

# **Vital Mission**

---

**Army Guard reshapes its medical assets**

Pages 22-23

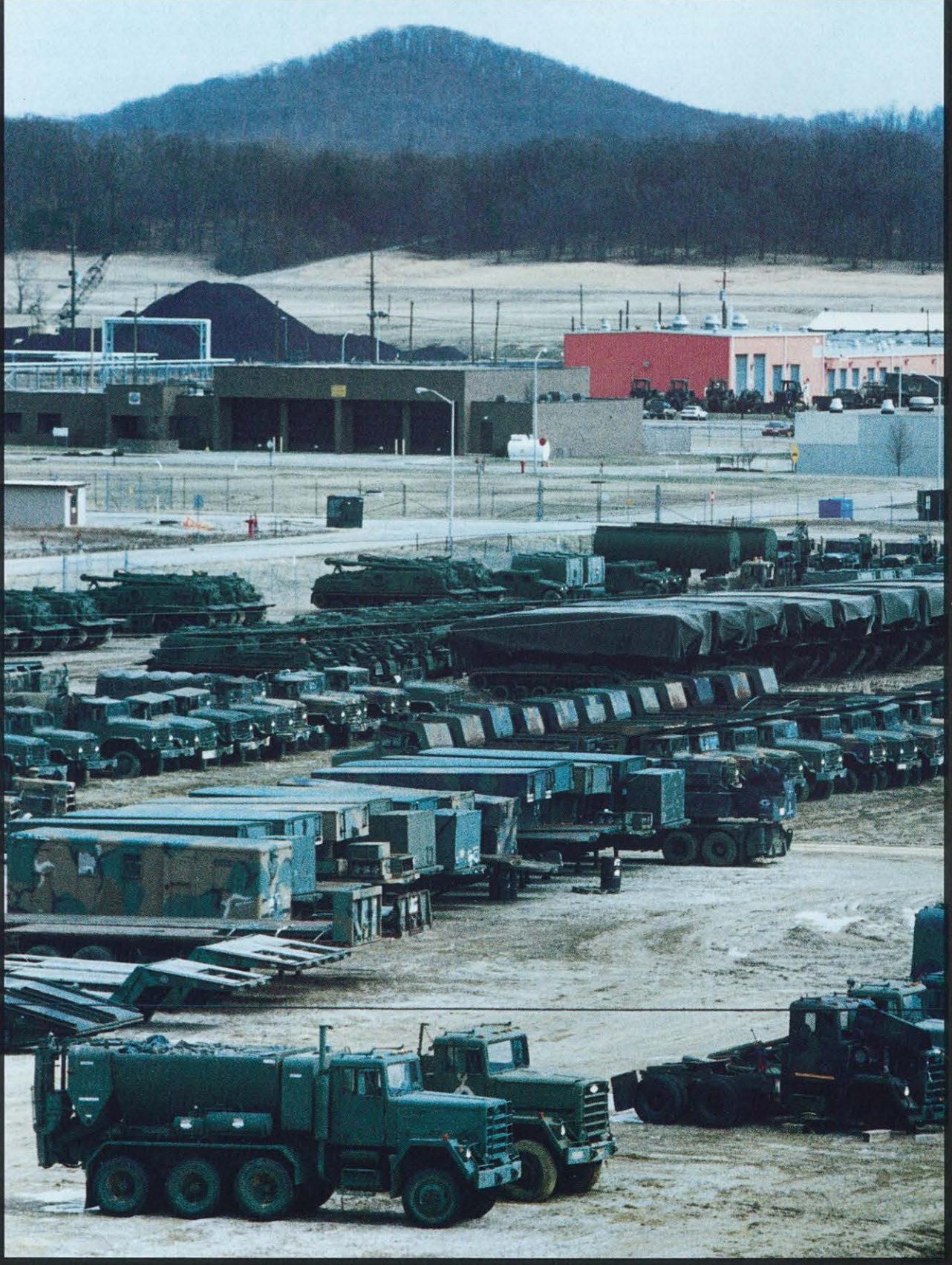
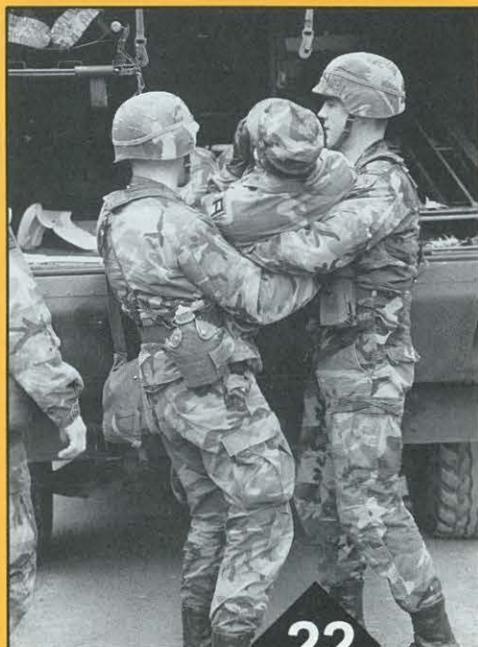


Photo by Staff Sgt. Lori King, 196th PAD.

**RetroEur: Military restoration facility in Piketon, Ohio gives old equipment new life. For more on the RetroEur program see page 10.**



16



22



13

# Buckeye GUARD

Spring 1996, Vol. 20, No. 1

## F E A T U R E S

- 10 Retrograde of Material from Europe**  
RetroEur facility in Piketon refurbishes excess equipment left over from Cold War.
- 13 Space-A Offers Tickets to Paradise (*cheap*)**  
Space Available flights provide inexpensive travel opportunities for guardmembers.
- 16 Employer Support of Guard & Reserve**  
ESGR assists reservists, employers.
- 20 179th Airlift Wing returns from Saudi Arabia**  
Mansfield unit led airlift missions in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH.
- 22 Ohio Guard Restructures Medical Assets**  
Loss of the 112th Medical Brigade means decentralized medical support for Ohio.

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

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

**ABOUT THE COVER:** Spc. Charles Derrer, a dental technician with Company C (MED), 237th FSB, evaluates a patient during a mock casualty exercise in southern Ohio. Unit members are trained to assist in determining severity of wounds and order of treatment. *Photo by Spc. Nicole Smith, 196th PAD.*

# Buckeye GUARD

SPRING 1996, VOL. 20, No. 1

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. Gordon M. Campbell

**Command Sergeant Major**  
State CSM Michael O. Howley

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

## PUBLICATION STAFF

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

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

**Associate Editor**  
Staff Sgt. Diane Farrow

**Editorial Assistant**  
Michelle D. Noel

**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

**More missions for National Guard and Reserves.** Reserve component units can expect to see more deployments in the year ahead, according to Defense Secretary William J.

Perry. Unified commands called reserve component forces for 97 missions in 1995. The reserves can expect up to 167 missions in 1996, Perry told the Adjutants General Association of the United States Feb. 7.

Commanders are calling the National Guard and Reserve personnel for real world missions, not make-work, he said. DoD began increasing Guard and Reserve participation in active duty missions last year both to boost their proficiency and readiness and to use their talents, Perry said. Reducing deployment pressures on the active duty force was another goal. Perry said he recently traveled to the Balkans, where reserve component members were on the flightlines in Aviano, Italy, to the supply lines in Germany and Hungary to the front lines in Bosnia. Perry calls the reserve contribution crucial and said that DoD has added \$25 million over the next two years to help commanders make more use of the Guard and Reserve. Success will depend on ensuring the program increases overall warfighting capability and reserve component readiness. Deployments should not hurt reserve recruitment and retention as long as members' quality of life is protected, Perry said. That

means more support to their families and greater involvement by their employers. (AFIS)



**Ohio soldier's death heightens mine awareness.** Unexploded ordnance caused Sgt. 1st Class Donald A. Dugan to become the first American fatality in the Bosnian operation. Dugan, 38, from Belle Center, Ohio, was assigned to A Troop, 1st Squadron 1st Cavalry, 1st Armored Division, Buedingen, Germany. His death, and a growing number of incidents by U.S. forces and other NATO troops in the region involving unexploded ordnance, have heightened DoD's efforts to keep mine awareness a life-or-death priority. U.S. forces have the best countermine equipment available, but it is not 100 percent effective, according to Lt. Gen. Howell M. Estes III, director of operations for the Joint Staff. "We've had cases in Bosnia where we have done everything we know how to do to clear mines from a road and had a vehicle run down that road later and set a mine off," Estes said. One reason DoD deployed an armored force was to provide service members more protection, he said. According to Estes, DoD will deploy more countermine equipment into Bosnia to include eight additional robotic mine-detecting systems. (AFIS)

**Gulf vet wins benefits.** Gulf War veteran Clarence Mingo spent three years telling his story and undergoing tests before the Veterans Affairs Department declared recently that environmental exposure during the Persian Gulf War made him sick. The Columbus, Ohio, native will receive partial disability pay and will start concentrating on finding out how to get better. "More important than the money, I feel to some extent that I've been vindicated," said Mingo, 23. "It's the beginning of the end, but I wouldn't say it's over, by far." Mingo received a medical discharge from the Army in 1993. He said he was fatigued, his muscles and joints ached, and his memory and ability to comprehend had diminished. His original diagnosis was battle fatigue. The causes of the illnesses falling under the umbrella term of "Gulf War Syndrome" are unknown, but suspected causes include biological and chemical weapons, smoke from burning oil wells and depleted uranium from U.S. artillery shells. Mingo served with the Army's 1st Infantry field artillery in Saudi Arabia. Despite suffering and fighting to have his illness recognized, Mingo said good will come of it. He is concerned that not all are receiving compensation. The Veteran's Affairs Department has rejected most of the 75,000 claims filed. (Kevin Mayhood, *Columbus Dispatch Staff Reporter*)

**DoD emphasizes policy on supremacist groups.** In the wake of two recent murders in Fayetteville, N.C., defense officials are again emphasizing DoD's policy concerning military personnel participation in supremacist organizations. There is no place for racial hatred or extremism in the U.S. military, Defense Secretary William Perry said in a press release. He said every service member takes an oath to support and defend the U.S. Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic. Perry's statement came after Fayetteville police found Nazi flags and supremacist material in the mobile home where they arrested three members of the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, N.C., in connection with the deaths of Michael James, 36, and Jackie Burden, 27, both of Fayetteville. Army Secretary Togo West echoed Perry's remarks and added that involvement in extremist organizations, whether active or passive, will not be tolerated and is inconsistent with military service. (AFIS)

### Un-Fair to Army dentist

Our apologies to Col. (Dr.) Michael C. Fair, 112th Medical Brigade executive officer, who was misidentified as "Rick Fair" in the Winter 95/96 issue of the *Buckeye Guard* magazine. Fair was featured in the *GuardCare* continues medical outreach brief on page 26.

### Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame seeking a few good men, women

Gov. George V. Voinovich announced that nominations are now being sought for exceptional military veterans for induction into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame.

"The talents and skills of Ohio's veterans enrich and diversify our state's communities. To honor their achievements and contributions, I encourage Ohio citizens to nominate veterans who are a genuine source of pride in their community for induction into the 1996 Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame," Voinovich said.

The Veterans Hall of Fame honors those whose local, state, or national contributions enabled them to achieve excellence in their selected field or profession. It also recognizes significant voluntary service to veterans and/or the military. The Hall of Fame focuses on lifetime achievements of veterans beyond their military careers and is sponsored by the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services (OBES), whose programs help veterans entering the civilian job market.

Nominations will be accepted until June 30, 1996. To obtain nomination packets, which include qualifications and guidelines, simply call or visit any Ohio Bureau of Employment Services office or customer service center or any County Veterans Service Office.

For more information contact David Garick, (614) 466-3966, or Jim Forester, (614) 752-8941.

### Military deserves commissary benefit

Service members keep us free. Making groceries available is the least we can do.

Commissaries support our men and women in uniform and their families by providing access to convenient discount grocery shopping.

As a noncash benefit, the commissary ranks second only to military health-care benefits in value to military members. It says to military members that their service, which often requires sacrifice of some freedoms civilians take

for granted, is appreciated. It says that although we can never pay them enough to stand in harm's way, we are willing to provide a basic benefit to sustain a decent standard of living.

I believe most Americans do not begrudge commissary benefits. So what's the beef? It has to do with making the commissary a target for those simply looking for budget savings. One notion, which we have explored and rejected, is that commissaries could be operated at a lower cost to the taxpayer if they were privatized. But commissaries are where service members are. That's not an attractive business proposition unless you pick and choose the most profitable locations.

Downsizing our nation's military forces following the end of the Cold War was an enormous challenge. Its execution has been a tremendous success. Despite the unprecedented task of shrinking an all-volunteer force, men and women in our armed forces today are more experienced and of higher quality than ever before. Nevertheless, base closures and realignments and cutting active forces by more than 600,000 have caused significant turbulence.

We are taking the steps necessary to secure a greater sense of stability in our armed forces. Securing the commissary benefit is an important part of that effort.

**F.Y. Pang**  
Assistant Secretary of Defense  
Force Management Policy



ing their (spouse's) careers and our country."

Clinton said the Defense Department has set up a special address where the public can send letters to service members in Bosnia and their families. Write to them. Encourage them to write back. Most of all, tell them how proud we are of them and how grateful we are for their sacrifices they

make on behalf of American values. "I also want to ask Americans to think about and pray for the brave spouses and families that are left behind," the first lady said. "They need our support as well." To send mail write to:

**Any Service Member**  
Operation Joint Endeavor  
APO AE 09397

### Reunion notices

The 37th Division Veterans Association

will hold its 78th annual reunion at the Clarion Hotel in Worthington, Ohio, on Labor Day weekend, Aug. 30-Sept. 1, 1996.

To find out further information on the reunion, write Headquarters, 37th Division Veterans Association, 183 E. Mound St., Suite #103, Columbus, Ohio 43215 or call (614) 228-3788.



The 148th Infantry Regiment Veterans

are having a reunion at the Camp Perry Training Site in Port Clinton, Ohio, on Aug. 23-24, 1996.

For additional information, write Hank Donnell at 8117 Scarborough Ct., Indianapolis, Ind. 46256.

### First Lady asks citizens to write service members in Bosnia

After returning home from a trip to Europe, first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton wrote a newspaper column asking Americans to help lift the spirits of troops in the former Yugoslavia by writing letters to them. "Often when our troops represent us around the world, we overlook the sacrifices made by their families," she wrote. "Some of the wives (and husbands) have spent years overseas, far from friends and relatives. They have raised their children in foreign lands, often on their own, while support-

*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, Ohio 43235-2789. All submissions are subject to editing based on space and style considerations.*



# Command Focus

State Command Sgt. Maj. Michael O. Howley

## New state command sergeant major ponders future of Ohio Guard

The experts tell us that goal setting is essential to achieving success. I have always tried to place myself in a position to compete for assignments which would prepare me ultimately for appointment as state command sergeant major. While it is important to complete required military leadership schools, I have always tried to place equal emphasis on civilian education and maintaining technical proficiency in my military occupation specialties. But even with a well rounded educational foundation, reaching lofty goals also involves being in the right place, at the right time, with the right credentials. The old saying "Luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity" is still valid.

