

# Home at Last!

5694th fire fighters return from Bosnia. Pages 10-11.



Photo by SSgt. Shannon Scherer, HQ OHANG.

## **220th EIS busy in Florida**

Tech. Sgt. Mike Black lowers himself into a manhole to check conduits for fiber optic cables at MacDill Air Force Base.

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# Buckeye GUARD

Spring 1998, Vol. 22, No. 2

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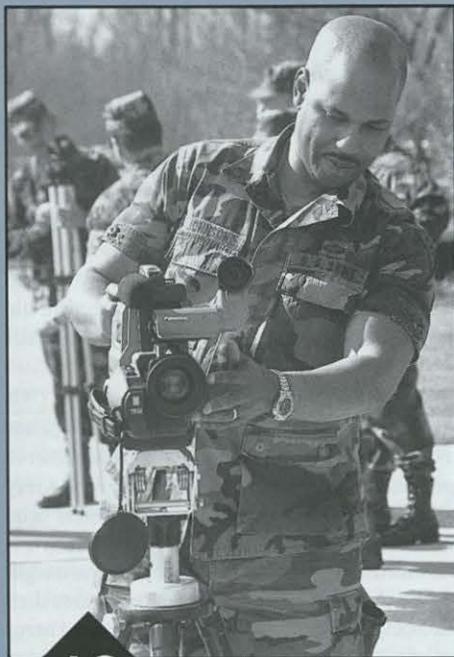
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**ABOUT THE COVER:** Sgt. Todd Bartley receives a warm reception from his son Chaz after returning home from seven months in Bosnia-Herzegovina. His unit, the 5694th Engineer Detachment (Fire Fighting), deployed last July in support of Operation JOINT GUARD and returned to Ohio Feb. 20. *Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Larry Wilson, 179th Airlift Wing.*

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Spring 1998, VOL. 22, No. 2

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

## NATIONAL NEWS

**Secretary of Defense announces green ID cards for all components.** In another step toward achieving full integration of the active and reserve military components, Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen announced that identification cards for all active component and Reserve active status U.S. military personnel now will be the same color—green. This initiative, which will be phased in over a two- to five-year period that could begin as early as June, calls for changing the color of the reserve active status forces identification card (DD Form 2 (Reserve)) from red to green. Reserve active status forces include members of the Selected Reserve, the Individual Ready Reserve and the Active Standby Reserve. Only the color of the card held by these members of the reserve components will change. There will be no associated changes to current service benefits, privileges and entitlements, unless a change in status occurs. Family members of Reservists will continue to receive the red ID card. The change responds to a pledge made by Cohen in a recent policy memorandum, calling on the civilian and military leadership of the Department of Defense to eliminate “all residual barriers, structural and cultural” for effective integration of the Reserve and active components into a “seamless Total Force.” (*Bear Facts, Missouri National Guard*)

**Nation's governors voice support of Guard in wake of proposed cuts.** The Army's plan to have the Army National Guard bear the brunt of funding cuts, eliminating 38,000 Guard positions, spurred two-thirds of the nation's governors to speak out against that plan. The governors sent letters to President Clinton and Defense Secretary William Cohen in support of the Guard. Cohen justified the actions of the Army at the Quadrennial Defense Review held last year, where the cuts took place and where the Guard had no representation. In a letter to Ohio Gov. George V. Voinovich, Cohen discussed his ratification of the size of initial troop cuts. (*National Guard*)

**Selected Service registration now can be done on Internet.** If you are a young man between the ages of 18 and 25, you must register for the Selected Service, no matter if you are already in the National Guard or planning to join the Guard or some other branch of the military. Not only is registration the law, but also with few exceptions men who fail to register by age 26 permanently forfeit their eligibility for most federal employment and several federal student aid programs. People now can register on line (<http://www.sss.gov>) or at any local post office. (*Bear Facts, Missouri National Guard*)

**Legislation will reimburse some reservists for travel expenses.** President Clinton signed a bill Dec. 17, 1997, that will reimburse more than 4,000 National Guard and Reserve soldiers for expenses they incurred while shipping personal property home from Europe. The Army Reserve-National Guard Equity Reimbursement Act covers reserve component soldiers who deployed to Europe in support of Operation JOINT GUARD between Oct. 1, 1996, and May 31, 1997, and who were under travel orders that did not authorize a temporary change-of-station weight allowance. The act authorizes the Army to reimburse the shipping expenses on personal items such as reading lamps, microwaves, televisions and VCRs. Many soldiers bought these recreational items because they were stationed in areas where no extracurricular activities or equipment were provided and later learned they had to pay to ship them back home. (*National Guard*)

**Soldiers who drop out early will have to pay back part of benefits.** Reservists who receive Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve benefits and who fail to complete their six-year service obligations now will have to pay back to the government a portion of the education benefits they received. Under provisions of a new law, effective in October 1998, the reserve components will begin recouping benefits from people who drop out of the Selected Reserve after Oct. 1, 1997. The law doesn't affect members who are medically disabled or who leave the Selected Reserve under the Reserve Transition Assistance Program. (*Air Force Reserve Command News Service*)

**Guard to face more restructuring as part of Total Army concept.** The first step in instituting the National Guard Division Redesign Plan will come to fruition this fall. As a result of the work by the 54 adjutants general, six Army National Guard separate enhanced brigades will be aligned under two new active-duty divisions, taking the initial steps in bringing about the Total Army. The redesign plan is the brain child of the adjutants general, or TAGs, who were responding to a need for more combat support and combat service support in the active Army. According to a study by the Commission on Roles and Missions, the active Army had a shortfall of about 60,000 CS and CSS troops. To assist in those shortfalls, the TAGs unanimously voted to convert those six enhanced brigades from combat to CS and CSS in 1993. (*National Guard*)

## Articles recall vivid memories of Bosnia

I read with more than a little interest the last issue of the *Buckeye Guard* (Winter 97/98). The excerpts from linguist Maj. Sinisa Lavric's journal brought back some vivid memories of Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR. While on active duty stationed in Giebelstadt, Germany, I was deployed for four months in support of the operation soon after its commencement. I did notice one inconsistency in one of the entries that I would like to bring to light.

In "Soaring Above It All," Maj. Lavric writes of his experience on a CH-47D Chinook flight from Tuzla. He states in one passage "...and Chinook pilots like to call themselves 'Big Windy.'" This is inaccurate. The major is apparently under the mistaken impression that all CH-47D pilots use the "Big Windy" nickname. However, this nickname is used exclusively by those assigned to A Company, 5/159th Aviation Regiment.

The "Big Windy" moniker and flight suit patch design date back to the Vietnam conflict when the unit was designated the 180th Aviation Regiment.

When I arrived in Germany, there were two CH-47D units in USAREUR: E Company, 502nd Aviation Regiment stationed in Aviano, Italy, and A Company, 5/159th Aviation Regiment in Germany. I was assigned to the latter as the personnel sergeant during my overseas tour. Recently, E Co., 502nd was deactivated, with some elements moved to Giebelstadt and incorporated with A Company, 5/159th, leaving only one CH-47D unit in USAREUR.

The 2 1/2 years I served with "Big Windy" were memorable ones. I remember every friend made and every difficult mission successfully completed. Even though I am no longer with them, it still makes me proud whenever I read or hear that the aviation unit I used to be a part of still makes an impression on every soldier that comes in contact with it.

**Cpl. Nathan Plants**  
HHB, 1/134 Field Artillery Battalion

## Buckeye Guard mailing list includes retirees

I used to belong to the 214th Maintenance Company when it was in Newark, but I've since retired. I was reading an old copy of the *Buckeye Guard* dated Spring 1996, Vol. 20, No. 1, and I would like to find out if being retired qualifies me to receive copies of the magazine.

I sure enjoy reading about the old units and some of the soldiers who I have met at camps

and armories around Ohio and other states we support. I see the trucks on the road, and I end up flashing my headlights and waving. It makes me feel good to see them smile and wave back.

The Spring issue is the only *Buckeye Guard* I have, and I'll always keep it with me. There's a lot of information in this magazine for old troops like myself, so keep up the good work.

**Spc. Bob Hayes (ret.)**  
Newark, Ohio

*Members past and present of the Ohio National Guard can and should be receiving copies of the Buckeye Guard on a quarterly basis. The mailing list is derived as follows: SIDPERS maintains a database with all current Army Guard members; individual flying units provide the same information for Air Guard members; and the State Public Affairs Office maintains a mailing list of interested retirees.*

*So if you are currently in the Guard, Army or Air, and you are not receiving copies of the Buckeye Guard, check that your unit has an accurate mailing address. If you have retired from the Guard and would like to continue receiving the magazine, send your mailing address to AGOH-PA, ATTN: Buckeye Guard Retiree Mailing List, 2825 W. Dublin Granville Road, Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789, or call (614) 336-7000.*

## Quarterly question added to 'Feedback'

*What is causing retention problems within the Ohio Guard?*

This is the first question posed to *Buckeye Guard* readers, with the intent of publishing the responses in the magazine's "Feedback to the Field" section. This column began in the Summer 1994 issue in order to provide a forum for guardmembers to voice concerns, comments or suggestions related to membership in the Ohio Guard or articles published in the magazine.

Over the years, submissions for this section have been sparse, so the publication staff decided to propose a specific question each quarter that should inspire more responses from guardmembers. So please send any replies or comments to this question to the *Buckeye Guard* address. As in the past, anonymous letters will not be published, but names can be withheld upon request.

In addition, any letters that meet the column's original intent (i.e. comments on articles, Guard related concerns) still will be published in this column. If necessary, the Feedback section may be expanded.

*Buckeye Guard staff*

## Best way to lose weight: Stop eating so much!

As many people have discovered, the weight their body likes to carry does not necessarily fall within the accepted limits set by the military.

There are many reasons why individuals fall outside of the acceptable weight range. Infrequently there is an underlying medical condition which should be detected during the periodic physical or by your family doctor. In this case, you should seek medical evaluation.

However, if you are like most individuals, the weight gain is likely secondary to genetics. If others in your family are heavy or overweight, you have likely inherited this trait.

While many people can lose weight easily, keeping it off often proves more difficult.

Considering all the potential problems with relying on either over-the-counter or prescription pills to lose weight, a weight control program that consists of diet, exercise and behavior modification is still the best option. If each component is fully used, weight loss should occur.

The best dieting strategy is to cut down on your total caloric intake. If you don't decrease your caloric intake, even using one of the new diet pills will likely not work. The easiest way to decrease calories in your diet is to cut out fat and cholesterol.

Routine exercise will not only help you lose weight faster but, more importantly, helps keep the weight off. Aerobic exercise is the best for weight loss and includes walking, jogging, biking or any activity that increases the heart rate for more than 30 minutes a day. The more consistently the exercise program is adhered to the better the results.

Probably the most important component of any weight loss program is behavior modification. The problem with quick weight loss programs and diet pills is that when you stop the program you revert back to old habits and the weight returns. Working slowly and concentrating on establishing life-style changes will keep the weight from returning.

**Dr. Jeff Hess**  
179th Airlift Wing

*FAX your Letters to the Editor to DSN 273-7410 or commercial (614) 336-7410. 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. John H. Smith, Asst. Adjutant General for Air

## Ohio's Air Guard strives to 'answer the call'

In January, headquarters staff personnel and unit commanders met in Granville to develop a strategic plan for the next two years within the Ohio Air National Guard. Commanders had been requested to bring their primary issues to the conference for discussion, so they possibly could be used as a basis for the goals and objectives being adopted by the entire forum.

