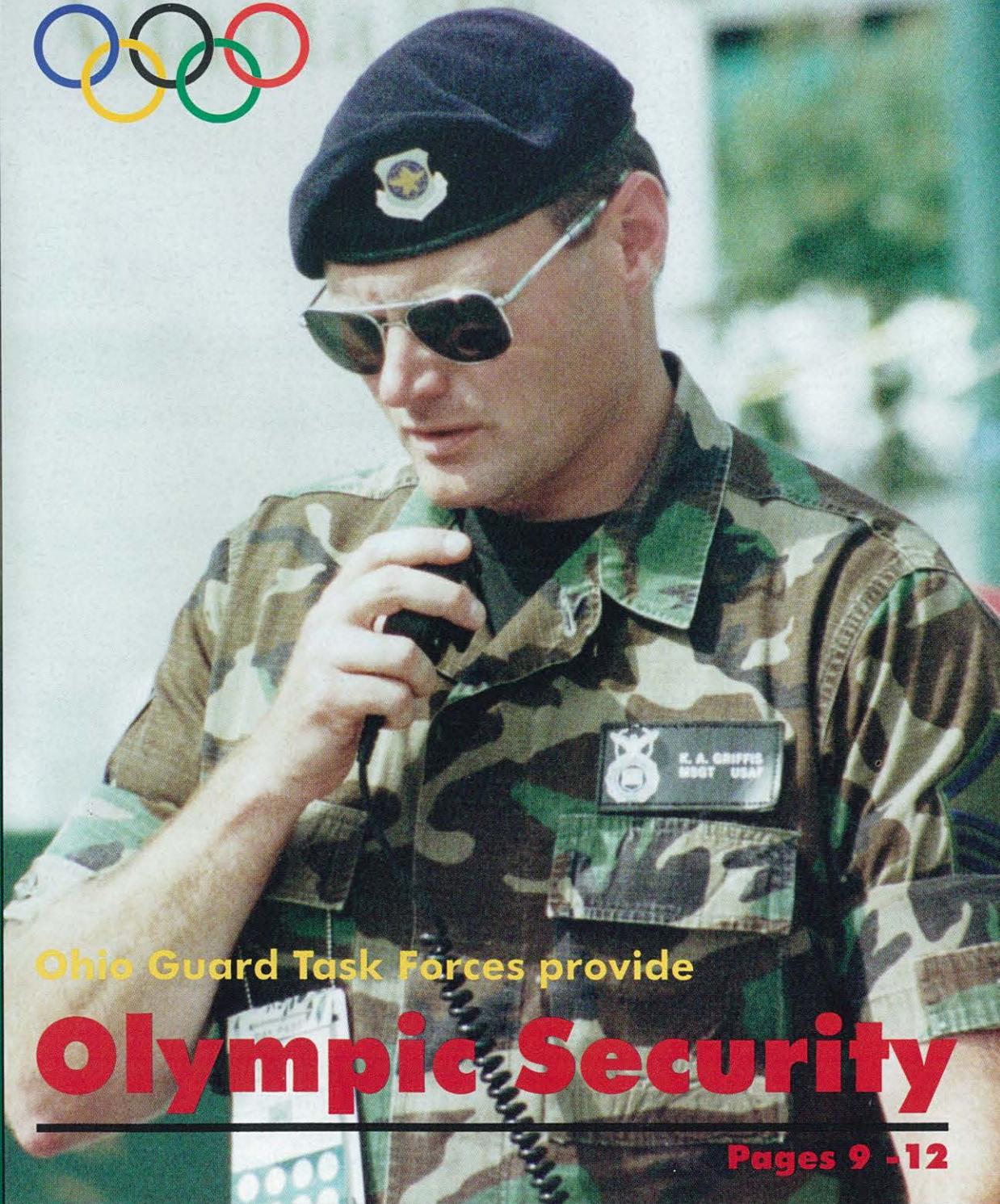


Buckeye GUARD



Winter 1996/1997



Ohio Guard Task Forces provide

Olympic Security

Pages 9 -12



Rapid Runway Repair

Airmen with the 180th Civil Engineering Squadron, from Toledo, deployed to Bodo, Norway and trained with their European counterparts for a better understanding of NATO's Rapid Runway Repair procedures. For more, see pages 18 - 19. Courtesy photo.



20

Buckeye GUARD

WINTER 1996/97, Vol. 20, No. 3

FEATURES

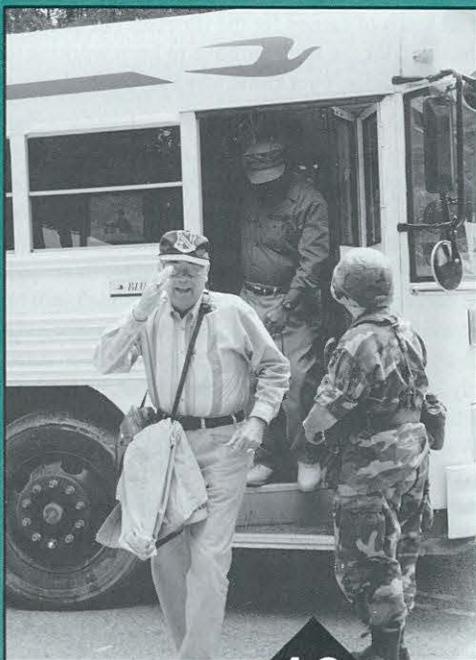
9 **Securing Atlanta's Olympic Games**
Ohio Guard plays key role in DoD Task Force securing the Centennial Olympic Games

13 **Modernized Marksmanship**
Camp Perry's Modified Record Fire range tests skills, adds realism

16 **Learning How and Why We Train**
Civic leaders visit Camp Grayling for first hand look at annual training

20 **Acing the ARTEP**
Cincinnati based engineer unit excels during intense evaluation at Grayling

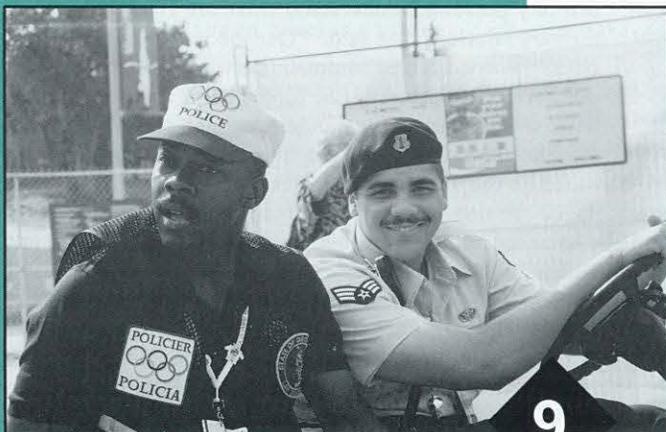
24 **Lieutenant Sad Sack**
37th's MI Workshop gets Vets wisdom



16

DEPARTMENTS

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



9

ABOUT THE COVER: Master Sgt. Ken Griffis, a security police officer with the 121st Air Refueling Wing, was one of the over 1,500 Ohio Army and Air National Guardsmen who made up the massive DoD Task Force that supported the Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta, Ga.

Buckeye GUARD

WINTER 1996/97, VOL. 20, No. 3

The *Buckeye Guard* is published quarterly by the Public Affairs Office, Ohio Adjutant General's Department, 2825 W. Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789, (614) 889-7000. The views and opinions expressed in the *Buckeye Guard* are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army or the Adjutant General of Ohio. The *Buckeye Guard* is distributed free to members of the Ohio Army and Air National Guard and to other interested persons at their request. Circulation 19,000.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S DEPT.

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

Adjutant General
Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander

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

Asst. AG, Air
Brig. Gen. John H. Smith

Command Sergeant Major
State CSM Michael O. Howley

Senior Enlisted Advisor-Air
Chief Master Sgt. Earl Lutz

PUBLICATION STAFF

Public Affairs Officer
Maj. James T. Boling

Editor
Master Sgt. Robert L. Jennings

Editorial Assistants
Michelle D. Noel
Steven R. Johnson

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

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

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

NATIONAL NEWS

Persian Gulf Illness studies include look at bacteria. With scores of studies under way, DoD continues seeking answers to why thousands of Gulf War veterans suffer from a variety of symptoms collectively known as Gulf War Illness. Defense health officials accept many veterans are sick, but they haven't pinpointed a single cause. Theories and explanations abound, blaming reported illnesses on everything from stress to enemy nerve gas. Now DoD also is considering the possibility some sort of bacteria may be the culprit. The possibility of a bacterial cause surfaced with the reported research efforts of Garth Nicolson. A research biochemist and scientific director of the nonprofit Institute of Molecular Medicine, Irvine, Calif., Nicolson tested the blood of hundreds of sick Gulf War veterans. Nicolson said his research revealed a genetically altered primitive bacterium — called mycoplasma — in many samples. He concluded the germ had been deliberately manipulated for use as a weapon. According to a DoD spokesman, those findings are not new and the government has launched its own study into mycoplasma—findings are due out in mid 1997. The official also said the government is keeping an open mind to all kinds of causes for the illnesses but does not believe that Iraq used biological agents during the war. But, he said, we have to keep working to look for every explanation of what's afflicting people who don't yet know why they're ill after the war. (AFIS)



President Clinton approves "M" Device for reserve components. On August 6, 1996, President Clinton signed the Executive Order that authorizes, for the first time in history, the award of the "M" device for members of the Reserve components who have performed qualifying active duty service in support of designated contingency operations. The Executive Order establishes August 1, 1990 as the effective date for qualifying for the award which will be worn on the Armed Forces Reserve Medal. To qualify for the "M" device, members must have performed active duty service in support of a call-up or a designated contingency operation on or after August 1, 1990. As of this date, approximately 282,000 Reserve and National Guard members are eligible to wear the device, based upon their participation in the following qualifying operations: Operation DESERT STORM (Persian Gulf War); Operation RESTORE HOPE (Somalia); Operation UPHOLD DEMOCRACY (Haiti); and Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR (Bosnia). The "M" device was established in 1993 by the Secretary of Defense to recognize the "special sacrifice in service to the Nation" of Reserve component personnel who volunteered or were called to active duty in support of a mobilization or contingency. (AFIS)

Perry says force protection is top priority. Risk is the hazard of the warrior's trade, according to Defense Secretary William Perry. As commanders combat terrorism and other emerging threats of the post-Cold War era, they must balance that risk against mission requirements, Perry said during a recent interview. "Simply being in the military is a risky business," he said. "Service members are at risk during basic training, routine training exercises and especially during deployments. Military personnel understand there are risks inherent in military missions," he said. "Our job is to minimize those risks." Perry directed commanders worldwide to redouble their efforts to protect U.S. forces. But according to the defense secretary, commanders cannot simply sacrifice mission for safety. He said they must make a judgment based on the situation. "In the Middle East, Bosnia and elsewhere, commanders must balance mission requirements against force protection. In Bosnia, force protection has to be balanced against how many patrols you can conduct and how extensively you can conduct them. Force protection is one component of the Bosnia mission, but it's not the only component. We could enhance force protection in Bosnia by simply not going out on patrols, but we would not be able to do the other parts of our mission. Determining how to protect their forces and at the same time carry out the mission is up to the commander. A good commander will never simply abort the rest of his mission in order to avoid risks," Perry concluded. (AFIS)



Why I'm proud to serve the American people

As I walk in quiet solitude through the resting places of the children of this nation, I realize that tears have formed and are leaving traces down my face. For these military graves in Arlington Cemetery are the men and women who gave their lives fighting to keep our nation alive. Their dedication to this great land is visible in the endless rows of crosses, and in the memories of the loved ones they have left behind.

A lump forms in my throat as I look deep within myself to uncover my own sense of pride, dedication, and patriotism to this wonderful land we call home, America. What is this inner spirit that makes us proud to stand tall when other nations mock us? Is it our dignity or is it something more? Chills run down my spine when I realize that this spirit evolves from the presence of just three basic colors...scarlet red, pure white, and majestic blue. When combined, they form the basis of what we believe in. They represent the hopes, dreams, and blood left behind for us to mold and shape into one great nation. The United States of America. We as Americans must continue to keep those hopes and dreams of our forefathers alive, for patriotism lives deep within us all.

At this point in my thoughts, the Pledge of Allegiance comes to mind. As I recite the Pledge of Allegiance, a warmth begins to grow within me. *"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America."* This line symbolizes why I stand before the nation in an armed forces uniform. I have pledged to give my life to this country because I believe in what America stands for...freedom, honor and truth. *"And to the Republic for which it stands."* Our flag, with its infinite beauty is a symbol of our land, its people, their values, and the many opportunities we have to offer. *"One nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."* The United States is a unified nation, bound together by freedom, liberty and justice for all people who choose this great land as their home.

Patriotism is a feeling, an ideal, and an emotion deep within us. It is felt in different ways by different people. We must let our patriotism come from inside and be seen and be felt. We are the role models and stepping stones for those who follow us. Those who look upon us, whether domestic or foreign, must see that we believe in our nation.

As the sun sets, the distant sound of Taps brings me out of my deep thought and back to

the realization that I am in a cemetery, surrounded by patriotic spirits. I look toward the gates and the sight of our national flag makes the hair on my neck rise. The beautiful flag, in all its glory, is what my patriotism is all about. As I leave the gates of Arlington Cemetery, I ask the guard these two questions: Why are you here? And Why are you proud to Serve America?

Staff Sgt. Laurie A. Durnbaugh
121st Air Refueling Wing OSS

EDITOR'S NOTE: The preceding essay was a top finisher in the 1996 Federal Employees Essay Writing Contest.

Support: The backbone of today's Ohio Guard

Behind the scenes, that's what I see, men and women, doing their jobs without a desire to be recognized, a part of the team, but often times a silent cog in the wheel. They are everywhere: in offices or in tents, bent over desks or cooking for the soldiers in the field. They could be speaking on the radio, or on the phone at Battalion. They could be fixing a flat in the motor pool or pulling out an engine. Support, soldiers doing their jobs, without fanfare, recognition or praise, and yet, they are as important as the General or Top Sergeant. They all mesh in the overall picture of today's Army National Guard.

Some work in coveralls, kitchen whites, camouflage attire or dress uniforms. All perform as part of the overall scheme of today's Guard.

The public sometimes only sees the General in his star displayed vehicle or the hero in the ticker tape parade, but isn't the cook, typist, mechanic or supply person just as important? Behind each general or hero is a dozen or more soldiers who support him. These are the unsung heroes, these are still a part of the team. All are working together, all support the one goal, our state or America. It takes sacrifice on everyone's part and all working together. Unsung heroes beside the hero, privates or sergeants with the General, behind the scenes and yet on the front lines.

Staff Sergeants Ed Tate and Roger Shopbell are supply personnel with Company A, 112th Engineer Battalion of Wooster. Spc. Brian Beavis is a cook; Spc. Todd Heldenbrand is a mechanic. All serve equally and usually will never be recognized for their hard efforts or long hours for the common goal and yet they continue, day after day. They are today's Army National Guard,

they are the backbone. They perform their everyday tasks, behind the curtains or partitions and yet these are the heroes, the General. They are the TEAM.

Spc. Neal G. Powers
Co.A, 112th Engineer Battalion

No clemency for treason

My late mother, may God bless her soul, taught us to "Never spit into the plate from which you eat." This brings to mind the story of Jonathon Pollard. Pollard, a former Navy intelligence analyst, admitted to selling top-secret U.S. information to Israel and is currently serving a life sentence for this crime.

For the last ten years, various groups have unsuccessfully campaigned for presidential commutation and clemency on Pollard's behalf. Pollard does not deserve clemency or presidential commutation. Jonathon Pollard should be grateful that he lives in the U.S. Had he committed this crime elsewhere, he could have been publicly executed by means of beheading or firing squad.