Timing and luck may be a part of the equation of life, but through the years, I have found one philosophy has always served me well. I have tried to surround myself with successful soldiers, and then I took care of them. If you ever have the opportunity to visit the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy, at Fort Bliss, Texas, you will find a statue of the sergeant major and command sergeant major chevrons and four words affixed to the bottom: CARING — LEADING — TRAINING — MAINTAINING.

The order of importance can be debated, but in my opinion, CARING for soldiers is the most important responsibility of leadership.

Sometimes we are exposed to so much information and operational challenges, we forget who we brought to the dance and how important our soldiers are to the successful accomplishment of the mission. Leaders don't accomplish the mission, soldiers do! Leaders at every level can immediately demonstrate how much they care for soldiers by making sure their team, squad, section, platoon, company, battery, troop, battalion, squadron, group or bri-

gade is at 100 percent of authorized strength.

If a unit is short even one soldier, that means another soldier has to assume the duties of the vacant slot. When a unit is at 80 percent strength, imagine how frustrating it is for soldiers to try to do their job and those of the many vacancies. The time has come for all officers, warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and enlisted soldiers to join in a common goal. We must all help fill our element's personnel shortages. By so doing, we will bring our duties back in line with the proper team effort toward mission accomplishment.

**LEADING** Ohio soldiers is a privilege, because our soldiers are part of the best Army in the world. We need to remind ourselves of the basic expectations we all have of military service. Soldiers expect discipline and being made to adhere to Army standards. Soldiers have a basic respect for the military way—so provide it for them. Don't waste their time! And when our soldiers have demonstrated outstanding performance, recognize it with an aggressive awards program. When a soldier ends the duty day, he or she returns home to a family that thinks they are the best. So care for each and every soldier in the manner that is deserving of the best.

Leading by example is the key to success. Ask yourself if you are really technically and tactically proficient. When you see soldiers during field training, or working in the motor pool, or standing in formation—do you really know what is going on? Are you able to detect and take action on safety violations? Do you really know the Army standard and are you enforcing it?

I expect NCOs to direct the activities of soldiers one grade below them and mentor soldiers two grades below them. Mentoring is simply giving your knowledge to others in order to help him or her to become a better NCO or soldier. A senior NCO can also mentor upward to the young lieutenant with a

### Biographical Summary

*With 30 years military experience, Command Sgt. Maj. Michael O. Howley became the new Command Sergeant Major of the Ohio Army National Guard on March 1st.*

*In 1970, he began his career as a federal civil service technician. Over the next 15 years, he served in both the 145th Infantry Battalion in Akron and 107th Armored Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Squadron, in Stow. During this time, he progressed from supply clerk at the 145th Infantry Battalion to operations sergeant of both the 107th Armored Cavalry Regiment and the Command and Control Headquarters.*

*In 1985, he joined the AGR program as chief operations sergeant and also functioned as first sergeant for the Ohio Area Command, which later became Troop Command Headquarters. In 1991, Howley was assigned to the Ohio National Guard's Military Support Office as chief operations sergeant and served as the CSM of the Camp Perry Training Site until his selection as state command sergeant major.*

*Howley's military education includes graduation from the Armor NCO Basic and Advanced Course; Infantry Advanced Course; Senior Logistics Sergeant Course; the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy; and the Command Sergeants Major Course. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of the State of New York in March 1995.*

*Howley is a life member of the Ohio National Guard Enlisted Association and the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States. He is also actively involved in the Ohio/Hungary State Partnership Program and, as a delegation member, has made several trips to Budapest.*

*Command Sgt. Maj. Howley and his wife Diane have been married for 23 years. They have three children, Michael, Jennifer and Duane, and one granddaughter, Ashlie.*

field problem, or advise him or her on how to deal with soldier problems and how to care for soldiers. In addition to training soldiers, squad leaders mentor enlisted soldiers by discussing their career development and the skills, and education needed for upward mobility and job satisfaction.

We spend the majority of our military experience in a **TRAINING** environment. Since time is a precious commodity, the pre-mobilization training goal should be trained and proficient individuals and small units.

The majority of our training year manifests itself as inactive duty weekend training. Since NCOs are responsible for the conduct of individual and small unit training, it is essential that NCOs be responsible for execution of the

120-day locked in training schedule. Individual and small unit training should be planned from the bottom up. Soldiers need to be contributors to the planning process, not just training participants. This will give our officers more time to resource and plan future training, and properly evaluate current training.

In my opinion, our weakest training link is the evaluation and documentation of training, and conduct of meaningful after action reviews. Companies should evaluate squads, and battalions should evaluate platoons. When evaluating training, do you know what the task, condition and standard is for the training event? At the end of a training event, do our soldiers know what they did right, and what they did wrong; and more importantly, can you tell them what was right or wrong as an evaluator? Do you evaluate training with the applicable squad and platoon training manual in your hand?

I challenge our soldiers to not except standard training. Just as we ask our leaders to care for you, I expect you to care about your fellow soldiers and strive to be the best. I expect soldiers to care about their unit and its mission and traditions. Keep yourself mentally and physically fit at all times. You have the rare opportunity to be a part of a winning team that takes the Ohio Army National Guard into the 21st Century.

I have always been impressed with how effective our **MAINTENANCE** system is in the Ohio Army National Guard. I applaud the excellent work done, day-to-day, by a reduced full-time

maintenance work force. I expect NCOs and soldiers to do their job when it comes to ensuring that pre-during-post operation maintenance is pulled on our vehicles and other equipment. Maintenance is training, and therefore must be an important part of the training process.

As the military budget shrinks, it is more important than ever that we maximize available dollars. During a recent three-year audit period, the Ohio Army National Guard lost almost \$900,000 due to loss of equipment and purchase of repair parts. That is money that could have been used to support individual schools and unit training. We must continue to be accountable for our property and its maintenance.

There are many expectations, with too little time and too many cutbacks. But together we can overcome most of them, because better days are coming. In the meantime, I simply ask commanders—command your units; command sergeants major and unit first sergeants—run your units; full-time personnel—support your commanders and CSM/1SGs; and traditional guardsmen—help with the strength maintenance of your unit and be the best soldier you can be.

As your new state command sergeant major, I pledge to do my very best to represent soldiers. A part of that commitment is my belief and involvement in the Ohio National Guard Enlisted Association. As a participating life member, I am gratified by the hard work and dedication on the part of its members, both soldiers and airmen. I encourage all enlisted soldiers and airmen to join this fine organization.

Finally, I feel the State CSM is the soldier's representative to the adjutant general, and therefore, I will do everything in my power to stay in touch with soldiers and their concerns. I believe in an open door policy, but just as strongly in the use of the chain of command. Along with all of the hard work, don't forget to put a little fun into unit activities. Inter-unit athletic competitions are a great way to break the routine and build morale; fun can also be a philosophy or positive attitude toward meaningful training. I look forward to seeing you on the training field. **BE THE BEST!** ■

## Vision Statement

*To perpetuate a technically and tactically proficient Ohio Army National Guard Noncommissioned Officer Corps, that understands and accepts their responsibility to support their unit's strength maintenance program; trains, leads/mentors and cares for soldiers and their families; and that maintains and accounts for their equipment at the highest possible level of readiness—which will enable all soldiers to accomplish the unit mission.*

## Command Profile



### Col. Ken B. Robinson 371st Support Group

Age: 44

Occupation: Flight Officer/Pilot.

Life has taught me: Set your sights on a goal, and make it happen.

If I could have just one day all to myself, I would: Workout in the morning, relax in the afternoon and disco in the evening.

The one film I would have liked to have starred in: Star Trek Generations.

When no one's looking I: Turn up the music and dance.

When I was little I wanted to be: A bus driver (transporting is in my blood).

The worst advice I ever received was: Not to go to college because I wasn't smart enough (from my high school counselor).

The best advice I ever received was: Remain competitive in military education.

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

The best moment of my life happened when I: Switched dates with my buddy, and ended up with my wife, Tena.

My favorite book: Red Storm Rising.

My favorite movie: Straw Dogs.

If I could leave today's guardmembers with one piece of advice it would be: Remain flexible! Those who remain too rigid will bend and break under the windstorm of change being experienced by the Guard today.

## Citizen Spotlight

# Tanker living high school to its fullest

Story by 1st Lt. Neal O'Brien, Troop C, 2-107th Cavalry

Life as a high school student can be fairly routine. You go to school, you attend class, you eat lunch and you do homework. The only thing that may catch you by surprise is the occasional "pop quiz" or recalling, just before class, that the science exam was rescheduled for today. Administrators and counselors alike take pride in setting your priorities and directing your daily activities.

But Pvt. Adrian Palomo, a split option enlistee in the Ohio Army National Guard, needs no help setting his priorities and sees nothing routine about his senior year at Margaretta High School in Sandusky. In fact, he's having the time of his life.

After Adrian's math, English, government and Spanish classes are over, his day takes on its second life—extracurricular activities. And, by the time this "big man on campus" graduates, he will have earned 10 varsity letters—the second highest number among his classmates.

Adrian seems to be fueled by an endless source of energy and athletic talent. In the fall, as an offensive and defensive starter on the Margaretta High School football team, he played a key role in the team winning its conference title before heading to the state playoffs. And, as if playing both sides of the ball wasn't enough, during five games this season—while his teammates headed for the locker room at halftime—Adrian grabbed his bass drum and played with the school's marching band.

According to football coach Don Wilson, Adrian's dedication



Courtesy photo

Pvt. Adrian Palomo

and hard work are tough to overlook. "There are so many kids that don't want to do anything, and here's a kid that wants to do more," he said.

In the winter, when the pigskin season ends, Adrian marches off

the gridiron and heads for the wrestling mat, where this year he advanced to the districts in the state tournament at 171 pounds.

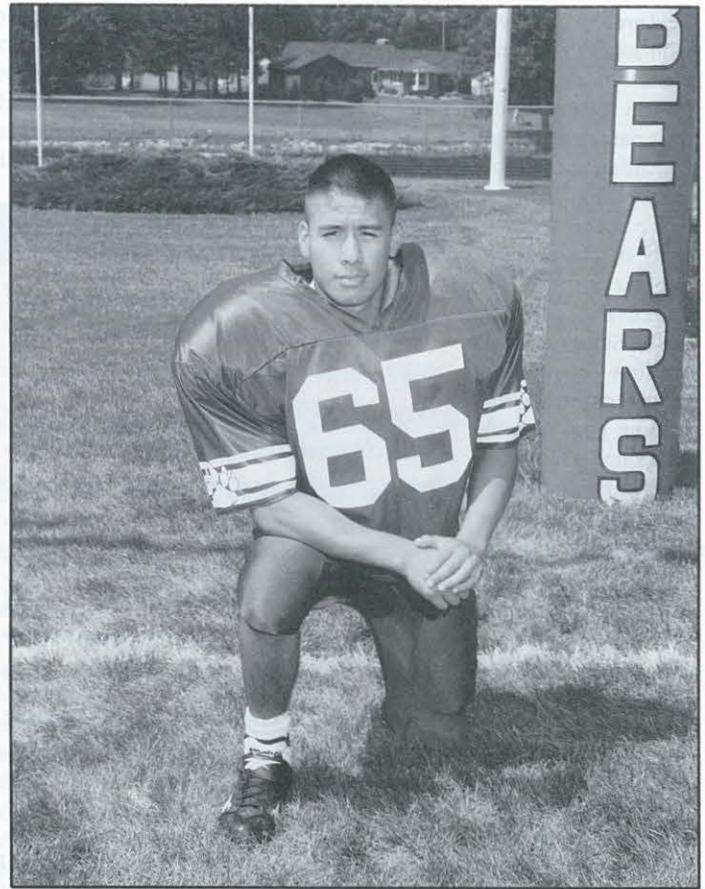
This spring, a time of year he normally sets aside to prepare for the track and field season, he will hit the weight room preparing himself physically for his Advanced Individual Training (AIT)—which he will complete this summer.

After AIT, he plans to use the Guard's tuition grant program to study electronics at Perra Technical School in Fremont—with hopes of someday enjoying a career in robotics.

When it comes to positive role models, Adrian, a member of Troop C, 2-107th Cavalry in Sandusky, can find one close by. That's because his father, Staff Sgt. Alfredo Palomo, a 20-year veteran of the Guard, also serves in Troop C, as a section sergeant in the unit's scout platoon.

Dad knows first hand what the benefits of military training can be for his young son. "As a tank crewman, Adrian is already learning what it's like to have people depend on you in life or death situations. You've got to give 100 percent all of the time," said the elder Palomo.

For Adrian, the Guard has had a positive effect on his life, both inside the classroom and out. "I've learned a lot about discipline and



Courtesy photo

While still in high school, Pvt. Adrian Palomo, a member of Troop C, 2-107th Cavalry, Sandusky, plays both offense and defense on the Margaretta High football team.

respecting authority," he said. "Not many people my age have the responsibility that I have. There are three other people in my tank crew depending on me. They need to know that I can do my job," he said.

"The Guard has really made Adrian take a look at the big picture," Alfredo said. "It gives him a much larger outlook on life," he explained. "Not to mention, the educational benefits. The Guard is going to pay 60 percent of his tuition and with the GI bill and drill pay, you can't ask for anything better than that."

When asked by his school mates what he does on Guard weekends, Adrian simply replies "train, train, train." He also points out that although the Guard's benefits and drill pay are important, it's also about "serving your state and your country."

For a time, during first formations at Troop C, you would not only hear the first sergeant call the names of Alfredo and Adrian

Palomo, but also Adrian's older brother, Juan, who, too, was a split option member of the unit before a football injury cut his military career short. "It was quite a family affair," Alfredo said. "Not too many fathers get to keep tabs on their kids like I do," he chuckled.

Adrian chose to follow in his father's footsteps and become a cavalryman. Appropriately, the characteristics of a cavalymen are described as hard charging, dedicated, brash and a master of all trades. It seems Adrian fits those character traits quite well. ■

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



Photo by SFC Bob Mullins, HQ STARC (-Det. 1-5).

As Speaker of the House Jo Ann Davidson looks on, Ohio Guard's outstanding soldiers and airmen for 1995 hold proclamations presented to them in the Ohio House of Representatives. From left: SSgt. Michelle L. Clements, MSgt. John E. Fleeger, SGT Robert S. Crosby and SPC Anthony G. Conn.

## Lawmakers salute Guard's best

Being selected the best in a profession that is filled with exceptional people is quite an accomplishment. Typically, recognition for such achievements is shared strictly with one's peers. But this year, when the Ohio Army and Air National Guard chose the best within their respective organizations for 1995, recognition reached statewide.

On March 26, the best soldiers and airmen for 1995 received personal thanks from Ohio legislators in both the Senate and House of Representatives. The top citizen-soldiers were honored with proclamations for their professionalism, dedication and commitment to the security of our state and nation.