Although there was discussion on a wide range of issues, we deliberately refrained from making the plan too specific. Instead, we insisted on a more general and brief identification of goals to allow units themselves to be more specific and task-oriented in their approach to their respective plans and issues. I was struck by two topics that seemed to warrant a varied sense of urgency among our commanders.

As you might guess, there was much discussion about how busy the units are. The commanders and all of you should be extremely proud of the manner in which Ohio's units answer the call. It doesn't seem to matter whether we are talking tactical airlift, combat communications, air refueling, engineering—either installation or heavy, general-purpose fighter, tactical air control, or whatever, our units are often at the top of the list when it comes to mission response. Certainly, I feel good about that as well. I have always maintained that the essence of being in the National Guard is the commitment to answering the call when summoned and being ready when we get there.

As many of you know, we have had many opportunities to participate in contingencies all over the world. Since the end of the Gulf War and the demise of the Soviet Union, our frequent and increased participation in these events is

due to several factors. Suffice to say, greater instability stemming from the end of the Cold War and the downsizing of the active Air Force have combined to place Air National Guard units at center stage in the execution of our nation's military policy.

From all appearances, the increased activity has not had a harmful effect on retention. And while it apparently has had alarming effects on many of our active units, most of the commanders felt that staying busy with the more realistic missions was generally a good condition. But they did express their concerns about all the other requirements that exist. Regrettably, we did not come up with a lot of precise answers for

that, but we did agree that a proper balance was essential.

The challenge that arises from all of this is being able to effectively balance the unit's participation in contingencies and other exercises with all of the other training requirements.

A committee that was formed over one year ago to look at specific training issues will be tasked to study recommendations and alternatives to the Guard's overall training requirements. In an era of great demand for our involvement throughout the world, it is important that we make the best possible use of our limited training time.

As we enter the 21st century, another challenge has emerged that will test our ability to answer the call. There rarely has been a forum that I've attended in the past three years that didn't emphasize the necessity of becoming a diverse Air National Guard. Actually, diversity has been a major theme at all levels of command for many years, not only here in Ohio, but nationally as well. Emphasis and programs on minority and female recruitment were precur-

sors to the need to build a diverse force. And while most of us are willing to accept the importance of attracting significant numbers of people representative of all of our communities, we seem to fall short in building the action plans that could possibly make a difference.

That, to me, is now the call that must be answered. How we can interact effectively within our units and within our communities to enact a program that builds diversity. I would submit that there are answers.

First, all of us must be willing to listen and speak openly and honestly about new ideas that may or may not be representative of our own biases and personal agendas.

Second, we must examine and be prepared to accept that programs which may have served us well for many years may not be the answer to building solid organizations into the 21st century. It may mean that some of our more "sacred" programs limit people's opportunities and need to be reformed. The most relevant question that needs to be asked is, "Are we being more inclusive, or are we unknowingly being exclusive? Do our programs assure everyone that, insofar as his or her own abilities and talents can be measured, they will have an equal opportunity to join, to participate and to advance?"

Third, we must have the courage to act. The efforts that I think are necessary to truly make our Ohio Air National Guard more diverse will require contributions from many of you. We must be prepared to act over a considerable period of time.

Rest assured, no one should feel threatened by the discussion or the recommendations. Diversity will be a major focus within the Guard, as the Ohio ANG has made it the major issue to be studied by our strategic planning groups. I enjoin all of you to answer the call and participate in this important endeavor. ■

*"I have always maintained that the essence of being in the National Guard is the commitment to answering the call...."*

# Specialized care offered to Gulf War vets

By Baxter Ennis  
GulfNEWS

Chances are you've heard about DoD's Comprehensive Clinical Evaluation Program, or CCEP. So far, nearly 50,000 Gulf War veterans have enrolled in the program with many completing both Phases I and II. But did you know that there is a Phase III?

Phase III is currently offered at only one location, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C. There, a team of 15 medical professionals is making a big difference in the lives of some sick Gulf War veterans. This diverse organization is the Army's Gulf War Health Center's Specialized Care Program, or Phase III of the CCEP.

"We are veterans' advocates," said Dr. Charles Engels, chief of the Gulf War Health Center and director, Specialized Care Program. "We bust our butts for veterans. Patients who come here have already completed Phase I and II of the CCEP and are still having medical challenges and experiencing difficulties with daily living."

The Department of Defense's evaluation program was established June 7, 1994, with the goal of providing in-depth evaluations of Gulf War veterans who are serving in one of the active or reserve components, or are retired. Walter Reed's Specialized Care Program was initiated in January 1995 by then Maj. Gen. Ronald R. Blanck, hospital commander. The SCP's mission is to deliver a coordinated multi-disciplinary treatment program designed to address persistent, disabling symptoms among Gulf War veterans or family members who remain undiagnosed after appropriate medical evaluation and/or are unlikely to respond to specific biomedical treatments.

The program provides state-of-the-art care for those suffering multiple symptoms such as fatigue, joint pain, headache, digestive problems, skin rash, weight gain or loss and memory problems. Success in the program requires treatment of overall functional status and quality of life rather than a narrow set of symptoms.

Program participants work closely with an internist and a health psychologist, Engels explained. Other members of the health care team include a psychiatrist, occupational therapist, physical therapist, fitness trainer, wellness coordinator, clinical social worker and a nutritionist. Other medical specialists are available depending on the patient's medical needs.

The key objectives of the program are to provide opportunities to improve work performance and other activities of daily living, to promote overall well-being, including better stress management and interpersonal skills through the practice of positive health behaviors, and to actively involve each participant in creating an individualized care plan.

"It takes a while to gain their trust—they have suspicion of the military health care system," said Dan Bullis, a retired Army sergeant major and administrator of the Gulf War Health Center. "People have been led to believe that you go to a doctor, get a pill and get better. We try to teach the patients an understanding of what the biomedical system can and cannot do."

"A big part of my job is to convince them that the biomedical model leaves them high and dry. Searching for more and more tests, and more medical treatment probably won't solve their problems. Rather than concentrate on the disease-centered model, we show them how the person-centered model of care will work," said Dr. Roy Clymer, a psychologist for the SCP staff. "We try to give the patients the point of view that symptoms are just something to be fixed. We show them ways to minimize the impact the symptoms cause in their lives."

A typical day for a participant might include individualized fitness training, occupational and individual therapy, physical therapy, wellness activities, medical tests, nutrition therapy and a participatory seminar.

Staff Sgt. Elvis Dixon, 29, active duty USMC, who served with the 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division in the Gulf War said the program helped him in many ways. "This made me realize that you must take care of yourself and not let things build up . . . that you have to break patterns to change your life, such as eating properly and exercising," he said.

"This program gave me the chance to reflect and refocus my life," said Sgt. 1st Class Delisa Smith, a member of the 158th Air Traffic Control Battalion at Fort Bragg, N.C. "It changes your outlook, teaches you how to deal with chronic pain . . . it teaches you how to make it."

"I got excellent support from my unit. My battalion commander told me he wanted me to get the best care available and that's what I've received here. This program has been an answer to my prayers." ■

## Gulf War Resources

Visit the Gulf War Health Center's home page at:  
<http://www.wrampc.amedd.army.mil/departments/gulfwar>  
or call (202) 782-6563.

Want general information? Visit GulfLINK web site at:  
<http://www.gulfink.osd.mil>

Know a Gulf War vet with health problems? Call DoD's Gulf War Veterans Hotline: 1-800-796-9699

Seeking information on VA benefits? Call the Gulf War Information Hotline: 1-800-472-6719

Report information on Gulf War incidents to the DoD Incident Reporting Line: 1-800-472-6719

## Command Profile



### Col. Robert A. Meyer 251st Combat Communications Group

**Occupation:** Commander, 251st CCG.

**I grew up in:** Chatham, N.J.

**When I was little I wanted to be:** a scientist/engineer.

**My favorite time of the year is:** Spring.

**The one thing I treasure most is:** my family.

**My favorite recreational activities are:** running, photography and reading.

**If I could have just one day to myself, I would:** hope it is a warm, rainy day to just laze around and read.

**My favorite book:** "Oliver Wiswell"

**My favorite movie:** "Blazing Saddles"

**The worst advice I ever received was:** "You should have enough fuel to make it" and "Don't buy Microsoft stock."

**The best advice I ever received was:** "Marry rich."

**The older I get, the more I:** feel young. Working with young, energetic men and women of the Air National Guard keeps me young.

**When I retire I want to:** keep busy and continue to make a difference.

**If I could leave today's guardmembers with one piece of advice it would be:** enjoy life to the fullest. I've found that if you approach all situations with a positive attitude, then positive results are likely. I've been stationed in some pretty crummy locations (like a long tour in the Arctic), but by having a positive attitude, these were some of my most memorable times. I'm having a great life, and being a guardsman is icing on the cake!

## Citizen Spotlight

# Gorsuch preys on prehistoric predator

## Ohio Guardsman experiences Florida's annual alligator harvest

Story by Staff Sgt. Diane Farrow  
HQ STARC

When Ohio sportsmen talk about going hunting for a few weeks, it usually means spending endless hours in a tree stand waiting for a shot at the "Big Buck." But if that hunter happens to be Sgt. 1st Class Mitch Gorsuch, full-time state training NCO for the Ohio Army National Guard, the prey could be anything from a venomous rattlesnake to a 12-foot-long alligator.

Like many young boys, Gorsuch was first introduced to hunting by his dad. As an 8-year-old, he hunted rabbits and squirrels, and as he grew older he began pursuing bigger animals, including white-tailed deer. When he reached his mid-20s, his interest in hunting began to wane.

But then, about four or five years ago, two of his uncles and three friends talked Gorsuch into giving hunting another chance. The 33-year-old said the credo for this group was to go after "anything that fights back."

With adventures like rattlesnake hunting in Texas and Arizona under their belt, the motley crew was ready to move onto bigger and better things. And bigger is definitely what they had in mind last June when all six entered the Florida lottery for an alligator harvest permit.

According to Gorsuch, 15,000 people put in for the lottery and only 780 licenses were granted. "It was just dumb luck that my name got picked," he said. With each license, which costs \$1,000, four other "agents" can be named and five alligators can be harvested. Their hunting zone was limited to a 20-square-mile area at Lake Okeechobee, a camp site popular for bass fishing.

An admitted novice, Gorsuch opted to learn the ins and outs of alligator hunting last August in a four-hour class at West Palm Beach. One of the first things he learned was though they are still considered "threatened," alligators have not been considered endangered since 1985.

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

AGOHPA  
ATTN: *Citizen Spotlight*  
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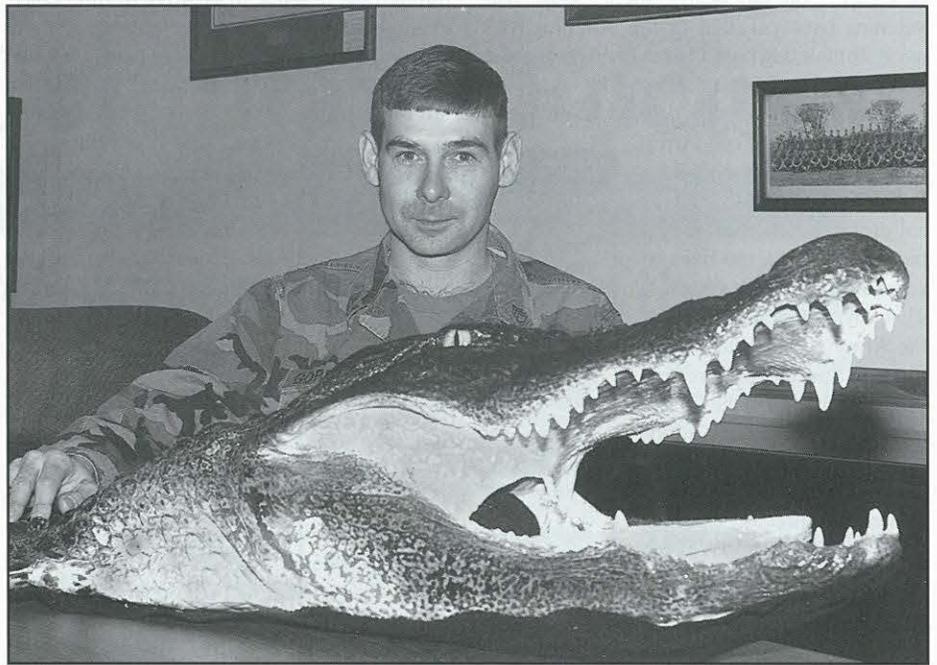


Photo by Todd Cramer, AGOH Photo Lab.

