

GUARD

BUCKEYE

MAGAZINE OF THE OHIO ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD
SPRING 2009



AIR NATIONAL GUARD: Saluting the Hometown Heroes

Pages 10-11

LINEAGE LINK UP

Battery B, 1st Battalion,
134th Field Artillery Regiment

Piqua



MISSION:

To destroy, neutralize or suppress the enemy by cannon fires.

DATE & PLACE OF BIRTH:

8 May 1875, Gettysburg, Ohio

PARENT UNIT:

Gettysburg Guard

CAMPAIGN CREDIT:

WORLD WAR I - Ypres-Lys, Meuse-Argonne, Lorraine 1918;
WORLD WAR II - Northern Solomons, Luzon, Normandy (with arrowhead), Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace, Central Europe

AWARDS:

Phillipine Presidential Unit Citation,
Streamer embroidered 17 OCTOBER 1944
TO 4 JULY 1945

Cited in the order of the day of the Belgian Army for action at ST. VITH



1922



1943



1965



2008

GUARD BUCKEYE

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roll call

Spring 2009

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ADJUTANT GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

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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
Maj. Gen. Matthew L. Kambic

Command Sergeant Major, Army
Command Sgt. Maj. Albert M. Whatmough

Command Chief Master Sergeant, Air
Chief Master Sgt. Christopher Muncy

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SPC ZACHARY FEHRMAN / 196TH MOBILE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DET.

The Ohio Army National Guard Joint Incident Site Communication Capability (JISCC) team, 371st Sustainment Brigade Signal Detachment, sets up a satellite in the pre-dawn hours Jan. 17 at Washington D.C.'s Gage Eckington Elementary School. The JISCC team was there to provide communications infrastructure in support of the 56th Presidential Inauguration. *For more, see pages 12-13.*



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ON THE COVER

SALUTING THE AIR NATIONAL GUARD'S HOMETOWN HEROES: Nearly 250 Airmen from the 180th Fighter Wing, Toledo, are honored by military and elected leaders during a send-off ceremony Oct. 5, 2008, before they deploy in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. One of the largest Airman recognition endeavors in Air National Guard history—the Hometown Heroes Salute Campaign—will roll out later this spring with ceremonies to honor an estimated 70,000 current and former Citizen-Airmen nationwide who have deployed for various contingency operations since Sept. 11, 2001. *Photo by Airman 1st Class Amber Williams / 180th Fighter Wing Public Affairs. See pages 10-11.*



on the web @ <http://ong.ohio.gov>

OHARNG: A study in excellence

by Maj. Gen. Matthew L. Kambic
Assistant Adjutant General, Army

As I reflect on the accomplishments of the Ohio Army National Guard since I last came to you in this publication, I am humbled. I also feel privileged to be able to report to you the health of our great organization. As a team we know that our charge is, "When called, we respond with ready units!" It is one thing to establish a great vision, it is another thing altogether to make that vision a reality. This, then, is the story of the men and women of the Ohio Army National Guard.

Our constancy of purpose is producing ready units—ready units that can meet Maj. Gen. Gregory L. Wayt's challenge for preparedness for the "no notice, anytime, anywhere" event. This starts with boots on the ground and achieving all goals associated with the ATAGs Big 5+3. Today, as I write this article, the Ohio Army National Guard has an assigned strength of 11,414 Soldiers or 111.37 percent of its authorized strength. The OHARNG has grown a net 1,022 Soldiers over 16+ months while at the same time having the highest quality boots on the ground as reported by National Guard Bureau. We are averaging 102 Guard Recruiting Assistance Program (GRAP) accessions per month through the early part of the fiscal year and we have put nearly \$6.3 million into the pockets of our Soldiers and retirees since the program's inception in December 2006. We are currently executing our Extension Program at 137.2 percent of the NGB objective and are fourth in the nation. Our No Val Pay rate continues to be half of one percent. Our Duty Military Occupation Specialty Qualification (DMOSQ) rate is 92.67 percent, which is third in the nation. Our accessions exceed our stated objectives and 96 percent of our accessions are high school graduates. The Recruiting Command accessed 672 Soldiers into the Ohio Army National Guard in the first quarter alone. Our attrition for the past 12 months is 14.3 percent, almost four points better than our goal. Finally, we are aggressively engaged with recruiting a diverse force and developing a leadership corps reflective of our force composition. The bottom line—leadership at every level of our organization understands where we must be and is leading every day to improve the quality associated with the ATAGs Big 5+3 metrics and are producing a high-quality, ready force.

While building this quality force, the OHARNG continues to be fully engaged in supporting the Global War on Terrorism. To date, more than 11,500 Soldiers have mobilized and deployed in support of ongoing operations since 9/11. In Training Year 2008 more than 2,500 Soldiers mobilized and deployed including Ohio's largest mobilization since World War II with the mobilization and deployment of the 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Another 1,600 Soldiers will mobilize and deploy in TY09. The manner in which these formations have been assembled and trained has changed dramatically over the last 24 months. With the Secretary of Defense implementing a 12-month reserve component mobilization in January 2007, a shift in training responsibility occurred. The adjutant general is responsible for pre-mobilization training and is the validation approval authority for training conducted during the pre-mobilization training period. As a result, Buckeyes began training Buckeyes. The 37th IBCT was the first formation for which Ohio began its own training program. The training plan has evolved dramatically since early efforts, with the advent of the Pre-mobilization Training Assistance Element (PTAE) and major subordinate command support to the training mission. The results have been nothing short of spectacular as the rigor in training, discipline of our noncommissioned officer corps and our Soldiers, and an



...reflect on your achievement, your contribution to something larger and more significant than yourself, and the outstanding organization you are helping to build.

untiring attention to standards in training have proven to produce outstanding formations that have excelled on the battlefield. An indicator of the effectiveness of our training and the performance of our NCO corps is our great safety record. Leaders at every level must take pride in this record of achievement. It has been earned through hard work, professional leadership, and a determination to protect our combat power.

It isn't only in the GWOT that our formations are excelling. Once again Mother Nature turned brutal on the Gulf Coast and the Ohio National Guard was called to respond. More than 1,000 Soldiers and Airmen responded to the no-notice call for deployment to the Gulf Coast. For the third time in three years, the Ohio National Guard deployed Soldiers to the coast in hurricane relief operations. This time it was Hurricane Gustav and the Ohio Army National Guard supported with transportation and engineer task forces. Along with communications assets from the Ohio Air National Guard, this task force spent two weeks providing aid to the citizens of Louisiana as well as serving as an insurance policy for Hurricane Ike. When the Buckeye Task Force arrived in Louisiana, it was welcomed with open arms and served as an inspiration to the Louisiana National Guard by providing a psychological boost for its tired force. The performance of this task force was once again evidence of the readiness, responsiveness and capability to serve citizens here at home and across the nation possessed by the entire Ohio National Guard.

The men and women of the OHARNG continue to excel at producing readiness, supporting the GWOT and preparing for and meeting the challenges associated with homeland security and homeland defense. You have done this while also executing the largest transformation of our formations since World War II. The requirements of transformation are nearly all behind us now but I would be remiss if I did not mention the professionalism, dedication and commitment of this force to completing this monumental task while achieving such an enviable record in so many other areas. To each Soldier, NCO and officer who has leaned into this work with such effort and determination, I am grateful. Your genius, dedication to the mission, untiring efforts and relentless pursuit of excellence are demonstrated in all that I have discussed. You must take a moment to reflect on your achievement, your contribution to something larger and more significant than yourself and the outstanding organization you are helping to build. The OHARNG is a study in excellence because of you and your contribution to this great team! **EG**

More coordination, resources will help us serve you better

“When called, we respond with ready units.” That is the vision statement of the Ohio National Guard, but more than that, it is the principle that should guide each and every action we take as members of the National Guard.

The Ohio National Guard is doing well at many components of readiness. Our strength is at unprecedented levels. Our training is rigorous. We have the benchmark Family Readiness program in the nation. But we have been less organized and less rigorous in terms of recruiting key communities to support the efforts of our Soldiers and Airmen. Many Guard units are, and have been, doing a great deal of community outreach. For years we have done this in isolation of each other, with few guiding principles or understanding of key communities. That is, until now.

On Feb. 15, 2009, Maj. Gen. Gregory L. Wayt established the Office of Community Outreach within the Office of Government and Public Affairs. Previously, much of our outreach had been “catch and release,” instead of “catch and hold.” Today, the adjutant general has directed us to move away from an *ad hoc* approach to one that is coordinated, synergistic and readiness-oriented.

Since 9/11, when and why we do outreach has changed. Before 9/11, Guardmembers had more free time and fewer overall needs. Today, heavy deployment schedules place new demands on members as well as many of the key communities that can significantly affect Guard readiness. In the post-9/11 environment, we must reach out and meet the needs of key communities by proactively targeting and cultivating mutually beneficial partnerships. Examples of partnerships that can positively contribute to readiness include: maintaining supportive employer relationships, fostering community awareness about and support for Family Readiness programs and attracting females and racial/ethnic minorities into the Guard.

The key communities with whom we want to develop mutually beneficial relationships include: employers, educators, youth, females, racial/ethnic minorities, charitable service and/or caused-based organizations, community service providers and veterans (Guard retirees and veteran service organizations). The Ohio National Guard’s vision for community outreach is “Every citizen an Ohio National Guard Champion.” The mission of community outreach is “To ensure ready units by cultivating and sustaining mutually beneficial relationships in our community.”

Over the past several years, considerable strides have been made to strengthen the Guard’s ability to coordinate existing outreach. The community outreach task force recently identified the key communities,

reaching to communities to employers OUT

Lt. Col. Kathy Lowrey



proposed an action plan, identified the need for committing additional resources to the Office of Community Outreach and started building synergy through improved communication and activity support. In addition, the Employer Readiness Office initiated quarterly joint employer events, an active employer recognition program and supported redeployment integration processes. Most recently, the Alumni Relations Office was staffed with retired Col. James Chisman. Strategic communications to key communities has also been initiated through the community outreach task force, articles in the Buckeye Guard, ongoing correspondence to employers, the Alumni Relations newsletter and TAG quarterly mailings.

It is my privilege to serve you as the new director of community outreach for the Ohio National Guard. I bring a lifetime of community service as a volunteer, chamber of Commerce leader and local political party leader, as well as more than 20 years of varied military experiences in the active Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Ohio Air National Guard. In my civilian career, I have established and developed several work or community “start-up” organizations. Together with senior leaders at the 121 Air Refueling Wing, we turned our ad hoc pre-9/11 community relations program into a proactive and readiness-oriented community outreach program. The orientation flight program was the flagship of this innovative program. My academic preparation includes master’s degrees in community health nursing and political science with a concentration in public administration.

I am excited about working with and for you on this new and important undertaking. Because every single member of the Ohio National Guard has a stake in the success of our community outreach program, I respectfully ask for your involvement and support.

Please feel free to reach out to me and give me your thoughts, suggestions, or ideas. I can be reached at (614) 336-7002 or kathy.lowrey@us.army.mil. 

Lt. Col. Kathy Lowrey is the director of community outreach for the Ohio National Guard

Employer visit to Toledo, Camp Perry proves educational



PHOTO COURTESY OF 180TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

As part of an Ohio National Guard Joint Employer Readiness visit, participants check out military helmets before the Engagement Skills Trainer demonstration last fall at Camp Perry Joint Training Center.

TOLEDO—The 180th Fighter Wing and Camp Perry Joint Training Center hosted a joint employer event, sponsored by The Ohio Adjutant General’s Department, last September.

Twenty-four employers nominated by Ohio Army and Air National Guardmembers had the opportunity to learn about the Guard mission and experience a little bit of what their employees do.

The day was also an opportunity for Ohio National Guard leaders to thank the employers for their sacrifices in a global environment that relies heavily on the reserve components to support worldwide military operations. Many employers said

they learned a lot through the briefings.

“It was so interesting to understand the actual numbers and to understand some of the Ohio responsibility. I had no idea how big of a part the Guard plays,” said Todd Flora of Gordon Food Service.

If a Soldier or Airman missed the chance to honor their employer, there will be chances in the future. The partnership between 180th FW and Camp Perry will be conducted again in May and the event between the 179th Airlift Wing (Mansfield) and Camp Ravenna Joint Military Training Center will be held in July 2009. Both events will be conducted annually during these months. **TECH. SGT. ANNETTE R. KORNASIEWICZ** / 180TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Involvement from retirees, others will help strengthen Ohio National Guard

As part of the adjutant general's comprehensive outreach program, a new initiative known as the Ohio National Guard Alumni Relations Program has been formally established within the Office of Government and Public Affairs. This initiative is designed to reach out to retirees, as well as to former Soldiers and Airmen who have served with the ONG and would like to continue their association beyond retirement or completion of term of service.

- Who are alumni—Soldiers and Airmen who have retired as members of the Ohio Air or Ohio Army National Guard, as well as those who have completed a term of service regardless of where they might live, qualify. ONG alumni reside in all of Ohio's 88 counties as well as most of the 54 states and territories, and many foreign countries. All are welcome and all are encouraged to participate.

- The mission of Alumni Affairs is to build and maintain productive, meaningful and mutually-beneficial relationships and to enhance communication with Ohio Army and Ohio Air National Guard retirees and those who have completed their terms of service in support of the federal, state and community missions of the Ohio National Guard.

- Local and state retiree/Alumni groups—The Alumni Relations Program will not take the place of, or in any way supersede, the many outstanding unit and wing associations that are currently organized and functioning across the state. Rather it will seek to build mutually enhancing relationships, strengthen communications and cooperatively develop synergy with these important groups.

- Program initiatives—A key primary initiative is the development of a comprehensive retiree/alumni database. This database will include mailing addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses, and will be used to provide communication and information to alumni.

Alumni News Update



staying connected >><< COL (Ret.) James Chisman

The information included in the database will not be shared with other organizations unless specifically approved by the ONG and the provider of the information.

- Other program initiatives—Development of an e-mail based newsletter to provide periodic updates to alumni on relevant activities, current events and news of the ONG, as well as other information of mutual interest. Development of an alumni information-based website is also planned.

As a member of the Ohio National Guard for more than 35 years, and a recent retiree, it is my privilege to serve you as the ONG alumni advisor for this program. In this role, I will seek to provide liaison with existing alumni groups and recommend programs that support the needs and desires of alumni. If you have ideas for alumni programs and would like to communicate with me directly, please feel free to contact me at 614-336-7336, or by e-mail at james.chisman@us.army.mil. ONG alumni have served our state, our country and our community with distinction. It is our goal to build an alumni relations program which properly reflects and supports that quality of service. 

Retired Col. James H. Chisman is a federal government contractor serving as the Ohio National Guard Alumni Affairs coordinator.

NATIONAL NEWS

Army National Guard cutting recruiting, retention bonuses across force

ARLINGTON, Va.—Since 2005, the number of Army National Guard enlistees has grown due in large part to enlistment bonuses ranging from \$2,000 to \$15,000.

But that changed March 1 as the Army Guard restructures the way it pays out those bonuses.

“About 78 percent of people that joined the Army National Guard over the last three years received a bonus of some kind,” said Col. Michael Jones, commander of the Army Guard's Strength Command, which oversees recruiting and retention issues. “That will be reduced to about 5 percent going forward.”

A drop in the number of bonuses being paid is a result of several factors.

“We had to scale back on some of the bonuses we were offering due to some funding challenges and trying to live within the

appropriations we've been given,” said Jones, who added that the funding for those bonuses has been affected by the country's current economic environment.