Those who stood above the rest in the Army and Air National Guard for 1995 are:

**Staff Sgt. Michelle L. Clements**, Airman of the Year, is an information management journeyman assigned to the 251st Combat Communications Group in Springfield, Ohio. While attending Eisenhower High School, she was involved in all areas of school activities. Clements graduated in 1986 in the top three percent of her class. She has received many military and civic involvement awards, to include the United States American



Clements

Legion Award, 1986. Clements enjoys aerobics and competitive volleyball.

**Spc. Anthony G. Conn**, Soldier of the Year, has also been selected as 1st Army's Soldier of the Year. Conn will now go on to the all Army competition this spring. He is currently serving as an intelligence analyst with the HHC 216th Engineer Battalion in Hamilton, Ohio. Conn was born in Dayton, Ohio, where he now resides with his wife Jessica. Conn enlisted in the Ohio National Guard in 1991 as a construction equipment operator with Co. A, 372nd Engineer Battalion.



Conn

**Staff Sgt. Christina M. Krempec**, Ohio Air National Guard Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, (not pictured) was assigned to the 180th Communications Flight, Toledo, Ohio. Krempec began her military career in 1990 and was honor graduate of her communications systems operator technical school. She has received numerous awards for community service and academic/leadership achievements. Krempec resides in Sylvania, Ohio, and recently left the National Guard to devote more time to her growing family.

**Sgt. Robert S. Crosby**, Ohio Army National Guard Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, is a radio teletype operator with the 299th Signal Detachment, Kettering, Ohio. He served in Operation Desert Storm as single channel radio operator and spent over eight years on active duty. He was born in Coudersport, Pa., graduated from Oscoda High School in Oscoda, Mich., and currently resides in Xenia, Ohio, with his wife Elisabeth.



Crosby

**Master Sgt. John E. Fleeger**, Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, is a ground safety specialist assigned to the 178th Fighter Wing in Springfield, Ohio. He has received numerous military and civic involvement awards. Fleeger, who also resides in Springfield, is actively involved in the Knights of Columbus and serves as their community activities director. He is single, and is employed as a field supervisor in the family-owned business.



Fleeger

# RETROEUR

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

**R**ow after row of military vehicles, resembling an infantry division gathered for formation, stand at attention in an otherwise desolate lot at the uranium enrichment plant in Piketon, Ohio. After years of service in Europe, these survivors of the Cold War returned to the U.S. battered and worn, counting on a program coined "RetroEur" to breathe new life into their tired souls.

Retrograde of material from Europe, or RetroEur, began three years ago in response to the excess equipment remaining in Europe after the downsizing of the U.S. military. After bringing 11,000 vehicles back to the states by October 1994, RetroEur now focuses on repairing and redistributing the equipment to "America's Army" as quickly as possible. And with help from the National Guard, the Army is doing just that.

With its proposal to keep operating costs down to \$36.30 per man hour, Ohio was given the go-ahead to run one of five RetroEur restoration facilities sponsored by the National Guard.

"We're able to conduct a maintenance program at a significantly lower cost than repairing the equipment at an active Army depot," said John A. Zulfer, superintendent of

the Piketon site. He was hired along with Don Romine, equipment maintenance supervisor, and Philip S. Reese, inventory supervisor, to start up Ohio's program in August 1993.

"This started out as a two-year project," Zulfer said. "The plan was to hire 40-50 people to fix 400-600 wheeled vehicles, but in late summer, early fall 1994, we started getting rail shipments loaded with equipment nearly every day." Ohio ended up receiving more than 1,600 items in need of repair, including 200 tracked vehicles, 1,100 wheeled vehicles and 300 pieces of non-rolling stock. "We're now programmed to run through December 1998 with an authorized staff of 69."

"This project has been an economical shot in the arm for the community," Romine said. "In fiscal year 1995 alone, we purchased \$152,000 of supplies from local businesses and pumped a payroll of \$1.8 million into the region."

Piketon was selected for the RetroEur site not only because of the availability of buildings and a storage lot, but also because officials wanted to rejuvenate the economy in southeastern Ohio.

Though the program is administered by the Ohio Army National Guard, membership in the Guard isn't a requirement for full-time employees.

"While planning this project there was a federal hiring freeze, so we hired state workers under the Adjutant General's Department," Zulfer said. While more than 80 percent of the employees have some military experience, only a handful are currently serving in the Guard.



*These survivors of the Cold War returned to the U.S. battered and worn, counting on a program coined "RetroEur" to breathe new life into their tired souls.*

But, Zulfer stressed, guardmembers can and do support the program on drill weekends.

"Soldiers from the 737th Maintenance Battalion have been coming here every two or three months since January 1995," said Zulfer, who holds the rank of captain in the Guard and commands Company A of the 107th Armor Battalion. "We work them in their MOSs (Military Occupational Specialties) and give them the opportunity to work on equipment that isn't available anywhere else in the state."

"This project offers soldiers viable training, which enhances the readiness of the Ohio National Guard," said Romine, who having retired from the Guard in October 1993, speaks with over 40 years of military experience.

Reese used his knowledge of Piketon's workload to enhance the training of his unit, Detachment 1 of Company B, 237th Support Battalion, where he is the officer in charge.

"When I first arrived at the unit last November, soldiers told me they wanted more 'hands-on' time in their MOSs," Reese said. "So I told them, 'If you want work, I've got work for you!'"



**SSG Laurel A. Crocker removes a blower from the engine of a D7 bulldozer as SFC Larry G. Hamm and SPC Jessie R. Martin look on; all are members of 211th Maintenance Company, Newark.**

Since his battalion commander was unfamiliar with the RetroEur project, Reese recalled that it took some convincing to get his troops to drill in Piketon. "But it was worth the effort," he said. "The weekend down here, the crew worked until nine Saturday night. They loved it!

"I wish more units realized they only need to provide fuel to get here, and that we take care of the rest," Reese said. "They get the training, and we reap the benefits. It's really a win-win situation." He added that his headquarters is now programming additional training for other soldiers in the battalion.

Mechanics aren't the only workers that can train at the RetroEur site. "We can use technical inspectors and supply personnel too," Zulfer said.

"We help inspect the vehicles so the mechanics know what needs to be done to the trucks," said Master Sgt. Don Lusk, noncommissioned officer in charge of the surface maintenance section from Headquarters, State Area Command. "We also identify shortages and order parts so the necessary

*Photos on this page by SSG Diane Farrow, HQ STARC.*

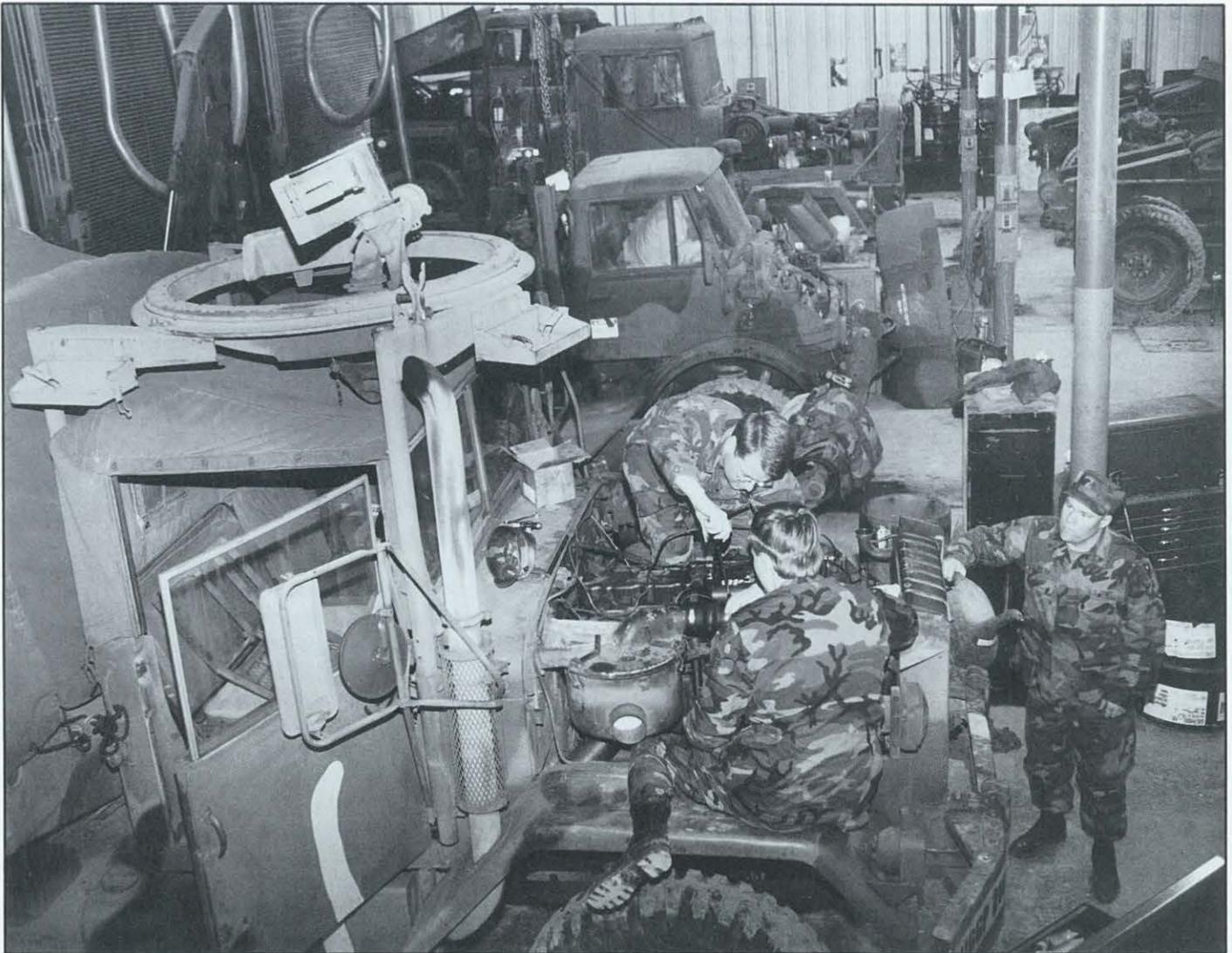


Photo by SSG Lori King, 196th PAD.

**ABOVE:** Members of the 211th Maint. Co. work on the engine of a 2 1/2 ton truck. **RIGHT:** A backlog of diesel engines waits for repair at the supply warehouse in Piketon.

materials are in when vehicles are scheduled for maintenance.”

Lusk, who has supported the RetroEur site frequently since July 1995, says all maintenance units should have the opportunity to train in Piketon. “This is their MOS—this is what they want to learn.”

“Working here is a plus for any guardmember,” agreed Spc. Dan H. Thomas, a full-time state employee for RetroEur and part-time generator repairman for the 211th Maintenance Company. “You get to work on equipment you trained on in school that’s not in Ohio’s inventory. I’ve worked on M88A1 tank recovery vehicles, the D7G bulldozer, the M919 concrete mixer, several models of the HMMWV...so many vehicles it’s hard to keep track.”

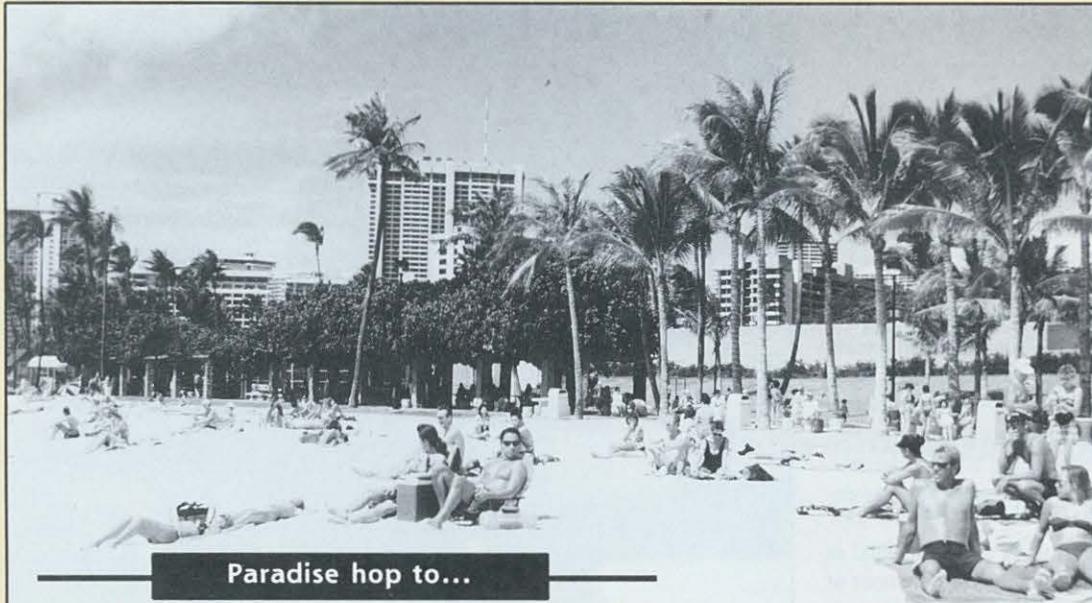
Thomas, like most of the employees of RetroEur, takes great pride in the work that’s been accomplished so far. “We’ve met and exceeded production for the



Photo by SSG Diane Farrow, HQ STARC.

last 14 months,” he said. While only 91 vehicles were programmed for repair in 1995, the team restored 163—most of which went to active Army and Army National Guard units throughout the country.

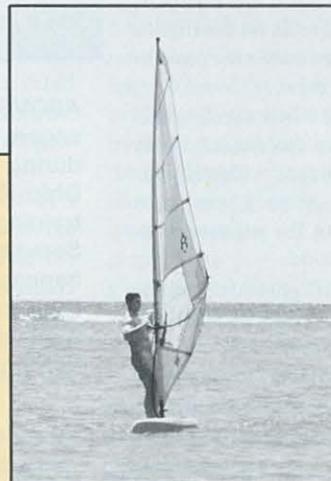
“Our hope is to prove to the Department of the Army that we are a cost-effective, successful program,” Zulfer said. “Ultimately, we’d like to become a permanent ‘Retro-Fix’ facility which would provide all levels of maintenance as needed.” ■



Paradise hop to...

# HAWAII

## Space-A travel opens whole new world



**ABOVE and IN-SET:** While the mainland was experiencing below zero temperatures last February, vacationers were enjoying the sun and sand of the Hawaiian Islands.

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

*W*ant a free ticket to paradise? Then consider space available travel. Space-A travel is just one of the many benefits offered to active duty, reserve and Guard soldiers and retirees, and often can make the difference between a fun-filled vacation on the shores of Waikiki Beach or a cold and windy day of ice fishing on the banks of Lake Erie. I think you get the point!

Picture this: a sandy beach at dusk, the horizon aglow with brilliant hues of orange, red and yellow, as the last rays of sun reach out across the crystal blue water, giving the scene an almost magical feeling as day turns into night. This is Waikiki beach on the island of Oahu in the great state of Hawaii.