**SFC Mitch Gorsuch proudly poses next to his tanned alligator hide. This catch weighed nearly 400 pounds and measured 11 feet long.**

But he was there primarily to study the character traits of the world's oldest reptile and its habitat, as well as several different hunting techniques.

"Since alligators tend to be dormant during the day, the only time to hunt them is during the night when they come out to feed," Gorsuch said. He explained how spotlights are used to locate the animals in the dark, with the lights causing their eyes to glow bright red.

With all the information Gorsuch brought back, the crew of hunters agreed that they would hunt the "old-fashioned way."

For Gorsuch's team, this meant three would go hunting in a row boat—a driver, a spotter and a trapper. The others stayed behind on a pontoon boat, waiting for a whistle to signal a catch. In the row boat, the middle man would spotlight the gator, and once they pulled along side it, the trapper would harpoon the animal with a detachable gig—the two-inch-long metal

gig is attached to a two-foot steel cable leader and 100 feet of rope. Gorsuch says once the gig is lodged in the back of the gator and detaches from the harpoon, "It's kinda like fishing."

"We let out the rope and (the gator) heads for the deep water to sit, but it has to come up to breathe every 15 minutes," Gorsuch said. The

trapper has to manually hold the gig line and maintain control of the boat until the animal gets so tired that the hunters are able to pull it up next to them. Then the trapper shoots it with a bangstick—a harpoon-like weapon which is spring-loaded and fires a .357 cartridge. "It only goes off if you slam it into something," he said.

"You try to break the brain stem and sever the spinal cord in the same shot.

"And we're talking about an animal with a brain the size of a walnut," he added.

The group left for Florida on Aug. 30, with their harvest period slated for a half-hour before sunset Sept. 1 through midnight Sept. 15.

*"It was like Jaws meets Jurassic park. It was the most fun I've ever had being scared."*

—SFC Mitch Gorsuch

On the first night of the hunt, Gorsuch's friend Jim Wright got the first gator within three hours. It measured 7-feet, 3-inches. "The school said the average size was 6-foot, so we were thrilled to beat that first thing," Gorsuch said. Wright and one of Gorsuch's uncles, Jack Loudermilk, took the alligator ashore to ice it down; this needs to be done within four hours.

The others decided to keep hunting, which allowed Gorsuch's other uncle, Jim Loudermilk, to catch the second alligator; it also measured 7-foot, 3-inches. He joined the two others on land to take care of his catch.

By this time, the three who remained were pretty pumped, so they decided to make the third attempt of the night. It was 4:30 a.m., and Gorsuch's turn to hunt. Friends Tom Brown and Don Neubig completed the crew.

They were out less than five minutes when Gorsuch spotted his prey.

"Once I hooked into him, he flipped back toward the boat—knocking me into Tom," he said. "All I could think was 'Man, oh man, we're not messing with this guy.'"

They began trolling behind their quarry, getting turned around several times by the prehistoric predator. Seeing that this alligator was bigger than the first two, Tom jumped out of the row boat to get the big boat. After what seemed an eternity, they wore the gator out enough to attempt to use the bangstick, but not before it did some damage—biting and denting the pontoon boat during its fight for life.

Gorsuch explained that while the school house method is to snare the snout first, then shoot with the bangstick, they did the reverse. "But with the way this guy handled, we agreed: 'Just shoot him.'" They still lassooed the snout, but not until after the gator was shot. "Never assume an alligator is dead," he asserted.



Courtesy photo.

**SFC Mitch Gorsuch's friend Tom Brown snared the trophy gator, which measured 12-foot, 1-inch and weighed about 850 pounds. Brown pretends the reptile is biting his leg as Gorsuch stands by.**

Gorsuch's gator measured 11-feet and weighed between 350 and 400 pounds.

"Now we knew there were big ones out there, so we started taking our time," Gorsuch said. "We didn't mess with any (gators) unless they were 10 feet long."

Even with their willingness to wait for a trophy catch, it only took three more days to complete their hunt. On the third night, Jack Loudermilk snared a 12-foot, 650 pound gator, and the following night, saving the best for last, Brown caught one that measured 12-foot, 1-inch and weighed about 850 pounds.

"And we were never more than 1,000 yards from our boat dock," Gorsuch marveled.

All five of the reptiles were sent to an alligator farm to be processed and skinned. After a two-day turnaround, the group picked up their skins and loaded them in a rented U-Haul to keep frozen during the return trip. Back home by Sept. 9, the first stop was to a

## WHY HUNT GATORS?

Alligator hunters contribute to the preservation of the species and help in a small way to slow development in Florida.

"The statewide alligator harvest is designed to make it profitable for the state to have alligators in it," said Henry Cabbage, a spokesman for the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission.

"It'll never be as profitable as filling up Florida with condominiums, but we hope to keep some of it in its natural state."

Florida has an estimated 1 million adult alligators, Cabbage said.

The annual hunt began in Gainesville in 1985 and has expanded as the gator population grew and spread geographically.

"The population of alligators is such that every place with suitable habitat has a gator living in it," Cabbage said.

—Reprinted from *The Columbus Dispatch*.

taxidermist at Buckeye Lake. All five were willing to pay several hundred dollars and wait more than a few months to earn their final prize—a tanned alligator hide.

Though it may be too big, weighing about 115 pounds, Gorsuch wants to display the hide on his living room wall. "I'm single. I can get away with it," Gorsuch chuckled. "Its all the other guys that are going to have a problem. My aunts already said 'No.'" ■

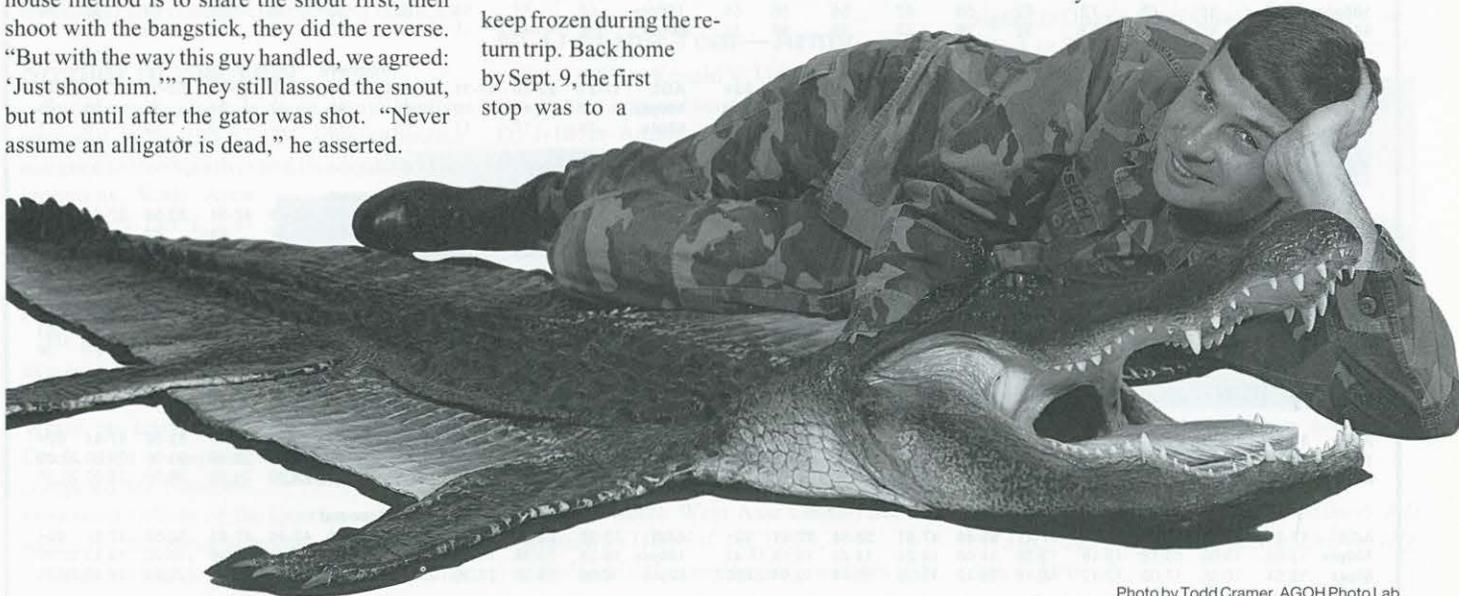


Photo by Todd Cramer, AGOH Photo Lab.

# APFT gets revamped

Story by Spc. Steve Toth  
HQ STARC

Because the physical performance gap between the sexes apparently is closing, soldiers in the Ohio Army National Guard now will have to train to a higher physical fitness standard. All members of the active Army and its reserve components face a revamped, more challenging Army Physical Fitness Test which goes into effect later this year.

Minimum standards to pass the push-ups, sit-ups and two-mile run categories will be the same or higher than the present PT standards. A big difference will see an identical standard for both males and females in the sit-up event for the first time.

In addition, it now will be slightly easier to reach the maximum score in each event, as those standards have been lowered. The PT badge will be awarded to soldiers who achieve 90 points or higher in each event for a total of 270. Previously, a soldier's total score had to be at least 290.

All but the youngest age groups must run faster minimum times in the two-mile run. Also, three new

age groups have been created for soldiers age 52 and older. The groups will be 52-56, 57-61 and 62 plus.

"There were a lot of different reasons for the new standards. Things have changed since the last PT standards came out, back in 1988, especially with women," said Sgt. 1st Class Jennifer (Reynolds) Cuevas, a member of the Ohio Army Guard for more than 10 years who currently is serving as a National Guard liaison with the Infantry Training Brigade at Fort Benning, Ga. From 1993-1996, Cuevas worked at the United States Army Physical Fitness School located at Fort Benning.

The Physical Fitness School and other entities conducted a study during the past five years of 2,588 soldiers at 12 different Army posts, using the current APFT standards, and it was determined that a change was necessary to accommodate the modern soldier. In some areas, the standards for the new APFT have toughened. Female standards have become more difficult, in general. This reflects the fact that women are considered more physically fit than they were 10 years ago.