Now bonuses will be linked to specific career fields or units within the Army Guard. Critical military occupational specialties (MOSs) include medical, military intelligence and transportation, among others.

The change in the bonus structure will also affect those who are considering re-enlistment in the Army Guard.

“Our retention bonuses will vary as well,” said Jones. The standard re-enlistment bonus has been \$15,000 for an additional six-year commitment, but “that will be paired back to \$5,000 for units not deploying and if you are deploying, that will be paired down to \$10,000.”

While these financial bonuses are scaled back, other opportunities may be available,

Jones said, such as the option to attend Air Assault, Airborne or other specialized schools. **SSG JON SOUCY** / NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU PUBLIC AFFAIRS

New prototype for Air Force PT uniforms undergoes wear testing

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE—A prototype physical training uniform for the Air Force went through wear testing in March here, at the Pentagon and at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.

Capt. Nick Ferry, program manager for the PT uniform, said the prototypes differ from the current PT uniform in features including: no hood or vents, better reflectivity, decreased noise and lighter weight. The uniform consists of a jacket and slacks, T-shirt, and tapered shorts with pockets. The prototype shorts are longer than the current design, and feature a better-fitting liner. **MIKE WALLACE** / AIR FORCE NEWS SERVICE

General Assembly takes steps to protect Servicemember records, implement educational benefits

At the end of 2008, the Ohio General Assembly enacted several pieces of legislation that would solidify educational benefits for military personnel and would prevent the fraudulent use of Servicemembers' and veterans' personal information.

In an effort to protect Servicemembers from identity theft, the General Assembly passed legislation that exempted Armed Forces discharges from public records requests for 75 years after they are filed with the county recorder's office.

These records can be viewed only by an authorized party. Other parties who request a copy may receive one only if personal information has been redacted. The bill also establishes a criminal penalty for a person who unlawfully uses a deceased military member's persona for commercial purposes and requires that all unauthorized use of such information be reported to law enforcement authorities.

Other legislation also codified components of Ohio Gov. Ted Strickland's GI Promise initiative into state law. Last year, Strickland signed an executive order establishing The Ohio GI Promise, which changes Ohio's residence requirements to allow all veterans of the U.S. Armed Services, their spouses and dependents who choose to attend Ohio colleges and universities to do so at in-state tuition rates.



legislative look with johann klein

The bill also:

- Excuses from jury service a prospective juror who is on active duty, pursuant to an executive order issued by the president, an act of Congress or an order or proclamation of the Governor.

- Creates the Ohio Military Medal of Distinction for members of the military who are killed while serving in a combat zone.

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Ohio National Guard receives federal stimulus money for capital projects
The Ohio National Guard will receive \$8.5 million from the 2009 federal economic stimulus package for energy saving capital improvements. The money will fund 22 projects to modernize National Guard facilities and reduce energy costs for the Adjutant General's Department. Half of the improvements will now be funded without using a single dollar from the capital budget. The stimulus package will fund Ohio National Guard outstanding renewable energy projects, installing solar panels at locations in Columbus, Toledo and at the Camp Ravenna Joint Military Training Center in Newton Falls. These projects will save the National Guard about \$78,000 within the first year of completion, and provide energy savings of about 500,000 kilowatt-hours per year. **AG**

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

Stop loss to end for Army National Guard in September

WASHINGTON—The Army will phase out use of the so-called "stop-loss" program between now and January, Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates said during a March 18 Pentagon press conference.

Since the beginning of his term as defense secretary, Gates has called on the services to eliminate their dependence on the "stop-loss" program, which allows the involuntary extension of Servicemembers' active duty past the scheduled end of their term of service.

The Army is the only service currently using the program. The secretary's decision will eliminate the use of stop-loss for deploying Soldiers. The Army Reserve and National Guard will stop doing so by September, and active Army units will cease stop-loss in January. **JIM GARAMONE / AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE**

COLUMBUS

Command profile



CW5 Dale K. "D.K." Taylor
Joint Force Headquarters-Ohio

Age: 53

Full-Time position: state command chief warrant officer (CCWO), Ohio Army National Guard

Hometown: Circleville

Family: wife, Robbin

When I was younger, I wanted to: be James Bond

Most recent achievement: appointment as the CCWO, representing all Ohio warrant officers

The last good movie I saw was: *Valkyrie*

The book I'm reading is: *Horses for Dummies*

My favorite recreational activity: World War II re-enacting and golf

The one thing I treasure most: being born in the best country in the world

Heroes: my wife, my parents and all members of the military

Nobody knows I'm: a cartoonist

I'm better than anyone else at: driving

I'd give anything to meet: the guy who times the traffic lights

My biggest pet peeve is: armchair quarterbacks and know-it-alls

The three words/phrases that best describe me: ask my wife...

If I could leave today's Guardmembers with one piece of advice it would be: aspire to the highest level possible and leave a legacy of excellence on your way there

FEEDBACK FROM THE FIELD

Recruit Sustainment Program produces three honor grads

As a recruiter for the Ohio Army National Guard I strive to find and enlist applicants who can benefit the National Guard and its purpose. One of my personal goals is to find people who can and will make a difference. I not only look for individuals who will take the oath seriously, but who will also continue to improve as a civilian and as a Soldier.

In February it was my privilege to learn that three of my Soldiers returned home as honor graduates. My first reaction was, "Wow! They listened, learned and achieved everything that was introduced to them at the Recruit Sustainment Program." Although I did take part in mentoring, guiding, and molding these three, I personally cannot take all of the credit for this achievement. These three Soldiers came to me already motivated and dedicated to become members of the Ohio Army National Guard. Spc. Rachel Martelli, Pfc. Christine Miller and Pfc. Dominique Collier graduated from basic training and Advanced Individual Training (AIT) with honors. I must say that being their recruiter is truly my honor.

Spc. Martelli graduated Feb. 19 from military police training at Fort Leonard Wood,



COURTESY PHOTO

Ohio Army National Guard PFC Christine Miller, SPC Rachel Martelli and PFC Dominique Collier receive Army Achievement Medals for being named honor graduates at their respective Advanced Individual Training (AIT) schools.

Mo., as the company distinguished honor graduate and platoon honor graduate. She is a graduate of The Ohio State University. As one of the most timid Soldiers I have encountered, she rose above to find the leader within herself. A true leader will take charge no matter what; Spc. Martelli has become a true leader.

Pfc. Miller graduated Feb. 11 from health care specialist training at Fort Sam Houston, Texas as the company honor graduate. She is currently a student at Columbus State Community College. An outgoing Soldier,

who from the beginning was not afraid to ask the questions and take charge when needed. Pfc. Miller is sure to become a future leader of troops with a passion to succeed.

Pfc. Collier graduated Feb. 11 from health care specialist training at Fort Sam Houston, Texas with the highest company female Army Physical Fitness Test score, and highest company overall APFT score for both men and women. Collier is currently a student at The Ohio State University. The most underestimated of them all at 5 feet 1 inch tall, this Soldier is probably the last person anybody would have expected to be the PT stud. She is an athlete that will stand toe to toe with the biggest of Soldiers and simply smile as

they eat her dust.

All three of these Soldiers are looking to attend Officer Candidate School in the future to pursue the remainder of their career as officers in the Ohio Army National Guard.

Congratulations and HOOAH!

**SSG SHAWN ROSEN
COMPANY A
RECRUITING & RETENTION COMMAND**

Toledo Airman top female fitness performer in basic training class

Airman 1st Class Jade Gaston of the 180th Fighter Wing, Toledo, graduated from her Airman Basic Course at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, as the top Female Athlete in her class.

Fit to fight is stressed from day one to these new combat Airmen. To be recognized as the top Female Athlete (fitness performer) in a basic training class of 600-700 new Airmen is pretty phenomenal.

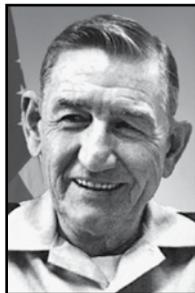
**CMSGT CHRIS MUNCY
OHIO COMMAND CHIEF**

Hansen earns top graduate honors at Airman Leadership School

The McGhee Tyson Air National Guard Airman Leadership School is pleased to report that Senior Airman Roxanna S. Hansen (a member of the 121st Air Refueling Wing, Columbus) was recognized as the recipient of the John L. Levitow Honor Graduate Award for ALS Class 2009-1.

The Honor Graduate Award is presented to the one student in the top one-third of the class who best demonstrates the outstanding attributes of intelligence, leadership ability, enthusiasm, military bearing and dedication to the spirit and the mission of the school

HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHT



McGlone

Celebrating the Year of the Noncommissioned Officer—

CSM Nathan McGlone,
Ohio's first state command sergeant major

A native of Kentucky and a World War II veteran, Nathan B. McGlone joined the Ohio Army National Guard in 1954. He served as the full-time unit administrator for Cincinnati units of the 107th Armored Cavalry Regiment and later in the 137th Armor and

237th Cavalry. In 1968, he became the command sergeant major for the 512th Engineer Battalion. In 1982, he was selected as the first state command sergeant major, a position he held until his retirement in 1983. McGlone died from cancer on October 31, 1993. For more information on The Year of the NCO visit: <http://www4.army.mil/yearofthenco/home.php>. Submitted by Staff Sgt. Joshua Mann, OHARNG Historian

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Secretary of the Army has established 2009 as "The Year of the Noncommissioned Officer." In celebration of this, the Historical Highlights for 2009 will profile significant events in Ohio's NCO history.

and the Total Air Force.

The United States Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard are justifiably proud of this high-caliber Airman; it is with that spirit in mind that we commend Senior Airman Hansen on her exemplary performance and congratulate your unit for sending such an outstanding individual to the McGhee Tyson Airman Leadership School.

**CMSGT DEB DAVIDSON
COMMANDANT**

**ENLISTED PROFESSIONAL MILITARY ED.
MCGHEE TYSON ANGB, TENN.**

Ohio MP participates in foreign exchange program in UK

As an 18-year Army veteran, I was honored to represent my state and my command in England last year during the annual two-week U.S./U.K. Noncommissioned Officer Exchange Program. The program has had great success in helping participants teach and learn from one another about the different ways we conduct missions.

I was assigned to the 253rd Royal

Military Police Company (V) where I felt immediately accepted as one of their own. Our mission started with great training at Altcar Training Area where we qualified with their standard weapon, the SA-80 rifle, and conducted a virtual mission on a firearms training simulator. The training culminated with an exercise where our platoon captured an insurgent wanted for terrorist activities. Finally, we completed a timed confidence course—a team event. A fellow Ohio Army National Guard Soldier also with the exchange program, Sgt. Andrea Elliot from the 323rd Military Police Company, played an instrumental role in leading her team and breaking the course record.

The company moved to a forward support area in Swynerton, where we were to begin our mission for Exercise Griffin Focus 08. The mission goal was to assist the movement of the Queens Own Royal Gurkha Logistical Regiment from Swynerton to the rear support area in Catterick. We assisted the movement by conducting route signing, security and maintenance for

the main supply route, and the company maintained the main supply route until the entire regiment had completed the move without any losses. I was assigned to a section where I learned the company's daily operations and how individual sections operate—it's good to know that Soldiers have the same complaints no matter what army they're in!

Upon our return to London, we were given a grand tour of many of the wonderful sites including Buckingham Palace, the Tower of London—home of the crown jewels—Parliament, Big Ben, London Bridge and the London Underground as well as the many shops and historic spots in London.

The opportunity was a highlight in my career. I made friends that I know will last a lifetime and had the opportunity to extend our friendship and support from across the pond. I also learned they still like to call us "The Colonies!"

**SSG JASON HODGE
324TH MILITARY POLICE COMPANY**

Ohio National Guard unveils new website, official logo

Compiled by

Adj. Gen. Dept. Public Affairs Office

Navigating to <http://www.ohionationalguard.com> over the last few months, users were sure to notice some major changes, most importantly the new web address: <http://ong.ohio.gov>. The recent changes make the site easier to navigate and modernize its appearance.

The new format has been standardized for all State of Ohio agencies and provides quick links to resources for National Guardmembers and Families, multimedia downloads, press information, Ohio National Guard jobs, recruiting information, Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program information and State Partnership Program updates.

Changes and improvements to the new website are made daily and users are encouraged to make visiting the site a part of their daily routine.

Throughout the new website, and on correspondence and recruiting and incentive items, people are sure to notice another change—the Ohio National Guard has adopted an official logo. The circular logo, a minuteman in front of the Ohio Burgee,



bearing the inscriptions "OHIO NATIONAL GUARD" and "SINCE 1788," is a simple and immediately recognizable representation of the department. Designed by Ohio Army National Guard 1st Lt. Kevin Kelchen of the J6 directorate and Russell Galeti of the Government and Public Affairs Office, the logo is rich with symbolism. The minuteman is a traditional symbol of the National Guard and represents the Ohio National Guard's chief product of readiness. The Ohio Burgee and phrase "OHIO NATIONAL GUARD" reference Ohio, and



The official Ohio National Guard logo (above, left) and new website (front page, shown above), located at <http://ong.ohio.gov>.

"SINCE 1788" conveys a tradition of readiness which predates even the state itself. The two stars denote the department as a two-star command. The new logo will replace previous unofficial symbols and be posted on the website for units and families to download once rules governing its use have been finalized. **8G**

Introducing the NEWEST RECRUITS

to the Ohio Army National Guard Recruiting Command

Story by Diane Farrow, director of marketing, OHARNG-RRC

Photo illustrations by Sgt. Parker Steele

In most work places, getting day-to-day tasks done and done well goes unnoticed. In the Ohio Army National Guard Recruiting and Retention Command, where meeting the personnel strength mission means everything, celebrating successes is not taken lightly.

Recognition for recruiters can range from “going green” on the assistant adjutant general for Army’s tracker, receiving a unique giveaway item such as an Army Combat Uniform-design pattern computer bag or winning an incentive trip sponsored by National Guard Bureau.

Recently, the Recruiting Command took things to the next level by ensuring successful recruiters were recognized by the general public as well as their peers.

“With the increasing popularity of vehicle advertising, we decided to wrap a few of the GSA (U.S. General Services Administration) sedans that our recruiters drive on a daily basis,” said Maj. Jodie McFee, executive officer for the Recruiting and Retention Command. “Recipients of the wraps were selected based on the high levels of success in the command.”

McFee said four top recruiters and one Recruiting Company were selected to promote the Guard during their daily travels. “The vehicles attract so much attention, they can also be used as a part of a recruiting display, it’s really up to the

areas how they are going to be used,” she said.

Two vehicles received a custom design developed by Revolution Wraps of Lincoln, Neb. With a base color of eye-catching blue, this design has an artistic rendering of the Ohio burgee on one fender, and the American flag on the other. The rear quarter panels display silhouettes of Soldiers on duty. The National Guard logo, the Soldiers’ Creed and combat boot prints are woven throughout the design.

The wraps for the three other sedans were designed by Docupak of Alabaster, Ala. Two of the designs have the Dale Earnhardt Jr. No. 88 car theme—one with the ACU pattern and one with the black and silver “Citizen Soldier” motif. The third Docupak wrap is also outfitted in ACU pattern, but it celebrates the role of the National Guardmember by showcasing silhouettes of Soldiers in combat gear.