Obviously, most of us would jump at the chance to leave the bitter cold and walk along the sandy beaches, but costly air fares often dash those hopes of crystal clear water and warm ocean breezes. This past February, the average price for one round-trip ticket to Ha-

waii was between \$900-1,400. Add to that the cost of lodging, which can range from \$60-195 per night, and pocket books strain at the thought of paying for such an excursion.

Space-A travel, however, is relatively easy to access and can save you a great deal of money on your next vacation. It offers you the maximum opportunity to travel to some of the most exotic and exciting places around the world. And all it takes is a little patience and prior planning to get you on your way.

Naturally, Space-A designated aircraft and missions are not the same as those of commercial airlines, so if you plan on using this service, the flight you select must be compatible with mission guidelines and requirements set forth by the Air Mobility Command (AMC).

U.S. military aircraft routinely fly to various places around the world to meet DoD mission requirements, and the Ohio Air National Guard is frequently called to support those missions.

Now obviously you can't just show up to an air base and hop on a flight anytime you feel like it, that's where prior planning comes in.

You must first find out which flight is going where you want. The passenger service center, located at the base AMC terminal in your area, can provide you with that information as well as confirming if there will be room on the flight.

There are also certain requirements that you must meet to be able to fly on military aircraft. Members of the National Guard and Reserves should have a red ID card and a DD form 1853, Authentication For Reserve Travel Eligibility. Active duty personnel should have a DD Form 2 (green), and a valid leave authorization or evidence of pass status.

Space-A travelers are divided into six different priority categories, with National Guard members falling into category six. Although that status seems low on the priority list, it does not mean that you will never get a flight.

Recently, I had the opportunity to catch a "hop" to Hawaii, via Space-A travel, and I can truly say that it was an interesting experience. Never having traveled this way before, I was unsure how to go about getting started. Fortu-

nately the staff at the Rickenbacker Operations Center made sure I had everything I needed.

First, I had to register for the flight. Once you have signed up, your name will remain on the register for 60 days, or for the duration of your travel orders. Now even though you've signed up for a particular flight, that is in no way considered a reservation—AMC cannot guarantee seats for passengers.

It is always best to be at the terminal as early as possible to better your chances of getting a seat. Luckily there was plenty of room to stretch out and relax on the flight I took because there were only nine passengers, not counting the crew.

A good rule of thumb when traveling this way is to at least have the needed funds available for a return ticket. This is your insurance should you not be able to make your return via Space-A for whatever reason.

Remember, there are flights that continually come in and out of most installations every day, and it is possible that you can catch a hop on any of them. But beware! These flights may have to make other stops, and it may take a little longer to reach your destination. Just be sure to give yourself enough time when planning your trip so you don't end up stranded in an airport burning up valuable leave time.

The aircraft that I hopped on was a KC-135



**ABOVE:** Flight crew and passengers take a break for lunch during the 9-hour trip back to Ohio. **RIGHT:** After a long annual training, members of the 180th Security Police unit, Toledo, load baggage onto a KC-135 Tanker from the 121st Refueling Wing, Rickenbacker Airport, prior to leaving Hickham AFB, Hawaii.



tanker from the 121st Air Refueling Wing out of Rickenbacker Airport. The aircraft and crew were tasked with transporting a security police unit from the 180th Fighter Group, stationed in Toledo. The unit was conducting its annual training at Hickam Air Force Base in Honolulu, and it was now time to come home.

The flight accommodations were adequate and the crew ensured that we had as comfortable a ride as possible on the 11-hour journey. Once the aircraft was airborne, we were able to move around and get really comfortable. The crew was very informative about the aircraft and safety procedures, and made sure that the younger passengers were thoroughly entertained.

Tech. Sgt. Sam Given,

the aircraft boom operator, was especially attentive to passengers with children, even sharing a hand held video game to help keep the kids occupied. It was this type of professional conduct that made our flight more enjoyable. As our flight neared its destination, those of us with cameras were allowed to take pictures of the landscape from the boom operator's control station. Not something you get to do on commercial aircraft.

Upon landing at Hickam, those of us who planned on returning to Ohio with Toledo's security police simply had to check in at the AMC terminal and fill out an AMC Form 140, Space Available Travel Request. It was just that simple.

On the return flight, although the aircraft was more crowded, the same professional service was demonstrated by Given and the rest of the aircrew. Even the members of the 180th made sure that the people flying Space-A had a comfortable position on the aircraft.

The return trip was slightly less than 10 hours, and after a spectacular two days of

## Travel Categories/Selection Priorities:

**Category I.** Emergency travel on round trip basis in connection with serious illness, death or impending death of a member of the immediate family.

**Category II.** Sponsors on environmental and morale leave (EML) and accompanied family members.

**Category III.** Members of the uniformed services in an ordinary or re-enlistment leave status and uniformed services patients on convalescent leave.

**Category IV.** Unaccompanied family members (18 years or older) traveling on EML orders. Family members under 18 must be accompanied by an adult family member who is traveling EML.

**Category V.** Students whose sponsor is stationed in Alaska or Hawaii.

**Category VI.** Reserve components and members. Retired military members who are also issued DD Form 2 and eligible to receive retired or retainer pay.



The Hale Koa Hotel, located on Waikiki Beach, serves members of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families.

*I couldn't help but think to myself as I entered the open air reception area of the hotel... "All this is for us?"*

prowling the beaches of Waikiki, I was back in Ohio braving the cold and planning my next trip to paradise.

So if you've got the time, give Space-A travel a try—you may never fly commercial again.

## Where to Stay

One solution that will help take a bite out of the high cost of vacationing in Hawaii is the Hale Koa Hotel. Unlike most hotels you're likely to stay at during your travels, the Hale Koa is one of four hotels in the world that was built to provide inexpensive yet comprehensive accommodations specifically for military and Department of Defense personnel and their families.

Open since 1975, the Hale Koa, meaning "House of the Warrior," is a totally self-supporting hotel that provides servicemen and women their place in the sun. Having topped the best performing hotels in the U.S. the last four years in a row, it is relatively easy to see why. The Hale Koa offers style and comfort without draining one's bank account. Room prices are based on the service members' rank with the lowest price of \$48 for a standard room and up to \$132 for a deluxe ocean front view. Compared to other hotels on the island, average prices range from \$54 to \$120 per night, with very few offering access to the beach—which is only about 100 yards away from the Hale Koa.

The rooms are comfortably furnished and feature private baths, color television with VCR, refrigerators, air conditioning and private balconies that afford breathtaking views of the Pacific Ocean or the Koolau Mountains.

Complete dining facilities are available, as well as a post exchange, tour travel office, car rental concession, beach rental center and retail shops, and is just a few minutes away from the Ala Moana shopping center—Honolulu's premier shopping facility.

I couldn't help but think to myself as I entered the open air reception area of the hotel... "All this is for us?" Having had the opportunity to stay at a few of the nicer hotels around the country, I felt the Hale Koa was by far the most impressive. The service was excellent and the staff was professional as they met the needs of each guest.

With the popularity of the Hale Koa and its high occupancy rate, it may be difficult to get a room at certain times of the year. Fortunately the management, in an effort to provide the best service for its guest, has developed a partnership with other hotels of the same caliber to provide quarters for overflow guests at Hale Koa rates.

The hotel also features nightly entertainment with everything from traditional Polynesian dances to magic shows and comedy. One guest that I ran into, a retired Navy lieutenant com-

mander, told me that although the island has much to offer vacationers, you don't really have to leave the hotel to have a great time—everything you need is right here. And if you're trying to stay on a budget, taking advantage of the hotel's attractions may not be such a bad idea because Hawaii, although beautiful, is quite expensive. If you do venture out, be prepared to pay about 30 percent more for goods and services. That is not to say that you can't find good deals, you just have to look for them.

Of course it's your choice whether you stay at the hotel or venture out on the island, but the Hale Koa is an excellent place to come back to for relaxation and comfort. And with the beach literally just off your balcony, it's a great place to watch one of the most magnificent sunsets you'll ever see. The beauty of this island is the stuff that dreams are made of.

The overall experience was something that I recommend for those wanting to save money on travel. And if Hawaii is not to your liking, there are three other such facilities that cater to service members and their families. The Dragon Hill Lodge in South Korea; the Armed Forces Recreation Center in Garmisch, Germany; and the Shades of Green hotel at Disney World in Orlando, Fla.—all designed to meet the requirements of military recreational needs.

The combination of Space-A travel and the various DoD facilities make the perfect recipe for the adventure of a lifetime. All it takes is desire, coordination and a little patience to reach some of the most exotic places on earth. ■

### POCs for Space-A flights out of Ohio

#### COLUMBUS

Rickenbacker ..... (614) 492-3513  
 24-hour Info Line ..... (614) 492-3143  
 Remote sign-up (fax) ..... (614) 492-4578

#### DAYTON

Wright Patterson ..... (513) 257-7741  
 MANSFIELD ..... (419) 521-0124  
 YOUNGSTOWN ..... (216) 392-1082

AMC-PAM 24-7 provides guidelines and other locations for Space-A travel.

# ESGR formed to assist reserve forces, civilian employers

Story by Sgt. Terry Mann  
HQ, STARC (-Det. 1-5)

Being a citizen-soldier takes sacrifice, commitment and perseverance to balance a military career between family and a civilian profession. In the course of their military profession, citizen-soldiers in the Army and Air National Guard face annual training, MOS schools, professional development courses and a host of other requirements.

Recognizing the role of the National Guard in the "Total Force Structure" and the degree of difficulty citizen-soldiers may encounter in obtaining release or time off from their civilian employers, the Department of Defense chartered the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (NCESGR) in 1972. The NCESGR ensures citizen-soldiers, regardless of component, do not face adverse or discriminatory actions as a result of service in the armed forces.

"Although the ESGR program is in its 24th year, it is not very well understood by the private sector or Reserve Force components," Brig. Gen. Richard A. Browning (Ret.), State Chairman of the Ohio Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, said about the program which protects civilian jobs while citizen-soldiers perform active duty assignments or annual training.

"Small businesses, the backbone of our national economy, suffer a



*"Concerns over (Reservists') employment status or their family's welfare should be laid to rest before they deploy."*

Brig. Gen. Richard A. Browning (Ret.)  
Chairman, Ohio Committee for ESGR

loss during a call-up or mobilization. It's the job of the NCESGR to make clear to employers their rights, as well as the rights and entitlements of Reserve and Guard members. Families have the added benefit of knowing that job security measures are in place," added Browning, whose full-time job is chief of staff for Columbus Mayor Greg S. Lashutka.

Browning is one of ESGR's 4,200 volunteer busi-

ness executives, senior government representatives, educators and military personnel who comprise local and national committees of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) program. The ESGR committees conduct a wide variety of informational and assistance programs designed to gain employer support and promote a better understanding of citizen-soldiers, their role and the necessity to spend time away from work.

"Having spent 30 years on active duty and after making two trips to Southeast Asia in the late 60's and early 70's, I feel a strong patriotic duty to do whatever I can to help our citizen-soldiers. When we send them off to the four corners of the globe, often with little notice, they should be free to go and focus on their mission with as few distractions as possible. Concerns over their employment status or their family's welfare should be laid to rest before they deploy," Browning stressed.

## Questions, answers on employment, re-employment rights for reserve forces

**Q** Is there a law governing re-employment rights after military training or service?

Yes. The Veterans Re-Employment Rights (VRR) law was passed in 1940. In 1994, the Uniformed Services Employment and Re-Employment Rights Act (USERRA) augmented the VRR law.

**Q** Who is eligible for re-employment rights under USERRA?

Any service member meeting the following conditions or "eligibility criteria:"

- 1) You hold a civilian job.
- 2) You notify your employer that you will be leaving work for military training. Usually, your orders will suffice.

3) You do not exceed a five-year cumulative limit on periods of service. Service performed under your present employer is counted in the five-year limit. When you begin a new job, you start with five "new years." The following duty types are not counted against your five-year limit: monthly drills, annual training, professional development courses, MOS courses, extensive initial or technical training, service performed during time of war, national emergency or other critical missions. Voluntary or involuntary service in support of a mission, contingency or other military requirements are also exempt.

4) You must be released from service under honorable conditions.

5) You must report back to work in a timely manner or apply for re-employment.

**Q** Do I have re-employment rights following voluntary military service? State call-ups?

USERRA applies to voluntary and involuntary military service, in peacetime or during wartime. State call-ups are not covered by USERRA or the VRR; they are covered by the individual states.

**Q** Does Ohio have a re-employment rights law covering state call-ups?

The Ohio Administrative Code offers certain protections of employment and re-employment, and the Ohio Revised Code provides for military leave in the event of a state call-up.

**Q** Can I be required to use my earned vacation to perform military service?

A: NO. Under the VRR law, you may not be forced to use earned vacation to perform military service.

As with any program, the keys to success of the NCESGR program are continual communication and participation at all levels. To ensure voluntary support of citizen-soldiers by their employers, the NCESGR sponsors programs such as Breakfast with the Boss, Ombudsman, Bosslifts and Mission One. An employer's participation in these programs begins with a Statement of Support from military members.

Commissioned or enlisted ranks can participate in the ESGR program by nominating their employers for an award through the "My Boss is a Patriot Program." The program increases awareness of the National Guard and Reserve in local communities and recognizes employers who have actively supported citizen-soldiers. Once nominated, employers are eligible for state and national recognition and awards. The "My Boss is a Patriot Program" allows deserving employers to be publicly recognized for their support of the armed forces—and that begins with the individual.

"Although some people may feel apprehensive about asking for time off, most companies are willing to grant it to citizen-soldiers," said Craig Jarrell, a human resource manager with Keane, Inc., a software development and design company based in Dublin, Ohio. "Remember, companies have a vested interest in allowing their personnel to pursue a wide range of professional and personal goals."

"In spite of temporary shortfalls, having a fully trained and qualified employee return to work after missing two weeks during the year—or possibly an even greater length of time—is more cost-effective than hiring somebody new. Generally, employees granted a leave of absence tend to perform to higher standards when they return," added Jarrell, who is a specialist in the 367th Public Affairs Detachment (USAR) from



**COL Tom Luczynski presents the "My Boss is a Patriot" award to Warden W.J. Thompson of the Federal Correctional Institution in Morgantown, W. Va. The warden was nominated by Chaplain Mike Merrill, Fourth Squadron, 107th Armored Cavalry Regiment.**

Columbus, Ohio. Along with Jarrell, four other Keane employees serve in Reserve component forces.

While most employers are voluntarily supportive of their citizen-soldiers, federal laws under the Department of Labor exist which protect civilian careers if military requirements adversely conflict with civilian occupations.

In 1994, President Clinton signed into law the Uniformed Services Employment and Re-Employment Rights Act (USERRA). This law significantly revised and clarified the existing Veteran's Re-Employment Rights law of 1940. The revisions in USERRA cover duty types (either voluntary or involuntary), military schools, the duration of duty and solidifies the cumulative five-year duty protection. USERRA also contains provisions on earned vacation time, benefits, seniority, promotions, disabilities, re-employment and re-training.

