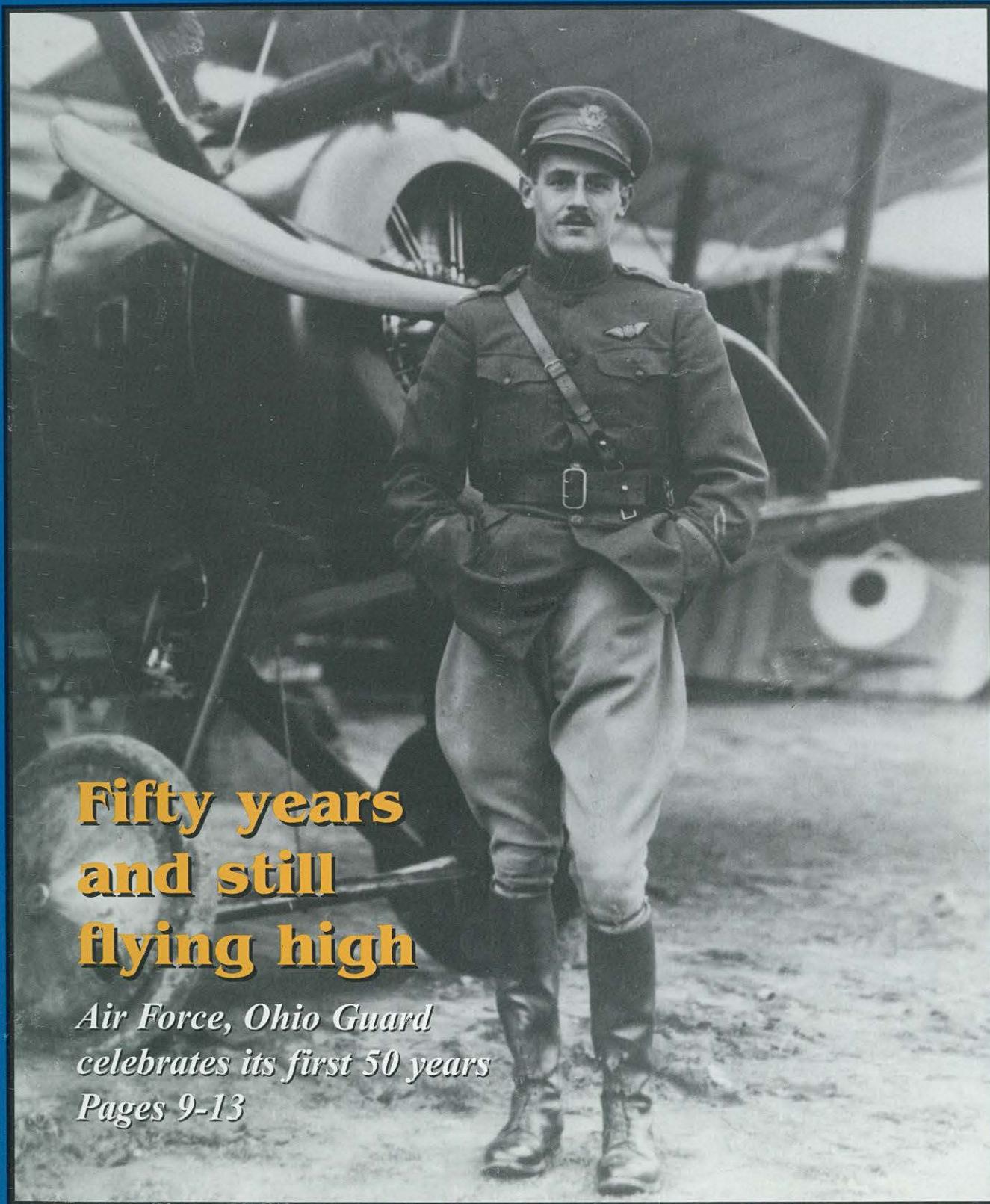


Buckeye GUARD

Autumn 1997



Fifty years and still flying high

*Air Force, Ohio Guard
celebrates its first 50 years
Pages 9-13*



RTI—Building tomorrow's Army today

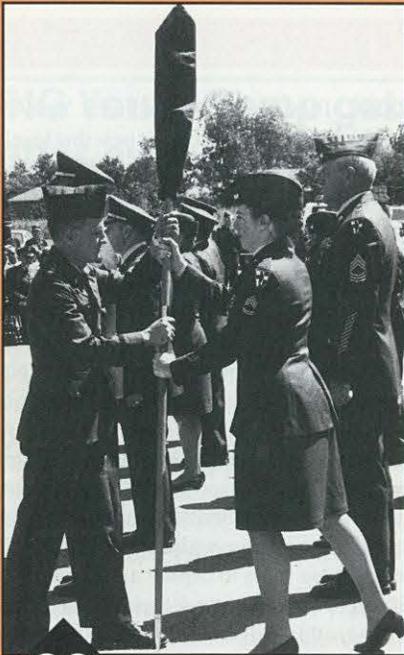
**Sgt. 1st Class Michael Enright ensures quality training for
the 145th Regiment, Regional Training Institute's Armor Battalion.**

For more, see pages 14-18.

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ABOUT THE COVER: Errol H. Zistel, a World War I pilot who began his military career in April 1917, joined the Ohio National Guard as a captain in June 1927. Considered one of the Ohio Air Guard's founding fathers, Zistel was promoted in 1953 as Chief of Staff of the Ohio Air Guard. He served in that assignment until his retirement in 1957.

Buckeye GUARD

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

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Autumn: July 15

NATIONAL NEWS

National missile defense plan gets boost. President Clinton's Fiscal Year 1998 (FY98) budget increases spending on missile defense to \$3.49 billion and keeps it near that level for the following five years, Defense Secretary William S. Cohen announced in February. This is seen as an attempt by the Clinton administration to satisfy congressional critics who have accused the administration of dragging its feet on missile defense. "We're trying to meet the Congress halfway on this," a senior defense official told reporters during a press conference at the Pentagon Feb. 6. "I think we are pushing money at developing missile defense as fast as the program can absorb it." The National Guard will play a greater role in the Army's national missile defense (NMD) plans as a result of the leadership of Lt. Gen. Edward Anderson, the commander of the Space and Strategic Defense Command (SSDC). The Army has long expected the Guard to provide the personnel to man its NMD sites, but the National Guard has rarely been mentioned in planning documents or briefings until recently. During a briefing late last year, Anderson received an ample amount of information on the National Guard's role in future NMD strategy. According to the briefing, the National Guard is essential to the success of the NMD program. Cohen said the Defense Department will accelerate the space missile tracking system, the first launch going from FY 2006 to FY 2004. He added that funding is available for former secretary William J. Perry's three-plus-three solution concerning the NMD system. This solution is to give the U.S. the capability within another three years to deploy a national missile defense program that would deal with a rogue state with modest missile attack capability against the United States. "Essentially, we are going to include funding in this budget that will allow the research and development to go forward as far as a National Missile Defense system, to conduct that research and development, and come to the year 2000," said Cohen. "At that time, we will call upon our intelligence community to give us the best analysis that we have of the nature of the threat that we will face at that time, and then make a determination as to whether or not we should go forward with an actual deployment of a ballistic missile defense system. Cohen said that as a member of the Senate, he was in the forefront calling for a national missile defense capability against accidental launches, or a limited type of strike threatening the nation's safety. "I think the program that we have—the so-called three-plus-three—will provide that kind of protection." (*National Guard Magazine*)



Web site wins top award. Air Force Link, the service's official web site on the World Wide Web, has been awarded one of the communications industry's highest awards. The International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) announced that Air Force Link has garnered the Gold Quill for excellence in communications. "We're ecstatic to be honored with this award," said Brig. Gen. Ronald T. Sconyers, director of public affairs, USAF. "The Air Force takes great pride in employee communication and in explaining global engagement to the world audience. This award reaffirms we are hitting the mark." Nearly 1,700 projects vied for honors in this year's competition. IABC has honored communications excellence with Gold Quill awards for more than 25 years. The Gold Quill Awards program is an annual international competition which offers professional communicators an opportunity to have their work evaluated by expert judges. Many of the judges themselves have been recognized for excellence in communication. Web site evaluators called the site "excellent" and "state of the art." The Gold Quill award will be added to more than a dozen other honors garnered by Air Force Link since its inception in March 1995. The site has been featured in *Newsweek* magazine, *USA Today* and named "top federal web site" by *PC Computing* magazine. (*PAGL*)

Women's memorial dedication set for October. Construction of the "Women in Military Service to America Memorial" at Arlington National Cemetery, Va., has passed the halfway point, according to the builders. Thanks to the moderate winter and spring the construction remains on schedule, said officials with Lehrer McGovern and Bovis, Inc. The company expects to complete construction and landscaping work by the end of summer, according to Michelle Stuckey, a spokeswoman with the construction consulting firm. That would give officials of the memorial foundation about three months to furnish offices, set up museum displays and prepare for dedication ceremonies now set for Oct. 18. The women's memorial project converts Arlington National Cemetery's 75-year-old main entrance gate into a shrine honoring the nation's 1.8 million service women and veterans. Designed by Weiss-Manfreidi Architects of New York, the memorial will house a museum, a 196-seat auditorium, a Hall of Honor and an education center on women's military history. It will also house a computerized military women's registry, created to allow military women to showcase their contributions to military service. (*Bear Facts, Missouri National Guard*)

ONG Youth Camp gets better every year

Friends and family of the Guard,

I just wanted to report that this year's youth camp was a huge success. One hundred twenty-five campers ages 8-13 attended the weeklong camp June 15-21, 1997. Located at Camp Perry, the Ohio National Guard Youth Camp was staffed with 88 volunteers who pulled together to mentor the campers around the clock.

The week was action-packed and fun-filled with activities such as archery, fishing, karaoke, hiking and much more! The campers and volunteers all made new friends and experienced personal growth.

If you would like to attend next year as a camper or volunteer, mark your calendars for June 14-19, 1998. Applications will be available in December.

I'd like to offer a special thank-you to all the volunteers that made this year's youth camp possible. You're all awesome!

WO1 Carmen Coventry
State Family Program Coordinator

Guardmembers need right message about 360 degree feedback

I'm writing in response to the article "Ohio ANG initiates '360 Feedback Process'" (Summer 1997 *Buckeye Guard*, p.26). Primarily, I'm concerned that readers understand that "360 Degree Feedback" is not another name for a performance review; it is a way to get feedback from a variety of sources—not just supervisors.

Formal feedback provided by a supervisor during annual performance reviews provides limited insight into individual development needs. The 360 Degree Feedback process allows input from many other people that are impacted by the worker's day-to-day performance. Peers, subordinates, customer groups and even the worker himself, offer a much more comprehensive perspective (360 degrees) of developmental needs.

To give an example, I'll explain how my medical squadron applied this process during annual training this year.

First, we took the standard feedback form (AGOH 173-1 and 173-2) and converted it into a questionnaire with scaled responses. Each airman (enlisted and officer) was given a minimum of five copies of the form to be filled out—one by his supervisor, one by himself and the remaining by coworkers and/or subordinates.

Those filled out by the supervisor, peers and subordinates were averaged and any comments were listed anonymously. The consolidated information is retained until the airman's annual review. At that point, the supervisor and airman will sit down and look over the feedback provided. Together, they will create some goals for improvement and self-development.

Clearly, the key to successful 360 Feedback is the ability to receive honest feedback that won't all be positive. The benefit of this process is increased individual effectiveness which, in turn, causes increased unit effectiveness.

In my position as a quality specialist in the private sector, I have seen many Fortune 500 companies take the 360 Feedback process very seriously, resulting in huge benefits. While corporate America has always been conscious of the negative impact of attrition, this hasn't always been the case for the armed forces. In the past, the military instantly responded to the loss or destruction of a high-priced piece of equipment; but when soldiers or airmen left for another job, it was no big deal. By using programs such as 360 Feedback, it seems the military is now realizing the true value of the human resource.

1st Lt. Brian Preston
180th Medical Squadron

Are you available to go active duty?

A chief master sergeant sits behind his desk, just down the hall from the operations group commander. As the chief finishes his second cup of coffee and reads the last of the morning's messages, the commander steps into his office.

"Chief," the colonel says, "I hate to ask you this, but you are needed in Southwest Asia in six days for a 90-day rotation. Can you go?"

With no emotion in his voice and without even looking up, the chief replies, "I put on my uniform this morning didn't I?"

The colonel is taken aback—the chief doesn't usually talk in riddles. Has this veteran of 28 years finally gone off the deep end?

The wise, old protector of the enlisted corps smiles and begins to explain. "I made a promise to myself more than 20 years ago that I would only put this uniform on as long as I'm available for duty."

While this philosophy may seem obvious to some Air Force members, it completely escapes others. Available for duty means more than the desire to negotiate and select the premium assignments. Available for duty requires us to go any place in the world—at any given time.

This doesn't mean we shouldn't have or

receive our preferences. It does mean we'll go when and where we're needed and called. This approach may seem overly simplistic; however, I think everyone can agree—when it comes to defining service to country, the answer is just that simple. In today's world of "What can you do for me?" it's easy to lose sight of what "service to country" is all about.

Service goes far beyond the individual; it affects the well-being of our nation. Sitting in our hometown, it's easy to forget the sacrifices we agreed to endure in military service. Deployed in Southwest Asia, Italy or Bosnia, the sacrifices become much clearer. The bottom line is today we are an "all-volunteer force." Our force has been reduced by 30 percent in the last five years while it remains a highly mobilized, continually tasked organization. Everyone is vital to its continued success.

All of us have the responsibility to report our availability for duty. If someone has a family problem or special circumstances that precludes them from being available, they need to report it immediately—especially prior to being asked to deploy. If any single member does not deploy when called upon, another member is forced to fill the slot.

Everyone's family would like them to be home for the holidays. I can't think of anyone who would intentionally miss their child's graduation. Military members are asked to sacrifice all of this continuously.

What we must remember is that we are serving our nation, and we are all volunteers. It is not easy—no one said it would be. The leadership of our country depends on all of us being as good as our word. I believe each of us needs to take a good look in the mirror and ask, "Am I available for duty?" If the answer is yes, then continue as the true professional you're expected to be. If the answer is no, your next step is to determine if your non-availability is temporary or permanent. You then face the toughest question: Should you resign, separate or retire? There are no pat answers.

Everyone must decide for themselves. Just as the chief, I too put on my uniform today and I am available for duty.

By Sr. Master Sgt. John Drew
Courtesy of the Internet

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



Command Focus

Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander, Adjutant General

It's now or never for the Army National Guard

Unless you've been living in a vacuum, you know 1997 is shaping up as a turning point in the long history of the National Guard. The Department of Defense's (DoD) first Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR) and particularly the U.S. Army recommendations for the Army National Guard contained therein, has caused quite a furor in the National Guard community.

As the nation waited expectantly for the first comprehensive review of the roles, missions and force structure of the military services since the Bottom-up Review, many assumed the ac-

tive Army would turn to the National Guard to take more of the defense load in a reduced threat environment. Fiscal necessity and an ever-increasing operations tempo for operations other than war around the globe would break down the barriers which have existed between the Army and the National Guard. The equitable balance of military responsibility for U.S. national security conceived in the "Total Force" would finally become reality.

Alas, this is not so! Despite the DoD's own assessment of a lack of a "peer competitor" for the United States now and in the foreseeable future, the Army chose to retain its standing force structure at the expense of the Army National Guard.