The recruiters of Cleveland’s Company D (the Delta Dawgz) received one of the Revolution Wraps designs since they won the Fiscal Year 2008 “Private Roger Young Award,” which is presented annually to the best overall OHARNG Recruiting and Retention company, as measured by percentage of mission achievement. The Dawgz’ mission percentage was 127.64 percent; they enlisted 351 Soldiers on a mission of 275. The car will be driven by the monthly top Recruiting and Retention noncommissioned officer within Company D. **SG**



Recruiter Profiles



Staff Sgt. Sandra Mesenburg
India Company, Toledo



Staff Sgt. Sandra Mesenburg wrote the most enlistment contracts in the state of Ohio during FY08. Primarily recruiting out of the Norwalk area in Huron County, Mesenburg contracted 37 Soldiers, exceeding her mission of 23 by 14 Soldiers, or 61 percent. Mesenburg is one of the top recruiters in Northwest Ohio and the only female Recruiter in India Company.

Sgt. 1st Class Jason Hillebrand
Alpha Company, Columbus



Sgt. 1st Class Jason Hillebrand recruits on the main campus of Ohio State University in Columbus, where he also functions as liaison for the ROTC program. In FY08, Hillebrand accessed 33 new Soldiers and was nominated as the NCO of the Year for Alpha Company. His devotion to duty, professional attitude and compassion for Soldiers was also the inspiration for the "RSP Leadership Award," new to the Recruiting Command in FY08; Hillebrand was the first recipient.



Sgt. 1st Class Rick Hance
Bravo Company, Cincinnati



Sgt. 1st Class Rick Hance is making great strides in achieving his FY09 mission. By the end of January, Hance had already written 15 contracts, when only eight were needed to keep him on track for his annual mission of 24. Hance is a strong proponent of the four tenets of strength maintenance—recruiting, attrition management, retention and the RSP. Hance has worked hard at building relationships with the units he serves at the Woodlawn Armory in Cincinnati.

Staff Sgt. Michael Doney
Echo Company, Akron-Canton



Staff Sgt. Michael Doney was named the R&R Command NCO of the Year for 2008. As a newly assigned rookie recruiter in FY08, he finished last year at 140 percent of mission. Doney is a qualified Army drill sergeant, and he's one of the top RSP cadre/trainers in the Northeast Region of Ohio. As a rural area recruiter responsible for all of Wayne County, Doney does a lot of driving, so the car is expected to get a lot of attention.



AIR NATIONAL GUARD: Saluting the Hometown Heroes

Hometown Heroes Salute Campaign rolls out this spring to honor what could be more than 70,000 Citizen-Airmen who've deployed since 9/11

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

They sometimes deploy at a moment's notice, leave for their mission, and come back before anyone but their closest Family and friends might notice they have been gone.

But the fact is they have served—whether for a month or more than a year—in support of U.S. Air Force contingency operations stateside and in several locations that most people seldom hear about. By National Guard Bureau estimates, there are more than 70,000 current or former Citizen-Airmen nationwide who have deployed for 30 consecutive days or more since 9/11, according to Linda Mauro Brooks, Hometown Heroes Salute program manager.

Announced last fall and set to roll out later this spring, the Air National Guard's Hometown Heroes Salute Campaign will recognize those eligible Airmen who deployed for Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, Hurricane Katrina and other contingency operations that meet the 30-day minimum criteria.

"To say thank you is great, but it's just not enough," Brooks said. "I think this (program) is going that one step further."

Phase I of the program began in January—and officially kicks off in mid-May with the first ceremony nationwide at the 159th Fighter Wing in New Orleans, La. It is scheduled to run through December, during which time all eligible Air National Guardmembers should receive the First Tier Award, a cherry-wood encased letter of appreciation signed by former Air Guard Director, Gen. Craig R. McKinley, now chief of the National Guard Bureau, and ANG Command Chief Master Sgt. Richard Smith. The award features a commemorative coin that was designed, in part, by Ohio Air National Guard Airman First Class Joe Harwood of the 179th Airlift Wing, Mansfield.

Reinforcing the program's goal of properly recognizing Citizen-Airmen for their accomplishments, it is a requirement for the awards to be presented formally in a planned ceremony, open to the public.

"The Air National Guard Hometown Heroes Salute program will recognize the great contributions of our Airmen, and will also recognize the contributions of our Families that serve beside us," said Maj. Gen. Gregory L. Wayt, Ohio adjutant general. "This program will recognize our great employers that support our Citizen-Airmen and recognize their contributions to our national security."

Family members and community-employer centers of influence will be recognized with gifts at the ceremonies as well—an engraved pen and pencil set for spouses and significant others; unique Hometown Heroes Salute "dog tags" for children; and, an HHS logo medallion for nominated centers of influence who, in many cases, have provided extraordinary support to their Airmen when they deploy.

A complete, three-tiered recognition system will start in 2010 that, in addition to the First Tier Awards, will provide a framed American flag with inset coins for succeeding deployments of 180-365 consecutive days, and an eagle statuette for deployments more than 366 consecutive days. Although Airmen can earn all three awards, they cannot receive an award more than once.

"It was the right thing to do for our Airmen—it was long overdue," said Chief Master Sgt. Christopher Muncy, Ohio's command chief and chair of the Air National Guard Enlisted Field Advisory Council that



MSGT MIKE R. SMITH / NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU PUBLIC AFFAIRS

CMSgt Christopher Muncy, command chief of the Ohio National Guard, holds up a Hometown Heroes Salute prototype award at the Air National Guard Senior Leadership Conference last fall. The award will be given to eligible National Guard Airmen who have deployed on orders for more than 30 consecutive days in a worldwide contingency operation since 9/11.

planned and developed the Hometown Heroes Salute Campaign.

Muncy, who will continue to oversee the program as the recently named successor to Smith as Air National Guard command chief, said the Hometown Heroes Salute takes a seven-pronged approach that emphasizes retention, family recognition, community relations, marketing, legislative support, employer appreciation and that it is the right thing to do for Airmen who have served.

The program is modeled after the Army National Guard's successful Freedom Salute Campaign, which for more than five years has been used to recognize Army National Guard Soldiers who have deployed in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

Brooks said a web-based ordering system and an information site will be online soon. Many helpful tools will be available on the website for each unit's HHS representative, including guidelines on how to plan and manage a successful ceremony in the unit's community. **AG**

EDITOR'S NOTE: Master Sgt. Mike R. Smith with National Guard Bureau Public Affairs contributed to this report.

Airman's artistic abilities shine through in 'Salute Campaign'

Story by 1st Lt. Nicole L. Ashcroft
179th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

MANSFIELD—Excellence. Multi-talented. Going above and beyond. These are just a few words which could be used to describe many members of the 179th Airlift Wing, but particularly Airman First Class Joseph D. Harwood, who helped design the commemorative Hometown Heroes Salute Campaign coin.

The design—a combination of Harwood's concept and a design by a Michigan National Guard Airman—will be part of the largest Airman recognition endeavor in Air National Guard history as more than 70,000 coins will be distributed to Citizen-Airmen who have deployed in contingencies since 9/11.

"It is kind of cool that one of the designs that got chosen was from Ohio," said Chief Master Sgt. Christopher Muncy, Ohio Air National Guard command chief. "That logo is pretty much going on everything."

Many at the Mansfield Lahm Airport, where the 179th is based, know Harwood as "Joey," the public affairs photographer. But what they don't realize is all the many talents he

possesses. He began his career by taking art classes at The Ohio State University, at which time an opportunity presented itself for him to work as an understudy to a fine arts professional, Bill Kufahl, in Cleveland.

There, Harwood developed his skills with charcoal, pastel and oil painting.

From there, Harwood was presented yet another excellent opportunity, this time with the Richland Carrousel Park, to help them restore the painted figures which included horses and other animals.

It wasn't long after completion of the project that he decided to join the Ohio Air National Guard and try his hand in photography.

During his time at the 179th Airlift Wing, Harwood has taken on numerous projects, including painting the recruiters' trailer, painting a large mural in the operations commander's office and he's begun working on a mural for the recruiters.

He has started an oil painting of a C-130 "Hercules" airplane commemorating the 179th's 60th anniversary that he said he plans to submit for the Air Force Art Program. **AG**



SSGT ROBERT KOEHLER / 179TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

ABOVE: SrA Joe Harwood checks his camera gear during a photo shoot assignment. Harwood recently helped design the commemorative coin (inset) which will be given to more than 70,000 Airmen nationwide as part of the Air National Guard's Hometown Heroes Salute Campaign.

Chief Muncy goes to Washington; named top enlisted Airman

Story by Capt. Michelle Smith
Adj. Gen. Dept. Public Affairs

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Chief Master Sgt. Christopher Muncy left Ohio April 15 to serve as the Air National Guard's next command chief.

He will take the experience he has gained during the past four years as Ohio's command chief, and advise Lt. Gen. Harry M. Wyatt, director of the Air National Guard, on matters concerning the readiness, morale, proper use and progress of more than 90,000 enlisted Airmen nationwide.

"Chief Master Sgt. Muncy's dedication to the Ohio Air National Guard is tremendous," said Maj. Gen. Gregory L. Wayt, Ohio adjutant general. "He has been my wingman and an integral part of Ohio's command team, and his example, commitment and loyalty will make a huge difference to Airmen across America."

Muncy brings a unique perspective to the Air National Guard's highest enlisted position. "Traditionally, our senior leaders have come from the wing structure," Muncy said. Although Muncy served in the 178th Fighter Wing, his background



COURTESY PHOTO

Serving in the Air National Guard is the "family business" for the Muncys—Capt Becky (Muncy) Rudy (from left), SrA Aubrey Muncy, Adam Muncy, A1C Peter Muncy, retired TSgt Monique Muncy and CMSgt Christopher Muncy.

in the Air National Guard includes mostly smaller, geographically separated units (GSU) such as Springfield's 269th Combat Communications Squadron. "It shows the path of the National Guard is taking as we transform into more light, mobile and joint units with smaller equipment footprints," Muncy said.

Muncy's wife, Monique, is retired from the Ohio Air National Guard and three of his four children currently serve. "It's the family business," he quipped.

"It is also the National Guard Family that keeps people here," Muncy said. "If it ever occurred to me to do something else with my life, something about the Air National Guard Family I belong to made me want to stay."

The command chief has deployed four times on behalf of the nation's defense during his 32-year career, three times in support of the Global War on Terrorism. Muncy has seen the Air National Guard adapt to a changing world since he began serving his country, but he said he would not change anything about his career.

"I have the absolute greatest job in the world," Muncy said.

He employs that enthusiasm when he speaks with the more than 800 new Air National Guard chiefs who pass through the Air Guard Chief Executive Course each year. Muncy asks each new chief what else they are doing for the National Guard.

"Less than one percent of the nation wants to serve, and I still want to inspire them to do just a little more," Muncy said. **AG**

JISCC IN TIME:

Ohio National Guard communications team provides critical support to Presidential Inaugural

Story by Spc. Zachary R. Fehrman
196th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

WASHINGTON, D.C. —As more than a million people gathered at the National Mall outside the Capitol building for the 56th Presidential Inauguration Jan. 20, the Ohio Army National Guard's 371st Sustainment Brigade Signal Detachment, Joint Incident Site Communications Capability (JISCC) team was providing communications support to the 168th Infantry Regiment, Iowa Army National Guard, as part of Task Force Train.

The JISCC team provided secure and unsecured Internet, Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) phone service and radio communications as part of TF Train, operating out of Gage Eckington Elementary School, just north of the Capitol.

"As a team, we are not successful unless the task force is successful. Our job is to find out what their needs and expectations are, and do our best to fulfill that role," said Capt. Don Flowers, the detachment commander.

Days earlier, as part of mission preparation, the team conducted a communications exercise in a small classroom at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., where the JISCC was completely assembled and tested.

The room filled with a dull whir as the antenna control unit was powered up and illuminated with green indicator lights. Some of the attached cables ran out into the parking lot where Spcs. Jeremiah Jones and Jerry Britt had set up the satellite that began its southerly scan for the host satellite. The other half were Category 5 cables that ran to VoIP phones that Sgt. William Walters tested.

"With any equipment, with a communications exercise or a mission, the more familiar you are with it, the more you get your hands on it—the better," said Walters, a detachment squad leader.

"These guys have done real, live missions in the past for Gustav, the FOC (Joint Task Force



ABOVE: WO1 Michael Brigante (left) and SSG Brian Nagy of the Ohio Army National Guard's 371st Sustainment Brigade Signal Detachment's Joint Incident Site Communications Capability team conduct an exercise Jan. 15 in preparation to support the 56th presidential inauguration in Washington D.C. Jan. 20. LEFT: SGT Timothy Williams works on a computer server. The JISCC team along with 10 other state JISCCs supported the 56th presidential inauguration by providing Internet, Voice over Internet phones and radios.



73 Fully Operational Capable exercise), and annual training," said 1st Lt. Christian Kuntz, a platoon leader on his first mission with the team. "The first mission for me is about getting more familiar with the equipment and learning everyone's niche."

Once the equipment was checked and any technical or hardware issues fixed, the 11-person team loaded the gear back on the JISCC trailer and prepared to move to Gage Eckington Elementary School.

The trailer was packed with video tele-

conferencing (VTC) equipment, VoIP phones, laptop computers, servers, generators and the satellite in large cases. The trailer is packed in such a way that no weight can be added without putting it off balance or out of Department of Transportation regulations. The JISCC Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) manual, which Flowers and the detachment are constantly updating, diagrams specifically the order and placement of each bag and case, Flowers said.

When the team arrived at the school Jan. 18, they met with Sgt. Maj. Dan Cain, in charge of operations with the 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry Regiment, and decided to set up the tactical operations center (TOC) in a basement classroom of the large, run-down school.

The mission of the Iowa National Guard Soldiers was to provide hard cordons to guide bus traffic to and from the Mall near the Capitol building, as well as providing cordons for pedestrian traffic to the inaugural attendees.

The JISCC team encountered more problems than usual with the set-up at the school, which typically takes about two hours, including setting up a tent and generators, Flowers said.

“Our record is 1:45, so it taking a day and a half is just painful.”

A lot of the problem was on the other end, at Camp Roberts, Calif. Because Camp Roberts controls many of the fire walls and allows the JISCC satellite to access their satellite, many processes were delayed, according to Staff Sgt. Brian Nagy, the noncommissioned officer-in-charge.

“They had some issues getting things up and running, but we are very grateful,” Cain said. “This equipment is new to us, and they have really been working hard.”

Having access to the Internet and Army Knowledge Online helped the Iowa unit use templates and plans they had created in their home state and apply them at the TOC. It also helped to have VoIP phones and multiple types of radios that could be used during the operations, Cain said.

One way the JISCC team ensures radio and phone communication is the Wide Area Information System (WAIS). The WAIS works as port for a radio or phone to call, to then be patched through to a similar or different signal.

The operation began at 11 p.m. Jan. 19 to allow Iowa Soldiers to get into position prior to the arrival of large numbers of pedestrians and cars traveling to the Mall on Inauguration Day.

“Stay focused. If they’re not successful, we aren’t successful. If they’re successful, no one else will care that we are here,” Flowers said.

The operations on Inauguration Day for the JISCC team continued throughout the day, ensuring that the patrols could check in with the TOC and report any incidents or emergencies. The VTC device also allowed for those in the TOC to pause while the new commander in chief took the oath of office and addressed the nation, as well as monitor other national news.

The operation ended and the JISCC team quickly packed the cases and wrapped cords to prepare them to be skillfully load back into the trailer.