The Ohio ESGR serves *ALL* citizen-soldiers: Army, Air Force, Marine, Navy, Coast Guard, Air and Army National Guard. The state is divided into seven regions with each region containing an Ohio ESGR Committee Team. Each team contains an ombudsman who serves as an informal mediator between citizen-soldiers and their employers and also provides information regarding employer/employee rights and protections under USERRA.

For additional information about the ESGR, your rights under the USERRA Act or your regional ombudsman, please contact: Master Sgt. Richard D. Burnett, Ohio ESGR Operations Director, at 1-800-765-6446 ext. 3465. Employers wishing additional information or assistance with USERRA or the Veteran's Re-Employment Rights may contact the Department of Labor's Veterans Employment and Training Service at 1-800-442-2838. ■

**Q Are state and federal workers allowed to perform duty beyond their allocated number of days of paid military leave?**

*Yes. USERRA applies to state and federal employees as well as private sector employees. After using your military leave, state and federal employees may take an unpaid leave of absence. USERRA also permits state and federal employees to use annual leave while on military duty in order to continue civilian pay uninterrupted.*

**Q After military service, how long do I have to report back to work or apply for re-employment?**

*For periods of less than 30 days, you must report back to work on the next regularly scheduled work day. For service between 31 and 180 days, you must submit an application for re-employment, either verbal or written, no more than 14 days after completion of duty. After a*

*period of 181 days or more, you must submit an application for re-employment not later than 90 days after completion of duty.*

**Q What are my entitlements upon my application for re-employment?**

*1.) Prompt reinstatement. 2) Accrued seniority. 3) Training or re-training and other accommodations as required. 4) Special protection against discharge, except for cause.*

**Q When I return from military duty, will I get my old job back?**

*If your period of active duty is less than 90 days, yes, you are entitled to the job you held or would have attained if you were not performing military service. If unable to be qualified for the new job after reasonable efforts, the person is entitled to the job he or she left. For periods of service of more than*

*91 days, you may be re-employed in your old position, or the position you would have been promoted to. If this is not possible, you will receive a position of "like seniority, status and pay."*

**Q Does the new law protect me from discrimination by my employer or prospective employer?**

*Yes. Section 4311(a) of USERRA provides comprehensive protection of uniformed service members against discrimination or adverse actions.*

For additional information on your rights and protection under USERRA and the VRR, please contact Sgt. 1st Class Richard D. Burnett at 1-800-765-6446 ext. 3465.

If you believe your employer has violated your rights and you wish to file a complaint, contact the Veterans Employment and Training Office at 1-800-442-2838. ■



Courtesy photo

SFC Vincent Dominguez poses for photo shortly after retiring from a military career that began in 1951.

# Korean War veteran ends Guard career where it began

*"During the Korean conflict, the 37th Infantry Division was activated for war again, one of only a few National Guard divisions called. The men trained at Camp Polk, Louisiana, and were judged ready for combat in eight months. But they were not destined to see service together. Instead, practically all of the officers and men were sent overseas as individual replacements." Reprinted from the Toledo Blade, Feb. 18, 1968, at the deactivation of the 37th Infantry Division.*

Story by Capt. James A. Day  
16th Engineer Brigade

**S**gt. 1st Class Vincent Dominguez (retired) was pulled from the streets of Toledo, Ohio, at a youthful age in 1951. While hanging out at a local restaurant, a couple of soldiers drove up in a military jeep. They were on a recruiting mission and, on that day, succeeded in convincing Dominguez and a

number of his friends to join the Ohio Army National Guard.

Dominguez was attracted to the Ohio Guard by the benefits it offered a young street-wise kid. He joined not knowing that his unit, the 37th Infantry (Buckeye) Division, which served so valiantly in World War II, would soon be activated to serve in support of the Korean War effort.

Nearly seven months after enlisting, then Pvt. Dominguez found himself at Camp Polk, La., for intensive pre-deployment training. Three months later he was transferred to the 40th Infantry Division as an automatic rifleman. He was quickly assigned to a California National Guard unit and stationed near the war's front lines.

By his own admission, Dominguez joined the Ohio National Guard with a chip on his shoulder. "I was still reeling from the loss of my older brother during the second world war," Dominguez said. And seeing the effect



Courtesy photo.

Pvt. Vincent Dominguez during basic training at Camp Polk, La., in 1952.

the loss had on his mother, the young man wanted to settle the score with any enemy of the United States. "In retrospect, any hatred

I had was burned out of me in Korea," Dominguez said.

He served 13 months in Korea and was discharged at the end of the police action. During his service he earned the Combat Infantryman's Badge (CIB) and three bronze stars.

Dominguez decided to put a uniform on again 22 years later in 1977. Partly out of curiosity and partly out of desire to use his active duty experience to help young soldiers, he entered the U.S. Army Reserve. He served the maintenance section of Co. A of the 983rd Engineer Battalion based out of Toledo, Ohio. Dominguez later switched to the Ohio Army National Guard, joining Headquarters Company (HHC) of the 612th Engineer Battalion in Walbridge, Ohio. With the 612th, he held the positions of HHC motor sergeant and battalion maintenance NCO.



Courtesy photo

**At Camp Polk, Dominguez was taught that a rifleman must know his weapon inside and out.**

With regional conflicts such as the war in Bosnia making the potential of activation a

reality for reserve forces, Dominguez says it's important for soldiers to look out for each other. "Soldiers also need to train with enthusiasm," he added. "Because the way you train is the way you react under fire."

Dominguez further stated that during the past two decades he was honored to be a member of the reserve forces—both the Ohio Guard and U.S. Army Reserve.

"I was proud of my units, my sections and the soldiers I came into contact with, and proud to be part of an organization that offers so many opportunities," he said. "Soldiers in today's military seem to have a rare kind of dedication because they have access to a wide variety of benefits."

In May 1995, 44 years and nine presidents after first entering the military, Dominguez retired from the Ohio Guard with 20 years of service.■

# Professional Education Center honors Ohio hero

By Master Sgt. Candace J. Kline  
Command Historian

*Oh, they've got no time for glory in the infantry,  
They've got no time for praises loudly sung...  
To the everlasting glory of the infantry—  
Lives the story of Private Rodger Young.*

This excerpt is from the "Ballad of Rodger Young." A celebrated infantry song, it immortalizes the gallant deeds of a hero who served in the Ohio National Guard.

The National Guard Professional Education Center in Little Rock, Ark., honored him last September by dedicating the new strength maintenance training center in his name.

Young, a member of the 148th Infantry Regiment, 37th Infantry Division, during World War II, received the Congressional Medal of Honor for heroism. He died on a little island in the Pacific called New Georgia while saving the lives of the men in his platoon.

Young was wounded when his platoon was pinned down by fire from a Japanese machine



gun. As the platoon started to withdraw, Young started to creep toward the enemy emplacement and was wounded a second time. As he lobbed a hand grenade toward the machine gun nest, he was caught with a final, fatal blast. He had unselfishly saved the lives of 15 fellow soldiers.

A month prior to the battle in which he sacrificed his life, Sgt. Young asked to be reduced to private. He was losing his hearing and didn't want any of his men to be killed because of him.

Orders dated Sept. 1, 1995, again promoted Young from private to sergeant in the Ohio



**Medal of Honor recipient Pvt. Roger Young.**

National Guard. This promotion is effective July 31, 1943, the day he died. The orders were read during the dedication ceremony at Little Rock on Sept. 28, 1995.■

# 179th Airlift Wing leads Operation *SOUTHERN WATCH*



Lined up with other C-130s from across the U.S., Ohio's aircraft stands out prominently on a tarmac in Saudi Arabia.

Story by Staff Sgt. M. Randy Dunham  
179th Airlift Group Public Affairs

The two crewmen, looking haggard in their stubble and rumpled flight suits, stepped out of the darkness of the cargo bay of the C-130 into a glaring sun. As daylight hit their faces, they squinted and blinked, trying to adjust their eyes to the bright light.

Exhaustion was evident as the pair made their way across the ramp. Their shoulders slumped forward and their heads hung low. Each step seemingly took every ounce of strength they had, as if burdened by the weight of their combat boots.

They said nothing to each other. Not a word. They just walked.

As they put distance between themselves and the aircraft, the half-moon indentions on each cheek were reminders they had worn their headsets for a long time.

Too long.

What had started as a normal day for the 4404th Wing in Dhahran changed quickly that warm February morning when the Saudi Arabian government lifted a clearance for U.S.

aircraft to land in their country.

The troops who had spent weeks in Saudi Arabia were due to rotate back to the United States. Their replacements needed that clearance to land. But the rotator, a weekly contract flight that brings replacement troops and supplies from the U.S., had to be diverted.

If the Air National Guard troops on the ground were to get back to the states anytime soon, something had to be done.

Enter the 4410th Airlift Squadron with members of the 179th Airlift Wing from Mansfield.

Planners from the 4404th set up an alternate landing site for the U.S. rotator flight. The plan was to ferry passengers back and forth, those arriving and those leaving, between the alternate site and Dhahran.

In less than 12 hours, the squadron, made up of Air National Guardsmen from six states, moved approximately 800 passengers and nearly 34 tons of cargo around the theater.

"The people of the 4410th had the opportunity to prove that they could get the job done on a very short notice and under some fairly severe time constraints," said Lt. Col. Joseph D. Hawes, commander of the Guard contingency with the

4410th. "I never heard anyone say 'No, I can't do that,' or 'No I don't think that will work.' I only heard people say 'Tell me what you want done, and we'll make it work.'"

That 12-hour mission was one of several success stories that came out of Saudi Arabia when the nine units completed a three-month deployment in support of SOUTHERN WATCH.

The deployment itself was history in the making. For the first time ever, the 4410th was under Guard control. And the unit from Mansfield was the lead in the mission.

Lt. Col. Rich Green, commander of the 164th Airlift Squadron in Mansfield, was project officer for the deployment.

"Mansfield was chosen by the Guard Bureau to serve as lead in the deployment because of our success rate," Green said. "The 179th Airlift Wing in Mansfield provided an aircraft and 110 guardsmen for the mission."

Green served as commander of the 4410th for the first five weeks of the deployment. He said the trip to Saudi Arabia was arranged because active duty units had staffed the Operation SOUTHERN WATCH area since the end of the

## *The deployment itself was history in the making. For the first time ever, the 4410th was under Guard control. And the unit from Mansfield was the lead in the mission.*

a replacement. This can cause some problems for some people who have other jobs they need to get back to.”

Some of those who went to Saudi Arabia, said Rowland, had the toughest job there.

“Sergeant Rowland handled probably 600 people,” Green said. “The active side would in-process their people, get them a room and that was it. With the rotations, Dick had constant change. He had to worry about getting the people rooms, getting them uniforms, getting them paid and everything else. He did a super job.”

Rowland said his office was “information central.” “None of the people that were there from the six different Guard units had been there before,” he said. “They all had questions about local policies and what there was to do.”

He said for the first three weeks of his deployment, he put in 12-16 hours each day. “Finally, it got to be so much, I had to augment some help from other areas,” he said. His assistants came from the duty aircrew, if they had someone available, and from an administration clerk from a C-130 operations office. Each of those helpers were part-time.

Rowland said he was busy enough each day to not spend too much time thinking about home. His most enjoyable portion of the deployment was talking to his wife, Master Sgt. Faline Rowland, who works as an Active Guard and Reserve (AGR) in Mansfield and did not go on the deployment.

“We communicated frequently,” he said. “The reason why was because she was my counterpart and intermediary for the majority of the work I had to do back in Mansfield.”

While he found comfort in talking to his wife, Rowland said as first sergeant, there were some uncomfortable moments in Saudi Arabia.

“It was unusual, but we had to make six death notifications to troops deployed with us,” he said. “I never got used to it. I would just deal with it and do the best I could.”

Everyone deployed from Mansfield faced some unfamiliar situa-

tions. The commander of the 4404th Wing stressed safety before everything else. Safety practices such as wearing seat belts were considered vitally important. In addition, anyone caught drinking alcohol in Saudi Arabia was to receive an Article 15 and sent back to the U.S.

Mansfield’s Staff Sgt. Dennis Folk, a loadmaster on a C-130, enjoyed the deployment. “I served as a rotator so I flew on eight missions,” he said. “I didn’t have a lot of time to sit around. I was always busy.”

Folk said he only flew on one mission with his friends from the 179th. The remainder were with other units.

Green said the Guard involvement was appreciated by the regular Air Force. So much, in fact, that the Guard Bureau has committed to sending troops over for the next five years.

“I guess they liked us,” Green said. “The commander from the 4404th paid us some real nice compliments.”

According to Green, 4404th Commander Col. Jonathan Gration saw a sign posted next to a large fan used to blow air into a trailer. It read “Install guard before operating.”

“I’m not going to go anywhere without installing the Guard,” he commented. “I’ve certainly seen that when the Guard is installed in an operation, that operation is going to be successful.” ■

**EDITOR’S NOTE:** Tech. Sgt. Barbara Fisher, 4404th WG (P), provided some information from Saudi Arabia for this report.



Courtesy photo.

Gulf War and they needed some relief.

“They wanted to rotate out for a while and take a break,” he said. “So the Guard Bureau volunteered us to take a two-month period. We were there from Jan. 10 until March 10.”

He said a reserve contingent replaced the Guard for an additional month.

The results of SOUTHERN WATCH are quite impressive, Green said. The six participating states flew 723 sorties with Mansfield’s plane flying 26 missions and 84 sorties. Mansfield alone moved more than 272 tons of cargo and 865 passengers.

“Something I consider very significant is that we flew every single mission we were scheduled to fly—and then some,” he said.

Mansfield’s importance in the deployment became apparent from the beginning. In addition to Green being named commander of the unit, Maj. Chip Goodell was the operation officer for the squadron and Master Sgt. Richard Rowland served as first sergeant.

Goodell said the mission presented some unique concerns for some of the people there.

“We’re used to flying a mission and going home on schedule,” he said. “But here, the mission continues and we can’t leave until there’s

### **Operation Southern Watch Roll Call**

**National Guard units came from all across the United States. In addition to the 179th, the other supporting units were:**

| <b>City/State</b>    | <b>Unit Designation</b> |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Oklahoma City, Okla. | 137th Airlift Wing      |
| Charleston, W.Va.    | 130th Airlift Wing      |
| Dallas, Texas        | 136th Airlift Wing      |
| Savannah, Ga.        | 165th Airlift Wing      |
| Anchorage, Alaska    | 176th Airlift Wing      |
| Cheyenne, Wyo.       | 153rd Airlift Wing      |
| Nashville, Tenn.     | 118th Airlift Wing      |



Photo by SSG Gerald Wolfe, 196th PAD.

A medical ambulance from the 385th Med. Co. (Amb.) in Tiffin, follows Ohio Army Guard soldiers into a training area for a live fire exercise at Camp Grayling, Mich.