Staff Sgt. Mahmoud El-Yousseph
121st Air Refueling Wing/SVS

Oops!

In the summer 1996 issue of the *Buckeye Guard* magazine, Cynthia Perez, an Army Guard spouse who received an Ohio Commendation Medal for her support of the Guard,



had the end of her story abruptly cut-off. The final sentence should have read: **In just a few minutes, Cynthia will have to do both, and for good reason.** The story appeared on pages 12-13. Our apologies Cynthia.

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



Command Focus

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

To all members of the Ohio Army National Guard

The strength situation in the Ohio Army National Guard (OHARNG) has reached a critical level, and we need your personal involvement to get it fixed. All of us need to put a primary focus on recruiting and retaining OHARNG soldiers. The size and composition of the organization is at stake.

Maj. Gen. William Navas, director, Army National Guard, visited Ohio recently to warn us of the potential for additional unit losses in the OHARNG if we cannot show a positive increase in strength over the October - December 1996 period. Basically, the situation is this: the National Guard of the U.S. must attain and maintain its national end strength of 367,000 soldiers, as authorized by the Department of Defense and Congress. For this to happen, each state must meet its share of the force structure allowance. Some states are well above 100 percent. Some states, like Ohio, are well below and have not demonstrated the capability to "match spaces with faces."

General Navas intends to move units out

of states that cannot meet expected strength levels and place those units in states that can support them. This policy places Ohio in immediate jeopardy. Your unit might be in

jeopardy! General Navas reported that no action would be taken before January 1997. The decision to move units will be based on strength levels as of that date.

As of this writing, there are encouraging signs that we are on the road to recovery. For six consecutive

weeks, the OHARNG has had a positive net increase (gains minus losses) in assigned strength. Over the past 38 weeks, 23 of them have been net increase weeks. For the month of October 1996, *Ohio ranked fourth among the 54 states and territories that comprise the National Guard's strength increase.* We are on the move and we need to keep it up.

Each soldier in the OHARNG must know that he or she is a vital part of this organization, and we need them to stay with us to accomplish the mission.

Our future is squarely in our hands. We must recruit soldiers! We must retain our current soldiers! And we must do it now!

Together we have faced many challenges over the past five years. Every time our soldiers have been asked to take on a mission, they've done it—and done it well. I have no doubt we can meet or exceed the numbers expected by the NGB, but we need everyone's help to do it.

We must strive to retain currently assigned soldiers in every team, squad, and platoon in the OHARNG. We need to recruit new soldiers while we are doing everything in our power to keep the ones we have. Each soldier in the OHARNG must know that he or she is a vital part of this organization, and we need them to stay with us to accomplish the mission.

If you don't do anything else today, do this; identify one good potential member of the OHARNG. Put their name (and yours!) on a Blue Streak card and turn it in to your unit. If you do this, we all will win. The OHARNG will have a good new member, and you will get paid for your efforts. ■

Leads for dollars

Blue Streak program offers cash incentives for enlistments

By Sgt. Steven R. Johnson
196th Public Affairs Detachment

\$o how would you like to have an extra \$50 in your pocket? How does \$75 or \$100 sound? If having a little extra cash sounds appealing to you, then the Blue Streak program can do just that.

The Blue Streak program is a recruiting initiative that is applicable to all current members of the Ohio National Guard—Army and Air—and National Guard employees of the Adjutant General's Department—Active Guard and Reserve, Federal Technician and State employees—who provide leads that enlist in the Ohio Army National Guard.

The intent of this program is to increase the overall end strength of the Ohio Army National Guard by providing a cash incentive. The first lead that results in an enlistment will be a \$50 cash award. The second and third will be \$75 and \$100 respectively, and any subsequent enlistments will all be \$100.

In addition to the cash incentives, soldiers who provide leads that result in three (3) actual enlistments are eligible for the Ohio Army National Guard Recruiter Ribbon.

All that is needed is the Blue streak form which can be obtained from your unit or area recruiters. The form is formatted so that a brief history of the prospective enlistee can be filled out, as well as information from the soldier providing the lead. The form is then turned into the recruiting office where a recruiter will contact the lead and hopefully enlist the individual into the Guard. The awards can only be given if there is an actual enlistment from the lead.

Soldiers who are currently in the recruiting and retention career fields are not authorized cash incentive bonuses for enlistments.

The Blue Streak program was initiated in June of 1996, and since its inception more than 100 leads have resulted in enlistments in the Ohio Army National Guard. This program is an excellent way for soldiers to help maintain a strong Ohio Guard and earn some extra cash in the process.

If you would like to know more about the Blue Streak program, or your eligibility to receive a cash award, contact a recruiter in your area. ■

Command Profile



Brig. Gen. Paul Sullivan Air Guard Chief of Staff

Age: 48

Occupation: President, CFP, Inc.

Life has taught me: That most people want to do the right thing.

If I could have just one day all to myself, I would: Fly (fast).

The one film I would have liked to have starred in: Cool Hand Luke.

When no one's looking I: Smile a lot.

When I was little I wanted to be: A football player.

The worst advice I ever received was: Chrysler stock will never come back.

The best advice I ever received was: There's an A-7 unit at Rickenbacker, why don't you go talk to them.

If I could dine with anyone, past or present, I would invite: Lincoln.

The best moment of my life happened when I: Met my wife.

My favorite book: Trinity.

My favorite movie: The Magnificent Seven and Shane (both equally).

If I could leave today's guardmembers with one piece of advice it would be: Be proud of your accomplishments, but expect the future to be even more demanding.

Blue Streak



Prospective Applicant Info:

Name: Johnny L. Recruit SSN: 000-00-0000
 Address: 1414 Sycamore Lane Home Phone: 000-000-0000
 City: Columbus State: OH Zip: 00000 Age: 19
 Ed: HS Grad Marital Status: S No. of Dep: 0
 Physical Condition: Excellent
 Any Law Violations: None

Name: Buck Sergeant Grade: E-5 SSN: 000-00-0001
 Unit: HQ OHARNG
 Home Phone: (000)000-000 Work Phone: (000)000-0002

Flying the Big Jets



Photo by CSM (ret.) Richard Wehling.

ABOVE: Tom Schulte in his American Airlines uniform. **LEFT:** A young Capt. Schulte stands in front of an F-4 Phantom jet while stationed at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, North Carolina.

Courtesy photo.

Ohio Air Guard pilot shares love of flight

Story by Spc. Steven R. Johnson
196th Public Affairs Detachment

For as long as he could remember, Maj. Tom Schulte Jr. always dreamed of being a pilot, as most youngsters do at some point in their childhood. For most, that dream gives way for more conservative and seemingly less risky professions. But for Schulte, the dream was more of a destiny, which has taken him up into the clouds, where he remains today flying the "Big Jets!"

When you first meet Schulte, because of his muscular build, chances are you might mistake him for a football player or maybe an athletic coach, but definitely not a pilot for American Airlines or a fighter pilot for the Ohio Air National Guard. But first impressions can be deceiving, and once you sit down and chat with Schulte, you'll never mistake him for any-

thing but a pilot.

Schulte, an avid flying enthusiast and son of former assistant adjutant general, for Army, Tom Schulte Sr., began his flight career as a fighter pilot with the active Air Force.

A 1983 graduate of the Ohio State University, Schulte flew the F-4 Phantom and the A-7 Corsair on active duty for seven years before signing on with American Airlines, and instead of fighter planes he now flies McDonnell Douglas Super 80 Stretch DC-9 passenger planes. A big change from the smaller aircraft that he started with. Schulte made the transition to the big jets without missing a beat.

Most people would think that the differences in the size of the planes could be a problem when going from one to the other, but Schulte says, "...it's just like riding a bike, once you know the basics,

it's a matter of acquainting yourself to the different styles of aircraft and doing what you already know."

His current job keeps him in the air for only 12 days a month so the rest of his time is spent with his wife Debbie and their two children, Tommy and Ashley.

When he's not flying and being a husband and a father, Schulte reports for duty with the Ohio Air National Guard at Rickenbacker, where he is assigned to the headquarters section of the 121st Air Refueling Wing.

With more than 5,000 hours of flight time, it's more than obvious that he enjoys his work and takes every opportunity to strap on a plane and take to the skies.

A true believer in the concept of flight, Schulte has taken his experience a step further and created a 40-minute video, that gives an inside look at airline transportation.

The brainchild of Schulte's enthusiasm for flying, this video gives us non-pilots an entertaining tour of FAA licensing requirements for student, private, commercial and airline transport pilots, and traces the career of a typical military

trained pilot. Oh, and by the way, there are more than 800 former and current military trained pilots flying for the major U.S. airlines. That's a pretty solid number of our colleagues in uniform flying the friendly skies.

The video also shows how a plane is built section by section, and seats you in the cockpit of Schulte's plane as he takes you on a flight from Chicago to Dallas. An added bonus to the video is Schulte's animated sidekick Whirly.

"People in the airport and friends and family members are always asking me what's it like to be a pilot for American Airlines. So I created this 40-minute video that teaches about pilots, airplanes and how airline pilots transport passengers and cargo all around the world," Schulte said.

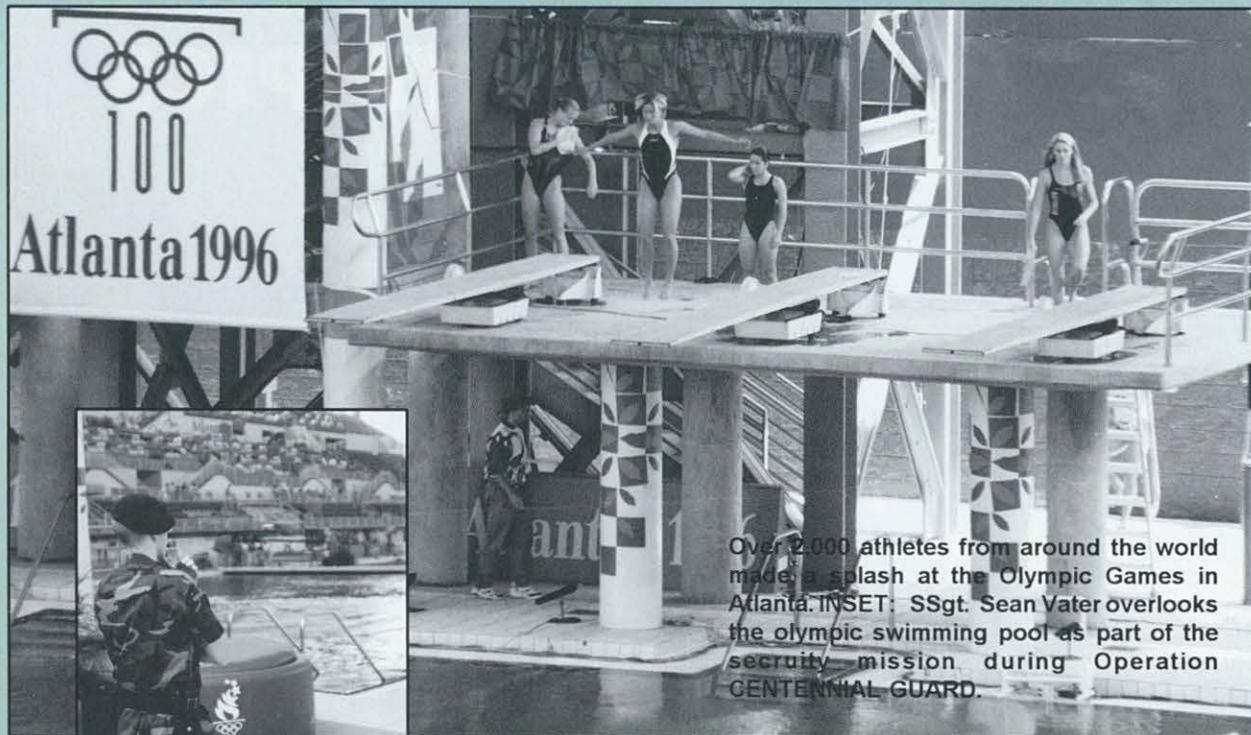
Schulte invested more than \$60,000 of his own money to produce the video, spent almost a year writing the script, filming and editing "Fly The Big Jets." He was pleased with the end result and admits the video turned out much better than he expected.

This entertaining and informative approach to flying is Maj. Schulte's way of showing you what flying is all about. So whether you see him in his Air Guard flight suit or you catch him in his American Airlines uniform, you can be assured that Tom Schulte is following his dream and taking to the skies. ■

EDITOR'S NOTE: If you would like more information on how you too can "Fly the Big Jets" call 1-800-795-5565.

Citizen Spotlight is a new column aimed at highlighting the civilian occupations and interests of Ohio guardmembers. Please send story ideas to:

AGOH-PA
ATTN: *Citizen Spotlight*
2825 W. Dublin-Granville Road
Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789



Over 2,000 athletes from around the world made a splash at the Olympic Games in Atlanta. INSET: SSgt. Sean Vater overlooks the olympic swimming pool as part of the security mission during Operation CENTENNIAL GUARD.

Operation CENTENNIAL GUARD

Story by Sgt. Steven R. Johnson
196th Public Affairs Detachment

Atlanta, Georgia, site of the 1996 Centennial Summer Olympic games and gathering place for the world. From places like Belraus and Brunei to Zimbabwe and Zaire, they came to give their best for their countries and bring home the coveted gold medal. More than 10,000 athletes marched onto the field in the Olympic Stadium and watched as Muhammad Ali, arguably one of the greatest athletes of the 20th Century, lit the Olympic torch.

No matter what country the Olympic games are held in, it can be assured that the visitor rate of that country will probably sky rocket as floods of people come to enjoy the celebration of the Olympics. But with each of these events, there comes a major concern for the organizers of the games. That concern is security. With the massive numbers of people moving about the host city and its surrounding area's, providing a safe and secure environment for athletes and visitors alike is priority number one.

The Atlanta games were no different. Even with the FBI, ATF, U.S. Marshalls, Secret Ser-

vice and several thousands additional police officers, the Atlanta Committee of the Olympic Games (ACOG) felt that even more security was needed.

ACOG officials, with the help of the Department of Defense, enlisted the services of the U.S. Military to provide that needed edge in ensuring that the games were safely conducted. All branches of active duty as well as the Reserves and National Guard were involved in securing the Olympics. Active duty components functioned as support elements by providing drivers for the athletes and manning the base camps that housed the security forces.

Dubbed the "eyes and ears" of law enforcement, the National Guard had the distinguished honor of providing the bulk of the security for OPERATION CENTENNIAL GUARD—a combined force of more than 30,000 members of the military and law enforcement officers.

National Guard units, both Army and Air, from more than 35 states and territories made up the largest portion of the more than 9,000 member DoD Joint Task Force. Ohio sent over 1,500 soldiers and airmen during the course of games.