"Women weren't as active in sports and athletics as they are

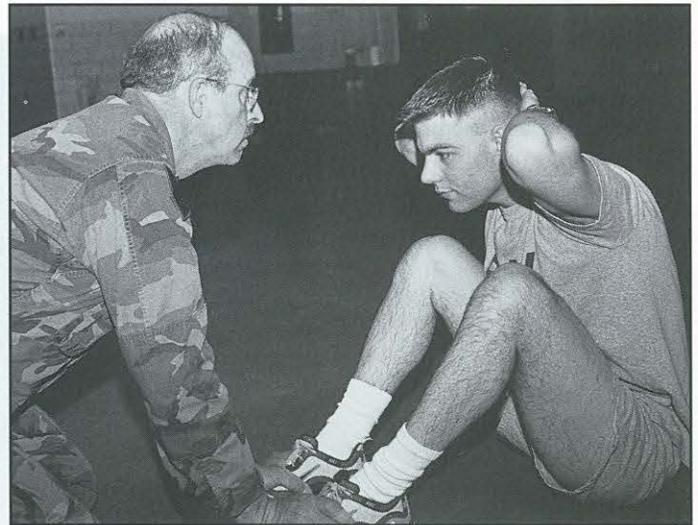


Photo by SSG Diane Farrow, HQ STARC.

**The most significant change of the Army's new physical fitness test is that it requires male and female soldiers to meet the same standards for sit-ups.**

now," Cuevas said. "Women have come a long way in sports since then. (The study) determined that women are more physically fit now, and can do more."

Probably the most significant change is that male and female soldiers are on equal ground—when on their backs doing sit-ups.

"Men and women are equal (in abdominal strength)," Cuevas said. "That's what we want in our soldiers. There should be no change (in sit-up standards) because our ab-

dominal muscles are the same. The test now is a lot more challenging. But Army people always rise to the challenge. There may not be as many 300s, but we're going to be training to a better standard."

The new standards will take effect Oct. 1. Until then, soldiers will be evaluated according to the current standards, but will receive two scores for comparison—one showing the current and the other the new standards. ■

## MALE

### PUSH-UPS

AGE	Current									
	17-21	22-26	27-31	32-36	37-41	42-46	47-51	52-56	57-61	62+
100pts	82	80	78	73	72	66	62	56	56	56
60pts	42	40	38	33	32	26	22	16	16	16

AGE	Proposed									
	17-21	22-26	27-31	32-36	37-41	42-46	47-51	52-56	57-61	62+
100pts	71	75	77	75	73	66	59	56	53	50
60pts	42	40	39	36	34	30	25	20	18	16

### SIT-UPS

AGE	Current									
	17-21	22-26	27-31	32-36	37-41	42-46	47-51	52-56	57-61	62+
100pts	92	87	82	78	73	69	67	66	66	66
60pts	52	47	42	38	33	29	27	26	26	26

AGE	Proposed									
	17-21	22-26	27-31	32-36	37-41	42-46	47-51	52-56	57-61	62+
100pts	78	80	82	76	76	72	66	66	64	63
60pts	53	50	45	42	38	32	30	28	27	26

### 2-MILE RUN

AGE	Current									
	17-21	22-26	27-31	32-36	37-41	42-46	47-51	52-56	57-61	62+
100pts	11:54	12:36	13:18	14:00	14:42	15:06	15:36	16:00	16:00	16:00
60pts	15:54	16:36	17:18	18:00	18:42	19:06	19:36	20:00	20:00	20:00

AGE	Proposed									
	17-21	22-26	27-31	32-36	37-41	42-46	47-51	52-56	57-61	62+
100pts	13:00	13:00	13:18	13:18	13:36	14:06	14:24	14:42	15:18	15:42
60pts	15:54	16:36	17:00	17:42	18:18	18:42	19:30	19:48	19:54	20:00

## FEMALE

### PUSH-UPS

AGE	Current									
	17-21	22-26	27-31	32-36	37-41	42-46	47-51	52-56	57-61	62+
100pts	58	56	54	52	48	45	41	40	40	40
60pts	18	16	15	14	13	12	10	9	9	9

AGE	Proposed									
	17-21	22-26	27-31	32-36	37-41	42-46	47-51	52-56	57-61	62+
100pts	42	46	50	45	40	37	34	31	28	25
60pts	19	17	17	15	13	12	10	9	8	7

### SIT-UPS

AGE	Current									
	17-21	22-26	27-31	32-36	37-41	42-46	47-51	52-56	57-61	62+
100pts	90	85	80	75	70	67	64	62	62	62
60pts	50	45	40	35	30	27	24	22	22	22

AGE	Proposed									
	17-21	22-26	27-31	32-36	37-41	42-46	47-51	52-56	57-61	62+
100pts	78	80	82	76	76	72	66	66	64	63
60pts	53	50	45	42	38	32	30	28	27	26

### 2-MILE RUN

AGE	Current									
	17-21	22-26	27-31	32-36	37-41	42-46	47-51	52-56	57-61	62+
100pts	14:54	15:36	17:00	18:36	19:36	20:00	20:30	21:00	21:00	21:00
60pts	18:54	19:36	21:00	22:36	23:36	24:00	24:30	25:00	25:00	25:00

AGE	Proposed									
	17-21	22-26	27-31	32-36	37-41	42-46	47-51	52-56	57-61	62+
100pts	15:36	15:36	15:48	15:54	17:00	17:24	17:36	19:00	19:42	20:00
60pts	18:54	19:36	20:30	21:42	22:42	23:42	24:00	24:24	24:48	25:00

# Ohio Guard announces 'Best of 1997'

Each year, both the Air and Army National Guard select individuals who are recognized as being above the rest at state level.

Traditionally, the Air Guard selects an airman, a noncommissioned officer and a senior NCO, while the Army selects a soldier and a NCO. For 1997, the Army Guard also selected an Active Guard/Reserve NCO of the Year.

## Airman of the Year

Senior Airman Seth T. Carmody is an armament systems journeyman with the 180th Fighter Wing in Swanton. He is assigned to the weapons load element as a certified combat load crewmember.

In 1992, Carmody enlisted in the Ohio Air National Guard and attended technical training at Lowry Air Force Base, Colo., where he received



**Carmody**

the academic honor graduate award. His other honors include: Outstanding Weapons Load Crew of the Year 1995 and 1996, and the 9th Air Force Inspector General's Team Superior Performer (Operational Readiness Inspection Award 1995).

Carmody currently attends the University of Toledo and expects to graduate in May 1998 with a bachelor's degree in engineering. He spends much of his free time volunteering for the Lucas County Northwest Ohio Special Olympics program and with the Sunshine Children's Home. He also volunteers as a certified Emergency Medical Technician with the Springfield Township Fire and Rescue Department. Carmody owns and operates his own residential and commercial painting business.

## Soldier of the Year

Spc. Jerry L. Orick Jr. is an administrative specialist in the HQ STARC training branch assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, State Area Command (-Det. 1, 2, 4-8) in Columbus. Orick has been with the unit since May 1996.

He previously served as a cavalry scout in the U.S. Army for four years. While on active duty, Orick, then a corporal, competed for Noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter and was selected for that honor at troop level.



**Orick**

Orick is a high school graduate and currently

attends Ohio State University as a full-time student, pursuing a master's degree in special education. Jerry lives in Columbus, where he works full-time as a night manager for a convenience store chain. During the summer, he also works part-time for a lawn care service.

## NCO of the Year—Air

Master Sgt. Stephen M. Oliver is a satellite communication technician with the 251st Combat Communications Group Headquarters in Springfield.

Oliver began his enlistment with the Ohio Air National Guard in 1981. He attended the Defense Language Institute, Foreign Language Center at the Presidio of Monterey, Calif., where he graduated first in his class for proficiency in the Arabic Language Course as an airborne cryptolinguist. Oliver was stationed at Helenicon Air Base, Greece, and then Langley Air Force Base, Va., where he worked in the 1st Tactical Fighter Wing aerospace ground equipment shop. While at Langley, Oliver served as an interpreter for the wing on deployments to the Middle East and as the base honor guard commander until he resigned from active duty in 1985.

Oliver joined the Virginia National Guard in 1985 and transferred to the Ohio National Guard in 1989. Oliver has been a member of the 251st CCG since 1993, and he currently serves in the logistics and operations division. He resides in New Carlisle with his wife and three children, and is active with the Clark County Foster Care Program.



**Oliver**

## NCO of the Year—Army

Sgt. 1st Class Ronald V. Urkuski is assigned as a platoon sergeant master gunner at Company D, 1-107th Armor Battalion, 37th Armored Brigade. Urkuski has been with the Cleveland unit since 1994.

He is a high school graduate and is currently working toward his associate's degree through Vincennes University. His military career led him to serve in the following campaigns: Defense of Saudi Arabia, Liberation; Defense of Kuwait, South West Asia Cease-Fire; and Operation INTRINSIC ACTION.

He lives in Huntington, Ind., with his wife,



**Urkuski**

Kristi, and daughter, Patricia. Urkuski works for the United States Postal Service and enjoys fly-fishing and bowling in his spare time.

## Senior NCO of the Year—Air

Master Sgt. Kathleen M. Cyphert is the assistant noncommissioned officer in charge of the air terminal operations center with the 179th Airlift Wing in Mansfield. She is also the site administration/lead facilitator for the unit's satellite NCO academy as well as a flight chief and instructor for the Ohio Airman Leadership School.



**Cyphert**

Having enlisted with the Air Guard in 1983, Cyphert has been assigned to the 179th Aerial Port Squadron her entire military career. She has volunteered for many temporary duty assignments, to include support of DESERT SHIELD/STORM and humanitarian airlift efforts to Somalia. She is responsible for organizing a base-wide bone marrow donor-testing program supported by the Department of Defense.

She attended Ohio State University and Ashland University, receiving a bachelor's degree in home economics, cum laude, in 1988. She actively volunteers at the Domestic Violence Shelter, where she teaches budgeting, stress management, decision-making, goal setting and time management to at-risk women. She resides in Mansfield with her husband, Michael, and their son, John.

## AGR NCO of the Year—Army

Sgt. 1st Class Rodney L. Reuhrmund is assigned to Ohio's Army Guard Recruiting Command, or State Area Command, Detachment 4. He is a full-time recruiter for the Marion Recruiting Office, where he has worked since 1996.

Reuhrmund was formerly assigned to A Battery, 1-134th Field Artillery, also in Marion. He is a high school graduate and is currently working toward a bachelor's degree in business at Ohio State University. He currently lives in Edison, Ohio, and enjoys fishing and all sports in his free time.



