

BUCKEYE GUARD

MAGAZINE OF THE OHIO ARMY AND AIRBORNE GUARD
WINTER 2006/2007

URBAN COMBAT

Guard Soldiers train
under watchful eyes

PAGES 14-15

TOP TROOPS ARMY & AIR



The best Soldier, Airman and noncommissioned officers for 2005 were selected and announced during calendar year 2006. These six individuals represent the best resource that the 15,000-member Ohio National Guard has to offer—men and women able and willing to respond when called and ready to do the job required of them, whether at home or overseas. Top Soldiers and Airmen for 2006 were boarded and selected earlier this year and will be featured in an upcoming issue of the Buckeye Guard.

SOLDIER OF THE YEAR



SPC Clinton R. Sheets
Soldier of the Year

Company A, 216th
Engineer Battalion
Chillicothe

AIRMAN OF THE YEAR



SrA Jody A. Canapp
Airman of the Year

178th Fighter Wing
Springfield

NCO OF THE YEAR



SFC John C. McKee
NCO of the Year

Recruiting and
Retention Battalion
Columbus

NCO OF THE YEAR



SSgt Samantha J. Thompson
NCO of the Year

178th Fighter Wing
Springfield

SENIOR NCO OF THE YEAR



MSgt Paul R. Williams
Senior NCO of the Year

269th Combat
Communications
Squadron
Springfield

FIRST SERGEANT OF THE YEAR



MSgt Steve J. Mazzi
First Sergeant of the Year

121st Air Refueling Wing
Columbus

BUCKEYE GUARD

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roll call

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Gov. Ted Strickland

Adjutant General
Maj. Gen. Gregory L. Wayt

Assistant Adjutant General, Air
Maj. Gen. Harry "A.J." Feucht

Assistant Adjutant General, Army
Brig. Gen. Matthew L. Kambic

Command Sergeant Major, Army
Command Sgt. Maj. William L. Gilliam

Command Chief Master Sergeant, Air
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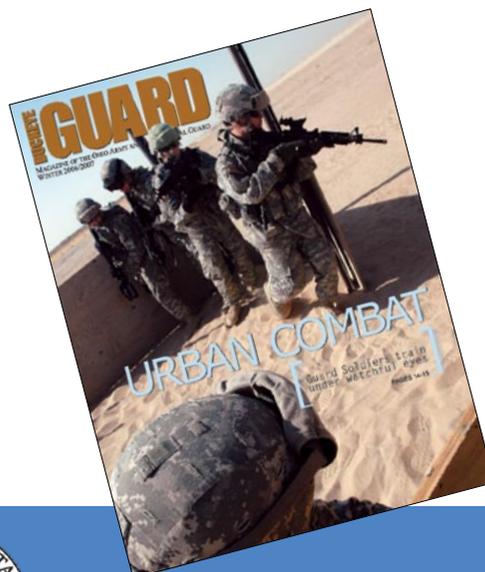
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SSG KIMBERLY SNOW / 196TH MPAD

Ohio Army National Guardmember SGT Samuel Cordova celebrates as he crosses the finish line during the 27th annual Columbus Marathon Oct. 15. See page 25, and also check out www.ohionationalguard.com for more articles and videos.



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New missions, units throughout state for Ohio Air National Guard.
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ON THE COVER

TRAINING FOR URBAN ENVIRONMENTS: A team leader with the Ohio Army National Guard's 2nd Squadron, 107th Cavalry Regiment guides his troops through a Military Operations on Urbanized Terrain (MOUT) training scenario at Camp Buehring, Kuwait. *Photo by SGT Chris Jones / 40th Public Affairs Detachment. See pages 14-15.*



on the web @ <http://www.ohionationalguard.com>

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Another Proud Chapter

by Maj. Gen. Gregory L. Wayt
The Adjutant General

The Ohio National Guard is being asked to accomplish more while simultaneously adapting to more changes than anytime in our 218-year history.

We are transforming to new missions and formations, performing our federal mission around the world in support of the Global War on Terrorism and preparing for and performing our state mission to defend the homeland and protecting the citizens of Ohio, all simultaneously—no easy task. We truly are America’s essential force and have established great credibility with the citizens of this nation and Ohio.

Although we have had many successes, our strength maintenance program was the highlight during the past year. The Ohio National Guard achieved an end-strength (total authorized personnel at the end of a fiscal year) of 105 percent, about 16,000 Soldiers and Airmen. The Ohio Air National Guard achieved 106 percent assigned strength (5,030 Airmen) while the Ohio Army National Guard achieved 105 percent assigned strength (10,800 Soldiers), a level that had not been that high in more than 10 years. Readiness of our units begins with assigned strength and the recruiting and leadership teams have the right focus. Our goal remains 110 percent assigned strength in every unit.

The G-RAP (Guard Recruiter Assistance Program) has been a huge success and the Ohio National Guard has more Airmen and Soldiers enrolled in the G-RAP than any other state. Airmen and Soldiers from Ohio have recruited 177 Airmen and 939 Soldiers. This equates to \$1.66 million received by our members. This program greatly assisted in the achievement of our high strength posture. Thank you to each Soldier and Airman who has supported our recruiting efforts and readiness. I encourage all Soldiers and Airmen to take part.

Retention of our Soldiers and Airmen is a leadership challenge that requires our efforts daily. Retention begins on the first day of a National Guardmember’s enlistment. How our Soldiers and Airmen are integrated into the unit, mentored, counseled and coached throughout their enlistment is critical. Integration of their families into the family readiness group is also important in our retention programs.

We began to transform during the past year. The Ohio Air National Guard has endured the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC), Total Force Integration Initiative, plus “broken glass” and is now postured for a bright future. New missions like the Joint Cargo Aircraft, Foreign Military Sales pilot training, increase in RED HORSE engineering assets, the Air Sovereignty Alert, and intelligence support to the National Air and Space Intelligence Center (NASIC) will ensure that every Airman in the Ohio Air National Guard will have a position as we transform to the future. The Ohio Air National Guard actually increased missions as a result of these initiatives!

The Ohio Army National Guard began to transform to new formations during this past year, the largest transformation since World War II, which will ensure the modularity (standardization) of the Total Army. Over the next five years, the Department of the Army has programmed \$36 billion for the Army National Guard to meet these goals.

We have dramatically improved our preparedness for our state missions of Homeland Defense and State Active Duty. This is our “No Notice, Anytime, Anywhere” mission. The Joint Force Headquarters-Ohio staff is undergoing a dramatic change to a joint adaptive battle staff that will ensure rapid command and control to surge our forces as necessary. The 73rd Troop Command was recently re-missioned to Joint Task Force 73.



We truly are America's essential force and have established great credibility with the citizens of this nation and Ohio

This unit will provide command and control to our highest priority rapid response units that include the 52nd Civil Support Team-Weapons of Mass Destruction, the National Guard Reaction Force (437th Military Police Battalion) and the new Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and High Explosive Enhanced Response Force Package (155th Chemical Battalion). The capabilities that reside in the Ohio Air and Army National Guard provide unmatched capabilities to Gov. Ted Strickland and Ohio’s citizens.

The Ohio National Guard has supported the Global War on Terrorism with more than 4.8 million mandays. The Ohio Air National Guard has deployed more than 3,700 Airmen while the Ohio Army National Guard has deployed more than 8,800 Soldiers to 36 countries. Our Airmen and Soldiers have been around the globe ensuring America’s national security objectives are met.

The noncommissioned officer corps is the most professional that I have seen in my years of service. They train, equip and care for our Soldiers and Airmen. I attribute our high readiness, strength, mission accomplishment and preparedness to their professionalism and dedication to leadership.

With this high operational tempo, our family readiness program has become the best in the nation. The Family Readiness Office was recently recognized as a benchmark state for its initiative with the Inter-Service Family Assistance Committee. Also, the Family Readiness Office has coordinated more than \$25,000 in grants through the Our Military Kids program that has paid for our youth to participate in activities outside of school. Our families have made many sacrifices, and I am grateful for all your support and understanding.

Lastly, the Ohio National Guard is now conducting military-to-military contacts with the Republic of Serbia through the National Guard Bureau’s State Partnership Program. Since last fall, when Serbia and the United States signed a Status of Forces Agreement signed, representatives from Serbia and Ohio have visited on four occasions to gain insights into organizational structure, Defense Support of Civil Authorities and Air National Guard structure and missions. Seven exchanges are planned for the upcoming year. The ONG-Hungary partnership remains strong, with two exchanges conducted last fall, and three more planned.

Each Airman, Soldier and family member has truly written another proud chapter in the history of the Ohio National Guard. Each has been outstanding in the “away game” and the “home game.” I am truly proud of each of you, proud of your accomplishments and grateful for your service to our state and nation. **OG**

A new era: Strickland inaugurated, takes reins as commander-in-chief

COLUMBUS—Despite the weather, about 5,000 people crowded the West Lawn of the Statehouse for Gov. Ted Strickland's inauguration Jan. 13, the first conducted outdoors since 1991.

The last three swearing-in ceremonies, for former Govs. Bob Taft and George Voinovich, were forced into the Ohio Theatre because of inclement weather. Strickland, who had already officially begun his term as Ohio's 68th governor on Jan. 8, said during his inaugural address that he heard "an echo of hope" among average Ohioans when he was on the campaign trail last fall.

"If we trust our future to the hopes and dream of the average Ohioan, the dividend we'll see will be the return of Ohio's greatness," he said. "I'm here today—with humility and a deep sense of responsibility—



Strickland

to accept the mantle of leadership the people of Ohio have passed from governor to governor for more than two hundred years," Strickland said. "I am fully conscious that I stand here today not as an individual speaking for himself, but as a representative chosen to speak for all Ohioans."

As governor, Strickland serves as commander-in-chief of the Ohio National Guard, in charge of the organization's 16,000 Soldiers and Airmen during peacetime. The governor has the ability to activate the National Guard in times of disaster or emergency, both natural and man-made, such as flooding, blizzards, tornados, riots and insurrection. More than 2,700 Ohio National Guardmembers were called up in September 2005 in support of Gulf state recovery efforts in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

In his first official action as governor, Strickland signed an executive order to es-

tablish new ethics requirements for himself, his staff, cabinet agencies (including the Adjutant General's Department) and state boards and commissions.

The executive order requires Strickland and his staff to decline virtually all gifts, except those valued at or below \$20. The order also requires every state department and agency to appoint a chief ethics officer to ensure their staff is educated about ethics requirements, and calls for an anonymous reporting system for possible ethics violations.

"This order sends a clear message to all Ohioans that their government will answer to them, not special interests," Strickland said.

Strickland was born Aug. 4, 1941 in Lucasville, Ohio, one of nine children. A U.S. representative from Southern Ohio when he was elected governor Nov. 7, Strickland also has served as a minister, prison psychologist, and college professor. **PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS**

Governor reappoints Wayt state adjutant general

COLUMBUS—Newly elected Gov. Ted Strickland announced the appointment of Maj. Gen. Gregory L. Wayt as Ohio adjutant general, a job he held for the past 2 1/2 years under the previous administration.

"I am proud General Wayt will continue to protect Ohio and provide leadership to our state's brave men and women in uniform," Strickland said. "I look forward to working with him to ensure Ohio's military remains prepared to serve our state and our nation when they are called upon."

Wayt received a Regular Army commission in 1975 in the air defense artillery branch. He has commanded and held staff officer assignments at all levels of the Ohio Army National Guard, from battery to Joint Force Headquarters. Prior to becoming Ohio's Adjutant General on July 1, 2004, Wayt was assigned as the joint chief of staff for Joint Force Headquarters in Ohio. Wayt's many awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit. He was



SFC TRACY BALLOG / HQ, 16TH ENGINEER BRIGADE

MG Gregory L. Wayt, Ohio adjutant general, talks to deployed Ohio National Guard Soldiers during a July 2006 visit to Baghdad, Iraq. Wayt was recently appointed to continue as adjutant general under Gov. Ted Strickland.

a distinguished military graduate from the Ohio State University ROTC program.

Wayt graduated from Ohio State University with a bachelor's degree in parks and recreation. He earned his master's in public administration from the University of

Dayton. In 1987, Wayt graduated from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and in 1997 he graduated from the Army War College.

"I am honored to have the opportunity to continue my service to Ohio in the Strickland administration," Wayt said. "The dedication and hard work of the 16,000 men and women of the Ohio National Guard, their families and their employers, have ensured that we are ready and able to respond to any events in Ohio and around the world. This announcement is a reflection of the leadership and the teamwork of all of our members."

The Adjutant General's Department is responsible for the preparedness of the Ohio Army National Guard, Ohio Air National Guard, Ohio Military Reserve and Ohio Naval Militia. In addition, the adjutant general is responsible for the day-to-day operations and management of these military organizations and the state agency. **GOVERNOR'S COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE**

Hall: new deployment policies to relieve stress, promote unit cohesion

WASHINGTON—The new Defense Department policy limiting the duration of call-ups to 12 months is already in effect for National Guard and reserve members being ordered to active duty, the senior DoD reserve affairs official reported.

The new mobilization limits, announced Jan. 11, are designed to reduce stress on the force and keep Guardsmen and reservists from leaving the military, Thomas F. Hall, assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs, said during a joint interview with American Forces Press Service and the Pentagon Channel.

Hall said Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates' policy recognizes that the 18-to 24-month mobilizations many Guard and reserve members faced were creating too heavy a burden.

"It is over and above what employers and families and individuals will accept and still remain in the Guard and Reserve, Hall said."

Hall reported that while shortening mobilization times, the military is also working to stretch out the time between involuntary reserve-component call-ups.

DoD's goal is to give reserve-component members five years at home between one-year-deployments. For active-duty troops, the goal is two years at home station after each one-year deployment.

Hall acknowledged that turnaround times for both active-and reserve-component troops have frequently been far shorter—and that this needs to change. "We recognize that we're getting to a situation where we needed to make sure we adequately spread the burden between the active, Guard and reserve (force)," he said.