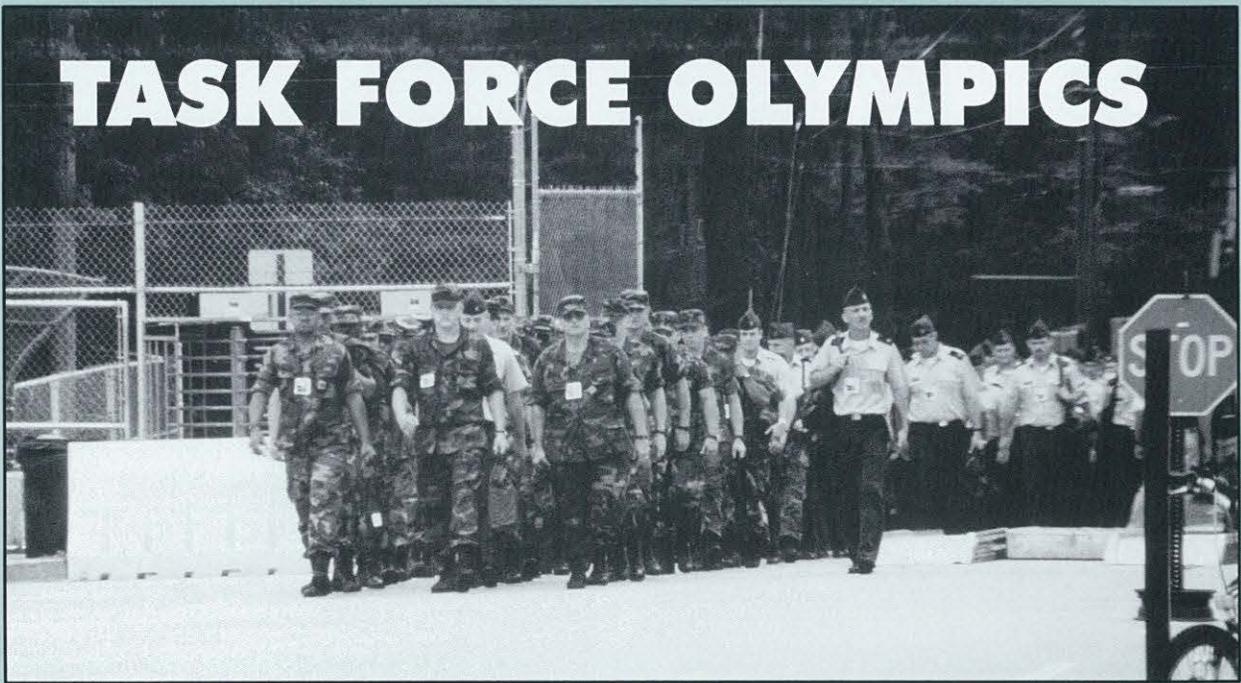
At nearly every venue and checkpoint, National Guard personnel could be observed directing traffic, checking identification and credentials, inspecting vehicles, monitoring venue cameras, securing event perimeters and escorting media representatives.

Their uniformed presence represented security and professionalism, and their consistent willingness to provide assistance left a distinct impression on all they encountered.

When asked what she thought about the Guard presence and whether she felt safe during the games, Ruth Nortje, a member of the South African Olympic team said "Are you kidding? I've never felt safer in all my life!" That sentiment was echoed by many athletes and visitors alike. It was that type of response that let the Guard members know that their presence was appreciated.

The pageantry and supercharged atmosphere of the Olympics often overshadowed the Guard presence. Yet every day our citizen soldiers, even in the wake of the bombing of the Centennial Olympic Park and numerous bomb threats, the Guard stood tall and maintained a presence that evoked confidence and security. ■

TASK FORCE OLYMPICS



A proud Task Force 107 marches in formation after being relieved from their shift at the Olympic Village.

Ohio Guard units olympic in securing summer games

Story and photos by Sgt. Steven Johnson
196th Public Affairs Detachment

During the 1996 summer Olympics, the Ohio National Guard played a major role in providing security for the games. The soldiers and airmen were housed in area high schools around Atlanta. The sites were essentially base camps and provided the needed support for Guard personnel, with mess, recreation and mini post exchanges. They were manned by active duty personnel from all branches, who basically functioned as hotel management. The soldiers were responsible for the day to day operation of the base camp, providing 24 hour security, shuttle service, laundry and CQ.

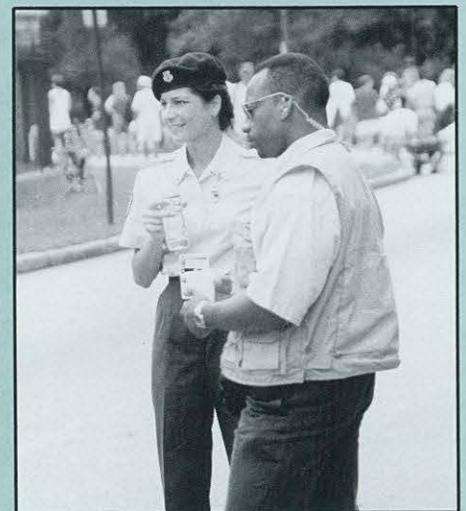
TASK FORCE 107 was comprised of units from the 1st Battalion, 107th and 1st Battalion, 147th Armor out of Akron Canton and Cincinnati. The 578 member unit occupied two of the base Camps, Cedar Grove high school and McNair junior high. Under Lt.Col. Kenneth Warner, Battalion Commander for the 1/107th, the Task Forces major assignment was securing the Olympic Village. "Our soldiers are motivated and doing an outstanding job," Warner said as he patrolled the sites

manned by Task Force 107. "It is definitely a positive experience for Ohio soldiers, and I am honored to have been selected to command and work with such outstanding group of soldiers. They should be commended for their work here."

Situated at the Georgia Technical Institute in Downtown Atlanta, this area was one the most secure sites in the Olympic venue. Nearly all of the athletes stayed in the village and to effectively cover such a large area, more than 400 National Guardsmen and law enforcement officers were needed per shift. The 107th was required to provide between 110-140 personnel per shift each day to help secure the village and its occupants.

The village was divided into zones, red, blue, green, gold and the international zone. Each of these areas required specific authorization and access was tightly controlled. The level of alertness maintained in these areas remained consistently high due the constant threat of an act or acts of terrorism and especially due to the explosion in Centennial Park. Manning lookout post, checkpoints and vehicle sanitization points throughout the village, Task Force 107 monitored all activities in the village with an increased sense of awareness in often times unfavorable conditions.

TASK FORCE 512 was made up of composite units from the 371st Support Group, 16th Engineer Brigade, and the 37th Armor Brigade with more than 500 personnel. Stationed at the



ABOVE: TSgt Heidi Bickel of the 121st Security Police Task Force and a Secret Service agent break for water during the cross-country bike race.



ABOVE: SSgt. James Brown of the 121st Security Police Section, assists ACOG security officers checking a visitors bag before allowing entry into the swimming venue.

Lithonia High School Base Camp, and under the command of Lt. Col Stephan Hummel, Task Force 512 provided security for the equestrian, cycling, archery and tennis venues held at Stone Mountain, right outside of Atlanta. Tasked with securing these events, members of 512 could be observed, manning lookout points and security checkpoints, directing traffic, vehicle sanitization, perimeter security and roving patrols moving throughout the crowds keeping an eye on things.

Sgt. Thomas Lucent of the 299th Signal Detachment was just one of the many Ohio soldiers who kept watch on a daily basis during the games. "Most people appreciated our efforts, often bringing us food and coffee while on our post. Coca-Cola gave us all the Coke products we could drink and the public transportation system allowed us to ride for free during our stay in Atlanta," Lucente said.

In light of the sometime harsh conditions that the soldiers endured and the continuous threat that came with checking for explosives and weapons, this type of hospitality and support displayed by Atlantans helped to give our soldiers a sense of appreciation for being there.

Another area of responsibility assigned to Ohio soldiers was the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) located at the state headquarters of the Georgia National Guard. The EOC was the epicenter for all of communications coming from the various events. Major Brad Willette, 37th Brigade S-2, the officer-in-charge for the eleven to seven shift, was tasked with coordinating and handling logistical support and communications between ACOG and all National Guard units operating during the games.

The extensive communications network and emergency response element were the backbone of the EOC, and with the constant activity going throughout the city, dull moments were

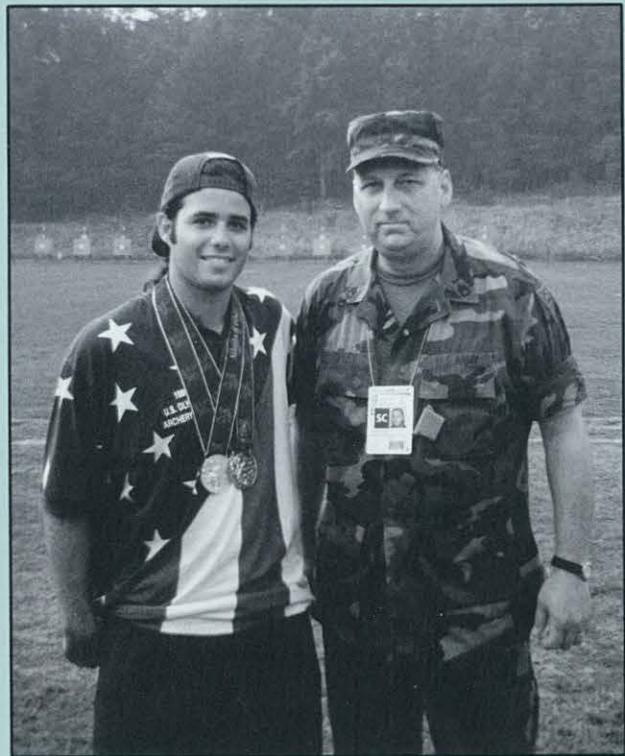
few and far between.

"Without a doubt, Operation Centennial Guard was a complete success," Willette said. "Our deployment to Atlanta was a prime example of how we do things in the Army, as in terms of mission and briefings, responding to crisis situations, logistics and support and mission execution."

The Air Guard Joint Security Police TASK FORCE, combined more than 400 airmen from more than 34 states and territories. The Ohio team consisted of members from the 121st Air Refueling Wing, 178th Fighter Wing, 180th Fighter Wing and the 251st Combat Communications Group.

Tasked with securing the Olympic swimming venue and various remote events such as the cross country cycling event and the marathon, the blue berets that distinguish the Air Guard SP's could be seen maintaining a secure environment for athletes and visitors alike.

During the bike race, a suspicious backpack was left unattended for longer than normal. The pack was spotted by one of the 121st SPs who was securing the route. The authorities were immediately notified and the area was secured. Because the pack was located so near to the course and less than 100 feet from the gov-



Courtesy photo.

ABOVE: SFC Michael Ripley of Task Force 512, stands with Team USA's Justin Huish, a two time Gold Medal winner in Archery.



Soldiers from Task Force 107 inspect a tour bus at the sanitization check point before permitting it to enter the Olympic Village.

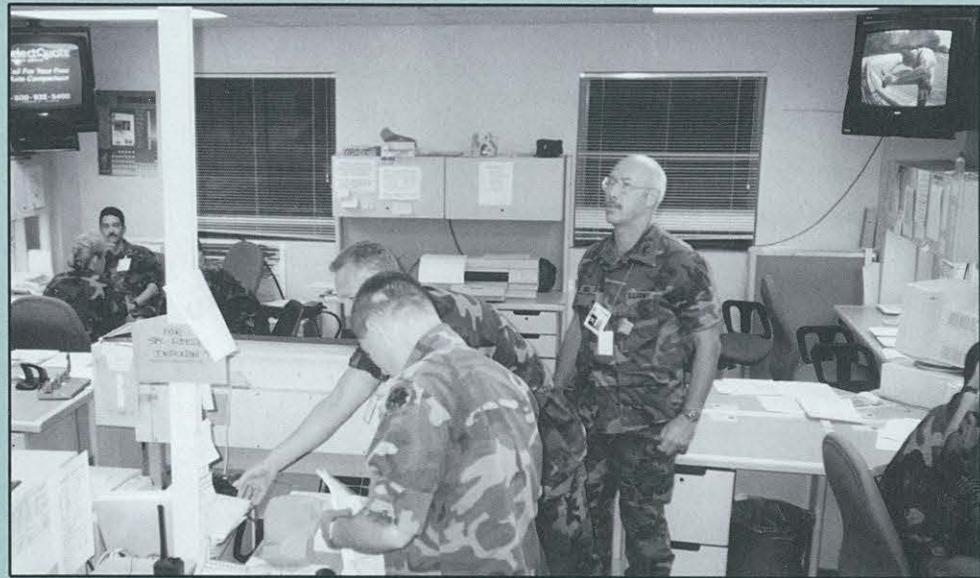
ernors residence, extreme caution had to be used in approaching and inspecting the suspect package.

Commanded by Capt. Shelby Jones, the 121st SPs maintained crowd control, ensuring that all spectators and athletes were kept out of harms way, while the bomb squad investigated the potential threat. Fortunately, the owner eventually showed up to claim his pack and there was no further incident.

With more than 75 threats of bombs and terrorist attacks coming every day, nothing

“I’ve lived in this neighborhood for 48 years and since you soldiers have been staying here, I have never known this area to be so quiet. Thank you for being here.”

Atlanta resident on the presence of the National Guard.

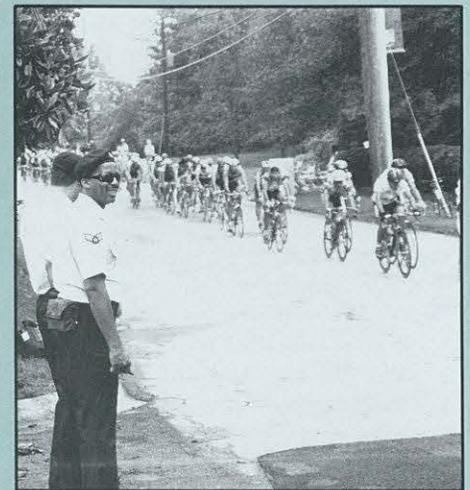


ABOVE: MAJ Edward Jones of the 37th Armor Brigade, monitors Guard activity in the Emergency Operations Center located at the Georgia State National Guard Headquarters in Atlanta.

could be left to chance, especially in the wake of the bombing at Centennial Park less than 48-hours before. The consequences for not checking that bag could have been extremely deadly, and though there was no bomb, the alertness of the SPs on the site and immediate response by police officials brought a sense of security to those who watched.

Staff Sgt. Tony Perez from Ravenna, Ohio, who is a Tank Commander with Company A, 1st Battalion, 107th Armor said, “This A.T. was an experience of a lifetime. Where else could you go and meet so many people from so many different countries and cultures, without going to war.”

Spe. Robert Smith of Streetsburg, Ohio, also a member of A company, had an opportunity to visit some of the venues on his off time, and each day as he rode the bus back to his base camp, he would speak to a woman who was headed in the same direction. The woman lived in the neighborhood near the base camp, and told Smith, “I’ve lived in this neighborhood for 48 years and since you soldiers have been staying here, I have never known this area to be so quiet. Thank you for being here.” This was the type of response that gave the soldiers a feeling of gratitude and satisfaction for doing their jobs so far away from their homes.



SRA Ronald Ester and A1C Lawrence Wright keep a watchful eye for trouble as cyclists speed by during the Olympic cross-country road race.



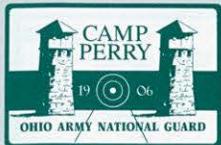
Task Force 512 soldiers prepare to start their shift at the cycling venue located at the base of Stone Mountain.

Lt. Col. Kenneth Warner, Commander of Task Force 107, maintained constant contact with soldiers from both battalions as he visited the venues on a daily basis. His enthusiasm and his commitment to his soldiers was evident as he made his rounds.

The overall consensus of the whole Olympic mission has been positive, the soldiers conducted themselves with the utmost professionalism and received high praise from law enforcement officials, athletes and visitors alike.

Officer David Thomas, a member of the State Olympic Law Enforcement team said, “The Soldiers from Ohio are by far the best unit I’ve worked with. They are head and shoulders above the rest.”

The Olympic experience is not one that we will soon forget. The personal triumphs and tragedies of all who attended will become a distinct part of history in every aspect, and, as we look back years from now and remember Atlanta, a great many of us will say, “I was there.” ■



Making guardmembers feel at...