**Reuhrmund**

*Compiled by 1st Sgt. Tonya Minor, HQ STARC, and Staff Sgt. Shannon Scherer, HQ, Ohio ANG.*



1

# Home at Last!

5694th fire fighters return from Bosnia



2

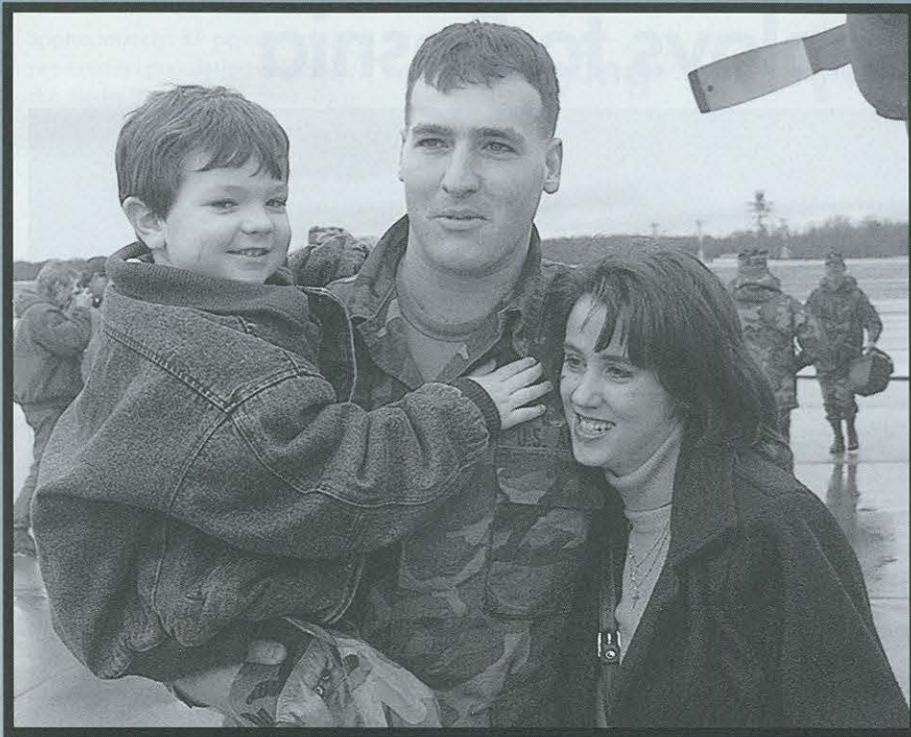


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1. A C-130 from the 179th Airlift Wing flew the 5694th on the final leg of its journey home. 2. Crowds converged on the flight line as soldiers exited the aircraft. 3. SPC Nathan Berry sweeps wife Michelle off her feet upon his return home. 4. Three-year-old Stephanie, daughter of SPC Timothy Vinson, patiently waits for her father's return. 5. SPC Jeremy Caudill holds wife Jennifer and son Dylan close after a seven-month separation. 6. PFC Mark Schooling cradles Travis, his 2-week-old nephew. 7. CPL Bradley Duff is reunited with his wife Kerry, a staff sergeant with the 179th Airlift Wing. 8. Assistant AG for Army BG Steve Martin, State CSM Mike Howley, Mansfield Mayor Lydia Reid and Ohio Adjutant General Richard Alexander help welcome the Mansfield unit home.



4



5



6

By Staff Sgt. Diane Farrow  
HQ STARC

**G**ray clouds and intermittent rain couldn't dampen the spirits of the friends and family waiting at the Mansfield-Lahm flight line for the return of the 5694th Firefighting Detachment. The 26-member unit spent seven months in Bosnia-Herzegovina supporting Operation JOINT GUARD, the NATO-led peacekeeping effort in the region. The unit returned home Feb. 20.

As the plane began its descent, unit members appeared pretty preoccupied according to Staff Sgt. Linda Young, unit administrator for the fire fighters, but all were anxious for the C-130 to land.

"Some were listening to headphones, some looking at their watches and others looking out the windows," Young said. "One young soldier sitting across from me kept fidgeting in his seat—he reminded me of my son on the day before his birthday."

The excitement wasn't quite so contained among the crowd waiting on the air strip. As soon as the first soldier stepped onto the tarmac, husbands, wives and children rushed forward to greet their loved ones with open arms.

Ohio Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander and Mansfield Mayor Lydia Reid also welcomed back the troops, with the mayor summing up the sentiment of the day with one simple phrase: "Everyone is delighted to have you home again."

The 5694th is one of six Ohio Guard units to participate in Operation JOINT GUARD. Others include the 838th Military Police Company, Youngstown; 74th Movement Control Team, Columbus; 121st Air Refueling Wing, Columbus; the 179th Airlift Wing, Mansfield; and, most recently, the 196th Public Affair Detachment, Columbus, which deployed Jan. 25 (see pages 12-13).

*Photos by Senior Master Sgt. Larry Wilson, 179th Airlift Wing.*



7



8

# 196th MPAD deploys to Bosnia

By Staff Sgt. Jack McNeely  
196th Mobile Public Affairs Det.

**T**hey come from all walks of life. Medical technician. Factory worker. U.S. postal employee. Pre-school teacher. College student. Small business owner.

But for six months members of the 196th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment are trained soldiers responsible for telling the U.S. Army story during Operation JOINT GUARD—the ongoing peacekeeping mission in Bosnia.

Three teams consisting of print journalists and broadcasters are deployed throughout the mine-laden Balkan countryside in search of storytelling American soldiers who can paint a first-hand picture of the peace keeping mission for taxpaying citizens back home in the States. They also supply individual feature and personality stories for the *Talon*—an Army publication for soldiers serving in and around Tuzla, Bosnia.

## Preparing to Deploy...

“Like any active duty deployment, units must be technically and tactically proficient,” says Maj. Robert Johnson, commander of the detachment, which features National Guard members from Ohio, West Virginia, Massachusetts and California.

“Our mission at Fort Benning, therefore, was two-fold: to prepare for field situations we would likely face while in Bosnia and to train on MOS-specific skills. You must remember, many of our unit members are photojournalists and broadcasters only during monthly drills,” explains Johnson, an experienced newspaperman for Gannett publications.

The public affairs specialists arrived at Fort Benning on Sunday, Jan. 25. They deployed Saturday, Feb. 7, to Bosnia. The overseas deployment is scheduled to end between August and October.

While at Fort Benning, the citizen-soldiers performed situational training exercises, which introduced



Photo by OC Jodie McFee, DDR Office.

**ABOVE:** Shaina, daughter of SSG Jack McNeely, clings to her father before he leaves for nine months in Bosnia. McNeely, a member of the West Virginia National Guard, is a print journalist assigned to the 196th MPAD. **RIGHT:** SGT Bob Alderson poses with wife Roxanne prior to deployment.

them to Bosnia field requirements such as patrols, personnel and vehicle searches, guard checkpoints, first aid, mine eradication and working with civilian media.

Master Sgt. Robert Jennings, first sergeant for the 196th MPAD, praised his unit's tactical proficiency while at Fort Benning. “We have earned several accolades for our military readiness” from the staff of the CONUS Replacement Center. “We successfully completed our lanes training, which included reacting to sniper fire, indirect fire, civilians on the battlefield and minefields.”

After two weeks of classroom studies, field training and MOS workshops, the public affairs specialists were both excited and eager to get to Bosnia. They first took a chartered flight to Ramstein Air Base, Germany, donned in their battle dress uniforms and accompanied by their M-16A2 rifles. A

short flight to Taszar, Hungary, was followed by a 12-hour bus ride over rugged terrain en route to Bosnia—commonly referred to as “The Box,” due to its hazardous duty status.

## The Box...

It is estimated that over one million land mines still pepper the varying landscapes of Bosnia, which is roughly two-thirds the size of the Buckeye State. Perspectively, there are still approximately 140 undetected land mines per square mile in the former Yugoslavian territory.

“Bosnia is commonly called the land of the three-legged dog. We are told there are many ‘tripods’ running around over here,” explains Johnson, who is serious when it comes to the safety of his troops. “If you’re not on the hardtop (road), you’re wrong. That’s what we are emphasizing.”



Courtesy photo.

## A War-Torn Country...

The current civil war pits Serbs, Croats and Muslims against one another due primarily to their religious beliefs. The fighting is nothing new to the region as religious factions initiated their bitter conflicts over 1,000 years ago.

Bosnia and Herzegovina voted to secede from the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in April 1992, in a referendum boycotted by the Bosnian Serbs. Comprising

approximately 33 percent of the pre-conflict population of Bosnia, the Serbs proclaimed their own "Republika Srpska" (Serb Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina).

Bosnian Croats, comprising 17 percent of the population, subsequently organized themselves as the Croat Community of Hercegovina and contested control of territory among the Serbs and Bosnian Muslims.

With 44 percent of the people, the Bosnian Muslims are represented by—and are dominate in—the recognized government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Vicious fighting, shifting alliances, widespread atrocities and the techniques of "ethnic cleansing" have combined to make hundreds of thousands of casualties, and millions of refugees and displaced persons.

In the summer of 1992, United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) II was established within Bosnia to guarantee the delivery of relief supplies, among other humanitarian and peacekeeping duties.

With the initialing of the Dayton Peace Accords in November 1995, the Bosnian Federation (the Bosnian Government and Bosnian Croat alliance) came to control slightly more than half the territory of Bosnia, with the Bosnian Serbs holding the balance.

### Bosnia Today...

While in Bosnia, members of the 196th will face a climate similar to that of West Virginia, with its rugged but beautiful Appalachian mountain ranges. The Bosnian winters feature temperatures from 10 to 30 degrees Fahrenheit and continuous snow and rainfall. Fog is commonplace during 227 days of the year.

"As you can imagine, providing peace in the midst of a civil war will be a demanding challenge coupled with unlimited mine fields and poor weather conditions," reasons Johnson. "Our goal in Bosnia is to successfully complete our mission, provide our citizen-soldiers with invaluable MOS training and, most important, return home safely." ■

## Deploying overseas: one soldier's story

Story by Master Sgt. Robert Jennings  
196th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

**S**hock. Disbelief. Anxiety. Acceptance. Excitement. Spc. Robin Sampson has gripped the reigns of a non-stop emotional rollercoaster for the past nine months. That's because last spring, the 24-year-old college student learned her new-found Ohio National Guard unit was selected to support the United Nations' peacekeeping efforts in war-torn Bosnia.

"We had a lot of time to think about Bosnia but I like it that way," Sampson said of the nine months between the unit's call-up and actual mobilization.

"For a while there, I felt better when I knew it (deployment) was so far off. But when November rolled around, I had to get serious about relationships and making future decisions," she added.

Sampson's unit, the 196th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, began its 270-day rotation in the former Yugoslavia in late January. The 18-member MPAD, headquartered in Columbus with a detachment in West Virginia, is tasked with telling the Army story through command information, public information and community relations.

As fate would have it, though, it was a series of carefully considered decisions Sampson—a former member of the 416th Engineer Group in Walbridge and a military-trained supply specialist—made early last year that launched her into the mobilization spotlight.

The Kent State senior had been in the Guard for nearly four years and was looking for a new challenge. "I wanted a military position that would complement my public relations major," Sampson said.

Fifty miles south of her home lay the answer to Sampson's dream. The MPAD had an opening and the eager specialist zeroed in. What could be sweeter—the unit's mission mirrored her educational emphasis. "I remember wanting to join the 196th so bad," she said.

But the odds seemed stacked against her. Sampson learned that the only position available was unit clerk. This forced her to make a critical choice: become a clerk and lose her bonus—in hopes that attrition would make available one of the coveted journalist slots in the future—or find

another unit that would allow the specialist to keep the enlistment incentive.

"I remember considering a position with the Regional Training Institute which is located across the street from the MPAD," Sampson recalls. RTI's manning table offered the talented Sampson an opportunity to keep her bonus and the flexibility to use her communication skills as the unit's public affairs representative.

But the determined young soldier decided—against conventional wisdom—to forfeit her bonus, drive the additional miles and take a chance with the public affairs unit. "The irony is, had I stayed with the 416th, joined the RTI or found another unit, I would not be going to Bosnia," she states.

On the other hand, Sgt. 1st Class Darlene Schultz, the MPAD's full-time readiness NCO couldn't be happier with

Sampson's ultimate decision. "Spc. Sampson will provide a valuable support role during our deployment," Schultz said. "Her administrative skills and her educational background will be relied on heavily," she added.

Sampson agrees that a U.S. military presence is needed in the ravaged region, but still wrestles with the thought of putting her civilian life on hold for the better part of a year. "It's hard for me in a different way from a person who has a spouse and children. My life is just starting," she reasons. "I'm in a three-year relationship that could lead to marriage, I need just two classes to graduate and I'm trying to get a career started. Besides, I had to worry about things like moving out of my apartment, selling my car and where to live when I get back."