But in cases in which troops must deploy early or have their deployments extended—a situation Hall acknowledged will sometimes happen—he said he's all for a new plan to compensate the affected troops.

Another new policy change—that Guard and Reserve troops will deploy as units rather than individuals—also is drawing wide approval, Hall said. The plan also calls for eliminating "cross-leveling," a practice used to fill manpower slots in deploying units.

Hall described the problem with cross-leveling. When a reserve unit is identified for deployment but doesn't have all its positions filled, those gaps get filled by smaller units or individuals from other units. But when those other units get deployed, they now have gaps, too, because their troops are

either deployed or just returned from a deployment. "This just creates a ripple effect," Hall said.

Under Gates' new policy, Army and Marine units will deploy as a whole. "So, when your unit is called, if you are serving in that unit, you will go, even if you might have mobilized before," Hall said. "This will promote cohesion and will be a better planning factor." **AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE**



COURTESY PHOTO

CSM Bill Gilliam, command sergeant major for Ohio, presents his state command sergeant major coin to a female Hungarian infantry soldier during a weeklong visit last October to Hungary.

Senate confirms two-year extension for Blum at NGB

WASHINGTON—The National Guard Bureau Chief, Lt. Gen. H Steven Blum, was notified Jan. 26 that the U.S. Senate confirmed his nomination for a two-year extension in his current position. In December 2006, he was nominated for this extension by President Bush. Blum will have served as the chief for four years in April 2007.



Blum

During his tenure, Blum has presided over the transformation of the National Guard from a strategic reserve to an operational force. In the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, he rebalanced the National Guard to ensure the nation's

governors would have at least one-half of their National Guard available at all times to mitigate the effects of potential catastrophic events. During Hurricane Katrina, he directed the largest military response to a national disaster in American history, sending more than 50,000 guardmembers from every state and territory to relieve the badly stricken Gulf states. **NGB PUBLIC AFFAIRS & STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS**

Ohio National Guard's senior NCO visits Hungarian Land Forces

BUDAPEST—Command Sgt. Maj. William Gilliam, Ohio's state command sergeant major, assumed the role of international ambassador during a recent week-long visit to Hungary. Gilliam traveled to the region at the invitation of the Hungarian Defense Forces to help re-energize military partnership efforts.

"I gladly accepted the invitation to get

a first-hand look at Hungary's modernized land forces," said Gilliam, referring to the rapid transformation of the Hungarian military in the post-Cold War era. "I also wanted to get a sense of the progress of Ohio's military partnership with Hungary under its emerging democratic leadership."

Since 1993, the National Guard State Partnership Program has sought to link state National Guards with partner countries for the purpose of improving bilateral relations with the United States. The program goals reflect an evolving international affairs mission for the National Guard—to promote regional stability and civil-military relationships in support of U.S. policy objectives.

The Ohio National Guard began an early partnership with the Republic of Hungary, now a member of NATO, for the express purpose of demonstrating, through the example of the citizen-Soldier, the proper role of the military in a democratic society.

The Hungarian Land Forces' senior enlisted soldier, Command Sgt. Maj. Janos Zsoter, whose equivalent U.S. rank is sergeant major of the Army, escorted Gilliam to various army installations and training sites strategically positioned throughout Hungary.

Zsoter made it a priority to facilitate active discussions between his senior enlisted personnel and Ohio's top sergeant on the roles and responsibilities of an NCO.

"We want our NCOs to be as professional as our American counterparts," said Zsoter, who is a graduate of the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy. **ADJ. GEN. DEPT. PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Congress, Ohio Legislature pass bills that affect National Guard

Before their respective sessions concluded in late 2006, federal and state lawmakers completed important legislation affecting servicemembers.

State Legislation. The Ohio General Assembly took action last winter to allow members of our state retirement systems to purchase military service credit for drill, annual training and State Active Duty in the Ohio National Guard. Previously, inactive duty, or the required service of one weekend per month, two weeks during the summer, any additional mandatory training throughout the year, as well as any time served in the United States during times of emergency or natural disaster, was not reflected as service time that members were eligible to purchase; only federal active duty was eligible for service credit.

Under House Bill 71, members of the Guard and Reserve components may purchase credit for time served that is classified as inactive at a cost of 100 percent of the additional liability to the respective pension system. Guardmembers would only be permitted to purchase the inactive duty time they acquired prior to becoming a member of the retirement system. For example, if a Guardmember served for five years before working for a state or municipal job, that member may buy all active duty time served during those five years. Members interested in purchasing more time should contact their respective pension systems.

Federal Legislation. The House-Senate conference committee for the National Defense Authorization Act of 2007 accepted language that would expand the authority of the president to call out the National Guard at home without consulting state governors. Language in the bill, passed by Congress the last weekend in September, gives the president authority to use the military, including the National Guard in federal status, in the event of "a natural disaster, terrorist attack or incident, epidemic or other serious public emergency, or other condition" so serious that state authorities are unable to maintain public

order. A significant concern is that the new provisions permit the federal government to usurp a state governor's authority over the National Guard as well as the structure of authorities which proved effective when viewing the National Guard's response to hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The National Governors Association and the adjutants general unanimously opposed the language, and the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) has committed to seek to overturn that language in the 110th Congress.

Legislation for Veterans. A comprehensive bill which will benefit millions of veterans was passed by the U.S. Senate on the last day of the 109th Congress, and was signed by President Bush. The new law will allow the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

to proceed with major construction projects across the country, improve mental health care access, enhance telehealth outreach, increase assistance to address homelessness and improve protections for veterans' personal information.

The legislation will also require the VA to establish an Office of Rural Health. In addition, veterans homes run by state governments will now be reimbursed by the federal government for the costs of care provided to those veterans with a 70 percent or

higher service-connected disability. The changes will also affect veterans in those homes; veterans with service-connected conditions rated at least 50 percent disabled will be able to obtain their medications from the VA. The bill will also enable the VA to create a pilot program that makes non-VA facilities—such as private nursing homes or community hospitals—eligible for state veterans home per diem payments.

The bill also adds \$65 million to increase the number of medical professionals treating post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and \$2 million for additional blind rehabilitation specialists and more such facilities. **GG**

Johann Klein is legislative liaison for the Adjutant General's Department

legislative look with johann klein



COLUMBUS

Command profile



BG Robin C. Timmons
16th Engineer Brigade

Age: 56

Full-Time Position: vice president with Farm Credit Services of Mid-America

hometown: Coshocton, Ohio

Family: Anita, wife of 34 wonderful years; LT Travis Timmons, wife Stacy and sons Colvin and Kale; and CPT Trent Timmons and wife Erica

When I was younger, I wanted to: be a university professor

Most recent achievement: having the honor to command the 16th Engineer Brigade (Theater Army) when it was assigned to the 4th Infantry Division in Iraq

The last good movie I saw was: *Firewall*

The book I'm reading is: *The Broker*

My favorite recreational activity: taking our horses and going trail riding

Heroes: My Dad. He served with the 82nd Airborne in World War II, jumped D-Day into Saint Mere Eglise, France, and continued his service in the Ohio Army National Guard as a technician

Nobody knows I'm: scared of heights
I'd give anything to meet:

Lewis and Clark

The three words that best describe me: sincere, focused, loyal

If I could leave today's guardmembers with one piece of advice it would be: Be technically and tactically proficient in your duty assignment; It takes a Team to accomplish a mission. When making decisions, consider the second and third order effects of your decision. When carrying out your duties, attention to detail is key. Be part of the solution not the problem.

Live and walk the Army Values

Guardmember displays Air Force pride on both air, land



Accompanied by his fellow wingmen, TSgt Doug Noah (seated), a 121st Air Refueling Wing crew chief, shows off his Kawasaki Vulcan 1600 Classic motorcycle, decorated with the U.S. Air Force logo (see inset). Standing are SMSgt James Barber (from left), TSgt Rich Turner, MSgt Kevin Cameron, MSgt Jeffrey Mers, MSgt Charles Odum and TSgt Steven Rood.

Tech Sgt. Doug Noah says he grew up in a small town—Smithville, Ohio—“where being patriotic was not a fad...it is there to stay.” Noah was born while his father was stationed in Korea with the 121st Fighter Squadron out of then-Lockbourne Air National Guard Base (now known as Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base, located in Columbus).

Doug has carried on the family tradition of military service, and now has 19 years with the 121st Air Refueling Wing. His uncle, brothers and late wife, Michele, have also worked either for the Defense Department or served in the Air National Guard.

His patriotism and love of the Air Force led him to create a unique tribute to the organization. Noah had his Kawasaki Vulcan 1600 Classic motorcycle custom painted to include the Air Force logo on the gas tank.

The paint scheme was designed during a meal by Noah and his friend, Bryon Ritchie, on a restaurant napkin, Noah said.

“It was between an Air Force theme or a ‘The’ Ohio State University theme,” Noah said. “My family has long traditions with both.”

Obviously, the Air Force was the direction they chose.

“Poor Bryon did two paint jobs for the price of one. I felt badly that I didn’t like the first paint scheme,” Noah said. “Bryon added more ‘bling’ than I had in mind for the first theme. Bryon took it better than I thought, be-

cause he had 20-plus hours into the first paint scheme. Instead of trying to sell me on the concept, Bryon stripped the entire paint job off to begin the original layout and theme. The rest is history.”

“This motorcycle has had rave reviews from 98 percent of onlookers,” Noah estimated. “It really turns heads, because it’s unique —yet not over-the-top. Everyone likes the logos, but a few didn’t know they had anything to do with the Air Force. A couple people have sneered at the theme, but their opinions really don’t bother me,” he said with a smile.

Noah now resides in Wooster, where he is vice president of business development for GetitQuick.com—an office supply and furniture business with a quick-delivery business model. **121ST AIR REFUELING WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS** 



ONGEA to host state conference at Kalahari Resort near Lake Erie

Mark your calendars! The date and location of the ONGEA 2007 State Conference has been confirmed for May 4-6 at the Kalahari Resort, Sandusky.

With plenty of events scheduled, attendance of representatives from all units (Army and Air) is strongly encouraged. Some of the weekend's planned activities include an "ice breaker" Friday night, business and professional development sessions Saturday and Sunday, and an awards banquet Saturday night. Traditionally, Ohio National Guard Servicemembers of the Year and ONGEA Scholarship recipients are recognized during Saturday night's presentations.

If you are an active guardmember, and the conference conflicts with your Unit Training Assembly, ONGEA leadership is pursuing avenues to have attendees receive constructive credit for conference attendance. If approved, such guidance will be furnished through command channels as soon as it becomes available.

In an effort to make the conference more family-friendly, ONGEA Conference Chair Shelly Brunn has scheduled the conference at Ohio's largest indoor water park, African-themed Kalahari Resort in Sandusky. Babysitting will be available during both the conference and the banquet at no additional cost.

Room rates can be tailored to your needs, ranging from a Hut Room without water park passes at \$80 per night to a Desert Room with four water park passes at \$140 per night. Individual water park passes can be purchased at \$20 for guests or \$34 for non-guests. Room rates are secure until April 4, 2007. For reservations, call the hotel at (877) 253-5466 and be sure to mention your ONGEA affiliation.

Conference registration forms can be downloaded from the ONGEA website at www.ongea.org or by contacting the ONGEA Office at ongea@juno.com or 1-800-642-6642 extension 44. Registration forms and fees should be mailed to Conference Chair Shelly Brunn by April 15.

SMSGT M. RANDY DUNHAM
ONGEA PRESIDENT

Feature on United Through Reading showcases program's worth

I recently received a copy of the Summer/Fall 2006 edition of the "Buckeye Guard" magazine and was excited to review the article on page 30 regarding the United Through Reading program (military extension of the Family Literacy Foundation). Recently, during a meeting of the Inter-Service Family Assistance Committee, I had the opportunity to hear a presentation from this organization and was impressed by the positive impact that this program is making by combining educational initiatives and military family support. All

involved with this program deserve a hearty "well done!"

Additionally, I am interested in our office receiving a subscription to the magazine "Buckeye Guard" to help inform staff of issues that are impacting our guard personnel and opportunities for better outreach with the DVA G.I. Bill educational benefit programs. Our office/ mailing information is included below.

TERRY J. WORST, STATE DIRECTOR
OHIO STATE APPROVING AGENCY
FOR VETERANS TRAINING

Project's scope includes all chaplains, assistants, both past, present

The U.S. Army Chaplain Museum in Fort Jackson, SC, is assembling a database that will include the names of every chaplain and chaplain assistant who served in the Army, from 1775 to present.

The database will be a valuable tool for researchers and descendants of chaplains and chaplain assistants, and will be placed in a kiosk at the Chaplain Museum.

Any chaplain, chaplain assistant, or family member that can provide information for the database is encouraged to contact Mr. Tim Taylor, Museum Technician, U.S. Army Chaplain Museum, 10100 Lee Road, Fort Jackson, SC 29207, telephone (803) 751-8827, e-mail timothy.taylor12@us.army.mil.

SSG JOSHUA D. MANN
JFHQ-OHIO HISTORIAN

HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHT



OHIO ARMY NATIONAL GUARD HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

In July 1924, Fostoria High School band director, John W. Wainwright, mustered into the Ohio National Guard in order to organize the 107th Cavalry Band. Instead of auditioning new members, Wainwright enlisted many of the boys from the high school band into the Ohio National Guard and would hold additional practices after school hours that would fine tune their musical skills and meet their weekly drill requirement. The 107th Cavalry Band was disbanded in 1927 as many of the boys graduated high school and moved away from Fostoria. However, in 1926, the boys from Fostoria were hailed as the best band in the Ohio National Guard. Submitted by Richard Mann, Seneca County Historian

Ohio Air National Guard wings earn new missions as part of Total Force Integration



COURTESY OF JAKE MELAMPY

As part of the U.S. Government's Foreign Military Sales program transaction with the Dutch Air Force, F-16 fighter jet (above) pilots from the 178th Fighter Wing in Springfield will instruct Dutch pilots on the newly acquired aircraft.