“It was a really great experience for us. They’ve really been great to work with and provided all the support we needed,” Cain said. **SG**

National Guard integral to historic inaugural mission

ARLINGTON, Va.—About 9,300 National Guard Soldiers and Airmen joined thousands of active-duty and reserve military members from all services to support the 56th Presidential Inaugural.

The Jan. 20 inauguration marked the Guard’s largest contribution to a presidential inauguration since Minutemen gathered for the First Muster in Massachusetts more than 372 years ago.

“This is a historic first,” Air Force Gen. Craig McKinley, the chief of the National Guard Bureau, said. “The National Guard is contributing not only to the federal response overseas, but we’re also working very closely with our states and our governors. The inauguration is another example of how all our states, territories and the District of Columbia are performing their jobs.”

While National Guardmembers from a dozen different states and D.C. provided communication, transport, traffic control and medical and logistical support to civilian authorities staging the inauguration, others marched in the inaugural parade.

Air Force Senior Airman Jodi Leininger traveled here at the start of the year for a two-month mission to document the military’s contribution to the inauguration for historical purposes.

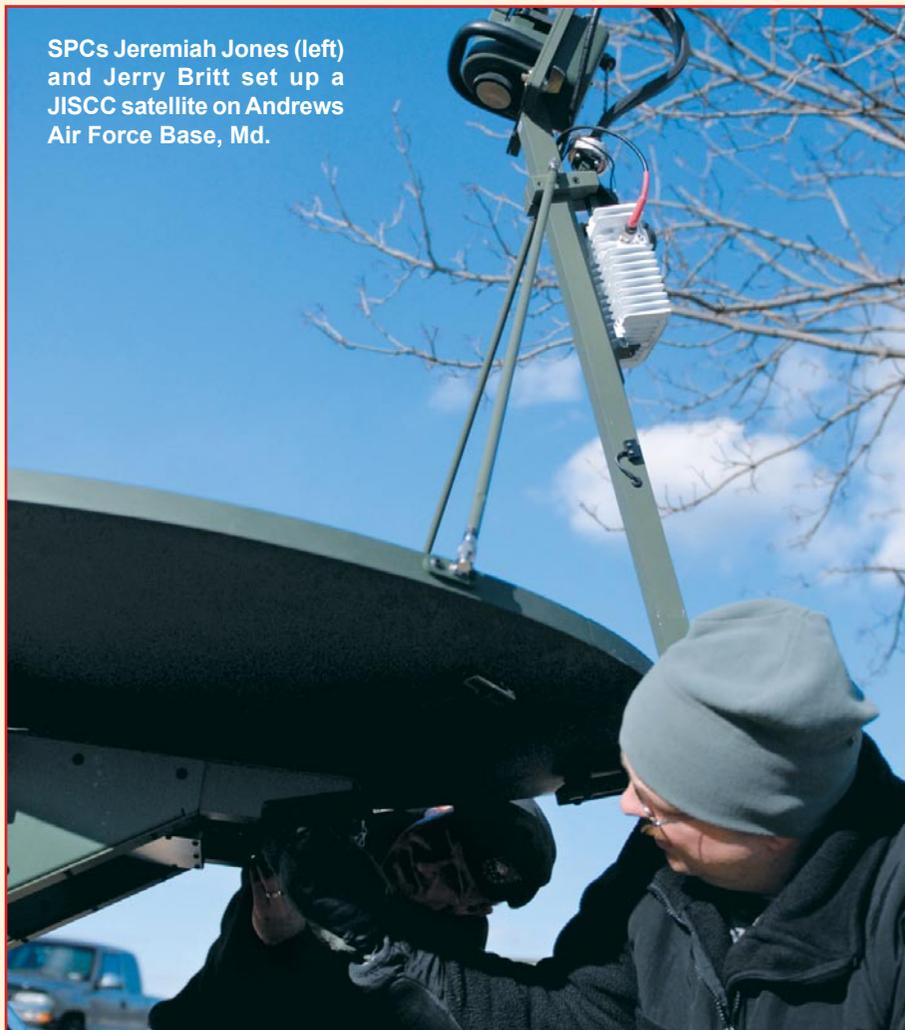
As a result, this self-proclaimed “small-town girl,” who serves with the Ohio Air National Guard’s 180th Fighter Wing, was able to photograph the president-elect during the run-up to the inauguration.

“That was, to me...the biggest opportunity of my life,” Leininger said. “Having the opportunity to take a picture of our first African-American president—my new commander in chief—was exciting.”

Sgt. Sarah Isaacs, of the Ohio Army National Guard’s 196th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, served as part of the logistical element that transported dignitaries from various locations to the inaugural and during the parade that followed. Weeks of practicing various routes led up to the day’s events.

“The most exciting thing for me was meeting the (dignitaries) involved,” Isaacs said. “(And) it was exciting to be a part of the whole inaugural, and to be part of a joint-service mission.”

In addition to individual Ohio National Guardmember augmentees, a detachment of Ohio Army National Guard CH-47 Chinook pilots and crewmembers from Company B, 3rd Battalion, 238th Aviation Regiment, supported inaugural activities in the National Capital Region, while elements of the Ohio National Guard’s 52nd Civil Support Team supported the West Virginia governor’s inauguration during the same late January time frame, in Charleston, W.V. **SSG JIM GREENHILL / NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU AND OHIO ADJ. GEN. DEPT. PUBLIC AFFAIRS** **SG**



SPCs Jeremiah Jones (left) and Jerry Britt set up a JISCC satellite on Andrews Air Force Base, Md.



A patient simulator in the Center for Medical Education + Innovation at Riverside Methodist Hospital bleeds, breathes, talks and is capable of performing more than 72,000 other physiological responses in a programmed sequence or by command from a control room.

State of the art skills:

Medical personnel train on next generation medical simulators

Story and photos by Sgt. Randall P. Carey
196th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

COLUMBUS— At Riverside Methodist Hospital, a team of Ohio National Guardmembers, doctors and researchers are taking a new and focused approach toward training the medical personnel responsible for treating casualties in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Dynamics Research Corporation, in conjunction with Riverside and the Ohio National Guard, is currently conducting a research project allowing ONG medical personnel to train in advanced medical simulation labs in the hospital's Center for Medical Education + Innovation (CME+I). Planning for the project began in February 2008, and the first round of training for ONG Soldiers and Airmen began in November.

"You're in the forward aid station. A platoon goes out and they are attacked. Pvt. Johnson is hit by shrapnel under his left arm. They bring him in. Take care of him," said Col. William Richter, state Air surgeon for the Ohio National Guard Joint Force Headquarters, setting the stage for the Airmen waiting to put their skills to the test. This is one of several scenarios one could experience while training at CME+I.

First Sgt. Christopher Thomas of the 285th Medical Company (Area Support) and Ohio National Guard medical training program manager, is working closely with DRC to develop realistic scenarios similar to what the participants might experience during a combat deployment.

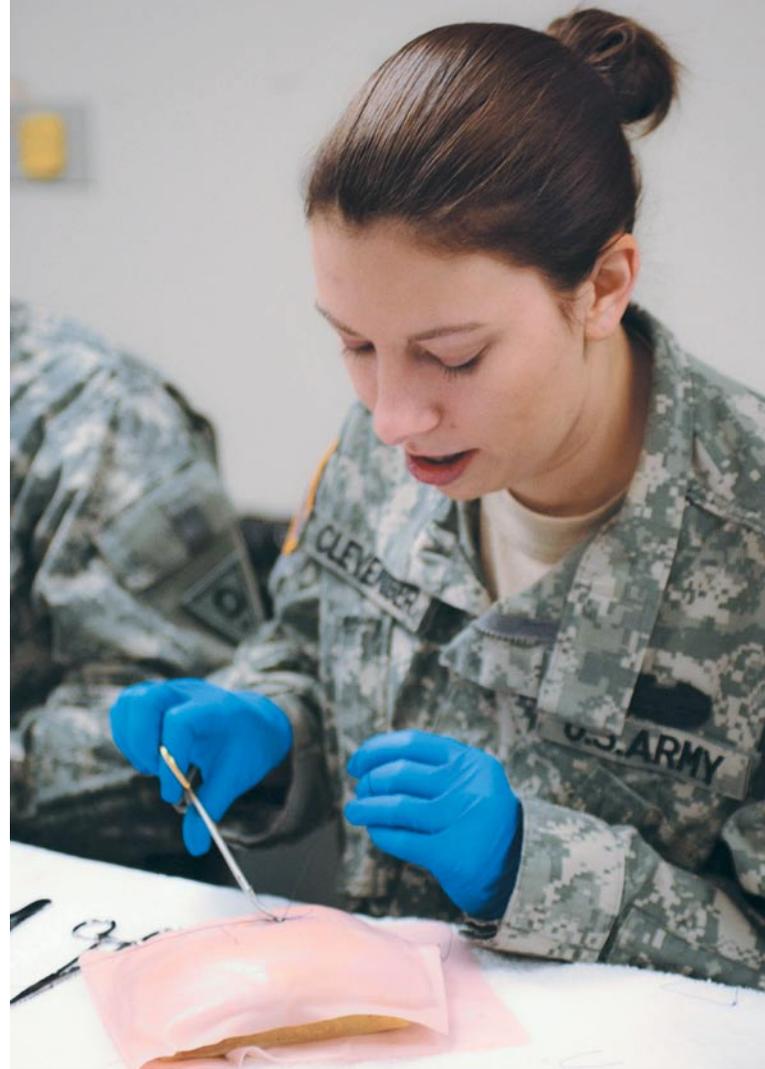
"We've developed these scenarios based solely on my experiences in theater, some of the actual trauma scenarios we saw while stationed in Iraq," Thomas said.

The benefit of the realistic scenarios is greatly augmented by the advanced patient simulators and monitoring equipment available at CME+I.

"They simulate the vital signs and functions of an actual human," Thomas said. "They breathe, they bleed, they talk. You can check blood pressure. You can check pulses."

Jim Heberling, a medical simulation technician at CME+I, explained that gas sensors and flow meters in the simulators enable the administering of IVs, the injection of fluids and other tasks not typically able to be performed on less realistic medical training aids. Heberling said the advanced nature of the simulators provides the medical community with the opportunity to test new equipment without the risk of unforeseen technical deficiencies causing harm to a live patient.

The training is directed and monitored from a control room located in the center of the simulation lab. Technicians can record video of the operations from multiple cameras located throughout the lab. They can also act as the voice of the patient throughout the operation and prompt more than 72,000 physiological responses to occur, based on the performance of the personnel training in the lab. In addition to the real-time actions available to the technicians, the simulators can be programmed to initiate a physiological response if tasks are not performed in the correct sequence or within a given period of time.



One of the most beneficial tools of the program is the ability to record video of the training. National Guard medical personnel can see and examine what they did right, what they did wrong, and how well their team worked together.

"It's a great tool for assessing the unit's collective skills," said Vinette Langford, a researcher with DRC.

The research project is set to continue in its next phase—supporting Ohio National Guard units in preparation for deployment.

Thomas said the program is a great developmental step.

"I think this training allows Soldiers and Airmen to physically put their hands on patients," Thomas said. "And that's what they need to get used to." **OG**

EDITOR'S NOTE: This work is supported by the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command under Contract No. W81XWH-08-C-0061. The views, opinions and/or findings contained in this report are those of the author(s) and should not be construed as an official Department of the Army position, policy or decision unless so designated by other documentation.

ABOVE: SFC Jamie Clevenger practices suturing techniques on a simulated skin sample in the Center for Medical Education + Innovation at Riverside Methodist Hospital. **BELOW:** SrA Amber Wonderly (from left) of the 180th Fighter Wing and TSgt. Bradley Taylor of the 121st Air Refueling Wing operate on a patient simulator, while Col. William Richter, Joint Force Headquarters-Ohio state Air surgeon, supervises.



Honor Guard team members required to be at their 'best when Families are feeling their worst'

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

Inside a limousine a mother holds her young children. Tears run down the face of a father quietly grieving for his son, and the overwhelming sense of loss and heartache is as thick and palpable as the morning fog.

No one wants to exit the limousine for fear of confronting what they already know. If they could just stay a little longer they could hold onto the past and not have to come face-to-face with the stark reality that today is the day they say final goodbyes and bury their loved one.

The line of cars in the procession snakes its way back and seems to be never ending. Community members line the streets and heads are bowed as American flags wave in the wind. It seems as if the entire town has come out to show their support.

Off in the distance, eight Ohio National Guardmembers in dark blue uniforms, each wearing white gloves and standing as tall and straight as Roman pillars wait for the casket to arrive. On their left shoulder they each have earned the patch that reads "Honor Guard."

"It is often difficult, we are asked to be at our best when Families are feeling their worst," said Sgt. Maj. Rebecca Herzog, team leader for the Central Ohio Honor Guard Team.

The Ohio National Guard has more than 165 Soldiers and Airmen who perform the honorable and somber duty daily throughout Ohio.

Retired Sgt. Maj. Bob King has been in charge of the funeral honors program for the Ohio Army National Guard since March 2004. He is responsible for the coordination of honors details conducted by more than 75 Soldiers, divided into five regions across the state.

"The National Defense Authorization

Act mandated that the U.S. military provide the rendering of U.S. military funeral honors for eligible veterans if requested by the Family," King said. "Veterans burial benefits available include a gravesite in any national cemetery with available space, opening and closing of the grave, perpetual care, a government headstone or marker, a burial flag and a presidential memorial certificate at no cost to the Family."

At a minimum, Families receive an Honor Guard team consisting of two members of the armed forces. Typically, one member of the detail represents the parent armed service of the deceased veteran. The ceremony includes the folding and presenting of the American flag to the next of kin and the playing of "Taps."

"The work that these young men and women do as part of the Honor Guard team is nothing short of remarkable," King said. "In 95-degree heat or in the bitter cold of December, they are unwavering. They are there to honor a fallen comrade who has paid the ultimate price."

Honor Guard members apply and are selected based upon their military appearance, bearing and willingness to commit to serve. Army team leaders undergo a rigorous 80-hour training program at The Lavern E. Weber Professional Education Center (PEC), located at Camp Robinson in North Little Rock, Ark., the national training center for the Army National Guard. There, concepts from Army Field Manual 3-21.5 are reinforced and the details of leading an Honor Guard detail are taught.

In Southwest Ohio an "A" and "B" team support the greater Dayton area. Sergeant 1st Class Darrell Beal helps coordinate the "A" team duties.

"We primarily provide funeral honors in the Dayton National Cemetery but cover all of the southwest part of the state," Beal said.

The Dayton National Cemetery, located in Montgomery County, is one of five national cemeteries in Ohio. Monday through Friday, funeral services are conducted at the beginning of each hour.

"Our teams ensure that each and every Family receives an honorable and dignified burial," Beal said.

However, not all the missions are sober ones. Ohio Army and Air National Guardmembers perform joint Color Guard missions at numerous sporting events throughout the year.

"Each year at the Memorial (PGA) Golf Tournament in Dublin, Ohio, we are part of the opening ceremonies on the 18th fairway," said Senior Master Sgt. Joe Onesto, team leader of the 121st Air Refueling Wing Base Honor Guard Team.

Whether in front of thousands of fans at an Ohio State University football game or in the quiet and somber moments at an interment site, the Ohio National Guard Color Guard and Funeral Honors anonymously perform their duty.

