tasks all in one place. "Camp Grayling has it all," he said. "It's also very economical." Hauling equipment and troops in military vehicles is less expensive than having to ship by rail or air, which is typically required when sending units to more distant training sites, he explained. The Grayling maintenance facility saves tax dollars by maintaining M1 Abrams tanks and artillery pieces, erasing the cost of transporting this equipment to and from the training facility.

The 1-134th Field Artillery Battalion combined with the 112th Engineer Battalion to take Ohio's artillery one step closer to actual combat conditions during annual training this year at Camp Grayling. For the first time in Ohio National Guard history, these two units pulled together to

--continued on page 8

Two soldiers from the Ohio Army National Guard's 37th Armor Brigade render salutes after raising the flag during annual training closing ceremonies and parade in August at Camp Grayling, Mich.

Photo by Steve Toth, Adjutant General's Department Public Affairs Office

Grayling 2000



Courtesy photo

ABOVE: A soldier from Charlie Company, 1-148th Infantry, fires an AT-4 anti-tank weapon during nighttime training. **RIGHT:** Alpha Company, 112th Combat Engineer Battalion's SPCs Timothy Barlow (left) and Brian Jackson practice loading canisters into a Volcano mine launching system, capable of propelling 960 mines in 10 minutes to create a minefield more than 20,000 square meters in area.



Courtesy photo

set conditions that allowed soldiers to train as they would fight.

"Our D-7 bulldozer operators took on the mission of preparing firing positions with a whole new perspective when they learned that the 1-134th Field Artillery was actually going to fire from the positions that we prepared for them," said Lt. Col. Dana McDaniel, 112th commander.

More realistic training presented new challenges for soldiers to overcome. Soldiers learned things such as camouflage nets need to be put up a different way, and the task of running excess propellant charges to the powder pit was more difficult when they had to climb out of a hole every time a fire mission is executed. Other common tasks like sighting the howitzer, placing aiming reference points or simply moving around were more difficult.

"It's amazing how much different and challenging training becomes when you actually get to occupy and fire from one of these positions," said Sgt. 1st Class Dirk Ferguson of C Battery, 1-134th Field Artillery, Piqua. "We still use the same skills, but we have to adapt ourselves to combat conditions that we typically don't face in the course of normal training."

Both battalions also learned valuable lessons regarding the coordination of such an effort. Even more important, however, is the coordination that must occur on the ground. If a position is oriented on the wrong azimuth or if it is placed in the wrong area it could significantly impede the firing capability of the battery.

"This is the kind of dynamic training opportunity that our soldiers have been waiting for and we intend to provide them more of the same in upcoming years," said Lt. Col. Phil Lootens, 1-134th Field Artillery Battalion commander.

Sgt. Jim Yerian of the 1485th Transportation Company, Dover, spent his days attacking Ohio Army Guard convoys, killing soldiers and damaging vehicles during the 73rd Troop Command rotation.

To clarify, Yerian was one of the Ohio Guardmembers serving as OPFOR (opposing forces) during annual training, providing a simulated enemy to create a more realistic and challenging training environment for Ohio Guard units while in the field.

"You're helping other people train," Yerian said. "You're on your own and get to do more of the attacks. It's the element of surprise."

For the 1486th Transportation Company, Ashland and Mansfield, one of the training exercises—also referred to as lanes training—involved taking a six-vehicle convoy on a dusty, 17-mile route that included an enemy roadblock and simulated sniper fire. A squad leader would be "killed" in an ambush and others "wounded," forcing remaining soldiers take charge and continue the mission.

The mission of the men of the 2-107th Cavalry Squadron during their rotation in the first two weeks at Camp Grayling was to conduct troop-level combined arms maneuver lanes. This required integrating scouts, tanks and mortars to perform a realistic combat training mission on a simulated battlefield against a living, thinking OPFOR. Maneuvering a cavalry troop is challenging, requiring tremendous communication and teamwork between the crewmembers of an individual vehicle and the various platoons and sections within the troop.

The field portion of AT began with a tactical road march. Columns of M1 Abrams tanks, armored personnel carriers (APCs) and wheeled vehicles thundered down dusty tank trails. As platoons and sections reached pre-planned release points, they peeled off toward their given destinations. During week one, the 2-107th occupied seven separate

field training sites located throughout northern Camp Grayling. In addition to maneuver lanes, cavalry soldiers occupied positions to conduct mortar live fire, a combat-field trains site and a tactical operations center.

Scouts and tankers spent the first week of AT being evaluated in their maneuver warfare skills at the platoon level. A and B Troops performed offensive missions as the BLUEFOR (friendly forces) while C Troop's scouts and tanks performed defensive missions as OPFOR. Responsible for conduct of each lane was an O/C (observer/controller), who evaluated how well the units performed assigned missions.

"Listen up," bellowed Col. Matt Kambic, 37th Armor Brigade commander. "This year at Grayling, the 237th is establishing the BSA." Those words, spoken more than a year ago, would change forever the way the 37th and its subordinate 237th Forward Support Battalion do business.

For the first time since the inception of the brigade, about 300 soldiers turned a bunch of trees, trucks, dust and diesel fumes into a "city" of logistical support called a Brigade Support Area, or BSA.

"We're in Gotham City, and guess who I am," quipped 237th Commander Lt. Col. Rufus Smith to his soldiers as they walked the perimeter of the BSA. "Gotham City," as the BSA became known, was an area of land about four to seven kilometers wide. When established, the BSA was complete with traffic patterns, speed limit signs and its own set of laws. It was the hub where the supply, maintenance and medical companies of the 237th, along with other support units, sustained the brigade across the entire training area, just as they would in combat.



Courtesy photo

LEFT: An M1 Abrams tank crew conducts field maneuvers. BELOW: SFC Gary Sindelar (far left) of the 1486th Transportation Company evaluates how unit members react after their squad leader, SSG Rick Bomfiglio (on ground) becomes a "casualty."

"It was such a great experience to learn how all three of my sections (rations, fuel and ammunition) worked together to make sure the entire brigade got the support it needed to complete its mission," said 2nd Lt. Gwen Ziolo, supply platoon leader for A Company, 237th FSB. "Being in the field was much more practical and useful than issuing supplies from a dock back in cantonment. My soldiers taught me what they knew, and they got to teach me in the right environment."

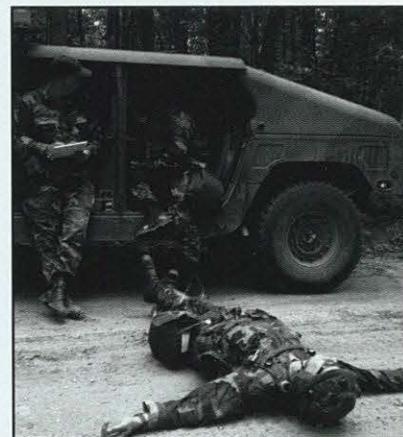


Photo by MSG Robert Jennings, 196th MPAD

As the AT period progressed, support requirements and training opportunities increased. Bravo Company of the 237th was sending out maintenance support teams to repair damaged equipment on the battlefield along with recovery operations to haul equipment back to the BSA to be repaired, and the medical company (Charlie, 237th) ran a patient care facility and sick call operations for the entire brigade.

"The best thing about this year's AT is that we get to do the same thing next year," said Sgt. 1st Class Jon Huff, 237th FSB operations noncommissioned officer. "Everything we learn here we can apply to the future, and that's good to know."

Though Ohio troops traditionally spend about 10 of their 15 AT days in the field, Brig. Gen. Ronald Young, assistant adjutant general for Army, encouraged commanders to allow for time off this year to boost morale. Conducting 24-hour operations, firing live ammunition from tanks and howitzers, and living in the dirt and sand can create tension even in the most cohesive units.

During the middle weekend of the two-week AT rotations, units traveled back to the rear for some rest and relaxation in garrison. Many sporting competitions highlighted weekend activities—Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1-107th Armor Battalion, Stow, after claiming the 37th Armor Brigade softball tournament trophy, went on to defeat the team from HQ STARC (-) to gain the overall AT '00 crown during the second rotation.

The second week of the 37th's rotation saw more battle-focused training for units and supporting elements before culminating with a brigade run, as well as a parade and awards ceremony, before returning to Ohio on Aug. 5. ADJUTANT GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE



Courtesy photo

PV2 Richard Ayala (left) and SPC Endre Munzberg (right) of 1-107th Armor discuss their fields of fire with COL Matt Kambic (center), 37th Armor Brigade commander. The two soldiers distinguished themselves during annual training by constructing a two-man fighting position in accordance with Army standards. For their technical competence, they were awarded impact Army Achievement Medals and the brigade commander's coin.



Photos by Steve Toth, AG Dept. PAO

BELOW: The range 40 target zone at Camp Grayling, Mich. is assaulted with artillery fire and ordnance from A-10 jet fighters (inset). **OPPOSITE PAGE:** A crew from 1-134th Field Artillery Battalion fires an M109-SP Howitzer cannon positioned a few thousand meters behind the target zone. **BELOW, RIGHT:** From an observation point on the range, LTC Phil Lootens (right), 1-134th commander, explains the combined arms exercise to Maj Gen John H. Smith, state adjutant general, who was on hand to review Ohio Army National Guard training at Camp Grayling.



Photo by Steve Toth, Adj. Gen. Dept. Public Affairs Office

Ohio, Michigan join forces during combined arms live-fire exercise

Story by Steve Toth
Adj. Gen. Dept.
Public Affairs Office

The enemy had seized its objective and was advancing forward steadily.

But this situation would take a turn for the better very quickly.

What had been quiet except for the movement of enemy vehicles soon become a hostile fire zone as a barrage of rounds came from several thousand meters away, fired from 11 strategically placed M109-SP

Howitzer cannons of the Ohio Army National Guard's 1-134th Field Artillery Battalion.

Each of these rounds—measuring 155 millimeters in diameter and weighing 90 pounds—were targeted to knock out the enemy's anti-aircraft weapons systems.

Then a single white phosphorous round, commonly referred to as a "Woolly Pete" round, was fired from a howitzer to mark the target for the second phase of the operation.

In about a minute's time, two

A-10 jet fighter aircraft, from the Michigan Air National Guard's 110th Attack Group in Battle Creek, Mich., were making a run past the target, firing 2.75-inch rockets at the enemy vehicle convoy. On three subsequent passes, the A-10s pelted the target with 30-millimeter cannon fire.

Phase three of the attack saw a massing of the battalion's artillery fire on the enemy target.

This may sound like an actual wartime scenario, but it was actually part of a Com-

bined Arms Live Fire Exercise (CALFEX), and marked a significant event for the Ohio Guard.

This exercise—conducted Aug. 2 on range 40 in the outer reaches of Camp Grayling, Mich., and witnessed by several top Ohio Guard leaders—was the first of its kind in the 1-134th's history.

While not unprecedented for Camp Grayling, a live fire of such magnitude, with all the careful coordination and planning it entails, had not occurred at the installation in almost a decade, according to Michigan Army National Guard

Grayling COI trips educate civic leaders

Over the course of the four weeks that the Ohio Army National Guard trained at Camp Grayling, Mich., several current and former military leaders, civic officials, employers and legislators visited the training site.

They were there at the invitation of Ohio National Guard leadership as part of the Center of Influence (COI) program, established in part to help strengthen Ohio Guard partnerships within communities that are home to Guard installations, and to raise awareness to the issues facing today's citizen-soldiers.

Community leaders were escorted to selected training sites to experience firsthand what Ohio soldiers do during annual training. Many would get the chance to fire small arms and advanced weapons systems during their trips.

"We believe that if our civic leaders are aware of what the Guard does to prepare and train for our nation's defense, as well as for missions at home, they will be even more supportive of our men and women in uniform," said Lt. Col. Deborah Ashenurst, 73rd Troop Command executive officer.

Lt. Gov. Maureen O'Connor visited Camp Grayling on July 25, coinciding with the ONG's birthday. O'Connor officiated over the reenlistment ceremonies for two soldiers, took part in firing a howitzer artillery cannon and rode in an M1 Abrams tank.

State Rep. Catherine Barrett (D-Forest Park) also spent a day with Ohio Army National Guard soldiers during AT.

"Guard soldiers are dedicated people because they want to support their state and nation," Barrett said. "Their teamwork at the ranges to accomplish the mission was impressive. I can see a greater role for the Guard as mentors to our inner-city youth." **MASTER SGT. ROBERT JENNINGS, 196TH MPAD**



Photo by PFC Ikia Perry, HHB, 1-134th Field Artillery Battalion

Capt. Bernie Peters, the camp's range operations officer. Impressive to spectators, the live-fire was a result of a lot of work leading up to it, he said.

"In two weeks (of AT), most people just don't take the initiative to do this," Peters said. "They had to do a lot of coordination to make this happen."

According to Ohio Army National Guard Lt. Col. Steve Jacklin, who was serving as the range 40 liaison officer, it was a matter of determining if units from different branches of the military that were already training at the range could combine their efforts to give all soldiers and airmen involved a more realistic training experience.

"We knew the Air (Guard) was training on the north side of the range, and the field artillery was working the south side," Jacklin said. "So why not develop a combined exercise? It was a great opportunity and the Ohio Guard seized the moment."

Developing battle-focused training is a common challenge among all military units and allows soldiers to practice their Military Occupational Specialties (MOSs). So, when the opportunity to conduct a realistic combined arms, multi-branch exercise presented itself, the leadership of the battalion, including Lt. Col. Phil Lootens, the battalion commander, was definitely interested.