Faced with a mandate by the Secretary of Defense to find \$2 billion within its service budget to fund weapons modernization and procurement needed for the 21st century, zero growth in defense spending over the next several years and a congress intent on balancing the federal budget, the U.S. Army chose to

troops through the year 2000. The balance of the reductions was deferred until a review of the missioning, force structure and readiness of the Total Army was completed under the oversight of the Army civilian leadership.

Given the Army's recommendations and the uncertainties which now surround the future of the Army National Guard, the time is now for the National Guard community to act!

As you may know, the QDR was directed by Congress and the recommendations contained in that study will ultimately be presented and either accepted or rejected by Congress. A National Defense Panel (NDP) created by that same legislation to review, alter, or completely change the QDR's recommendations holds little hope for the National Guard. The eight-member panel was selected by the Secretary of Defense

without regard for the suggestions of the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) and the Adjutants General Association of the United States (AGAUS) to appoint at least one individual who had experience with the National Guard's contributions to national defense. There are no Guard advocates on the NDP.

The NDP's assessment of the QDR will be presented to Congress on December 15. We have until that date to convince our respective representatives in Congress that the Army National Guard is relevant to this nation's national military strategy and should be utilized to the maximum extent possible to fulfill security requirements around the globe. ■

"Given the Army recommendations and the uncertainties which now surround the future of the Army National Guard, the time is now for the National Guard community to act!"

decimate the Army National Guard to find the modernization dollars it needed. The Army declared in its QDR recommendations that: Army National Guard combat forces were incapable of performing as intended and were therefore irrelevant to the nation's military strategy; proposed a 50 percent reduction in National Guard combat forces; and, indicated a desire to reduce the Guard's heavy combat structure to just a few brigades. Initial estimates filtering out of the Pentagon put Guard losses at more than 67,000. That number was reduced to 38,000 by the time the QDR was released in late May. Following an Army "offsite" meeting with the National Guard leadership, the Guard agreed to a cut of 17,000

Honoring those who serve



Once again, nominations are solicited for the *Hall of Fame* and *Distinguished Service Awards*. Selected persons will be honored at the 1998 Ohio National Guard Association Conference.

Distinguished Service Award

Criteria are as follows:

1. Military or civilian personnel are eligible.
2. A person is eligible for nomination at any time.
3. This award may be given for a single act or for performance over an extended period of time.
4. a. An individual must have accomplished an outstanding achievement on behalf of the Ohio National Guard.
b. The person must be clearly identified as having played a key role in the accomplishment for which the award is to be given.
c. Although a single accomplishment may be deemed qualification for this award, particular consideration should be given to those individuals who have contributed outstanding service on a sustained basis.

Hall of Fame

Criteria are as follows:

1. Officers, warrant officers and enlisted personnel who have served in the Ohio National Guard are eligible.
2. A person shall become eligible for nomination three years after retirement from the armed services or three years after death. A member of the Ohio National Guard who is awarded the Medal of Honor while serving in a National Guard status or on extended active duty from the Ohio National Guard may be inducted into the Hall of Fame at any time.

3. Nominations for the Hall of Fame shall cover the entire military and civilian service of the nominee.

Sustaining exceptional performance of all duties, the institution of innovative programs which were unique to their time frame, the enhancement of the combat effectiveness of the Ohio National Guard and the enhancement of public support of the Guard are types of service to be considered.

Award of Merit

Personnel considered for this award would be those who have made a contribution which did not meet the criteria for the present awards, but whose contribution deserves recognition. This award is to be based on such areas as leadership, longevity, a meritorious act or deed, a project or activity which has contributed significantly to the benefit of the Ohio National Guard, military service performed at a level above the norm, or to an individual who has served the Ohio National Guard Association over and above what is reasonably expected from the member.

Nominations

The proposed citation should not exceed 800 words for the Hall of Fame and 500 words for the Distinguished Service Award. The language used should be readily understood by the news media and the general public. Acronyms and military jargon are to be avoided. Citations used in connections with previous awards may be quoted. The full text of these and other supporting documents may be attached for consideration of the Awards Committee.

The following outline is suggested:

1. Date and place of birth;
2. Date and circumstance into military service;
3. Chronological listing of career high-points to include duty assignments, promotions, noteworthy actions or accomplishments, and excerpts from previous citations; and
4. Conclusion.

Anyone may submit nominations for the awards. Nominations along with proposed award citation text and a synopsis of no more than two pages should be submitted to the Ohio National Guard Association, ATTN: Awards Committee, P.O. Box 8070, Columbus, Ohio 43210 by Dec. 1, 1997. ■

Command Profile



Col. Robert P. Meyer, Jr. 121st Air Refueling Wing

Age: 54

Occupation: 121st Air Refueling Wing Commander.

I grew up in: Columbus, Ohio.

When I was little I wanted to be: a pilot, so I wouldn't have to grow up.

Friends and classmates in high school thought I was: quiet, shy and basically a nice guy.

My favorite time of the year is: Fall (OSU football season).

The one thing I treasure most is: My family.

My favorite junk food is: Bahama Mamas before midnight and White Castles after midnight.

My biggest pet peeve is: filling out Command Profiles.

My favorite recreational activity is: any outdoor activity.

If I won \$20 million in the lotto I would: take a world cruise.

If I could travel back in time, I would: trade it in on an opportunity to travel ahead 100 years.

The older I get, the more I: realize that young is better.

When I retire I want to: stay retired.

If I could leave today's guardmembers with one piece of advice it would be: to take advantage of all the opportunities that the Guard provides such as education, travel and community involvement.

Music, music, music... not just a job, a passion for Army Guard staff sergeant

By Staff Sgt. Edwin Robinson, Sr.
122nd Army National Guard Band

When Staff Sgt. Dave Sams was learning to play the ukulele at the age of seven and the guitar at age 10, he had no idea that someday his name would be synonymous with "band leader."

Sams, a platoon sergeant with the 122nd Army National Guard Band, also is the band leader for the 122nd Army Combo Band named the MREs, or Musicians Ready to Entertain.

The band leader got his start with the 122nd seven years ago, after leaving the 100th Training Armor Division at Fort Knox, Ky. Because of his musical talents prior to enlisting in the military, Sams skipped AIT (Advanced Individual Training) and went through OJT (On-the-Job Training). He soon played his way to the lead spotlight as a musician and main vocalist for the MREs.

The MREs consist of Staff Sgt. Edwin Robinson, Sgt. David Mruzek, Sgt. Chris Hughes, Staff Sgt. Tim Grabo, Staff Sgt. Lonnie Kirby and 1st Sgt. Ron Edwards. Under the direction of Sams, the band performs military tunes,

jazz, blues, country, rock, swing, waltz melodies and songs from the top-40 charts.

The group plays for various military and community events throughout Ohio. "When it comes to the MREs," said Sams, "they're not just good to the stomach anymore, they're just as good to the ear!"

Sams credits his skills and the love for a variety of music to performers such as Carlos Santana, George Benson, Eric Clapton, B.B. King, D. Jango Rheindart and Muddy Waters. Intently, Sams would listen to those artists, practice what he heard, and in turn, hone his skills. According to Sams, he did not plan his destiny as a band leader. "I just started to put bands together for small occasions, weddings and parties. Before I knew it, I was getting requests to return in the following years for annual events."

Some of the most rewarding performances, Sams recalls, were

those performed before inmates in several correctional institutions and before the bright wide-eyes of today's youth.

Sams' passion for music compares only to the love for his family and the inspiration he gets from their support. Mary, his wife of 25 years, is an accomplished artist who travels with Sams between art exhibits portraying her work. The couple have two children: Michael, 24, a junior at the University of

North Dakota majoring in environmental engineering; and Rachel, 19, also a junior, majoring in music education and performance at the University of Miami.

With Rachel on the violin and Sams on acoustic guitar, the father and daughter team perform as a professional duet. The younger Sams started touring with her father at the age of 15. Playing a sonata of Bach, Beethoven and

Mozart, the Sams dazzle audiences all across Ohio.

Sams not only renders his talent with the MREs and his daughter, he also plays with a German band and leads another group of musicians he brought together. On the average, Sams performs about six gigs a month.

When Sams is not playing the role of sergeant, musician or band leader, he manages the Mehas Music Store in his hometown of Cincinnati. He is responsible for the daily maintenance and upkeep of the facility, along with the advertising, inventory and sales of the merchandise. Sams is also the personnel manager of more than 10 music instructors.

Sams' dream, after retiring from the military in a few years, is to scale the next step on the ladder of music—becoming a full-time artist and entertainer. ■



Photo by William J. Heckler, photographer.

Sams performs with other members of the 122nd Army National Guard Band. From left to right, SSG Dave Sams, SSG Tim Grabo, 1SG Ron Edwards, SGT Chris Hughes and SSG Edwin Robinson, Sr.

*"MRE's...are not
just good to the
stomach anymore,
they're just as
good to the ear!"*

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

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

The Golden Legacy of the Air Force

By Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman

◆ ◆ ◆ Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force

For the past half century, the accomplishments recorded by the men and women of the Air Force represent a proud legacy of airmen demonstrating the role the Air Force has played in supporting our nation's objectives.

Although we are celebrating our 50th anniversary, we can trace the idea of an independent Air Force back to our forebears in the Army Air Service, Air Corps and Army Air Forces. Visionaries like Billy Mitchell, Benny Foulois, Hap Arnold and Frank Andrews saw the promise of air power in allowing nations to avoid the slaughter that took place in the force-on-force ground battles in World War I. They argued that the value of air power could only be realized through an independent Air Force led by airmen.

The United States Air Force was truly forged in the crucible of combat during World War II. Air power played a major—sometimes decisive—role in helping our nation win the war. When the allies could not mount an invasion of the European continent, air power opened a second front to drain the resources of the axis powers.

At the end of the second World War, the American military demobilized and the troops went home. The Army Air Forces dramatically declined from 2,250,000 people in 1945 to a force of just over 300,000 a year later.

President Harry S. Truman submitted legislation for an independent Air Force to Congress in February 1947. On July 26, he signed the National Security Act of 1947, establishing the United States Air Force as part of a new defense establishment. On September 18, W. Stuart Symington was sworn in as the first Secretary of the Air Force. A week later, Gen. Carl "Tooeey" Spaatz became the first Air Force chief of staff.

It wasn't long before the Air Force had the opportunity to prove that air power could make an enormous contribution to the nation's national security objectives. In June 1948, the Soviet Union closed the railroads and highways into Berlin in an attempt to force the western allies out of the city.

Lt. Gen. Curtis LeMay, commander of the U.S. Air Forces in Europe, began airlifting supplies while bombers moved into Great Britain as a deterrent against further Soviet aggression.

For 15 months, the U.S. Air Force, along with the Air Forces of our allies, flew sorties into and

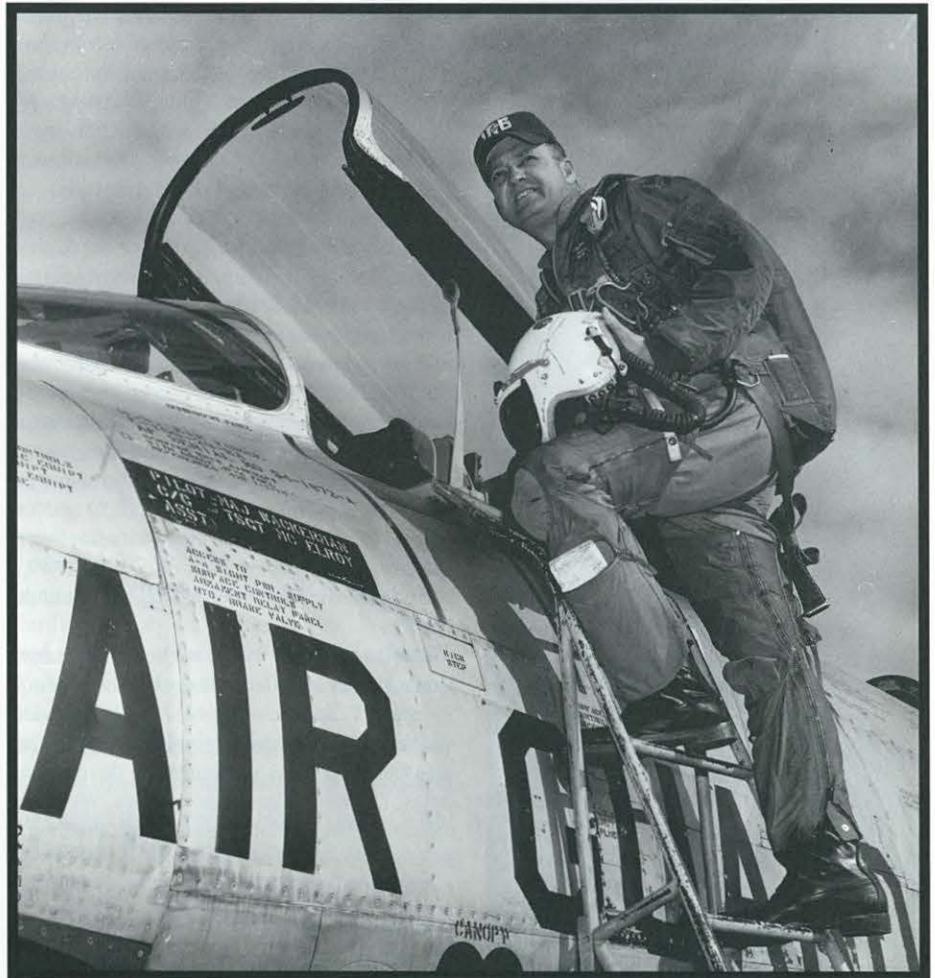


Photo by A1C James Anderson, Ohio ANG.

MAJ William Stringfellow of the 166th Tactical Fighter Squadron, Ohio ANG, prepares to mount his F-100 "Super Sabre."

out of Berlin, bringing in nearly 2.5 million tons of food, coal and other necessities. This successful application of non-lethal air power vividly demonstrated the commitment of the United States to support our European allies and face down Soviet coercion.

The late 1940s were marked by growing tension between the West and the proponents of international communism which broke into conflict in June 1950 when North Korea attacked its neighbor to the south. Within a matter of hours our nation found itself engaged in a land war in Asia.

The U.S. Air Force was involved in the conflict from the very beginning. Air Force airmen flew alongside Navy, Marine and UN

aviators to destroy the North Korean Air Force and seize control of the air over the peninsula. Air superiority allowed aircraft to evacuate non-combatants and the use of B-29s and B-26s to devastate strategic targets in the north and decimate enemy forces besieging the Pusan perimeter. USAF airmen developed ground radar-controlled bombing techniques that multiplied the effectiveness of air attacks against enemy human waves assaults launched at night. Meanwhile, continuous attacks on enemy rear areas seriously weakened their ability to mount sustained offenses.

In November 1950 we were challenged in the air by MiG-15s. Fortunately, there were people in the Air Force who possessed the foresight to



1.

focus on air superiority. As a result, we had developed the F-86, which racked up a 10:1 kill ratio against the Soviet-built MiGs, destroying 786 while losing only 78.

Ultimately, air power was a crucial factor both in stabilizing the ground war and in encouraging the communists to enter truce negotiations. Air

Force airmen played a key role in preserving an independent South Korea at a cost of nearly 1,200 killed in action, 368 wounded and 224 imprisoned.