"People don't know our faces or our names but to them we represent something bigger," said Onesto, recently named Honor Guard Manager of the Year for the entire National Guard. "To them we represent the best of what our service and this country has to offer." **EG**



To observe and report:

Ohio's 'Steel Panthers' conduct Multinational Force and Observers mission in Egypt

Story by 1st Lt. Russell P. Galeti, Jr.
Company A, 1-145th Armored Regiment

FORT LEWIS, Wash.—On a chilly, wet November morning typical of Fort Lewis's position at the base of Mount Rainier in northwest Washington, 440 Soldiers of the Ohio Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 145th Armored Regiment—the "Steel Panthers"—formed in the gravel parking lot across from the Wilson Sports and Fitness Center prior to their deployment ceremony.

The ceremony, where the battalion's Soldiers donned circular orange patches displaying the white dove emblem of the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO), signified a successful end to their mobilization training. This was the final step before the battalion would travel overseas to the arid desert of Egypt's Sinai Peninsula where they would conduct their international peacekeeping mission.

A result of the 1979 Egyptian-Israeli Peace Treaty between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the State of Israel, the MFO is a non-United Nations organization headquartered in Rome which is required to "supervise the implementation of the security provisions of the Egyptian-Israeli Treaty of Peace and employ best efforts to prevent any violation of its terms," according to its website. True to its name, the MFO is a diverse force with military and civilian contingents from eleven countries: the United States, Australia, Canada, Columbia, Fiji, France, Hungary, Italy, New Zealand, Norway and Uruguay.



Soldiers from the Ohio Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 145th Armored Regiment stand in formation during a November 2008 transfer of authority ceremony for the Multinational Force and Observers at South Camp on Egypt's Sinai Peninsula.

PHOTO COURTESY OF
1-145TH ARMORED REGIMENT

To observe and report: Soldiers support peacekeeping efforts on Sinai peninsula



The 440 Steel Panthers are one of three line battalions conducting operations throughout the peninsula, alongside comparable battalions from Columbia and Fiji. About 400 more Soldiers from the rest of the multinational force comprise the MFO's support elements.

Col. Jeff Zioli, the battalion commander, described the mission "as one of great strategic importance. Our mission is critical to U.S. interests in the region. It will be a great opportunity to work with our multi-national force partners."

The decentralized nature of the mission requires squads of nine Soldiers each to man remote observation posts and checkpoints to observe activity and control movement in the Sinai desert, supported by company-level sector control centers, while the battalion commands from South Camp, located in the Sharm el Sheikh region of the peninsula along the Red Sea.

The Steel Panthers' sergeant major, Command Sgt. Maj. Dave Adams, described the myriad of requirements the battalion had to fulfill prior to leaving for Fort Lewis.

"Before leaving home station, our pre-mobilization training that we conducted with the help of the PTAE (Pre-mobilization Training Assistance Element) in Ohio went flawlessly; we had to obtain an official passport for every Soldier; and arrange for culinary arts training at Hocking Technical College, which gave the Soldiers free credit hours. We were also able to conduct individual weapons qualification, combat lifesaver (CLS) training and were able to get 90 percent of the battalion CLS qualified."

The Steel Panthers left Ohio for Fort Lewis in late September and immediately began peacekeeping and observer training planned and conducted by I Corps' 191st Infantry Brigade, with significant input from the unit that they would be relieving, the Pennsylvania Army National Guard's 1st Squadron, 104th Cavalry Regiment. Tasks included combat lifesaver training, Army Warrior Task training, engineer safety training, vehicle identification, target identification and range estimation before executing a battalion-wide mobilization readiness exercise.

Lt. Col. James Adams, commander of the 2nd Infantry Battalion, 357th Regiment, which oversaw much of the 1-145th's mobilization training at Fort Lewis, described the balanced skill set the training aimed to achieve.

"We had to ensure that everyone understood the role of the peacekeeper," Adams said. "We didn't want to transition them from warfighter to peacekeeper, but we had to ensure everyone understood the difference—when to act as a peacekeeper and when to turn on the warfighter skills."

The unique composition of the Steel Panthers meant the battalion would have a mixture of Soldiers who had been to Iraq or Kosovo on any number of recent Ohio Army National Guard deployments. When asked about this combination, Lt. Col. Adams described it as advantageous to the battalion.

"The Soldiers who came from Kosovo had a better feel for this than the Soldiers who came from Iraq in terms of the peacekeeping operation, but the escalation of force and rules of force in dealing with an Arabic population were better served by those Soldiers who came from OIF (Operation Iraqi Freedom) because those Soldiers had a bet-

ter understanding of the terminology and a better understanding of the culture. The mixture of Soldiers is probably an enhancement, having people coming from different missions because of the warfighting and peacekeeping aspects of both."



COURTESY GRAPHIC

Soldiers from Ohio's 1-145th Armored Regiment are supporting the Multinational Force and Observers peacekeeping mission on Egypt's Sinai peninsula, which abuts Israel.

ter understand the challenges that the mission brings, in the way of physical training, keeping his Soldiers motivated, not letting them get apathetic about the mission, and maintaining their security. The challenging part of this mission, compared to Iraq or Afghanistan, is that so much is entrusted down to the squad leaders that anything they do may have strategic implications for the United States. That's the good part about this mission, which is that it builds our junior leader corps."

Zioli seconded his senior NCO's faith in the battalion's sergeants. "Our NCO Corps is clearly the best Ohio has to offer. They do this by accomplishing their missions and taking care of Soldiers," he said. "The NCOs of this organization are truly a professional and disciplined backbone. They stick to the basics and make achieving the standards their routine business."

"I look forward to serving within the multinational force and know that the Steel Panthers will proudly represent the Ohio National Guard."

The 1-145th, a combination of infantry, armor, engineer and sustainment Soldiers, is headquartered in Stow, Ohio. It has a storied history within the Ohio National Guard and has been very active throughout the Global War on Terrorism. Transformed from the 1st Battalion, 107th Cavalry Regiment, in 2007, Soldiers of the 1-145th have previously performed force protection missions throughout the United States and in Europe, multi-company deployments to Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2004 and 2005, a company-sized deployment to Kosovo in 2007, and are also currently supporting an Operational Mentor and Liaison Team deployment to Afghanistan.

The 1-145th is expected to return home from the Sinai late this year. **OG**

CHANGE OF RESPONSIBILITY
STATE COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR

TODD CRAMER / ADJ. GEN. DEPT. PHOTO LAB



After 36 years of military service CSM Bill Gilliam (left), retires as state command sergeant major of the Ohio Army National Guard April 30. CSM Al Whatmough (seated), who recently returned from an Operation Iraqi Freedom deployment with the 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, has been tapped to succeed Gilliam.

STORIES AND INTERVIEWS BY
CAPT. MICHELLE SMITH,
ADJ. GEN. DEPT
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

GILLIAM: 'the growing professionalism of the NCO Corps since I joined is astounding'

During the time he served as its most senior enlisted Soldier, the Ohio Army National Guard has transformed from a strategic reserve of the U.S. Army to an operational force.

"The Ohio Army National Guard is an essential piece of the big picture and the Global War on Terrorism," Command Sgt. Maj. Bill Gilliam said. "I have seen these Soldiers and leaders take the change and transformation head on."

The nation had military forces operating in Afghanistan for more than a year when Gilliam took the reigns as the state command sergeant major in April 2003, and America was about two weeks into the war in Iraq. He has seen changes in the Ohio Army National Guard and, since that time, "watched the Army Values and the Creed of the Noncommissioned Officer become more than just words, they are a way of life."

Gilliam is proud to have led the Army National Guard's noncommissioned officers. Since his career began in 1972, he has witnessed the growth of the junior leaders and young NCOs.

"The growing professionalism of the NCO Corps since I joined is astounding," he said. "I have seen changes in our education system, uniforms, equipment and the transformation of our units and mission, and our Soldiers' deep dedication to duty continues and grows each year."

Maj. Gen. Gregory L. Wayt, Ohio adjutant general, said Gilliam's legacy to the organization is the NCO Corps.

"Our noncommissioned officers have come so far under his leadership," Wayt said.

Gilliam was appointed to the rank of command sergeant major in 1996. He has served in command sergeant major positions at every level of com-

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WHATMOUGH: 'good leaders allow all their experiences to broaden them'

Command Sgt. Maj. Albert M. Whatmough officially became the Ohio Army National Guard State Command Sergeant Major during the change of responsibility ceremony at the Winter Senior Commanders Leadership Symposium March 1 in Columbus.

During the ceremony, Whatmough talked about his "exceptionally supportive" family as the foundation for his success, and said he wants Soldiers to know he is here to "provide a conduit to support Soldiers and promote Family wellness."

Whatmough replaces Command Sgt. Maj. Bill Gilliam, who retires on April 30 after 36 years of service.

"Command Sgt. Maj. Whatmough's extensive background and service at the battalion and brigade level make him a superb choice to serve as the senior enlisted advisor on our great Army team," said Maj. Gen. Matthew L. Kambic, Ohio's assistant adjutant

general for Army. "The adjutant general, Maj. Gen. (Gregory L.) Wayt, and I will rely on his judgment and advice."

Whatmough most recently served as command sergeant major for the 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT), and he recently returned from deployment to Southwest Asia as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. It was his second deployment to a combat zone in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

"Going into combat does not in and of itself make me a better leader," Whatmough said. "Leadership comes from the heart. It is a journey, of which I am a lifelong student, and good leaders allow all their experiences to broaden them."

Whatmough will now focus his efforts on leading in the steady state environment and focusing his efforts on the "depth and breadth" of the entire Ohio Army National Guard. His immediate focus is empowering the

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GILLIAM —continued from previous page

mand in the Ohio Army National Guard.

“Nothing compares to the way we do business today,” Gilliam said. “We expect more from our Soldiers than ever before, and they keep giving us more than they ever have.”

Accordingly, the National Guard demands more from its leaders. “Command Sgt. Maj. Gilliam travels a lot,” said son 1st Lt. David Gilliam, an infantry officer who serves with Company C, 1st Battalion, 148th Infantry Regiment. “As a dad, he has been

there for me. I am also lucky to have him as a mentor, and because of the absences, we value the times we are together a little bit more.”

When David recently deployed to Kuwait, his dad felt the impact of his own service for the first time.

“It hit home a little deeper and I realized what my parents might have gone through years ago when my brother was in Vietnam,” Command Sgt. Maj. Gilliam said. “I also witnessed first-hand how his wife and two young daughters dealt with the deployment and his absence, and watching them say goodbye to their dad was heart-wrenching.”

Gilliam made several trips with the adjutant general to visit deployed Soldiers in combat zones. “Our Soldiers and leaders do remarkable work while deployed,” Gilliam said. “Maj. Gen. Wayt and I have seen their dedication to duty and professionalism firsthand during our overseas visits.

“My son’s deployment affected me personally,” Gilliam said. “Professionally, I am proud to say David is an infantry officer, but he is only one of the Soldiers I was here to serve.

Each morning while I drive to work, I say a prayer for all our deployed forces and hope they all return home to their Families and stay out of harm’s way.” **BG**

A conversation with Command Sgt. Maj. Gilliam

Q: Why did you choose to serve in the Army National Guard?

A: After my discharge from active duty in 1974, I was obligated to serve in the National Guard for one year. Although I remained state-side, I enlisted during the draft, and there was a program toward the end of the Vietnam era that required an affiliation with the National Guard

after the initial enlistment. We don’t have that today, but with our remarkable strength numbers, we don’t need to. When I returned to Ohio, I was young and broke so the money was an added benefit,

and then I realized that I enjoyed this and made a career out of it. I am glad I did.

Q: What was the National Guard like when you joined?

A: The National Guard of that era was not the professional force of today. Our Soldiers now live by the Warrior Ethos and Army Values and the operational tempo is higher than it has ever been. When I joined the National Guard, Soldiers wore wigs to drill to cover long hair, there were overweight Soldiers, no training plans, a terrible maintenance problem, and a

different type of NCO leadership than we have today. Now we have top-notch equipment and fine warriors who are able to serve as citizens during peace and Soldiers during war. Everyone knows the National Guard is a viable force.

Q: What were some of the hurdles you faced as you moved through the ranks and gained increasing responsibility?

A: Gaining acceptance and respect along the way was tough because I served where the Army National Guard needed me to go. My first assignment as a command sergeant major was in the 737th Maintenance Battalion, and I was not a “maintenance guy,” so I was considered an outsider. Making changes is not always popular, but I was able to lead in a fair and impartial way that Soldiers followed, capitalize on these assignments and was able to move myself and the Soldiers in a positive direction.

Q: What has had the most influence on you during your career?

A: Each commander that I have worked for has passed on something special and unique. Each has taught me differently, and I have learned how to solve issues creatively and look at things from a different perspective. I received outstanding mentoring throughout my career, especially from retired (state) Command Sgt. Maj. Mike Howley. My professional relationship with him was an invaluable experience and we are still friends today.

Q: What legacy do you think you have left for the NCO Corps?



Talking to 1LT David Gilliam (left) in Iraq.

WHATMOUGH

—cont’d from previous page

noncommissioned officer corps and holding them accountable at the lowest level.

“Junior leaders have a moral responsibility to be the most effective, caring leaders they can be, making sure their teams are equipped, trained and ready,” Whatmough said. “Sergeants at the first line leader level are the action agents of positive change on this team.”

Whatmough believes the Ohio Army National Guard will continue as an operational force and challenges “the enlisted



Whatmough cites his Family as the foundation for his success. With him (clockwise from top left) are wife, Diana; son, Jeffery; and daughter, Tarah.

and NCO Corps to maintain our resolve to respond with ready units should the need arise.”

“Balancing time is the most difficult challenge at any senior level of leadership,” Whatmough said.

“There are life-changing Family events that all Soldiers miss as part of the sacrifice of service.”

“We owe our Families the Army Values of duty, honor and respect just as we do our country,” Whatmough said.

His wife, Diana, understands selfless service. Her involvement with the state Family Readiness Program Office began when she volunteered to lead a Family Readiness Group in 1990. She was selected as the first Family Readiness assistant to the state Family programs director in 2004.

“Diana makes a tremendous difference with military Families across the board, bringing a focus and determination about service to our Family as well,” Command Sgt. Maj. Whatmough said. **BG**



Speaking at the state enlisted association conference.

A: I am proud of the command sergeants major who serve today. The 24 command sergeants major serving Ohio now are the most qualified we have had because of their education and mobilization experiences. They lead from the front physically and mentally. We have always had a selection process, but the Global War on Terrorism made us look deeper, with different standards, to come up with our best and brightest to lead our Soldiers.

Q: You place great emphasis on the importance of our junior NCOs. Why is that?

A: They truly are the backbone of the Army. Junior NCOs are the ones that make or break any unit. It is at their level that our Soldiers decide whether or not they will remain in the National Guard. Sergeants lead every day and make life or death decisions in a split second. It amazes me how they operate and function so successfully. One of the things I find most interesting is to stand back and watch a squad leader interact with Soldiers. That is where you can clearly see the future leaders of this organization.

Q: What would you want the Soldiers of the Ohio Army National Guard to know about you?

A: That I care and that they matter. For that reason, I am going to take this space to answer two questions presented to me by two junior NCOs from the J1 section. I told them if they asked me frank questions, that I would put their questions into this article. Those Soldiers wanted to know my advice on succeeding in the National Guard and whether a college degree is necessary in this organization. I would say a college degree is essential today, not just in the military but in our society. With a degree, a Citizen-Soldier is better prepared to confront and solve situations that arise in day to day business. Those with degrees also receive promotion points, and a college degree will make you a well-rounded Soldier with better writing and communication skills. Communication skills are the key to success. When a Soldier talks to you, stop what you are doing and pay attention. If you take the time to listen to our young Soldiers, they truly are remarkable. Also, be proud, because not everyone can wear the uniform, but don't seek glory. It is amazing what you can accomplish when you don't care who gets the credit.