"(Lootens) was enthusiastic about it, particularly if (the exercise) could be worked into the battalion's existing training

schedule and mission," Jacklin said, adding that many officers and noncommissioned officers worked hard to make the exercise a reality.

Capt. Jack Erwin, the battalion fire support officer; Capt. Craig Baker, battalion assistant training officer (S-3) and range 40 officer-in-charge; and Sgt. Eric Chippas of the Headquarters Battery and Sgt. Daniel Wade of Bravo Battery—who would lead forward observer fire support teams during the exercise—worked with several other soldiers to develop an accurate, detailed time line for the operation.

"Developing the time line was difficult," Chippas said. "You must have a strict time line for deconflicting the target area so that no friendly (forces) are hit."

During the exercise, Chippas and Wade—positioned in M113 tracked vehicles with their crews, ahead of the artillery emplacements—used computerized laser designators to "paint the target," which helped the A-10 pilots acquire enemy targets in their aircraft viewfinders.

"It was great training for our soldiers, especially our forward observers, just as they would have to do in combat," Lootens said. "This whole AT has had a combined arms focus. This (exercise) should be the start of a continuing progression of training programs for this battalion." ■

EDITOR'S NOTE: Pvt. 1st Class William R. Tatz, HHB, 1-134th Field Artillery Battalion, contributed to this article.

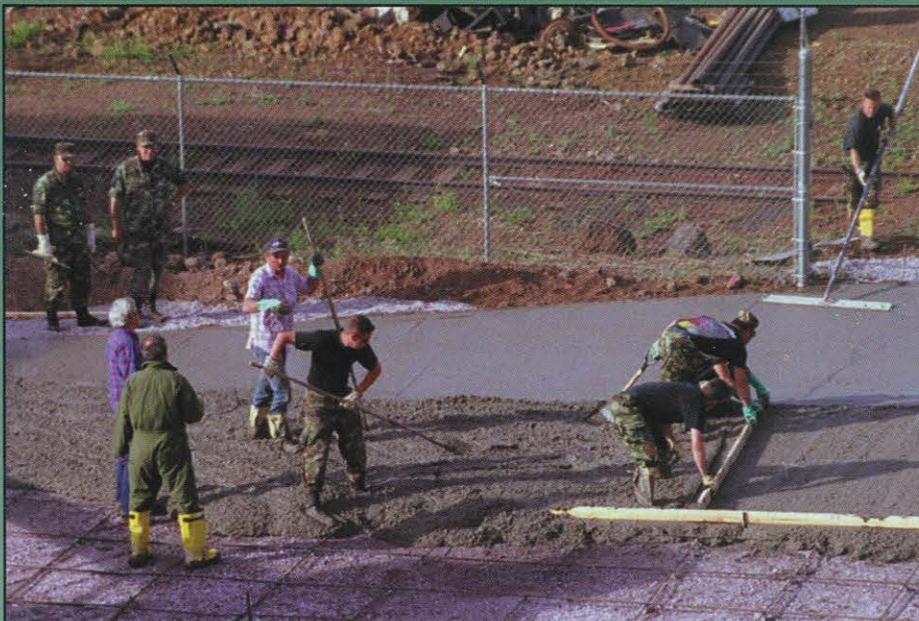


Photo by PFC Ronald Hill, 196th MPAD

ABOVE: With SFC Scott Tamm (left) of Troop A, 2-107th Cavalry supervising, state Rep. Catherine Barrett checks the sights on a mortar. **RIGHT:** Lt. Gov. Maureen O'Connor (right) reenlists SGT Ronald Hetrick of Alpha Company, 112th Engineer Battalion.



Courtesy photo



ABOVE: Civil engineers from Columbus' 121st Air Refueling Wing and Toledo's 180th Fighter Wing pave an access drive between two storage buildings. **RIGHT:** Heavy equipment operators help build up a base road prone to flooding.

Civil engineers put all skills into practice at southwest deployment

Story by Tech. Sgt. Greg Rudl
 Photos by Senior Airman JoyElla Taylor
 121st Air Refueling Wing

The 121st Air Refueling Wing's Civil Engineering Squadron ventured west last summer to fulfill a work mission that allowed a majority of the unit's skilled trades to be exercised.

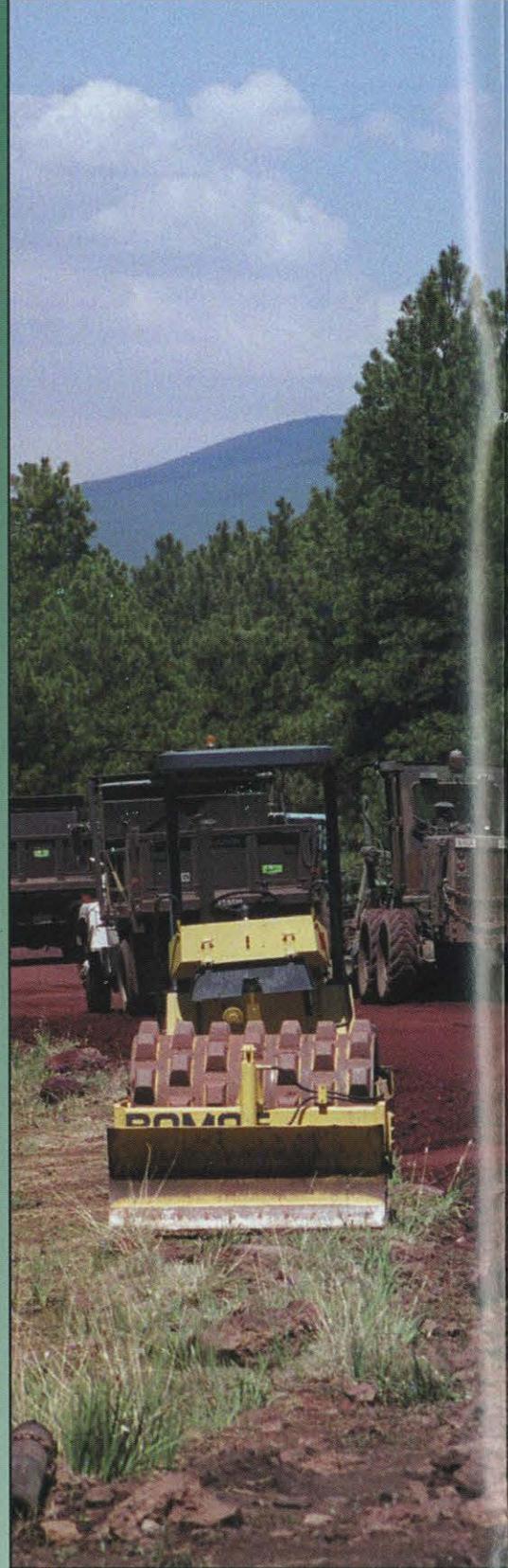
This deployment was staged amid the ponderosa pines and high mountain terrain of Camp Navajo National Guard Training Site, located near Flagstaff, Ariz. The 28,400-acre installation, with its 227 miles of road, 38 miles of railroad and approximately 780 ammunition storage igloos, provided plenty of training opportunities for the 34 airmen from the Columbus unit.

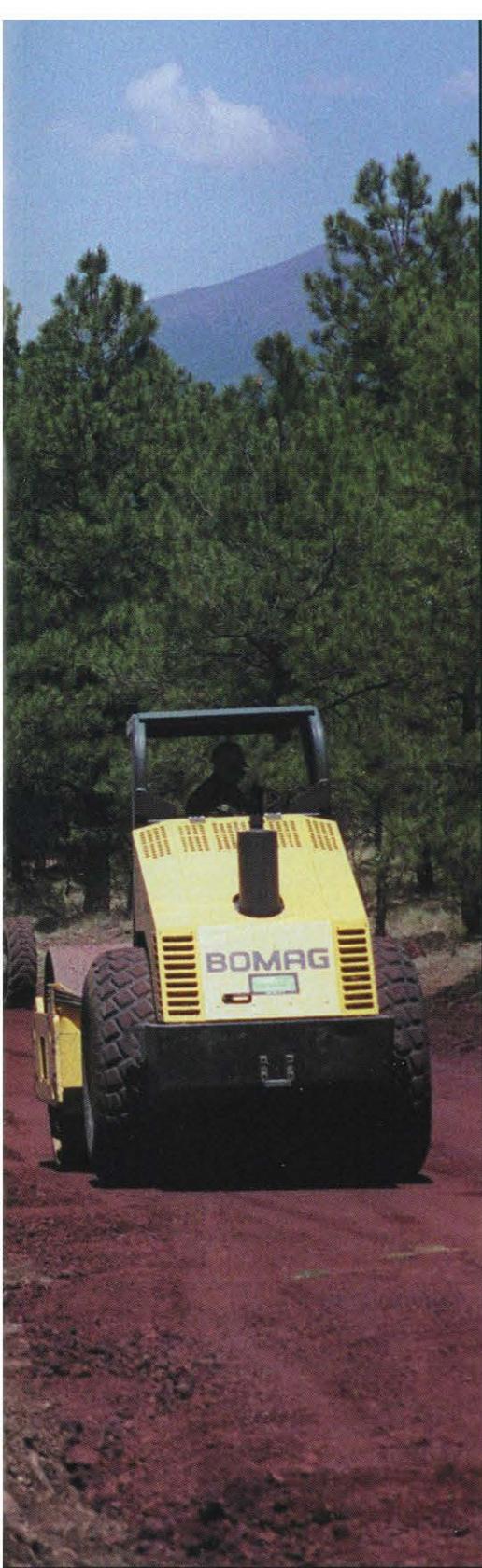
To help accomplish the various missions, the 121st was paired with 37 civil engineers from Toledo's 180th Fighter Wing. "Sometimes we worked side by side, but mostly we just coordinated our efforts," said Tech. Sgt. Jim Williams, one of four 121st carpenters who went on the deployment.

Structural personnel were kept busy renovating several buildings, which included both interior and exterior projects. "We replaced the porch roof and remodeled two bathrooms at the Headquarters Building," Williams said. "We also repaired and constructed walls, roughed in floors and added drop ceilings at several other sites."

One of the more difficult challenges the carpenters faced was replacing the

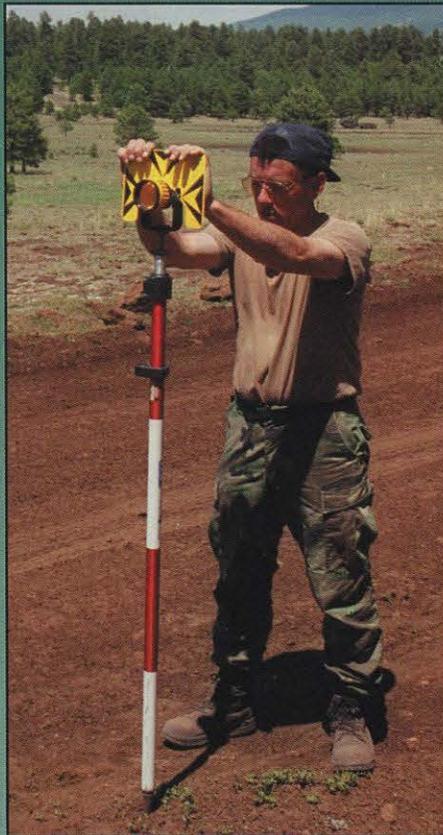
firehouse's decorative trim, which was warped and pulling away from the building. Working in the confined space of a cherry picker raised 40 feet in the air, Staff Sgts. Ryan Dalton and Kevin Smith had to maintain control of 14-foot boards, one keeping them level while the other secured them in place, Williams explained.





Preservation of the original design of the firehouse was a priority for Camp Navajo officials, he added.

Other missions included replacing components on fire suppression systems, and pouring and finishing concrete for vehicular access between two facing storage buildings.



LEFT: TSgt Martin Wollenslegel, 121st engineer assistant, surveys a stretch of road which needed to be raised to prevent flooding. BELOW: SSgt Keith Hess, a utilities systems journeyman, replaces a component on a fire suppression valve system.



According to the first sergeant of the 121st deployment, Chief Master Sgt. William Litsinberger, one of the most significant projects was the raising of a quarter-

mile stretch of base road that normally flooded during the rainy season. "Our heavy equipment people got training they normally don't get," Litsinberger said.

"They built the road up about four feet, dug drainage ditches and placed drainage tile on either side of the road," said Staff Sgt. Paul Richmond, a squadron firefighter who volunteered as a general laborer for the deployment. Richmond spent most of his time driving a dump truck to and from a mountaintop, obtaining lava rock that was used to build up the road.

Members of the 121st continued to work 10-hour days through the middle weekend so that some electrical work could be done which required shutting off the power to the entire base. Climbing poles were installed and high-voltage wire was strung across them to power a mountaintop antenna. After this was accomplished, personnel were allowed time off to visit sites such as the Grand Canyon, the eroded red rock formations near Sedona and the bright lights of Las Vegas.

"I really enjoy these trips," said Williams, a member of the unit for 15 years. "Every summer we go someplace different. I've seen and been so many places I'd never been able to if not for the Guard." ■

Gone with the Wind

Guardmembers are called to respond to disaster-stricken Xenia, where a lethal tornado unleashed its fury on the town's people, property



Photo by SFC Phil Bearden, HHC, 371st Support Group

Story by Tech. Sgt. M. Randy Dunham
179th Airlift Wing

Second Lt. Patrick Griffis stared blankly out the windshield of his car Sept. 20, oblivious to the stopped traffic in front of and behind him, stretching infinitely along Interstate 71 just north of Cincinnati. His mind was on the phone call he had received about an hour earlier in his office at Kroger headquarters, where he's an accountant.