As a freshman, money for college is what attracted the fledgling student to the Guard five years ago. Sampson's father, a 15-year former Ohio Guardsman himself, also urged her to join and take advantage of the opportunities available. "My dad spoke highly of the Army National Guard and was very proud when I joined," Sampson recalls.

Sampson has no regrets about joining the Guard or changing units and now sees this deployment as an opportunity to develop her public relations skills and possibly travel throughout Europe.

Sampson advises other deploying soldiers, "Don't make nine months out to be nine years. It's only a blip in your life and before you know it, it will be over." ■



Photo by SSG Jack McNeely, 196th MPAD.

### Sampson prepares for a nine-month tour in Bosnia.

## Seven keys to a well-run organization: Total Army Quality Performance Improvement Criteria

**1. Leadership**—focuses on the personal leadership and involvement of the organization's senior leaders in creating and sustaining a culture of continuous performance improvement. Senior leaders demonstrate their commitment to quality principles through their personal involvement in education and training.

**2. Information and Analysis**—focuses on the effective management and use of data to drive performance excellence in Army organizations. In simplest terms, this category is the "brain center" for the alignment and integration of a system for driving continuous performance improvement.

**3. Strategic Planning**—includes both the planning process used by the organization, and the long-term and short-term plans it produces, keying on mission performance, resource allocation requirements and performance improvement goals.

**4. Human Resource Development and Management**—focuses on the effective management and development of the Army's most important resources—*its people*. It looks at the key elements of how each organization's members are developed and empowered to their full potential to achieve the Army's operational and performance improvement objectives, while making efforts to build and maintain an environment for trust, teamwork and performance excellence.

**5. Process Management**—looks at the processes used to consistently deliver high levels of operational performance, from the design and introduction of new processes to the continuous improvement of existing processes for all individuals, teams and key suppliers.

**6. Business Results**—calls for reporting performance levels and trends for key products and services, focusing on each organization's success in improving operations and overall mission performance.

**7. Customer Focus and Satisfaction**—covers the interface between the organization and those outside organizations or individuals it supports. Customers might be units or commanders the organization provides with combat support or combat service support, weapons systems or other products and services.

# The Quality

## Constant improvement, total focus process focus for

Story by Spc. Steve Toth  
HQ STARC

In business, traditional leadership style generally prevents employees from working with management to improve processes. A leader makes decisions, and subordinate employees are to carry them out without question or offering alternatives.

However, within the last 10 years there has been a conscious effort by top level management to include more people in the decision-making process, as companies are faced with corporate downsizing and the need to maximize results with available resources.

Total quality management, or TQM, is based on the concept that every company strives to perform well in a competitive market, and to continually improve on that performance.

With this new philosophy which realizes an organization changes through collective efforts, comes the recognition that quality results in increased productivity, decreased costs and the ability to do more with less—an important factor in the face of today's downsizing military.

Both the Army and Air Force have been engaged in the process of implementing TQM into their structures over the last few years. TQM has been introduced to the Ohio Army National Guard as well.

The Army has developed the Total Army Quality, or TAQ, Performance Improvement Criteria and the Air Force has developed the Quality Air Force System, or QAF. Both concepts are adopted from the seven major criteria categories of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, presented annually to superiorly-run U.S. businesses (see sidebar).

The concept of quality management, also known as participative management, has been around for centuries—from kings and presidents using their advisers to the smallest company holding a daily staff meeting.

This participative leadership—listening to what subordinates think about an issue and what they feel should be done—starts from the very top down.

Top management leads the improvement process, but each individual must commit to and participate in the effort. Getting as many people involved who have varying ideas about a subject is key to the successful implementation of TQM.

"The more people who get involved in planning and developing, the more they feel a part of the organization," said Lt. Col. Jack G. Richards, state quality advisor. "It's basically a process by which people work together, and everybody gets to contribute."

A misconception is that TQM strips leaders of their decision-making authority.

"You don't lose power—you gain it," Richards said. "The commander is still in charge and he makes all the final decisions, but *after* he hears different opinions.

"Leadership has to learn how to take advantage of all the assets around them. Our National Guard is a shrinking organization—we have to do more with fewer resources."

How does the seemingly abstract concept of TQM apply to everyday situations in the military?

Consider an actual scenario that fell before state Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander just last year. A noncommissioned officer with nearly 20 years of service in the

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*"Today's leaders of the 21st century are going to be leaders who have a broader vision of what's out there, and take advantage of all the assets around them."*

— Lt. Col. Jack G. Richards  
state quality advisor

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# ty Issue:

## ce involvement in management downsized Guard

Ohio Army National Guard had written a letter to the general that required careful thinking as to its response. In his civilian role, the NCO worked with the juvenile court system in a large metropolitan area in Ohio.

The NCO requested Alexander's input on the issue of whether minors who had committed a felony (not resulting in a victim's death) before age 18 could still be eligible for military indoctrination, even though a clean police record normally is required for service. The NCO suggested that by allowing a troubled teenager who may have made just one mistake to still enter military service would help to further rehabilitate him or her and provide service back to the community.

"There is a challenge and an opportunity here sir, that may determine whether or not our children have another choice in life or not. As it stands now sir, they do not, and we as a state, country and community lose," the letter read.

He handed the letter over to the M-Day members of the general staff for the command group—Capt. John Stinnett, 1st Lt. Dan Shank, Staff Sgt. Ed Elfrink and Spc. Curtis Luckett—and asked them to collectively decide how the matter should be handled.

"The first thing we did was brainstorm—throw out some ideas," Stinnett said. "The letter brought up some issues that required some more research. We called the JAG (Judge Advocate General) to look up the regulation, and called recruiting.

"When we had a consensus, (Alexander) told us to come into his office, and we role-played.

One of us played the soldier who wrote the



letter, and another played the AG. It was a great learning experience."

Members of the general staff appreciated the interest the adjutant general expressed in their thoughts on the matter.

"He didn't push us, he didn't tell us how he wanted it done. He let us get our ideas out," Luckett said. "You're never looked down upon because of rank. It's good to be asked 'How would you handle this?'"

The Total Army Quality Performance Improvement Criteria are the framework for improving Army-wide operations and performance. Using these criteria will help serve as a working tool for planning, assessment and training; raise performance expectations and standards; and facilitate communication and sharing so every member of the organization knows where it is heading and what the key operational and performance improvement goals are.

The Ohio Army National Guard's efforts to implement Total Quality Management throughout its units depends greatly on every soldier becoming involved and knowledgeable about the concepts involved. Several courses on quality management issues for both individuals and units are currently offered through the 145th Regiment, Regional Training Institute, located at Rickenbacker Airport, Columbus. Courses are open to both full-time and traditional soldiers.

"Today's leaders of the 21st century are going to be leaders who have a broader vision of what's out there, and take advantage of all the assets around them," Richards said. "(Leaders) gain people's trust and respect when they ask for outside input." ■

## Get a 'quality' education through courses at RTI

**FTUS and M-Day Quality Awareness Classes.** Reviews the problem solving process, the quality improvement process, basics of meeting management, basic facilitation, time management, task prioritization and methods for setting attainable goals. Any full-time member of the National Guard may attend the four-day FTUS (Full Time Unit Support) class; this includes AGR, GS, WG or civilian personnel. The M-Day Quality Awareness Class offers traditional guardmembers the same opportunity for learning, but during a two-day intensive session on IDT status.

**Meeting Management Class.** Offers M-Day soldiers a variety of tools that will assist them in designing and conducting more efficient meetings. The course will discuss group dynamics and interaction, conflict management, contracting, basic facilitator skills and will provide the tools necessary for a successful meeting. This class is conducted over one weekend and requires attendees to be graduates of the basic quality awareness course.

**Facilitator Class.** Subjects covered include the problem solving process, the quality improvement process, meeting management, facilitation skills, time management, task prioritization, methods for setting attainable objectives, idea generation and an overview of the Army Performance Improvement Criteria. This five-day course is available to M-Day soldiers and full-time employees of the Ohio Army National Guard who have graduated the basic quality awareness course.

**Unit Advisor Class.** Unit advisors assist commanders at the unit level as well as directorates and department heads by training personnel within their organizations to fill an additional duty. Personnel completing this course will be able to manage and facilitate unit/department meetings; teach and advise upon the use of quality tools such as flowcharting, pareto and histograms. Individuals planning to attend this course must be selected by their commander/directorate to be the organization's Quality Subject Matter Expert. This is a two-week course, with students required to work through the weekend.

**First Line Leader Training.** A four-hour block of instruction required of all leaders, meaning all officers as well as enlisted soldiers assigned to a sergeant's duty position. The class teaches military leaders the skills of "taking care of soldiers," focusing on effective team building, giving positive recognition, insight into motivation, attrition management and a variety of other influencing factors. This training is conducted by RTI personnel at Ohio Army National Guard training sites/armories at the unit's request.

*More information and class dates for FY98 can be obtained by calling the Regional Training Institute at (614) 492-3085.*

# Restoring the Wetlands

Story by Capt. William Giezie, 200th RED HORSE Squadron and Staff Sgt. Shannon Scherer, HQ, Ohio ANG

It's hard to imagine that preparing for war could also mean restoring an area of wetlands, but according to 1st Lt. Mike Hrynciw, 200th RHS environmental engineer, "this is some of the best training available."

The flatland of northwestern Ohio exists as a flood plain to Lake Erie and is known to many natives as the Black Swamp. During the 1800s, settlers recognized and used the fertile soil that resulted from thousands of years of organic material being deposited by Lake Erie.

Developing the area into useful agricultural land required the implementation of modern drainage engineering technology. Early settlers pioneered this science, developing techniques such as subsurface drainage systems, field tiling and ditching.

The same methods are still used to rapidly remove flood waters from the land into the adjacent natural drainage features. Though the agricultural use of the land-produced crops that fed an entire nation, it also had many serious side effects.

The installation of various drainage structures, combined with the removal of once dense vegetation, caused the erosion of topsoil, destroyed the natural habitat of many species and allowed down stream flooding in many areas.

In 1991, the 200th RED HORSE Squadron along with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, the Oak Harbor Conservation Club and many local community leaders joined to-

gether to restore a 300-acre farm into its previous condition as a wetland.

"This restoration has been very successful. In the 1920s, wood ducks were almost extinct," said Eric Hellman, Oak Harbor Conservation Club member. "Today they're the second most populated duck in this area after the mallard."

Hellman largely attributed the success of the project to the 200th RHS.

*"Without the efforts and commitment of the 200th this project would not be possible."*

Eric Hellman  
Oak Harbor Conservation Club

"Without the efforts and commitment of the 200th this project would not be possible."

The 200th RHS is an Ohio Air National Guard unit able to rapidly deploy heavy construction and engineering equipment and personnel. The unit is capable of deploying to remote locations across the globe to design, construct and repair Air Force installations.

Restoring the wetlands provides the members of the 200th RHS the opportunity to train on the unit's heavy equipment while performing a real world project that benefits the community and preserves the environment.

"Since I just got out of tech school, I feel this project provides us with great hands-on training," said Staff Sgt. Victor Conley, member of 200th RHS airfields section.

The project also gives unit members the chance to train on equipment not ordinarily used, allowing them to learn from mistakes not detrimental to the project.

"It's not like building a parking lot with certain specifications," Conley said. "If you mess up, it can be fixed."

Unit members train in teams of 20, working 8-hour shifts on three rotating weekends every month during the summer.

According to Hrynciw, restoring the wetlands pre-



Photo by SSgt. Shannon Scherer, HQ, OHANG

**A 200th dozer prepares to move earth and concrete to protect wetland area.**

pares 200th members for their wartime mission of levying and building earthen walls around lubricants, petroleum and missiles.