Home on the range



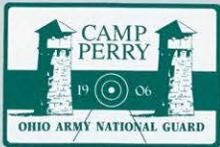
Camp Perry opens new automated range for M-16 qualification.

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

J jeans, T-shirts and windbreakers were the uniform of the day for the first firers to shoot M-16s on Ohio's new pop-up target range. The June 2 opening dedication at Camp Perry not only celebrated the completion of the Modified Record Fire (MRF) range, it also gave guests of all ages a chance to see how it works hands-on.

With targets flying up and down without warning, shooters got a sense of being in real combat. Each of the 16 firing lanes has nine targets which pop up at timed intervals from distances of 50 to 300 meters.

"This makes qualifying on M-16s much more realistic," said Spc. Jennifer Green, member of the 135th Military Police Company. Green was one of 13 volunteers from the Brook Park unit to serve as a safety instructor during the opening day events.



RIGHT: Automated targets give Ohio guardmembers a new perspective on annual weapons qualification. BELOW: Stratmar Systems innovator George Sengstock completes a final functions check before opening day ceremonies for the MRF range.



Though the 40-target scenario only takes 144 seconds from start to finish, the seven-year active Army veteran said there's plenty of time to fire. "You just need to look up, scan the lane, locate the target, zero in and fire," Green said. Usually one, but sometimes two targets are engaged at the same time.

Intended to bring Camp Perry up to par with active duty facilities, the new range was designed for qualifying Guard units on the M-16 rifle, a yearly training requirement. But, since the National Rifle Association conducts its tournaments at Camp Perry during the summer months, units didn't begin qualifying on the MRF range until mid-September.

Guardmembers begin the process by zeroing their weapons on a stationary or "known distance" range before moving over to the MRF range for scoring purposes. With a computer in the range tower tracking hits and misses, 256 people can fire a day.

"Ohio's goal is to run one firing order through in 15 minutes," said Maj. Dean Brown, Camp Perry facility manager. "This means we could run an entire battalion through in one weekend."

"Get them in, get them out," agreed Lt. Col. Larry K. Honsberger, Camp Perry executive officer. But even the training site's second-in-command acknowledges that bringing this state-of-the-art system to Ohio has its downside.

"Scores will drop," Honsberger said. "With this being a timed program, soldiers don't have the luxury of taking their time with each shot. There are no alibis."

"This computer-graded system standardizes range operations," added Brown, "bringing

more honesty to the scores and eliminating the possibility of tampering."

The computer offers other advantages as well. It allows commanders to control the courses of fire, and units can request printouts that pinpoint the actual trigger time for each firer, if desired. The computer can also run a quick tally on which soldiers didn't qualify, so that units can identify those who need to fire again.

"Scores improve tremendously when units use a *minimum* of 18 rounds to zero and when they provide small arms training, such as MACS (see story page 15), prior to qualification," Brown said. For example, the first unit to qualify only had a 39 percent success rate. Yet, during the following six weeks, units who applied these tactics qualified 100 percent—85-90 percent the first time through.

But Brown is the first to admit that another reason scores have improved is because technical deficiencies also have been corrected. For instance, all targets were initially identical in appearance; now, since some soldiers questioned which targets were in their lane, targets were painted either red or white—alternating lanes. Likewise, the height of each target varied from lane to lane, so that a 100-meter target on Lane 1 may have been lower than the 100-meter target on Lane 2—decreasing the shooting area for firers in Lane 1; as a result, the heights of all targets have since been standardized. Both these problems were identified in after action reports.

In this day of ruling budgets with an iron



fist, the MRF range has already proven itself a success. Its construction, which began in September 1993, was completed entirely by troop labor. Under the supervision of 1st Lt. William Gieze, facility engineer, individual soldiers and engineer units spent weekend drills and annual training putting together a \$1.2 million range for about half the cost, or \$450,000. With this range fully operational and to further assure that training dollars are kept in the state, Assistant Adjutant General for Army Brig. Gen. Steve Martin mandated that soldiers must conduct weapons qualification at Ohio training facilities, either Camp Sherman in Chillicothe or Camp Perry in Port Clinton.

So, for units looking to give their soldiers the most dynamic training experience the state has to offer, the MRF range may be the answer. And soon Camp Perry will have two more automated ranges available, one for firing M-60 machine guns and another for firing pistols. These are both scheduled to go on-line in 1997. ■

Zeroing in on 'expert'

MACS simulator helps hone Guard's marksmanship skills

Story by Pfc. Steve Toth
HQ STARC (-Det. 1-5)

Video games aren't just for children and teenagers anymore. Over the last two years, Ohio Army National Guard soldiers have found the popular Super Nintendo Entertainment System also can be a viable training tool.

The Multipurpose Arcade Combat Simulator (MACS) is a weapons trainer developed and validated as a teaching device for rifle marksmanship by the Army Research Institute at Fort Benning, Ga. Initially developed about 10 years ago for police department training, the MACS system has been refined for use by active and reserve military components. With the system being in use since early 1995, Ohio's National Guard was one of the first to acquire the MACS.

"It's basically a marksmanship tool—it promotes trigger control, breathing control and sight alignment," said Sgt. 1st Class Fred Halterman, state ammunition planner for the Ohio Army National Guard. Halterman has instructed several courses on using the MACS to various military units around the United States.

The MACS allows units to maintain marksmanship skills throughout the year—regardless of the weather or closeness of a firing range. Intended for preparatory, basic, remedial and sustainment training, the system promotes a higher level of readiness at the time of required qualification or a possible deployment. For either situation, weapon proficiency is paramount.

The MACS program has nine training levels of increasing difficulty. The levels present targets in scaled ranges of 50 to 300 meters from both supported and unsupported positions. "When you get to level nine, it's pretty high speed," Halterman said.

The program is designed to help shooters in two ways. First, it provides extensive on-screen feedback to the shooter. Second, it eliminates flash, recoil and cartridge ejection so the shooter is able to develop proper psycho-

motor skills without fear of the weapon kicking or other potential hazards when firing live rounds.

A soldier's performance is measured on a scale ranging from poor to excellent. Each of the nine levels has standards which the soldier must successfully achieve to move on to the next level. The soldier is provided on-screen, shot-by-shot replay, whether the shot was a hit or miss and where the cross-hairs were at the time and location of shot impact. Feedback at the end of each level provides shot groups for the targets at each range.

Halterman said the MACS will help improve one of the biggest problems that soldiers face when on the firing line—zeroing the weapon. "If a unit would give each soldier 30 minutes to run through the system and if the soldiers apply what the MACS is telling them, everyone would qualify (on the live firing range)."

The MACS is easily portable, requires only a 3- by 10-foot space and can be set up completely in a just few minutes. Its seven main components consist of a M16A1/A2 rifle replica; a light pen; a wiring harness; a Super Nintendo video game system; a television; a MACS basic rifle marksmanship cartridge; and an operator manual. A complete system costs about \$1,300.

There are currently 10 MACS training systems in use at Guard units around Ohio, with 10 more expected to be fielded by January, according to Halterman. The ideal plan is for each unit in the Guard to have its own MACS for training, as funding becomes available. Until then, the MACS systems may be loaned out from headquarters to subordinate units upon request.

The MACS compliments its older, larger brother—the Weaponeer—another tool used to develop rifle marksmanship skills. Devel-



Photo by SSG Diane Farrow, HQ STARC.

SFC Verne L. McLean instructs a Camp Perry guest on firing the MACS weapon system.

oped within the last 15 years, the Weaponeer resembles an arcade pinball machine. Like the MACS, it provides a video display of the soldier's actual sight picture, where the soldier is aiming and where each shot hits. After each round, the video screen can show where the soldier was aiming before the round was fired, and if the soldier was steady with the weapon.

There are only two Weaponeers available in Ohio, both can be found at Camp Perry. The scarcity and difficult mobility of the Weaponeers, coupled with the accessibility of the MACS to guardmembers, makes the MACS the simulation trainer of choice for the future. ■

Units that currently have MACS

1/147th Armor Bn., Cincinnati
135th Military Police Co., Brook Park
838th Military Police Co., Youngstown
1484th Transportation Co., Akron
Det. 1, 1484th Transportation Co., Columbus
5694th Engineer Det. (FFTG), Mansfield
416th Engineer Group, Walbridge
HQ, 16th Engineer Bde., Columbus
HQ, 37th Armor Bde., North Canton
73rd Troop Command, Columbus

Units to be fielded MACS in 1997

112th Engineer Bn., Brook Park
1/107th Armor, Stow
1/148th Infantry, Lima
1/134th Field Artillery, Columbus
2/107th Armor Cavalry, Kettering
216th Engineer Battalion, Hamilton
612th Engineer Battalion, Walbridge
1/73rd Troop Command Bn., Columbus
737th Maintenance Bn., Mount Vernon
2/174th Air Defense Artillery Bn., McConnelsville

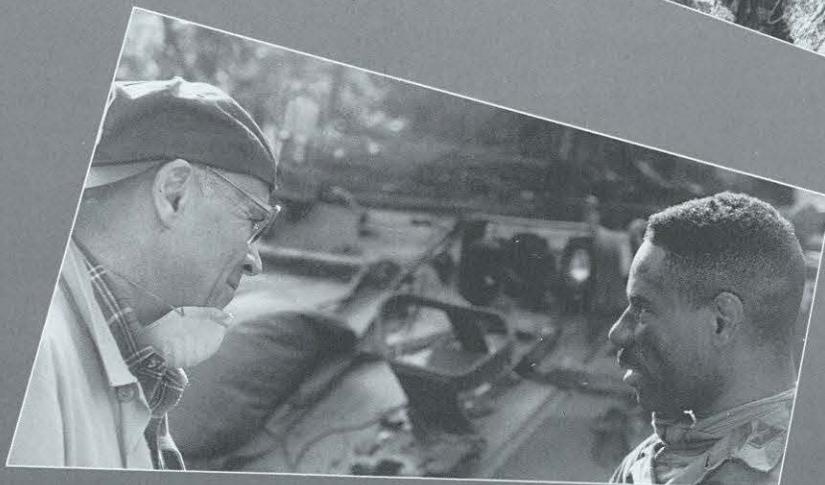
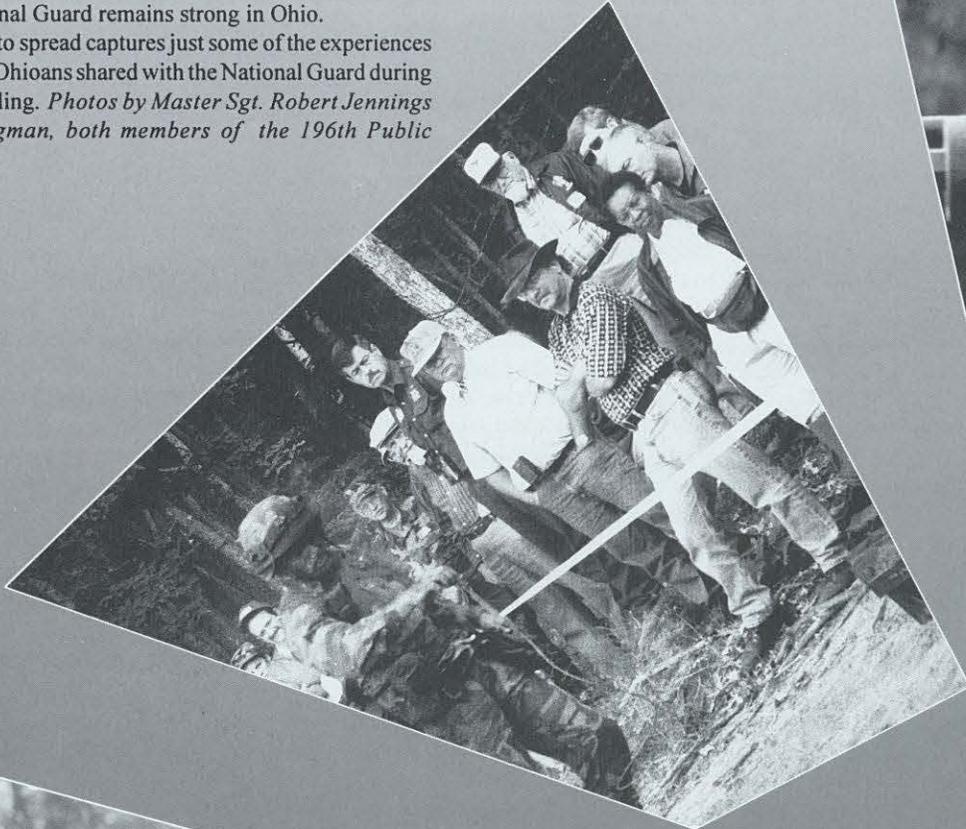
Welcome to C

Guard soldiers share exper

Each year, the Ohio Army National Guard invites civic leaders/VIPs to Camp Grayling to acquaint them with the Guard's missions and capabilities. Many of these visitors employ someone in the Guard and the trip gives them a true appreciation for what their soldier does while in uniform. Other visitors may hold positions of influence to support the Guard at a legislative level and others may be actively involved in their communities and just want to know more about how and why we train.

Whatever their influence, it is important that we as soldiers and airmen share the Guard's story with our community leaders to insure support for the National Guard remains strong in Ohio.

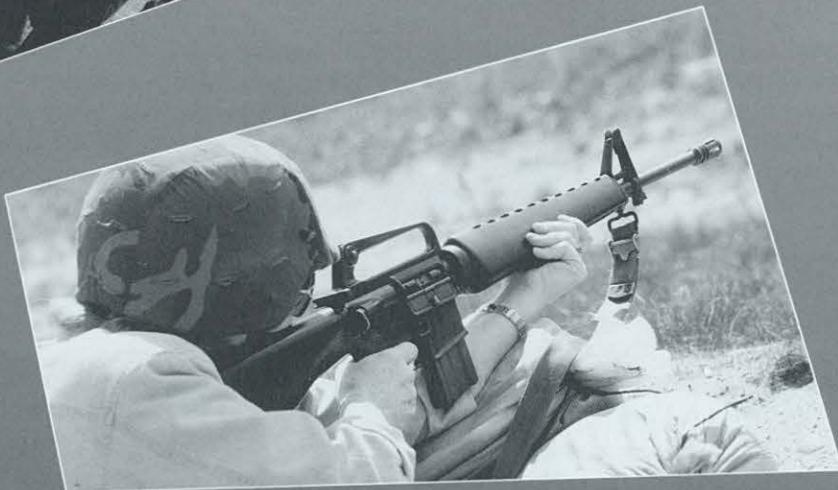
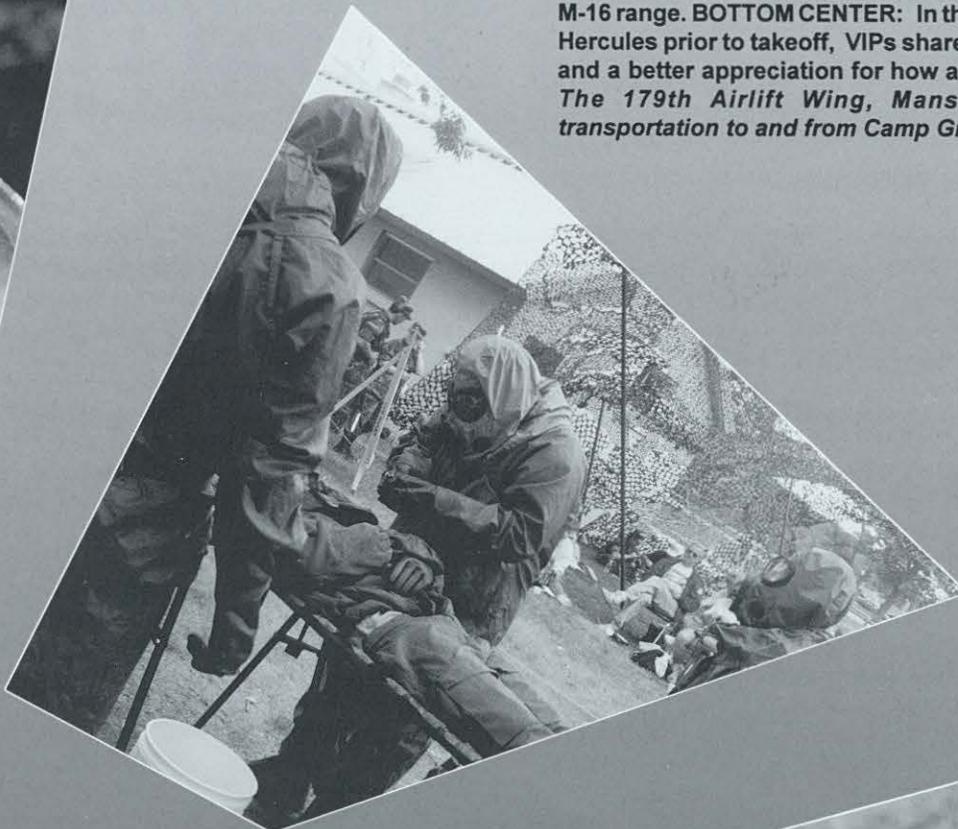
The following photo spread captures just some of the experiences these very important Ohioans shared with the National Guard during AT '96 at Camp Grayling. *Photos by Master Sgt. Robert Jennings and Capt. Joe Weigman, both members of the 196th Public Affairs Detachment.*