The voice on the other end of the phone told him the services of his unit, the 324th Military Police Company, Middletown, were needed. An F4 tornado had just ripped through Xenia, killing one and injuring nearly 100 others.

But it wasn't being activated that bothered him. It was the ghosts that his mind conjured with the mere mention of the word "tornado."

Only 17 months earlier, Griffis narrowly escaped death when his apartment complex was leveled by a killer tornado that swept through the Blue Ash area of northern Cincinnati. He remembered the early-

morning call from a friend that jolted him from his sleep that April morning.

"Take cover," his friend warned. "There's a tornado heading your way."

Griffis and his roommate grabbed some heavy blankets and bolted downstairs to the lowest level of their apartment. Huddled together in the center of the room, they watched as their world literally exploded around them. The roaring sounds much like a jet engine, the incredible wind and the stinging coldness of the rain on their faces forged a level of fear unfamiliar to them.

Moments later it was over. The silence was deafening for Griffis. Mother Nature left her mark on the region, racking up more than \$82 million in damage, destroying 88 homes and killing four people.

Griffis considered himself lucky. Although he didn't have renter's insurance, he

A leveled local bank shows the devastating impact that resulted from the F4 tornado that touched down in Xenia last September.

escaped with his life. He could replace his belongings.

The ringing cell phone resting on the empty seat next to Griffis shook him back to the

present and the traffic jam so familiar to the Cincinnati area. He pushed the talk button, receiving the official request to report for duty in Xenia. Griffis was overcome with emotion.

"There was no doubt I'd do anything I could to help those people," he said. "I wanted to give back, to show my gratitude for those who helped me through my own ordeal."

Members of Griffis' unit, along with those from the 323rd Military Police Company, Toledo, and A Com-

"The National Guard is a God-send. It is beyond words to express our gratitude to those who wear the uniform...."

— John Saraga, Xenia Mayor

OHIO NATIONAL GUARD CRISIS VEHICLE UP AND RUNNING

pany, 1-148th Infantry, Xenia, were among about 50 guardmembers called up to help mainly with security and traffic control in the Greene County town that was blasted by the powerful tornado. It was the fifth time the Xenia infantry unit was activated for a natural disaster in Ohio, including floods, tornado relief and snow emergencies.

And their presence was much appreciated. "The National Guard is a Godsend," said Xenia Mayor John Saraga. "We are so grateful for the additional security they have provided. It is beyond words to express our gratitude to those who wear the uniform and defend our county."

The Xenia tornado, the second to hit the town in just 26 years, destroyed 48 homes and damaged 50 others. At least 14 businesses were wiped out, with seven more damaged. Early property damage estimates totalled a conservative \$15 million-plus. One man died in the storm.

Staff Sgt. Mario Schmitz, another member of the 324th, said he was proud to represent the Guard in the cleanup efforts.

"It's an honor to help this community in a time of need," he said. "It's been a real experience."

Schmitz was a driver in the motorcade that transported Ohio Lt. Gov. Maureen O'Connor and U.S. Sen. Mike Dewine through the devastated areas. Schmitz said he saw firsthand how the Guard performed its mission.

"The way the National Guard comes together from different units has been great to see," he said. "Everyone is working very well together."

Sgt. Gregory Binion, from the 16th Engineer Brigade, Columbus, was ready and willing to go to Xenia when he got the call.

"I'm willing to do anything they want to put me through," he said. "I'm always willing to help out."

He said it was incredible to see the damage and know that only one person died in the disaster.

"Our soldiers and airmen are anxious to help their neighbors in recovering and restoring a sense of normalcy to their lives," said Maj. Gen. John Smith, state adjutant general. "We feel a sense of responsibility to help in any way we can because we are a community-based organization."

For Griffis, volunteering his time was not an option.

"I don't talk about the tornado too much," he said. "I get choked up about it. Here, I can sympathize and empathize with these people. I just keep telling them that it will get better. Eventually, it does." ■

The mere mention of Y2K will elicit a shameful blush from those who feared its wrath and a quick, "I told you so" from those who did not.

But even as Y2K books head down the one-way street into bargain bins across the nation and the "Y2K scare" becomes the "Y2K spoof," the Ohio National Guard is taking lessons from the faux Armageddon and translating them into disaster preparedness.

Guard soldiers from across Ohio gathered during a drill weekend this fall at Beightler Armory in Columbus for training with the Crisis Action Response Vehicle (CAR-V).

Developed in 1999 as a crisis readiness measure for Y2K, the CAR-V is simply a military vehicle (usually a humvee) equipped with a high frequency radio set, voice radios, a laptop personal computer with modem port, a portable color printer with scanner capabilities, a cellular analog phone, a digital camera and a multipurpose satellite analog phone for voice and fax operations.

All of the communications equipment is "off the shelf," meaning the items can be purchased at the local electronics store. The equipment is also designed to use the military vehicle's battery as its power supply.

The communication system in the CAR-V can link soldiers to various emergency agencies including the Ohio

State Patrol, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Ohio Department of Transportation and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

The daylong training event was headed up by Maj. Dave Kelly and Sgt. 1st Class Phil Bearden of the Ohio National Guard Military Support Office.



"The CAR-V allows (guardmembers) to quickly establish communication with emergency management agencies even in the worst of conditions." — MAJ Dave Kelly

"Everything is pre-programmed," Bearden told the class. "You turn it on and you're talking to folks."

"Today, we're going to teach you to unpack it, set everything up and use it effectively."

Students at the event learned how to set up the equipment and operate it safely, as well as troubleshoot any minor glitches that might arise during use. The event included several hours of classroom instruction from Bearden and Kelly, as well as hands-on classes outside of the armory in which soldiers fired up CAR-V systems and tested the gear.

According to Kelly, the CAR-V can be useful to any unit in the Ohio National Guard.

"Any of these soldiers could be called upon to respond to a flood, tornado or other disaster," Kelly said. "The CAR-V allows them to quickly establish communication with emergency management agencies even in the worst of conditions." SGT J.R. LEWIS, HQ STARC (-)



Students get hands-on time with the CAR-V's high-tech equipment.

If walls could talk...



Photo by PFC Haraz N. Ghanbari, 196th MPAD

“A gentleman came to the tent asking for information on an individual. His face was expressionless, he showed no emotion. I found the name he wanted and asked if he needed assistance locating it on the wall. He accepted my help, and when I pointed out the name, he reached up to touch the letters. It was then that he broke down in tears...clutching the paper I had given him. All I could think to do was walk away.”

SSgt Tammy Bailey, 220th EIS

When Staff Sgt. Tammy Bailey volunteered to assist with the assembly and operation of the Vietnam Memorial Moving Wall, she got a lot more from the experience than she ever expected. Bailey and several other members of the 220th Engineering Installation Squadron at Zanesville walked away with memories that will be forever etched in their minds.

The 220th EIS assisted with the assembly of the wall at the Zane’s Landing Park in downtown Zanesville. Displayed for six days last June, the wall was located next to the eternal flame and Medal of Honor monument. This was the second time the Moving Vietnam Memorial Wall has been to Zanesville; the first time was in 1997.

“Assembly was more complicated this time because the area has changed quite a bit in the last three years,” said Master Sgt. Craig Donnelly, who coordinated the project for the 220th. Unit members realized this project would test their engineering skills when they discovered that the ground was uneven and would not support the wall properly.

“A platform had to be built using two-by-four boards to support the wall,”

Donnelly explained. “A project that would usually take four hours, took 12 to complete.”

In addition to setting up the wall, the unit provided volunteers to operate the “Etched in Stone” software program



Photo by MSgt Greg Meadows, 220th EIS

out of a tent 24 hours a day throughout the display. To assist friends and family members of the fallen veterans of the Vietnam War, the program gave a printout of the person’s name, where they were born, how the servicemember died and the location of the name on the wall.

Maj. Rex Mykrantz was on duty early one morning when a member of the local VFW retold his war story.

“He said he’d been ordered to transport a prisoner to another military camp, but his lieutenant went in his place because (the vet) had just returned from the field,” Mykrantz recalled. The lieutenant’s jeep had only gone a couple of miles down the road when it was hit by mortar, destroying the jeep and killing the young officer.

“The guy was all composure until I helped him locate the lieutenant’s name on the wall. When he saw the name he

MSgt Craig Donnelly trims a 2-by-4 board for the base that will support the mobile monument.

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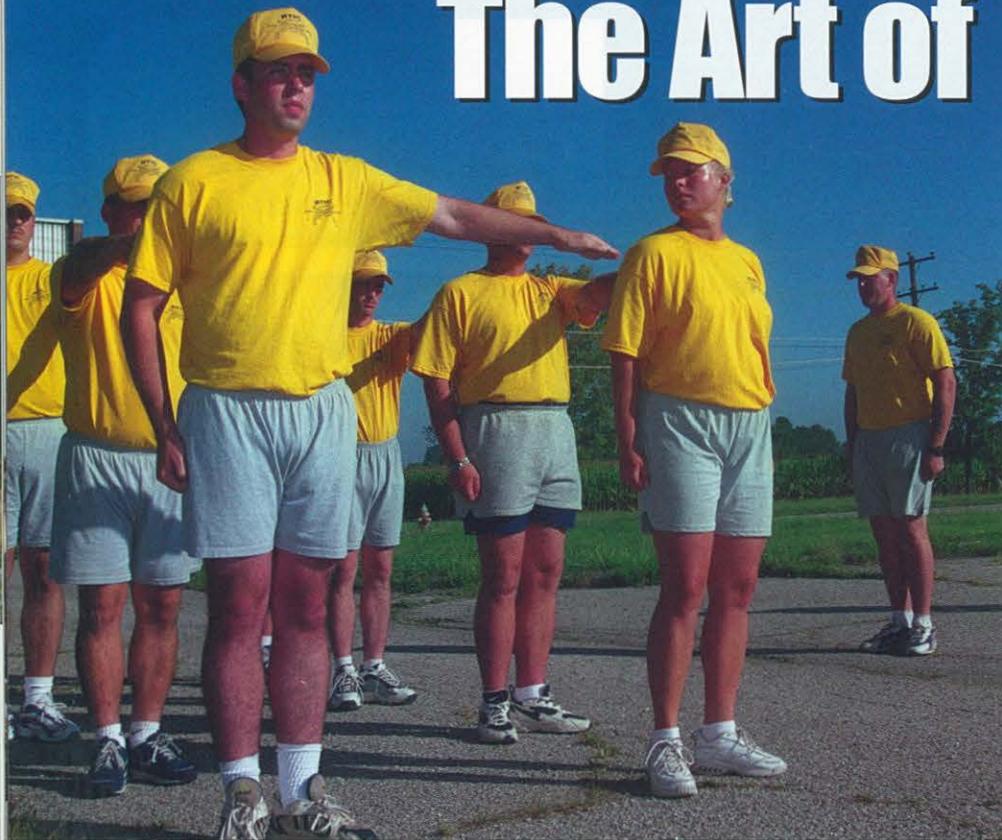


Photo by SrA Adam Pivetta, 121st Air Refueling Wing

Guardmembers learn to 'alter undesirable behavior' using the techniques of U.S. Army drill sergeants

is composed of two phases.

"In Phase I, the students are introduced to the rigorous and physically demanding 'shock incarceration' style environment," said Joshua Perry, branch chief for the program. "Emphasis is on drill and ceremony, leadership and discipline, physical fitness, performance counseling, instructional methods, and alcohol and drug abuse awareness.

"During Phase II, candidates demonstrate their skills as they lead and inspect their peers; plan, coordinate and conduct training; and maintain the same demanding 'boot camp' style environment established by the RTIC drill sergeants." RTIC incorporates the techniques of Army drill sergeants in order to maintain a constant level of stress, control and discipline needed to alter undesirable behavior, Perry explained.

And, according to Drug Demand Reduction Coordinator 1st Lt. Phil McGonagill, "altering undesirable behavior" is one of the ultimate goals of TEAM. "It's meant to instill some discipline and motivation in order to prevent

When most people hear the word "Terminator," images of muscle-bound Austrian-born actors and cheesy lines like "I'll be back," usually follow. Say the word to recent graduates of the Rehabilitation Training Instructor Course (RTIC), and it won't be Schwarzenegger they see in their mind's eye, but Sgt. 1st Class Sharon Berrian, aka "Drill Sgt. Terminator."

Berrian earned the name while teaching the two-week course at Rickenbacker International Airport in Columbus last August. The class taught students how to be effective cadre for future TEAM (Teen Education And Motivation) camps, which has been supported by the Ohio Guard every year since 1993.

"Terminate" was the word RTIC (pronounced 'Ritick') instructors used to dismiss students who didn't meet the standard during one of the required performance examinations. And, according to RTIC students, it was a term Berrian used all too often.

"You not only had to know the standard, you had to demonstrate the standard," said Sgt. Sharon Buchanan, medic with 2-174th Air Defense Artillery (Avenger), McConnellsville, and class distinguished honor graduate. "They did not except anything but a perfect performance."

To pass the course, each student had to

conduct a physical training (PT) session, march a platoon, present four modules of instruction (or "teach backs") and pass two written tests.