Story by James A Sims II
Adj. Gen. Dept. Public Affairs

178th Fighter Wing

The Ohio Air National Guard's 178th Fighter Wing, Springfield, has been assigned two new missions as part of the Air Force Total Force Integration initiatives. The 178th will provide flight instruction, facilities, flight operations, and maintenance support to the Royal Netherlands Air Force through the Foreign Military Sales program.

"This new mission for the Ohio Air National Guard is going to be a fantastic opportunity for our flight instructors, operators and maintenance workers to share their knowledge with the Royal Netherlands Air Force," said Maj. Gen. Harry "A.J." Feucht, assistant adjutant general for Air. "This training will enhance the Royal Netherlands Air Force's ability to defend the skies over their own and other NATO countries, and continue contributions in the Global War on Terrorism."

Maj. Gen. Gregory L. Wayt, Ohio adjutant general, credited the hard work and support of U.S. Rep. Dave Hobson and U.S. Sens. Mike Dewine and George Voinovich.

F-16s and personnel from the Royal Netherlands Air Force are scheduled to arrive in Springfield in mid-April. A formal kick-off ceremony for the new mission is set for April 24.

"This opportunity is the result of a team effort at the local, state and federal levels,"

Wayt said. "We knew if we could get the Air Force, National Guard and Dutch officials on the base, we could walk them through the advantages of our highly-skilled workforce, specialized infrastructure and location, and they would understand why Springfield is an ideal site for this new mission."

The second Total Force Integration initiative calls for the 178th to establish a new Measurement and Signature Intelligence (MASINT) unit which performs analysis functions to support military commanders.



A1C 1ST CLASS TARKAN DOSPIL / U.S. AIR FORCE

Amn Derek Knieremen (left), of the 200th RED HORSE Squadron, shovels gravel for the pavement of a road on Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar. Under the Air Force Total Force Integration initiative, Mansfield's Air National Guard base will house a new RED HORSE unit.

179th Airlift Wing

The Mansfield-based 179th Airlift Wing, which was originally scheduled to close as a result of Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) recommendations, will instead receive two new missions. A Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineers (RED HORSE) will be stationed in Mansfield, increasing the state's engineering assets. The new unit will augment the current Port Clinton-based 200th RED HORSE, adding about 200 Airmen to the unit and bringing \$11 million in construction to the area. Experienced Ohio Airmen will train the new RED HORSE members on missions such as providing damage/requirements assessment, heavy damage repair, base development and heavy construction operations including aircraft parking ramps and munitions pads.

The 179th has also been identified as the future home of a wing of Joint Cargo Aircraft (JCA). The plan to field small, combat-hardened, twin-engine cargo planes built for short takeoffs and landings would allow the Mansfield unit to continue conducting their traditional airlift mission.

Two aircraft manufacturing teams are competing for the JCA contract and in January both manufacturers delivered their final proposals to the U.S. Army and Air Force.

The 179th is expected to continue flying the C-130 until the BRAC-mandated date for reassigning the aircraft in 2010. At that time, the unit will begin its transition to the Joint Cargo Aircraft.

180th Fighter Wing

The 180th Fighter Wing, Toledo, will add a new Air Sovereignty Alert (ASA) mission in support of 1st Air Force.

One of four numbered Air Forces assigned to Air Combat Command, 1st Air Force plans, controls, coordinates, ensures air sovereignty and provides air defense for the nation. 1st Air Force is comprised of 10 Air National Guard fighter wings.

With the transfer of responsibility for continental air defense from the active duty component of the Air Force to the Air National Guard, 1st Air Force became the first numbered air force to be made up primarily of Citizen-Airmen.

"This mission is critical to the defense of this nation and the 180th is poised and ready," said Col. Mark Bartman, 180th commander.

The new ASA mission, set to begin in early 2009, will bring additional aircraft and personnel to the 180th. **GG**



UPDATE!

-ARE WE ON PLAN?
-FIVE MSCs
-NEW MISSIONS

SSG JOSH MANN / JFHQ-OHIO

OHARNG units coming in line with transformation

By Staff Sgt. Joshua Mann
JFHQ-Ohio

With less than eight months remaining in the largest transformation the Ohio Army National Guard has seen since the 1960s, Ohio's senior Army leader is pleased with the progression and is confident the remainder of the plan will be executed in the same manner.

"We are absolutely on plan," said Brig. Gen. Matthew L. Kambic, assistant adjutant general for the Ohio Army National Guard. "It's been a magnificent thing to watch."

Since the transformation plan was written in 2004, Ohio has executed a reorganization that transitions the Guard from a strategic reserve to an operational force. In addition to the Army-driven modernization, the plan set goals for realigning Ohio's units for better command and control while at the same time maintaining the highest level of readiness. Kambic said the achievement, occurring during the fifth and sixth years of the Global War on Terrorism, is remarkable.

"To have the number of units that we did deploy in support of the Global War on Terrorism and to execute this transformation con-

currently, is an extraordinary feat."

The plan has been executed along three lines of operations; personnel, equipment and training. In late 2005, Soldiers began receiving information on how they and their units would be impacted by transformation. Kambic said that although the change is tough, clearly presenting information to Soldiers greatly impacted Ohio's ability to maintain ready units.

"The overwhelming response was Soldiers who were appreciative to have a clear understanding of their future."

The changes initiated approximately 5,000 personnel actions in September 2006. Units have turned their attention aggressively to developing programs to put Soldiers in the appropriate schools to meet the reclassification requirements associated with transformation, a process Kambic said is critical.

The new force structure must now be equipped. The Ohio Army National Guard's logistics community has worked nonstop to meet the needs of transformation. Since October

2006, more than 1,200 lateral transfers and turn-in actions were completed, adding up to more than 16,000 pieces of equipment moving to units around the state.

The transformation warehouse, located at Defense Supply Center Columbus (DSCC), is processing 70 to 80 transfer and turn-in actions weekly in a program that is running "like clockwork," Kambic said.

However, their work is not complete. More than 27,000 pieces of equipment are projected for allocation to various units in the coming months. Among those pieces are new state-of-the-art equipment never seen before in the National Guard. One of those systems, the JNN (Joint Network Node), was recently fielded by the Springfield-based Company C, Special Troops Battalion, 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team. Company C became the first National Guard unit to field the JNN, a multimillion dollar communications system built by General Dynamics.

"The JNN system provides the 37th with secure data and voice in times of peace and war

to maintain command and control and provide commanders with real-time data," said Capt. Teri Williams, Company C commander. "The JNN equipment is the communications system for the wars of today and tomorrow."

"We've got the people set, we've got the leadership set, so right now we're building our teams," Kambic said.

This final and most critical part of transformation will play out over the coming months at weekend drills and will culminate at annual training. Units will spend the next few months sharpening their individual and crew skills. For Company C, that means sharpening the job skills they developed at Fort Hood, Texas, from July through September 2006. Those skills will be tested at annual training when the company conducts a confidence exercise with the new equipment.

"The Soldiers of Charlie Company are motivated and excited about all the new equipment arriving at the unit," Williams said.

"We can't waste this opportunity to put these new teams on the ground and allow them to become more cohesive units," Kambic added.

Since the transformation plan was put in place, Ohio has received

additional force structure allotments that have further enhanced its ability to produce ready units. In late 2006, it was announced that Ohio will organize the 174th Air Defense Artillery Brigade and the 1937th Support Detachment, a contracting team that supports Brigade Combat Teams; both will organize in 2008.

The brigade mission is to command and control the operations of subordinate air defense assets for an Army headquarters.

“The role of air defense is to provide safe and secure skies,” said Col. Rufus Smith, acting brigade commander.

The air defense community is going through a transformation of its own.

“We’re transitioning to more of a missile defense, rather than just the short range type of air defense that we are accustomed to,” Smith said.

The air defense community recently proved its relevance in Ohio as Soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery Regiment deployed sentinel radar teams to Iraq to detect enemy mortar and rocket fire locations. Additionally, the majority of the 2nd Battalion deployed to the National Capitol Region last fall to protect the skies over Washington D.C. The 174th ADA Brigade was a perfect fit for Ohio, with two existing air defense battalions. Smith said he believes manning the unit will be a critical component to organizing at a high level of readiness in 2008.

“We have so many senior grade positions, officers and senior NCOs, so we’re trying to make sure we get qualified people into the positions,” Smith said. “What the ADA brings us is upward mobility for the leadership



SPC PARKER STEELE / 196TH MPAD

COL Michael Beasley (right), then-commander of the 371st Corps Support Group, holds the unit guidon in place as 371st CSM William Myers rolls the old colors during a December 2006 ceremony as the Kettering-based unit becomes the 371st Sustainment Brigade. COL Daniel Tack took command of the brigade in February.

associated with two air defense artillery battalions that we didn’t have before,” Kambic added.

The addition of the 174th ADA and the transition of the 371st Support Group into the 371st Sustainment Brigade presented Ohio leaders with the opportunity to further enhance the organization’s readiness.

Effective April 1, 2007 Ohio will transition from three to five Major Subordinate Commands’ (MSC) under the adjutant general. This new structure will allow a “flatter” command and control mechanism, which will lead to enhanced readiness and better service to the Soldier.

The 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team will continue to oversee the state’s maneuver forces. The 16th Engineer Brigade will maintain the 112th

and 216th Engineer Battalions, and the 371st Sustainment Brigade will take over the 112th Transportation Battalion and 237th Personnel Services Battalion. The 174th Air Defense Artillery Brigade will oversee the two air defense artillery battalions.

The final MSC, 73rd Troop Command, will be packaged into a joint task force with homeland defense response capabilities.

“Task Force 73” will have command and control of Ohio’s Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, High Yield Explosives, Enhanced Response Force Package (CERF-P). The CERF-P was allotted to Ohio in 2006 and consists of the 155th Chemical Battalion (Middletown), 637th Chemical Company (Kettering), 1194th Engineer

Company (Chillicothe) and the Medical Group of the 121st Air Refueling Wing (Columbus), Ohio Air National Guard.

The CERF-P is unique in many aspects. First, it is an additional task to the assigned doctrinal mission. Second, it is a joint organization, combining the assets of the Army and Air National Guard.

This revolutionary, cutting-edge organization maximizes and leverages National Guard capabilities to respond to events within the state—which Kambic said supports the National Guard’s dual mission and the adjutant general’s vision.

“General Wayt’s number one priority is and will always be serving the governor and the citizens of Ohio,” Kambic said.

In addition to the CERF-P, 73rd Troop Command will administer command and control of the 1st Battalion, 137th Aviation Regiment, 52nd Civil Support Team (WMD) and the National Guard Reaction Force which is drawn from elements within the 437th Military Police Battalion.

Kambic said no force structure changes are planned past 2008. However, as long as Ohio’s assigned strength exceeds the force structure allotment, there will be opportunities to grow.

“We are constantly working to ensure that we have the best balance in our force structure,” he said.

As transformation reaches completion and with Ohio troops prepared to fulfill multiple missions, Kambic credits Ohio’s success to “the agility and adaptability of the leadership and Soldiers within our National Guard.” **86**

LOOKING AHEAD THE OHIO ARMY NATIONAL GUARD SEPTEMBER 2007

[TAG]

[16TH ENG BDE]

- >112th Engineer Battalion
- >216th Engineer Battalion
- >204th Engineer Detachment

[37TH INF BCT]

- >1st Battalion, 148th Infantry Rgt.
- >1st Battalion, 145th Armored Rgt.
- >2d Squadron, 107th Cavalry Rgt.
- >1st Battalion, 134th Field Artillery Rgt.
- >237th Support Battalion
- >Special Troops Battalion, 37th IBCT

[73RD TRP CMND]

- >155th Chemical Battalion
- >437th Military Police Battalion
- >52d Civil Support Team
- >Company B, 2-19th SF Group
- >1st Battalion, 137th Aviation Rgt.

[174TH ADA BDE]

- >1st Battalion, 174th ADA Rgt.
- >2d Battalion, 174th ADA Rgt.

Battalion embodies flexibility during past 15 years

By Staff Sgt. Joshua Mann, JFHQ-Ohio

As the Ohio Army National Guard approaches completion of transformation into a modular force, it should look to one organization that set the standard for remaining ready in the face of change. Today we know this organization as the 1st Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery Regiment. Only three years ago, it was the 1st Battalion, 147th Armored Regiment.

The 147th Armored Regiment has a long, proud history of service to Ohio. First organized in the Ohio Militia on April 19, 1854, at Cincinnati as the “Guthrie Grays,” it is the third oldest organization in the Ohio troop allotment. It served with great honor during the American Civil War and answered the call during the War with Spain. It was first designated as the 147th Infantry in 1917 and served in Europe. During World War II the 147th Regimental Combat Team saw action in the Pacific and throughout its existence provided countless services to Ohio’s citizens.

However, some of the organization’s greatest challenges have occurred in the past 15 years. In 1994, as the Army reduced its forces and Ohio lost its 73rd Infantry Brigade, the 1st Battalion, 147th Infantry converted to the 1st Battalion, 147th Armored Regiment. Soldiers who one day were marching through the mud with rifles were the next riding into battle on one of the world’s most technologically advanced tanks.

As half of the 37th Brigade, 38th Infantry Division’s armored force, the 147th carried with it the high standards for readiness and training it displayed as an infantry organization. These standards and the quality of leadership would be put to the test again just six years later as Ohio received notice in 2000 that it would lose an armor battalion and gain an air defense artillery battalion in 2005.

“It was a remarkable leadership challenge to get those NCOs and officers to hold that battalion together over those five years,” said Brig. Gen. Matthew L. Kambic, Ohio assistant adjutant general for Army.