Q: How important has the support of your Family been throughout your career?

A: I would not be where I am today without the support of my Family. My wife and son and daughter have had to make due without me at many Family functions through the years, but they remained supportive. They are proud of my military career, as was my mother. I know she has been watching over me from above for the past 15 years. I think they are excited about my retirement because I will have some time to spend with our four beautiful grandchildren, spoil them and send them home. I will have more time for the Family and Family functions. My wife, Carolyn, has been a real trooper and I definitely owe her some special



Visiting Serbia during a National Guard State Partnership Program exchange.

time. We look forward to relaxing in our new home and riding our horses.

Q: What do you think has been your greatest accomplishment?

A: I am proud of the significance of the NCO exchanges we have had with Hungary and Serbia as Ohio continues to lead the way in the State Partnership Program. NCOs are all the same—we may speak a different language and wear a different uniform, but we have the same standards and the same values. I think it is important for the Soldiers of each country to know that, and that only happens when we spend time with one another, training side-by-side.

Q: What would you change if you could do it all over?

A: I do not think I would change anything about my career. I have been a blessed man on each and every assignment and have had outstanding mentorship along the way. I have felt the patriotic urge to deploy to a combat zone. That is what Soldiers train for, and I could have used my leadership skills with a deployed unit fighting terrorism, and taking care of Soldiers and their Families.

Q: What advice would you leave with the next state command sergeant major?

A: Listen to your NCOs and enlisted Soldiers, for they will truly steer you in the right direction and help support your decisions. Expect challenges in terms of budget and retention, and accept the challenges as opportunities to strengthen our organization. Command Sgt. Maj. Whatmough is a great leader and he cares about Soldiers and their Families. It is a bittersweet moment (for me), but our enlisted Soldiers are in great hands.



Meeting Soldiers during annual training at Camp Grayling, Mich.

Q: What has been the most memorable aspect of your time as state command sergeant major?

A: I am humbled to know that I have made a difference in the lives of so many Soldiers. In particular, I will always remember the pride and joy I felt while standing at the steps of an airplane while our Soldiers returned from a deployment. Together with the senior leadership of the state, I was able to shake each and every hand and look into the eyes of each Soldier. It is truly incredible to see the weariness leave them and their smiles as they are reunited with their Families. They are our true heroes, and I am proud to have participated in so many of these ceremonies. I will also never forget the funerals of our fallen heroes. Spending time talking with the Families when we have buried a Soldier who died during deployment will remain with me forever, and remains in the forefront of my thoughts always. **SG**

Interactive class puts military history into hands of students

Story and photos by
Spc. Sam Beavers, 196th Mobilie Public Affairs Det.

UPPER ARLINGTON—A World War I “Doughboy” helmet and a modern-day Army Combat Helmet were being passed around the room by students of Upper Arlington High School during their first period class on Jan. 30.

Some students simply passed the two helmets. Some tried them on. Some paused to marvel at them.

This was the Heritage Outreach Program in action.

“It was really cool to see all the stuff and see how it feels,” said Sam Luffey, an Upper Arlington High School student.

The Heritage Outreach Program is a National Guard Bureau-sponsored program that aims to stimulate a student’s interest in history by bringing it to life through the use of an interactive teaching presentation.

“You have to make it (the lesson) fun and interesting,” said Sgt. Ryan Teague, the program’s director for the Ohio Army National Guard.

Along with the helmets, Teague brought other items for comparison including: a World War I uniform and the modern Army Combat Uniform; a WWI hardtack container and the modern Meal, Ready-to-Eat (MRE); rifle bullets from WWI and the 5.56-millimeter round used today in the M-16 rifle.

Teague said the idea is to relate the past with the present so the students feel more comfortable and connected with history.

“It helps to have artifacts. It makes the history come alive,” Teague said.

Student teacher Eric Upp found the artifacts and the program interesting as well as informative.

“The more interactive and the more real it is, the more kids will remember it,” Upp said.

Teague, who has three years teaching experience including one with the Heritage Outreach Program, said the program has reached more than 7,000 students statewide.

Another goal of the program, Teague said, is to build relationships with schools and show that the National Guard offers something to the community.

The community mission is something Teague said he hopes to emphasize with this program and not just the National Guard’s state and federal missions.

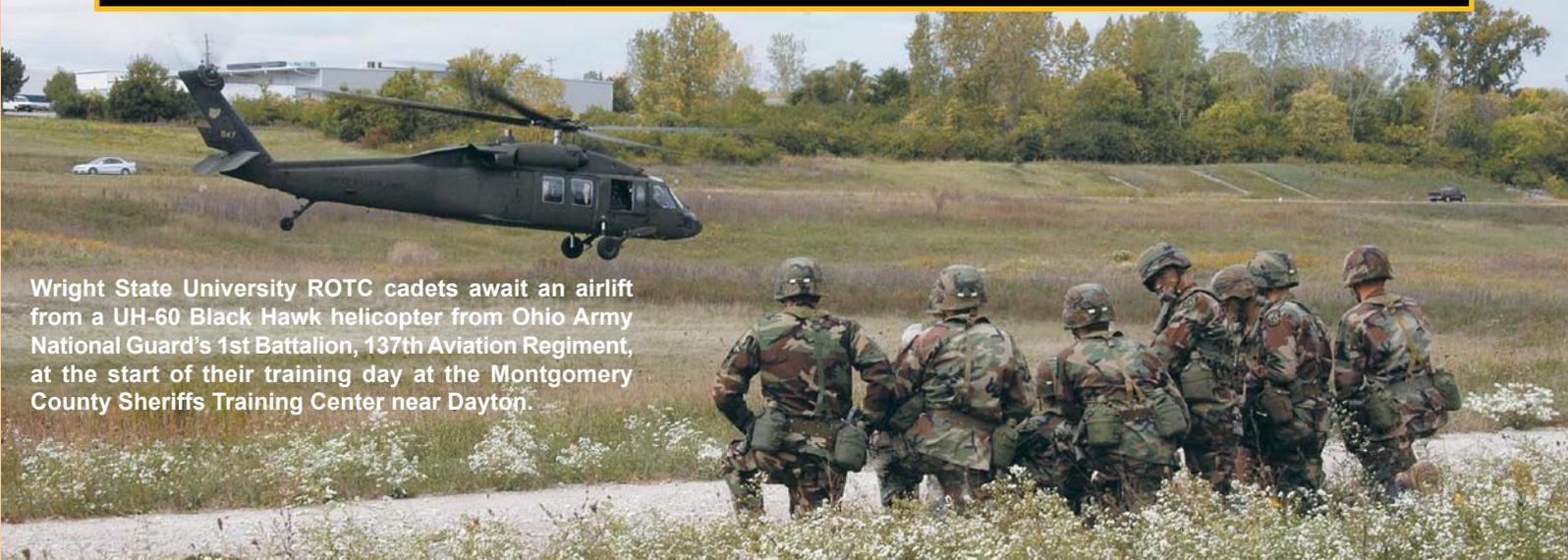
“A lot of times that community mission gets lost,” Teague said. “People forget that Guardmembers live in the community they serve.” **86**



ABOVE: SGT Ryan Teague (pointing), Heritage Outreach Program director for the Ohio Army National Guard, teaches a class of Upper Arlington High School students about World War I during a Jan. 30 presentation. The Heritage Outreach Program’s goal is to bring history to life through an interactive presentation, including historical military artifacts. LEFT: UA High School student Sam Luffey compares a bullet from a World War I era rifle with a bullet from a modern Army weapon. BELOW: SPC Russell Mazzola (left) passes a World War I style helmet to UA High School student David Dick. Mazzola is the southeast region coordinator for the Heritage Outreach Program.



EDITOR’S NOTE: For more information on the Heritage Outreach Program or to schedule a visit to your school, contact Teague at (216) 904-8479 or (614) 376-5161, or via e-mail at ryan.teague@us.army.mil.



Wright State University ROTC cadets await an airlift from a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter from Ohio Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 137th Aviation Regiment, at the start of their training day at the Montgomery County Sheriffs Training Center near Dayton.

Program offers additional training, experience for future second lieutenants

Story and photos by Spc. Zachary R. Fehrman
196th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

DAYTON—Many Soldiers in the National Guard seek to advance their military careers by earning a commission through Officer Candidate School or direct commission, but they may not realize there is another option.

The Reserve Officer Training Corps is available to enlisted Soldiers at most state and private universities and colleges through the Simultaneous Membership Program. By enrolling in the program, SMP Soldiers learn leadership skills through various types of training events and coursework.

“Cadets participate in combat water survival training each fall and spring quarter, as well as a multi-university joint field training exercise,” said Staff Sgt. Aaron Weaver, Recruiting and Retention noncommissioned officer assigned to Wright State University.

Combat water survival training helps to instill confidence by putting cadets through various swimming drills. Squad situational training gives cadets a chance to be evaluated by senior cadets and ROTC cadre on receiving an operations order and issuing it to their squad, then executing a mission.

Like OCS, cadets must fulfill these training requirements to receive their commission and successfully complete Leadership Development and Accessions Camp (LDAC) at Fort Lewis, Wash.

“The program is great because it allows Soldiers to be in the National Guard or Reserves and participate in ROTC and attend college,” Weaver said. “SMP cadets have access to the benefits of the Ohio National Guard like 100 percent college tuition assistance, the Montgomery G. I. Bill and the ROTC stipend.”

Soldiers enrolled in the SMP can remain in the National Guard and Reserve while they finish their degree without being deployed, and upon successful completion of the ROTC, they earn their commission, Weaver said. **86**

Former assistant adjutant general for Army Abraham fathered national ROTC Simultaneous Membership Program

Submitted by Ohio University ROTC

ATHENS—During the 70th Annual Ohio University Army ROTC Military Ball last April, then-Brig. Gen. Matthew L. Kambic, Ohio’s assistant adjutant general for Army, presented retired Brig. Gen. James M. Abraham with the Army Outstanding Civilian Service Award. It was an opportunity for Kambic to speak of Abraham’s incredible impact on the Army and the National Defense.



Abraham

In the mid-1970s, due to the end of the draft that threatened the future of the Ohio University ROTC program along with a shortage of junior officers in the Ohio Army National Guard, Abraham—then Ohio’s assistant adjutant general for Army—masterminded the innovative Simultaneous Membership Program.

It was a pilot partnership with the OHARNG and Ohio University Army ROTC, which allowed Soldiers to serve concurrently in the

National Guard and enroll in ROTC. Upon graduation, Soldiers in the program would be commissioned as second lieutenants in the U.S. Army. In response to the program’s success, it was adopted at the national level in August 1977.

Since its inception this innovative partnership has commissioned more than 40,000 officers into the Reserve, National Guard and active-duty Army. After the SMP program was adopted as a national program, ROTC numbers which had reached a low enrollment level of 33,220 in fiscal years 1973-74 had grown to 63,667 by fiscal years 1979-80, largely due to the SMP initiative.

Abraham graduated from Ohio University in 1943 with a bachelor’s degree in electrical and industrial engineering. He served as a combat Soldier in World War II, participated in the invasion of France and served in the Third Army under Gen. George C. Patton. He was promoted to corporal just prior to the Normandy landing and later received a direct commission as a second lieutenant. He returned home in late 1946, joined the Ohio National Guard and completed work on a master’s degree in production management. Abraham served as an ROTC instructor at Ohio University from 1958 to 1961 and progressed through the ranks, retiring in 1982, after nearly 40 years of service. **86**



For more information on the Ohio Army National Guard Simultaneous Membership Program, contact Officer Strength Maintenance at (614) 376-5047 or bruce.hubert@us.army.mil, or log on to http://ong.ohio.gov/officer_recruiting_index.



CW3 LEE SCOTT / JFHQ-OHIO

BG Rufus Smith (third row, center) presents Dr. Agi Risko of The Ohio State University with a plaque thanking her for preparing the Ohio Army National Guard's Operational Mentor and Liaison Team 9-3 for their joint mission with Hungary later this year.

Ohio State University Hungarian professor helps prepare OMLT for joint mission

COLUMBUS—While Meals, Ready-to-Eat (MRE) and frozen boxed lunches are typical fare for Soldiers during a weekend's training, the Ohio Army National Guard's Operational Mentor and Liaison Team (OMLT) 9.3 was recently offered the opportunity to enjoy a lunch of Hungarian cheese scones known as pogácsa and chocolate-and-vanilla sponge cake called somlói galuska.

On March 15, which also marked the anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution of 1848, Dr. Agi Risko, from The Ohio State University's Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literature, joined the Soldiers to present four hours of instruction on Hungarian language, history and culture.

Risko, a native of the Hungarian capital city of Budapest and an expert on Hungarian language and culture, volunteered many hours of her time during OSU finals week in response to a request from the OMLT. Her presentation covered thousands of years of history of the Magyar people, the multitude of invasions and revolutions they've seen and also their more recent, post-Cold War history.

Her presentation was punctuated by video documentary clips, music, anecdotes and food—a favorite of Soldiers from any country.

While the Soldiers will receive repeated cultural awareness and theater-specific training for their time in Afghanistan, their leadership wanted to make sure they would be able to pick up on Hungarian customs and culture quickly in order forge strong relationships with their Hungarian counterparts.

"Tensions can be quite high in combat. Language and cultural barriers can elevate these tensions if not addressed," said 1st Lt. Matt France, executive officer of the OMLT. "It's very important that we quickly integrate with our partners so we can focus on our training and our mission."

By noon, the Soldiers were greeting each other

with "jó napot kívánok," Hungarian for "good day," and saying "köszönöm" instead of "thanks" when being served their Hungarian lunches.

"The most important thing is to come to Hungary with an open mind and not make any assumptions," Risko said. "Taking the time to learn their language and show that you care about Hungarian culture will go a long way with Hungarians."

At the end of the day's lesson, Brig. Gen. Rufus Smith, commanding general of the 174th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, greeted Risko with a warm "szervusz, köszönöm" to say hello and thank her in front of the Soldiers. Smith also presented her with an Ohio-shaped, engraved plaque and brigade patch and welcomed her into the ranks of Ohio National Guard Champions.

Smith, who has traveled to Hungary 13 times, told Risko: "What you're doing today for these Soldiers is invaluable in laying the foundation for a strong partnership between them and their Hungarian counterparts. We're privileged to have people with your expertise right here in our community."

OMLT 9.3 is the third rotation of a unique North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) mission comprised of about 30 Ohio Army National Guard and 30 Hungarian Ground Force Soldiers. A detachment of Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 174th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, located at Defense Supply Center Columbus, the OMLT is expected to deploy to Hungary for training before deploying to Afghanistan later this year. The mission will require them to train and work alongside their Hungarian counterparts as mentors and advisors for the Afghan National Army (ANA) and provide the ANA access to combat enablers such as close air support, indirect fires, medical

evacuation and quick reaction forces.