Minus camouflage uniforms, weapons qualification and eight weeks of training, the course was run like an Army boot camp. Sporting yellow t-shirts, gray shorts and embroidered ball caps, the students began each day with formation at 4:45 a.m. and spent most of the time on PT, drill and ceremony, and classroom instruction. Though the training day ended at dinner, many students practiced individually or by squad well into the night.

Because of its stressful environment, RTIC lost three of its 31 students by the close of the first day of training. By graduation, only 19 remained.

"Basic training was a piece of cake compared to this," said Sgt. Kevin Lytton, 2-174th ADA.

With 98 academic and training hours formally scheduled, the RTIC program



SPC Mike Harris, class leadership award recipient, dresses right during drill and ceremonies.

Photo by SrA Adam Pivetta, 121st Air Refueling Wing

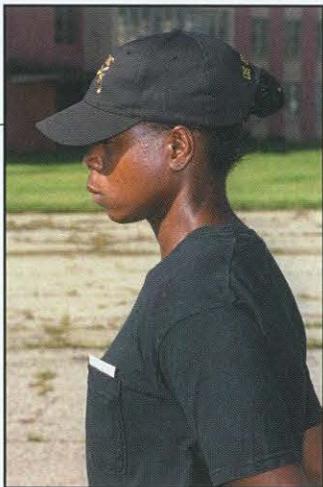


Photo by SrA Adam Pivetta, 121st ARW

“Drill Sgt. Terminator”

further delinquent activities and to better assimilate troubled youth into society,” he said. The nine-day boot camp style program has been used as a partial sentence in the juvenile courts of Licking and Perry counties.

This year, both counties canceled their TEAM camps to allow the RTIC training to take place. McGonagill felt this sacrifice was necessary because a few other “shock incarceration” programs around the country had been charged with varying degrees of misconduct in recent years. To avoid this possibility in Ohio, the lieutenant felt it was necessary to standardize the training program for all TEAM cadre.

First Sgt. Darrell Carson, Headquarters Battery, 2-174th ADA, who has supervised the TEAM programs out of McConnelsville since 1997, said his cadre relied on their military training and experience to run the camp. But in light of the investigations taking place, Carson agreed that some kind of formal training should be considered.

Thanks to a member of the Avenger battalion’s Battery A, Sgt. David McQuaide, Carson found out about RTIC. Because of his civilian occupation, McQuaide attended the program at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., where it is managed by the U.S. Army Military Police School. The sergeant’s full-time job is drill instructor at Camp Reams, an adult boot camp at the Southeast Ohio Correctional Facility in Lancaster. Once introduced to the program, both Carson and McGonagill worked to get a mobile training team here in Ohio.

“It’s the only certified rehabilitation instructor training available in the nation,” Carson said. And, according to the first sergeant, no RTIC graduates have been charged with misconduct or investigated in any way.

“RTIC offered an excellent opportunity for our cadre to receive training on that fine line between discipline and abuse,” he added.

ABOVE RIGHT: Joshua Perry, RTIC program manager, congratulates SGT Sharon Buchanan, class honor graduate, during graduation ceremonies as Ohio Adjutant General Maj Gen John H. Smith and Drug Demand Reduction Coordinator 1LT Phil McGonagill look on. RIGHT: RTIC drill sergeant leaders make on-the-spot corrections while SFC Sharon Berrian conducts a physical training session.

Story by Staff Sgt. Diane Farrow, HQ STARC (-)

“Mr. Perry stressed that when we’re running the boot camp, there is no need to belittle those youth,” said Spc. Angela Bailey, 2-174th ADA communications maintenance specialist. “There is no need to be derogatory to them for any reason

whatsoever and that’s the way they treated us here.

“They said their job was to get us to meet the standard,” Bailey continued. “Never was it their job to get in our face or treat us badly. And they never did. They really did a very nice job putting the pressure on us, keeping us under stress and at the same time treating us like human beings.

“They might have told you were ‘tore up from the floor up,’ but they never degraded you,” she grinned.

And it’s that kind of approach RTIC graduates plan to imitate when they run the TEAM camps next year. Both a male and female camp are being planned.

According to McGonagill, the newly certified drill instructors will also be key if Ohio gets approved to run the Youth ChalleNGe program in the future. Sharing the same goals as TEAM, ChalleNGe is a five-month program that currently is conducted by the National Guard in 15 different states.

Whatever program the RTIC graduates end up supporting, these soldiers know they have earned the title “drill instructor” and everything it stands for.

“This was a true test of what we can do,” Bailey said. “And it’s something I’ll be proud of for a very long time.” ■



Photo by SSG Diane Farrow, HQ STARC (-)



Photo by SSG Diane Farrow, HQ STARC (-)

555th Air Force Band travels to England

Story by Master Sgt. Ealnor Grey
Headquarters, Ohio Air National Guard

Battle of

In addition to appearing at events around Ohio for annual training, Toledo's 555th Air Force Band was asked to perform at an air show that proved to be quite a commute.

But it was a special request.

U.S. Air Force Europe (USAFE) asked the Ohio Air National Guard's "Triple Nickel" to perform during the Royal International Air Tattoo (RIAT)—billed as "The Largest Military Air Show in the World"—July 18-24 at Cottesmore Royal Air Base, England.

Usually Air Force bands from European countries perform during the air show, but with the guest of honor being Maj. Gen. Paul Weaver, director of the Air National Guard, it was appropriate that the Triple Nickel perform. Maj. Gen. John H. Smith, state adjutant general, and Maj. Gen. Paul J. Sullivan, assistant adjutant general for Air, accompanied the band to the Air Tattoo, which showcased 330 aircraft from 30 different countries.

One of the most difficult challenges faced by the band was a request by the RIAT organizers to play an unfamiliar, World War II-era English song, "Wish Me Luck as You Wave Me Good-bye." Because sheet music was not readily accessible, Staff Sgt. Phillip Smith, 555th trombone player, acquired an audio file of the song from the



Photo by LtCol Robert Krichbaum, 555th AF Band

Internet and penciled in the music during the flight to England. The band members rehearsed the piece for the first time just two days before the big event.

The Triple Nickel practiced and performed with the British band from the Royal Air Force of Cranwell. The two directors also tried their hands at leading each other's bands, as RAF Band section leader Stuart Stirling conducted the Triple Nickel while Maj. Robert Krichbaum, the Triple Nickel commander, directed the British band.

During the Air Tattoo, the

bands performed on separate tandem stages and the show was projected to spectators on two screens that measured 40-by-90 feet. The 555th's Flute Ensemble, Woodwind Ensembles and Woodwind Trio also conducted five performances for dignitaries of the RIAT, while the Jazz Band provided music for a hangar dance and party. ■

ABOVE: The 555th's Rock Band performs in front of one of the 180th Fighter Wing's F-16 Fighting Falcons. **BELOW, LEFT:** The Tally Ho's, a drum, brass and drill team from England, also performed at the Royal International Air Tattoo. **BELOW:** SSgt Andrea Christen, SSgt Dave Rochte and TSgt James Edwards sing at a hangar dance.



Photo by MSgt Marvin Johnson, 180th Fighter Wing



Photo by MSgt Marvin Johnson, 180th Fighter Wing

the Bands

OHARNG's 122nd Army Band makes tour of state

Story by Pfc. Haraz N. Ghanbari
196th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment



Photo by PFC Haraz N. Ghanbari, 196th MPAD



Photo by PFC Haraz N. Ghanbari, 196th MPAD



Photo by PFC Haraz N. Ghanbari, 196th MPAD

During an afternoon picnic with friends and family, residents of the Westlake Village retirement community near Cleveland enjoyed an hourlong musical concert by the 122nd Army Band earlier this year, as part of the Columbus unit's annual training tour of Ohio.

The 64-member band made stops in Ohio's three largest cities—Cincinnati, Columbus and Cleveland—typically spending three to five days touring each city and its suburbs.

The band played to an estimated 70,000 people during the two-week jaunt this summer, which included performing the national anthem at two baseball games, one each for the Cincinnati Reds and Columbus Clippers, as well as stops at the Cleveland and Cincinnati zoos and Paramount's Kings Island.

Although crowds gather at the band's various performances and listen to music ranging from patriotic to popular, playing at Westlake Village is a bit more special—several of the residents are military veterans



Photo by Todd Cramer, Adj. Gen. Dept. Photo Lab

who experienced war up close.

"(The concert) was very, very good," said Joseph Lefko, who twice received the Purple Heart after being wounded during combat in World War I.

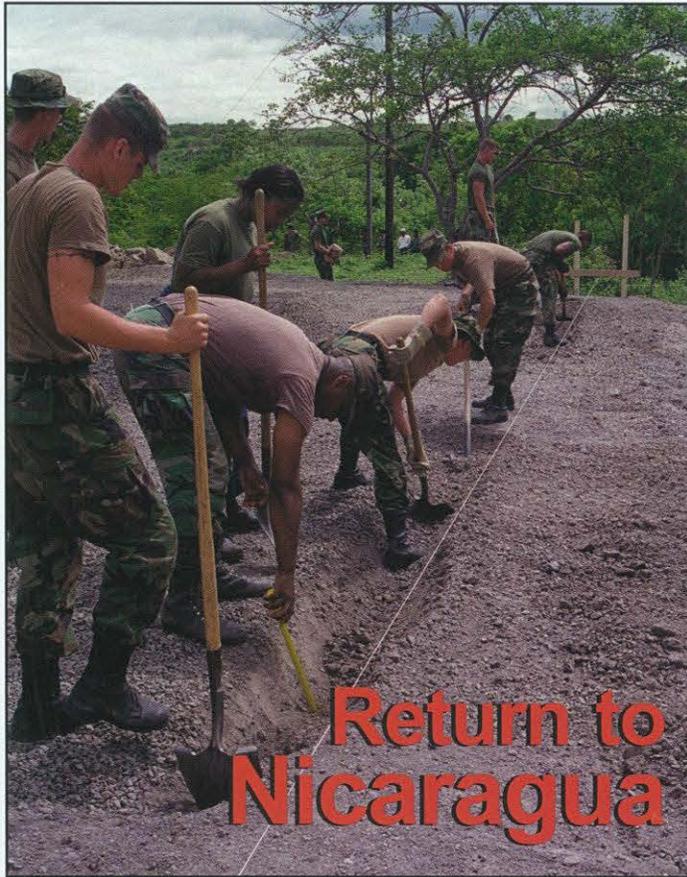
"An appreciative crowd really brings out the best in an organization," said Chief Warrant Officer Robin Kessler, commander and director of the band. "(The band's visit to Westlake) is quite an event. It has grown and gotten larger each year."

Nearly 500 people attended

the band's performance. According to Wendy Staffilion, resident services director of Westlake Village, the band attracts more people than any other program available to the residents during the season.

"This is one of their highlights of the summer and, frankly, of the entire year," Staffilion said. "This is definitely their type of music, because a lot of them are veterans and a lot of them are into big bands and band music in general." ■

CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM LEFT: CPL Ty Bowers gives a blast on the tuba during a performance at Westlake Village. SGT Larry Brown brings his upright bass sound to an outdoor concert near Cleveland. SPC Adam Adair plays the trombone during a performance that marks the band's fourth consecutive year appearing at the retirement community. CW2 Robin Kessler directs Guard musicians during a lunchtime concert at Beightler Armory in Columbus.



Return to Nicaragua

Story and photos by
2nd Lt. Shannon Scherer
179th Airlift Wing

For Spc. Emily Joseph, this year's Fourth of July celebration wasn't just about America's independence, it was about helping people in need.

Joseph, a member of Charlie Company, 216th Engineer Battalion, Youngstown, deployed last summer with about 60 other Ohio Army National Guard engineers to Nicaragua. Two rotations resumed humanitarian relief efforts in the struggling Central American nation that was crippled by the effects of Hurricane Mitch in late 1998.

"It's nice to be able to apply our training to help those less fortunate," Joseph said.

The Guard worked on building clinics and schools in San Isidro, Santa Rosa and El Hato, Nicaragua. Ohio Army Guard soldiers worked closely with personnel from the Navy and Marines to complete this year's projects.

"I'm learning a lot about the other services," said Sgt. Brenda Thompson, a carpenter/mason. "It's been a good experience for everyone involved."

Lt. Col. Alan Rogers, commander of Joint Task Force-Esteli, the OHARNG-led engineering project conducted in northwest Nicaragua in 1999, said this year's deployment was much different than a year ago. "The Nicaraguans are better prepared to work with us this year," he said. "They are more receptive to Americans and understand that we are here to help."

And, during a command visit last July, the smiling faces of villagers demonstrated no less.

Rogers, along with Maj. Gen. John Smith, state adjutant general, and Brig. Gen. Ken Robinson, 16th Engineer Brigade commander, toured the completed projects from 1999 and visited Ohio troops



LEFT: Members of the 216th Engineer Battalion dig a culvert for a new clinic in the village of San Isidro. ABOVE: BG Ken Robinson, 16th Engineer Brigade commander, greets a student at the Plantanares school, built in 1999 by the Ohio Guard.

working at the new work sites. As the entourage flew into Santa Teresa, Plantanares and Casa Blanca, they were met by happy children and appreciative adults.

Staff Sgt. Ed Porter, who supported New Horizons last year, was able to return to see the completed school and clinic at Plantanares.

"This place was a mess after the hurricane," Porter said. "It's great to see what's transpired since we left."

Though the members of Charlie Company may have missed the spectacular fireworks displays at home, they said their holiday experience in Nicaragua was even better. More than 200 deployed personnel gathered for a cookout and small fireworks demonstration of their own.