"This project involves everyone from engineers to airfields personnel to food service," Hrynciw said. "It provides hands-on training for everyone."

In order to convert the plan from drawings to an actual functioning wetlands area, the 200th RHS had to excavate a 10-acre deep water lagoon, haul the excavated soil, and grade and compact the material. In 1995, the 200th moved more than 15,000 cubic yards of dirt for the project (one dump truck holds 10 cubic yards). So far, this effort has resulted in the construction of more than 50 acres of earthen embankments, watersheds and storage lagoons.

"We hope to see the project completed by the year 2005," Hrynciw said. "Along the way we're learning our wartime mission and how to be good marsh managers."

As a result of these efforts, various animal species such as the bald eagle have returned to northwestern Ohio, the environment is being restored in many locations and the readiness skills of Ohio's RED HORSE Squadron are being prepared and enhanced for their "total force" worldwide mission. ■



Photo by SSgt. Shannon Scherer, HQ, OHANG

**SSgt. Forrest Swope (left) and TSgt. Greg Vogt conduct a maintenance inspection on a unit bulldozer.**



Photo by SFC Bob D. Mullins, HQ STARC.

**SGT John Murray, 324th MP Co., waves a truck in at an entrance gate at Fort Clayton, Panama.**

## 324th MPs in Panama

Story by Sgt. 1st Class Bob D. Mullins HQ STARC, OHARNG  
and  
Sgt. Pat Johnston 319th Mobile Public Affairs Det., USAR

Inspired by the historic Panama Canal, members of the Ohio Army National Guard's 324th Military Police Company, Middletown, recently performed their annual training at Fort Clayton, Panama.

Offered temporary relief from the Buckeye state's chilly winter weather, two 45-person rotations spent two weeks in the tropics this past January. And it wasn't hard to find volunteers from the 838th MPs, Youngstown, and the 323rd MPs, Toledo, to augment the Middletown unit.

The 324th performed military duty alongside its active duty counterparts, the 534th and 549th Military Police Companies. The Ohio soldiers worked closely with the Army MPs in their garrison law enforcement mission, which included conducting walking patrols and performing special operations.

The duties undertaken by the 324th proved to be just as diverse as the Ohio contingent of volunteer soldiers, which included Sgt. Robert Wingate.

Currently a section leader for military police investigations with the unit, Wingate was an active duty MP for 4 years prior to transitioning to the Guard. As a civilian, Wingate works as a corrections officer at a maximum security prison in Lebanon. "It's important to get away to a foreign post and learn new cultures," Wingate said. "It's an opportunity for some great training."

One of the cornerstones of training offered to Ohio's MPs was ensuring the security of Fort Clayton, primarily through security checks at the entrance gates. Though all of the MPs performed this duty routinely, it's Sgt. Rudy A. Santibenez of the 838th Military Police

Company that the locals will miss the most.

Said to have "the widest smile at Fort Clayton," Santibenez and his friendly demeanor won over people even when they were inconvenienced by random car checks, part of the National Guard military police officers' special duties while in Panama. "He's getting smiles from all of them," said Sgt. William Tungate, also of the 838th.

Flashing that infectious smile and hailing the drivers in either fluent Spanish or English toward the car checkpoint, any ill feelings felt by the occupants of the cars quickly fade away.

The officer in charge of the 324th, 1st Lt. Eugene Dragonette, had never met Santibenez before coming to Panama, but was glad to have him assigned to his unit because he was the only one who was fluent in both English and Spanish.

"Whenever we have a bi-lingual soldier come down here, they usually try to utilize them as

much as they can because they are a big help,” said Dragonette.

“The people (at Fort Clayton) appreciate us being there. We’re supporting them. We’re giving them protection and they like it,” said Santibenez.

Both novice and seasoned MPs consider their mission in Panama significant, in more ways than one.

“I enjoy MP work and believe that it’s important to augment and serve alongside active duty personnel,” said Pvt. Andrea M. Short, who recently attended basic training

and the Military Police School at Fort McClellan, Ala. Outside of the Guard, Short is employed as a therapeutic programmer for the Springfield Medical Center.

Staff Sgt. Diana Lynn Cloud, also of the 324th, agreed with the young soldier.

“Many... times we only practice the field aspects of our military police duties. Even though you do a little bit of paperwork, you never get the real world experience; especially being out of the country and seeing how ... to coordinate ... with the policies of the Canal Treaty,” added Cloud.

Always interested in learning experiences, Cloud arranged to go on “Charlie Patrol” after her regular shift was over. Riding with an active



Photo by SGT Pat Johnson, USAR.

**ABOVE: SSG Diana Cloud, 324th MP Co., stands in formation at the close of her unit’s deployment to Panama. RIGHT: SGT Rudy A. Santibenez, 838th MP Co., assists a youngster in need of a drink of water.**

duty MP and a Panamanian national police officer, Cloud was educated on the long-running, cooperative law enforcement training program between the U.S. military and Panamanian government. The patrols comb downtown Panama City in areas that are both on and off limits to U.S. military.

These eyes on the street help keep track of potential law enforcement problems as well as making the soldiers downtown feel more secure.

The second week of duty for the 324th was special operations. The squads performed random car checks for proper driver documents such as insurance, licenses and post authorization. One evening they searched all incoming and outgoing non-military vehicles for weapons and drugs using a canine team.

Cloud said that her squad found various contraband including machetes, clubs and a couple of guns.

According to Lt. Col. Don Carter, provost marshal at Fort Clayton, the contraband checkpoint carried out by the 324th was one of the most successful he’d witnessed in a long time.

Whether falling into the ranks to perform duty as individuals or moving entire companies, battalions or brigades for training or direct missions, the National Guard expects military professionalism in the performance of duty.

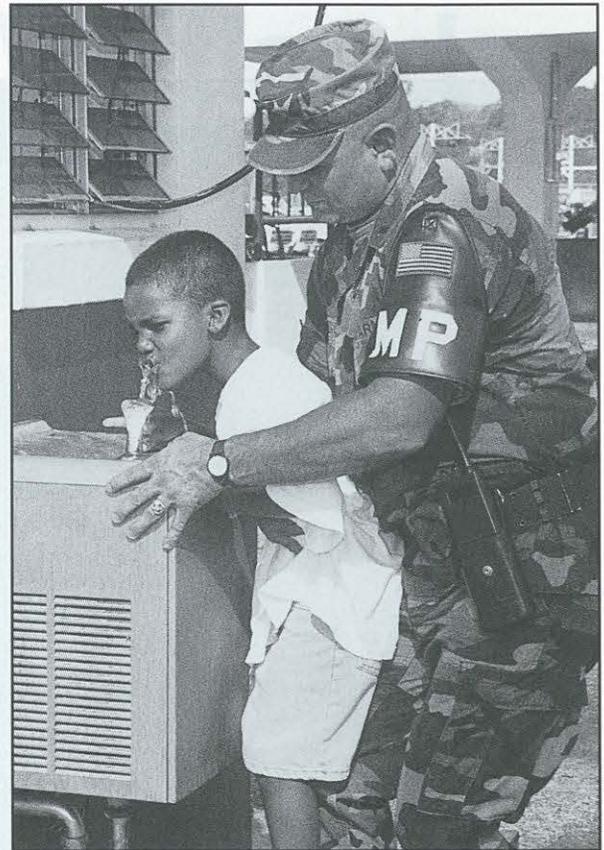


Photo by SFC Bob D. Mullins, HQ STARC.

“Our soldiers are able to conduct continual professional training here with our active duty partners in an atmosphere of great cooperation,” said 1st Lt. Rudolph Pringle, Jr., forward commander of the 324th.

“Our training and their preparation for us here at Fort Clayton has resulted in a smooth transition into this operation thanks to Master Sgt. Jeffrey Swanson, National Guard liaison, plus many others,” he added. Off-duty, Pringle is a corrections captain at the Pickaway Corrections Institute in Pickaway County. His civilian responsibilities include the supervision of 68 officers and 2,000 inmates.

Sgt. John Murray, a squad leader with the 324th, served 10 years on active duty as an MP—including Desert Storm duty—before becoming a guardsman. “In this atmosphere, each side gets a chance to learn from the other,” noted Murray, a policeman with the city of Cincinnati.

And it wasn’t only the MPs that were able to thrive in the active duty environment.

The unit’s food service section also received an excellent opportunity for training since the members were tasked to support the dining facility of Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 245th Area Support Battalion. It won the 1996 and 1997 Philip A. Connelly Award for excellence in Army Food Service, Large Dining Facility Category. The award is

*“The Guard soldiers are totally awesome—technically competent, tactically proficient—I would have them as part of our team for 365 days a year if they were available.”*

LTC Randall E. Tindall

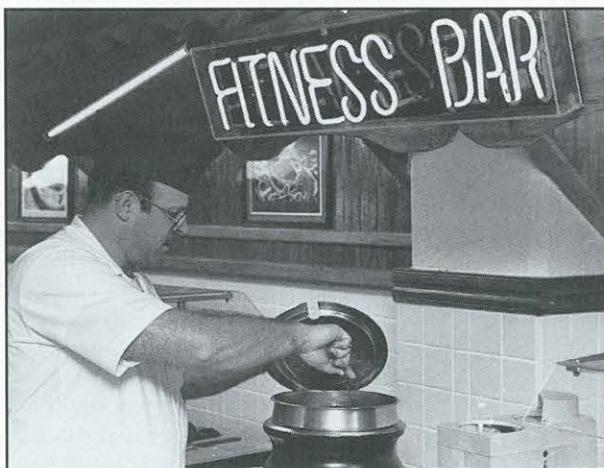


Photo by SFC Bob D. Mullins, HQ STARC.

**ABOVE: SFC Richard Dalton, 324th MP Co., stirs the soup du jour before the lunch crowd arrives.**

presented out by the International Association of Restaurants each year to only one dining facility in the entire Army.

According to Sgt. 1st Class Richard L. Dalton, a cook with the 324th, "Filling in the shifts and training at Fort Clayton is great, but nothing can top the type of experience which our cooks can achieve in this high standard environment.

"We appreciate the opportunity to upgrade our skills here," he added.

Serving overseas has become routine duty for the National Guard, with units currently serving in Bosnia, Haiti, Germany, Panama and many other countries throughout the world. Current total force policy has given the reserve components the mission of partner in protection of U.S. interests, both at home and abroad.

With the National Guard becoming more and more a global force, the type duty-oriented training at Fort Clayton has become a necessity

for both sides. Lt. Col. Randall E. Tindall, commander of Fort Clayton's 245th Support Battalion, has had the opportunity to work with many National Guard units. "The synchronization of the Ohio Guard soldiers into our law and order mission exemplifies what one team can accomplish," Tindall said.

"The Guard soldiers are totally awesome—technically competent, tactically proficient—I would have them as part of our team for 365 days a year if they were available," he said. "The Guard enhances our mission support and combat readiness by allowing our soldiers to focus and train on mission essential tasks."



Photo by SFC Bob D. Mullins, HQ STARC.

**SSG Michael Wiseman, 324th MP Co., checks photo IDs of people entering Fort Clayton.**

"The Ohio Guard and the 324th MPs are another military success story," Tindall asserted. "We look forward to their return." ■

## Mechanics support TEAMS during Panamanian deployment

Story by Spc. Derrick Witherspoon  
319th Mobile Public Affairs Det., USAR

As the Panamanian sun beamed upon his sunburned skin and the sweat dripped from his head like a leaking faucet, one Ohio Army National Guard citizen-soldier wiped his forehead and noted the difference between weather in the tropics and the climate back home in the Midwest.