Korea served as a wake-up for the United States, and we developed a security strategy designed to contain international communism by building a ring of bases around the centers of communist power: the Soviet Union, the Warsaw Pact and China. The centerpiece of this strategy of containment was nuclear deterrence.

Initially, bombers were the only force we had to provide this nuclear deterrent. We began the cold war era with the B-29, the B-50 and the giant B-36. We perfected air-to-air refueling to increase the range of our aircraft, and in 1949, a B-50 made the first non-stop flight around the world.

During the early 1950s we began the transition to the jet age in long-range bombers, bringing the B-47 and the venerable B-52 into service.

Our nation was also beginning to take its first steps into space as we started to develop the Atlas, Titan and Minuteman missiles. We began exploring the use of satellites, establishing a satellite development program in 1955 that produced the Corona photo reconnaissance satellites and Midas early warning satellites. In 1958 we launched the first active communications satellite, and in 1961 the Air Force was

named the lead agency in space by Secretary of Defense Robert S. MacNamara.

Air Force aviators were among the first contingent of U.S. astronauts. In the Mercury program there were Deke Slayton, Gus Grissom and Gordon Cooper. Later, two other Air Force officers, Ed White and Jim McDivitt, performed the first manned military space experiments onboard the Gemini IV.

The use of air and space gave our political leaders global awareness through surveillance and reconnaissance assets like the U-2 and SR-71. Perhaps the most dramatic example occurred during the Cuban Missile Crisis in October 1962. Aerial photographs from a U-2 revealed the existence of Soviet nuclear missiles in Cuba, enabling President Kennedy to confront the Soviets and rally international support for removing the missiles.

At the same time, the Air Force started to become increasingly involved in operations in Southeast Asia. In 1961, significant numbers of U.S. Air Force aircraft and airmen began to arrive in Vietnam to train the South Vietnamese Air Force and conduct counterinsurgency operations against the Viet Cong. After the attack on Pleiku in 1965, the Air Force began flying combat missions in earnest. Rolling Thunder bombing strikes against targets in North Vietnam lasted into 1968, while ground forces operated with close air support provided by everything from A-1Es to F-100s and B-52s.

In 1972, when the North Vietnamese leaders refused to return to the negotiating table, Air Force aviators launched devastating strikes on Hanoi and Haiphong alongside their Navy and Marine Corps counterparts in Linebacker II. Their heroic efforts quickly brought the war to a close for the U.S.

Not to be overlooked were the many other aspects of air power that contributed to the war. Tankers provided critical force multipliers, while C-141s brought troops and supplies from the U.S. into Vietnam and evacuated wounded. The massive logistics support required for U.S. forces in South Vietnam was made possible by the C-7s, C-123s and C-130s that provided intra-theater airlift.

Again, the Air Force contribution to the war effort came at a cost—nearly 2,600 killed, 996 missing and 771 imprisoned.

After the Vietnam War we took a hard look



2.

(1) A KC-135 Stratotanker refuels a B-52 bomber. (2) A 166th Tactical Fighter Squadron pilot poses with his F-84F at Lockbourne AFB. (3) Members of the 166th Tactical Fighter Squadron pose with a unit aircraft in 1950. (4) F-16s from Springfield's 178th Fighter Group.



3.



4.

at the Air Force's performance and then applied the lessons we learned. We realized the value of precision munitions. It had taken hundreds of sorties to drop pivotal bridges until the Air Force employed laser guided bombs, and we pressed to make them better. We also saw the need for a fighter that was optimized for air superiority so we invested in the F-15.

We also began looking for ways to defeat surface-to-air missiles and saw the promise of stealth technologies. We invested in them and in 1982, the F-117, the world's first stealth fighter, was delivered—followed more recently by the B-2 bomber.

We also undertook initiatives to improve the quality of our training. We formed the aggressor squadrons to provide dissimilar air combat training and established the Red Flag exercises to provide air crews realistic combat training before they went to war.

The importance of space continued to grow as we fielded more advanced communications, weather, navigation, and intelligence and missile warning systems.

During the late 1970s and early 1980s, the Air Force was continually involved in contingency operations. In 1990, the USAF and the nation benefited from the convergence of advances in technology, realistic training, astute tactics, strong leadership and bold concepts of employment in DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM. The result was a 38-day air campaign that decisively weakened Iraqi forces, making

possible the 100-hour ground operation that ejected the Iraqi army from Kuwait with a minimum of coalition casualties.

During the late 1980s and early 1990s we also saw the fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of the Soviet Union. With the end of the cold war, the nation would return to its militia roots and the Air Force would have to demobilize. As a result, since 1990 we have reduced our major installations from 139 to 87; cut fighter wings from 36 to 20 (13 are active duty, seven are Guard and Reserve); downsized our bomber forces from 301 to 138; and reduced our ICBM's from 1,000 to 550.

At the same time we have seen our involvement in contingency operations increase nearly fourfold since the fall of the Berlin Wall. We have continued to make history and build upon our Golden Legacy.

But it hasn't all been lethal operations over the past 50 years. As the U.S. has seen the need to provide humanitarian assistance, support an ally, or convey commitment, the Air Force has been heavily involved in moving supplies, food, equipment and medicine. These humanitarian missions started with flights bringing cholera vaccine to Egypt in October of 1947 and have continued every year since.

Since the Gulf War, we have provided humanitarian relief and protection to half a million Kurds in Turkey and northern Iraq. We delivered hundreds of tons of relief to Bangladesh. We built air bridges to rapidly provide humani-

tarian relief to starvation riddled Somalia, and brought in tanks and armored vehicles when the situation turned sour in Mogadishu in the fall of 1993. And in the Balkans, the Air Force took part in the longest humanitarian airlift and air-drop in history—over 3 1/2 years—to sustain Sarajevo and other safe havens in the face of Bosnian Serb pressures.

These are just a few of the highlights of our Golden Legacy. This year we celebrate the 50 years of hard work and dedication displayed by the thousands of men and women who served their nation in the Air Force.

Our new strategic vision of Global Engagement will guide the development of our Air Force to ensure that we continue to provide our great nation the full range of air and space capabilities into the first quarter of the 21st century—and the men and women of our Air Force will make it a reality. ■

EDITOR'S NOTE: All photos courtesy of the 121st Air Refueling Wing and the National Guard Bureau Historical Services.



(5) Lt. Col. Addison Baker, a WWII bomber pilot, is the only member of the Ohio ANG to receive the *Medal of Honor*. (6) A C-130 from the 179th Airlift Group flies over Mansfield. (7) Members of the 121st Tactical Fighter Group pose with an A-7 Corsair. (8) A KC-97 from the 145th Air Refueling Squadron refuels a F-84F from the 178th Tactical Fighter Group.





1947 - 1997

Yesterday and today: Ohio Air National Guard still flying high

Compiled by Staff Sgt. Shannon Scherer ♦ ♦ ♦ HQ ANG, Public Affairs

The year 1997 marks the 50th anniversary of the Ohio Air National Guard (ANG) along with its active duty and reserve Air Force counterparts. Units across the state celebrated with airshows, hangar dances and time capsules.

The Ohio ANG traces its roots as far back as 1927, with the 37th Division, Air Service of the Ohio National Guard. Ohio's first unit began with 101 men, but no aircraft or buildings—a far cry from today's multi-million dollar complexes, flying power and strength of approximately 5,000 personnel.

No longer considered “weekend warriors,” the Air Guard is part of the total force package, flying the latest jets, employing the most high-tech equipment and deploying worldwide. With missions as diverse as the people, community service is also a high priority for all units of the Ohio Air National Guard.

Headquarters, Ohio Air National Guard Beightler Armory, Columbus

The Ohio ANG Headquarters traces its lineage to an advisor representative position in the headquarters of the 37th Infantry Division, Ohio National Guard. An air section in the state headquarters and headquarters detachment was authorized in the fall of 1949 to provide the adjutant general with a staff of air assistants.

The current mission of the state headquarters is to support the adjutant general in commanding Air National Guard units assigned to the state of Ohio. Headquarters is in charge of training, equipping and coordinating the organizations of the Ohio ANG to support the security objectives of the United States.

121st Air Refueling Wing Rickenbacker Airport, Columbus

Federal recognition was extended to the 121st Fighter Group on Jan. 26, 1947, with plans to base the group at Lockbourne Army Air Base. However, the group was never formed and federal recognition was withdrawn. In 1948, the group was reissued recognition at Dayton Municipal Airport, Vandalia, Ohio. The new group was headquartered in a cluster of World War II hangars located on the northeast section of the airport.

In 1956, the unit changed its name to the 121st Fighter Interceptor Group and was relocated to Springfield Municipal Airport. On Nov. 14, 1958, the group was renamed the 121st Tactical Fighter Group and moved to its present location in Columbus.

On Jan. 16, 1993, the unit changed from its historical designation as a fighter wing to an aerial refueling wing, merging with the 160th Air Refueling Group. The unit officially accepted its first KC-135 Stratotanker aircraft on Jan. 24, 1993. Now called the 121st Air Refueling Wing, the unit provides air refueling support to Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and allied aircraft, along with air support when needed.

Recently, more than 1,200 members participated in federal and state missions such as Operation SOUTHERN WATCH, supporting the no-fly zone in Iraq, and 1997 Ohio River Flood.

123rd Air Control Squadron Blue Ash Air Station, Cincinnati

On March 1, 1948, this unit was constituted the 123rd Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron. It was redesignated the 123rd Tactical Control Flight on Sept. 12, 1965. In the early '90s this unit merged with its sister unit, the 124th Tactical Control Flight, to become the 123rd Air Control Squadron.

The unit today is a part of the Modular Control System (MCS) within the Theater Control System. The MCS provides mobile command and control components to sustain an entire theater of operation for survival during war time. The 123rd is equipped with air surveillance and control radar, point-to-point and ground-to-air communications, as well as satellite communications equipment.

Major operations have included the Korean Conflict, Berlin Crisis, and more recently, a stint in the jungles of Colombia, South America. Unit members volunteered for the counterdrug war mission that conducted continuous 24-hour operations. The 123rd assisted Colombian national troops in tracking, identifying and intercepting a suspected aircraft before they dumped illegal cargo.

164th Weather Flight Rickenbacker Airport, Columbus

This unit was originally formed as the 164th Weather Station on June 20, 1948, at Mansfield-Lahm Airport as part of the 164th Fighter Squadron. The 164th has had a number of different names from 1948 to the present, but it has always retained its numerical designation as the 164th.

In 1953, the flight became a separate unit designed to train and operate as an Air Weather Service detachment providing weather support to flying and ground units of an Air Force base. In 1979, the flight was given the specific mission to provide weather support to the 73rd Infantry Brigade of the Ohio Army National Guard. In 1985, the flight moved from Mansfield to Columbus. Its mission has been, from its inception, to provide weather forecasting, observing, and environmental support. When supporting flying units, members monitor cloud ceilings, visibility, air turbulence and winds. When supporting Army units, other weather factors such as rain, snow, temperature and soil tractability are important.

178th Fighter Wing Springfield-Beckley Municipal Airport

The 178th Fighter Group was originally organized around the 162nd Tactical Fighter Squadron, which was federally recognized on Nov. 2, 1947. In 1964, the 178th tested a new mobility concept of a group or squadron supporting itself in all phases of military operation, including civil engineering and base defense.

In February-March 1967, group personnel deployed to Hickam AFB, Hawaii, to support “Tropic Lightning III,” the last training phase prior to Army personnel assignments in Vietnam. On April 3, 1974, the worst tornado in almost half a century slashed through Ohio. The 178th was alerted to support the stricken city of Xenia, where unit personnel worked two 12-hour shifts assisting civil authorities in the rescue of the city's citizens and their property.

Again, in January 1978, the unit assisted its community with one of the worst blizzards in Ohio history. Members helped get food, fuel and water to many families who were stranded in the rural parts of Clark county.

Today, the unit trains and stands ready to employ conventional air-to-air and air-to-surface weapons as directed by the order of battle. Its primary weapon system is the F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft. Most recently, the unit has participated in Operation SOUTHERN WATCH, which maintains the no-fly zone over Iraq. Its dedication to community service is evident through such programs as KiDSAFE, created by members of the 178th. The program seeks to identify children and instruct them on safety issues.

179th Airlift Wing Mansfield-Lahm Airport

In August 1962, the 164th Tactical Fighter Squadron was released from 11 months of active duty and returned to state control. On Oct. 15, 1962, the 179th Tactical Fighter Group was activated and federally recognized.

In 1975, a 32-year tradition of flying smaller aircraft was changed with the conversion to the C-130 Hercules cargo hauling aircraft. Today, with this aircraft, the unit provides worldwide air transportation of personnel and cargo. Some past deployments include Norway, Japan and, more recently, Bosnia.

The 179th's commitment to excellence is evident in the numerous safety and outstanding unit awards. The Frank P. Lahm Air Safety Award, named after a pioneer aviator and Mansfield native, was created in 1961 by the aviation committee of the Mansfield Chamber of Commerce. The 179th has received this award several times in the last few decades, along with the Alan P. Tappan Memorial Trophy for best Air Guard unit in Ohio.

180th Fighter Wing Toledo Express Airport, Swanton

The 180th Fighter Wing traces its lineage through the 112th Fighter Squadron, which originated in Texas in 1917 as an aero squadron. In 1927, it became the Ohio Air Guard's 112th Observation Squadron at Cleveland Hopkins Airport. In 1950, the unit activated for the Korean Conflict and returned as a Fighter Bomber Squadron to the Akron-Canton Airport. In 1955, the 180th moved to its current location at Toledo Express Airport.

In 1991, the 180th highlighted the F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft as its primary weapon system. Recent missions such as Operation PROVIDE COMFORT II in Turkey, enforcing the no-fly zone over Iraq and assisting local law enforcement with entry-control surveillance during the 1996 Olympics, has given the world a glimpse of the talented members of the 180th.

200th RED HORSE Squadron Camp Perry ANG Station, Port Clinton

During the rapid buildup of U.S. forces in Southeast Asia in the mid-sixties, the Air Force needed to fill the gap between the maintenance and construction mission of Base Civil Engineering and major airfield construction that was previously the major responsibility of the Army Corps of Engineers. They also needed a unit mobile enough to move into a new airfield or one hit by heavy bomb damage. By Feb. 1, 1966, the first Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operations Repair Squadron, Engineering (RED HORSE) units were formed and deployed to Vietnam.

On Sept. 25, 1971, the 200th became the first Air National Guard RED HORSE Squadron (RHS). The unit performs heavy damage repair for critical Air Force facilities and utility systems used for aircraft launch and recovery that have been subjected to enemy attack or to natural disasters. It is manned, equipped and trained to conduct heavy engineering operations as an independent self-sustaining unit in remote, hostile locations.

Today, members of the 200th RHS are active with their environment and community. Members train on heavy equipment, assisting civilian workers in preserving and restoring natural wetland areas. They have also trained worldwide by assisting such countries as Haiti, Israel and the Honduras.

220th Engineering Installation Squadron Zanesville Municipal Airport

The 220th Engineering Installation Squadron (EIS) was federally recognized as the 105th Communications Squadron on Feb. 27, 1948, and assigned to the National Guard Armory in Zanesville, Ohio. In 1982, after several redesignations, it became the 220th EIS.