Camp Grayling

Experiences with civic leaders

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Standing in front of an armored personnel carrier, an engineer officer takes time to answer questions during the civic leader tour. While at a safe distance, visitors are briefed prior to an engineer demolitions training exercise. Visitors thoroughly enjoy hands-on experiences with military equipment. Soldiers from the 112th Medical Brigade put on a decontamination station exercise. During a visit to the marksmanship ranges, each visitor was allowed to fire a qualification round on Camp Grayling's M-16 range. **BOTTOM CENTER:** In the belly of a C-130 Hercules prior to takeoff, VIPs shared smiles, salutes and a better appreciation for how and why we train. *The 179th Airlift Wing, Mansfield, provided transportation to and from Camp Grayling.*



180th Civil Engineering Squadron sets record in ...

Land of the Midnight Sun

Story and photos by Capt. Steve Scharf
180th Engineering Squadron

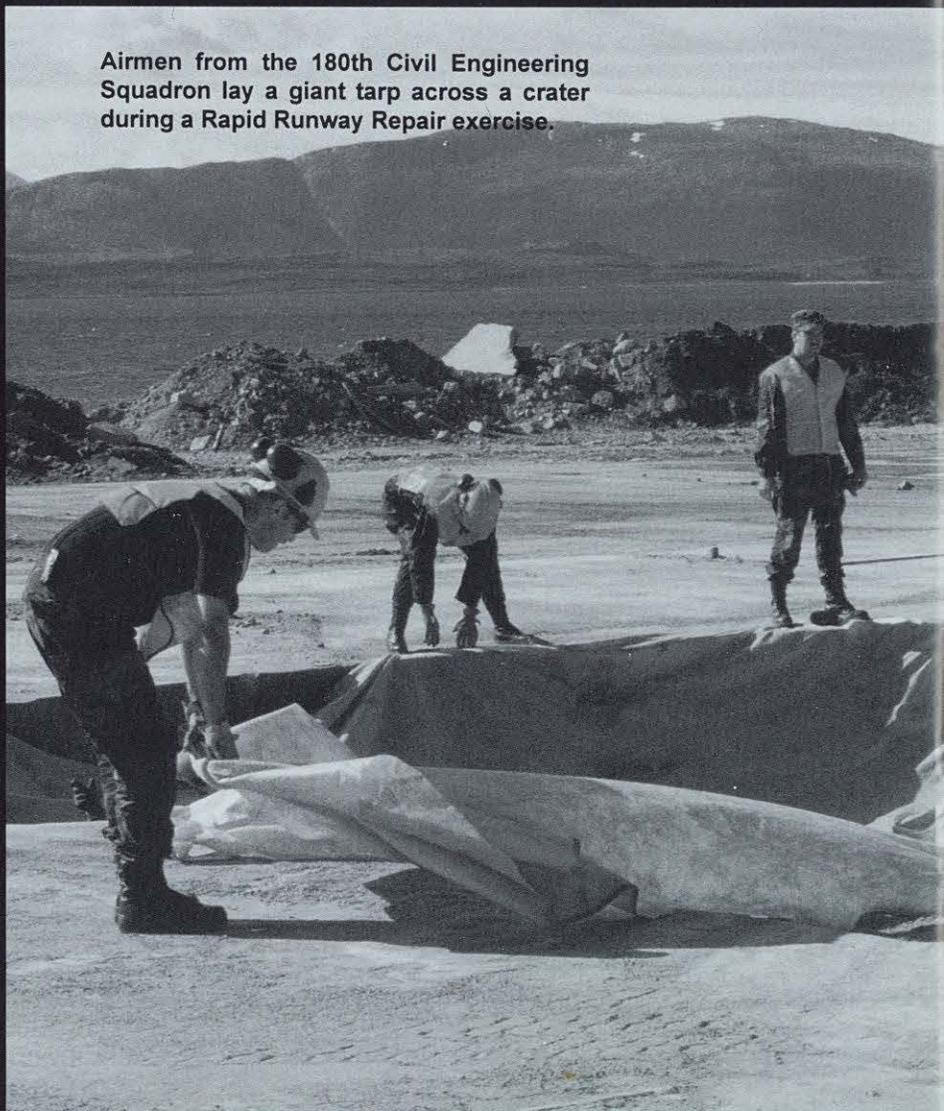
Their mission: deploy to Bodo, Norway from June 30 to July 13, 1996, and train with the Norwegian Air Force in Rapid Runway Repair (RRR). Their goal: gain a complete understanding of NATO's procedures for RRR and perform it as well as their European counterparts. Their outcome: On the final day of training the Ohio Air Guard engineers, from the Toledo based 180th Civil Engineering Squadron, accomplished a new American record filling three craters in 3 hours and 17 minutes. Mission complete.

The deployment also provided the unit with familiarization and operation of Norwegian heavy equipment; training in Post Attack Reconnaissance and demonstrations on weapons used by the Norwegian military including the MP-5 sub machine gun and the Glock 9mm pistol. Several other projects were also completed during the unit's second week of training, including road repair and the construction of walking bridges.

The Bodo Air Base, located north of the Arctic Circle, offered the Guardmembers a rare opportunity to experience 24-hour daylight during their deployment. The area, also known as the Land of the Midnight Sun, is breathtakingly beautiful and is surrounded by mountains and oceans.

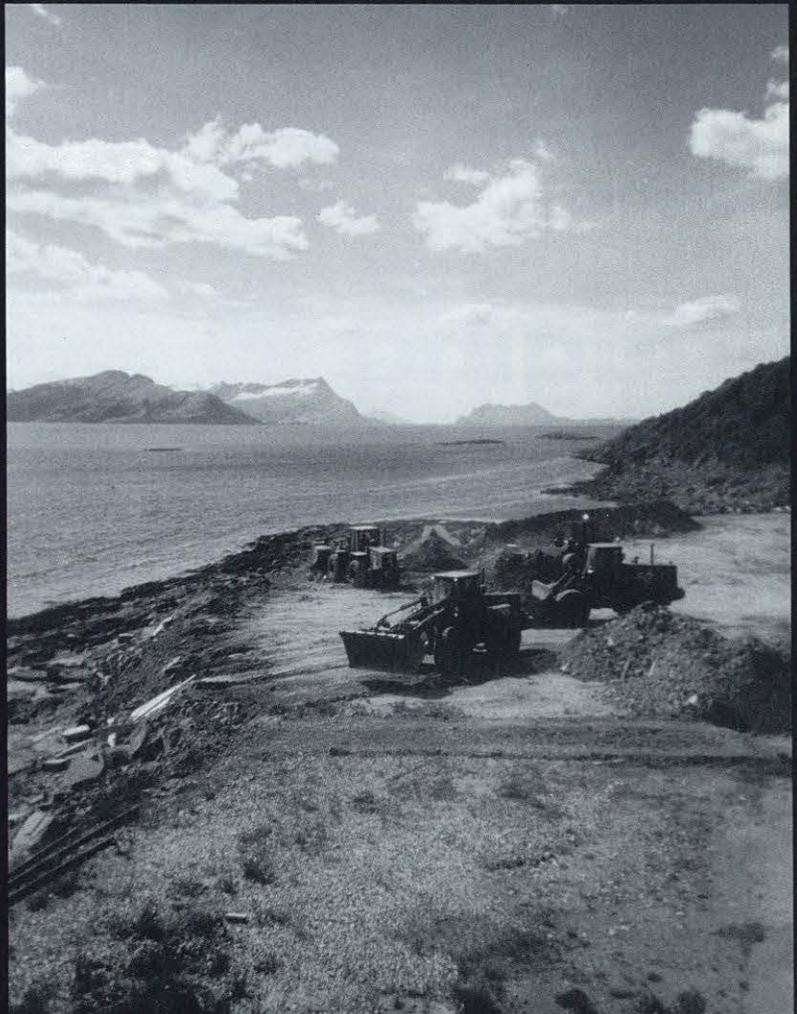
The deployment was an outstanding success, and provided a unique but important training opportunity for the civil engineers. But the exercise also had its lighter side. The host base personnel were extremely friendly and accommodating, planning several trips after duty on the weekends. The trips included deep sea fishing, mountain hikes, visits to trading villages, and much more. In addition, friendships were formed with the host base that will last a lifetime. ■

Airmen from the 180th Civil Engineering Squadron lay a giant tarp across a crater during a Rapid Runway Repair exercise.

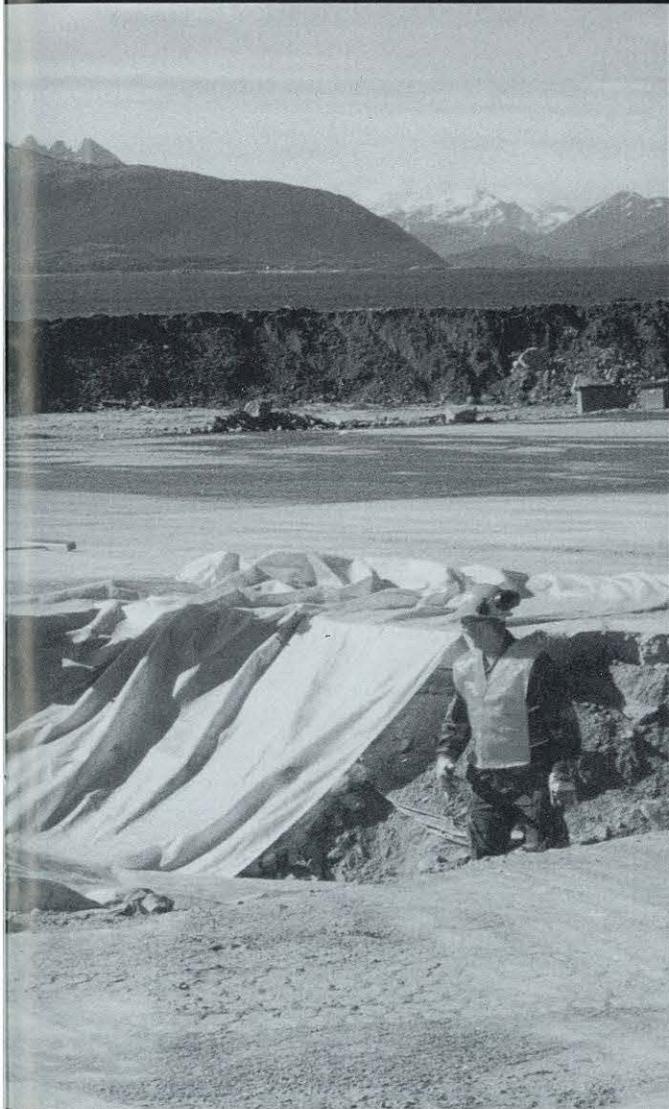




180th Civil Engineering Squadron heavy equipment operators clear rubble out of a runway crater during their record setting RRR competition.



Surrounded by mountains and oceans, the 180th CES trained using Norwegian heavy equipment during its european deployment.



Members of the 180th CES race against the clock to establish a new American record during a Rapid Runway Repair exercise.

*The Cincinnati-based panel bridge
company spent an entire year
preparing to ace its external ARTEP*

Bridging the Gap

Story by Master Sgt. Robert Jennings
Photos by Cpt. Joe Weigman, 196th PAD

We all know the answer to the proverbial question: "Why did the chicken cross the road?" But if the unwitting fowl was confronted with an obstacle in its path, it might just choose another route. Conversely,

when military operations must "...get to the other side," to complete a mission—and changing direction is not an option—Army engineers make sure that the quickest route is a straight line.

Quickly forging obstacles is the main mission of the Cincinnati based 1193rd Engineer Company (Panel Bridge). And during annual training at Camp Grayling, Mich. this past summer, the 1193rd was judged externally to the standards of the Army Training and Evaluation Program (ARTEP).

Their task was to build an 80 foot double decked panel bridge to traverse a 60 foot gorge in Camp Grayling's Engineer Valley—a task

that to the novice seems challenging even if you had a week to do it. But by ARTEP standards, with trained personnel, the project is allotted just 4 1/2 hours to complete.

According to Sgt. 1st Class David Delgrosso, the units readiness NCO, the 1193rd passed with flying colors receiving a "Trained" rating in all critical categories. "The successful evaluation didn't just happen though," Delgrosso said. "It was the culmination of over a year's worth of training and preparation."

It takes a coordinated effort by many groups doing many different jobs to successfully construct a bridge. The panel bridge system, better known as the Bailey Bridge—named after its designer and British engineer Sir Donald Bailey—is similar to an erector set. Principally, it consists of prefabricated, interchangeable steel truss panels that bolt together and can be quickly assembled. But what really made the unit shine at Grayling was teamwork.

For example, it takes six to eight people just to carry one panel and there must be complete

Members of the 1193rd Engineer Company (Panel Bridge) successfully erect a Bailey Bridge to Army standards during an external evaluation at Camp Grayling.



1193rd Engineers

synchronization between heavy equipment operators and workers on the ground. The person responsible for bringing all the elements together and getting the bridge built is the bridge foreman. During the ARTEP, that job belonged to Staff Sgt. David Kovacs. Although some of the workers were taken from none bridge building units and had little or no experience, Kovacs had the project running like clockwork by integrating them with more experienced workers.

The 1193rd is not a combat unit, so its mission is to build a more permanent structure—typically after a combat company has provided an expedient passageway. Configurations for a standard bridge is 10 feet wide and can



1LT Tamera Welton (second from left) assists other unit members in positioning one of the bridge panels during the unit's external ARTEP at Camp Grayling. Welton is one of the first female platoon leaders assigned to the unit.

be constructed up to 210 feet in length without support from end to end. The bridging system is built on land using rollers to place it over an obstacle such as a river or gap.

The unit is also succeeding in bridging the gap between the sexes. First Lieutenants Tamera Welton and Andrea Offerle were recently appointed as the unit's first female platoon leaders; both had previously held staff positions with Headquarters, 134th Engineer Group before being selected to lead the predominantly male platoons.

"Of course some of the challenges we face are because the men are not accustomed to being led by females," said Offerle, who feels she and her counterpart have integrated into the unit quite well.