In a small ceremony on the evening of October 4, 2003, the 1st Battalion, 147th Armored formed for the final time at Camp Atterbury, Ind. to case the organizational colors.

“This is the first time and I hope the last time in my career that I will have to participate in the casing of a unit’s colors,” said then-Lt. Col. James Green, the battalion commander. The battalion held a final “grog” ceremony as the regiment’s lineage was read prior to one final toast honoring the cased colors.

In January 2004, the 1st Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery Regiment began to organize under the command of Lt. Col. Andrew (Scott) Baldy. Gone were the tanks and yellow guidons, replaced by Avenger missile systems and scarlet banners representing the air defense. As quickly as the transition to air defense began, the battalion received

word that they were being tasked with another difficult mission and conversion.

In early 2005, the battalion was tasked with force protection missions at Fort Bliss, Texas and on military installations throughout Europe. The mission would require more than 300 Soldiers—most whom had just finished transitioning from tankers to air defenders—to retrain as military police officers.

“They were briefed on the challenge, accepted it and accomplished it with minimal friction,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Randy Kintz, the battalion sergeant major.

The battalion’s Bellefontaine-based Battery C was the first to be affected when its senior leadership left for Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. in July 2005. The main body followed in August and in mid-September, 43 members of Battery C completed the military police reclassification training.

The troops arrived at Fort Bliss shortly after and immediately went to work responding to domestic violence incidents, DUI arrests, traffic citations and even intercepting illegal aliens crossing the border. Individual Soldiers distinguished themselves as honor graduates at the reclassification course and leadership schools, others earned German marksmanship badges and won the garrison and Fort Bliss NCO of the year competitions.

“This was an air defense artillery unit, and not long before that it was an armor unit,” Kambic said at C battery’s December welcome-home ceremony. “When we asked you to do this, I asked you to become the best air defense artillery unit in Ohio. You did. We asked you to be military policeman, and your response was to become the best MP units in TRADOC (Training and Doctrine Command).”

The Woodlawn-based A and B Batteries were not far behind, sending their leadership to Fort Leonard Wood in October 2005. Battery B deployed 110 Soldiers in December, and the same number of Battery A Soldiers went in January 2006. Both organizations completed military police reclassification training and departed for Germany, where they continue to provide law and order duties in numerous military installations across the U.S. Army Europe (USAEUR) area of responsibility.

In April 2006, the brigade’s Headquarters and Headquarters Battery deployed for a yearlong deployment to Kuwait as a tailored logistical element (TLE) at Camp Buehring, just 15 miles from the Iraq border. The TLE is the command and control element for the largest forward deployed camp in the world. Ninety percent of all Soldiers deploying to Iraq pass through Camp Buehring.

While preparing for their mission at Camp Shelby, Miss. (see page 20) the air defenders got a taste of their infantry heritage. In the sweltering Mississippi heat, the Soldiers conducted a four-day training exercise in which every Soldier was a rifleman. The troops low crawled under barbed wire, negotiated 5-foot high walls and reacted to sniper fire. The exercise culminated in an assault to close on and destroy an enemy position.

“The overall training was exceptional,” Baldy said. “I was proud considering we’re not an infantry unit.”

Through all of the changes, the battalion’s Soldiers have demonstrated a tremendous ability to remain agile in the face of change. These changes included the opening and relocation of three batteries into a new Woodlawn Community Center in December 2005.

“You need look no further than the 1-174th ADA to see what agility and adaptability really translates to in keeping an organization viable and ready to accomplish an operational mission while this nation is at war,” Kambic said. **SG**

“You have to look no further than the 1-174th ADA to see what agility and adaptability really translates to.”

—Brig. Gen. Matthew L. Kambic, assistant adjutant general, Army

This new organizational structure of the Ohio Army National Guard features five brigade-level elements and the Joint Force Headquarters for the state.

[371st SUST BDE]

>112th Transportation Battalion
>237th Personnel Services Battalion
>211th Maintenance Company
>285th Medical Company
>684th Medical Company

[JFHQ]

>Det 1, JFHQ (SEL SVC)
>Fort Ohio
>Medical Detachment
>Recruiting & Retention Cmnd
>147th Regiment (RTI)

SSG JOSH MANN / JFHQ-OHIO

MOTORCYCLE SAFETY

The popularity of motorcycling grows more and more every year. Dealers are experiencing increased sales, and the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles is reporting an increase in motorcycle registrations and endorsements.

However there can be a negative consequence to this trend as well—more cyclists sharing the roads have led to a recent increase in the number of motorcycle crashes and fatalities in Ohio.

Motorcycle statistics remained steady in Ohio from 2000 to 2004, averaging 3,886 crashes, 3,263 injuries and 130 fatalities per year. However, in 2005, those totals rose sharply to 4,427 crashes, 3,758 injuries and 177 deaths. Motorcycle operators were found at fault in the majority of crashes, nearly one-half of the fatalities were alcohol-related, and one-half of fatalities were single-vehicle crashes. Also, 72 percent of the cyclists killed were not wearing helmets.

Last year, 17 Army National Guard Soldiers across the nation were killed or seriously injured in motorcycle-related crashes.

Because of this significant increase in crashes, most of which appear to be due to motorcycle operator negligence, the Motorcycle Ohio Program of the Ohio Department of Public Safety is strongly encouraging all cyclists to get properly licensed and trained and ride responsibly.

Rider PPE includes a Department of Transportation approved helmet, a face shield or impact-resistant goggles attached securely to the helmet, sturdy over-the-ankle footwear, long-sleeved shirt or jacket, long pants, full-fingered gloves or mittens designed for motorcycles, brightly colored outer garments such as a vest, belt, riding jacket and a retro-reflective upper garment for night riding.

These requirements are spelled out under the Department of Defense Instruction (DODI) 6055.4, the DOD Traffic Safety Program and AR 385-55, Prevention of motor vehicle accidents.

In the 16-hour Basic Rider Course, you will learn basic skills such as shifting, negotiating curves and avoiding hazards. Students successfully completing the course will also be issued a completion card for the purpose of waiving the on-cycle skills test. Students must have a valid temporary motorcycle permit or a motorcycle



Participants in the Experienced Rider Course (ERC) are required to practice safe motorcycle habits, like wearing a helmet.

DID YOU KNOW?

All servicemembers who operate a motorcycle on a military installation are required to complete a Motorcycle Safety Foundation Course.

endorsement prior to participating in range instruction.

The program also offers a six-hour Experienced Rider Course for those who are knowledgeable riders but may need a refresher course on safe riding techniques.

Motorcycle Ohio remains the premiere motorcycle safety and education program in the state, having enhanced the riding skills of more than 90,000 motorcyclists since it was established in 1987. The program operates 15 permanent training locations throughout Ohio as well as 20 additional training locations with its mobile program. Motorcycle Ohio's fleet consists of more

than 400 training motorcycles, helmets and over 240 instructors to assist students in learning to ride a motorcycle.

For more information on the Motorcycle Ohio courses, please contact Peter Cline, Motorcycle Ohio, at (614) 995-7121 or 1-800-83-RIDER. Training locations and schedules can be found on Motorcycle Ohio's Web site at www.motorcycle.ohio.gov.

As an Army or Air National Guard member, whether you own, operate or want to learn how to ride a motorcycle, you will be reimbursed the \$25.00 registration fee for successful completion of

COURSE

Story by Julie Ehrhart, Ohio Department of Public Safety and Maj. Edward Mikula, State Safety Office



MAJ ED MIKULA / STATE SAFETY OFFICE

DID YOU KNOW?

In order for the Ohio National Guard to meet these requirements, the organization has partnered with Motorcycle Ohio to provide their rider training courses FREE to Ohio National Guard Soldiers and Airmen.

a Basic Rider Course or an Experienced Rider Course.

For more information regarding reimbursement, Airmen should contact their respective base's safety office. Soldiers should contact the Ohio Army National Guard Safety Office at (614) 336-7033. **AG**

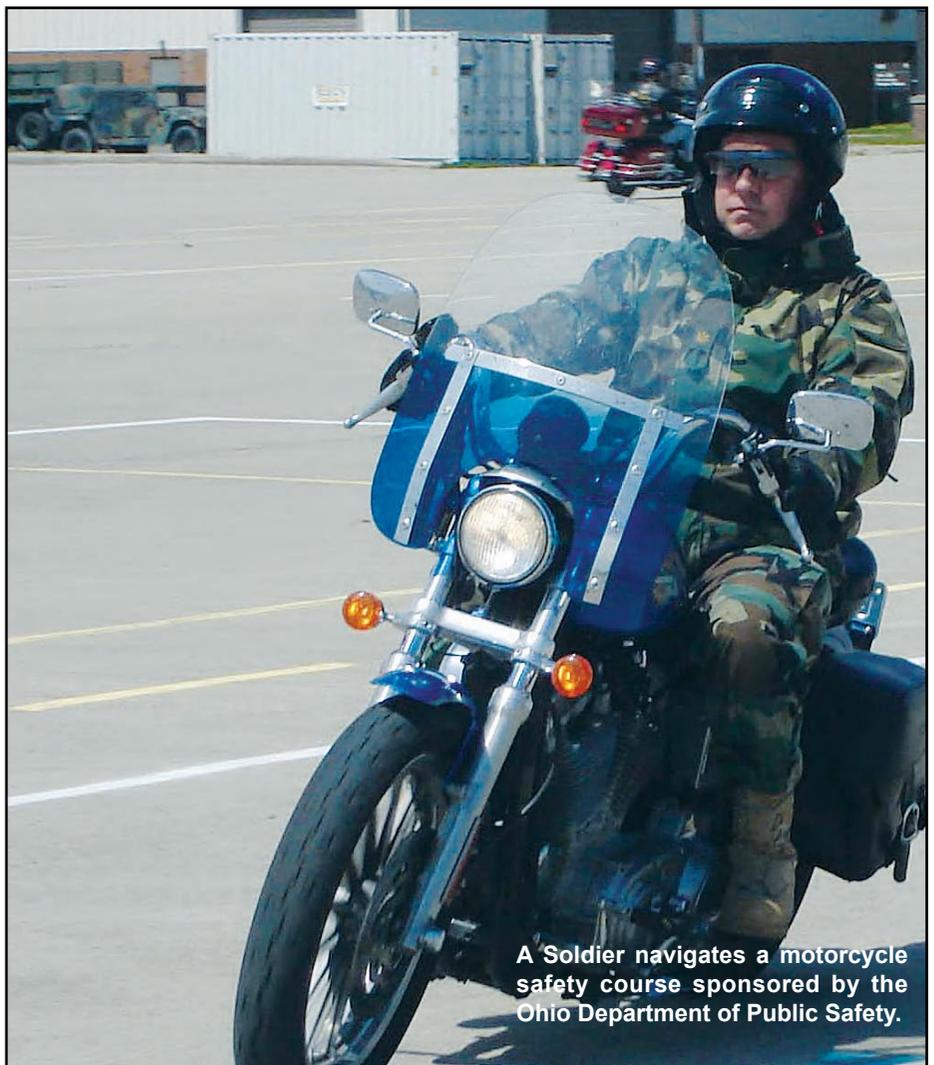
DID YOU KNOW?

National Guard Soldiers and Airmen in an "on-duty" status are required to wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when operating a motorcycle—even when it is not required by state law.



An Experienced Rider Course participant navigates the course.

MAJ ED MIKULA / STATE SAFETY OFFICE



A Soldier navigates a motorcycle safety course sponsored by the Ohio Department of Public Safety.

MAJ ED MIKULA / STATE SAFETY OFFICE

Guard Soldiers train
under watchful eyes

URBAN COMBAT



CAMP BUEHRING, Kuwait—Spc. Andrew Trick lines up in a four-man team, 100-plus degree heat bearing down, as he waits outside a room with suspected insurgents inside, gripping his M-4 Carbine rifle tight enough to turn his knuckles white.

Inside an air-conditioned theater, his executive officer watches with up to 12 live video camera feeds following Trick in the door, down the hall and into the targeted room. He writes notes, critiques his Soldiers' actions and comes up with a game plan for the next exercise—like a football coach watching game film.

This isn't the real thing, but Camp Buehring's

Military Operations on Urbanized Terrain facility, commonly known as MOUT, is certainly no game. Trick and Troop C of the 2-107th Cavalry Regiment of the Ohio Army National Guard, now in Iraq for a tour of duty, utilized this as one of their final training exercises before the unit moved north across the border.

"Each man has a section of the room they're going to be scanning," said 1st Lt. Austin Dufresne, Troop C executive officer. "First thing we're going to be looking for is that they scan each section of the room. Once they got that, they're checking for any other threats."

The other threats Dufresne refers to—explosives, weapons, even a loud woman screaming Arabic obscenities—are all simulated in the exercise. From the control room, technicians with the Army Central Command's Kuwait Armed Forces Training Center trigger the obstacles like an amusement park haunted house.

"The scenario is set up by the unit commander," said Capt. Kenneth Smith, operations officer for the Kuwait Armed Forces Training Center. "The unit commander gives his training guidance, and the (MOUT technicians) run the site to facilitate his training objectives."

The exercise is part of a required list of training tasks for any unit entering Iraq. Charlie Troop was given nine days in Kuwait to complete the training tasks before deploying north.

For Troop C, the deployment process was launched several months earlier, beginning with seven-days-a-

week training at Fort Dix, N.J.—the unit's mobilization station. There, the unit did it all—from familiarization of improvised explosive devices to similar training on clearing a room.

"This is just getting everyone back in the mind-set," Trick said.

Trick had been a senior majoring in construction management at the University of Cincinnati. In Iraq, he is part of a cavalry unit, sent to Iraq for a scheduled 12-month tour.

The MOUT exercise starts with two practice rooms, where Trick and his team enter a room with-

out any obstacles. For the first two rooms, communication among the team members is stressed.