The unit provides the Air Force Communications Systems Center with fully trained technicians capable of engineering, installing and sustaining communications systems and services. With the ability to dig trenches and lay underground cable for communication, this unit is mobilized worldwide. They also provide community assistance such as lighting installation at parks and stadiums to hosting overnight stays for the local Boy Scouts.

251st Combat Communication Group Springfield-Beckley Municipal Airport

The Headquarters of the 251st Combat Communications Group was constituted on Oct. 5, 1952, in Springfield, Ohio. The initial mission of the 251st is to ensure combat readiness by commanding, organizing, equipping, training and administering assigned and attached forces. The unit also provides management staff and equipment for civil engineers when deployed for NATO support. Command communications and terminal air traffic control also is a service provided during emergency situations.

The 251st has deployed to Korea, Honduras and the Middle East. They provided a high frequency radio link back to the U.S. for command and control purposes, as well as telephone services to member's families to boost morale and welfare.

Attached to the 251st CCG in October 1952, the 269th Combat Communications Squadron also has a respected history to state and nation. The 269th was formed three months after the attack on Pearl Harbor as the 77th Signal Platoon (Aviation), an Army communications element at Davis Monthan Field, Tucson, Ariz. In 1943, the unit was renamed and reassigned to England. After being moved to Belgium in 1945, the unit dispatched personnel to install and operate beacons and communications systems across the expanding front in France, Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg and Germany.

555th Air Force Band Toledo Express Airport, Swanton

Constituted and federally recognized on June 30, 1948, the 555th Air Force Band traces its origin to the 148th Infantry Band formed in Toledo in 1920. During World War II, the unit was activated and served in the Pacific to raise the esprit de corps of the troops.

The 555th "Triple Nickel" is one of few Air Force Bands assigned to an Air National Guard unit. Its mission is to provide official musical support for military ceremonies, protocol functions, troop morale, retention events, recruiting programs, and Air Force and Department of Defense community relations programs. They help project the Air Force image and promote national heritage.

Today, band performances are accomplished by the marching band, concert band, stage band, flute ensemble, brass quintet, wind ensemble and vocal solos. They support both the active duty forces and Air National Guard worldwide. ■

RTI

Building tomorrow's Army today

Story by Staff Sgt. Diane L. Farrow



HQ STARC (-Det. 1-6)

Thousands have trained there since 1957. Officer Candidate School as well as Basic and Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Courses were just a few of the classes offered at what was once known as the Ohio Military Academy.

Today, it no longer exists.

In its place is RTI, or the 145th Regiment, Regional Training Institute. And it's not just a name change to suit a new commander's whim. Sweeping organizational changes have affected the school, its administrators, its instructors and the soldiers who plan to attend its course offerings.

At the root of these changes is the newly implemented Total Army School System (TASS), which combines the assets of the National Guard, U.S. Army Reserve and active Army, and doles out the responsibilities of reserve component schools to geographic regions based on force structure and demographics.

Within this concept, the Guard is responsible for combat arms and leadership instruction, while

the Reserve is charged with combat support and combat service support training and officer education.

The nation is divided into seven TASS regions, with Ohio in Region E. The other five states in the region are Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota. Effective Dec. 1, 1996, the military academies in these states were converted into RTIs, all assigned a different mission.

"Each Regional Training Institute is responsible for Phase I

MOSQ (Military Occupational Specialty Qualification), Phase I BNCOC and ANCO (Basic and Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Courses), OCS (Officer Candidate School) and an ADT (active duty training) mission," said Col. Gregory L. Wayt, commander of the 145th Regiment since September 1996. "Ohio's ADT mission is twofold; it functions as the region's Armor Battalion headquarters and fulfills an ADA Battery mission with the Combat Arms Company.

"Soldiers requiring MOSQ or

NCOES (Noncommissioned Officer Educational System) courses will attend schools within this region. Phase I, or inactive duty training, will be instructed locally, while Phase II, active duty training, will be conducted within Region E. For example, the Ohio RTI will conduct Phase II for 19D scouts for all soldiers within Region E," Wayt explained.

According to the colonel, TASS will provide more flexibility to Ohio's soldiers and will reduce the cost of schools, while ensuring quality instruction and standardization.

"It's about time we put it together," said Lt. Col. Christine M. Cook, executive officer of the 145th Regiment. "Finally, we're consolidating National Guard and Reserve resources, keeping soldiers closer to their unit of assignment." Ohio's RTI is located at Rickenbacker International Airport in Columbus.

Organizationally, Ohio's RTI can be broken down into an armor battalion, a general studies battalion and a simulation team. Each section and its course offerings will be outlined on the following pages.



The 145th Regiment, Ohio Regional Training Institute is authorized to use the distinctive unit insignia and coat of arms

originally approved for the 145th Infantry Regiment, Ohio National Guard, by the Secretary of War in 1928. The service of the former organization is indicated by the white shield for infantry. The falcon from the arms of Montfaucon, France, and the wavy bend for the Escaut (Scheldt) River symbolize the most outstanding feats of the regiment during the World War. The giant cactus represents service on the Mexican border.



Courtesy photo.

The primary mission of the RTI is conducted by the Armor Battalion, which provides armor training for all soldiers assigned to Region E. This includes MOS training, as well as Phase II BNCOC and ANCOG in 19D, cavalry scout, and 19K, M-1 tank armor crewman. As the battalion headquarters, Ohio responds to the armor requirements for all six states in the region.

"We're basically set up as an extension of the Armor School at Fort Knox," said Lt. Col. Kenneth R. Warner, commander of the armor battalion since its start in the fall of 1996. Though the lieutenant colonel is a traditional guardsman, his responsibilities require full-time attention. In addition to the many hours a month Warner spends on battalion business, two Title 11, active duty soldiers—Staff Sgt. Keith Hudson and Sgt. 1st Class Michael Enright—were assigned to support the RTI.

"We're here as subject matter experts," said Enright, who was an armor instructor at Fort Knox for nearly four years. "We're here to help the Guard do things the way the active component does; in this case, in the schoolhouse. The goal is to enforce one standard.



Courtesy photo.

LEFT: SFC Thomas E. Hilliard receives reports from 19D students during a June situational exercise. **ABOVE:** Cavalry scouts train on a M113-series vehicle.

"We also act as liaison between the Guard and active duty to make this transition (to the TASS system) run as smoothly as possible. This gives the Guard a chance to give input to Fort Knox," he added. As an example, Enright explained how 10 to 18 students are usually required to run a 19D MOSQ course. But since the Guard commonly has only three to six people sign up for the

course each year, Fort Knox now allows for instruction at crew level.

According to Master Sgt. Alan Whitaker, chief instructor for the battalion, the MOSQ courses were taught in the past as part of the OMA curriculum. "This was the fourth year for the 19D school and the third for 19K," he said. This year, the 19D class had 15 graduates, three from Ohio and 12 from other states. The average class size has been in the mid-teens, with 30 being considered a full load. "We're happy that the classes are small," Warner said. "We're still in our infancy, and we want to learn how to walk before we run. We're kind of doing a fast low crawl right now."

Because of a shortage of instructors, Ohio's 37th Armor Brigade has been alternating its scout platoons to the RTI to support the MOSQ courses. "If any readers have the qualifications and the interest to become an instructor, we'd certainly be interested in hearing from them," Warner added.

While this is a reserve component school that can reclassify soldiers only, not provide initial skills training straight from basic training, Warner says the course curriculum is comparable to

active duty schools. "Soldiers who attend here will get excellent training and will become fully qualified to active duty standards," Warner asserted. Ideally, evaluators who observe armor training should not be able to tell the difference between the training put on by the Guard or by active duty.

19D, Cavalry Scout. Completion of the 19D10/20 course reclassifies soldiers into the cavalry scout MOS. Phase I runs over five IDT weekends at the RTI in Columbus, while Phase II lasts for 15 days at Camp Grayling, Mich. Scouts are trained to be the eyes and ears of their units, with missions that vary from reconnaissance to security, traveling by foot or vehicle. Soldiers are trained on the HUMMWW or a M113-series vehicle, depending on the equipment assigned to the unit and the duty position held.

Phase II Basic and Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Courses (BNCOC and ANCOG) are also scheduled as part of the Armor Battalion's curriculum. These courses focus on the higher level of requirements and leadership for cavalry scouts. For the 1998 training year, no BNCOC (19D30) classes are planned, while ANCOG (19D40 Phase 2 and Phase 3) is scheduled at Camp Grayling, beginning July 10 and July 20, respectively.

19K, M-1 Tank Armor Crewman. Completion of the 19K10/20 course reclassifies soldiers into the tank armor crewman MOS. Phase I runs over three IDT weekends at the RTI in Columbus, while Phase II lasts for 15 days at either Gowen Field, Idaho or at other regions within the country. Tank crewmen are trained on the technical and tactical aspects of employing the M-1 tank. While Phase II BNCOC (19K30) and ANCOG (19K40) are also considered part of the Armor Battalion's curriculum, it was not feasible for the Ohio RTI to conduct these classes during the 1998 training year.

The General Studies Battalion encompasses the state's leadership training with Companies B and C, and the RTI's Air Defense Artillery Battery mission with Company A. "The battalion's focus for training year 1998 is conducting quality, one-Army standard training for all soldiers and obtaining accreditation for the OCS and NCOES companies," said Lt. Col. Christine Cook, who serves as battalion commander as well as executive officer of the RTI. "I am proud to say we are well on our way to meeting this goal."

Company A, Combat Arms



Courtesy photo.

According to Chief Instructor Master Sgt. David P. Gill, Company A was set up to fulfill the state's second ADT mission—Air Defense Artillery Battery. It provides a reserve component school for qualifying soldiers in combat arms military occupational specialties (MOS) on inactive duty (IDT) status.

"These are usually soldiers who need to reclassify their duty positions because of a unit reorganization. Or they may be prior service looking for a home in the Guard," said Command Sgt. Maj. Gary G. Spees, command sergeant major of the RTI.

So far, this means Co. A primarily has trained soldiers assigned to the 2/174th Air Defense Avenger Battalion in McConnellsville. Previously a HAWK Missile Battalion, the unit now uses the Stinger missile as its chief weapon system, requiring many guardsmen to retrain as MANPAD and Avenger crewmembers. The 1/134th Field Artillery Battalion has also been sending soldiers to the RTI to qualify in one of the 13-series MOSs as artillery specialists (13B, 13E, 13F).

16S10, MANPAD (Man Portable Air Defense system) Crewmember. Phase I of this course is conducted in McConnellsville, teaching soldiers how to operate the Stinger missile, a shoulder-mounted ground-to-air

missile designed to fire at aircraft. This six-weekend course will be taught for the fourth time beginning in January 1998. Phase II is taught at the Illinois RTI.

14S10, NET (New Equipment Training) Avenger Crewmember. This program is meant for 16S-qualified soldiers who need to train on the turret-mounted Stinger system, the Avenger. Firing at enemy aircraft, the Avenger can launch up to eight Stinger missiles from a HMMWV. With training conducted in McConnellsville, this course is scheduled for 15 consecutive days, allowing for a maximum of 36 students. Instructors for this course are provided by the Illinois National Guard, and its next iteration is scheduled for September 1998.

13-series MOSs, Phase I. The Ohio RTI can potentially instruct three artillery specialist MOSs—13B field artillery cannoner (who prepares the shell, loads the howitzer and fires it); 13E artillery fire directions specialist (who computes target data into firing information) and 13F artillery forward observer (who locates the target and forwards information to the fire direction center). Phase II is conducted by the Wisconsin RTI. Phase I is taught at the RTI in Columbus, but no 13-series MOSs are planned for the 1998 training year.

Company B, Officer

Under the direction of Maj. Donald L. Barbee, Company B responds to the demand for skilled leadership and highly trained officers with four courses of instruction. All the offerings are intended to enrich and shape the officer corps of the Army's reserve components.

Officer Candidate School (OCS). The OCS curriculum is by far the most demanding with 442 academic hours and 100-plus hours in the field environment. The candidates attend 16 weekend drills at the RTI, and participate in both a junior and senior two-week annual training (AT). Orientation usually begins each year in February or March, with class graduation scheduled a year and a half later in August. According to Barbee, most soldiers decide at orientation whether they want to stick with the OCS program.

"It takes a lot of commitment and time away from family," said the major, who was a graduate of OCS Class 27. "I don't know how some of them do it. Many of the candidates go to school full-time, and work full- or part-time jobs. During orientation, many decide 'I don't need this.'"

"We started out with about 60 our first drill,"

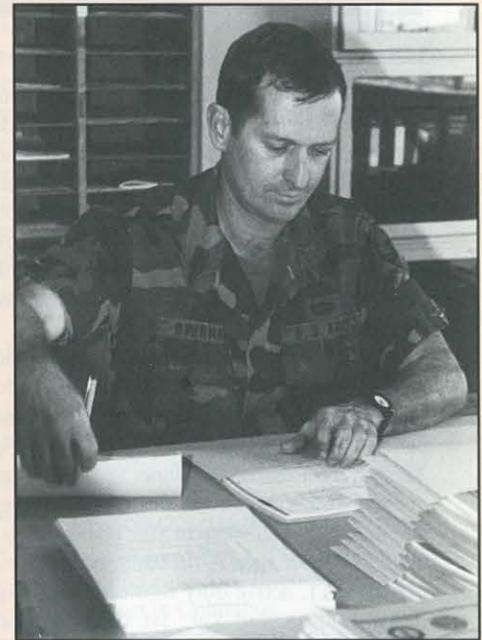


Photo by SSG Diane Farrow, HQ STARC.

SSG Rick Overman, a BNCOC instructor with the USAR, prepares for courses which will begin at RTI this fall.



Candidate School

said Officer Candidate Devin Braun, who started OCS last April. "We're down to 24 now. A few didn't meet the qualifications to go to AT, and we lost a couple during camp."

Applying standards in the strictest sense seems to be the biggest difference between running the school under RTI versus OMA. Where it used to be acceptable to allow candidates until the end of the course to pass certain standards, this is no longer the case. "With the TASS accreditation involved, these standards now need to be met up front," said Barbee, who has run the OCS program since 1993.

Upon graduation, officer candidates are commissioned as second lieutenants in the Ohio National Guard and the U.S. Army Reserve. With 26 graduates in 1997, the Ohio RTI has graduated 1,998 officer candidates since the inception of the program in 1957.

Branch Immaterial Officer Candidate Course (BIOCC). The Ohio RTI offers an orientation to soldiers preparing to attend the 16-week federal OCS program at the U.S. Army Infantry School at Fort Benning, Ga. This



Courtesy photo.

course contains 21 hours of instruction and is conducted semi-annually at the Ohio RTI, normally in November and April.

Company Level Precommand Courses. This course, including all three phases, is conducted at the Ohio RTI over a period of nine days. Each phase is designed to include a wide variety of topics that help develop leadership and managerial skills. Phase 1, which runs over one weekend, provides newly commissioned or newly appointed company grade officers of the Ohio Army National Guard (OHARNG) a thorough overview of the structure of the organization. It also informs them of the available

resources within the OHARNG to assist them in problem solving and mission accomplishment.

Phase 2, which takes two weekends, provides designated company commanders with current guidance on those topics essential to successful command of company-sized units. Phase 3, the final weekend, is a company-level leadership symposium to be attended by both the company commander and his/her first sergeant. The teams interact in groups to solve common problems. Facilitators guide these discussions to improve teamwork and team building, enhance personal communication skills, and share ideas and experiences.