According to Offerle, some of the cultural language associated with building bridges had to be modified now that there are females in the unit. "It's just a matter of getting familiar with doing business another way," Offerle said. "Besides, it opens up opportunities for other women. Now the only thing holding us back is our own ambition," she said.

Historically, the 1193rd has left its mark in real-life situations. In June of 1990, the unit was activated to support relief efforts to the small southeastern Ohio town of Shadyside. A devastating

spring flood left 26 people dead and hundreds of homes destroyed. The engineers constructed a temporary bridge that provided access for many townspeople cut-off from main roads. "That bridge served a real purpose during the community's rebuilding period," Delgrosso said.

Whether racing against the clock at Grayling, breaking gender barriers within its ranks or serving the citizens of Ohio, the 1193rd can always be counted on to reach the other side. ■



Synchronizing heavy equipment with workers on the ground is an important facet of bridge building.

Field Artillery...

'King of Battle' finds new way to train

Story and photos by Cpl. Marley C. Starkey,
Battery F, 1-134th Field Artillery

Anually, hundreds of National Guard soldiers from Ohio attend some type of formal military training in order to further their military careers. That training ranges from Primary Leadership Development Courses (PLDC) to various Military Occupational Specialty (MOSs) courses. This past summer, however, necessity and initiative led to a unique joint training effort between the Ohio Military Academy and the 1st Battalion, 134th Field Artillery.

Lt. Col. Matthew Kambic, commander of the 1-134th FA, headquartered in Columbus, had a problem. Battery F in Cleveland was being activated on Sept. 1, 1996. Many soldiers from an engineering unit would be transferred in to fill some of the new positions making them immediately non-qualified. As the commander, Kambic could either send these soldiers to regional training centers throughout the U.S., or attempt to train them within the Battalion.

"I thought it was something we could reasonably do. I also thought it would be much more efficient for us to fill our vacant slots and try to qualify the soldiers in the new battery by training them ourselves," Kambic said.

With authorization and support from the Ohio Military Academy (OMA), the MOS qualifying school was scheduled to be run during Annual Training 1996 at Camp Grayling, Mich.

The dubious task of running the school was given to C-Battery, located in Piqua. "Our NCOs within the battalion are very professional and very knowledgeable, so I thought, why not let our experts share that knowledge with students who are eager to learn," Kambic said. "In the process, we build a more cohesive team both for the soldiers working on the guns and the NCOs leading the course."

Captain Wade Barnes, C-Battery's commander, wanted to make sure the school was professional and that it would provide realistic training

during the two-week course. According to Barnes, even though the school was being held in a complete field environment, creating an atmosphere that was conducive to study would ensure the 21 students, including some from the 119th Field Artillery in Michigan, had the best opportunity for success.

The school proved to be a successful on many levels. Sgt. 1st Class David Gill, who served as the course manager, and has been an associate instructor with OMA since 1991, was impressed with the efforts of the battalion. "What the 134th undertook with the implementation of this school was a huge accomplishment, and they succeeded," Gill said.

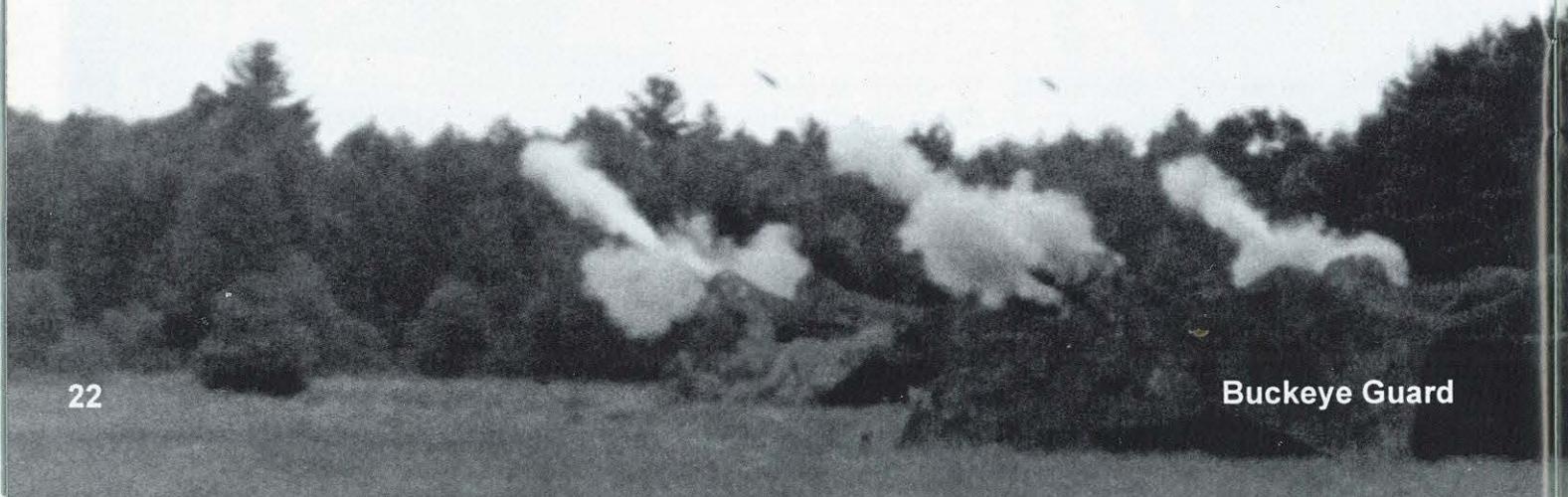
Gill admits there were glitches at first, but noted that through the professionalism of the instructors, and the eagerness of each student to learn, they were able to adapt and overcome all the initial problems.

The six section chiefs and four additional NCOs who performed as primary instructors during the school, received preparatory training by attending the Battle Focused Instructor Training Course (BFITC) provided by OMA. Gill explained that the course basically teaches a soldier how to teach. The instructors then combined what they learned at the BFITC with the active duty school's Program of Instruction (POI) for the 13-B MOS, to setup their classes.

"The BFITC made it simple," said Staff Sgt. Thomas Roberts, a member of C-Battery, and one of the primary instructors of the 13-B course. "I had very little previous teaching experience, some active duty classes, map reading, etc., but that was about it," he said.

Sgt. Cory Clifford, a student during the course, praised the instructors for their professionalism and attentiveness to each student's needs. "They explained everything thoroughly, and if there was any confusion, or someone did not understand, they took the time to get the student to understand," Clifford said.

But the course objective was to put "steel on target" and that's what Clifford and the other students looked forward to most. "Without a doubt, the most exciting part of the entire course was firing the howitzer," Clifford said. "It was exciting the first time, and every time I was able to get on the gun and fire, it was a thrilling experience," he said. ■





BOTTOM LEFT: PFC Todd Arbogast of B-Battery, 1-134th FA, prepares a powder to the correct increment for a fire mission. **LEFT:** SGT Ronald Latham of A-Battery checks to insure the breach on the M-109 Howitzer is functioning properly. **BELOW:** Students at the 13-B qualification course prepare rounds for their first fire mission.



Steel on Target...

Fire Mission! The two words every soldier in the Field Artillery prepares for and waits to hear. With those two words, a chain of events are set into motion. These events are well-rehearsed to ensure that when the order is given, the field artillery can provide "Steel on Target".

The mission of the field artillery is to destroy, neutralize or suppress the enemy by cannon, rocket or missile fire. Field artillerymen put "Steel on Target" in the right places, at the right

time and in the right proportion to assure the success of the mission. The accomplishment of this mission involves a well-coordinated effort by many soldiers performing tasks in direct and indirect support of the firing battalion before, during and after a fire mission. During 1-134th's most recent annual training period at Camp Grayling, Mich., over 300 soldiers performed their jobs with the mission of the field artillery in mind. Proving once again why the Field Artillery is known as the "King of Battle."

Lieutenant Sad Sack

MI workshop gets Vet's wisdom, experience

Story by Sgt. Steven Johnson
196th Public Affairs Detachment

If you've ever been associated with the military for any length of time, you've probably heard the term, Military Intelligence (MI), a contradiction in terms, or Military Intelligence is an oxymoron.

There are probably many such terms used to classify the branch of service that is responsible for gathering intelligence and providing our forces with needed information to defeat the enemy. Yet for some, these derogatory nicknames come from experience in a combat zone, where military intelligence didn't seem so intelligent.

First Lieutenant Eric W. Smith, (a.k.a. Sad Sack) gained firsthand experience on the inner workings of the MI branch in the jungles of Southeast Asia. Smith trained as an MI officer during his tour in Vietnam and later wrote a book titled "Not By The Book, A Combat Intelligence Officer In Vietnam," which gave accounts of his experiences in America's most unpopular war.

He earned the name Sad Sack from his ROTC commander, a Vietnam veteran and former Green Beret. Smith's performance throughout his college days left much to be desired and, nearly every step of the way, his commander was always there to witness his constant screw-ups and lackluster soldiering skills. Thus the name Sad Sack was applied.

Surprisingly, he flourished in a leadership position and was selected as the honor cadet for all east coast universities—not what you'd expect from a guy ranked 40 out of a 44 member class.

I had an opportunity to read his book as well as meeting and interviewing Smith at a recent MI workshop conducted at the Ohio Military Academy. Organized by Maj. Brad Willette, the 37th Brigade S-2 officer, the workshop focused on reconnaissance and surveillance operations of tactical units, and new tactics and intelligence used by active and

reserve components.

Considered a dinosaur in the modern intelligence field, Smith was invited to the seminar to provide firsthand knowledge of the old intelligence gathering methods used in Vietnam and the problems he faced as an MI officer. His insight was more of a history lesson to Ohio Guard intelligence specialists, on how improper handling and processing of information from enemy soldiers, and poor training could adversely affect the field units that needed the information.

As an interrogator and document processor in Vietnam, Smith inherited an antiquated system that allowed large bundles of documents, taken from captured enemy soldiers, to be shipped unchecked to Saigon for analysis. Often, these bundles were given a cursory investigation by the untrained and unmotivated soldier-in-charge, never realizing the potential importance of the documents.

Smith totally restructured the system so that the information was inspected and properly sorted with the most important documents being sent to higher headquarters first. Still a painfully slow process, this system was much faster than the previous bundle debacle.

In sharp contrast to what Smith went through in Vietnam, with very little equipment and very few language trained intelligence specialists, today's Army relies heavily on an intelligence force that can process and distribute more information in a fraction of the time.

Our current intelligence machine allows commanders to instantly access imagery from satellites and unmanned aerial vehicles, sensor information from Navy EA-6B Prowler aircraft, the National Reconnaissance Office and commercial satellites. This type of state of the art intelligence gathering equipment and methods is far removed from the days of typing reports on five sets of carbon paper and having bundles of enemy documentation lying around waiting for someone to interpret them.

During the workshop, a whole new world was opened to Smith, as he learned of the new intelligence structure at various levels. Where there were once only a handful of branch trained offic-

ers to represent a whole division, now each brigade has qualified enlisted and commissioned personnel to process information to and from units in the field. Techniques in advance reconnaissance and surveillance tactics, give unit commanders a more decisive advantage on today's battlefield.

In the twenty or so years since the end of the Vietnam War, Military Intelligence is no longer a dirty word and, although there's still a great deal of information that must be kept secure, more information is accessible in a shorter period of time. The MI organization is steadily improving its information gathering assets and better training personnel to process and distribute that information.

The cloak and dagger style of military intelligence is quickly fading. Today's focus is on providing as much information as possible to support units in the field. There may still be a few who whisper of MI agents conducting secret meetings and doing things that you see only in the movies, but in reality, the goal of Military Intelligence is to stay on top of and analyze potential threats to our soldiers and citizens around the world during times of war and times of peace.

Today, Smith still speaks passionately about his Vietnam experience and the negative effect it had on getting information in the hands of the people who really needed it. During the workshop, he found out that the intelligence game is played much differently these days.

The Army has invested in state of the art intelligence equipment and improved its training of MI specialist to better enhance our combat capabilities. The result of that improvement was most recently noted in the Persian Gulf war, where commanders in the field could receive on the spot information about the enemy and his capabilities.

There is still much to learn about intelligence gathering. With continuous advancements in technology and the subsequent enhanced training of our soldiers, what was once unknown will soon be accessible at the touch of a button. ■

Top Secret

National Guard, CADCA partners in defense of America's children

Over the past year, the National Guard Bureau's Counterdrug Directorate and its Drug Demand Reduction Advisory Council (DDRAC) has been hard at work building a relationship with Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA). CADCA is the nation's leader in building community drug prevention coalitions around the country. Hoping to capitalize on the Guard's 3,500 locations in communities nationwide, CADCA has recognized the Guard as an often untapped resource in the community.

According to Jim Copple, President and Chief Executive Officer of CADCA, it's a natural fit. "Our coalition members are looking for stable partners with a variety of resources. They need somebody with an action oriented state of mind to assist with planning and activities. The Guard brings a tremendous amount of those resources to bear."

Last January, members of the DDRAC (made up of drug demand reduction administrators (DDRA) throughout the country) met with Copple to discuss the benefits of membership in CADCA and ways that the Guard could help CADCA members. As a result, the National Guard Bureau's Counterdrug Directorate maintains a liaison position at CADCA.

Lt. Col. Lou Navarro, CADCA Liaison Officer, assists states in locating CADCA coalitions looking to utilize Guard resources. Ac-

ording to 1st Lt. Neal O'Brien, Ohio's DDRA, the relationship is a vital one. "Over the past few years, demand reduction has been struggling with its identity and acceptance in the community. Our partnership with CADCA has opened doors we couldn't conceive getting into five years ago when this program started," O'Brien said. "CADCA is helping the National Guard legitimize our demand reduction efforts. We now have instant credibility."

The culmination of the relationship resulted in a strong showing of National Guard DDRAs at the CADCA National Leadership Forum VII November 13-16, 1996. The National Guard sponsored a nationwide Drug Demand Reduction booth, spearheaded by the efforts of the Florida National Guard and its DDRA Lt. Col. Bob Lewis. "CADCA has been great to us. They're giving all of us an opportunity to tell our story to thousands of drug prevention leaders across the country," Lewis said. "We couldn't ask for anything better"

The National Leadership Forum annually is the largest gathering of prevention leaders committed to building coalitions to address substance abuse prevention. Several Ohioans received top billing at the forum. Director Luceille Fleming of the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services was one of the key note speakers at the general session. In addition, Congressman Rob Portman and Senator Mike DeWine received two of the four leadership awards presented to members of congress who have taken the lead in support-

ing prevention issues across the country. Congressman Portman's Congressional Drug Prevention Coalition initiative was also featured.

In addition, CADCA unveiled their "Strategizer 23"--The National Guard-In Defense of America's Children. Strategizers are sent to all CADCA coalitions throughout the country (over 3,000). The National Guard strategizer will help coalitions understand how they can utilize Guard resources and contact the local DDRA in their state. ■

STORIES NEEDED

If your unit is supporting community relations initiatives that deal with Drug Demand Reduction (Adopt-A-School, KiDSAFE, Red Ribbon, etc.) please send them to the *Buckeye Guard Magazine* along with your pictures.



Courtesy photo.

Jim Copple (seated), president and chief executive officer of CADCA, poses with members of the Drug Demand Reduction Advisory Council from around the country.

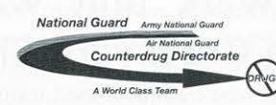


CADCA Strategizer

*A series of technical assistance manuals
for community coalitions*

23.

**The National Guard
— In Defense
of America's
Children**



With Support from and in Collaboration with

BEHRING DIAGNOSTICS, INC.





Photo by 1LT Michael Carey, Det. 1, 213th Maintenance Company.