The OMLT is a key NATO contribution towards the development of the ANA. The joint Ohio-Hungarian mission is a continuation of a relationship formed in 1993 between the Ohio National Guard and the Republic of Hungary as part of the National Guard Bureau's State Partnership Program (SPP). The SPP links all 54 state and territory National Guard organizations with 56 foreign countries. The OMLT's year-long activation is expected to begin this summer. **1LT RUSSELL P. GALETI, JR. / COMPANY A, 1-145TH ARMORED REGIMENT**

220th EIS Airmen receive welcome home from overseas deployment

ZANESVILLE—Maj. Gen. Harry "A.J." Feucht Jr., welcomed home 25 Airman from the Ohio Air National Guard's 220th Engineering Installation Squadron during a Feb. 22 ceremony.

The members were recognized by various military and local community leaders, Family and friends for their courageous service in support of the Global War on Terrorism. These members had deployed to various locations throughout the Middle East, including Afghanistan; the duration of their tours lasted from 60 to 120 days.

"It's great to see all the smiling faces," Feucht said. "This is supposed to be a happy event. It's about the Airman and their Families."

In thanks for their heroic efforts, various Airmen received a combination of the following awards: Iraq Campaign Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon and the Armed Forces Reserve Medal.

"Ohio National Guard Airman are extremely professional and have served their country well," said Lt. Col. Robert Panian, 220th EIS commander. "I could not be more



COURTESY PHOTO

Airmen from the 220th Engineering Installation Squadron are recognized for their accomplishments in support of the Global War on Terrorism during the unit's welcome home ceremony.

proud of them.”

The 220 EIS is based six miles east of Zanesville, but has Airmen throughout the state supporting their communications mission. These members engineer and install long-term communications such as voice/data networks, ground-to-air communications and meteorological/navigational systems in and around airfields. **1ST LT NICOLE L. ASHCROFT / 179TH AIRLIFT WING**

Defense Department, Ohio celebrate April as ‘Month of Military Child’

COLUMBUS—The Department of Defense knows the value of caring for Servicemembers and celebrating their children’s role in the Family.

April is designated by the Defense Department as the “Month of the Military Child,” underscoring the important role military children play in the armed forces community. It is a time to pay tribute to children and recognize the commitment, sacrifice and support they show as they face the special challenges of being a military child. Throughout the month, military commands will honor the young heroes with special events just for them.

The Ohio National Guard Family Readiness Program offers a variety of events geared toward children and their Family. There are 10 camps, located throughout Ohio, offered to Guard youth and adults at minimal or no cost.

“We have social, educational and recreational activities for the Families,” said Erin Berry, youth program specialist for Operation Military Kids.

Hero Camps, Troop and Family Camp, Troop and Teen Camp and Camp Kelley’s Island are just a few that serve to strengthen relationships and expand boundaries between the Servicemember and child.

“The focus: we want kids to have fun while building resiliency and confidence,” Berry said.

Today, the nation’s military children face many obstacles, such as having a parent deployed for extended periods of time. Ohio’s Hero Camps have an added measure in helping kids through those rough patches.

“We present one-hour breakout sessions where Families are divided into two groups: pre- and currently-deployed, and post-deployed Soldiers,” Berry said.

The sessions are geared toward encouraging communication between the child and the Soldier, verbally or otherwise.

“For pre- and currently-deployed, we recommend a ‘memory box,’” Berry said. Small gifts, letters, movie stubs or stuffed animals are just a few ideal keepsakes

that can ease the distance between parents and children.

“We suggest a ‘mailbox’ for post-deployed Families. When verbal communication is hard, a written note or invitation for a walk or lunch, placed in the mailbox, can be an ice breaker,” Berry said.

As members of the Ohio National Guard extended Family, “Servicemembers and their Families make tremendous contributions and sacrifices,” said Lt. Col. Robert “Buck” Bramlish, state Family Readiness Program director.

Programs and events that celebrate the nationally recognized Month of the Military Child stress the importance of providing children with quality services and support to help them succeed in the military lifestyle.

“Every month is the Month of the Military Child for us,” Berry said. “We have programs and events, not just in April, but throughout the year,” he said, citing Zoo Family Day in Akron, Columbus and Cincinnati as a great activity for Families, while The Ohio State University Military Family Days offer the fun and excitement of OSU baseball, basketball and hockey games.

Building and maintaining strong, resilient Guard Families takes a great amount of attention and effort, and is essential for keeping Soldiers and Airmen at their best.

“Camaraderie, team building, support, communication and fun is the center of our initiative,” said Maj. Gen. Gregory L. Wayt, Ohio’s adjutant general.

The Defense Department and the Ohio National Guard know that the benefits and rewards of making Family time in the armed forces can last a lifetime.

For more information on the various military kids camps, go to <http://ong.ohio.gov/Family/index.htm>. **SFC NANCY MCMILLAN / JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS-OHIO**

180th Fighter Wing welcomes Serbian Air Force guests for exchange

TOLEDO—One of the coldest Januaries in recent history did not dampen the spirits of four Serbian Air Force members and an interpreter who recently spent a week with the 180th Fighter Wing.

The guests were Brig. Gen. Mirko Vranic, 204th Air Force Base commander, Col. Dejan Joksimovic, 98th AFB commander, Senior Master Sgt. Miodrag Markovcevic, chief of weapons Supply, 98th AFB, Master Sgt. Sasa Sailovic, weapons specialist, 98th AFB, and interpreter Natasa Mrdak.

The visit was a National Guard State Partnership Program exchange. The State Partnership Program exchange was established in 1993 in response to countries in the former Soviet Bloc transitioning their



TSGT BETH HOLLIKER / 180TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Members of the Serbian Armed Forces General Staff participate in a familiarization visit at the 180th Fighter Wing as part of the Ohio National Guard State Partnership Program.

governments from communism to democracies, according to Capt. Matthew Zelnik, State Partnership Program director.

“The program’s goals reflect an evolving international affairs mission for the National Guard using the unique civil-military nature of the Guard to interact with both active and reserve forces of foreign countries,” Zelnik said.

While at the 180th, the group received briefings from each functional area of the wing. They also interacted with members of the operations group, maintenance group, and mission support group. The overall purpose of their visit was to allow them to observe and develop an understanding of how their counterparts in the Ohio National Guard lead their units.

The goal for Col. Mark Bartman, 180th FW commander, was that the wing’s Serbian guests be provided with a free flow of information in order to assist them with their goal of re-shaping the Serbian Air Force.

At a brief meeting on the last day of their visit, Vranic said he was very pleased with the openness and willingness of 180th members in sharing information during the trip.

On Tuesday night of their visit, an official dinner was held at Mancy’s Restaurant in Toledo. Mr. Arthur “Jibby” Jibilian of Fremont was at the dinner with his Family. Jibby was honored Dec. 7 at the 180th in a ceremony recognizing his actions during Operation Halyard in World War II that is featured in the book, “The Forgotten 500.” Jibby said he appreciated the chance to meet with the Serbs and to thank them for Serbia’s efforts in helping rescue U.S. Airman whose airplanes were shot down by the Germans.

Their visit included a day trip to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, near Dayton, to tour the National Museum of the Air Force. The group said they appreciated the opportunity to visit the world’s largest and oldest military aviation museum. **CAPT GARY R. BENTLEY / 180TH FIGHTER WING**



1LT RUSSELL P. GALETI / 1-145TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

Ohio Army National Guard PFCs William (left) and Daniel Butler; SPC Chris, PFC Dan and SGT Gregory Serpico talk after a Multinational Force and Observers deployment and patch-donning ceremony in November at Fort Lewis, Wash.

Brothers form full house in Company B

FORT LEWIS, Wash.—Soldiers of the Ohio Army National Guard frequently comment that leaving their families is one of the hardest parts of a lengthy deployment. But for seven infantrymen in Company B, 1st Battalion, 145th Armored Regiment, who deployed in November 2008 to conduct the Multinational Force and Observers mission on Egypt's Sinai Peninsula, that's not a problem. Pfc. William and Daniel Butler; Spcs. Dan and Chris Serpico, and their older brother, Sgt. Greg Serpico, give Company B what would be referred to in poker as a full house—one pair and three of a kind.

The Serpico Soldiers are three of six children—all boys—and graduates of Riverside High School in Painesville, Ohio. When they were mobilized, all were in college. While Greg studied criminology at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Dan and Chris attended Kent State University, where Dan studied exercise science and Chris was undecided.

Greg, the oldest of the trio at 26, first joined Battery F, 134th Field Artillery Regiment in 2002, and soon after deployed to provide force protection for Aviano Air Base in Italy. He remained at the Woods King Armory in Cleveland through the unit's transformation and reclassified as an infantryman when Company B was organized in 2007. Dan and Chris enlisted in Company B in 2005, both as infantrymen. While Greg said he first joined the Ohio National Guard for the educational benefits, Dan, 23, and Chris, 21, both became interested by Greg's experiences in Italy and surrounding countries.

"I wanted to join for the educational benefits," Dan said. "But hearing Greg's stories about his trip to Italy sounded pretty nice, also."

Of the Serpicos' three civilian brothers, 17-year-old Matthew has also been talking about joining the Ohio National Guard. However, none of the infantrymen admitted they would be

willing to split the \$2,000 Guard Recruiting Assistance Program bonus if they were to receive credit for his enlistment. Nick, at 13, is too young to enlist, but said "he thinks it's cool, what we do," Dan said. Patrick, 25, is studying photography at Ohio State.

Chris says the three enlisted brothers get along very well despite the close proximity of serving together in an infantry company.

"We always get confused when somebody calls out our last name, and when one of us gets in trouble, there's always this assumption of guilt that extends to the other two," Chris said. The boys' mother, Peggy Serpico, said raising six boys leads to a very hectic and busy household but finds a benefit in her sons' service that's not as tangible as college tuition. Since the three have enlisted, she thinks the relationships they share have improved.

"The three that are in the military are much closer than they once were," she said. "Greg was much older than the other two, so by the time they got to the age where they got to do stuff together, Gregory was gone. So they are now much closer than they ever were before."

Pfc. William and Daniel Butler of Ravenna, Ohio, also take the phrase brothers-in-arms literally. William, 24, and Daniel, 21, aren't twins, but are hard to tell apart and each have identical four-leaf clovers tattooed on opposite sides of their necks, symbolic of their brotherhood and making it easier to tell which brother is which. The Butlers are both graduates of Ravenna's Southeast High School and joined the Ohio Army National Guard in November 2007.

Unlike the Serpico brothers' large, bustling family, the Butlers grew up in a much smaller family environment, relying on grandparents as much as they relied on each other. Their father died when William was 10 and Daniel was 7.

"Our grandparents raised us," William said. "I wanted to make a better future for both of us and I begged Dan for a couple years to go, and finally one night he said he'd do it. A lot of dead-end jobs led us to here. Roofing, construction, and stuff like that, but we always worked together." The Butler brothers are easily mistaken for each other because of their similar looks, and the drill sergeants capitalized upon that fact when the brothers were in adjacent platoons for Infantryman One Station Unit Training at Fort Benning, Ga.

"Our drill sergeants would make us write each other in basic training. One of us would have to write a letter to the other one in a different platoon, mail it, get it in the mail and then read it in front of the company," Daniel said. "We would switch platoons and they wouldn't know. Drill sergeants would switch us to mess with other drill sergeants, too."

Much like the Serpicos, the Butler brothers also see more advantages than disadvantages to serving in such close proximity to each other.

"You always have family right there," Daniel said. "We know what other people are going through without their Family there, so it helps us to help them more. It's probably harder on them not having anybody else there for them."

1LT RUSSELL P. GALETI JR / 1-145TH ARMORED REGIMENT

OHARNG shooters compete at All-Army Small Arms Championships

FORT BENNING, Ga.—A team of six Ohio Army National Guardmembers competed at this year's All-Army Small Arms Championships Feb. 21-28, participating in 23 challenging rifle and pistol matches during the week.



CPT BRET GOULD / 37TH IBCT

The Ohio Army National Guard team that competed at the All-Army Small Arms Championships Feb. 21-28 at Fort Benning is SSG Frank Miller (front row, from left) and SFC Tim Glover, SGT Ben Layton (back row, from left), MSG Alan Whittaker, SSG John Cockrell and SSG Chris Burlingame.

With a focus on realistic combat scenarios, the matches required Soldiers to engage targets under stressful conditions from a variety of firing positions. Timed two-mile runs to the firing line, rapid magazine changes and quick drawing pistols from holsters provided combat-focused training few Soldiers see anywhere else. Competing Soldiers were: Sgt. Ben Layton and Staff Sgt. Frank Miller of the 811th Engineer Company (Sapper); Master Sgt. Alan Whittaker and Sgt. 1st Class Tim Glover of the Ohio National Guard Master Weapons Training Team; and Staff Sgts. John Cockrell and Chris Burlingame of Ohio's Pre-mobilization Training Assistance Element (PTAE). **CPT BRET GOULD** / 37TH INFANTRY BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

Ohio Soldier, civilian counterpart win National Guard's 'Warrior Challenge'

COLUMBUS—Just past the welcoming sign to Camp San Luis Obispo, Calif., a drill sergeant stood waiting for her new trainees. Upon arrival, the trainees were noticeably nervous and approached the Soldier wearing the "round brown" campaign hat with caution.

Nerves were something that this group of trainees, which included a medical student and stunt man, had overcome before. But this situation was different.

This was not the infamous Army basic combat training, but instead an equally intimidating reality show and personal challenge to see who would become the National Guard's ultimate warrior.

Warrior Challenge, sponsored by the National Guard and modeled after Army basic combat training, was a weeklong competition where six civilians paired up with six National Guard Soldiers and competed in events such as an obstacle course, a search-and-rescue, a 9mm-pistol firing range, a sniper rappell and a high-ropes course.

At the end of the day, the worst performing team was removed and at the end of the week Ohio National Guard's own Staff Sgt. Ada Milby and her civilian counterpart, Dan of Oak Park, Calif., won the competition and were named the National Guard's Ultimate Warriors.

"It was a blast," Milby said of the competition. Milby, who is a member of Joint Force

Headquarters-Ohio, said she has done a lot of things in her National Guard career and this was one of the highlights.

For one week in October 2008 these few civilians were thrown into an Army basic training situation where actual Army drill sergeants "smoked" the civilian competitors with push-ups and sit-ups and even went as far as flipping bunks that weren't made properly.

Milby said her job and the other Soldiers' jobs were to mentor the civilians and to help them succeed in these timed warrior tasks.

"The hardest part is going from a doer to mentor," Milby said.

For example, Milby had to explain to Dan how to disassemble and reassemble an M-4 rifle only using voice commands and not touching the rifle herself.

Some of the other things Milby advised her partner on included everything from making sure the corners on the bed were tucked in, to which Meals, Ready-to-Eat to avoid, which Milby said was the egg and cheese omelet.

Despite the mentoring role being difficult, Milby understands the concept behind it.

"It's not about me or him. It's about being a team, because that's what being a Soldier in the National Guard is about.

With their first-place victory, the team earned a pit-pass with racing icon Dale Earnhardt Jr. at a NASCAR race.

The inaugural season can be seen on RipeTV through its website, www.ripetv.com, or on the Time Warner and Comcast cable television systems, via on-demand (through May 12). **SPC SAM BEAVERS** / 196TH MOBILE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT

Turnout for general officer's promotion indicative of impact on fellow Soldiers

COLUMBUS—Most people do not know how much people care until they leave an organization. Some spend their whole lives wondering if they have made an impact. Newly pinned Brig. Gen. Rufus J. Smith, commanding general of the 174th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, found out Jan. 23 when more than 300 people attended his



TODD CRAMER / ADJ. GEN. DEPT. PHOTO LAB

COL Rufus J. Smith (right) gets pinned with the rank of brigadier general by his wife, Phillipa, Jan. 23 at the Ohio National Guard headquarters.

promotion ceremony.