Company C, Leadership

Led by Branch Chief Master Sgt. James W. Osborn, Company C has two general missions: Phase I Basic and Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course (BNCOC and ANCO) and instructor development—which is accomplished through Battle Focused Instructor Training Courses (BFITC) and Small Group Leadership Training Courses (SGLTC).

"Basically, we're pretty satisfied at how the BFITC and SGLTC classes are going," Osborn said. "If anything, we'd like to compile a database of soldiers who would be interested in drilling an extra weekend with us as associate instructors. But NCOES (Noncommissioned Officer Educational System), that's the main show."

"What's unique since the adaptation to TASS (Total Army School System) is having to incorporate the U.S. Army Reserve. At first, it created some turmoil," Osborn admitted. "Everybody wanted to be in charge. What it boiled down to is we provide the structure, and the Reserves provide the instructors."

The training itself has also made a radical departure from years past. Previously, instruc-

tors did the leading. Now students can expect to teach classes to their fellow students and be responsible for executing a training schedule.

"This frees up our instructors to observe the students, provide positive or negative feedback, and intervene when necessary," Osborn explained, "which gives students a chance to lead."

Basic and Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Courses, Phase I. Better known as BNCOC and ANCO, these courses represent the second and third levels of the NCO professional education system. BNCOC Phase I provides common leader training for staff sergeants (E-6) and potential E-6's, while ANCO Phase I does the same for sergeants first class (E-7) and potential E-7's. Both courses cover a period of seven weekends, the first being an orientation which includes inprocessing, a physical fitness test and a class on small group study methods.

"The orientation allows soldiers to show up the second weekend ready to hit the ground running," Command Sgt. Maj. Gary G. Spees said. The RTI's command sergeant major also pointed out that Ohio is the only state that

offers two locations for these courses, at the RTI in Columbus or in classrooms at Camp Perry in Port Clinton.

Battle Focused Instructor Training Course (BFITC). BFITC trains the student to implement the principles of Field Manual 25-101 (Battle Focused Training) within the unit and training institution. Students learn and practice performance-oriented training skills in both the classroom and field environment. With the class size limited to 36 students, this course can be taken over two IDT weekends or five consecutive days. BFITC is required for all RTI instructors.

Small Group Leadership Training Course (SGLTC). This program teaches interactive skills on the classroom environment that apply to a variety of teaching and leadership situations. With BFITC as a prerequisite, SGLTC is required to instruct NCOES (Noncommissioned Officer Education System) courses at the Ohio RTI. This class runs over two weekends and is limited to 10 students.



The Ohio Regional Training Institute Simulation Team is responsible for training soldiers on a computerized battle-field simulation game named JANUS. "Unlike most military terms, JANUS is not an acronym," said Systems NCO Master Sgt. Robert W. Marsh. "It is the name of a two-faced Roman god, who was the patron of beginnings and endings." He explained that the training program was named after the deity to ensure that when a real battle occurs, it will have a good ending.

And favorable results are ideal in any combat situation, even if it is simulated.

"JANUS works off a UNIX-based system, and to the untrained eye the host/server looks like a personal computer," said Col. Kenneth B. Robinson, director of the Simulation Team. "It is much more convenient and portable than ARTBASS, the wargaming system JANUS replaced." ARTBASS, or Army

Training Battle Simulation System, was used at the Ohio Military Academy (OMA) from September 1994 until November 1996. It ran on a mainframe that had to be housed in a tractor-trailer in the OMA parking lot.

"Units that want to train on JANUS need to plan for it six to eight months in advance," Robinson said. After the initial planning conference and once the date is locked in, Staff Refresher Training (SRT) and Interactor Training are recommended. SRT, which is a pre-packaged course of instruction available to units, is focused on operating TOCs (tactical operation centers) and developing operation orders—the order used to fight the battle. Interactor Training, which is required, is meant for junior enlisted who need to learn how to operate the computers; this takes place about a month before the exercise.

"This is a big improvement over ARTBASS," the colonel said. "Previously, team members had to operate the machines, which limited the number of stations to six. Now our technical experts are freed up, and units can wargame from 12 stations."

Just as the actual battle is tailored to meet the needs of each unit, the work stations are also adaptable to each exercise. In the main battle area, a computer room in the RTI basement, there are nine work stations. These stations are manned with a unit interactor and a staff officer or NCO, who represent subordinate units and attached elements—providing fire support, maneuver elements or any other support elements required during the battle.



Photo by SSG Diane Farrow, HQ STARC.

SSG John Ringer, 1-148th Infantry, discusses setting up an offensive position during a computer-simulated battle.

There are also several isolated work stations involved. The threat cell, which can take up to three stations, is where RTI staffers initiate enemy tactics and response. The higher headquarters cell replicates a command post for requesting reconnaissance flights, additional personnel or equipment the training unit doesn't have. The control center, or host/server, is where the "big picture" can be observed, displaying both the enemy (red) and friendly (blue) forces on the computer monitor. All the other work stations display only what is visible in the line of site of the player.

On the Friday of drill weekend, the advance party sets up tents for the TOC as well as the ALOC (Administrative/Logistic Operations Center) and runs communication wire from the tents to field phones or radios located at each work station. This allows for communication to flow between the company players and the battle staff. With ARTBASS, players in the main battle area used to be able to monitor status reports to track the activity of the battle. "With JANUS you have to see it," Marsh said. "If you don't or if you forget,

it's lost—which is the reality. During a real battle you are working with human memory, which is fallible.

"How the actual hostilities play out depends on the training objectives of the unit," the master sergeant said. For example, an armor or mechanized infantry unit may have several short bursts of high-tempo activity. Some units have two battles on Saturday, and most fight an additional one on Sunday. But all battles can be replayed to unit members in the classroom on a big screen in an AAR (after action review) format.

"This can take place after each battle or at the end of the entire exercise," Marsh said. "We usually freeze frame at the decision points, looking at the interaction that occurs. What makes JANUS challenging is not winning or losing the battle, it's the decision-making process," he stressed.

"We no longer call ourselves an 'evaluator team,'" Robinson said. "We consider this a tool to improve training. We want to create a non-threatening environment...so units can learn."



Photo by SSG Diane Farrow, HQ STARC.

Simulation Team Director COL Ken B. Robinson checks the progress of the wargaming scenario set up for the 1-148th Infantry (Mech.), which was the first unit to train on JANUS.



LEFT: The 121st SPs, armed with shields and moxie, prepare for riot training. **BELOW:** SSgt Stephen Shekas keeps a watchful eye from his bunker. **CENTER:** SSgt Aaron Maynard and A1C Troy Taylor practice detaining a rioter.

Security police prepare for UN task force contingencies

Story and photos by
Staff Sgt. Shannon Scherer
HQ ANG, Public Affairs

In 1989, after being the first Air National Guard Security Police (SP) unit to take part at Silverflag, a desert warfare school, the SPs from the 121st Air Refueling Wing were looking for another challenge. That competitive venture came when the unit received the call to deploy to the country of Sebboh in support of Operation SWIFT SENTRY.

Before looking in an atlas for this sovereign state, know that Sebboh is a fictitious area located at Fort Dix, N.J., as part of the Air Mobility Warfare Center's Contingency Support Operations Course. The Ohio SP unit was the first in the Air Guard to attend this simulated United Nations (UN) joint task force training.

The training, a benchmark in 1995, was originally organized for the active duty and reserve components because of their fast activation ability and worldwide missions. With the National Guard playing an increasing role in universal activities to support the downsizing forces, the school felt the need to include both sides of the military in the realm of readiness.

"We stress the integration of the services and prepare units for real deployment," said Master Sgt. Jim Beckle, one of the instructors at Silverflag. "We teach a military operation other than war."

The course provides two weeks of classroom and field training for security police, combat photography personnel and DoD staff. The "deploying units" plan, train and execute air



base defense contingency concepts through realistic field exercises and scenarios.

"This school tries to emulate real world militant situations," said Master Sgt. Eric Holman, mobility officer. "Instructors act as foreign allies to help troops deal with overseas forces. We teach them that not all foreigners are the bad guy."

The SPs learned a lot about working as part of a UN joint task force, according to Holman. The scenarios, which took two to three months to assemble and were made to look like Bosnia and Zaire, enabled unit members to deal with the customs and courtesies of the host nation and UN troops. UN French and Soviet troops were placed in adjoining sectors to the 121st to help out.

"We had to be aware of things like hand gestures while among the host nation's citizens and the UN troops," said Staff Sgt. Brian Reynolds, an SP with the 121st. "But once the fighting started, everyone forgot about the courtesies and just worked together against the opposing forces."



The "enemy" challenged the unit with various situations including riots, sniper fire, convoys and night attacks. The SPs ran patrols and maintained field communications through the sector command post during their four days boxed inside five bunkers.

Despite the long days, rough conditions and surviving on MREs (Meals Ready to Eat), the unit members maintained their professional demeanor and a positive attitude.

"The 121st performed very well," said Beckle. "They had great team spirit and cohesiveness."

"This school is the best one I have attended. The instructors put emphasis on learning rather than force-feeding us the program," said Senior Airman Walter Bennett, an SP with the 121st. "They made sure we really understood what was being taught."

"The instructors are not out to beat you, but to teach you," added Reynolds.

The SPs had no problem understanding their mission. Staff Sgt. Aaron Maynard, Staff Sgt. Mandowl Nixon and Tech. Sgt. Timitri Rogers captured three of the four "Best of the Best" awards for overall performance. Staff Sgt. Robert Krooner tied for first place with an active duty member from the 62nd Security Police unit for "Top Gun" honors.

This was the second class in the history of the course to keep opposing forces away from the resources needed for victory, and did so with less than half the manpower of the first class.

"I think the Ohio Air Guard really proved themselves," said Reynolds. "We train 39 days a year compared to the 365 days that the active duty forces train. We showed that the Air Guard can not only compete with the active duty, but excel in the same challenges." ■

Lieutenant governor visits Guard units deployed to Europe

Story by 1st Lt. Denise Varner
State Public Affairs Office

Breakfast in Germany, lunch in Turkey and dinner in Italy—what better way to learn about the Ohio National Guard's role in total force military contingency operations than a whirlwind tour of three units deployed in four separate European locations.

Lt. Gov. Nancy Hollister traveled for four days last December with senior Army and Air National Guard leaders, civilian Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve directors and media. The journey started in a KC-135 Stratotanker from the 121st Air Refueling Wing in Columbus. Having taken off at 8 p.m. on a Sunday evening, it was suggested members of the 27-person entourage sleep while in flight, because eight hours later they would hit the ground running. And running it was.

Hollister, clad in a personalized battle dress uniform blouse, had a mission. "This was an opportunity for me to observe first-hand our men and women in action on active duty and then hear from their commanders," she said. "The information I wanted to gather was first, what kinds of marks were the (on-scene) commanders giving them, and secondly, what is the impact of a long deployment on their families and employers?"

Abound with energy and enthusiasm, Hollister and entourage traveled halfway around the world to get the answers to those questions. First stop was Stuttgart Army Airfield, Germany, where members of the 838th Military Police (MP) Company of Youngstown, Ohio, were activated to back-fill soldiers deployed for Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR, the Bosnian peacekeeping mission.

Hollister met with U.S. European Command's (USEUCOM)

Deputy Commander in Chief, Gen. Jim Jamerson, who oversees the daily activities of a unified command with an area of responsibility encompassing 83 countries and more than 13 million square miles. She was also briefed by USEUCOM's Chief of Staff, Lt. Gen. David Benton III, and Director of Mobilization and Reserve Component Affairs, Maj. Gen. James Davis.

The next morning the delegation continued on to Ramstein Air Base, where additional 838th MP Company members were activated with the same mission. Most were deployed 270 days. There, she met with U.S. Air Forces in Europe's Vice Commander, Lt. Gen. Everett H. Pratt, Jr., Mobilization Augmentee, Maj. Gen. Boyd Ashcraft, ANG Assistant, Brig. Gen. Wil Hessert, and ANG Advisor, Col. Barry Beard.

From Ramstein, the group traveled to Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, where Toledo's 180th Fighter Wing was tasked with a one-month rotation defending the no-fly zone on the Iraqi border in Operation PROVIDE COMFORT (OPC) II. There only a few hours due to strict Turkish restrictions, Hollister met with OPC commander of U.S. forces, Brig. Gen. Donald Lamontagne, and had lunch with unit members.

Later that day, it was on to Pisa, Italy, to meet with members of the 121st Air Refueling Wing, Colum-

bus, who were flying refueling missions for Operation DECISIVE ENDEAVOR over Bosnia. Commanders of the 121st briefed the group.

After several detailed command briefings at each location, Hollister asked very pointed questions of those high in command of the overseas operations. Of the Guard participation, Hollister said "They were very complimentary. Very high marks were given."

After the briefings came the highlight of the trip—meeting with the deployed service members.

Armed with care packages full of home-baked goods, newly released videos, hometown newspapers and other "goodies," the lieutenant governor met as many airmen and soldiers as possible. Here,

she set out to accomplish the second part of her mission—to learn the impact of their lengthy deployments on them, their families and their employers.

"I got a variety of answers," Hollister said. As a result, the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Task Force was formed upon her return to Ohio.

It examines what Ohio does, can do and can do better to support deployed troops, she said. "The men and women who have volunteered for our service need a little more attention and recognition from the government."

In addition to getting answers to her questions, Hollister said the trip caused her to appreciate the Guard all the more. "It was a reinforcement of their capabilities and commitment," she said.

After flying 11,000 miles in four days, attending multiple briefings and handing out all the holiday goodies, Hollister's mission was dubbed a success. More important, the true beneficiaries of her success are members of the Ohio National Guard as well as their families and employers. ■

UNITS VISITED

838th Military Police Co.
Deployed near Stuttgart and Kaiserslautern, Germany, in support of JOINT ENDEAVOR, the peacekeeping mission in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

180th Fighter Wing
Deployed near Incirlik, Turkey, in support of PROVIDE COMFORT II, which enforces the no-fly zone in northern Iraq.

121st Refueling Wing
Deployed near Pisa, Italy, in support of DECISIVE ENDEAVOR, which enforces the no-fly zone in Bosnia-Herzegovina.



Photo by Renee Frey, 121st ARW.

Lt. Gov. Hollister talks with members of the 838th MP Company.

Command tour leads to Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Task Force

As Lt. Gov. Nancy Hollister completed her command visitation tour in Europe, a recurring theme became apparent—the state of Ohio had to take a look at the increasing deployments of Ohio National Guard troops and the effects on families and employers.

Many issues surfaced during the command tour, such as the disparity between the length of deployments for Army and Air National Guard units. “The lieutenant governor was very concerned about the fact that the Air Guard units typically deploy for 15 or 30 day rotations, and leave directly from home station. The Army Guard, on the other hand, has been deploying its units for 270 days. The lieutenant governor wanted to know why the active Army couldn’t do business like the Air Force,” said 1st Lt. Neal O’Brien, operations director for the Ohio Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. “Quite frankly, no one could give her a satisfactory answer.”

So that she could get the answers she wanted, Hollister suggested that an Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Task Force be created. Similarly, State Rep. E.J. Thomas challenged state government to get involved in the process of reviewing the lieutenant governor’s concerns. Thomas is a lieutenant colonel in the 121st Air Refueling Wing, which was deployed to Italy during the command tour. Subsequently, he was named to the task force.