About 30 junior enlisted members from Detachment 1, 213th Maintenance Company help restore a historic cemetery ravaged by vandals and the passing of time.

Newark unit working the Graveyard Shift

When the trustees of the Licking Cemetery Association called a National Guard unit wondering if they could help restore a historic cemetery dating back to the early 1800s, the junior enlisted members of the Newark based Detachment 1, 213th Maintenance Company rose to the challenge.

About 30 junior enlisted members from the unit spent September 14-15, 1996, repairing broken headstones, leveling sunken markers, setting toppled markers upright, clearing debris, and in general righting the wrongs done by vandals, age and the effects of weather.

The general support maintenance company's mission normally deals with rebuilding engines, transmissions and maintenance on tanks and trucks. In this mission, heavy equipment was used to reset many of the grave markers, while others gave the mechanics an opportunity to exercise their ingenuity plus a few new muscles for the benefit of the community. In the end, a great deal of dignity for the final resting place of the community's family, friends and war veterans was restored to this historic place. *Submitted by 1st Lt. Michael T. W. Carey, Detachment 1, 213th Maintenance Company.*

121st proven ready

The 121st ARW turned in an excellent performance according to the Air Mobility Command inspector general team during the unit's

April Organizational Readiness Inspection (ORI). Excellent, as defined by the IG is: "Performance or operation that exceeds mission requirements. Procedures and activities are carried out in a superior manner. Resources and programs are very efficiently managed, relatively free of deficiencies." The highest IG rating is outstanding, followed by excellent, satisfactory, marginal and unsatisfactory.

The 121st received high marks for initial response, employment, mission support and ability to survive and operate. Some exceptional areas noted on the IG's report included clean aircraft; teamwork within command and control elements; efforts by lodging and security force personnel; and quick and effective action by everyone when alarm condition red sounded.

Kudos were sent from the 21st Air Force congratulating the 121st for being the first unit under its command to score highly in the "ability to survive and operate" category. *Reprinted from Wing Watch, June 1996.*

Army Guard supports 44th Annual Skills Ohio Championship

Units from around Central Ohio came together to support the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America's (VICA) 44th Annual Skills Competition at the Ohio State Fairgrounds in Columbus. This is the fourth year the Guard has provided personnel for contest coordinators, judges, set-up and tear-down support to VICA. Over 3,000 junior and senior high school students, along with advisors and parents from vocational/technical high schools around the state, competed for two days in 56 different contests demonstrating both their leadership and technical skills. A military equipment display, furnished by the Ohio Army National Guard, was setup for the

participants and school staffs to view when not in competitions.

The relationship, which has evolved from this partnership, has been one of mutual benefit. VICA receives skilled judges, role models and equipment support while the Guard gets the opportunity to work one on one with junior and seniors who are training in many of the vocations that directly translate to military MOSs.

The Guard also assists VICA in their Local Officers Training Institute or leadership development program which is conducted annually for the new chapter officers. This training provides instruction and experience in communication skills, work ethics, goal setting and leadership principles which are all taught in a total quality environment. Through this cooperative program, the Ohio Guard continues to be a partner in education, a role model for the community and is able to recruit quality young adults who have already mastered the skills we so definitely need. *Submitted by Lt. Col. Don Kane, Human Resources Office.*

Special Forces gets flagged at Camp Perry

On September 13, 1996, Detachment 1, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 2nd Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group formally retired its guide on and deactivated the unit as a provisional SF detachment.

Under the authority of the National Guard Bureau and the Department of the Army, the unit was redesignated and flagged as Company B, 2nd Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group, effective Sep. 2, 1996. The new designation



Courtesy photo.

Carpentry was one of the many skills Ohio Guardmembers shared with VICA students during the annual competition at the Ohio State Fairgrounds.



Courtesy photo.

Members of the newly designated Company B, 2nd Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group, stand in formation during the decativation/redesignation ceremony at Camp Perry.

will not change personnel roster requirements or theater operations but it will give the unit a more permanent status in the current force structure.

As a detachment, the unit acted in a provisional role, after being activated more than 18 months ago. With the change from a detachment to a company, the 19th will receive more substantial funding and missions will be more evenly divided between other units within the battalion.

Having gone through various deployments throughout the unit's short history, including Operation Uphold Democracy on the island nation of Haiti, the 19th has proven itself as a viable asset to the total force doctrine of the Department of Defense and the Ohio National Guard.

With this new designation, the unit will continue to carry on the proud tradition of the men who wear the green beret with a certainty that their special skills and qualifications will be used well into the next century.

179th Airlift Wing keeps wheels up in world-wide missions support

Our propellers had barely stopped turning from our deployment to Saudi Arabia and we were making commitments to provide support for IFOR (Implementation Forces), the troops from the U.S. and other nations which are now responsible for implementing the Dayton Peace Agreement. On April 11, one crew and approximately 16 maintenance personnel from the 179th Airlift Wing, Mansfield, took off with an additional 1,600 pounds of installed aircraft armor

and a greatly improved Airlift Defensive System. Our first stop, St. Johns, Newfoundland, enroute to Ramstein Air Base in Germany for support of Operation Joint Endeavor.

We arrived along with approximately 400 other National Guardsmen from a multitude of units all over the U.S. We replaced the C-130 reserve units which had handled the commitment for the previous three months. After the initial dust settled, briefings started, shifts were assigned and immediately the Guard took over the reigns and tried to match the enviable record left by our reserve counterparts — a 96 percent reliability rate for Joint Endeavor missions.

All missions were air-land sorties, most of which were flown into Tuzla and some into Sarajevo within Bosnia-Herzegovina. Support missions were also flown from Aviano Air Base in Italy as well as Taszar, Hungary. Additional airlift missions were absorbed to help the beleaguered 86th Airlift Wing out of Ramstein. The 38th Airlift Squadron (provisional) was created to support the wing at Ramstein; working relations with our active duty counterparts were very good.

Our crew were required to wear flak and survival vests, much like they did for Operation Provide Promise in Bosnia prior to the peace accord.

A normal day lasted between 14 to 16 hours with approximately eight hours of flying, with most crews flying or working some type of duty every other day. Of course, this does not happen without lots of support from maintenance, weather, intelligence and a lot of other personnel. Thanks to their hard work, when our crew departed the area after three weeks of flying, the Air Guard had a 100 percent success rate for the Joint Endeavor missions. Much of this success should also be attributed to our Charlotte, N.C., counterparts who had taken on the burden as the lead unit for this deployment which lasted through mid-July.

Continued deployments clearly show, the Guard is no longer just a force which is intended to augment the active duty in case of a major conflict. Although the active duty C-17 force received much of the initial notoriety for their support of this mission, the reliable C-130 stepped in and picked up the load with great success.

Somalia, Provide Promise, Operation

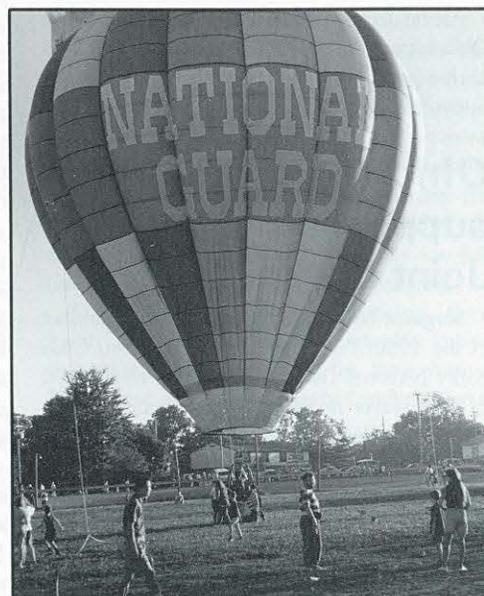
Deny Flight (Saudi Arabia), and now Operation Joint Endeavor in addition to our everyday schedules keeps us "active." I do not know what is next, but I am sure we will soon be on the road again to represent the 179th Airlift Wing and the Air National Guard. *Submitted by Maj. Mark P. Lynskey, 179th Airlift Wing.*

Hot air lifts Guard, public in Marysville

The Ohio National Guard really made its presence known at the Marysville Balloon Festival this fall. Members from Battery A, 1st Battalion, 134th Field Artillery, Battery C, 148th Infantry, 118th Medical Company and several Central Ohio recruiters were on hand to take to the skies with other balloonists in a National Guard sponsored hot air balloon.

The Guard's balloon is captained by Staff Sgt. John C. Leifek, a guardsman who has been traveling throughout the country attending shows for several years now. Leifek gave rides to anyone adventurous enough to go up and there were many thrill seekers in Marysville.

The festive forum also offered Ohio Guardmembers the opportunity to tell the Guard's story and answer questions. Additionally, static displays were set up to show off some of the Guard's more traditional equipment including HUMVEEs and, the most popular attraction that day, a 155mm Howitzer. *Submitted by Spc. Dennis R. Blair Battery A, 1st Battalion, 134th Field Artillery.*



Courtesy photo.

A National Guard hot air balloon prepares to take to the skies during the balloon festival in Marysville.

Ohio's Adjutant General named NGAUS president

Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander, the adjutant general of Ohio, was elected president of the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) during the 118th General Conference in Washington, D.C., in early September. Alexander, the 45th president of the NGAUS and the first African-American to hold the post, succeeds Maj. Gen. John L. France, who will continue to serve on the NGAUS Executive Council as the immediate past president.

"As a long-time member, it is an honor to be elected president of the NGAUS," said Alexander, who has been a member of the NGAUS Executive Council since 1993.

"With this honor come tremendous responsibility, I intend to push hard for full integration of the Army and Air National Guard into active component war plans, contingency operations and operations other than war. The Guard is an extremely capable, affordable resource for the country and the states. It should be utilized to its maximum potential, now more than ever as we look hard to squeeze the most out of our defense dollars."

Alexander chaired the NGAUS's Division Process Action Committee that shaped National Guard Bureau (NGB) and association positions on the future of the Army Guard's eight combat divisions. As president, Alexander now presides over the NGAUS's 28-member governing Executive Council, which approves its budget and Legislative Action Plan.

Alexander's election marks the first time in Ohio history that its Guard leadership will hold such a prominent position at the national level. *Submitted by National Guard magazine.*

Ohio Guardswoman supporting Operation Joint Endeavor

Sergeant Nicole C. Smith, a former member of the 196th Public Affairs Detachment, Ohio Army National Guard, Columbus, volunteered to be a player in the U.S. involvement in the United Nations Peace Implementation Force (IFOR) operation in Bosnia.

In civilian life, the Dayton resident is a student at the University of Cincinnati. Today, she's on a rotation deployment between Germany and Bosnia as a member of the Iowa National Guard's 135th Public Affairs Detachment.

Smith heard about the Iowa unit's pending deployment and its need for a print journalist

while attending drill at Rickenbacker last April. Six weeks later, she transferred to the Iowa Guard and was soon on her way to Germany.

No stranger to the Iowa National Guard, Smith worked with the 135th PAD providing public affairs support during the Midwest "Floods of '93." Ironically, Smith had to transfer from Ohio to the Iowa National Guard to support the Bosnian agreement that was ratified in her hometown of Dayton.

Smith is assigned to a public affairs team that works from a staging area in Wiesbaden, Germany, supporting Task Force Victory's Logistics Command Headquarters and deploying on various rotations throughout Bosnia.

Although she had to join the Iowa Guard for the nine month assignment, the tour is only a temporary arrangement and upon its completion, Smith will return to Ohio and resume her duties as a journalist with the Ohio National Guard. *Submitted by Lt. Col. Robert C. King, Public Affairs Officer, Iowa National Guard.*

Dapore takes 26.2 mile challenge

In the fall of 1995, Lt. Col. Jim Dapore attended the 37th Armor Brigade Ball and became engaged in a conversation with 1st Lt. Greg Crecelious. Crecelious had recently ran in and completed the Columbus Marathon and was talking at length about his accomplishment. "As I remember it he was bragging," said Dapore, a traditional guardsman who currently serves as the S-3 for 73rd Troop Command. "I had to accept the challenge from the young lieutenant," he said. After much discussion, the two men decided to meet a year later and run the Marine Corps Marathon in Washington D.C. Dapore had never run a marathon before and admits that his goal was just to finish the race and not have to eat crow from the younger Crecelious.

Although they trained separately for the grueling race, the two men stayed in touch via e-mail. Crecelious, who commands Battery A, 1st Battalion, 134th Field Artillery, met Dapore a year later at the Iwo Jima Statue in D.C. as promised. The two were prepared to square off against each other, the distance and the other 19,000 runners excepting the challenge that day. But what seemingly started out as a dual



Courtesy photo.

Ohio Guardsmen LTC Jim Dapore (left) and 1LT Greg Crecelious pose for a photo shortly after both men completed the Marine Corps Marathon in Washington, D.C.

between adversaries, quickly turned into a partnership as the two men ran the entire 26.2 miles together. "We ran and ran and ran," said Dapore. "And we both plan to be here next year," he said.

Ohio tanker honored

Sgt. 1st Class David S. Biscaro of Company A, 1st Battalion, 147th Armor was awarded the Bronze Medallion of the Order Of St. George on March 3, 1996.

The award was presented to Biscaro reflecting his contributions to the Armor and Cavalry units of both Kansas and Ohio National Guard. Biscaro was awarded the Order of St. George for his outstanding efforts and development of programs and successful gunnery programs throughout his career. Biscaro is the first member of the 1-147th to receive this prestigious award and one of only a few in the state of Ohio.

The heroic and legendary image (displayed on the medallion) of St. George defeating a dragon exemplifies the mounted gallantry and righteous bravery that is associated with the horse mounted knights of old.

The legend of St. George, who is the only saint portrayed as fighting mounted, can be traced back to 280 AD. Through the centuries, his name has been linked to famous battles, military orders, and cavalry forces. In 1986, the United States Armor Association established

the Honorable Order of St. George to recognize the very best tankers and cavalrymen among its members.

Congratulations to Sgt. 1st Class Biscaro on a job well done.

Laprise award recipient defines Leadership

Leadership is what defines a winning organization; when a leader puts organizational goals ahead of his own, you know he cares about its well-being. It is one of the qualities that made Sgt. 1st Class Charles V. Biggs the recipient of the General William A. Laprise Leadership Award. The honor is bestowed upon individuals who have provided leadership within the 112th Transportation Battalion throughout their careers.

In a ceremony held at Battalion Headquarters in Middletown, the award was presented to Biggs who is the readiness NCO for the 1487th Transportation Company in Eaton. He has 27 years of military experience, with many of those years spent serving the Eaton unit.

"I can't think of anyone who is more deserving," Captain Jim Atchley, Commander of the 1487th said. "Sergeant Biggs has always served with the betterment of the unit in mind. Whether providing direct support for the soldier or insuring good training, he has always served with distinction."

Some of Biggs' crowning achievements include receiving the Bronze Star for his leadership as Truckmaster during Desert Storm, being honored as Guardsmen of the for 1995, and numerous commendations and achievement medals. The Laprise Award, though, may now be number one on Biggs' list.

"This is the highest recognition I have ever received, largely because of the great respect I have for Brigadier General Laprise," Biggs commented. "It was an honor to receive the award from the man himself."

Brig. Gen. Laprise (ret.), long-provided leadership to the 112th Battalion and the Ohio National Guard. The award was established in January 1995. *Submitted by Sgt. Scott Detling, UPAR, 1487th Transportation Company.*

Manuel dons new hat with 121st in Italy

Ordinarily, he claims with a certain measure of satisfaction, Master Sgt. Ron Manuel is the guy that a lot of others don't like to see coming. Quality assurance is the name of this lean man's game. He is the last one to examine KC-135R Stratotankers before they take off to refuel other

military planes at 20,000 feet.