He was accompanied by wife Phillipa, daughters Raechelle and Chanel and son Jeurell, as well as his father and 14 other members of his Family. In attendance at the standing-room-only ceremony were Maj. Gen. Gregory L. Wayt, Ohio adjutant general, and Maj. Gen. Matthew L. Kambic, the assistant adjutant general for Army, along with other current and retired Ohio National Guard general officers.

Smith began his service to Ohio in 1982 as the clerk for Battery D, 2nd Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery Regiment. Within a year he had joined the officer ranks. "I did not set out to be a general," he said. "I just wanted to leave every organization better than I found it."

His career, which includes leadership from the platoon to brigade level, including command of more than 4,500 Soldiers in combat, has allowed him to do just that. He has now joined the ranks of general officer, an honor reserved for less than one half of one percent of the Army's military officers.

Thunderous applause filled the hall when Wayt mentioned the "absolute integrity, infectious smile and charismatic leadership" as the most remarkable aspects of Smith's character. "He makes you want to do more than just your job," said Maj. Jeffrey Buck, who started his full-time career working for Smith.

As an African-American, Smith acknowledged his promotion may inspire other minorities to reach for the stars, and he wants to "continue to inspire all Soldiers." A look at the diverse gathering told the story of a leader who inspires everyone he touches. Kambic passionately told the crowd that Smith "brings his love of people and color-blindness to all he does."

The receiving line of those waiting to personally congratulate Smith lasted for more than half an hour. **CPT MICHELLE SMITH** / ADJ. GEN. PUBLIC AFFAIRS



CW4 O'NEIL WILLIAMS JR. / ARNG SRSC

SSG Ada Milby competes in a high-ropes course event during filming of the National Guard "Warrior Challenge" television show.

Ohio tourism website offers travel deals for Servicemembers planning trips

COLUMBUS—The Ohio Department of Travel and Tourism has joined with many businesses and organizations to offer discounted opportunities for military members and Families.

Each month new opportunities are added to the department's website at <http://consumer.discoverohio.com/MilitaryDiscountResults.aspx>.

Some offerings may be more attractive than others, but the more military Families visit the site, the more organizations will likely join and offer additional deals. **OHIO NATIONAL GUARD FAMILY READINESS PROGRAM**

Shades of Green, Disney partner to make vacations affordable for military

ORLANDO, Fla.—Shades of Green is a resort hotel, located on Walt Disney World Resort, exclusive to Servicemembers, retirees, DoD civilians, and their Family members.

It is an Armed Forces Recreation Center, run by the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command based in Alexandria, Va. Rates are set on a sliding scale, based on rank. Beginning this month, Disney is chipping in to make vacations for Servicemembers and their Families even more affordable.

With the "Disney's Armed Forces Salute" offer, active and retired U.S. military personnel, including activated members of the National Guard or Reservists, can enjoy complimentary, multi-day admission into Disney's U.S. theme parks, and additional special ticket offers for Family members and friends.

At the Walt Disney World Resort in Florida, through Dec. 23, each active or retired member of the U.S. military may obtain one complimentary five-day "Disney's Armed Forces Salute" ticket with Park Hopper and Water Park Fun & More options. This ticket is valid for five days of admission into the four Walt Disney World theme parks, plus a total of five visits to a choice of a Disney water park, DisneyQuest Indoor Interactive Theme Park or certain other attractions. During this offer period, active or retired U.S. military personnel may also make a one-time purchase (up to a maximum of five) of five-day "Disney's Armed Forces Salute Companion" tickets for \$99 per ticket, plus tax, for Family members or friends. Although this ticket for Family members and friends does not include either the Park Hopper or Water Park Fun & More options, this ticket can be upgraded to add either such option, or both, for an additional \$25, plus tax, per option.

A similar offer is in place at Walt Disney Land in California, as well. For more information on the "Disney Armed Forces Salute," visit www.disneyworld.com/military. **WILLIAM BRADNER / FMWRC PUBLIC AFFAIRS**



FMWRC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Located on the Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, Fla., Shades of Green resort hotel is exclusive to Servicemembers, retirees, DoD civilians and their Family members.

AMVETS offers scholarships for U.S. veterans, Family members

WASHINGTON, D.C.—AMVETS annually awards scholarships to U.S. military veterans and active-duty military, their sons, daughters or grandchildren. A son, daughter or grandchild of a deceased veteran is also eligible.

Awarded on the basis of academic excellence and financial need, the scholarships go to deserving high school seniors, high school Junior ROTC students and veterans pursuing a higher education.

For more information, log on to http://www.amvets.org/programs/programs_scholarships.html. **AMVETS DEPARTMENT OF OHIO**

FMWRC offers Great Getaways to Armed Forces Recreation Centers

ALEXANDRIA, Va.—Imagine attending a luau on Waikiki Beach, golfing in the shadows of the Magic Kingdom, sightseeing a seventh-century city in The Land of the Morning Calm, sunbathing beneath a famous lighthouse on the Atlantic, or skiing or hiking in the Bavarian Alps.

One of those dream vacations awaits the winner of the Great Getaways Sweepstakes, an Army Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command-sponsored contest that runs through May 31 at www.afrcresorts.com. The grand prize is a seven-night stay at one of five Armed Forces Recreation Centers, a luggage set, a digital camera, a set of golf clubs and \$2,500 for expenses.

The AFRCs are the Hale Koa Hotel on

Waikiki Beach, Hawaii; Shades of Green on Walt Disney World Resort in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.; Dragon Hill Lodge in Seoul, South Korea; Cape Henry Inn and Beach Club on Fort Story near Virginia Beach, Va.; and Edelweiss Lodge and Resort in Garmisch, Germany.

Ten \$100 winners also will be randomly selected each month of the contest. Active duty U.S. military personnel from all branches of Service, Reserve, National Guard, retirees, Family members and Department of Defense civilians 18 and older are eligible for the contest. Eligible patrons may enter online or via a 3-by-5 card with name, address, telephone number and e-mail address sent to Great Getaways, P.O. Box 150304, Alexandria, Va., 22315. Limit is one entry per day. **TIM HIPPS / FMWRC PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

ONGSP APPLICATION DEADLINES

Fall term, July 1

Spring semester/Winter quarter, Nov. 1

Spring quarter, Feb. 1

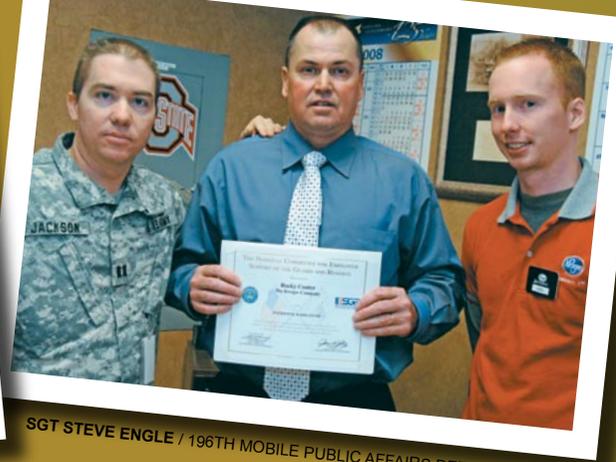
Summer term, April 1

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.

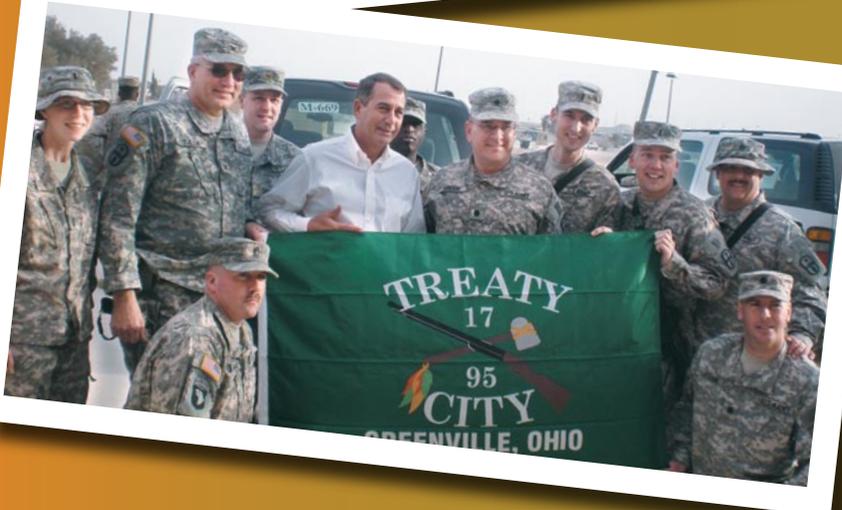
This must be done prior to each term a student attends school. You may also renew your application online at www.ongsp.org.

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

TSgt ELIZABETH HOLLIKER / 180TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS



SGT STEVE ENGLE / 196TH MOBILE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DET.



COURTESY PHOTO

Guard Snapshots

RIGHT: WO1 Dawn Fears (left) and CW4 Carol Hudy talk during a break at the fourth annual Ohio Army National Guard Warrant Officer Muster March 14-15. The event is a chance for warrant officers from all over the state to come together to network and learn about topics such as education and retirement. To read an article on the muster, go to <http://ong.ohio.gov>. BOTTOM, RIGHT: G. Michael Payton (left), director of the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, receives a plaque from MG Gregory L. Wayt, Ohio adjutant general, to commemorate Payton's speech in February at Beightler Armory in celebration of Black History Month. BELOW: During the 2008 high school football season, Cleveland Saint Ignatius High School won the Ohio High School Athletic Association Division I title, which weighed into the team's placement at No. 2 on the MaxPreps national rankings. This was the third year MaxPreps and the National Guard have teamed up to honor 30 premier high school football teams across the nation; Saint Ignatius is the only team to be recognized in Ohio. MG Matthew L. Kambic (right), Ohio's assistant adjutant general for Army, presents the award to St. Ignatius head coach Chuck "Chico" Kyle Jan. 31.

SPC SAM BEAVERS / 196TH MOBILE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DET.



TODD CRAMER / ADJ. GEN. DEPT. PHOTO LAB

DIANE FARROW / RECRUITING & RETENTION COMMAND MARKETING OFFICE

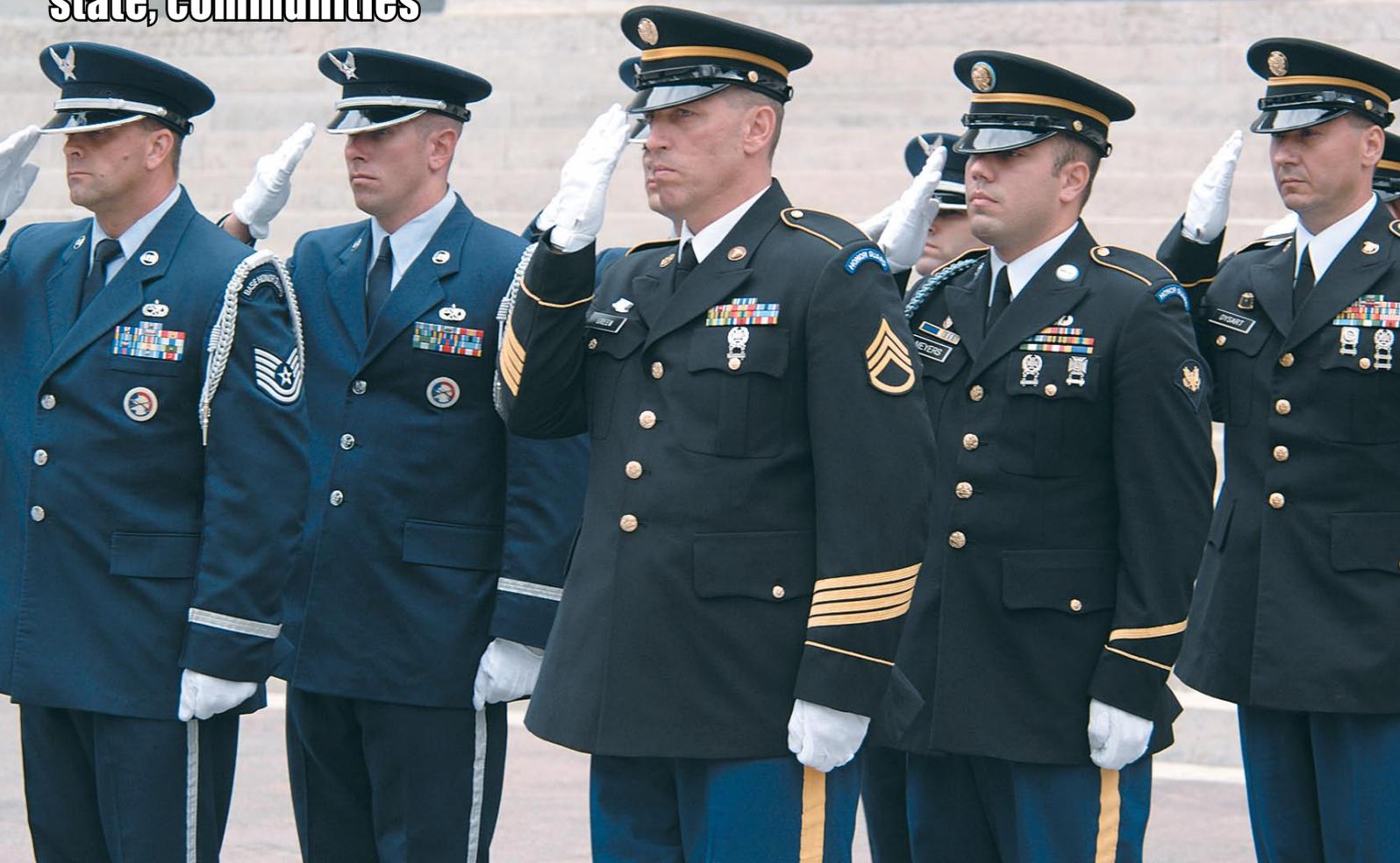
ABOVE LEFT: TSgt William Darling (from left), SSgt Thomas Parris and SSgt Jeffrey Roberts were the first members of the 180th Fighter Wing, Toledo, to be awarded the Combat Action Medal. The Airmen earned this award while deployed with nine other 180th Security Forces Squadron (SFS) members to Mosul, Iraq in January 2006. Members performed more than 128 security missions including combat, small arms attacks, rocket-propelled grenade attacks and improvised explosive device attacks. SFS members' expertise and leadership led to the graduation of more than 1,000 Iraqi Police cadets. ABOVE: CPT Marshall Jackson (left), 196th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment commander, and SPC Joel Gottke (right) present Rocky Couter, general manager of the Sawmill Road Kroger in Columbus and Gottke's civilian employer, with an Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Patriot award. LEFT: House Minority Leader John Boehner, R-West Chester, of Ohio's 8th Congressional District visits with COL Dan Tack (second from left), commander, and members of the Ohio Army National Guard's 371st Sustainment Brigade Headquarters during the congressman's recent visit to the Middle East. The stop was part of a five-day trip the House minority leader and five other members of Congress were making across Iraq and Afghanistan.

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STEVE TOTH / ADJ. GEN. DEPT. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Soldiers and Airmen of the Ohio National Guard Honor Guard render hand salutes during funeral services for U.S. Rep. Paul Gillmor on Sept. 11, 2007, at the Ohio Statehouse. For more on the variety of duties performed by the Honor Guard, see page 16.