Co-chaired by Ohio Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander and Brig. Gen. Richard Browning, chairman of the Ohio Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, the 15-member task force has been charged with looking at how deployments affect Guard personnel and Reservists, as well as their families and employers. The task force is made up of military leaders, civilian business leaders, government officials and family support personnel from around the state.

Already the task force has held town meetings in Mansfield, Youngstown, Dayton and Toledo. These meetings provide a forum for military personnel, their families and their employers to discuss potential problems related to military commitments. So far, these meetings have had positive results.

“We’re starting to hear some consistent messages,” Browning said. “Most of it deals with communication between the guardmember/reservist and his/her employer.”

But, there is still much work to be done he admits. “We’re working with three diverse groups, each with a separate set of problems and solutions which are all intertwined.”

The town meetings are separated into three break-outs—one for family members, one for employers and one for service members. Task force members attend the break-outs according to their area of expertise and gather the

information that comes from the “testimony” of the group. Using the total quality approach, facilitators serve as the group leaders and “referee” the issues.

“We’ve had some interesting exchanges in the break-outs,” said Lt. Col. Jack Richards, state quality advisor for Ohio and lead facilitator for the task force. “As this country depends more and more on its citizen-soldiers, these concerns are going to continue to be hot topics of discussion. We have employers, service members and family members who are very passionate about these issues.”

“Ohio’s task force is breaking new ground in employer support,” O’Brien pointed out. “No other state has addressed these issues at this level. We’re anxious to get the results and see what the lieutenant governor’s and governor’s reactions are.”

The task force will convene in Cincinnati, Cleveland and Columbus prior to presenting its findings to Hollister and Voinovich in November.

With world-wide commitments of U.S. forces continuing, it is likely that employer support will only take on greater significance. Browning hopes that Ohio’s task force may raise enough awareness to spur on some national interest and possibly national action. ■

Hollister Honored by ONGA

Lt. Gov. Nancy Hollister received the Maj. Gen. Charles W. Dick Award for Legislative Excellence from the Ohio National Guard Association in ceremonies at Camp Grayling, Mich. Hollister was honored for her long-standing support of the National Guard as a public servant, beginning with her tenure as Mayor of Marietta. Gen. Dick was a U.S. Senator from Ohio and an officer in the 8th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. His federal legislation, the “Dick Act of 1903,” is responsible for providing federal support and recognition for the National Guard. Lt. Col. Rich Green, 1996-97 President of the ONGA, presented the Dick Award to the lieutenant governor this past July.



Photo by Maj. Jim Boling, State PAO.

Pictured from left to right, BG Steve Martin, Asst. AG-Army; Adjutant General MG Richard Alexander; Lt. Gov. Nancy Hollister; Lt. Col. Rich Green, former ONGA President; BG John Smith, Asst. AG-Air; and COL Ron Young, current ONGA President.



Courtesy photo

End of the road for 112th Medical Brigade

Detachment 6, HQ STARC, now meets Ohio Guard's medical needs

SFC Jake Rinehart (walking) of the 385th Medical Co. prepares unit ambulances for a field training exercise in the late 1970's.

Story and photos by Pfc. Steve Toth
HQ STARC (-Det. 1-6)

Nearly 100 years of proud service to the Ohio Army National Guard officially came to an end Aug. 23 with the inactivation of the 112th Medical Brigade. Casing of the brigade colors and guidons was conducted in a public ceremony at the Gen. Robert S. Beightler Armory in Columbus.

Subordinate units of the 112th had conducted similar inactivation ceremonies in the previous weeks. Members of the Headquarters Company, 112th Medical Brigade, 145th MASH, 383rd Medical Co. (CLR), 385th Medical Co. (AMB) and 2007th Medical Detachment (DENT) also participated in the ceremony.

Attendance at the event included former commanders and command sergeants major of the 112th, current commanders from various medical units around the state, family members and local media. Music was provided by the 122nd Army Band and a civilian bagpiper.

Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander, state adjutant general, and Command Sgt. Maj. Michael O. Howley, state command sergeant major,

participated in the casing of the colors and guidons for all the units of the 112th.

Speaking at the ceremony, Alexander emphasized the important peacetime role of the 112th during the Cold War, when U.S. tensions were high with the former Soviet Union and its allied countries.

"Take pride for your individual efforts, but also for the larger role in helping accomplish what we enjoy today—peace around the world," Alexander said.

"The colors of the 112th Medical Brigade have been cased. What has not been cased are the members of this organization who have served this state for more than four decades."

Brig. Gen. Lance A. Talmage, who had commanded the brigade since May 1, 1995, said although the unit will no longer exist, its memory will remain.

"We will remain the 112th Medical Brigade in

the hearts and minds of all who are here today," Talmage said at the inactivation ceremony. "I wish all of you Godspeed. I salute all of you as soldiers, whom I will never forget.

You are somebody I would go to war with—today or tomorrow."

Since April 1, the medical support mission responsibility within the Ohio Army National Guard (OHARNG) has been that of the

*"We will remain the
112th Medical Brigade in
the hearts and minds of
all who are here today."*

**Brig. Gen. Lance A. Talmage
Former Commander, 112th Med. Bde.
At Inactivation Ceremony, Aug. 23, 1997**

newly created Detachment 6 (Det. 6), Headquarters, State Area Command (Medical).

Det. 6 will provide support to the OHARNG to include both physical examination station operations and site support missions—using support systems transferred to Det. 6 from the 112th Medical Brigade.

Medical support to the OHARNG will be



Photo by PFC Steve Toth, HQ, STARC.



Photo by PFC Steve Toth, HQ, STARC.

LEFT: MSG Terry L. Baker cases the colors for 385th Medical Company. ABOVE: Unit representatives proudly hold guidons at August's inactivation ceremony.

scarce and units need to be aware of the changes that have occurred concerning medical support for Guard units, according to Col. Louis Pomerantz, commander of the new Det. 6.

"Det. 6 will continue to provide medical support and maximize medical readiness of the OHARNG soldiers through Level 1 and Level 2 health service support," Pomerantz

The detachment will handle things such as HIV screenings, physicals, immunizations, profiles, annual medical certifications, dental screenings and medical support annual training.

"We will provide health service support functions that are necessary to ensure the medical readiness of the soldiers in the Guard," Pomerantz said.

said. "We will do everything short of hospitalization."

The transition for many of the soldiers from the deactivated units into Det. 6 went smoothly—especially for those with medically based military occupational specialties. Others have chosen to go elsewhere, finding new assignments at other units around the state.

Det. 6 will maintain physical examination facilities at Camp Perry, located near Port Clinton; the Akron-Canton area (Greensburg); Cincinnati; and Rickenbacker International Airport Columbus. ■

Tiffin's 385th Medical Company first to case colors

Story by Spc. Carrie B. Clevidence
HQ STARC (-Det. 1-6)

While the color maroon may be no more than a dark shade of red to most people, it has special significance for medical units in the U.S. Army.

For it is the color of the medical corps flag, representing the blood of soldiers shed in battle. Bearing the distinctive design of a caduceus, the flag historically has been at the center of military ceremonies as a symbol of pride and honor.

For members of the 385th Medical Company (Ambulance) in Tiffin, Ohio, however, the latest display of pomp and circumstance involving their flag was not a happy occasion. The afternoon of Aug. 2, 1997, will be remembered for the inactivation ceremony which cased the unit guidon, or flag, for the last time in the unit's 29 year history.

Since 1968, the 385th has actively served in both its state and community mission.

The unit has been called to state active duty several times throughout its existence, including the Great Blizzard of '78, the Lucasville prison riot, and most recently, the flooding in Southern Ohio—where the medics provided medical support to military personnel and to civilians living

in the flood-ravaged areas.

Tiffin City Councilman Dale Depew remarked during the inactivation ceremony on how the 385th has been a vital asset to the community. In 1981, the unit worked with the local Red Cross and local emergency agencies to stage a mock tornado evacuation of local residents. The unit helped provide medical support to participants of the annual Cross Country Carnival, which is the second largest event of its kind in the U.S.

First Sgt. Lloyd R. Creeger, who has been with the 385th off and on for 19 years, said he's sorry to see what he calls "one of the last hometown units" go away.

"There was a time when guardmembers would stay after drill to socialize," said Creeger. "But now, due to the downsizing of the Army National Guard, many soldiers are being pushed off into larger units where they just go to drill and go home.

"It's the family atmosphere I'll miss about the 385th," he said. "People in hometown units would walk across the street to help a neighbor. You don't get that in a large unit."

Whether good or bad, many of the 385th members did go to a larger unit. During the inactivation process, the unit and brigade head-

quarters worked hard to ensure that all soldiers had a place to go. According to Creeger, almost all of the medics in the 385th and members of Detachment 1 in Akron were assigned to Detachment 6 (Medical), State Area Command in Columbus. This unit was created solely to provide medical support for Ohio soldiers. The mechanics and cooks went to other units, and some went active duty.

"It's hard to see the 385th broken up," Creeger said. "This unit has been a second family to me. I even helped to build this armory. I painted the exterior, with the help of a few other soldiers, and repaved the parking lot."

Like Creeger, company commander Capt. John A. Felthous takes pride in the accomplishments of the unit.

"The 385th has given traditional guardmembers numerous training opportunities and has been a relevant command experience for new officers of the 112th Medical Brigade. It seems like everyone came to Tiffin to learn," commented Felthous. "The 385th will live on through the future accomplishments of its soldiers and in the lives it has touched throughout the last 29 years." ■

Army Guard recruiters tackle character issue

Story by Sgt. Steve Johnson
196th Public Affairs Detachment

“Who here uses a radar detector?” was the question asked of the 35 adult students in the *Character Counts!* training seminar.

The question from Michael Josephson seemed innocent enough, at least to the 30 or so students who did not raise their hands. For the five who did, it was only the beginning.

Josephson peppered the admitted radar detector users with questions about premeditation to break the law by speeding.

“Was it right,” Josephson quipped, “for you to intentionally break the law? If you didn’t intend to break the law, why do you have a radar detector?” That was just one of many ethical dilemmas presented to the 30 Ohio Army Guard recruiters and five civilians in the Josephson Institute of Ethics (JIE) Character Development Seminar.

The Josephson Institute of Ethics is the leading advocate world wide of injecting ethics and character back into the everyday lives of Americans. Through Character Development Seminars, the JIE travels throughout the country, presenting three-day seminars to communities, business leaders and government employees. Clients of JIE include Albuquerque, N.M., schools, the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Congress and the Central Intelligence Agency.

The Ohio National Guard got involved in a round-about way, as a result of a trip to Florida by Recruiting and Retention Manager Maj. Rufus Smith and Drug Demand Reduction Administrator 1st Lt. Neal O’Brien.

At the time, Smith and O’Brien were reviewing a popular program developed by the Florida National Guard which used recruiters to teach week-long drug prevention programs in Florida schools. The Florida program was reaching over 20,000 high school-age youth each year, enabling Florida recruiters to meet most of the state’s recruiting goals. Hoping to capitalize on this success, Smith and O’Brien brought the program back to Ohio, where prevention professionals and educators were asked to review the program for possible use in Ohio schools.

Florida program receives rave reviews but...

Enlisting the help of Hope Taft of Ohio Parents for Drug Free Youth, Mike Magnusson of the Ohio Department of Education and Bonnie Hedrick of the Univer-

sity of Cincinnati, the three set about reviewing the program for suitability in Ohio schools. All were unanimous about the value of the Florida program, however, Magnusson and Taft felt that the program duplicated efforts and programs that were already available to schools. They felt that what was missing in Ohio schools was a program that instilled certain core values that were lacking in youth today.

Magnusson and Taft felt that the Ohio National Guard would be the ideal delivery vehicle for such a program.

“The Guard represents so much of what is right in this country,” Magnusson said. “The idea that as a citizen you can serve your community, state and nation is powerful. We felt that students needed to hear this message from people who stand for these core values everyday.”

Magnusson had completed one of the JIE Character Development Seminars and suggested a program based on the Six Pillars of Character: trustworthiness, responsibility, respect, fairness, caring and citizenship. There were splintered efforts throughout Ohio, however, no concerted effort had been made to make character education a consistent part of school curriculum.

Magnusson felt that character education could play a vital role in complementing already existing drug prevention efforts in schools because of the decision-making challenges it presents students. “Our students are placed in vicarious positions every day,” he said. Character education will give them examples through ethical decision-making that will enable them to make more positive choices, especially when it deals with drug and alcohol use.”

He suggested that the Guard apply for a Drug Free Schools Discretionary Grant, which O’Brien set about writing. The grant would include among other things, a means to evaluate the program and determine the Guard’s effectiveness in addressing issues of character.

Enter Dr. Ken Newbury...

Magnusson suggested that the Guard meet with Dr. Ken Newbury, director of student assistance at Toledo Public Schools, who routinely serves as an instructor for JIE. Newbury, Magnusson and O’Brien met to determine the needs of the Guard to conduct such training. Newbury then began working on a program of instruction for the Guard that recruiters could use.

Capitalizing on work he had already done, Newbury came up with a program called “Higher Ground,” which the Guard will use as one of several options for presenting character education to students. Then Newbury began working with JIE founder Michael Josephson on a (another option?) tailored program specifically for the Guard.

“We’re breaking new ground here,” Josephson ad-

“The Guard represents so much of what is right in this country. The idea that as a citizen you can serve your community, state and nation is powerful.”

mitted. "We don't typically tailor our seminars, but it was important that we met the Guard's needs."

From June 24 through 27, five civilians and 30 recruiters met for initial training. Under the tutelage of instructors Josephson, Newbury and Pat Maliszewski, community coordinator for Calhoun County Mich., the students began addressing ethical situations such as the radar detector scenario. Josephson asked the students, "How can you tell kids that they can't drink alcohol when they are underage, when you yourself have made a conscious decision to use a radar detector so that you can break the law?"

"There is no difference. They are both wrong and against the law," he asserted. "If you want to talk the Six Pillars of Character, then you must exemplify them."

The training was truly a challenge and not for the feint at heart. One student withdrew from the course because he felt that the ethical decision-making process clashed with his religious beliefs, and several were uncomfortable with the "cut and dry" nature of ethics.

"There can be no middle ground if you are a person of character," Josephson contended. "Our society is filled with examples of where a person had an opportunity to make the right decision based on ethical principles, and didn't. Many of those people are in jail today, or disgraced by the result of those actions." Josephson continued to lecture, using the Watergate and Iran-Contra affairs as examples.

Army Guard recruiters take program to the field...

"We were asked to substitute for Dr. Newbury at the drug prevention camp CAPA City, where we gave an hour-long presentation," said O'Brien, who was charged with instructing the class. "I chose a 'stakeholders exercise,' which challenges students to look at a situation and determine who would be affected by decisions made in the scenario."

According to O'Brien, the situation was a very real one, involving a high school student who goes to a party with the permission of her parents. When her friends decide they want to stay later, the girl decides she will not call her parents, staying out past her curfew.

"The students had a great time with it," O'Brien said. "It opened their eyes and forced them to look at all the people who could be affected by a negative decision they make. Oftentimes, kids today don't look past the instant gratification of a decision."

"They have to consider whether it is better to seek permission or ask for forgiveness. I think there will be a lot more kids out there asking permission because of this class," he added.

CAPA City incorporated role-playing as another training device. The 100 or so students all were assigned a position in the everyday workings of a real life city. Playing such roles as mayor, chief of police, superintendent of schools and the homeless, each student took on a specific identity throughout the week-long camp.