"That's basically what we're trying to emphasize here: teamwork," said 2nd Lt. Mark Federle.

When they move to the third and fourth rooms, their leaders' interest starts to rise. With one of his senior noncommissioned officers, Master Sgt. Mark Smith, Dufresne marks off what the patrol is doing correctly and incorrectly.

"See that right there, Sir," Smith says as he pops out of his chair and approaches the television screen. "They're a little too close to the wall. You'll want to have a little bit of a standoff."

Comments are documented in Dufresne's green notebook. As soon as the patrol is completed, their corrections are given to the team leader. Trick and his teammates passed the test, but with overhead cameras covering their every step, the MOUT facility and Dufresne have given them some homework. **8**



Soldiers with 2nd Squadron, 107th Cavalry Regiment, Ohio Army National Guard, practice cordon and search drills at a MOUT training facility.



Teams learn security tactics to increase protection when infiltrating buildings.



Pre-sapper trainees prepare for movement after an aerial insertion mission.



In Review

Annual Training 2006

THE GRAYING BOOTLE PRINT

Year 22, 2006

100th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, Columbus, Ohio

Annual Training and Review of the Ohio Army National Guard

Pulling security

Leading the way after an aerial insertion, pre-sapper trainees prepare for movement to a location where they will hold a ground base. This will allow the Soldiers to strike their final objective in an attempt to block enemy movement. (See page 11.)

Ohio Army Guard transforming for future

Since the Second World War to the Gulf War, the Army has made advances in communications, training and fighting techniques. In the Global War on Terrorism, as in previous eras, advances in the front lines are creating changes for Soldiers who are training and preparing for battle. It can be seen this year's Annual Training at Camp Goodling, Mich. in the way the Ohio National Guard is undergoing a transformation from the Ohio National Guard to the 37th Troop Command.

The Ohio National Guard is undergoing a transformation from what Brig. Gen. Jack F. Lee, commander of the division and named, called the "Caldwell" organization, to a more modern, flexible and adaptable, based on lessons learned during Operation Enduring Freedom.

"We have evolved from just being a strategic reserve for the next big war, to more of an operational force that is being called on everyday to back up our Regular Army. But a part of the fight in the world," Lee said. "Our Soldiers are doing a lot more than what has ever been envisioned or heard."

The OARNG's transformation is geared toward smaller brigades, combat teams that have the ability to move faster on the battlefield. The 17th Aerial Brigade, part of the 10th Infantry Division, is transforming to become the 37th Brigade Combat Team. The 271st Corps Support Group is transforming to become the 37th Sustainment Brigade, and the 271st is part of the Forward Operating Base and logistical organization in the field. Camp Goodling is the site of the new divisional headquarters.

Maneuvers are being taken to ensure the changes work, but the official transformation won't take place until fiscal year 2007, according to Lee.

BY TRANSFORMATION ON NEXT PAGE

The training area at Camp Grayling, Mich. consists of 147,000 acres, or 230 square miles, to handle modern weapons systems such as the MK-19 belt-fed grenade launcher, M-1 Abrams tanks and Multi Launch Rocket Systems, as well as aviation assets like the UH-60 Black Hawk and CH-47 Chinook helicopters.

Camp Grayling was founded in 1913 on 14,000 acres of land donated to the state by Rasmus Hanson, a local lumberman. Originally named Camp Ferris to honor the state's then-governor, it became a National Guard training site in 1914, said Lt. Col. Tom Laime, the post public affairs officer.

The camp is capable of hosting more than 10,000 Soldiers and has 450 buildings including a multi-denominational chapel, a fire department, recreational facilities and clubs for officers, noncommissioned officers and enlisted personnel. In addition to the post itself, the site also consists of the surrounding Hanson Military Training Reservation and the Grayling Army Air Field. Hanson reservation consists of live-fire ranges, armor training areas and miles of trails and woodland used to enhance the training of America's Citizen-SoldiErs.

Sapper training

Story and photos by Spc. Jacy D. Welch, 196th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

After 24 hours of training and only two hours of sleep, the engineers were still in good spirits.

Like all other Soldiers, combat engineers begin their Army careers with Basic Combat Training. They then move on to Advanced Individual Training (AIT) where they learn how to work with demolitions, set up a base camp and remove mines.

But only a handful of these Soldiers volunteer to become Sappers—combat engineers who advance with front-line infantry.

Because Sappers frequently find themselves operating behind enemy lines, they undergo rigorous training similar to Army Rangers, learning small-squad tactics and leadership techniques.

To prepare for the course, a group of Soldiers from the 1193rd Engineer Company and the 612th and 112th Engineer Battalions attended pre-Sapper training during the units' annual training exercise at Camp Grayling, Mich. in July.

The training began with classroom instruction on troop leading procedures, patrol tactics and field expedient re-supply methods. One such method taught Soldiers how to rig a parachute using 550-cord and a case of Meals, Ready-to-Eat,

to be dropped from a helicopter.

The training culminated with a 36-hour patrolling field exercise designed to put the engineers' new skills to use in a realistic environment. During the exercise, leadership roles were rotated among individual Soldiers to aid in the learning process.

"Pre-Sapper training serves to build an order of merit—give Soldiers better training than they would normally receive prior to training," said Capt. Troy Haenszel, the 186th Engineer Detachment commander.

Haenszel said success in Sapper school depends on how you solve problems and get things done.

"It takes a little bit of sweat, and sometimes, a little bit of blood," he said.

After 24 hours of training and only two hours of sleep, the engineers were still in good spirits. Each of them had volunteered for the brutal training, including Staff Sgt. Vincent Mancuso from the Norwalk-based C Company, 612th Engineer Battalion.

"It is high speed," he said. "I have worked with the 19th Special Forces Group and the 350th Psychological Operations Group. Some people are bookkeepers, some are bankers and some people are Soldiers; I love being a Soldier." **OG**

for more...

For more in-depth coverage of Annual Training 2006 at Camp Grayling, Mich., request a copy of the Grayling Bootprint, by sending an e-mail to buckeye@tagoh.gov or calling (614)-336-7003.



'what we were trained to do'

Story and Photo by Spc. Parker Steele, 196th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

"The first thing I noticed was blood coming from behind the Soldier's head and I immediately yelled for help as I and the other Soldier checked his vital signs and looked over his body for any other injuries."

Everyday, U.S. Soldiers face life-threatening situations, both on duty and off. Through Army Warrior Training and the combat lifesaver (CLS), certification course, Soldiers learn first aid skills to administer to their comrades in times of need and to prevent further injury or death.

The skills of four noncommissioned officers from B Company, 237th Forward Support Battalion, were unexpectedly called on at the beginning of their annual training exercise at Camp Grayling, Mich.

Around 2:30 p.m. on June 10, Sgt. Dale E. Wood, from B Company 237th FSB, was taking a break when he heard Soldiers nearby begin yelling.

"I heard a loud commotion, 'Stop! Stop! Stop!' Then I saw two Soldiers running from the opposite side of a dump truck. I knew someone was hurt," said Wood, a qualified Combat lifesaver. "I ran to see what was the matter and the first thing I thought of was my CLS bag—that's all you've got. I immediately ran back and grabbed my bag. That's when I saw Staff Sergeant (Robert G.) Zimmer and yelled to him for help. When I got to the injured Soldier, my instincts kicked in."

Meanwhile, Zimmer, a missile maintenance section sergeant also from B Company, immediately called Sgt. Lee Ackerman for assistance. In addition to Army Common Task Testing (CTT) first aid training, Ackerman had also received training from the American Red Cross.

When Wood arrived on scene, one Soldier was attempting to revive another who had fallen from the truck. Two others ran to call 911.

"The first thing I noticed was blood coming from behind the Soldier's head and I immediately yelled for help as I and the

other Soldier checked his vital signs and looked over his body for any other injuries," Wood said. "He was coming in and out of consciousness as I applied the first layer of bandages."

Zimmer and Ackerman arrived soon after Wood.

Knowing that a situation as dangerous as this could become increasingly chaotic, Zimmer assumed command and control responsibility over the accident scene as a large group of confused bystanders quickly began forming around the fallen Soldier.

"When I came over, he was in critical need of medical assistance," Zimmer said. "Initially, I was asking everyone what was happening. I was trying to get a record of who had possibly seen what had happened."

Zimmer said 911 had already been called when he told Sgt. David C. Gabriel to get another CLS bag.

Ackerman and Wood immediately began to re-apply dressings and stabilize the Soldier's head and neck.

"I arrived and immediately recalled the training I received from CTT and from the Red Cross. We needed to figure out if he had any brain damage," Ackerman said. "Once Sgt. Wood and I were involved, the other Soldiers around started to relax and let us do what we were trained to do."

Within minutes, Gabriel returned with the CLS bag. Grayling paramedics arrived shortly after.

Brig. Gen. Matthew L. Kambic, Ohio assistant adjutant general for Army, commended Ackerman, Gabriel, Woods and Zimmer for their confidence and ability to take action.

According to Master Sgt. Robert L. Dunn, from the Maneuver Training Center at Camp Grayling, the injured Michigan Soldier is doing fine. He was released from the hospital after receiving nine stitches. **SG**

SGT Lee Ackerman (from left, top), SSG Robert G. Zimmer, SGT David C. Gabriel and SGT Dale E. Wood were recognized for their life-saving actions during annual training by providing first aid to an injured Michigan National Guard Soldier who had fallen from a truck.



TRAIN AS WE FIGHT:

Air Defenders heat up in Hattiesburg in preparation for overseas duty



1-174TH AIR DEFENSE ARTILLERY PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The pre-mobilization lanes training at Camp Shelby, Miss. incorporate as much realism as possible, including “Civilians on the Battlefield” or “COBs.” SGT Craig Kirby of Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery Regiment, stays focused on his mission while a woman asks him for something to drink.

HATTIESBURG, Miss.—We are reminded frequently in our training that a Soldier’s first military occupational specialty (MOS) is always 11B (infantry).

With that in mind the Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery Regiment—currently mobilized to Kuwait through this summer in support of the Global War on Terrorism—participated in four days of infantry training during pre-mobilization last year at Camp Shelby, Miss. before deploying overseas.

With the mercury hitting in the high 90s daily, everyone from privates to lieutenant colonels, from ages 19 to 58, managed to sweat their way through the intense training which included tasks such as individual movement techniques (IMTs), troop leading procedures, movement as a platoon, reaction to a sniper, reaction to a near ambush and conducting a deliberate attack on an element.

The first day of training was by far the most physical. The troops formed into buddy teams and negotiated a lane which required them

to employ various IMTs, including a high crawl, low crawl under barbed wire, climb a 5-foot high wall and execute a series of 3-5 second rushes. It was safe to say that there were no clean BDUs when the lane was finished.

Day Two focused on movements as a platoon. The Soldiers practiced moving in the fire team wedge and Ranger file using



1-174TH AIR DEFENSE ARTILLERY PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Soldiers clear the objective during an assault on enemy insurgents during training.

hand and arm signals and while crossing a danger zone. During one of the road marches, they encountered a friendly village and employed their Soldier values when reacting to the civilian actors that represented civilians on the battlefield (COB). Days three and four saw the intensity level kicked up a notch, as they conducted more platoon level tactics.

“The instructors at the range did an outstanding job of making the training realistic,” Spc. Francheska Ovington said. “It made it more fun which enhanced the learning experience.”

First Sgt. James Nichols was pleased that his noncommissioned officers had an opportunity to brush up on leading a platoon before going overseas.

“These are the leaders that are getting the job done in the War on Terrorism, so it’s great for them to refresh their skills on infantry tactics,” Nichols said. “I’m also proud of all our Soldiers for the way they (took) care of each other. Despite days of 100-degree heat, we had no heat casualties.” 1-174TH ADA PUBLIC AFFAIRS **AG**

Strength through adversity:

Loss of limb no hurdle for Ohio combat veteran

Story by Staff Sgt. Kimberly Snow
196th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

ANOTHER DAY IN THE SANDBOX

On a dusty, remote stretch of road on a sweltering desert evening in August, 2004, Soldiers from the Chillicothe-based A Company, 216th Engineer Battalion, wrapped up a long day's work and prepared to head back to their temporary base of operations near Samarra, Iraq.

They were dusted with a fine desert grit that covered everything and everyone, and permeated down into their very pores. Uniforms were stained white with the salt escaping from their sweat-soaked bodies.

The men had spent their day leveling earth berms that flanked a roadway used as a military supply route—the earthen mounds were ideal for hiding the roadside bombs that represent the greatest threat to coalition forces throughout the country. At about 6 p.m. the Soldiers loaded their equipment, piled into their vehicles and prepared to head back to base.

BACK TO THE DAILY GRIND

Spc. Terry W. Dean joined the Ohio Army National Guard in part because he felt compelled following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and in part for college tuition benefits. His girlfriend of seven years, Alissa, fully supported the decision.

The former construction worker enlisted as a petroleum supply specialist with A Company's Tarlton-based detachment in December 2001. He married his longtime girlfriend in December 2003, and deployed with his unit to Iraq in February 2004, only 24 hours after witnessing the birth of his daughter, Gracie.

"That was the hardest part, knowing that (Alissa) was going to have to be alone with a new baby and I was leaving," he said. "I think I was more upset than she was."

To comfort himself and help calm her fears, he called home nearly every day and when he was out on missions, would sometimes have friends call for him. As a petroleum supply specialist, Dean's job was to fuel vehicles and equipment, but the reality of a combat deployment had the new dad conducting convoys, pulling security and filling in where needed.

In accordance with the Army's combat stress management

Operation Iraqi Freedom veteran Terry Dean does not let the loss of his right leg prevent him from staying physically active.

SSG KIMBERLY SNOW / 196TH MPAD



policy, Dean headed home on leave at the end of July. He returned to Iraq on Aug. 13, 2004, after spending a blissful two weeks getting reacquainted with his wife and bonding with his 6-month-old daughter.