Local villagers lined the fences outside the work site to watch the fireworks. They too wanted to celebrate their independence, which grows stronger with each project completed by the U.S. military. ■

TELLING THE GUARD STORY

Media team honored for New Horizons coverage

News reporter Maria Durant and videographer Jason Old, of Columbus' ABC television affiliate WSYX, recently received the Society for Broadcast Journalists' top annual award for documentaries with their six-part news series in July 1999 entitled "Helping Hands."

It detailed the Ohio National Guard's part in Exercise New Horizons hurricane relief efforts in Central America.

"It's not often where the impact of Ohioans' humanitarian efforts is felt around the world," Durant said. "We looked at this as an extraordinary, heart felt story, and we thank the Guard for allowing us to tell their story



Photo by Steve Toth, Adj. Gen. Dept. PAO

Maria Durant (center) and Jason Old (right) interview an Ohio Army Guardmember during New Horizons '99 in Nicaragua.

to Ohio. Hopefully, this award is more of an indication of the Guard's impact on the people of Nicaragua, versus Jason's and my reporting." ADJ. GEN. DEPT. PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

Fired up

Soldiers from 1-147 Armor Battalion head to Camp Ripley to qualify on weapons systems, fire tank crew gunnery tables

Story and photos by Sgt. Clinton Wood
Minnesota National Guard

Camp Ripley, Minnesota's premier 53,000-acre Army National Guard Training Center, was the perfect training ground for the Ohio National Guard's 1st Battalion, 147th Armor during its annual training July 8-22.

The battalion's Alpha, Bravo, Charlie and Delta companies, as well as its headquarters element converged on Camp Ripley to perform the ever-important tasks of qualifying on various weapons systems and tank crew gunnery tables.

Capt. Andy Anderson, Bravo Company commander, said Camp Ripley's cool daytime temperatures, along with the hospitality and service of the base's resident staff provided a good environment in which to train.

"We're already starting to find a way to get back here," he said. "The time saved



really helped us with our training."

He noted that during last summer's annual training at Fort Knox, Ky., several training days were stopped by 11 a.m. because of the heat that exceeded 110 degrees Fahrenheit. This type of temperature would cause what is called a Category 5 heat index to be issued. This is the highest category, and the most training that can be done in an hour is 10 minutes worth.

"That's down time," Anderson commented.

When temperatures reached 90 degrees at Camp Ripley, the weather was considered sweltering to the local residents, but Anderson said it still wasn't too hot for his troops to train. "It was hot, but it didn't affect us," he said.

The battalion's training included M1 Abrams crewmembers going through Tank Gunnery

Tables IV, V and VI; scouts firing various Army weapons systems for record—including the M60 machine gun, M249 SAW (squad automatic weapon) and M2 50-caliber machine gun; and mortar soldiers operating the new 120-millimeter mortar.

Table IV is a non-live fire exercise which teaches and evaluates the tank crew in several areas, including fire commands and crew integrity. Table V is a live-fire exercise with the mounted 50-caliber and

SPC Jason Hauer, HHC, 1-147th, carries 50-caliber machine gun bullets back to his humvee for a record fire exercise.

M60 machine guns and Table VI is live-fire exercises with the tank's main 105-millimeter gun.

A scout platoon has 10 humvees. Five have Mark 19 (MK-19) 40-millimeter grenade launchers and five have M2 50-caliber machine guns—both weapon systems are mounted on the turrets. The platoon is divided into four, two-vehicle teams. The other two humvees carry the platoon sergeant and the platoon commander. Each humvee also has an M60 machine gunner. For many of the scouts, this annual training period provided their first opportunity to fire the MK-19.

"This was not just another AT exercise for the tankers, scouts, mortar men and support soldiers of the battalion, but it was the culmination of a year's worth of extremely hard

work and dedication," said Maj. Mark Slavik, 1-147th Armor Battalion commander. "Over the past 12 months, each soldier has been training in order to conduct live-fire and maneuver exercises."

Camp Ripley was the focus of the battalion's yearlong training, during which soldiers sharpened their skills and developed the cohesiveness of teammates that is necessary to accomplish the mission.

"This AT was an opportunity for those new tank commanders, section and squad leaders to lead their soldiers under challenging battlefield conditions," Slavik said. ■

"This AT was an opportunity for those new tank commanders, section and squad leaders to lead their soldiers under challenging battlefield conditions."

— MAJ Mark Slavik, commander

Now we're cookin'

Cooks learn new skills at Food Service School



SFC Frank Corbin, a cook with HHC, 1-148th Infantry Battalion, sets up the camouflaged tent around a field mess.

Story and photos by Sgt. J.R. Lewis
HQ STARC (-)

One of the keys to making soldiers happy during drill weekends and annual training is keeping their stomachs full.

However, this task involves more than just defrosting meat, boiling noodles and whipping up desserts.

Cooks from around the state of Ohio gathered at the Ohio Army National Guard Director of Logistics (DOL) Food Service School to learn new culinary techniques and train on state-of-the-art equipment at the Rickenbacker Army Enclave on Aug. 19 and 20.

"The school gives these soldiers the chance to learn together in an environment without deadlines for chow," said Chief Warrant Officer Anita Larig, a food service advisor from 73rd Troop Command. "They can learn without intimidation."

According to Larig, the school also provided soldiers a forum for exchanging ideas on improving the quality of food service.

"Because the school is sponsored by the DOL, it allows a high visibility of trends throughout the state that can be communicated to the troops," Larig said.

Events at the school included display of a Mobile Kitchen Trailer and the introduction of new unitized group rations (UGRs), which are the new military hot field meal.

"The UGRs are basically the same thing as T-rations with all the plates, forks and accessories capable of serving 50 soldiers," said Sgt. 1st Class Frank Corbin, a food service

technician from HHC, 1-148th Infantry Battalion. "You just take out the box, prepare the food and serve it."

Corbin said that although the UGRs provide simple, easy meals for soldiers in the field, the introduction of the ready-made meals has taken "a lot of adjustment" on the part of food service soldiers.

"(UGRs) are hard for the cooks to deal with because most of them take a lot of pride in cooking and preparing meals," Corbin said. "But they're easy to use. You

just have to have a good can opener."

Students also got the chance for some hands-on practice with the new M-2 Modern Burner Units, which are used to cook in field environments.

"Once you use an M-2 burner, you don't want to use anything else," said Staff Sgt. Toni Jackson, a cook with the 135th Military Police Company, headquartered in Brook Park. "They're so easy to use. If it breaks down, there is a signal with a code. All you have to do is look up that code in a manual and fix it."

According to Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth Harris, an instructor for the school from 73rd Troop Command, soldiers need hands-on time with the relatively safe and easy-to-operate equipment.

"The school allows us to teach soldiers the proper way to operate these burners and prevent emergencies."

First sergeants and unit commanders were also encouraged to attend the event, though participants saw fewer of these soldiers than expected.

"A lot of times they don't see us unless something is wrong," Harris said. "By attending this school, the unit commanders and first sergeants can see what a cook goes through."

Participants and event organizers said first sergeant and unit commander attendance was necessary so the leaders could get a broader understanding of all the work that goes into preparing meals and keeping troops fed in garrison as well as in the field. ■



SGT David Nazarewicz (standing), a cook with the 1484th Transportation Company, works a pump to prepare a new M-2 burner for use as SFC Karl Nunley of HHC, 612th Engineer Battalion, looks on.

Guardmembers help vaccinate raccoon population from rabies in northeast Ohio

By Spc. Michelle Morgan
HQ STARC (-)

Sgt. Joseph Johnson, of Company D, 1-107th Armor Battalion, Cleveland, had an airsickness bag with his name on it. After two days of flying, he kept it close, but he still went up.

It was this commitment to getting the job done that made the National Guard indispensable to the Ohio Department of Health's Bob Hale during a week this past September.

"The Guard helped immensely. I could count on them to do everything that needed done," Hale said.

Hale was referring to members of the Ohio National Guard who assisted his department with a program to eliminate rabies in the raccoon population within a six-county area in northeast Ohio. Volunteering for state active duty, 10 soldiers from the 1-107th Armor Battalion worked in conjunction with several state and federal agencies and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources to reduce the presence of rabies in Mahoning, Columbiana, Trumbull, Ashtabula, Carroll and Jefferson counties.

"The raccoon strain of rabies

is a public health threat," Hale said. "It is better to immunize the raccoons against rabies than to treat the human population for possible exposure."

The vaccination process is fairly simple. A pouch of the vaccine is placed in small, square, fishmeal baits. These baits are then distributed by crews working either on the ground or in the air. Canadian-piloted Twin Otter planes, with conveyor belts running from

the cockpit to the tail, are loaded with boxes of bait which are dropped through a small hole in the bottom of the plane.

Though the actual tasking is not difficult, finding volunteers to fly the missions can be

The plane is small, cramped and smells like dead fish. To distribute the bait effectively, the airplanes fly about 500 feet above ground. Hale said that these conditions combine to make even the most experienced flyers sick.

"Other volunteers quit after one flight. They (guardmembers) were here in the morning to load the planes and worked through the day until everything was cleaned up," Hale said. "The flights last about two hours. When they were not flying, guardmembers were often performing jobs that were labor

SGT James Beitzel (left) and SGT Eric Korbel load an aircraft with bait for aerial distribution.



SGT Edward Mains, HHC, 1-107th Armor (left), and SGT Eric Korbel, Co. C, 1-107th, stock a conveyer belt inside the airplane with vaccine-filled baits to be dropped in-flight.

intensive," Hale said.

Additional requirements included unloading boxes of bait from semitrailers; stacking trays of bait into distribution tubs; placing filled tubs on the aircraft; stocking the conveyor belts with bait; and unloading and cleaning up the aircraft after each mission. During the Sept. 13-16 time span, guardmembers helped dispense 408,240 total baits during 27 separate flights.

"This definitely is not a fun job, but I'm glad to do it," said Sgt. Eric Korbel of Company C, 1-107th, Stow. "I like learning new things, and I feel good knowing that I'm providing a service that will help protect Ohioans."

Fighting rabies is an ongoing process. Even when there have been no cases of rabid raccoons reported, the vaccination process must continue to form a vaccinated barrier that will protect against contaminated raccoons that migrate from Pennsylvania and West Virginia, according to Hale.

"It is prevention verses expensive health issues," said

Roger A. Krogwold, an assistant public health veterinarian who helped with the program. "The cost of treating the viral infection that attacks the nervous system is extremely expensive." Rabies attacks the nervous system and can cause a multitude of symptoms, from pain and itching to delusions to paralysis. The treatment for rabies is a series of painful shots. If an attack by a rabid animal is not treated before the symptoms appear, the recipient of the bite usually dies, Krogwold said.

To control the number of rabies cases, Ohio plans to bait the state's eastern border biannually, from Lake Erie to the Ohio River. "My plan is to man the planes with guardmembers every time, so I have no headaches," Hale said.

The guardmembers who volunteered this year agreed that this was a good mission for them.

"I went up every day and will volunteer again next year," Johnson said. "I want to help with this humanitarian effort." ■

"The Guard helped immensely. I could count on them to do everything that needed done."

—Bob Hale
Ohio Department of Health



Ohio Guard earns another 'Red Ribbon'

Accompanied by members of the Ohio National Guard and other state organizations, Ohio Gov. Bob and First Lady Hope Taft led a kickoff rally for the state-wide Red Ribbon Celebration Oct. 16 at the new COSI Columbus science museum.

The Red Ribbon Celebration takes place every year in October. It is an anti-drug awareness campaign sponsored nationally by the Drug Enforcement Administration and statewide by Ohio Parents for Drug Free Youth.

Observed this year Oct. 23-31, the Red Ribbon Celebration is an ideal mechanism for Ohio National Guardmembers to show support of their local schools and the drug-free initiatives in their communities.

"As governor, my highest priority is giving every child the chance to succeed, and that means giving kids a great education, high-quality health care, safety from violence and abuse, and making sure that drugs and alcohol do not get in the way of their hopes and dreams," Taft said.

The theme of this year's Red Ribbon campaign was "Into the Future Drug Free," which encouraged children to be involved in volunteer work and community service as an alternative to getting involved in drugs. Research shows that children involved in community service are 50 percent less likely to fall prey to drug and alcohol use.

The Ohio Adjutant General's Department, led by Maj. Gen. John H. Smith, state adjutant general, held a ceremony Oct. 19 to mark the celebration at its Beightler Armory headquarters.

Mrs. Taft, the co-founder of Ohio Parents for Drug Free Youth, brought the Red Ribbon Celebration to Ohio in 1988. Today, the celebration is the largest prevention awareness activity in Ohio. Last year, 359,000 people participated in Red Ribbon activities and more than 19,000 Ohioans pledged their support for drug-free lifestyles.

"The Red Ribbon Celebration is about wrapping our kids and communities in good things by showing them the opportunities that are out there if you choose a healthy drug-free lifestyle," she said. "It is my favorite time of year." GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS/ADJ. GEN. DEPT. PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE



Photos by
Todd Cramer,
Adj. Gen. Dept.
Photo Lab

TOP: Ohio First Lady Hope Taft, Gov. Bob Taft, several schoolchildren and others kick off the Red Ribbon Celebration at COSI Columbus. MIDDLE: Maj Gen John H. Smith, state adjutant general, thanks Terri Gehr of Columbus Public Schools for speaking at Beightler Armory during the Red Ribbon Celebration. BOTTOM: Members of the Central Ohio Performance team provide entertainment during the COSI kickoff.