# Medic!

## New era of medical support for Army Guard begins

Story by Pfc. Carrie Clevidence  
HQ, 112th Medical Brigade

In the beginning there were two infantry brigades. Each had a horse drawn ambulance unit. Their mission was to care for troops in the field.

*And that was good.*

In the 1920s, the Ohio Army National Guard's 112th Medical Regiment was formed. It later became the 112th Medical Brigade and troop care flourished.

*And that was also good.*

By September 1997, the 112th Medical Brigade and its supporting units will no longer exist. They will make way for a new creation of medical assets that will continue serving Ohio soldiers and insure that trained personnel remain in a medical specialty.

*And that is very good.*

In the era of downsizing, medical units of the Ohio Army National Guard have been hit hard. Units that had served on the Mexican border in 1916; saw action in the Philippines during WWII; brought relief to Ohio's flood and tornado victims; prepared Ohio soldiers for deployments around the world; and attended to hostages and inmates at the Lucasville prison siege have fallen prey to DoD's budget ax.

But the deactivations do not mean the end of medical support for Ohio soldiers. According to Col. Robert J. Hassler, deputy assistant chief of staff for health services, 112th Med. Bde., the mission will transition from "wartime units" to a unit authorized under a Table of Distribution and Allowances (TDA). The STARC Medical Detachment, as it is now called, is designed to continue providing physical examinations, immunizations, predeployment screenings and unit support to Ohio guardmembers.

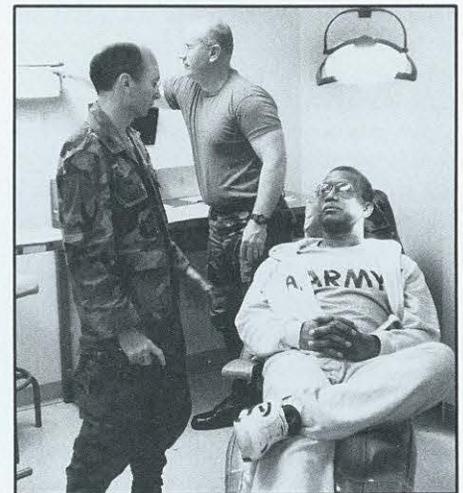


Photo by MSG Robert Jennings, 196th PAD.

**COL (Dr) Michael Fair discusses dental wellness with MSG Reginald Wagstaff.**

Brig. Gen. Lance A. Talmage, commander, 112th Med. Bde., believes the challenge of restructuring the brigade will be in the transition

## *The genesis of medical support has gone from horse drawn ambulances to in-field operating rooms and medical airlifts.*



Photo by SGT Joe Levack, 145th MASH.

**A UH-60 (Black Hawk) helicopter and crew from Fort Knox perform emergency litter evacuation training with Ohio soldiers.**

process. His goal, during and after unit deactivations, is to provide seamless, uninterrupted medical support. But, Talmage concedes, commanders with medical personnel will require more intensive use of their unit's organic capabilities to sustain the standards of medical support enjoyed in the past by the Army Guard.

One way to keep the transition process running smoothly is to help medical personnel find other units. Personnel who become "displaced" during restructuring will receive help finding a new unit through STARC operation plans. "If there is an opening in a unit, the person best qualified in that MOS and who wants to serve in that unit should be given the position," Hasser said.

"Our first priority is to put guardmembers into positions they already qualify for and make sure they are within reasonable commuting distance," he explained. "Second, we want to offer opportunities for soldiers to re-train in a different MOS." In the medical field, all MOSs start as 91Bs (combat medic). To specialize in a certain medical field, it requires additional training. For example, to become a laboratory technician a person must complete the basic medic course (91B) before attending the lab course.

A fear by many of the nonmedical personnel in the unit is that they will *not* receive help finding a new home. "That is not true," said Sgt. 1st Class Tonya Minor, full-time personnel sergeant for the brigade. "The command section is helping everyone. There will even be job fairs planned for soldiers to find a new unit," she said.

Consequently, Hasser suggests, some may

end up in the Air Guard or a suitable reserve unit. "But we want to keep as many in the Ohio Army Guard as possible," he said.

The transfer of personnel to the TDA positions and other units will begin after AT '96. As units deactivate, the goal is to have medical TDA sections activate so that primary exam stations will remain operational. Facilities in Port Clinton, North Canton, Columbus, Cincinnati and Rickenbacker will assume STARC Medical TDA slots as deactivations occur.

The philosophy behind restructuring the medical brigade stems from an attempt to manage change. Other Ohio Army National Guard units, such as the 73rd Infantry Brigade and the 107th Armored Cavalry Regiment, have already experienced the sweeping effects of change. "Liken it to a journey without end," Hasser said. "Whether it is due to technology, the lack of an enemy or an unwillingness to fund costs, someday other units will find they, too, are no longer needed," he said. "The deactivation of the 112th and its supporting units is also a result of such changes."

Conversely, forces of change can also give rise to new missions, as was the case when the 684th Medi-

cal Company, Westerville, reorganized into two units: the 2145th Medical Detachment (Surgical) and Company C, 118th Medical Battalion (Area Spt.).

The genesis of medical support has gone from horse drawn ambulances to in-field operating rooms and medical airlifts. And although the lineage of many units will be encased soon, the STARC Medical Detachment and the remaining "wartime" units promise to continue the legacy of quality medical care for Ohio's citizen-soldiers.

*And that is very good, indeed. ■*



Courtesy photo.

**Medics and medical support will continue to be an integral part of Army Guard training.**



By Candace J. Kline  
Environmental Office

It's that time of year again. Pack your bags, load those trucks, say good-bye to the family, and head for two weeks of annual training.

The convoys, field training, MREs, foxholes and mosquitoes are old hat to most soldiers, but what about the environmental considerations?

Due to the nature of our training, there are many environmental issues that must be considered. Not only is this in the Army's spirit of environmental stewardship, violation of many environmental laws can result in fines or other punishment.

Although units will train at various locations, the environmental guidelines will be similar to the following information which applies to Camp Grayling, Mich.

Many areas at Camp Grayling are restricted—some for environmental reasons. They are marked on the training maps and/or with signs on the ground. Noise, vehicles and other aspects of our training may damage or destroy plants and wildlife. Of special concern are those listed as threatened or endangered species.

No flyovers are allowed at Hartwick Pines State Park because of noise considerations. During certain times of the year, the habitat of the Kirkland Warbler, an endangered species, is off limits. Other restricted areas include the Red Pine Natural Area, Houghton's Goldenrod Area, eagle nesting areas, all wetlands and Wakeley Lake because of loons and eagles.

Petroleum, oils and lubricants (POL) can be extremely dangerous to the environment if spilled. Spills can cost tens of thousands of dollars to clean up once they reach ground water. If a spill occurs, respond quickly as follows:

- Stop the spill if possible.
- Report immediately to the Post Environmental Officer by phone or radio. Transmit in the clear that you have a "spot report" and need environmental team assistance.

# Environmental awareness essential during annual training periods

- Contain the spill with absorbent materials or by whatever means possible. Spilled liquids will move very quickly through Camp Grayling's sandy soil. This could result in contamination of rivers and streams or ground water.

- Limit access to the spill area. Do not allow matches, lighters, smoking or anything which could cause a spark.

- Place contaminated soil in barrels which are available from the post.

POLs and disturbances caused by vehicles and other equipment can be harmful to fish and plants in bodies of water. Military activity in all streams and rivers, including river crossings and river rafting, is prohibited. Training along the AuSable River is restricted to not closer than 400 feet by both foot troops and vehicles, and along other rivers to not closer than 200 feet.

Military activities in all lakes is prohibited except for Howes Lake, Duck Lake, Kyle Lake and specific bridge training on Lake Margrethe. Training along the shorelines of all lakes is restricted to not closer than 200 feet except Howes Lake, Duck Lake and the loading ramp at Lake Margrethe.

Never bury trash. Animals, mostly raccoons and bears, will dig it up and try to eat even plastic and cans. Not only does the trash attract unwanted varmints, they may get angry if they dig it up and don't find food. Dispose of trash at approved sites as soon as possible after meals.

During May 1990, approximately 5,000 acres of the Grayling area were destroyed by a forest fire in less than five hours. Open fires and burning of trash are prohibited every-

where on Camp Grayling. When fire danger is high, live firing, pyrotechnics and other fire producing training may be restricted. Cigarette butts and matches should be cool to the touch before discarding in trash receptacles.

The use of vehicles, wheeled and tracked, off road can be harmful to plants and topsoil. This can cause erosion and damage to the environment for years. All vehicles must stay on existing trail roads. The making of new roads is prohibited. Never execute locked track turns.

Some of the trees at Camp Grayling provide nesting areas for birds and small animals. Others

are protected for forestation. Do not cut live trees without written authorization from post operations. The Department of Natural Resources charges for the cutting of trees at a rate reflecting full tree growth. In other words, if you cut a small tree, they will charge you for a full size tree.

If trees are removed or destroyed, the soil is more susceptible to wind and water ero-

sion. Damaged trees are susceptible to disease. Do not cut tree branches and other parts of trees for camouflage. Cut ground cover only.

When stringing communication or power cable, run it along the edge of existing cleared areas. Remove all wire, cable and wire loops used to string the cable when leaving the area. Deer and other animals may become entangled in wire and eventually die.

These guidelines that are specific to Camp Grayling may apply at other annual training locations. Be sure to learn the rules before you train. This will ensure meaningful training and the protection of the environment at the same time. ■

*Noise, vehicles and other aspects of our training may damage or destroy plants and wildlife. Of special concern are those listed as threatened or endangered species.*



Photo by SPC Steven Johnson, 196th PAD.

Excited preschoolers from the Woodland Head Start program in Columbus are escorted to the circus by SSG Betty Delk, a member of Headquarters, State Area Command (STARC). STARC's Adopt-A-School partnership with Woodland was recognized two years ago as the Guard's first preschool sponsorship.

## Guidance for Adopt-A-School available

When Gov. George V. Voinovich was elected in 1990, he challenged all state agencies to "Adopt-A-School." The Ohio National Guard took that challenge to heart and has since adopted over 81 schools statewide. At the height of the program in 1993, the Guard had over 125 adoptions. Along with that challenge came the publication of "Commander's Guidance for Adopt-A-School," a guide to assist unit commanders in establishing and maintaining a positive Adopt-A-School relationship. The guide includes several "how to" steps in initiating a relationship with a school and will help both the unit commander and the school better understand their roles in the process. The Ohio National Guard's "Command Guidance" has been used to help start National Guard Adopt-A-School programs in Kentucky, Florida, Delaware, New Hampshire and California. If your unit does not have a copy of the current guidance, contact the Office of Public Affairs at (614) 889-7000.

## 121st ARW renews fourfold commitment to Adopt-A-School program

This past fall, with Brig. Gen. John Smith, commander of the 121st Air Refueling Wing leading the way, several unit members met with

principals or their representatives from four schools as part of the Governor's Adopt-A-School program. The 121st has adopted Koebel Elementary, Wedgewood Middle School, and Briggs and Madison High Schools.

The meetings addressed specific school needs and the wing's ability to meet those needs. The principals identified areas which could be supported by the unit, which included: tutoring, total quality management training, involvement in school awards programs, participation of the Wing Color Guard, and involvement in drug prevention programs and equal employment opportunity. The principals also stressed the need

for positive, drug free role models for their students. According to 121st Executive Officer Lt. Col. Bob Boggs, "Everyone walked away with a better understanding of our adopted schools' needs and our unit's commitment to stay involved with the Adopt-A-School program."

## State Public Affairs Plan revisited

In 1990, the Office of Public Affairs published the first Public Affairs Plan, AGO Pamphlet 360-61 (Army) and 190-1 (Air). The Public Affairs Plan was instituted "to provide for the continual conduct of unit public affairs programs." Under the plan, units are required to report quarterly activities to the Office of Public Affairs on AGOH Form 360-61-R (Quarterly Public Affairs Summary). More importantly, units are required to participate in a number of community relations activities throughout the year.

The public affairs activities requirements include each unit conducting an installation or unit open house to the public once a year; two static displays or participation in public events each year; three speaking engagements at Rotary Clubs, Kiwanis Clubs, Veteran's organizations, etc.; each unit/installation must adopt one primary, middle or secondary school, and conduct a minimum of two events with that school per year; and

solicit community leaders for unit visits twice per year.

Many of these requirements can be accomplished at a unit open house. Inviting local community leaders, your Adopt-A-School partner and giving a briefing at the open house will fulfill four of the 10 requirements. Participating in the Red Ribbon Campaign each fall with your Adopt-A-School partner will fulfill another requirement for the year. Units can accomplish the rest through recruiting displays at malls and by providing color guards to schools and for parades. By making presentations at local civic clubs you have an audience typically made up of community leaders, many of whom have probably served in the armed forces. These community leaders can be of great assistance in expanding the unit's recruiting efforts.

Units should also task their Unit Public Affairs Representative (UPAR) and Unit Strength Enhancement Team (USET) to take pictures of events and write stories for publication in the *Buckeye Guard*. Unit Family Support Groups are also a great resource, ready and willing to provide assistance.

## Resources ready for use

Through the Drug Demand Reduction Program, the Adjutant General's Department has resources available to support unit functions and/or community-based activities. These resources include:

- "Why Take the Risk?" pamphlets on the new drunk driving laws in Ohio.
  - "Get With It!" pamphlets on teenage alcohol, drugs and driving.
  - Safety Dog Coloring Books for kids in kindergarten through fourth grade.
  - Safety Dog mascot costume for open houses and school activities.
  - "Drugs of Abuse 1996 Edition" magazine about the different types of illegal drugs and their effects.
  - "Power of Choice" video series on alcohol and drug abuse (very effective for high school age youth).
  - "GuardAmerica" Parent to Parent Training.
- Make use of these Drug Demand Reduction assets by calling the Office of Public Affairs at (614) 889-7000.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Volunteers are needed to help with the KiDSAFE (Kids Identifying Dangerous Situations and Facing Emergencies) program on July 20-21, 1996, at the Aladdin Shrine Temple in Columbus, Ohio. KiDSAFE is a program where children receive a full identification card that parents keep on file in the event the youth is lost or abducted. Personnel may participate in IDT, SUTA or AT status. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact the Office of Public Affairs at (614) 889-7000.

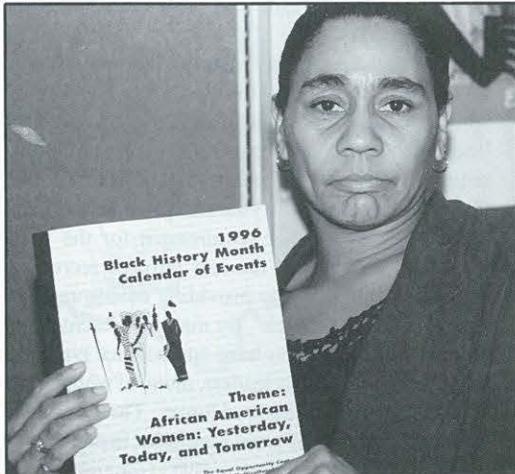


Photo by SGT Clifford Nicol, HQ STARC.