Seven days later, he was assigned to a detail responsible for leveling the earth berms flanking a military supply route. After a long day's work under the intense desert sun, he and four of his comrades climbed into the back of their convoy's lead Humvee and the exhausted engineers headed back to base. Moments later, a violent and devastating blast swept through their vehicle, obliterating the deceptive evening calm, and changing dozens of lives forever.

Insurgents had detonated a roadside bomb that destroyed Dean's vehicle and killed two of his friends and fellow unit members, 1st Lt. Charles L. Wilkins III of Columbus and Spc. Ryan A. Martin of Mount Vernon. The blast wounded three others, including Dean, who was in shock and didn't immediately realize he was injured—until his driver yelled back to ask if everyone was OK.

"I looked down and saw my leg sitting beside me," Dean said. "I looked back at him and said 'No, I'm missing my leg.' The next thing that went through my mind was 'I get to go home to my girls.'"

HOME SWEET HOME

About 12 hours later and more than 6,000 miles away, Alissa and Gracie Dean, along with Alissa's best friend Dara Gullette, returned home from a shopping trip to the local Wal-Mart. Alissa heard the telephone ring as she walked in the front door of her Hillsboro home and tossed her keys on the table. She picked up the receiver and the man on the other end of the line identified himself as Lt. Col. Robert Bramlish, the rear detachment commander for the 216th Engineer

Battalion—her husband’s unit.

“I want you to know that your husband is going to be fine,” he said. “But he was injured today.”

Alissa gripped the receiver as she sunk to the floor. She placed a conference call through to Terry’s parents so they could speak with Bramlish together, while Dara looked after Gracie.

Three days later, Alissa, Gracie and Terry were reunited at Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC) in Washington, D.C. They spent three months together while Terry raced through physical therapy and rehabilitation. He was walking on his first prosthetic leg only eight days after he was wounded, and eventually received a total of five: one for running, one for swimming (with a small flipper)—and three general purpose legs, one sporting the University of Michigan logo (his favorite football team) and one of which he recently broke playing basketball.

“As soon as I got my running leg, I went to the physical therapy room, got on the treadmill and started running,” Dean said. “Some captain came up to me and said, ‘You’re the best runner I’ve seen on a prosthetic leg.’ I told him I just got it five minutes ago and he couldn’t believe it.”

Because he was hesitant to draw attention to himself, Dean often favored long pants outside of the medical center. But the combat veteran walked so naturally on his new prosthesis that during a trip to Florida’s Walt Disney World with the Wounded Warrior Program—which provides support services to severely wounded and ill servicemembers and their families—several park patrons approached him, baffled.

“I had two or three people come up to me and ask me what happened,” Dean said. “I told them I lost my leg and they didn’t believe it until I showed them the prosthetic leg.”

AN OPPORTUNITY PRESENTS ITSELF

It was nearly 18 months before Dean was medically discharged from WRAMC. During that time, he was visited by many well-wishers including country singers Chely Wright and Toby Keith as well as many high-ranking military officials. About a month into his stay, he received a visit from several of his Ohio unit members, including Bramlish.

“He was amazing. He was already up and around on his new leg,” Bramlish said. “His family was there and they were acting like a family where someone had an appendix taken out. There wasn’t one utterance, not one indicator of ‘Feel sorry for me.’”

Bramlish and Dean kept in touch regularly via telephone as Bramlish helped the family cut through red tape and navigate the benefits process. During that time, Ohio National Guard leaders were realizing the need for assistance for all of the state’s veterans. So when Maj.

Gen. Gregory L. Wayt, the Ohio adjutant general, first mentioned creating a new full-time position for someone whose sole job would be to help Ohio’s Soldiers and Airmen through the veterans benefits process, Bramlish said he immediately thought of Terry.

“My only concern was that he was young. He was only 25,” Bramlish said. “Most of his counterparts in other states are 35 to 38 years old. His job is complex; it’s master’s degree work. But Terry was the guy. He was the right person for the job.”

Dean reported to Beightler Armory in Columbus to begin his

new job on Jan. 17, 2006, the day after he was medically discharged. As the state’s transition assistance advisor, he acts as liaison between the military and the Department of Veterans Affairs, and advocates for Ohio’s Soldiers and Airmen. His main focus is walking his fellow veterans through the benefits process—one with which he is familiar.

“I love it. It’s a great opportunity to assist other veterans,” Dean said. “Instead of sitting around at home, I can help other vets get what they’ve earned. I kind of get to give back.”

LIFE AFTER LOSS

Although he admits the incident in Iraq changed him, Dean is determined not to let the loss of his leg interfere in his everyday life.

“I don’t know that I let it affect me. I’m fat; that’s about it,” he quipped. “I don’t let it keep me down. I still do everything that I did before. My wife and daughter help keep me positive.”

Both Alissa and Terry have no regrets, they said. Terry is a stronger person with a better appreciation for life and their family is closer than ever, Alissa added.

“We’re proud Americans,” she said. “He loved serving his country and he believed in what he was doing. If he didn’t, I’m sure it would have been much harder.”

Initially, Terry didn’t allow himself to dwell on the loss of his friends, instead concentrating his energy on recuperating and bonding with his family.

“For the first year or so, I was so busy that I didn’t have time to really think about it,” he said. “It’s harder now. I think about them all the time. I get emotional; I tear up all the time.”

Terry maintains contact with several of his former unit members and said he feels a strong sense of connection with both the Army and the individuals with whom he served.

“I definitely miss being a Soldier,” he said. “And I wouldn’t take anything back. I tell my wife if I was single, I’d be back in Iraq. I’d do it all over again.” **86**



COURTESY OF THE CINCINNATI REDS

Terry Dean (right), is accompanied by his wife, Alissa, and daughter, Gracie, before he throws the ceremonial first pitch at a Cincinnati Reds baseball game during Memorial Day weekend 2005.

Remembering Ohio's fallen heroes

"To Our Rock, Love always, Mom and Dad," reads one. "To Rocky, our hero forever," reads the other.

Story and Photo by Sgt. Kimberly Snow, 196th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

He sat on a lawn across the street from the town cemetery, one of his favorite spots, and peered down over the gentle rolling slope to the empty field below. It was a pleasant, peaceful spring day in the small midwestern town in April 2005, but his thoughts were several thousand miles away, with U.S. troops in Iraq and Afghanistan serving in the Global War on Terrorism.

A retired Vietnam veteran from Sunbury, Ohio, Jerry Jodrey served 26 years in the military. He spent eight years on active duty before transferring to the Ohio Army National Guard and spending the remainder of his career with the 16th Engineer Brigade and retiring as a master sergeant.

As he pondered the current conflict and reflected back on his own service, a thought struck Jodrey. He wanted to find a way to honor this new generation of combat veterans.

"They waited so long after Vietnam to build a memorial," Jodrey said. "It was not a very popular war and Soldiers were not recognized for the job they had done. So I didn't want to see another 40 years go by to recognize our current war veterans."

Jodrey first needed a place to build the memorial, so he began by enlisting the help of Mike O'Brien, the city administrator. O'Brien, who had served in the Army Reserve, invited Jodrey to look over possible plots of land owned by the Village of Sunbury. Oddly enough, the first piece of property O'Brien showed him was the same piece of land he had peered down upon only weeks prior when the idea to build a memorial first struck him. After looking at several other properties, Jodrey realized the initial property was ideal.

The pair drew up a proposal and submitted it to the city's board of administrators, who voted the same evening to donate the land as well as a granite monument. With a suitable property in hand, Jodrey began forming the Ohio Fallen Heroes (OFH) committee, drumming up financial support and soliciting volunteers to help construct the memorial park.

George Parker, a local architect, donated his time, expertise and staff to design the memorial park for the Ohio Fallen Heroes organization. The Sunbury Veterans of

Foreign Wars Post 8736 donated the first \$16,000. The initial contribution was spent to raise a flagpole and begin construction on the park's first phase, which in addition to the flagpole, included an Ohio-shaped granite monument designed by the OFH committee, as well as landscaping and concrete sidewalks.

The project's second phase, scheduled for completion July 1, 2007, includes a field of marble crosses inscribed with the name, rank, branch of service and date of death for all Ohio servicemembers lost in the Global War on Terrorism. It will also include a chapel, a Courtyard of Honor housing an eternal flame, and a bronze sculpture in the shape of a traditional fallen Soldier memorial, with boots, rifle, helmet and dog tags. The total estimated price of the park's physical construction is \$450,000.

The project's final phase consists of a scholarship fund for the children of Ohio's fallen servicemembers, and an operating and maintenance expense fund.

For a \$35 donation, individuals can purchase a brick, which will be used to construct the Courtyard of Honor, to pay tribute to any Ohio veteran, living or deceased. The brick will be inscribed with the veteran's name, rank, branch of service and dates of service or conflict.

The memorial park's location, only nine miles from the geographical center of the state, makes it ideal for such a tribute. The Village of Sunbury's small-town atmosphere also made for a fitting location, Jodrey said.

"Most of our servicemembers come from small towns," Jodrey said. "Our National Guard and Reserve troops dropped their burdens by the wayside and picked up a rifle to defend their country. When the call came, they answered it. I wanted to do something to make sure they would never be forgotten."

For Jodrey, the memorial park has taken on a life of its own. He spends most of his time coordinating with volunteers and committee members and soliciting donations to complete the project. He visits the site often, and talks about

"his" veterans as if they were his own family members.

On this afternoon, he slowly strolls through the field of crosses. He lovingly tends to the markers, uses his thumb to wipe dirt off one, then walks to another inscribed for Army Lt. Col. Dominic "Rocky" Baragona. He points to it and explains the two small rocks resting on the cross. Several members of Baragona's family live in Florida, but his father travels up periodically on business. On his latest trip, he brought mementos from family members—two rocks bearing messages from family members.

"To Our Rock, Love always, Mom and Dad," reads one. "To Rocky, our hero forever," reads the other.

He stops for a moment, collects himself, and points to another cross. As he ambles toward it, he begins talking about that Airman's mother, whom he spoke with at the dedication, points to another and talks about the family members of that Marine, more than 20 of them, who also attended.

He looks up at the sound of tires crunching on gravel. Bowman has returned and with him is Gene Fuller, another project volunteer, who is in charge of construction. The men are all smiles as they greet one another and give updates on their progress.

"I think it's the right thing to do," Fuller said of his volunteer work. "I'm honored to have a part in it." 

formore...

If you would like to donate, order a brick, volunteer your services or learn more, call (740)965-2162 or visit the official website at www.ohiofallenheroes.org.





2LT PATRICK MCHUGH / 1-148TH INFANTRY

Soldiers from 1-148th Infantry Regiment take part in the 39th annual Phillip A. Connelly food service competition during a site visit by Army evaluators Oct. 7 in Lima. They earned the chance to participate after winning the state-level competition in June 2005 at Camp Grayling, Mich.

Infantry cooks sizzle during Army-wide Connelly food service competition

LIMA—When speaking to older veterans, a question invariably raised is, “How’s the food in the Army today?” With the quality of food being a longtime indicator of the morale and strength of any unit, it comes as no surprise that ensuring culinary quality is a top priority of today’s armed forces.

The mess section of 1st Battalion 148th Infantry (now E Company, 237th Brigade Support Battalion) Oct. 7 finished its participation in the 39th annual Philip A. Connelly Awards competition. The competition, originally established in 1968 to recognize excellence in Army food service, has provided a showcase for a less-exposed facet of Army life and recognized top performing teams.

The Ohio unit’s mess section finished its competition in the Class IV category: National Guard Field Kitchens-Feeding in Field operations. They competed against other National Guard units in a simulated combat zone format. Each team was required to establish a cooking and dining area in accordance with specified guidelines regarding layout, facilities and even fighting positions. In this final national round, the cooks competed against teams from Virginia, Oklahoma, Nevada, Mississippi, Louisiana and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Advancing to this point meant the Ohio cooks had already bested scores of competitors at lower tiers in the Connelly Awards process.

The 148th mess section representatives, led by Sgt. 1st Class Frank Corbin, averaged 20 years service per man and shared more than 180 years of combined experience. Spc. Joseph A. Luchini was recognized by the judges as the most outstanding participant. **2LT PATRICK MCHUGH / 1-148TH INFANTRY REGIMENT**

Top recruiters earn kudos at annual R&R banquet

COLUMBUS—Elite Soldiers of the Ohio Army National Guard Recruiting and Retention Battalion were honored for their outstanding performance during fiscal year 2006 at the unit’s annual dining out.

Staff Sgt. Mark C. Campbell was recognized as Ohio’s recipient of the “Chief’s 54 Award,” an achievement earned by the top producer in each state and territory in the nation. Campbell, who is assigned to the Southeast Recruiting Area, accessed 32 Soldiers into the OHARNG during FY06.

“It feels great to have this honor, knowing that you are the top recruiter in your state out of 144 great recruiters,” Campbell said. Ohio’s cadre of recruiters closed out the year with 2,237 new Soldiers, making FY06 the best recruiting year in Ohio Army National Guard history.

Though he also received the “Superior Performance Non-prior Service Recruiting Award” and the “Top Producer College Market Recruiter Award,” Campbell indicated that earning all the accolades didn’t factor into his year-out plan. “I was given a mission and that was my first goal.”

“Staff Sergeant Campbell is a team player with true job commitment,” said Southeast Area 1st Sgt. Doug Reed. “He believes in what he is doing and effectively communicates this to all he comes in contact with each day.”

Reed also represented Ohio in an NCO-IC-level strength maintenance competition this year, vying for the “Master Seven Award” in Recruiting and Retention Area Command IV. His Southeast Team of recruiters won Ohio’s “Private Roger Young Top Recruiting and Retention Area Team Award” based on various performance criteria accomplished throughout the year.

Congratulations were also in order for Staff Sgt. Theodore J. Kester, who was named the Buckeye Recruiting Battalion NCO of the Year.