Governor's OhioReads literacy program puts children first

Today more than ever, education is the key that opens the door to a lifetime of opportunity. There is no single education challenge of greater urgency than the need to make sure every Ohio student learns how to read.

OhioReads is Governor Bob Taft's major education initiative to improve the reading skills of Ohio's kindergarten through fourth-grade students so they can pass the state's Fourth Grade Reading Proficiency Test. The governor has called for 20,000 volunteers to provide one-on-one reading tutoring. Currently, more than 10,000 volunteer reading tutors are active in Ohio schools.

OhioReads is a partnership of schools, Ohio National Guard units, community organizations, businesses, libraries, parents and students working together to ensure that Ohio's youngest students are reading at grade level expectations.

In the 2001-02 school year, fourth-graders will be required, for the first time, to pass the fourth-grade reading proficiency test to advance to the fifth grade. Forty percent of Ohio's fourth-graders did not pass the most recent proficiency test.

Ohio National Guard units are encouraged to devise a reading volunteer program in partnership with a local elementary school. Commanders can arrange for soldiers/airmen to use work time to volunteer. Units might also partner with a school to provide a variety of unit resources to assist with a program that supports the school's reading strategy.

Every unit should contact its local elementary school or school district to learn more about their needs and to determine how to partner with the school to improve students' reading skills.

Many students lose some literacy and academic abilities during the summer months—some losing as much as three to four months of academic progress.

Guard units can support OhioReads by having members volunteer as reading tutors; offering armory/installation space for evening, weekend and summer tutoring; donating materials (for example, books donated through a unit book drive) and other resources for schools to use in con-

nection with their literacy programs; and serving as role models and literacy advocates by working with local schools.

Full-time employees (Active Guard/Reserve, military technician and state employees) are authorized to participate in these Adopt-A-School programs, in lieu of assigned duties, for a period not to exceed two hours per week.

Military technicians and state employees also may be authorized by their supervisors to take up to two hours of administrative leave per week to participate.

Traditional guardmembers may participate in one of the following duty statuses: volunteer, non-pay, non-duty; active duty for special work (ADSW) orders for retirement points only; or Drug Demand Reduction ADSW orders for certain events.

Guardmembers can begin by calling their local elementary school; calling the OhioReads office at 1-888-OHIOREADS or clicking on the program website, www.ohioreads.org; or calling the Drug Demand Reduction Office at (614) 336-6590. **ILT PHIL MCGONAGILL, DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION OFFICE**

Many things happening in Counterdrug Task Force arena

Beginning in October 1999, the Ohio National Guard Counterdrug Task Force assigned one full-time person to the state's Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO) at the request of Lt. Gov. Maureen O'Connor. The LESO assists law enforcement agencies in acquiring military surplus equipment, usually from the Army.

To date, the ONG has assisted in identifying, locating and transferring more than \$2 million in surplus equipment to state law enforcement agencies.

Recently, two armored personnel carriers (APCs) were located for transfer to the Wood and Hamilton county sheriff's offices. The APCs were transported from Rock Island Arsenal in Illinois and Fort Drum, N.Y., by members of the 112th Engineer Battalion, headquartered in Brook Park, and the 200th RED HORSE Squadron, Port Clinton.

The Ohio High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) was sanctioned by the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) to begin operations on Jan. 1,

2000. The mission of the Ohio HIDTA is to foster communication and information sharing among the drug law enforcement agencies operating in Cuyahoga, Summit, Mahoning, Stark and Lucas counties.

The Ohio HIDTA has asked the Ohio Counterdrug Task Force for five full-time analysts to support the HIDTA Intelligence Support Center. The Counterdrug Task Force has one full-time analyst already assigned to the HIDTA.

The HIDTA also will assist smaller agencies conducting drug investigations with equipment and expertise they may not possess. This is becoming apparent as smaller departments investigate clandestine methamphetamine labs in Ohio.

Methamphetamine is a stimulant synthesized from cold or diet pills using commonly found chemicals. The chemicals used include ether, acetone, anhydrous ammonia, red phosphorous and hydrochloric acid. When used separately or in combination, these chemicals produce toxic vapors that are also volatile.

Police officers may enter into a building without suspecting the presence of a clandestine lab until they are already exposed to the chemicals. The Ohio HIDTA and the Counterdrug Task force are looking for ways to help law enforcement quickly and safely identify clandestine labs.

Methamphetamine has been joined by another drug, Methylendioxyamphetamine (MDMA), commonly called Ecstasy. Other names for this drug are E, XTC, Love Drug, Hug Drug and Disco Biscuits.

Ecstasy is a mood-mind-altering drug, affecting brain serotonin levels. Common psychological effects are feelings of emotional closeness coupled with the breakdown of personal communication barriers, enhanced sense of pleasure and increased sense of energy. There is a tremendous risk to those using Ecstasy of dehydration, since it is a stimulant.

Both methamphetamine and MDMA are often sold at raves. Raves are exclusive dance parties, usually by invitation only at remote locations. Raves are becoming more prevalent throughout Ohio, with one of the largest being held recently in the Port Clinton area. Since these events are invitation only, it is difficult for law enforcement agents to enter into these parties. **LT COL ROBERT BAYLOR, COUNTERDRUG TASK FORCE**

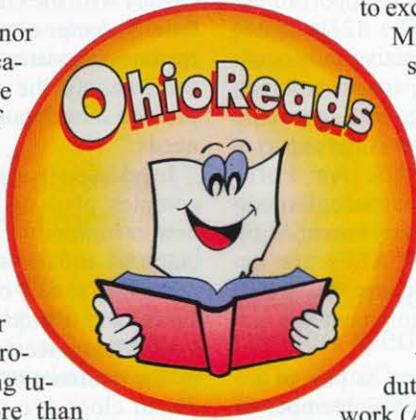




Photo by PFC Haraz N. Ghanbari, 196th MPAD

BG Ken Robinson (far left), 16th Engineer Brigade commander, addresses members of the newly activated 191st Engineering Company (Dump Truck), as the unit's main piece of equipment sits parked in the background.

New engineer unit to benefit state and nation

The 191st Engineer Company (Dump Truck) became the latest unit added to the Ohio Army National Guard's arsenal during a unit activation ceremony Sept. 10, at Rickenbacker Army Enclave in Columbus.

With 30 20-ton dump trucks, the unit's hauling capabilities may prove vital during potential worldwide deployments. Centrally located in the state, the unit also will respond if activated to assist with tornado damage cleanup, blizzards, floods and other natural disasters that may be declared state emergencies by the governor.

"We support the engineers," said Sgt. 1st Class Steven L. Browne, unit readiness noncommissioned officer. "They tear it up and we haul it away."

Brig. Gen. Kenneth Robinson, 16th Engineer Brigade commander, estimated that within six months of the activation ceremony, the unit should be fully manned with 88 soldiers, primarily with the military occupational specialty (MOS) of 88M, truck driver. PFC HARAZ N. GHANBARI, 196TH MOBILE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT

121st ARW deploys to support worldwide operations

Columbus' 121st Air Refueling Wing deployed more than 100 members in two rotations Oct. 1 through Nov. 1 to Istres, France, where they supported Operation Joint Forge.

The aircrews and support personnel took part in the NATO mission which provides in-air refueling of coalition aircraft in the Bosnia-Herzegovina re-

gion. A total of three 121st KC-135 refueling aircraft and 108 airmen participated in the deployment. In addition to aircrews, members worked in maintenance and other support roles.

The 121st joined its active-duty counterparts in participating in Operation Joint Forge as part of a U.S. Air Force Aerospace Expeditionary Force (AEF). The AEFs are de-

ployed in one of 10 predetermined sets of USAF forces (aircraft, equipment and personnel).

The 121st also deployed as part of another AEF the month of September to Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, to support Operation Northern Watch. There, a separate group of about 100 members served as aircrew, maintenance, security forces and other support functions to the no-fly zone missions over Iraq.

Firefighters from the 121st supported Operation Coronet Nighthawk Sept. 23 to Oct. 14 in the Caribbean country of Curacao.

Coronet Nighthawk has a mission to identify and track suspected narcotic transport, via surface to air, and report actions to the appropriate narcotic enforcement agencies under the direction of U.S. Southern Command. Firefighters supplied 24-hour specialized aircraft rescue and provided training for the host nation fire department. 121ST AIR REFUELING WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

ONG to build armory/community center

The Ohio National Guard and the village of Woodlawn have agreed to build a new, "state-of-the-art community center/armory" that will be the first of its kind in the state of Ohio.

Brig. Gen. Ron Young, assistant adjutant general for Army, and Woodlawn Mayor Susan Upton Farley announced Nov. 20 their intention to begin planning the construction of a combined community center/National Guard

armory.

"The decision to build the community center in Woodlawn came after an exhaustive search by the Ohio Army Guard to find an area where the needs of the community and the Ohio National Guard could be met," Young said. "Mayor Farley and the Woodlawn Village Council have worked closely with the Guard to ensure this community center could meet our increasing readiness requirements, while at the same time, satisfy the community's desire to provide a multipurpose facility to suit its needs."

In addition to a modern military training complex, plans under consideration for the new community center/armory could include an aquatic area, gymnasium, exercise area, senior center, theater, meeting space and banquet facility. All of the facility's amenities would be used jointly by the community and Guard. The Guard would close two existing local facility's which are both more than 40 years old. The tenant military units would move into the new community center.

According to Young, the new 100,000-square-foot facility will accommodate about 600 Ohio Army National Guardmembers when it opens, slated for early to mid-2003. ADJ. GEN. DEPT. PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

237th FSB provides warmth to vets



Photo by 1LT Jodie McFee, Co. B, 237th FSB

After finding a coat for the winter, David, a homeless veteran from Columbus, stops to thank SPC Norman Fugett of B Company, 237th Forward Support Battalion. Soldiers assisted homeless veterans at Stand Down 2000 in Columbus by distributing donated coats from a military vehicle. Needy veterans were able to select coats for themselves and family members. More than 200 coats were given away.

Preparations under way for 2001 family conference

Don't forget to mark your planners for the next state Family Readiness Conference, to be held March 30-April 1 at the Holiday Inn Worthington.

Child care and youth activities will be scheduled so parents can attend the conference. Look for information packets with registration materials available in January. CW2 CARMEN COVENTRY, FAMILY READINESS OFFICE

200th RHS heads north to challenges of 'Last Frontier'

Members of the Ohio Air National Guard's 200th RED HORSE Squadron, Port Clinton, and 201st RED HORSE Flight, Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa., deployed July 29-Aug. 13 to Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska.

Their mission was to support both Air National Guard and active-duty personnel in day-to-day operations and in exercises tasking both units' ability to survive and operate in field conditions.

"This deployment is evidence that the active-duty and Guard personnel are working toward the total force concept, and that we are not waiting until a crisis occurs to put our folks together to conduct wartime operations," said Maj. Kent Cooper, 200th RED HORSE Squadron logistics support officer and deployment commander. 200TH RED HORSE SQUADRON PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Ohio National Guard MPs provide security in Italy

Some Ohio National Guardmembers, it seems, would do anything for a good dish of pasta.

About 35 members of the Toledo-based 323rd Military Police Company conducted their annual two-week training a long way from home, as they pulled 24-hour guard duty on two U.S. Army installations Oct. 15-29 in Italy.

"Deployments like this—getting a chance to work our real-world mission while we get to see the world—help build morale and improve retention," said Capt. Jeff Watkins, 323rd commander.

"Our soldiers worked day and night, pulling anywhere from eight to 12-hour shifts manning gates on two different installations located about four hours apart," Watkins said. "This is not especially glamorous work—it's essential work."

First Sgt. Kevin Nolan, of the Southern European Task Force-based 13th MP Company, concurred wholeheartedly with the captain.

"We couldn't accomplish our mission without the support we receive from these National Guard units...not just from Ohio, but from all over the United States," Nolan said. "Some people don't notice the difference (at the gates), but our troops really appreciate all the hard work and effort these great guardsmen do, and it helps us become better all-around active duty MPs." SFC CHRISTOPHER CALKINS, SOUTHERN EUROPEAN TASK FORCE (AIRBORNE) PUBLIC AFFAIRS

GuardCare offers much-needed medical services

The GuardCare program in Ohio was on the road again this summer offering free health services to Morrow County residents and others willing to travel.

Staffed by Ohio Army National Guard medical professionals, GuardCare ran June 24-25 and Aug. 19-20, at the Morrow County Hospital in Mount Gilead.

"It is very encouraging to see those who work in professional patient care donating their weekends to serving their country and communities throughout Ohio," said Maj. Gen. John H. Smith, state adjutant general.

A total of 917 patients were seen during the two weekends this year, the most successful exercise to date.