State employee Elsie Carmichael holds one of the information pamphlets on hand at Beightler Armory during Black History Month.

## Beightler Armory honors Black History Month

In recognition of African-Americans who contributed in shaping the history of America, Beightler Armory, which houses the Ohio National Guard headquarters in Columbus, celebrated Black History throughout the month of February.

"In past years, it appeared that Black History month was not given the attention it deserved," said Lt. Col. Albert Halle, state mobilization readiness officer. "We decided that Beightler Armory needed to do something out of the ordinary to be a front-runner in this year's celebration."

And out of the ordinary it was.

Commercial vendors and armory employees set up African-American cultural exhibits which were prominently located in the armory during the entire month. Panel displays and hand-outs provided general information, as well as little known facts about Blacks who made significant contributions to this nation.

Wednesday lunch hours on the drill floor were characterized with "Did You Know" presentations, an idea conceptualized by Brig. Gen. John S. Martin, assistant adjutant general for Army. These sessions recognized prominent African-Americans for their inventions and achievements throughout America's history. Among these legends were the Blacks who first settled in Ohio between 1770-1800, Tuskegee Airmen, Harriet Tubman, Buffalo Soldiers, Benjamin O. Davis Sr., Martin Luther King, Florence Griffith-Joyner and many others.

Both the first and last Wednesdays of Febru-

ary were set apart by organized luncheons which included guest speakers and ethnic entertainment. The Windsor Park Elementary School choir and girl's double Dutch team put on an incredible display of their talents during the final celebration on Feb. 28, which was also marked with an ethnic food contest.

Halle noted that organization committee members Staff Sgt. Steve Upchurch, Mr. William Melvin and Ms. Sharon Hilliard should be recognized for their efforts in making this year's celebration a success. *Submitted by Sgt. Clifford Nicol, HQ STARC (-Det. 1-5).*

## 'The results are in'

To better assess the impact of the Desert Storm Syndrome on the citizens of Ohio, the Governor's Office of Veterans' Affairs developed the *Ohio Desert Storm*

*Research Project*. The project began with surveys being sent to veterans throughout the state. Though a few surveys were completed by members of other branches of the service, the primary respondents were members of the Ohio Guard.

The results showed that 61 percent of the 469 Desert Storm veterans surveyed reported ongoing health problems as a result of service in the Persian Gulf. Approximately 15 percent also reported that their family members were experiencing similar symptoms.

The survey, which was sponsored by the Center for the Study of Veterans in Society and funded in part by the Ohio Veterans Employment and Training Council (OVETS) and the state of Ohio, will guide later clinical work and health-related issues. The *Ohio Desert Storm Research Project* can serve as a model to other states by demonstrating the results of effectively combining resources of other national and state research efforts currently underway.

For further information contact the OVET Council at (614) 268-7072 or the Governor's Office of Veteran's Affairs at (614) 644-0892.

## Guard responds to water emergency

Residents from Ironton said they perfected the Marine shower—cleaning up with only a washcloth and not bothering to wash their hair. But it was the Ohio National Guard that saved the day for the just over 12,000 inhabitants of the southern Ohio town.

Members of the Buckeye state's Army and Air Guard were activated after Gov. George V. Voinovich declared a state of emergency as a

result of a no-use water advisory—which warned the community not to use city water for drinking, cooking or bathing. The advisory was issued on Jan. 29 and was downgraded to a less restrictive boil-water advisory the next day. Residents endured the daily ritual of boiling water for nearly five days.

The Guard, led by Capt. Ronald B. Loebker, commander of Company B, 216th Engineer Battalion, Portsmouth, arrived for a week's worth of duty on Jan. 29. Loebker's team comprised of four airmen from Cincinnati's 123rd Air Control Squadron and 15 soldiers from Company A, 216th Engineer Battalion in Chillicothe; the 1193rd Engineer Company in Cincinnati; Company C, 112th Engineer Battalion in Columbus; and Company B, 216th Engineer Battalion and Detachment in Portsmouth and Ironton.

Guardmembers manned seven potable water fill-up locations which were established throughout the city. Residents were allowed to fill containers (maximum 20 gallons), free of charge, 24 hours a day. Two 1,000-gallon tankers and three 400-gallon water buffalos supported the mission. Guard tankers were replenished by the Hecla Water Association. In all, approximately 15,000 gallons of potable water were distributed to the citizens. *Submitted by Sgt. John M. Hannon, Headquarters Company, 216th Engineer Battalion.*

## Honoring the Unknowns

Veterans Day is celebrated each year in remembrance of the many sacrifices made by those who serve in the military, both past and present. Its significance is shared by all branches of the military, including the National Guard.

This past November, the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) helped honor all veterans in ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery. First Sgt. Blain D. Ross, President of EANGUS; Chief MSgt. Ed Brown, Senior Enlisted Advisor for the Air National Guard; and Command Sgt. Maj. Larry Pence, Senior Enlisted Advisor for the Army National Guard placed a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier bears the inscription: "Here rest in honored glory known but to God." An unidentified soldier from World War I was interred in the tomb on Armistice Day, Nov. 11, 1921. Congress later directed that an "Unknown American" from World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam be buried beside the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

At both the national and state levels, EANGUS makes every effort to procure and protect the benefits of the National Guard. Among the

many recent accomplishments was the passage of legislation granting guardmembers the right to be buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

National Guard forces have always been a vital part of America's defenses in both peace and war. During World War I, the National Guard supplied three-fifths of the combat divisions in the American Expeditionary Force. On Sept. 15, 1940, 63,646 National Guardsmen reported for active duty for World War II. That number swelled to over 300,000 by the end of the war. Each war since has seen both the Army and Air National Guard contribute a significant number of troops in defense of freedom throughout the world.

Over 27 million veterans living today have proudly worn their country's uniform. More than one million have died defending freedom. Even though those soldiers buried at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier are "known but to God," one of them could possibly be a citizen-soldier. *Submitted by Sgt. 1st Class Bobby D. Mullins, HQ STARC (-Det 1-5).*

## 737th Maintenance Battalion reaches out

Good will and kind deeds never go out of fashion as the 737th Maintenance Battalion demonstrated this past Christmas season with a food drive and presents for Mount Vernon charities and a fundraiser for the Big Brother, Big Sister Program of Knox County.

The spirited drive began with the Junior Enlisted Council hosting a battalion Christmas party for unit members and their families. Presents for the children were purchased with proceeds from unit fundraisers, and a traditional dinner was prepared by the company food service section.

Local merchants provided prizes for a fundraiser during the party which raised \$125 for the Big Brothers and Big Sisters program. Presents left over from the fundraiser were donated to the Turn-The-Tide Program for needy families.

In January, the unit sponsored a food drive with Mount Vernon's Kroger store. Guardmembers solicited food donations and answered questions about the National Guard throughout the day. During five hours, nearly \$500 in food donations were collected.

"I didn't mind the cold because I was busy greeting people and visiting with those who wanted to talk about the military," said Spc. Kathy Huneycutt. "I was amazed when one man left a whole cart full of groceries for us."

Food from the drive was divided between the InterChurch Social Services Food Bank of

Mount Vernon and Staff Sgt. Jonathon Conception, a member of 1st Battalion, 148th Infantry, who, as reported in the Fall 1995 issue of the *Buckeye Guard*, is facing large medical expenses not covered by insurance. *Submitted by Capt. Patricia Riker, 737th Maintenance Battalion.*

## Ohio team competes at Wilson Matches

Over 800 competitors vied for top honors as "best of the best" combat shooters of the Army and Air National Guard at the 24th Annual Winston P. Wilson Rifle, Pistol, Sniper and Light-Machinegun Championships held at Camp Joseph T. Robinson last October.

The matches, conducted by the National Guard Marksmanship Training Center, are designed to promote marksmanship by providing high-level training and competition among states at a national level in four categories.

Capturing top honors among Ohio shooters was Tech Sgt. Kenneth Strohm who qualified for the "Chief's 50 Award," which is presented by the Chief of the National Guard Bureau to the top 50 shooters of the competition.

Other competitors from the state included the Ohio Combat Rifle Team: Team Captain Tech Sgt. Richard Ebeling, Staff Sgt. Lloyd Leinbaugh, Tech Sgt. Andres Palacios and Tech Sgt. Kenneth Strohm. Members of the Ohio Combat Pistol Team were: Team Captain Senior Master Sgt. Ross Leider, Staff Sgt. Roger Eldridge and Staff Sgt. Kevin Skeeters.

The Wilson Matches are named for Maj. Gen. Winston P. Wilson, former chief of the National Guard Bureau and member of the Arkansas Air National Guard. *Submitted by Capt. Keith Moore, NGMTC, Camp Robinson, Ark.*

## Ohio bids farewell to State CSM Wehling

After spending 10 years as Ohio's top enlisted soldier, State Command Sgt. Maj. Richard L. Wehling recently turned over the prestigious position to Command Sgt. Maj. Michael O. Howley.

Though he officially gave up the post on Feb. 29, fellow guardsmen, friends and family gathered to bid Wehling a proper goodbye during a retirement dinner in Columbus on Feb. 17.

"He was a consummate professional that set a good example for me to follow," said Howley of his predecessor. And because they shared a personal relationship over the years, Howley feels well-prepared to step into Wehling's



Photo by SFC Bob Mullins, HQ STARC.

**With wife Janet standing by his side, former State CSM Richard Wehling receives a Legion of Merit from MG Richard C. Alexander as new State CSM Michael Howley officiates.**

boots. "He gave me insight into decision-making at that level."

But, like most soldiers, Wehling didn't start at the top.

Wehling began his military career in May 1960, having spent the first nine years on active duty in Panama, Korea and twice in Alabama in the positions of confinement security specialist, military policeman, NCOIC Armed Forces Police, military police investigator, special agent and detachment operations officer, Criminal Investigation Division (CID) Command. In 1970, he entered the Ohio Army National Guard as the agent in charge of state's CID Section attached to the 437th Military Police Battalion.

Even after a reorganization eliminated CID personnel in the state, Wehling elected to remain with the Guard rather than continue his CID career in the U.S. Army Reserve. In 1980, he assumed the duties of first sergeant for the 838th Military Police Company. From 1983 to 1986, Wehling was assigned to the Ohio Military Academy as commandant for the Noncommissioned Officer Education System.

On June 1, 1986, then-Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Raymond C. Galloway appointed Wehling as state command sergeant major. After Galloway's retirement, Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander reappointed him in the same position.

Upon retirement, the sergeant major plans on expanding his 12-year-old photography business, Photo Point, into a full-time profession. Wehling also plans on spending more time with his wife, Janet, and his five children—Todd, Rodd, Deanna, Christopher and Todd Michael. *Submitted by Staff Sgt. Diane Farrow, HQ STARC (-Det. 1-5).*



Courtesy photo.

**1996 ONG BIATHLON TEAM. Standing, left to right: SSG Richard Githens, SSG Gregor Rudl, LTC Chris Cline; Kneeling, left to right: 1LT Randy Dooley, SSG Tracy VanDeventer; Not pictured: SFC David Spriggs.**

## Ohio Biathlon Team scores best ever

A team from the Buckeye state placed its highest finish ever in the 1996 National Guard Bureau biathlon championships, held last February at Camp Ripley, Minn.

The Ohio team placed ninth out of 30 states competing. Ohio has never before broken into the top 10 in team standings. "Snow states," which have consistent winter snow cover and high school ski racing programs, come into the competition with a strong advantage.

The successful Ohio team consisted of two veteran competitors, 1st Lt. Randy Dooley and Staff Sgt. Tracy VanDeventer, and two relative newcomers in their second year, Staff Sgts. Rich Githens and Greg Rudl. Team standings were determined by the placings in two team events, the 15 km patrol race and the four-leg 7.5 km relay. The Ohio team placed so well with a combination of good shooting and consistent fast skiing on the hilly race course.

Biathlon is a military sport in which competitors combine cross-country ski racing and rifle marksmanship. A nine-pound precision bolt-action rifle is carried on the skier's back throughout the race. At intervals, the race course winds into the firing range where the competitors shoot at metal targets. The pro-

cess is like a big shooting gallery—when the targets, 50 meters distant, are hit, they fall down with a "clang." Firers shoot from both the prone (laying down) and offhand (standing) positions. In prone, the target hit area is only about as big as a 50-cent piece. In offhand, it is about five inches in diameter.

Cross-country ski racing is an intensely demanding aerobic sport which uses essentially all of the muscles in the body simultaneously. The biathlon race courses are made as demanding as possible with numerous steep uphill climbs and fast downhills. At Camp Ripley this year, the temperatures ranged from 51 below zero to 44 degrees Fahrenheit, and the downhills were often icy and treacherous.

In the individual races, VanDeventer again shone this year with third place finishes in the women's 15 km distance race and the 7.5 km sprint. Her showing earned her the number three spot on the 1996 Women's All Guard Biathlon Team. VanDeventer, who also competes internationally in military track and field events, is progressing into the upper ranks of women biathlon competitors in the U.S., where the National Guard dominates the sport.

"Tracy is right now ranked seventh among National Guard women," said Lt. Col. Chris Cline, Ohio's biathlon team coach. "We hope to have 100 percent National Guard athletes on the 1998 Olympic biathlon team. If she can continue to develop her skiing, I think she has a shot at making the team."

First Lt. Randy Dooley was Ohio's top place male competitor. He garnered 29th place in the 10 km men's sprint and 33rd in the 20 km race. The competition in the men's field is crowded and intense. Dooley's finishes were the highest ever for an Ohio male competitor.

Sgt. 1st Class David Spriggs was Ohio's novice competitor. Spriggs competed in the two individual men's races in his first year of the sport. *Submitted by Lt. Col. Chris Kline, Biathlon Team Captain.*

## Carle honored for faithful service

For most Ohioans, Jan. 7, 1996, brings to mind the beginning of the "Blizzard of '96." For the co-workers and family of Sgt. 1st Class Ronald L. "Mick" Carle, however, the date recalls the determination they shared to attend a ceremony honoring their fallen friend.

Before daybreak, a small caravan of vehicles—loaded with civilians and soldiers alike—fought hazardous road conditions for the near 50 mile trek from Newark, Ohio, to Beightler Armory in Columbus. After reaching their destination, the guests were ushered into a small conference room where the sergeant was honored posthumously with a Meritorious Service Medal. His widow, Mrs. Becky Carle, accepted the award from Brig. Gen. James Hughes, STARC deputy commander.

"We wanted to recognize Mick for his 27 years of faithful service in the Ohio Army National Guard," said Sgt. Maj. Larry Gregg, chief supply NCO for the USPFO warehouse in Newark. Carle worked there full-time as a civil service employee and spent drill weekends there as a storage inspector and supervisor for HQ STARC. "He was one of my best NCOs," Gregg said. "He always had a 'can-do' attitude and was outstanding among his contemporaries."