“I feel that taking care of Soldiers and being the type of leader that Soldiers can look up to and respect will lead to nothing but positive things in all aspects of my career,” Kester said. “The quality of Soldiers that our command is turning out in our

RSP companies shows the high caliber of leaders in each and every company and sets the standard a bit higher each and every drill.”

The following individuals also were recognized for strength maintenance excellence in specified areas of achievement: Staff Sgt. Kevin L. Hollenbacher was named “Rookie of the Year” for achieving the highest overall percentage of mission accomplishment during the first year of recruiting and retention eligibility; Staff Sgt. Ty Cetinciftci received the “High School Recruiting Excellence Award” for achieving the highest total number of high school junior/senior enlistments; Sgt. Vanessa A. Hickling earned the “Sgt. 1st Class Richard Daniels Minority Recruiting Award” for having the highest total number of minority enlistments in

FY06, and she also received the “Superior Performance Female Recruiting Award” for achieving the highest total number of female enlistments; Sgt. 1st Class Michael G. Ray was presented with the “Sgt. 1st Class Jay M. Bentley MEPS Guidance Counselor of the Year Award” for standing out as the counselor who far exceeded the job requirements in placing new Soldiers in the right position in the Ohio Army National Guard; and Sgt. 1st Class Paul A. Kirby, 324th Military Police Company, was recognized as the “You Can Challenge” winner for the fiscal year, having referred seven potential Soldiers who enlisted in the Ohio Army National Guard.

SFC CHERYL CARTER / RECRUITING AND RETENTION BATTALION

Army National Guard looks to build officer team from within its ranks

COLUMBUS—Soldiers from nearly every unit within the Ohio Army National Guard attended an Officer Candidate School (OCS) kickoff event Nov. 4 at Beightler Armory.

Because Ohio is short more than 100 company-grade officers, state leadership asked each company-size unit to send at least one candidate. The event informed enlisted Soldiers about the opportunity to become commissioned officers.

“Ohio National Guard Soldiers represent the very best of what we have in



Campbell

our communities,” said Brig. Gen. Matthew L. Kambic, Ohio’s assistant adjutant general for Army. “The best way to build our team is to build it from within.”

Kambic referred to enlisted Soldiers as his “talent pool” and challenged them to develop further leadership skills.

OCS training concentrates on subjects including ethics, military justice, physical fitness, logistics, communication, personnel administration, tactics, patrolling and nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) training.

Candidates may choose between the traditional school, a 16-18 month course of instruction conducted at the 145th Regional Training Institute in Columbus or an accelerated OCS program. The accelerated option offers an eight-week active-duty course from June to August at select locations throughout the United States. For more information, call Capt. Fred Garcia at (614) 336-7077. **SPC CHAD MENEGAY / 196TH MOBILE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT**

Warrant officer’s motto helps him guide others to become WOCs

COLUMBUS—“Persistence Will Prevail, Sir!” shouted Warrant Officer Candidate Gerald Minor to the WOC School cadre when called to attention. In 2002, WOC Minor was 52 years old and one of 10 Ohio Army National Guard Soldiers trying to complete active-duty WOC school at Fort Rucker, Ala.

Not only did now-Chief Warrant Officer 2 Minor complete the course five years ago, but he was one of only four, from the original group, to do so. Minor is currently on an active-duty special work tour, serving as OHARNG warrant officer strength manager.

In addition to the WOC school at Fort Rucker, the OHARNG now hosts a WOC course through the Regional Training Institute, located at the Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base in Columbus. This new course allows Soldiers, who have previously been unable to pursue the active component course, to earn the rank of Warrant Officer in a primarily IDT status.

Minor is often able to reassure Soldiers who are reluctant to pursue the WOC program by telling them his own story.

“If a simple old West Virginia guy like me can tough it out, a young smart Soldier like you will enjoy the chal-

lenge,” he tells them.

With those Soldiers who are either still unsure or don’t currently meet the entry criteria, Minor is more than glad to do some career analysis with them. “It’s never too late to try to make yourself a better Soldier...” he said.

For more information on becoming a warrant officer, contact Minor at (614) 376-5017 or (888) 299-8285, or by e-mail at gerald.minor@us.army.mil. **CPT FRED GARCIA / OHARNG OFFICER STRENGTH MAINTENANCE**

Toledo-based 180th Fighter Wing civil engineers deploy overseas to Iraq

TOLEDO—More than 250 people filled the Baker Building at the 180th Fighter Wing Jan. 3 to say goodbye to 40 members of the 180th Civil Engineering Squadron deploying to Iraq.

The CES members will maintain base facilities in the Baghdad area, which includes upkeep of everything from air conditioning and ventilation systems at the base to maintenance of roadways and buildings. The deployment is expected to last about six months.

“Just ready to serve, do our time,” said Master Sgt. Heath Laprad, 180th FW CES branch chief. “We have a great group of guys we’re going with.”

Through the work of the 180th CES Family Readiness group leader, Jennifer McNutt, and other volunteers, the deploying members, their friends and families enjoyed a meal provided by organizations from the community of Whitehouse.

The USO of Northern Ohio provided, cake, Teddy Bears for the children and deployment bags for the servicemembers. **180TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Ohio National Guard members go distance in Columbus Marathon

COLUMBUS—More than 7,700 national and international runners braved the cold in the 27th annual Columbus Marathon Oct. 15, navigating a downtown course.

The 40-degree temperatures tested athletes’ bodies as many huddled for warmth prior to the start of the race, which featured both the full 26.2-mile marathon, and for the first time, a 13.1-mile half marathon.

About 80 of the chilled competitors were servicemembers from the Ohio Na-



AB JODI JOICE / 180TH FIGHTER WING MULTIMEDIA CENTER

TSgt. Brian Rozick, of the 180th Fighter Wing Civil Engineering Flight, shares a moment with his daughter at the unit’s farewell ceremony Jan. 3 in Toledo. The engineers deployed to Iraq in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

tional Guard (Army and Air), who ran, in part, to support the National Guard’s involvement in the race.

“Through this event, Soldiers and Airmen feel a little more pride in what they do and in being a U.S. servicemember,” said Chief Master Sgt. Chris Muncy, the state command chief. “Also, many community members have never met a Soldier or Airman and we want to get them out here in front of them.”

The Ohio National Guard co-sponsors the annual event, which provides a great medium to be seen positively in the public eye, said Diane Farrow, marketing director for the Recruiting and Retention Command.

Ohio National Guard participants, who were offered a registration fee waiver and ran in both the marathon and half-marathon events, also benefited from the physical training involved in preparation.

“I wish I had started to prepare a little earlier, although I increased my mileage for training and the (Army physical fitness training) helped me stay loose for the race,” said 1st Lt. Claudio Garcia of the Newark-based 211th Maintenance Company. “I don’t know if I’ll run the half or the full (marathon) next year, but I’ll do something.”

Garcia, who was the Ohio National Guard’s top finisher in the half marathon event, completing it in 1 hour, 33 minutes, 59 seconds, said community members enjoy seeing their Citizen-Soldiers in uniform.

Capt. Christopher Sopko, a C-130 pilot with the 179th Airlift Wing, was the Guard’s top full marathoner, finishing in 3:11:05.

For more in-depth coverage of the marathon and videos, log on to www.ohionationalguard.com. **SPC RYAN A. CLEARY / 196TH MOBILE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT**



COURTESY PHOTO

SPC Leah Workman was the first Soldier in the history of the 1483rd Transportation Company to join the unit as a non-prior service Soldier and make it to the rank of specialist.

1483rd Soldier's move through ranks marks first in her unit's history

WALBRIDGE—Spc. Leah Workman of the 1483rd Transportation Company has a unique part in her unit's history. She was the first member ever to enlist into the Northwestern Ohio unit as a non-prior service a private (E-1) and progress through the ranks to specialist (E-4).

A logistics specialist with the 1483rd, Workman said she had originally planned to become a retail clothing buyer on the civilian side, but, like her father who served in the Navy, she ultimately chose to serve her country.

This achievement is especially significant for the 1483rd because the unit has been in existence just over three years. This newly established unit, dedicated to providing transportation for the movement of cargo by motor transport, held its first drill in August of 2003, in advance of its official organization in September 2004. Nine people were in attendance for that first drill. Two years later the 1483rd is more than 100 Soldiers strong.

"I specifically selected the 1483rd because the unit was so new," said Workman, one of the very first Soldiers to enlist into the unit when it began drilling.

Workman indicated her future plans are to make sergeant, and said she may possibly apply to go to Warrant Officer Candidate School, with the intent to become a maintenance officer. **1483RD TRANSPORTATION COMPANY PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Troop's actions earn him award

STOW—Spc. Alvan Gray finished training with his honor guard team and headed to the mall with his wife, Jessica, to buy a gift for her birthday, which was the following day.

However, on the way to the mall, he instead found himself in the backseat of a mangled vehicle with a wounded 3-year-old boy who also had a birthday the following day.

"I just happened to see a car that was heavily damaged," Gray said. "A truck had run into the pas-

senger side. I didn't see any emergency assistance around. The accident looked pretty fresh—people were still getting out of their cars."

Gray, a medic with the Stow-based Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 145th Armored Regiment, ran to the vehicle and reacted on instinct.

"I looked in the backseat passenger side of the vehicle and there was just blood everywhere," he said. "I looked to see where the blood was coming from and it happened to be a little kid who was in there, he was still in his car seat."

Gray climbed into a backseat covered with blood and glass fragments, and began treating the young boy who he later found out would be 4 years old the following day.

"He had severe lacerations on his right forehead," Gray said. "His mouth was completely lacerated—blood was coming out everywhere. I looked in his mouth. I made sure there wasn't any glass in there. I treated his head wounds with a jacket, I applied pressure and I held his C-Spine (Cervical Spine)."

Gray explained that when a person suffers a blunt force injury, such as being in a car accident, it's easy for the neck to crack or break. If the victim moves their neck in any way, it's easy to shatter vertebrae, which can cause paralysis.

While waiting for help to arrive, Gray talked to the child and calmed him down while the grandmother, who had been driving and was uninjured, stood outside

the vehicle.

"While I'm in their car, trying to make sure he was still breathing, me and him had a cool little talk for about 15 minutes until EMS arrived," he said.

Although it seemed like a long time to Gray, he estimated emergency medical services arrived about 10 to 15 minutes later. After seeing that Gray had control of the child and the bleeding, two of the paramedics stuffed towels around the child's head, taped him to the car seat and slowly carried him to the ambulance.

When the ambulance left, the fire captain on the scene thanked Gray for his actions. Gray and his wife then went to the hospital to check on the boy's status. The boy received stitches and was discharged from the hospital after two days.

Gray, who served four years in the Marine Corps before joining the National Guard in 2001, was awarded the Ohio Commendation Medal for his actions that day during his unit's holiday celebration Dec. 2, at the Stow Armory.

Staff Sgt. John Shaw, the military funeral honors regional coordinator for Gray's honor guard team, was happy to see Gray receive the award.

"Soldiers need to be recognized for doing the right thing and he did what he was supposed to do," Shaw said. "He was just happy that he could help—he calmed the grandmother down and helped keep the kid calm."

Gray is currently attending Stark State University where he is studying to become a paramedic, but eventually wants to become a firefighter. He said he wouldn't have been able to help the young boy if he hadn't received military medical training.

"He was such a brave little kid," he said. "It was probably one of the most rewarding things I've ever done in my life." **SPC HUGH MARTIN / HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 1-145TH HHC ARMORED REGIMENT**

Springfield Airman finishes tops in class at USAF intelligence school

GOODFELLOW Air Force Base, Texas—After six months of strenuous training, Master Sgt. Brian Schaefer, of 178th Fighter Wing, Detachment 1, completed the Technical Applications Specialist technical training at Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas, to become the Air National Guard's first such-trained specialist.

Schaefer completed the course as the top graduate with an overall course average of 99 percent. He is continuing his training at Goodfellow with a follow-on specialized

training course. Upon completion of his training, Schaefer will support the 178th FW, Det. 1 Measurement and Signature Intelligence (MASINT) mission located at the National Air and Space Intelligence Center (NASIC).

The training consists of applying leading edge physical sciences to perform data collection, analysis, observation, study, experimentation, acquisition, maintenance, and research and development.

It includes training in fielding of prototype and operational electronic sensors and systems on specialized geophysical, nuclear radiation, chemical, biological, electro-optic, radio frequency, infrared discrimination, radar, and rapidly deployable and fixed airborne materials sampling platforms.

It also focuses on processing and analyzing scientific data methods to derive, develop, and report first-hand signature information to national command authorities. 178TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Scroggy receives national honor for civilian job as corrections officer

DAYTON—Gilbert Scroggy, a corrections officer at the minimum-security Dayton Correctional Institution, was named National Correctional Officer of the Year by the International Association of Corrections Officers. A sergeant first class with the Ohio Army National Guard's Regional Training Institute, Scroggy is a Basic Noncommissioned Officer's Course instructor in his traditional guardmember role.

Scroggy said even though inmates he monitors have done something wrong to be where they are, he tries to treat them the way he would want to be treated.

"Any one of us can end up in jail," he said, "just see what happens if you are pulled over and get a DUI."

Scroggy credited his father, who had 42 years of service in corrections and the military, as well as his own 22 years of military experience, for providing him the professionalism and discipline to win the awards. Scroggy lives in Clarksville with his wife their two daughters. **SFC DON VOGEL / 145TH REGIMENT (RTI)**

5 guardmembers' children take part in Lewis and Clark experience

BISMARCK, N.D.—Five Ohio high school students, all children of Ohio National Guardmembers, left the creature comforts of their Ohio homes last August for the rugged contours of North Dakota to participate in the Lewis and Clark Youth Rendezvous, a weekend retreat hosted

by the North Dakota National Guard.