"I enjoy the service that we give to the community, especially the kids," said Staff Sgt. Frederick Jones, medical NCO for Detachment 6, State Area Command, which comprises the majority of OHARNG medical assets and personnel. SFC BOB MULLINS, HQ STARC (-)

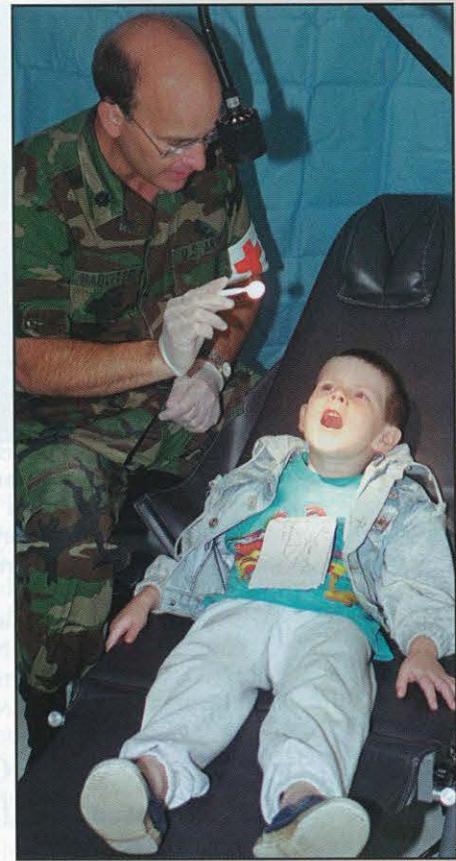


Photo by SFC Bob Mullins, HQ STARC (-)

Detachment 6 (Medical), STARC's LTC Michael D. Hablitzel conducts a dental examination on a young patient during GuardCare 2000 in Mount Gilead.

Westerville medical unit trains in Empire State

Members of Company C, 118th Area Support Medical Battalion made a 500-mile road trip from Westerville to Fort Drum, N.Y., Aug. 12-26 for annual training to participate in Operation Empire Peak, a joint state exercise designed to improve Guard readiness.

Charlie Company's role in this mission was to provide real-world medical support for more than 5,000 troops, as well as practice medical support for simulated battle casualties.

"We are the first line of medical support, the patients come straight from the battlefield to us," said Spc. Eric Tidd of the unit's treatment platoon, which is responsible for handling everything from broken bones to trauma and even the occasional splinter.

The platoon treated more than 200 injuries during annual training. SPC SHAWN RYAN, COMPANY C, 118TH AREA MEDICAL SUPPORT BATTALION

ONGSP APPLICATION DEADLINES

Fall term, July 1
Spring semester/Winter quarter, Nov. 1
Spring quarter, Feb. 1
Summer term, April 1

It is the sole responsibility of a student/guardmember to turn in a completed application to the Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program office, located at the Adjutant General's Department, 2825 West Dublin Granville Road, Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789, by the deadlines listed above.

This must be done prior to each term a student attends school.

For more information, call (614) 336-7032 or toll-free (888) 400-6484.



Photo by Todd Cramer, Adj. Gen. Dept. Photo Lab

Newest Ohio Army National Guard general officer Tom Luczynski (center) receives his one-star shoulder boards from daughter Kimberly (right), and Maj Gen John H. Smith, state adjutant general.

New star joins ranks

A Vietnam veteran with more than 30 years of military service was promoted to brigadier general in a ceremony Oct. 27 at the Ohio Army Guard flight facility at the North Canton airport.

Col. Tom Luczynski received his new rank in accordance with his recent selection as assistant division commander, maneuver, for the 38th Infantry Division (Mechanized), headquartered in Indianapolis. He previously served as commander of the 37th Armor Brigade, one of three maneuver brigades in the 38th, from December 1994 to September 1996.

Full-time, Luczynski serves as commander of the Ohio Guard's Army Aviation Support Facility #1 in North Canton.

Luczynski was commissioned in 1968 following graduation from Norwich University in Vermont, and was initially assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C. He served as an advisor to a South Vietnamese Ranger battalion in 1970-71, and upon returning to the United States, he completed rotary wing flight school. He joined the Ohio Army National Guard in 1974. **ADJ. GEN. DEPT. PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**

Artist's work features unit's refueling aircraft

A painting depicting the 121st Air Refueling Wing's aircraft in action was unveiled Oct. 20 at the Air Force Art Turnover program in Washington D.C.

Artist John Clark traveled with the Columbus-based 121st ARW in April

1998 on a deployment to Geilenkirchen, Germany. The wing's mission was to perform aerial refueling of NATO Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) aircraft, which are distinguished by the circular radar disk on top of each plane.

His painting, entitled "Global Mission," was derived from his deployment with the 121st. "The painting is my vision of one of those refueling missions as viewed from the KC-135 refueling aircraft," he said.

Clark served in the Air Force from 1964 to 1968, and in the 1970s he became an official artist for the Air Force and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. **MSGT EALNOR GREY, HQ OHIO AIR NATIONAL GUARD**

Ohio Air Guard promotes first woman to colonel

Lt. Col. Nancy August became the first female Ohio Air National Guard officer in history to attain the rank of colonel when she was promoted Nov. 4 during the Ohio Air National Guard's state headquarters staff assistance visit at the 180th Fighter Wing, located in Toledo.



August

"My goal has always been to make a positive contribution to the Ohio Air National Guard and to go as far as I could," August said. "The fact that I am the first is a coincidence. I may be the first, but I won't be the last."

August, who was previously assigned to the 180th FW, joined the state headquarters staff as the executive officer in January 2000. **MAJ TOM GEE, 180TH FIGHTER WING**

180th FW, 121st ARW undergo changes at top

Command changes for two of the Ohio Air National Guard's flying wings has put some familiar faces in new places.

Col. Thomas E. Schart, vice commander of the 180th Fighter Wing, Toledo, took

over as commander Sept. 9 from Col. Harry W. "A.J." Feucht, who subsequently took command of the 121st Air Refueling Wing, Columbus, from Brig. Gen. Robert Meyer Oct. 22.

Feucht has been selected for promotion to brigadier general, pending federal recognition. Feucht's last assignment as commander of the 180th Fighter Wing was a position he has held since 1992.

Meyer was selected for appointment as deputy commander in chief, U.S. Transportation Command at Scott Air Force Base, Ill. Meyer, who has been selected for promotion to major general, pending federal recognition, had commanded the 121st since 1996.

Chief Master Sgt. Roy Swanson was tabbed to replace retiring Command Chief Master Sgt. Victor Van Vorce in December as new 180th command chief. Swanson previously was the wing's human resource advisor. **ADJ. GEN. DEPT. PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**



Swanson

OHARNG's Armor Brigade gets first direct commissionee

An infantry platoon sergeant became a platoon leader in a matter of seconds recently when Staff Sgt. Craig Wuske received a direct commission as a second lieutenant into the Ohio Army National Guard.

Wuske, formerly a platoon sergeant with Delta Company, 1-148th Infantry Battalion, North Canton, was administered the oath of office Oct. 25 by Maj. Richard Curry, battalion executive officer. Wuske is the first direct commission-appointed basic branch officer in the 37th Armor Brigade and the 1-148th, according to Curry.

Wuske joined the Ohio National Guard in 1986 as a scout with the 107th Armored Cavalry Regiment, and later transferred to the 1-148th and became an infantry soldier. He has spent more than 14 years in the ONG.

Part of his reasoning behind obtaining a direct commission was to help his unit fill its officer manning shortfall.

"My battalion is severely short of platoon leaders, and I felt that since I was doing the job without one (a platoon leader) assigned in my unit, that it was time for me to accept the challenge, step up and become a lieutenant," Wuske said. "I figure that my 14 years of experience as an enlisted soldier and completion of my Officer Basic Course will help me be a better leader and fill a vital position

within my unit and the 1-148th Infantry Battalion.”

Wuske initially will be assigned to Delta Company. He lives in Massillon with his wife, Linda, and their son, Bryan.

“I still believe that most enlisted soldiers who desire to become an officer need to pursue Officer Candidate School or ROTC,” Curry said. “However, in the case of Second Lieutenant Wuske and other soldiers like him with some years of experience and age, I believe this (direct commission) is a viable option for those soldiers with their bachelor’s degree and advanced military education.”

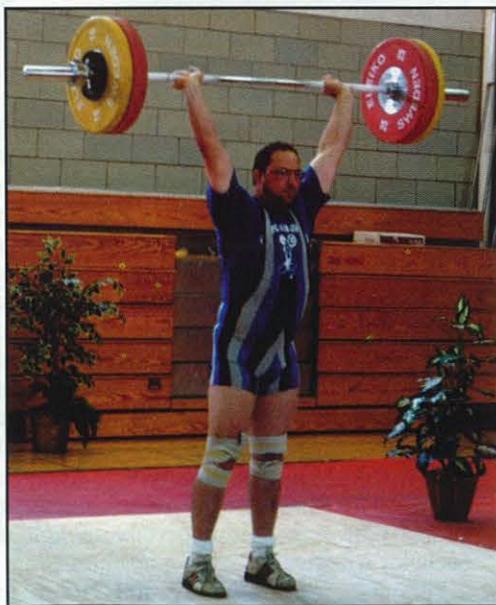
For information on the direct commission program, contact Capt. Gregory Betts in Officer Procurement at (614) 336-7077. 1-148TH INFANTRY BATTALION PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Guardmember has several uplifting experiences

Spc. Anthony Thomas of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1-107th Cavalry, Stow, was a silver medalist in the 94-kilogram weight class of the Olympic-style weightlifting competition at last summer’s Masters Pan American Games in Ponce, Puerto Rico.

Thomas lifted his way to a second place finish with a 207.5-kilogram (about 440 pounds) total in the two-part competition—120 kilograms in the clean-and-jerk and 92.5 kilograms in the snatch.

Thomas, who has lifted competitively for the past 24 years, participates in several state,



Courtesy photo

Ohio Army National Guardmember SPC Anthony Thomas competes in a state weightlifting meet in Vienna.

national and international events annually. He lives in Lakewood with his wife, Anna, who also is a competitive weightlifter. ADJ. GEN. DEPT. PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

Softball teams hit 5-for-5

The Ohio Air National Guard Softball Team, comprised of unit and family members of the 178th Fighter Wing, 251st Combat Communications Group and 269th Combat Communications Squadron, Springfield, and the 121st Air Refueling Wing, Columbus, took five teams and brought home five trophies from the 35th annual ANG Softball Tournament Aug. 15-20 in Duluth, Minn.

The 45-and-over Men’s Team took first place, going undefeated for the tournament. The team was led by Jerry Sanford, John Flor, Mike Ripley, John Aiple, Paul Woodson, Mac Sizemore, Bill Sapp and Mike Woods.

The 35-and-over Men’s Team took second place with a 4-2 record in its category. Team members were Chris Muncy, Gregg Heminger, Tom Marshall, Ripley, Chuck Shoemaker, Mike Woods, Dan Borders, Woodson, Aiple, Todd Huffman, Ken Griffis, Flor, Sizemore, Jeff Zaar, Ralph Barney, Chuck Rudy and Jerry Sanford.

The Men’s Open Team finished 5th out of 25 teams, finishing with a 5-2 record. Team members were Heminger, Marshall, Tony Morgan, Shoemaker, Woods, Muncy, Griffis, Todd Morris, Huffman, Don Morehart, Dan Laemmule, Borders, Chuck Rudy, Bobby Krooner, Flor, Sanford and Zaar.

The Coed Team took second place out of 18 teams, finishing with a 5-2 record. Team members were Heminger, Joanna Martin, Marshall, Morgan, Chris and Becky Muncy, Mike and Monica Ripley, Sue Schuman, Shoemaker, Mike and Shellie Woods, Krooner, Huffman, Morris, Don Morehart, Amy O’Brien, Laemmule and Vicki White-Calendar.

The defending national champion Ohio Women’s Team took third place out of 10 teams, finishing with a 2-2 record. Team members were Martin, Becky Muncy, Monica Ripley, Schuman, Shellie Woods, O’Brien, Brenda Crumley, Tiffany Conley, Elizabeth Applegate and White-Calendar.

Schuman and Sanford won first place out of 23 pairs in the Co-Rec Challenge, a place hitting contest; each came away with Worth 3X Supercell bats. 251ST COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS GROUP PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

37th ID Vets Association elects Sedlacko president

Retired Ohio Army Guard Col. Cyril L. Sedlacko was elected as the 83rd president of the 37th Infantry Division Veterans Association at its 82nd annual reunion Sept. 2 in Austinburg.

Prior to joining the 37th Division in Charlie Battery, 135th Field Artillery in 1949 in Youngstown, Sedlacko served in World War II with the 17th Airborne Infantry Division in Europe.



Sedlacko

As vice president of the 37th ID Veterans Association during the year prior to his election as president, Sedlacko was instrumental in opening membership to anyone who honorably served with the 37th Infantry Division in any status, whether federalized during wartime or not.

“Those who served with the division in other than active duty served their country, state and community honorably and effectively,” Sedlacko said. “They were trained, willing and able to serve on active duty—they just weren’t called to do so.”

As a by-product of becoming an active member of the association, members’ descendants (sons, daughters, grandchildren) are eligible to apply for the association’s scholarship grant program, which students can use to help fund college tuition. The grants are renewable on an annual basis.

For more information on association membership, call (614) 228-3788. 37TH INFANTRY DIVISION VETS. ASSN.

Former BG editor dies

Retired Master Sgt. Donald R. Lundy, 58, a Vietnam veteran and former editor of the *Buckeye Guard*, died Aug. 27 at the Ohio State University Hospital in Columbus.

Lundy was a member of the Ohio Guard’s 196th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment in the 1970s and 80s, and he also worked full-time for many of those years in the Adjutant General’s Department Public Affairs Office. ADJ. GEN. DEPT. PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

Defense bill features January 3.7-percent raise

Pay provisions in the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 emphasize the importance of quality of life to the Defense Department, starting with an across-the-board 3.7 percent raise for servicemembers beginning Jan. 1.

President Clinton signed the authorization bill into law Oct. 30.

The act gives DoD permission to spend an authorized overall budget of \$309.9 billion. The fiscal 2001 appropriations act signed in August actually provided the money.