Carle died of a heart attack on Aug. 3, 1995. When approached about the award presentation, Mrs. Carle asked that it be held on Jan. 7, which would have been Mick's 46th birthday.

After receiving the Meritorious Service Medal, Mrs. Carle also accepted a certificate which recognized her husband's 25 years of service as a federal technician, presented by Lt. Col. William L. Zieber, USPFO Officer.

Ten family members attended the ceremony, including Ronald's parents, John and Millie Carle, and his three sons Jonathan, 15, Derrick, 13, and Brandon, 7. *Submitted by Staff Sgt. Diane L. Farrow, HQ STARC (-Det. 1-5).*

## Infantry soldier makes life-saving debut at Universal Studios

Spending time at Universal Studios in Florida typically means parading in and out of mock Hollywood sets, learning the tricks behind special effects and rubbing elbows with movie star look-alikes. But for one Ohio guardsman, a day at Orlando's famed theme park meant real-life heroics that movie magic is made of.

Last September, Staff Sgt. Dominic V. Fredo II, a military personnel technician for the 148th Infantry Battalion, used his first aid training to save the life of a young girl.

"I was paying for a photo of my son when I heard a woman screaming for help," Fredo said. "Then her husband came into view, yelling for someone to help his baby. I followed

him to his daughter, who was lifeless and blue. I gave her back blows and chest compressions until a piece of candy, and everything else, came out."

When the park's health care staff showed up a few minutes later, Fredo went to a restroom to wash up. "By the time I was done," he said, "everyone was gone. So my family and I spent the rest of the day enjoying the park."

Though no names were exchanged at the time, officials at Universal Studios felt Fredo's act was significant enough to track down his identity and send a letter of commendation. "He was so diligent and effective in helping the child that the family did not require any further help from our staff," wrote Linda Buckley, director of publicity for the theme park. "His quick thinking and cool-headed response is a great testament to the excellent training he has received."

A former Boy Scout, Fredo has been certified to provide CPR since he was 10 years old. In addition to the training he gets in the Guard, Fredo gets recertified by the Red Cross every two years. "I think it's important to keep up on these skills because you never know when you'll need them." *Submitted by Staff Sgt. Diane Farrow, HQ STARC (-Det. 1-5).*

### Miami Valley names top Guardsmen of 1995

An Army and Air National Guard soldier and airman were honored by the Miami Valley Military Affairs Association as Guardsman/Reservist of the Year for 1995.

Spc. Amy Lynn McCoy of the 641st Quartermaster Detachment (water purification), Ohio Army National Guard, and Master Sgt. John E. Fleegeer Jr. of the 178th Fighter Wing, Ohio Air National Guard, were honored at an awards banquet March 23 at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton.

The two each received a plaque, a check for \$100 and were treated to dinner along with their civilian employers.

McCoy, a water team chief for the 641st, is responsible for supervising the operation, distribution, storage and testing of potable water. She has been in the Guard for nearly six years. McCoy is studying law enforcement at Sinclair Community College and is active in Big Brothers/Big Sisters and the annual multiple sclerosis walk-a-thon. McCoy is employed by Dayton Freight Lines.

Fleegeer has spent the last 15 years as a member of the Air National Guard. He is assigned to the 178th Fighter Wing in Spring-

field as a ground safety specialist. He is employed by Home City Tent and Awning Company. Fleegeer has received numerous awards and decorations for his achievements as a senior NCO and community volunteer. His is acknowledged for writing articles on safety issues.

The Miami Valley Military Affairs Association is the largest military support organization of its kind in the world, with nearly 1,000 members. The organization boasts membership from 28 area chambers of commerce, along with membership from base employees and community personnel.

This annual award is a way to recognize area reservists and guardsmen from all branches of the service.

Applicants were judged on many factors, including leadership potential and community service. *Submitted by Capt. Maria Kelly, 641st Quartermaster Detachment (WP).*

### 180th names first female E-9 in OHANG

A Springfield woman has recently broken a glass ceiling in this state, becoming Ohio's first Air National Guard female to earn the highest enlisted rank of E-9.

The promotion of Chief Master Sgt. Hyacinth Anderson, 180th Medical Squadron, Toledo, marked a great milestone for women in the military as well as for the medical administrative supervisor herself, who believes "The best decision I ever made in my life was to stay in the Air Guard."

In reflection, Anderson said the experience she has gained in the military—self-confidence and leadership capabilities—is almost immeasurable, and that she's not afraid to try anything. That includes leading about 65 military personnel, counting six doctors and two physician's assistants.

Anderson described the unit atmosphere surrounding her promotion as jovial.

"I've never shaken so many hands," she said. "It was my goal to attain rank, but the notoriety that comes with being a first is just a plus."

"I never expected getting promoted to be a big deal, but it's been a big deal—almost overwhelming. We're trained not to stand out in the military, to be uniformly all the same. That's hard to do with so much publicity."

But Anderson admitted that all the attention isn't entirely bad. She said her new stripe has reaffirmed even more that women leaders should consider themselves role models for younger troops.



*Courtesy photo.*

**After a promotion ceremony Jan. 6, SMSgt. Hyacinth Anderson and SMSgt. Alan Carsten hold the "official headwear" of chief master sergeant.**

Anderson, who started out in the Air Guard as an X-ray technician 21 years ago in Springfield's 178th Fighter Wing, attributes her success to being a "by the book" kind of person. "It's important to lead by example," she said. "I'm not afraid of doing the job of a junior enlisted person or getting my hands dirty."

She also doesn't take her civilian status lightly, either. She is a self-described homemaker and the mother of two girls, which, she said, has helped her gain many of her communication and corrective action skills. She is also heavily involved in the local community, coaching a girl's softball team, treasurer of the Possum Baseball Association, as well as being involved in the 178th Fighter Wing family support group.

"It's a natural role for a homemaker to jump in there and be a leader. Being a homemaker is a pretty important job," declared Anderson, whose husband is Col. Ralph Anderson, the vice commander for the 178th.

"I can't believe I'm still here (in the Guard), but after the first couple of years I developed a strong affection for the military lifestyle and the camaraderie that came with it," she recalled. "I liked the people, so I kept signing up with the notion that once it's not fun anymore, when it became too much of a hassle, I'd just get out."

"Evidently, that hasn't happened yet." *Submitted by Staff Sgt. Lori King, 196th Public Affairs Detachment.*

## Some benefits 'reserved' for separating soldiers

Soldiers leaving active duty, and Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve soldiers who transfer to the Individual Ready Reserve due to unit inactivation are eligible to keep some of their moral, welfare and recreation privileges.

"Gray area" retirees, members of the Guard and Reserve who have received their 20-year letter but have not been discharged or begun to receive retirement pay, also are eligible.

Exchange and MWR privileges are available to all reserve component soldiers with a reserve ID card and to family members with family member ID cards.

For more information about eligibility, replacement cards and restrictions, call ARPERCEN Family Readiness Branch, 1-800-452-0201; they take calls Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. central time. (*Army Families*)

## Toll-free help-line for Persian Gulf vets

The Department of Veterans Affairs operates a toll-free help-line for Persian Gulf war veterans and their families. It provides information about medical care, disability compensation, and other benefits and services. For more information, call 1-800-749-8387. The line is staffed Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. central time. It also provides prerecorded messages seven days a week at all other times. The VA also operates a computer bulletin board for Persian Gulf information. Computer users may call 1-800-871-8387. (*Army Families*)

## DANTES tests help earn college degree

The Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support has developed a series of examinations in college and technical subjects designed to measure knowledge gained outside the traditional classroom setting.

Based on recommendations of the American Council on Education, many colleges and universities award college credit for successful completion of DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSSTs).

DSSTs are provided to soldiers at no charge. Family members and DA civilians may partici-

pate on a self-pay, space-available basis for about \$30 per exam.

Test preparation manuals, such as study guides, video tapes and computer assisted instruction, are available at education centers at Army installations around the world. There is no charge for the use of these materials.

Your unit education counselor or the professional staff at your local Army Education Center can assist you in selecting from a wide range of examinations which fit into your degree plan.

In addition, adult family members are eligible to participate in other educational programs and services on a space-available basis through Army Education Centers. (*Army Families*)

## Consumers: Hang up on telemarketing fraud

Consumers—including Army families—lose more than \$40 billion a year to con artists who use the telephone to cheat their victims. It's not just the confused, isolated or uninformed who get bilked. People of all ages, incomes and levels of education are fooled by telephone swindlers.

Some good advice: Ask telephone solicitors to send you information through the mail rather than discussing it over the phone. Never disclose personal or financial information, especially credit card or bank account numbers.

And remember—if a deal sounds too good to be true, it probably is. (*Army Families*)

## AAFES offers families credit management tips

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service is now distributing a new information booklet titled, **How To Use Credit Wisely—A Guide for Service Members**. The booklet, an improved

version of the original credit management guide, is available at the customer service section at main exchanges, worldwide.

The booklet defines kinds of credit and explains why it's important to understand them and how they can affect you. The booklet also explains how to establish a good credit history and shop around for the best credit terms.

Additional topics include knowing your limits, watching out for danger signs and getting financial counseling. The booklet also addresses the history of the Deferred Payment Plan and how to understand and manage a DPP account. (*Army Families*)

## Hot-line helps abuse victims around clock

Confidential information about shelters, legal advocacy, health care centers and counseling is now available over a nationwide hot-line for victims of domestic abuse. Established last February with a \$1 million grant from the Health and Human Services Department, the toll-free number is 1-800-799-SAFE (7233). In addition, there is also a toll-free number for hearing-impaired people. That number is 1-800-787-3224. If you need someone to talk to who understands what is happening to victims of a abuse, don't hesitate to call.

## ONGEA Family Days at Kings Island

Cut out the coupon below to enjoy the theme park excitement of Paramount's Kings Island. In conjunction with the Ohio National Guard Enlisted Association, Kings Island will host guardmembers and their families during the dates specified. Coupons are also available at your unit for July 21-28, 1996.

(Cut out this coupon and SAVE \$12.45)



244

A

**ONGEA Family Days**  
**June 30;**  
**July 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 1996**



245

C/S

DISCOUNT COUPON (\$28.95 Value)  
 This coupon admits bearer & party (limit four)  
 at the reduced rate of **\$16.50 per ADULT** (ages 7-59)

DISCOUNT COUPON (\$15.95 Value)  
 This coupon admits bearer & party (limit two children or seniors) at the reduced rate of **\$12.95 per CHILD** (ages 3, 4, 5, 6 or 48" and under) or **per SENIOR** (60 and over)

### SPECIAL OFFER!

Visit the park after 4:00 p.m. the night before your full day visit for only **\$6.00 per person**. (Must purchase next day admission at the same time.)

TM, © & © 1996 Paramount Parks Inc. TM, © & © 1996 Paramount Pictures. All Rights Reserved. Good Date or Dates Indicated Only (No Rain Checks or Refunds) Not For Redistribution

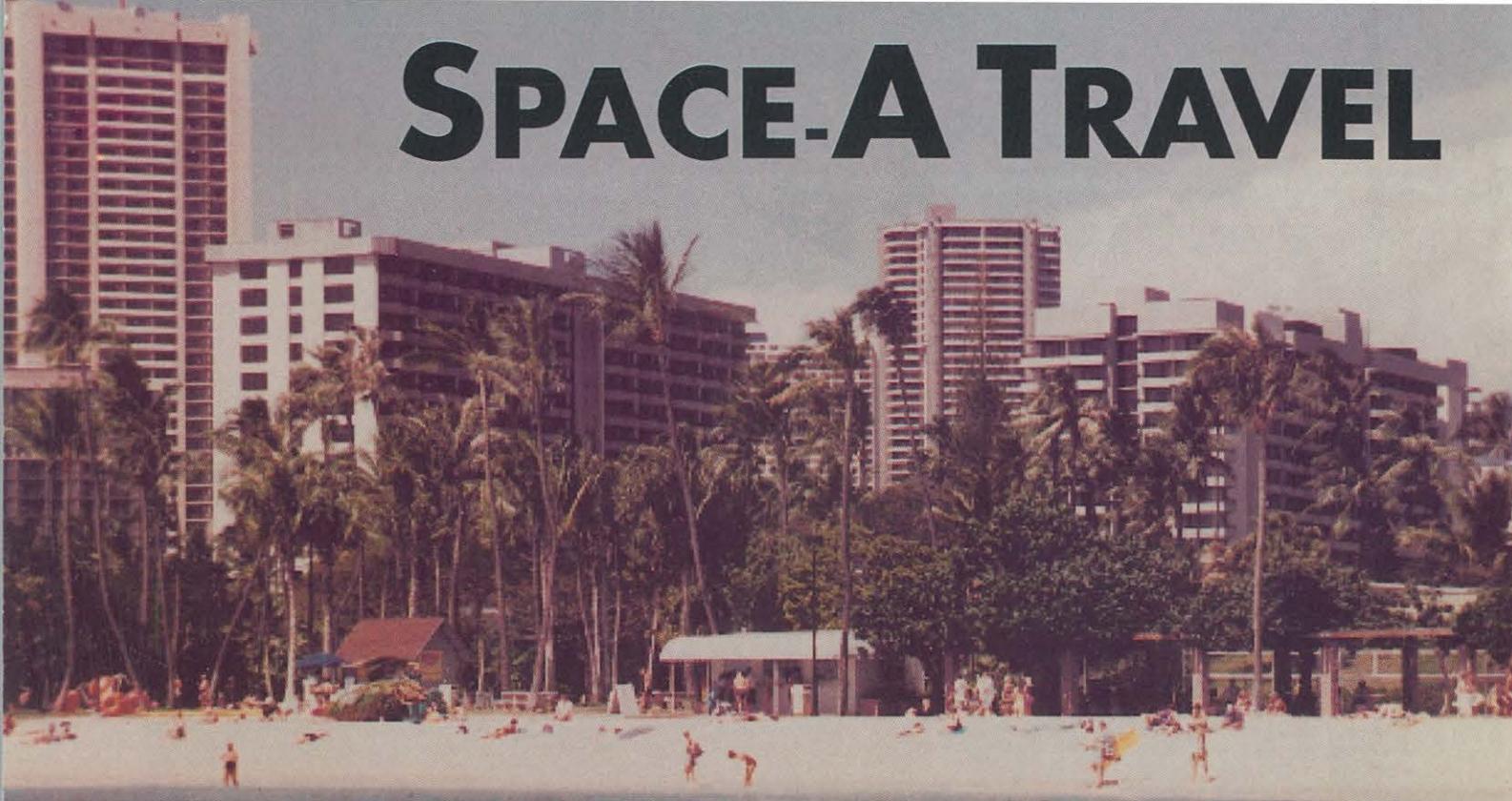


# **1st Battalion 73rd Troop Command**



**Maj. Alfred C. Faber leads Ohio's  
newest battalion into the 21st Century.**

# SPACE-A TRAVEL



**Guardmembers, retirees enjoy travel opportunities at a fraction of the cost.**

**Pages 13-15**

*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