The lucky five were Nichole Adams of Clinton, daughter of David Adams, a Master Sgt. assigned to 1st Battalion, 107th Cavalry Regiment; Britni Green of Newark, daughter of Master Sgt. Gregory Green assigned to the 121st Air Refueling Wing; Lisa Lloyd of Mt. Vernon, daughter of Robert Lloyd, a retired Ohio Army National Guard master sergeant; Jacqueline Mayer of Cincinnati, daughter of Lt. Col. Todd Mayer assigned to 2nd Squadron, 107th Cavalry Regiment; and Darryl "D.J." Walters of Hilliard, son of Senior Master Sgt. Darryl Walters assigned to the 164th Weather Flight.

The youth were among 318 high school juniors and seniors selected nationwide based on written essays which they submitted through the event website. The topic of the 1,000 to 1,500 word essays was the relevance of today's Army Values to the historic Lewis and Clark expedition. The event was free for all contest winners and chaperones.

Walters said he learned a lot during the trip, and it afforded him the opportunity to exhibit the Army values he wrote about in his qualifying essay.

"I became interested when I learned that we were going to see the same things Lewis and Clark saw 200 years earlier. I thought that was really cool," Walters said. "I learned that the Lewis and Clark journey was more serious than I always thought."

Activities and events provided attendees an opportunity to learn about American Indian culture and military heritage while exploring an historic portion of the famous trail. The students rotated through three camps along the trail including Fort Abraham Lincoln, which features an infantry and cavalry outpost, along with the nearby On-a-Slant Indian Village, where they were treated to a tour of the location along with re-enactments of the daily life of U.S. Soldiers in the 1870s. At this site, students also competed in archery, target shooting with paintball guns and a football toss. **OHIO NATIONAL GUARD PUBLIC AFFAIRS**



SGT (RET.) NEAL POWERS / CO. A, 112TH ENGINEER BATTALION

After nearly 30 years of military service, SFC Michael Sheppard, of Detachment 1, 1486th Transportation Company and the shop chief at Field Maintenance Shop (FMS) # 1 in Mansfield, retired in February.

28-year Soldier recollects career as 'shepherd' of men in wartime, peace

WOOSTER—Michael Sheppard was right where his country wanted him in 1967—sitting in a bunker in Dong Tam, South Vietnam, at the 9th Infantry Division Headquarters base camp. Across from him was the 10-member rifle squad he led on a daily basis.

"We had just come back from a 3-5 day reconnaissance mission and we were critiquing the day's actions," Sheppard said.

Sheppard had been in the Army just 15 months and was already a buck sergeant, "shepherding" his men through a challenging time.

"That seems like yesterday," said Sheppard, who just recently completed 28 years of total military service and retired in February as a sergeant first class from the Ohio Army National Guard's Detachment 1, 1486th Transportation Company, Mansfield.

He also retires as a federal technician, with 22 years on the job, most recently as shop chief for Field Maintenance Shop No. 1, an OHARNG maintenance facility, also in Mansfield. Since his enlistment with Company A, 112th Engineer Battalion, Wooster, in 1981, Sheppard also served as a heavy equipment operator, supply sergeant, motor sergeant, platoon sergeant, first sergeant and unit administrator. **SGT (RET.) NEAL POWERS / COMPANY A, 112TH ENGINEER BATTALION**

\$2,000 referral bonuses available for those not eligible for G-RAP

While traditional guardmembers can earn \$2,000 or one year of health care for a referral under the Guard Recruiting Assistance Program (G-RAP), other Soldiers ineligible for G-RAP can collect bonuses under the "Every Soldier A Recruiter" (ESAR) Referral Bonus Pilot Program.

Effective Nov. 13, this program permits a bonus of up to \$2,000 to eligible Soldiers and retirees who refer an applicant to the Regular Army, Army Reserve or Army National Guard (ARNG). Applicants must successfully complete basic and advanced individual training and cannot have prior service in the Armed Forces.

Previously, ESAR bonuses were for \$1,000; there are no retroactive provisions to the recent change.

Active-duty and reserve component Soldiers, as well as Army retirees, are eligible for the ESAR referral bonus, to include Active Guard/Reserve (AGR), military technicians and Soldiers on Active Duty for Special Work (ADSW) assignments. Those who serve in a recruiting or retention assignment, however, are not eligible.

The bonus is not paid to sponsors referring members of their immediate families, to include spouses, children, parents, stepparents and siblings. For applicants interested in joining the ARNG, the sponsor must submit

the referral through the online portal located at www.1800goguard.com/ESAR or by calling 1-800-GO-GUARD, extension 3727. For applicants interested in joining the regular Army or Army Reserve, the sponsor must submit the referral through the SMART link at www.usarec.army.mil/smart or by calling 1-800-223-3735, extension 6-0473.

For ESAR, the first half of the bonus is paid when the Soldier begins basic training, and the second half is paid after the Soldier graduates from One-Station Unit Training or Advanced Individual Training. For G-RAP, the sponsor will receive \$1,000 upon enlistment and another \$1,000 upon successful shipment to basic training.

The ESAR Bonus Program cannot be combined with the G-RAP incentives. For more information on G-RAP, visit www.guardrecruitingassistant.com. **DIANE L. FARROW** / OHARNG RECRUITING MARKETING

Ohio National Guard retiree earns recruit referral incentive, first in state

When Bill Dobscha began helping his daughter's friend figure out how to finance her college education, he never dreamed he would earn \$2,000 for pointing her toward the National Guard.

Dobscha, Ohio's first retiree to earn the monetary incentive under the Guard Recruiting Assistance Program (G-RAP), began talking to Katie Simmons about the National Guard after

rate hikes hit at the start of her second year at Ohio University.

Though he retired from the 4-107th Armored Cavalry Regiment 12 years earlier, the former operations sergeant knew the Army National Guard had a lot to offer.

"I knew the Guard could help with the tuition costs and that she would have a marketable skill when she got out," Dobscha said.

Simmons enlisted on Sept. 22, just 10 days after the G-RAP program opened to retirees.

"Everything just fell into place," Dobscha said regarding the timing of Simmons' enlistment.

Only Army National Guard retirees are currently eligible to participate in the Guard Recruiting Assistance Program; they can earn up to \$2,000 for each new recruit who enlists and reports to basic training. Traditional members of the Army or Air National Guard are eligible to earn \$2,000 or one year of individual health care coverage for one accession. For every three accessions, Guard members can earn \$6,000 or family health care coverage for one year.

For more information, visit www.guardrecruitingassistant.com. **DIANE L. FARROW** / OHARNG RECRUITING MARKETING

Website, toll-free number provide free tax assistance to servicemembers

Military OneSource, the Defense Department's reference and resource center, is now offering free federal and state tax preparation and filing services this tax season, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

This is provided at no cost to active duty, National Guard and Reserve members (regardless of activation status) and their family members.

For more information, log onto www.militaryonesource.com or call (800) 342-9647. **ADJ. GEN. DEPT. PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Reserve Pay for 4 Drill Periods

Unofficial Copy (Effective April 1, 2007)

YEARS OF SERVICE

Grade	<2	2	3	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
O-8	1127.08	1163.96	1188.48	1195.20	1225.88	1276.96	1288.84	1337.36	1351.24	1393.04	1453.44	1509.20	1546.44	1546.44	1546.44
O-7	936.52	980.00	1000.16	1016.16	1045.12	1073.72	1106.84	1139.84	1172.96	1276.96	1364.80	1364.80	1364.80	1364.80	1371.72
O-6	694.16	762.56	812.60	812.60	815.68	850.68	855.28	855.28	903.88	989.84	1040.28	1090.68	1119.36	1148.40	1204.76
O-5	578.64	651.84	697.00	705.48	733.60	750.48	787.52	814.68	849.76	903.52	929.08	954.40	983.08	983.08	983.08
O-4	499.28	577.96	616.52	625.12	660.92	699.28	747.04	784.32	810.16	825.00	833.64	833.64	833.64	833.64	833.64
O-3	438.96	497.64	537.12	585.60	613.60	644.40	664.36	697.12	714.12	714.12	714.12	714.12	714.12	714.12	714.12
O-2	379.24	431.96	497.52	514.32	524.88	524.88	524.88	524.88	524.88	524.88	524.88	524.88	524.88	524.88	524.88
O-1	329.24	342.64	414.20	414.20	414.20	414.20	414.20	414.20	414.20	414.20	414.20	414.20	414.20	414.20	414.20
O-3E	0.00	0.00	0.00	585.60	613.60	644.40	664.36	697.12	724.72	740.56	762.12	762.12	762.12	762.12	762.12
O-2E	0.00	0.00	0.00	514.32	524.88	541.60	569.80	591.60	607.84	607.84	607.84	607.84	607.84	607.84	607.84
O-1E	0.00	0.00	0.00	414.20	442.36	458.68	475.40	491.84	514.32	514.32	514.32	514.32	514.32	514.32	514.32
W-5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	806.60	847.52	878.00	911.76	
W-4	453.60	488.00	502.00	515.80	539.52	562.96	586.76	622.56	653.92	683.76	708.12	731.96	766.96	795.68	828.48
W-3	414.24	431.52	449.20	455.04	473.60	510.12	548.12	566.04	586.72	608.04	646.36	672.32	687.80	704.28	726.68
W-2	366.56	401.24	411.92	419.28	443.04	480.00	498.28	516.32	538.36	555.56	571.20	589.84	602.12	611.92	611.92
W-1	321.76	356.32	365.72	385.40	408.68	442.96	458.96	481.36	503.40	520.68	536.60	556.00	556.00	556.00	556.00
E-9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	548.08	560.52	576.16	594.60	613.12	642.88	668.04	694.56	735.04
E-8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	448.64	468.52	480.80	495.52	511.44	540.24	554.84	579.64	593.40	627.32
E-7	311.88	340.40	353.44	370.76	384.20	407.36	420.36	443.56	462.80	475.96	489.92	495.40	513.60	523.36	560.56
E-6	269.76	296.80	309.92	322.64	335.92	365.88	377.52	400.00	406.92	411.96	417.80	417.80	417.80	417.80	417.80
E-5	247.20	263.72	276.44	289.52	309.84	348.52	350.68	350.68	350.68	350.68	350.68	350.68	350.68	350.68	350.68
E-4	226.60	238.20	251.08	263.80	275.04	275.04	275.04	275.04	275.04	275.04	275.04	275.04	275.04	275.04	275.04
E-3	204.56	217.44	230.56	230.56	230.56	230.56	230.56	230.56	230.56	230.56	230.56	230.56	230.56	230.56	230.56
E-2	194.52	194.52	194.52	194.52	194.52	194.52	194.52	194.52	194.52	194.52	194.52	194.52	194.52	194.52	194.52
E-1>4	173.52	173.52	173.52	173.52	173.52	173.52	173.52	173.52	173.52	173.52	173.52	173.52	173.52	173.52	173.52
E-1<4	160.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

ONGSP APPLICATION DEADLINES

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

It is the responsibility of each individual student-guardmember to hand deliver or mail a completed application to the **Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program Office**, located at the Adjutant General's Department, 2825 West Dublin Granville Road, Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789, by the deadlines listed above.

This must be done prior to each term a student attends school. You may also renew your application online at www.ongsp.org.

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



COURTESY PHOTO



COURTESY PHOTO

LEFT: SGT Nicholas Pavlik, a broadcast journalist with the 196th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, Columbus, displays his Ohio State team spirit with the local children while deployed to Afghanistan in support of the Global War on Terrorism. ABOVE: Before the former governor left office, MG Gregory L. Wayt, Ohio adjutant general (right) presents Gov. Bob Taft (from left) with the National Guard Association of the United States' (NGAUS) Charles Dick Medal of Merit and former First Lady Hope Taft with the NGAUS Patrick Henry Award.

LEFT: BG Matthew L. Kambic (right), Ohio assistant adjutant general for Army, speaks after presenting SPC Brian Johnson, of the 1194th Engineer Company, with an Army Commendation Medal for his outstanding efforts as a Unit Public Affairs Representative (UPAR).

RIGHT: The Camp Grayling, Mich., post commander ordered all flags lowered to half-staff

June 17, 2006, to honor SFC Daniel Crabtree of the Ohio National Guard's Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group, whose funeral was held that day in Green, Ohio.

STEVE TOTH / ADJ. GEN. DEPT. PUBLIC AFFAIRS



CDT ZACHARY FEHRMAN / 196TH MPAD

Guard Snapshots

BELOW: SSG Eric Croley and about 40 other members of the 1487th Transportation Company, along with Van Wert City Schools students and staff, loaded 13 truckloads of

school furniture for a move to brand new facilities in November. RIGHT: Maj Gen Harry "A.J." Feucht (second from right), Ohio assistant adjutant general for Air, speaks in December with a delegation of Serbian military leaders touring the 121st Air Refueling Wing, Columbus.

SSG SCOTT DETLING / 1487TH TRANS. CO.



SSGT DOUGLAS NICODEMUS / 121ST AIR REFUELING WING MULTIMEDIA CENTER

ONG Family Readiness Conference set for April 13-15

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

❑ **Ohio National Guard Annual Family Readiness Conference—April 13-15, Columbus**

This conference is open to the unit commander, military liaison and the family readiness group leadership team. There will also be programming for attendees' children, ages 6 and older.

❑ **Free Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program (PREP) seminars**

For reserve component servicemembers and their spouses or significant others. Retirees who have deployed in support of the Global War on Terrorism also are eligible. Upcoming dates include April 27-28 in the Cincinnati and Columbus areas, and May 4-5 in the Cleveland area.

For more information, log onto www.ong.ohio.gov/family/ or call (800) 589-9914



STEVE TOTH / ADJ. GEN. DEPT. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Appropriately attired for a session with an Old West horse-racing theme, MG Gregory L. Wayt, Ohio adjutant general, speaks to guardmembers and their spouses last April at the 2006 Ohio National Guard Family Readiness Conference.

BUCKEYE GUARD

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