Servicemembers did particularly well in quality of life expenditures. In addition to the 3.7 percent across-the-board pay raise that goes into effect Jan. 1, 2001, servicemembers in pay grades E-5 to E-7 will receive an additional pay raise starting July 1, 2001.

The biggest TRICARE change covers Medicare-eligible retirees. The act restructures TRICARE to allow Medicare-eligible military retirees and their family members to continue their coverage beginning in Fiscal 2002. Under the plan, Medicare-eligible beneficiaries would pay no co-pays, deductibles or TRICARE enrollment fees or premiums. Retirees can receive care under Medicare and any medical expense not covered by Medicare will be paid by TRICARE.

Budget specifics regarding the reserve component include \$206 million designated for 18 Black Hawk helicopters for the Army National Guard—16 regular and two air ambulances; and \$41 million more than the Army's programmed request for more full-time support technicians. **AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE**

Program successful in turning 'Troops to Teachers'

Richard King wanted to become a teacher when he entered college many years ago. However, after working full-time and trying to keep up with his class work for two years, he dropped out of college and joined the Army.

Over the next several years, he completed his bachelor's degree (but not in education) and graduated from Army Officer Candidate School. After 24 years of military service and earning a

Reserve Pay for 4 Drill Periods

Unofficial Copy (Effective Jan. 1, 2001)

YEARS OF SERVICE

	<2	2	3	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
Grade															
O-10	1135.84	1175.80	1175.80	1175.80	1175.80	1220.92	1220.92	1288.56	1288.56	1380.80	1380.80	1473.24	1480.52	1511.28	1564.96
O-9	1006.68	1033.04	1055.04	1055.04	1055.04	1081.88	1081.88	1126.88	1126.88	1220.92	1220.92	1288.56	1307.12	1333.96	1380.80
O-8	911.76	941.64	961.40	966.96	991.64	1033.04	1042.64	1081.88	1093.16	1126.88	1175.80	1220.92	1251.04	1251.04	1251.04
O-7	757.64	809.12	809.12	815.00	845.44	868.60	895.40	922.12	948.92	1033.04	1104.12	1104.12	1104.12	1104.12	1109.68
O-6	561.52	616.88	657.36	657.36	659.88	688.12	691.88	691.88	714.76	800.72	841.52	882.32	905.52	929.04	974.64
O-5	449.16	527.32	563.84	570.72	593.40	593.40	611.24	644.24	687.44	730.88	751.60	772.04	795.28	795.28	795.28
O-4	378.56	460.96	491.72	498.60	527.12	550.36	587.96	617.24	637.56	658.00	664.88	664.88	664.88	664.88	664.88
O-3	351.76	398.80	430.40	465.24	487.52	511.96	532.36	558.64	572.28	572.28	572.28	572.28	572.28	572.28	572.28
O-2	306.80	349.44	402.48	416.04	424.64	424.64	424.64	424.64	424.64	424.64	424.64	424.64	424.64	424.64	424.64
O-1	266.36	277.20	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04
O-3E	0.00	0.00	0.00	465.24	487.52	511.96	532.36	558.64	580.76	593.40	610.72	610.72	610.72	610.72	610.72
O-2E	0.00	0.00	0.00	416.04	424.64	438.12	460.96	478.60	491.72	491.72	491.72	491.72	491.72	491.72	491.72
O-1E	0.00	0.00	0.00	335.04	357.88	371.08	384.56	397.88	416.04	416.04	416.04	416.04	416.04	416.04	416.04
W-5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	618.76	640.00	661.32	682.68
W-4	358.40	385.56	396.64	407.56	426.32	444.84	463.60	481.88	500.84	519.00	537.60	555.76	574.60	593.12	612.12
W-3	325.76	353.32	353.32	357.88	372.52	389.20	411.24	424.64	439.28	456.04	472.68	489.32	505.96	522.64	539.36
W-2	285.28	308.68	308.68	318.80	335.04	353.32	366.76	380.20	393.28	407.76	422.60	437.44	452.24	467.12	467.12
W-1	237.68	272.52	272.52	295.28	308.68	322.56	336.44	350.24	364.20	378.12	392.00	402.48	402.48	402.48	402.48
E-9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	416.92	426.32	438.28	452.32	466.40	480.24	499.04	517.68	541.44
E-8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	349.60	359.72	369.12	380.44	392.68	405.48	418.04	437.08	455.64	481.68
E-7	244.16	266.56	276.68	286.64	296.96	307.08	317.20	327.32	337.28	347.60	357.84	367.84	385.44	404.60	433.40
E-6	210.00	232.04	242.32	252.24	262.60	272.80	283.04	292.92	303.00	310.36	315.72	315.72	316.04	316.04	316.04
E-5	184.24	206.56	216.52	226.80	237.04	247.44	257.40	267.72	267.72	267.72	267.72	267.72	267.72	267.72	267.72
E-4	171.84	189.84	200.08	210.16	220.40	220.40	220.40	220.40	220.40	220.40	220.40	220.40	220.40	220.40	220.40
E-3	161.96	174.28	184.48	184.72	184.72	184.72	184.72	184.72	184.72	184.72	184.72	184.72	184.72	184.72	184.72
E-2	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88
E-1>4	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04
E-1<4	128.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

master's degree in management, he retired.

While attending an outprocessing briefing before his retirement from the Army, he learned of a Department of Defense program called "Troops to Teachers." He discovered there is a nationwide shortage of teachers, particularly in the subjects of math, science and special education. He also learned that his experience as an instructor while in the Army could help him get back into the classroom as a teacher.

Soon, he found himself in front of a class as a new teacher. Now in his fourth year of teaching, he said it was the best move that he ever made. "I feel that this gives me a chance to contribute to the youth of our country, and gives me a chance to make a difference in their future," King said.

The primary function of the Troops to Teachers program is referral and placement assistance. The Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) provides counseling and assistance to help participants identify employment opportunities and teacher certification programs. Participants choose the area in which they want to teach. State-level support offices have been established in 25 states (including Ohio) to assist participants with both certification requirements and employment leads.

A Troops to Teachers Home Page has been established on the Internet to provide information and resource links to help participants

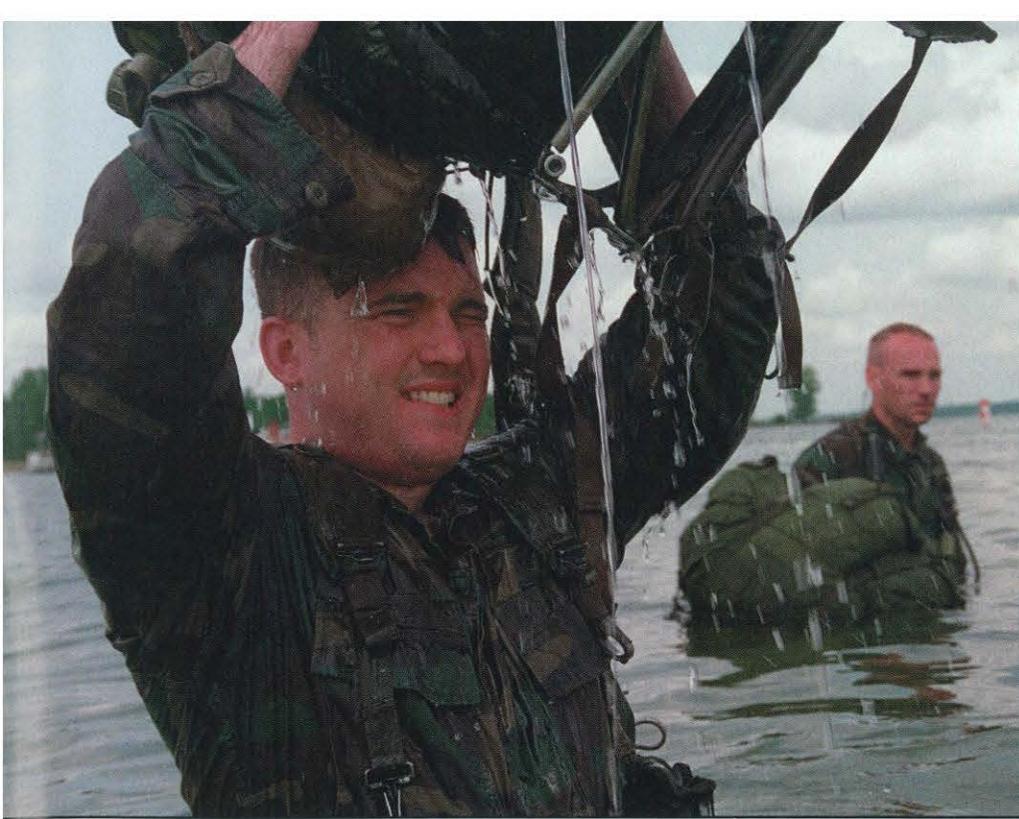
transition to a second career in public education. An Internet Referral System has been established to allow participants to search for job vacancies online. The Troops to Teachers Home Page includes links to State Departments of Education, model resumes and other job listings in public education. School districts are able to list their teacher vacancies at no cost. The website is located at <http://voled.doded.mil/dantes/ttt>.

Nationwide, more than 17,000 military personnel have registered with DANTES in order to participate in Troops to Teachers. In Ohio, more than 1,300 have obtained information on the program, and about 550 are registered with DANTES. Of these, more than 100 have been hired as teachers in Ohio.

Ed Hall, program manager for the Ohio Troops to Teachers office, is a retired Ohio Army National Guard technician. Hall said currently about a half dozen members or former members of the Ohio National Guard have entered the teaching profession under the Troops to Teachers program.

Hall added that interested servicemembers should note that it is necessary to hold a bachelor's degree in order to teach in Ohio.

For more information on the Troops to Teachers program, call (614) 466-5734 or (800) 852-6064, or send an e-mail to TC_Hall@ode.state.oh.us. **OHIO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**



SSG Michael D. Murphy feels the weight of a water-soaked rucksack as Company Commander CPT Neal E. O'Brien observes from behind.

AT recovery would get finished, the goal for Saturday, according to Riedmiller, was to "have some fun training."

The August weekend drill was conducted at Alum Creek State Park, located just north of Columbus. Upon arrival, water safety briefings were held and the company was divided into groups for "round robin" training of the different tasks.

The first part of the day found the troops learning water survival techniques for self and others. This training included how to construct flotation devices from the trousers and top of their own uniform. After instruction on how to effectively waterproof their equipment, techniques on tactical movement through the water was also introduced.

First aid techniques such as evaluating a casualty and CPR were also conducted. Rescue of a drowning victim was presented and the soldiers took turns performing and perfecting the techniques on each other.

"This class is important because it can be used at any point in one's life, not just in combat," Sgt. Kelly Sellers, a water rescue instructor, pointed out. "These are skills that could possibly save a life."

Despite the brisk conditions brought on by cloudy skies and chilly water, the soldiers kept a positive attitude and training went smoothly. Once the morning and afternoon training was complete, the troops were paired with a partner and Sgt. Eric Correll instructed the whole company on how to construct a 'raft' using a poncho and rucksack.

To end the day's training with impact, everyone constructed buddy rafts and competed in the "Company C Poncho-Raft Race." Two-man teams swam with their personal equipment contained in sealed ponchos to a point about 100 yards off shore and then came back.

This race turned out to be a grueling test of endurance and a great show of Company C teamwork. While Sgt. Richard A. Gillespie and Sgt. Ryan E. Mangus came out the winners, all Company C soldiers gave 100 percent. ■

Water survival skills whet Charlie Company's appetite for training

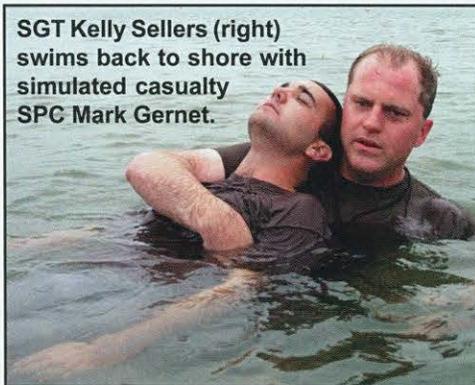
Story and photos by Cpl. C. David Foece
Company C, 1-148th Infantry Battalion

For many soldiers in the Ohio Army National Guard, the drill immediately following annual training (AT) can be rather anticlimatic. Most units take that weekend to conduct recovery activities, including equipment maintenance and inventories, losing much of the momentum gained from a challenging and rewarding AT.

With that in mind, the noncommissioned officers (NCOs) of Company C, 1-148th Infantry (Mechanized), decided they wanted to keep the enthusiasm gained at AT by conducting adventure training. Because drowning is the number two killer of soldiers in the U.S. Army, Company C set out to train their soldiers in some water survival skills, which included drown-proofing of equipment, swimming techniques and construction of water rafts from the soldiers' rucksacks.

According to Capt. Neal O'Brien, Company C commander, keeping soldiers engaged in training was the main focus. "Our goal every training year is to spend as little time as possible in the armory,

SGT Kelly Sellers (right) swims back to shore with simulated casualty SPC Mark Gernet.



and to allow the NCOs the opportunity to plan, resource and conduct exciting training," O'Brien said.

"We made it a priority to conduct as much AT recovery as possible at Camp Grayling so we could make this happen," said Sgt. 1st Class George Riedmiller, unit readiness NCO, who conceived the idea of conducting waterborne training. Though the unit scheduled maintenance for Sunday to ensure



Building a wall of memories

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Photo by MSgt Greg Meadows, 220th Engineering Installation Squadron

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