O'Brien spent the hour before his presentation visiting the mayor's office, the police station and the school administration, asking the mock leaders how they felt about making decisions that affected people they didn't know.

"That was the best preparation I've ever had for a presentation," O'Brien admitted. "I used some of their situations and discomfort with their own decision-making process to close my class. It was great."

There have been some reservations about the potential time commitment it takes to do character education. But with the help of Josephson and Newbury, schools will be able to choose how they want to implement the program using the Guard.

"We've come up with three options that will eventually allow us to be very flexible," O'Brien said. "We can give the program in one hour doses, like at CAPA City, or on a larger scale if needed."

Already there is tremendous interest in the Guard presenting the program.

A weekend program is scheduled at Camp Perry in September for Toledo schools, and a one-day class is set for October for Cleveland schools. And Recruiting's Regional Noncommissioned Officer in Charge Master Sgt. Chuck Jackson has made inroads with the city of Akron, which expressed serious interest.

Smith, who heads all recruiting and retention programs, hopes to have most of the bugs worked out of the character building curriculum before it is taken to the public on a larger scale. "We want to make sure we've got a quality product out there. We will not send out our recruiters to fail," he asserted.

"This is something very non-traditional for us," Smith admitted. "We're talking about a commitment to a program that could potentially have a big impact on our recruiting efforts—just look at the success of similar programs in Florida and Kentucky."

But Smith is quick to point out that there can be a much greater pay-off in the long term. "You can not look past the opportunity we have to make a difference—to change character. We have a responsibility to help impact that change. This goes beyond putting people in uniforms."

Josephson agreed, saying, "I think we can all be proud that the Guard has taken a leadership position in this."

Smith says the plan is to start out slowly. "We're going to pilot the program in our eight recruiting areas in a limited number of schools. If it takes off from there, we'll start to look at our options for going statewide."

And if the program has the impact Magnusson, Taft and O'Brien envision, the Guard and character training will be a permanent part of education in Ohio schools. ■

"How can you tell kids that they can't drink alcohol when they are underage, when you yourself have made a conscious decision to use a radar detector so that you can break the law?"



Photo by SFC Bob Mullins, HQ STARC.

An Ohio National Guard Huey, parked in front of the Lennox AMC Theater in Columbus, attracted many movie-goers arriving for the premier of *Air Force One*.

Guard participates in *Air Force One* premier

Because the Ohio National Guard played a supporting role in the Harrison Ford film *Air Force One*, members of Company A, 1-137 Assault Helicopter Battalion took the opportunity to showcase the aircraft assigned to their unit—the same aircraft used in the film.

On July 25, soldiers and equipment showed up for the movie's premier at the Lennox AMC Theater in Columbus.

"This gives the public a chance to meet those who serve their community and nation," said Capt. John W. Villacres, who first thought of tying the opening and display together.

The Ohio National Guard provided both equipment and personnel for the filming of the movie, with much of the shooting done on location at Rickenbacker International Airport.

Second Lt. Vickie Quinn, a pilot with the 137th who flew in the UH-1 Iroquois (Huey), set the chopper down in the theater parking lot to exhibit alongside other Army equipment.

"All of us are here because we enjoy our professions," Quinn said. "I enjoy sharing my excitement with the public. After all, this is their Guard too." *Submitted by Sgt. 1st Class Bob Mullins, HQ STARC (-Det. 1-6).*

121st ARW guards southern skies

With just two weeks to go before a scheduled deployment to Istres, France, the 121st Air Refueling Wing received word that its mission would be elsewhere. Instead of southern France, elements of the wing deployed to Prince Sultan Air Base, Al Kharj, Saudi Arabia, from June 2

to July 3 in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH.

The wing flew a total of 275.5 hours and 72 sorties, refueling fighters which enforced the no-fly zone.

The wing accepted austere environment and difficult operating conditions. Unit members can take considerable pride and satisfaction in being able to contribute to this important mission and providing some relief to the highly stressed active component units.

The pared down workforce made up totally of aircraft maintenance specialties kept missions rolling.

The hot desert environment posed many challenges. Cockpit electrical components malfunctioned frequently. Air conditioners were used to cool aircraft cabins. Air crews on night shift had difficulty getting rest in hot tents during the day.

Air National Guard and active component personnel worked well together once they had time to integrate and learn the differences in terminology and operating concepts.

Logistics Group Commander Col. Joseph C. Carr remarked, "We are extremely proud of the personnel who adjusted to the changes with

virtually no complaints. We demonstrated the Guard's ability to do a difficult mission." *Submitted by Tech. Sgt. Greg Rudl, 121st ARW.*

Veterans Hall of Fame enshrines Class of '96

A bronze plaque with the names of outstanding men and women veterans who were inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame in 1996 was unveiled on May 21.

"Ohioans are invited to visit the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame whenever they are in Sandusky or when visiting Cedar Point," said David Hartwig, chairman of the Ohio Veterans Home who welcomed the crowd to the enshrinement ceremony. "We also have one of the finest military museums in the Midwest, so we hope Ohioans will visit this very interesting and inspiring site."

Anyone wishing to nominate an Ohio veteran for his or her outstanding achievements following honorable military service can receive the necessary forms and guidelines from veterans employment specialists at Ohio Bureau of Employment Services (OBES) offices throughout the state, at County Veterans Service Offices and from most veterans' organizations. Nomination forms and guidelines also are available on the world wide web at: <http://www.state.oh.us/obes/nomguide.html>. *Submitted by David Garick, OBES.*

Motts Museum preserves relics of yesteryear

Located just south of Columbus, the Motts Military Museum is the dream of Warren Motts, who has collected military memorabilia for 30 years. The museum, which prides itself in preserving and documenting past, present and developing military events, opened to the public in October 1988 at 5761 Ebright Road in Groveport.

Because of the success and growth of the collection, the museum is scheduled to relocate at 5075 S. Hamilton Road. Funds are currently being raised to pay for acreage, outside exhibits and building renovation to keep items in a safe and controlled environment.

At the present location, visit-



Courtesy photo.

Participating in the 1996 Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame Enshrinement Ceremony were (left to right): David E. Aldstadt, director, Governor's Office of Veterans Affairs; Judge Sara J. Harper, member, Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame; LTC Christine Cook, director, Ohio Veterans Home; and Joseph E. Andry, director, Veterans Services Division, OBES).

ing hours are by appointment only by phoning (614) 836-5781. Admission is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.

Family Readiness volunteers attend national conference

State Family Readiness volunteers attended the National Family Readiness Workshop in Orlando, Fla., July 9-13. The conference was filled with four days of workshops, lectures and guest speakers. Clearly displaying the National Guard Bureau's commitment to the Family Program, the event provided information to make the Ohio program grow even stronger.

The conference was attended by two Air Guard representatives, David Flook of Springfield and Mark Wolfenden of Mansfield; Army Recruiting/Retention Manager Sgt. Maj. George R. Sams, Jr.; TAG spouse Lavera Alexander; State Family Program Coordinator Warrant Officer Carmen Coventry; and State Family Readiness Council members Sue Galchick, Tina Lee, Bonnie Swaney and Neoma Lucas.

Family members who are interested in becoming involved with the State Family Program may call WO1 Carmen Coventry at 1-800-589-9914. Volunteer positions are available at both state and unit level.

Ohio Guard first to fire on new tank range

Elements of the Ohio National Guard's 107th Armored Division were the first to fire on the new tank range at Camp Grayling, Mich., during the '97 annual training. After many years of planning, construction, inspections and final approval by the National Guard Bureau, the Multi-Purpose Range Complex (MPRC) raised the red flag and gave the signal to commence fire.

What this means for Ohio soldiers is live fire training closer to home.

Currently, the only tank training range in the Buckeye state is located at Ravenna. Live fire is prohibited and crews must rely on Multiple Integrated Laser Equipment Systems (MILES) for training. The Ravenna range has five stations, or tables, where the tank must stop and quickly distinguish the type of target and its distance. The correct round then must be chambered and the target engaged in a specified time.

Though Ravenna is used three weekends a month, nine months a year, Ohio tank crews must travel to an out of state live fire range which has at least eight tables in order to become

qualified. The new MPRC at Camp Grayling presently has a 10 table capability. Upper tables include preliminary machine gun training, main gun training, intermediate training course and qualification course.

The range is not only a live fire range facility, but also offers battlefield training by using full-up MILES, casualties, indirect fire (C-4 explosive), battle sounds, chemical contamination, smoke producing land mines, non-combatants on the battlefield, plastic ammunition and sub-caliber devices.

This modern training facility also accommodates mechanized infantry and aviation advanced helicopter training tables for close in air support. Armor, infantry and aviation can all train simultaneously. This simulates a wartime training environment, enhancing the ability of Army Guard personnel to survive in battle and attain the skills necessary to emerge victorious.

Sgt. 1st Class Stephen J. Mitcham, a 10-year tank veteran is the battalion master gunner for 1st Battalion, 107th Armored Cavalry Division. Mitcham helped set up the live fire exercise for D Company. "This new MPRC is a state of the art training facility which is very user friendly and very accommodating," Mitcham said. He also indicated that tank crews are presently training to table eight standards.

Targets at the range include four targets on which to zero, 39 stationary armor/helicopter targets, eight moving armor/helicopter targets, 115 stationary infantry targets and 35 moving infantry targets. Some targets have the capability to move a quarter mile. Targets can be engaged close in or up to 2,700 yards away. All targets are scored electronically, making error-free qualification possible when personnel and equipment are moving and firing under cover of darkness. During daylight hours, qualifying rounds can be scored visually using binoculars. Tanks must move through and engage all eight tables effectively in order to become qualified.

Range support facilities at Camp Grayling include a range control tower, administrative building, bleacher area, ammunition loading dock, maintenance facility, dining facility and a refueling area. *Submitted by Sgt. 1st Class Bob Mullins, HQ, STARC (-Det. 1-6)*



Courtesy photo.

Ohio's Family Readiness volunteers pose for a photo at the National Family Readiness Workshop in Orlando, Fla. The group was joined for the snapshot by NGB Chief LTG Ed Baca and his wife (wearing uniform and Hawaiian lei, respectively).

Guard walks on wild side at Kidszoofari '97

An exotic jungle...the call of wild birds...the laughter of children? The Ohio National Guard's latest deployment included all these sounds as they participated in Kidszoofari '97, hosted by the Columbus Zoo on Aug. 16.

With several points of interest and entertainment throughout the zoo's scenic grounds, Kidszoofari '97 welcomed the Guard's support, which included the presence of Safety Dog and a Humvee display. "Our mission was to pass along safety messages to the kids we made contact with," said Sr. Airman Kandi Steele of Headquarters, Ohio Air National Guard. "We were able to do just that with Safety Dog handing out safety coloring books."

Safety Dog is the mascot and key representative for the Ohio National Guard's KiDSAFE program. KiDSAFE, which stands for Kids Identifying Dangerous Situations and Facing Emergencies, is a program designed to help children learn about unsafe situations and about the dangers of drugs and other substances.

With more than 2,000 people attending, Kidszoofari '97 was an excellent arena for the Guard's program.

"It was a great chance for the kids to see us and the equipment we use, and ask any questions they have about the Guard," Steele said. "After all, we are part of the community, and kids today are the National Guard's future."

The event ended abruptly with a tornado warning, but according to Safety Dog, Kidszoofari '97 still turned out "dog-gone good." *Submitted by Staff Sgt. Shannon Scherer, HQ OHANG.*



Courtesy photo.

CPT Ivan Mosley (left) is just paces behind 1LT Troy Frost of Wisconsin as they round the corner.

Ohio competes in NGB Marathon Trials

Lt. Gen. Ed Baca traveled to Lincoln, Neb., on May 4 with the goal of shaking hands with each of the 201 National Guard runners who crossed the finish line of the 1997 National Guard Bureau Marathon Trials. Baca, National Guard Bureau chief, had his hands full early on as seven of the first 10 runners to cross the finish line were members of the National Guard. For the last 13 years, the National Guard trials have been run in conjunction with the Lincoln Marathon, which is usually held in the first week of May each year.

Team runners from the Buckeye State were Staff Sgt. Brian L. Lautzenheiser, E Company, 1-137th Assault Helicopter Battalion, North Canton; Capt. Ivan T. Mosley, Sr., 737th Maintenance Battalion, Mt. Vernon; and 1st Lt. Tim Kern, 179th Airlift Wing, Mansfield. The combined team time for the 26.2 mile marathon was 9 hours, 45 minutes and 15 seconds.

"I wasn't really happy with my run, but I did have a good time while I was there," said Lautzenheiser, who earned Ohio's best time with 3:04:27. "I think I started out too fast. I was able to keep up the pace the first 13 miles, but then it turned into a survival run," he joked.

Lautzenheiser, a full-time supply sergeant for the Army Guard, prepared for the marathon by running 42-45 miles a week.

"Gen. Baca and Nebraska's adjutant general were waiting at the finish line, wanting to con-

gratulate us, but by then I was shaking so bad, I just wanted to go get something to eat or drink," he explained.

Another member of the Ohio National Guard, Maj. J.R. Nolen, Jr. of HQ STARC, also participated in the marathon trials, but he ran as a member of the National Guard Bureau team. Nolen, who is fulfilling a Title 10 tour at NGB with the Comptroller Directorate, ran a respectable 3:15:21. He ran the previous four years as a member of the Ohio Guard team.

The goal for any of the runners is to make the "All Guard Team," which is made up of the top 35 National Guard finishers. This team competes each fall in Washington, D.C. at the Marine Corps Marathon or in the spring at the Blue Angels Marathon in Pensacola, Fla.

"Any guardmember is eligible to run in the trials as long as the runner meets the minimum requirements and submits an application in March," said Sgt. 1st Class Mitch Gorsuch, coordinator for this event at the State Training Office.

Some of the prerequisites include a minimum marathon running time, a minimum mile pace and participating in a TAC-certified marathon course within 18 months of the Lincoln Marathon. Guardmembers who turn in the best times will run for the Ohio Team. Contact the State Training Office for further details by calling (614) 766-3822. *Submitted by Staff Sgt. Diane L. Farrow, HQ STARC (-Det. 1-6).*

Vern Riffe laid to rest with military honors

All flags in the state of Ohio flew at half-staff in early August to honor former House Speaker Vern Riffe, who passed away July 31, 1997.

"Of the thousands of individuals who have served our state in the Ohio General Assembly, Vern Riffe, in my respectful opinion, stands the tallest," said Ohio Gov. George V. Voinovich in a statement released shortly after Riffe's death. "In Ohio's political history, only one individual earned the title, 'Mr. Speaker.' Quite simply, Vern Riffe was the greatest legislator in Ohio history."

Vern Riffe was the longest serving speaker in the history of the Ohio House of Representatives. First elected in 1975, he served 20 consecutive years—10 terms. He also was the longest serving member of the Ohio

House. First elected in 1958, his tenure spanned 36 years. He retired from public service in December 1994.

The governor relied upon the National Guard to provide military representation at the services planned for the former speaker. Involving 46 guardmen, this support required intensive planning and coordination.

Throughout the morning of Aug. 4, former Speaker Riffe lay in state in the Rotunda of the Statehouse, an honor shared by an elite few in the history of Ohio to include Presidents Lincoln and McKinley.