"I'm the bad guy," said Manuel, who has spent 35 of his 54 years in an Air Force or Air Guard uniform.

He has been wearing quite another hat during December at the Aeroporto Dall'Oro in Pisa, Italy, famous for its ancient leaning tower, for a 126-member detachment from the 121st Air Refueling Wing out of Rickenbacker International Airport, Ohio.

Ron Manuel is the mess steward—the chief cook and bottle washer—responsible for feeding nearly 60 people their noon meals so they don't have to leave the base and the four large tankers that pump fuel into a variety of other aircraft patrolling the skies over Bosnia.

"They said they needed someone to do this, and I said I could handle it," shrugged Manuel about his additional duty. That makes him one of the good guys of Operation Decisive Endeavor—the allied air portion of the year-old peacekeeping mission Joint Endeavor.

There is a humanitarian twist to this tale during the Christmas season. The money left over from the \$3 that each military person pays for the meals prepared by Manuel's crew are donated to an orphanage run by Catholic nuns who care for a dozen children in nearby Livorno.

Manuel seems to have shaken the bad guy image—at least for a while—and has found a way to share Ohio's giving spirit and goodwill towards all with another part of the world. *Submitted by MSgt. Bob Haskell, NGB*

178th firefighters tops in training, safety, goodwill

"You guys have it made! All you do is sit around the station doing nothing but watching television, washing your personal vehicles, or working out!" These and similar comments have historically been made about firefighters, and full-time members and guardsmen of the 178th Fighter Wing Fire Department (178FW/FD) are not immune to these and related remarks.

Contrary to these inaccurate perceptions, they gratefully accept and perform their firefighting duties of "protection of life and safety" through aircraft coverage, buildings and facilities in-



Courtesy photo.

Fire fighters from the 178th Fighter Wing pose with some of the food items collected during their annual food drive to help needy families.

spection, and agreements with outside agencies. In addition, they perform continuous training and donate their time and money to needy members of the Springfield community.

"Prior to September 1989, the base fire protection coverage was administered by an auxiliary," stated former auxiliary member and full-time member Lieutenant Bill Stathopoulos or guardsman Tech. Sgt. Stathopoulos. Air technicians and other full time base members volunteered as auxiliary fire fighters and received minimum training from local members who had received prior training from active duty and local fire officials. In December 1989, the 178FW/FD became the first Air National Guard full-time fire department.

"Our fighter fighters are required to stay current with approximately one hundred Air National Guard fire protection proficiency training standards and/or state training requirements which must be performed on a weekly, monthly, quarterly, semiannual, or annual training frequency," said Asst. Chief Doug Northup (Tech. Sgt. Northup during UTAs) who has the full-time position of assistant chief of training.

In addition to performing training, these highly motivated fire fighters are also known throughout the community for their Annual Food Drive and Help a Needy Family program by which two VCR's were donated to the Mercy Hospital Children's Ward in December 1995. Both programs are major projects of the Fire Fighter's Association.

Members of the 178FW/FD have participated in Desert Storm and back-filled deploying units from Langley and Moody Air Force Bases, Savannah, Ga. and have participated in Silver Flag competitions. *Submitted by Capt. Robert Campbell, Jr., 178th FW, PAO.*



Write for free RC spouse checklist for mobilization

With a little preparation and communication, Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve families can lessen their anxieties before and during separations. A good place to start is with an outstanding "mobilization" article and "a checklist for readiness" written by Ginny McCoy-Nestlerode in the Spring 1996 issue of *Checkerboard*, the quarterly magazine for the USAR's 99th Regional Support command in Oakdale, Pa. It'll help reduce stress caused by separations and help families deal with practical problems, e.g., health care, pay and financial affairs, wills and powers of attorney, family support systems and other practical matters.

For a free copy write to: **Army Family Liaison Office, DAIM-ZAF, Asst. Chief of Staff Installation Mgmt, 600 Army Pentagon, Washington, DC 20310-0600.** You may also e-mail your requests to: wasserma@pentagon-braco-army.mil.

Eligibility for transient housing extended to RC members

Temporary lodging on military installations is now open to all National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve soldiers with an ID card, on a space-available basis. Previously, only reserve component members on orders or on inactive duty for training at the installation could stay in transient unaccompanied personnel housing or temporary lodging facilities. The change took effect in March 1996.

In other words, reserve component soldiers can now use transient housing. Eligibility has also been extended to "gray area" retirees and off-duty personnel. In essence, RC soldiers, including gray area retirees, are now treated the same as those on active duty.

Gray area retirees, unique to the Reserve

Component, are those who have a 20-year retirement letter but are not age 60, and not yet receiving a retirement check.

This policy change is in the recent update of Army Regulation 210-50, which is kept by your unit administrator or in your unit's information management office.

Handbook for veterans, families updated annually

The best way to get current information about veterans benefits and claims is to contact the nearest Veterans Administration regional office. The next best way is to order the newly revised, updated handbook *Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents*. There is something in this outstanding resource for everyone: active duty soldiers, reserve component members, retirees, and all their family members.

Published by the Department of Veterans Affairs, this 111-page handbook describes VA benefits, including medical care, education, disability compensation, pension, life insurance, home loan guaranty, vocational rehabilitation and burial assistance. It also explains requirements for eligibility and outlines claims procedures.

The handbook also includes the latest information on disability compensation for Persian Gulf veterans who suffer from chronic disabilities from undiagnosed illnesses.

A list of where to go for help includes addresses and telephone numbers for all VA offices, medical centers, national cemeteries, counseling centers and other facilities.

To purchase a copy of the handbook, send a request for GPO stock number 051-000-00209-1 with a check or money order for \$3.25 payable to: **Superintendent of Document, Pittsburgh, Pa 15250-7954.** To order by Visa or Mastercard, **phone (202) 512-1800, or FAX to (202) 512-2250.** Regular long distance rates apply.

Federal jobs on-line

Interested in employment with the federal government? Check out the Federal Research Services site at URL "<http://www.fedjobs.com>". The site features **The Job Hunters Toolbox** which includes both free and fee employment services.

Another job search resource is the CareerPro site at URL "<http://www.flex.net/carepro/index.htm>".

The Army has also established a home page at URL "<http://www.army.mil>". The Army

page includes links to: personnel locator, retiree information, veterans and alumni organizations, Bosnia link, and major installations.

Social Security benefits not reduced for some RC personnel

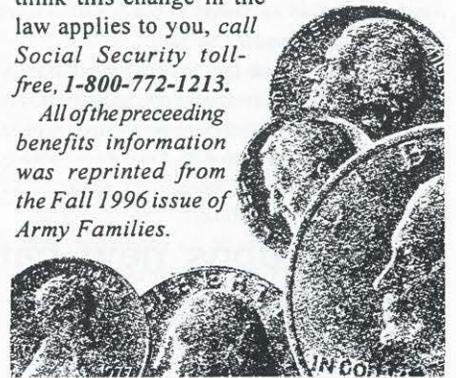
If you served in the Army National Guard or U.S. Army Reserve anytime during the years 1957 through 1987, your Social Security benefits will not be reduced because you're receiving a pension based on military reserve duty. If you served on active or inactive duty and also worked in a job covered by Social Security (long enough to qualify for benefits), you are now eligible to receive your pension from the military and full amount of Social Security to which you are entitled.

Until enactment of the Social Security Independence and Program Improvements Act of 1994, if you were eligible for Social Security benefits, your benefit amount could be reduced if you also received a government pension. Effective Jan. 1, 1995, neither the government pension offset nor the windfall elimination provision will affect Social Security benefits.

Benefits for a spouse (including divorced spouses who meet the eligibility requirements), and dependent children, may increase, too. Widows or widowers of a National Guard or Army Reserve member whose death occurs after Jan. 1, 1995, should ask Social Security for a benefit recomputation.

If you plan to retire in the near future, contact Social Security to discuss how the new rules may affect your benefits. If you think this change in the law applies to you, call **Social Security toll-free, 1-800-772-1213.**

All of the preceding benefits information was reprinted from the Fall 1996 issue of Army Families.



IT'S A PIN THING!

Memorabilia collecting made Atlanta a mission to remember

Story and photos by Sgt. Steven Johnson
196th Public Affairs Detachment

Brightly colored bits of metal, some elaborately decorated, some plain and simple. In reality most are only worth a few cents, but if you happen to be a collector or some how got caught up in the pin craze, these little bits of metal suddenly become badges of a successful bartering game of pin trading. So what's the big deal?

The pin craze that swept the summer games is almost unexplainable, but I'll give it a shot. The actual pins were more or less souvenirs that gave Olympic goers a little piece of history. Most had design and motifs that designated them as an official 1996 Olympic pin, and others from past Olympics. Some sported the names of corporate sponsors such as Coca-Cola, NBC, Nations Bank, VISA and so on. Others displayed figures of athletes representing each event of the games. There were commemorative pins and limited edition pins, and yes, even the Department of Defense had pins.

Most could be purchased directly from street vendors or specialty stores for about five dollars. The more detailed the pin, the more expensive the price. If you were fortunate enough to get one of the rare commemorative or limited edition pins, you were likely to be pinning on a small gold mine. Law enforcement badges replicated in miniature were very hot items on the pin market.

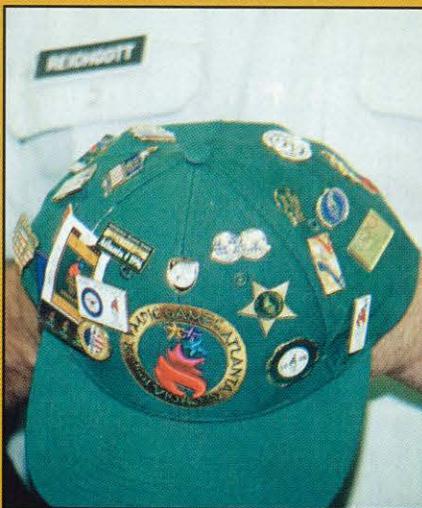
But buying these pins was only half the story. The really in thing to do was trade, swap, barter and deal. Sometimes a person would approach you and check out your pins to see if you had one that they didn't, ...then

the real game began.

"I've got two Charles Barkley Dream Team pins, I'll trade you one for that Joint Task Force pin," one trader would say to the other. "Well I don't know, these are limited addition pins made for DoD personnel, it cost me a Gold Medal Gymnastics Pin. I Don't think I could part with it for less than that Charles Barkley pin and that Coca-Cola pin," says the other trader. After some serious negotiation the deal is done and both go away happy.

One day, I witnessed a guy in an intense negotiation with a street vendor. The object of this particular deal was a commemorative NBC Olympic pin which were few and far between. The man haggled with the vendor for about 20 minutes before the deal was done. The vendor finally settled for \$100 and the man agreed to the price and walked away with his prize, wiping the sweat from his brow and looking as if he were trying to decide how he was going to explain to his wife why he spent 100 bucks on a pin that he could have bought in one of the shops for much less.

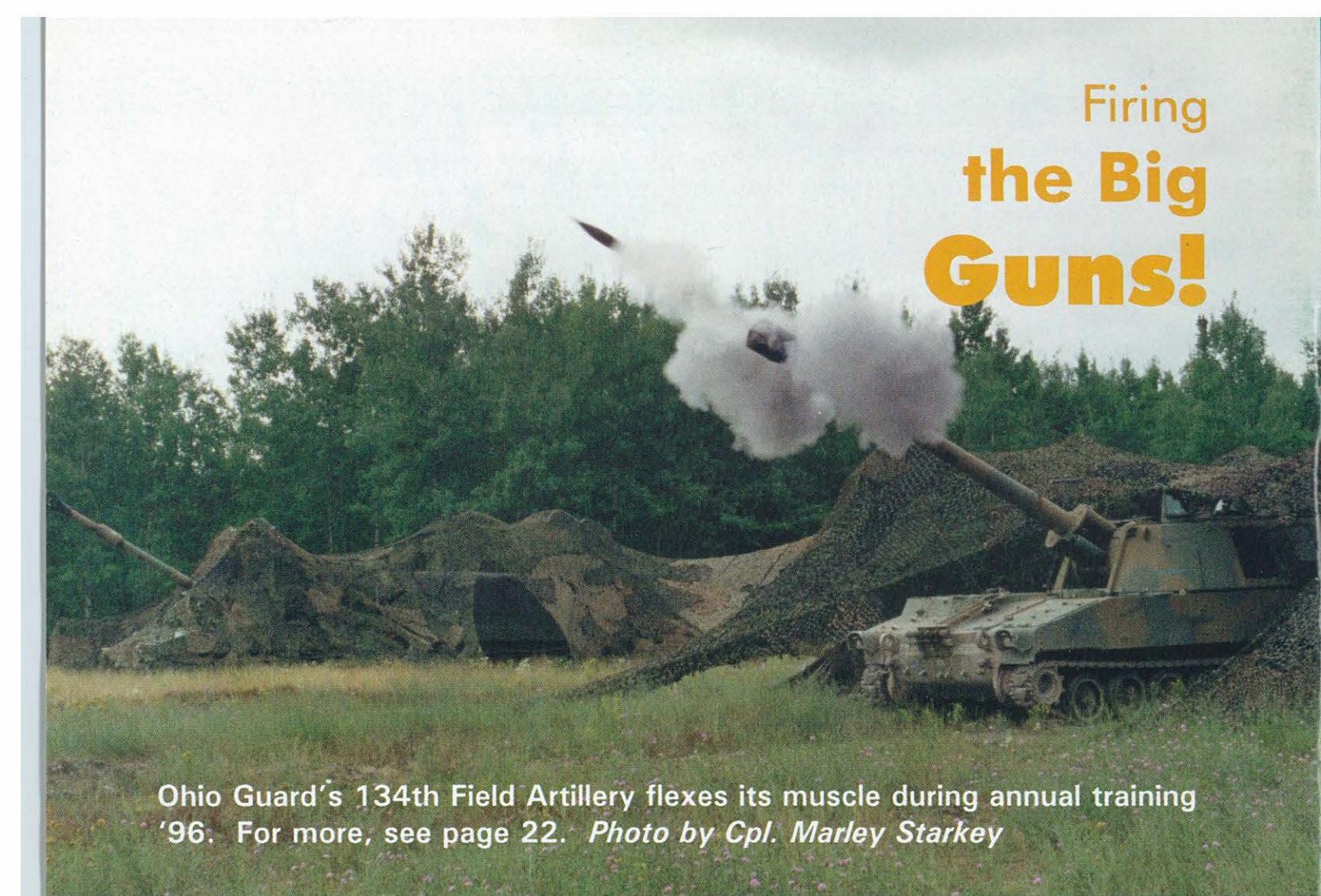
At first, I thought that the whole thing was ridiculous but as I observed more and more of these deals, I found myself drawn to the madness and eventually got into the game. It actually turned out to be a lot of fun and it made



ABOVE: Pin and souvenir collection of SGT's Tony Perez and Shawn Bennet, both members of Task Force 107. LEFT: Pin collection and commemorative Olympic hat displayed by Spc. Max Reighgott of Task Force 512.

me realize that the main idea might have been to make money off of the pins, but it also brought people from all walks of life together and allowed each of us to experience other cultures and sometimes develop relationships and memories that will probably last a lifetime.

Crazy you say, or just having a good time? What ever the case, the whole Olympic pin trading experience was definitely worth the effort. When asked about the whole pin attraction, one gentleman simply stated, "It's a Pin Thing." ■



Firing
the Big
Guns!

Ohio Guard's 134th Field Artillery flexes its muscle during annual training '96. For more, see page 22. *Photo by Cpl. Marley Starkey*

Buckeye
GUARD

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

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