Two casket guards, one from the Guard and one from the State Highway Patrol, stood post during the entire public visitation. The guards were rotated every 20 minutes, with Air Guard personnel provided by the Rickenbacker Honor Guard and the Army Guard represented by senior enlisted recruiters who traveled from Cincinnati. "They all did a commendable job," said Command Sgt. Maj. Bill Gilliam, noncommissioned officer in charge of the Statehouse ceremonies.

Midmorning, the House of Representatives was in session in the House Chambers to honor the life of the former speaker, followed by a state service at the Statehouse Atrium, where the governor, Sen. John Glenn and others expressed their esteem and admiration.

"For nearly four decades, no important decision concerning state government was made without Vern Riffe at the table," Voinovich said. "His accomplishments are outnumbered only by the number of friends he made in all walks of life and on both sides of the political aisle."

Speaker Riffe helped improve primary and secondary educational opportunities, expand Ohio's system of higher education, and extend basic health care and other necessities of life to Ohioans in need. His 11 honorary doctorate degrees and numerous other awards are a testa-

ment to Mr. Riffe's achievements as a leader.

After the Statehouse ceremonies, Mr. Speaker was moved to the Shawnee State Community College where he was again presented for public viewing. This time, Command Sgt. Maj. Gary G. Spees provided casket guards from the 2/174th Avenger Battalion of McConnellsville and members of the 16th Engineer Brigade. The burial service was distinguished with a "21-Gun Salute" by the Northern Group Honor Guard, supervised by Command Sgt. Maj. James Lucas.



Courtesy photo.

Vern Riffe, former speaker, Ohio House of Representatives.

Vern Riffe was laid to rest on Aug. 6 in Scioto County, where he was a lifelong resident. The former speaker is survived by his wife, Thelma; three daughters, Cathy, Verna Kay and Mary Beth; and a son, Vernal G. Riffe, III. Submitted by SSG Diane L. Farrow, HQ STARC (-Det 1-6).

Seargent helps kids acquire "Chief" status

It is not every day that you see a 9-year-old chief master sergeant, but at Koeble Elementary there are actually three of them.

Not to worry though, this is not an illegal recruiting practice of the Ohio Air National Guard. It is an innovative tactic used by Chief Master Sgt. Terry McCumber, 121st Air Refueling Wing, Medical Squadron, in the unit's Adopt-A-School program.

"McCumber's idea is one of the best I have seen," said Steven Stone, Koeble principal and retired colonel from the Army National Guard.

McCumber, a volunteer at Koeble since January 1997, was looking for a way to build camaraderie among the students he tutored and make learning fun. He decided to use his military background as an incentive to learning. "I wanted to make these three boys a team," McCumber said. "I started them with plastic name tapes and called them Airman Basics. They were promoted each time they did really well on a test or social skill."

The promotion process, as most of us know, was not easy. The boys' grades were reviewed and higher standards were set from the start. To be promoted they had to excel in their studies, and that meant working as a team.

"If one boy really understood science, he would tutor the other two until they got it," McCumber said. "It became a very rewarding process, but was not immediately gratifying. They really worked hard."

McCumber even handed out his home telephone number in case the boys, Doug Ebbrecht, John Goins and Landis Winkfield, ever needed his help with a problem. Much to his surprise, McCumber got a call the first night. "John just wanted to make sure (the number) worked," McCumber said, "then he asked me what I was having for dinner."

Stone said that many of Koeble's students come from single-family working homes, noting that guardmembers provide not only scholastic support, but friendship and direction for the children as well.

Even though the children's interest focused on the fighting side of the military, McCumber believes they also recognized the value the

National Guard has lent to their education.

"I'm getting better grades in my subjects now because of the help I get from the Guard people," said Ebbrecht. "If a classmate has a problem, I'll be there to tutor them." Submitted by Staff Sgt. Shannon Scherer, HQ ANG Public Affairs.

Unit members earn foreign badge award

Five members of the 337th Personnel Service Detachment received the Bronze German Armed Forces Efficiency Badge on April 19. Oberst Lieutenant Wilcke, a German Luftwaffe Liaison Officer at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, presented the award medal to Maj. Mark T. Ahles, former commander of the 337th and coordinator of the badge competition; Chief Warrant Officer Mickey A. Cales; Master Sgt. Richard A. Cosgray; Sgt. 1st Class Garrick A. Thompson; and Sgt. James G. Ferrell.

The badge reflects a mastery of military tasks and high physical fitness. "The competition is good training, great for team building, retention and morale efforts," according to Ahles. "It gives soldiers the opportunity to increase their physical abilities and military skills."

There are three levels of rivalry: the Bronze, Silver and Gold. Soldiers must achieve the Bronze level before attempting to master the Silver and the Gold, respectively.

To receive the Bronze award, the soldiers of the 337th successfully completed nine different requirements during a one year period. The events include first aid, road march with pack, marksmanship, 100-meter dash, 200-meter swim, high or long jump, distance running, performance evaluation, and a choice between shot put, weight lifting or 100-meter swim.

The competition is part of the German Military regimen and awards soldiers for their individual achievement. Recognized as such by foreign governments, the badge is authorized for wear on the dress uniform in accordance with AR 670-1. Submitted by Spc. Michael Burgett, 237th Personnel Service Battalion.

Guard officer makes scholastic history

The first Ohio Army National Guardmember to attend the Army Management Staff College (AMSC) graduated from the graduate level program at the Fort Belvoir, Va., campus in December 1996.

Lt. Col. Ralph W. Green, a military support officer with the Adjutant General's Department, was one of 167 students to receive specialized



Courtesy photo.

LTC Ralph W. Green receives the Leadership Award from COL Jerre W. Wilson, AMSC commandant.

education at the base.

The graduate-level education focuses on leadership, management and decision making—with emphasis on national policy and strategy, force development and doctrine, and the systems through which America's Army transforms resources into combat power.

When asked about his experience at AMSC, Green said, "It exceeded my expectations in every way—from the quality of instruction, to what is going on within the military today." By attending the school, Green noted, he now has a broader understanding of Army programs and can relate what he learned to his present job. "There was a great deal that I was able to bring back with me," he said.

The program places emphasis on small seminar settings, allowing members to interact with each other, exchange information and share experiences. Although the student body is comprised primarily of GS 12-14 civilians, military officers assigned to sustaining base positions also attend the program.

"Some of the most valuable aspects of attending AMSC was the opportunity to listen to such a diverse professional student body, the guest speakers, the atmosphere that promotes 'risk taking' in class and the professionalism of all the AMSC faculty," said Green.

Green asserted that military professionals should attend the program. "With the dynamic shift in the Army National Guard as we enter the 21st century, as well as the progress in the Total Force, we need your (AMSC's) product in the field," he said. Attendance at the AMSC is an investment in the future, according to Green. "I will be an advocate for Ohio National Guard personnel attending every AMSC class in the future," Green concluded. Submitted by Maria Kuhns, AMSC Public Affairs Specialist.

Costs covered easier by Franklin University

The opportunity for help with higher education attracts many to the National Guard. Now, a new program from Franklin University will make it easier to cover the costs of earning a bachelor's degree.

By combining tuition assistance from a number of sources, Franklin's Ohio National Guard Tuition Plan can see that you incur little or no cost for attending college. How? After you maximize your Guard and veteran tuition benefits and register as a full-time student, Franklin University will cover the remaining tuition and fees for their majors that require 124 semester hours to complete: business administration, marketing, organizational leadership and management, and the personalized major program (which allows students to combine two majors).

Franklin University is central Ohio's most experienced educator of non-traditional students. More than 5,000 people attend annually to take classes at the University's downtown Columbus location, or at its suburban centers in the Dublin, Groveport, Worthington and Westerville areas. Students can choose from more than 1,000 course offerings every year, with most held only one evening a week and many on Saturday mornings.

New to Franklin is its focus on distance education, where students work with instructors to complete coursework via the Internet, audiotapes, videotapes or strictly through independent projects and textbooks. The university's business administration major is one of the first that will be offered completely on-line, with a number of courses in that major already available over the Internet.

To help shorten the path to a diploma, Franklin's transfer credit office will review the military education and training of everyone who applies to determine how those experiences can be used for college credit.

Those who are interested in learning more about Franklin University's Ohio National Guard Tuition Plan or distance education classes should call (614) 341-6256 or toll-free 1-888-341-6237. Members of the Guard can also call the Education Service Office at (614) 889-7275.

Benefits of retirement

Did you know that after 10 years of service, you are considered a career guardmember? At

10 years, you are halfway toward completing a full career of 20 years, making you eligible for retirement benefits. Once you reach 10 years, only unavoidable and critical life changes should cause you to separate from the National Guard.

What are some of the benefits of Guard retirement?

- Retirement pay.
- A blue ID card (your dependents get this also) which allows unlimited access to commissaries, base exchanges, gas stations and package stores.
- Space available travel.
- Lodging at military facilities on space available basis.
- Medical care on space available basis.

Tuition Grant Office gets toll-free number

Want a free and easy way to get answers about the Ohio National Guard

Tuition Grant Program?

Now, guardmembers currently onboard the program can call toll-free 1-888-400-6484. Hours of operation are weekdays, 7:30

a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



Air National Guard Recruiting is on-line

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Air National Guard (ANG) can now access a wealth of information on the Internet. The ANG Recruiting Homepage has enlistment information, sub-pages and links which are designed to be attractive to people in the target recruiting age group (16-25). There is also information which could be of interest to current and former ANG members. Anyone interested can forward e-mail to the Recruiting/Retention Superintendent in any state. The web site address is "http://www.dtic.mil/airforcelink/goang." (*The Stinger*)

Family Program offers support, assistance

Are you new to the Guard family and looking for friendly, reliable assistance to help you adjust? We are the Ohio Army National Guard Family Readiness Program Office, and we want to help you and your family. We have information on benefits, family care plan, family support group, money management, deployment and reunions.

All this is free and presented personally or mailed directly to your home. Call us soon; we are your neighbors and want you to feel at home.

Family Readiness Program
Warrant Officer Carmen Coventry
Staff Sgt. Betty Delk
1-800-589-9914
(614) 889-7192

Insurance program changes affect Guard

Government life insurance coverage for reservists now permits them to retain coverage if they separate before a 20-year retirement or become eligible to draw retirement pay. According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, Reservists and National Guard members now generally can apply for Veterans Group Life Insurance (VGLI) if they decide to separate before reaching a 20-year retirement. The expansion of VGLI eligibility is among several insurance program changes under the Veterans Benefits Improvements Act. Other changes include authorizing conversion of VGLI policies to commercial life insurance at any time, instead of waiting for the end of every five-year coverage period.

People should contact their unit if they have questions or want to update their existing policy. (*AFNS*)

Veterans, families handbook revised

The best way to get current information about veterans benefits and claims is to contact the nearest VA regional office. The next best way is to order the newly revised, updated handbook, *Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents*.

Published by the Department of Veterans Affairs, the 93-page handbook describes VA benefits, including medical care, education, disability compensation, pension, life insurance, home loan guaranty, vocational rehabilitation and burial assistance. It also explains requirements for eligibility and outlines claims procedures.

To buy a copy of the handbook, send a request for GPO stock number 051-000-00212-1 with a check or money order for \$5.50 payable to Superintendent of Documents to: U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402-9325. To order by credit card, phone (202) 512-1800. Orders can also be faxed to (202) 512-2250. (*Army Families*)

Operation PROVIDE COMFORT II

180th Fighter Wing supports multinational task force in Turkey

By Sr. Airman Paul Lazorchak ♦ ♦ ♦ 180th Fighter Wing

More than 300 men and women from the 180th Fighter Wing spent all or part of their holiday season at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, as part of a multinational combined task force supporting Operation PROVIDE COMFORT II, which has since been renamed Operation NORTHERN WATCH. The 180th covered a 30-day deployment in two rotations, Dec. 7, 1996 through Jan. 7, 1997.

Operation PROVIDE COMFORT was initiated five and a half years ago to provide humanitarian aid to the Kurdish population displaced as a result of Iraqi aggression. The operation, which was originally planned by the United Nations to last 10 days, continued to provide food, medicine and shelter to Kurds until September 1996, according to sources at the combined task force headquarters. Last September, the mission became strictly military with four distinct goals: to enforce the no fly zone in Northern Iraq; to maintain a presence in the Gulf region; to monitor and report activity there; and to conduct defensive operations.

Achieving those goals has been the responsibility of troops from Great Britain, France and the United States. Air National Guard units from Oklahoma, Iowa and most recently Ohio, supplied aircraft and personnel over a 90-day period and worked alongside active duty service members to complete the mission. Each of the three Guard units supplied four F-16 jets for the entire 90 days, and each provided personnel support for the flying missions, such as maintenance, operations and services, for 30 days.

"The 180th comes to us highly trained and well disciplined," said Brig. Gen. Donald A. Lamontagne, commander of U.S. forces at Incirlik Air Base. "This is what all of the training at home is focused toward," he added. Lamontagne spoke at a briefing for the Toledo media cov-

ering the 180th's first few days of the deployment. He stressed that Iraq was still a very real threat and that the men and women of the 180th, like the Guard units who came here before them, were in harm's way. "We're at the end of the spear—the pointy end," he said.

Real world deployments like OPC also often mean less than ideal living conditions. Most of the people from the 180th were housed in "tent city," an area of hundreds

of large tents, built on cement slabs and organized into neat rows along rock and dirt roads. Inside each tent, individual rooms were separated by plywood walls and in most cases included a bed, a closet cabinet, a chair and a table or desk. Each tent also had a kitchen/common area with a refrigerator, microwave, television and VCR, couches, chairs and a table. New furniture was delivered to the tents during the 180th's stay. Many of the tents also had a covered front porch;

some of the 180th residents who were not lucky enough to move into a tent with this special addition built their own. One of those people was Tech. Sgt. Sue Clark.

"I love my tent," Clark said. "I think that many of the people who don't like their tents aren't taking the time to personalize them," she added.

Several 180th airmen personalized their tents by painting their front door with a unique saying or image. Everything from a painting of the popular animated character "The Lion King" to the phrase "\$28.50 a day," (the per diem allowance) appeared on tent doors of the 180th and other residents.

Tent city also included a morale, welfare and recreation tent with e-mail access, phones with DSN lines, pool tables, video rentals and a packaging center with supplies for shipping items. The city also had a clinic, a chapel (the "canvas cathedral"), a library with books donated by the Toledo Public Library, fitness centers, laundry facilities and even a mayor.

Most people commuted from tent city to their work areas each day by bus or pooled together with others who worked in their section and shared a van or truck.

Many of those deployed said they felt that the work they did will benefit the unit.

"When we get back, we can teach guardmembers back home what we've learned," said Tech. Sgt. John Martinez, munitions maintenance shop chief.

Lt. Col. Tom Schart, 180th operations group commander, said he felt the experience gained in a real world contingency is valuable from a training standpoint.

"This gives everyone a little bit of a better flavor for contingency operations," Schart said. "(Guardmembers) don't see this that often. We don't get exposed to operations like this. It's real world," he added. "Future training will improve because of it." ■



Photo by SrA Kathryn L. Buchwald, 180th Fighter Wing.

A Toledo F-16 is refueled on Iraq's border by a KC-135. The 180th enforced the no-fly zone over the holidays.

Ohio is 'first to fire' on Camp Grayling's new Multi Purpose Range Complex.

For more, see page 27. Photo by SFC Bob Mullins, HQ STARC.



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