"Panama is very hot, but it's nice weather," said Spc. Jason Ricker, 23, of Kalida, Ohio. "Back home it's 10 to 12 degrees (Fahrenheit), so the change is good."

Ricker serves with the Ohio Army National Guard's 323rd Military Police Company based in Toledo. An Army-trained light vehicle mechanic, Ricker recently deployed to Panama with six other members of his unit to perform their two-week annual training at Fort Kobbe. His job was to help repair vehicles at the Theater Equipment and Maintenance Site, or TEAMS, as the U.S. military calls it.

While working at TEAMS, Ricker helped to prepare vehicles that were going to be shipped to Ecuador for an upcoming U.S. military training, humanitarian and civic action exercise.

"We have to make sure all the vehicles are inspected and each vehicle is looked at for any deadlines so we can fix them," said Ricker. "We're down here supporting the 324th Military Police Company. When we first talked about this four months ago, it was just an option then and the seven of us jumped at the chance to come here."

This was not Ricker's first time overseas.

"I was active duty for four years, and I spent two years of that in Germany. I loved that. It was a completely different experience, and I



Photo by SPC Derrick Witherspoon, 319th MPAD, USAR.

**SPC Jason Ricker, 323rd MP Co., checks the tension on a belt during AT at Fort Kobbe, Panama.**

got to learn about a different culture there, which was good," Ricker added. "Overall it was a good experience which helped me be open-minded when I got here."

Sgt. 1st Class Stacey J. Thornton, Ricker's supervisor, also was credited with preparing the young enlisted soldier with what to expect in tropical Panama.

"Spc. Ricker came here pumped up. He did an excellent job, and his work performance was good. He got the chance to work with guardmembers from Kentucky and said he learned some new things from them," Thornton said. "Ricker is a hard-driven soldier, and I'm proud to have him on my team."

Hundreds of National Guard citizen-soldiers deploy each year to support TEAMS at Fort Kobbe, which overlooks the Pacific Ocean entrance to the historic Panama Canal. Fort Kobbe is a military installation where there are

pre-positioned engineer, medical and logistics equipment, as well as a maintenance and supply activity, to support year-round U.S. military exercises throughout Central and South America and the Caribbean.

With so many guardmembers like Ricker constantly deploying to TEAMS' centralized location in Panama, expensive transportation costs associated with supporting on-going U.S. military operations in the U.S. southern command theater are avoided. At the same time, Ricker and the thousands of other troops who have ventured to Panama over the years receive invaluable training in their military

job specialties.

Ricker said the training he received from the Guard helps him perform his civilian job much better.

"In the Guard, I learn how to listen for problems in different types of equipment and that saves me a lot of time on my civilian job," said Ricker, who works as a mechanic for Nickles Bakery. "If I can just listen and know what the problem is, I can fix the problem that much faster," he explained.

Ricker said his visit to Panama was more than he could have ever imagined about living and working in Latin America. He also admitted he was anxious to return home so he could share his experiences with family, friends, fellow guardmembers and his bakery co-workers.

"I never thought I would be here in my life," Ricker said. "I have learned about the culture, people and way of life down here." ■

# 107th responds to first medevac call

By Chief Warrant Officer Loyd R. McCoy  
107th Medical Company

*It is 2310 hours on a clear moonless night. The phone rings in the operations section of a small and obscure airfield. The clock starts. It is a call for a medevac mission. There is a suspected heart attack victim in the field, and every second counts in getting the victim the best medical care as quickly as possible.*

*Less than five minutes after the phone rings, a medevac crew of the 107th Air Ambulance Company has received and verified the mission, plotted and double-checked the 8-digit grid coordinates and launched their UH-1V helicopter into the night to the designated pick up location. At 90 knots and less than 500 feet above the ground, the aircraft slices through the night to its designated pick-up point. The medics on the ground do their best to comfort the patient while they strain to listen for the familiar sound of the Huey. The aircraft arrives, the patient is loaded and the aircraft is off again en route to the local hospital. The medic onboard the aircraft initiates an IV to further stabilize the patient. The aircraft lands at the hospital, the patient is transferred to the hospital's care and the helicopter is off again. Less than 35 minutes after the initial call, the medevac crew is back at their helipad, having completed their mission.*

This was the first actual medevac mission for the 107th Air Ambulance Company, which celebrated its second birthday on Oct. 1, 1997. Under the leadership of its commander, Maj. Stuart Driesbach, the unit has adopted and taken to heart the "crawl, walk, run" concept of training. These were their first steps, and they did not stumble.

The 107th is not just another aviation unit. The unit is commanded and led by medical service corps officers. All aviators are required to attend a two-week AMMED course that is essential for qualification. Most of the flight medics in the command also function as paramedics or advanced emergency medical technicians in their civilian jobs. The crew chiefs work with the medics in providing care once the patient is onboard the aircraft.



Courtesy photo.

## Participants of 107th Med. Co.'s first medevac pose for a photo.

A lot of extra hard work and responsibility comes with being part of an Air Ambulance Company.

Unlike most units that use annual training for training, the main mission for the 107th during AT was to provide medevac support at Camp Grayling for the National Guards of Michigan and Ohio.

The 107th is able to provide a highly sought after service. Since its inception, the unit has provided Air Ambulance support for the Dayton International Air Show and has fulfilled requests of other states who have paid for this medevac support during the training periods.

In addition to providing this specialized service to the military community, members of the 107th have been involved in local community and civic activities. During the past two years, the unit has provided static displays to various functions such as Career Days at colleges and high schools, and at Boy Scout gatherings. To promote a positive image of the Guard, unit personnel also have participated in local after-prom activities to teach rappelling and military leadership. ■

# Land nav instruction right on course

Story by Staff Sgt. Michael T. Roberts  
A Troop, 2/107th Cavalry

Four members of the mortars section of A Troop, 2/107th Cavalry, conducted land navigation classes in September for eighth-graders at St. Joseph's Elementary School, located in Cold Spring, Ky.

Staff Sgt. Michael Roberts, Staff Sgt. David Galloway, Spc. Tim Taylor and Spc. John Priest instructed 75 students on map and compass skills in a three-part course.

First, students established their pace count and learned how to determine magnetic azimuths.

Next, map skills were taught in the classroom. Students learned the five major and three minor terrain features; the difference between map north, true north and grid north; and how to determine an eight-digit grid coordinate. Afterward, the students were given a self-paced



Courtesy photo.

## Members of A Troop, 2/107 Cav., pose for a photo with students from St. Joseph's Elementary.

practical exercise.

To complete the exercise, A Troop's soldiers established a map and compass course on the school's ball field. A series of numbered blocks

spaced 10 meters apart were laid out on an east-west azimuth. Students were divided into teams of two and each team was supplied with unique two-leg courses to run. Students were able to apply what they had been taught, with many teams achieving three out of four or four out of four correct points.

Student enthusiasm was high and the teachers expressed a desire for A Troop to return to instruct more students. The soldiers of the mortar platoon are discussing the possibility of taking the land navigation course to the next level—high school—and using it as a recruiting tool.

Soldiers interested in replicating A Troop's map and compass course can write Roberts or Galloway at A Troop, 2/107th Cavalry, 4100 Reading Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45229-1640, or call (513) 861-3727. ■

# Zanesville unit earns 'total force' status

Story by Staff Sgt. Shannon Scherer  
HQ, Ohio ANG and  
Senior Airman Mary Ward  
MacDill Air Force Base

If you want to see the "total force" concept at work, go to MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., before the end of May. The 220th Engineering Installation Squadron, Zanesville, six other Air National Guard EIS units, one active duty EIS unit, and two Air Force Reserve Civil Engineering units are in the process of installing fiber optic cable for the new Combat Information Transport System, otherwise known as CITS.

More than 100 military personnel are installing 155,000 feet of cable to bring MacDill AFB into the "Information Age." The 220th EIS seized this project as a way to assist in the total force initiative and as a means of training. "The active duty just doesn't have the manpower anymore to complete a task this large," said Chief Dale Williams, 220th EIS team chief. "This project allows the Guard, Reserve and active duty to work together on a high priority mission."

Cable installation is the first part of this 10-year plan to update every Air Force base worldwide with the CITS program. During the first phase, fiber optic cable is placed underground and routed to communication rooms in all core facilities. A glass thread that replaces copper will transmit data more rapidly through the use of light. During this phase, 220th EIS members dug trenches searching for external wiring that needed upgraded. Maps provided by base civil engineers weren't always up-to-date, making the task more tedious. "Each day has presented us with new challenges," Williams said. "Unforeseen problems have slowed down the progress, but we're making the best of it. We've been able to help MacDill civil engineering update their base maps."

The second phase will be more visible to users on base. Electronics will be installed which will cause an increase in speed on the Local Area Network. An innovative new capability called "virtual networking" will also be part of the CITS program. Virtual networking will give users the illusion that they are working on the same network. It will provide the same shared resources and will look identical even though it may be scattered over 30 or 40 servers.

Members of the 220th are running their section of the project like a normal exercise. They are rotating members on 15- and 30-day



Photo by SSgt. Shannon Scherer, HQ, OHANG.

**ABOVE: SSgt. Don Frost, left, and SSgt. David Horton prepare cable for fiber optic installation. RIGHT: Unit members dig trenches in search of conduits which encase copper cable.**

tours during the five-month completion process. Once the installation is complete, Zanesville members will finish up with the networking portion to get users on line. Senior Airman Brian Grunder, 220th EIS cable splicer, is enjoying his participation. "I'm actually applying what I learned in school," he said. "This has been a good hands-on experience."

The project, which began in January, is unusual in the fact that the overall team chief for the project is a National Guard member. The 213th EIS, New York Air National Guard, accepted responsibility for the management

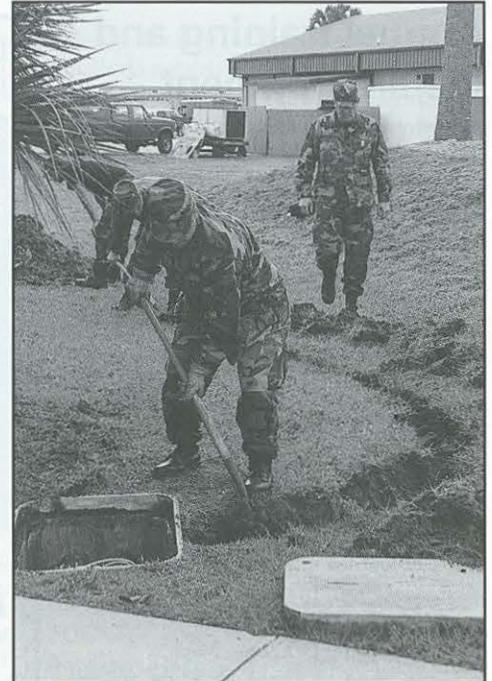


Photo by SSgt. Shannon Scherer, HQ, OHANG.

of the CITS at MacDill. "This is one of the larger projects that the Guard has been involved with," said Master Sgt. Al Engevik, project manager. "The installation of CITS will show that the Guard is capable of the task and, at the same time, it provides great training. This project reflects that the military components can work in total force," Engevik said. "And, more importantly, it shows the Guard 'can do.'" ■

## 220th EIS installers busy in Florida

Story by Master Sgt. Greg Meadows  
220th EIS Public Affairs

Not only were members of the 220th busy participating in the total force concept at MacDill AFB, they were also tackling an Air Force Civil Engineering Services Agency, or AFCESA, project more than 300 miles away at Patrick AFB near Orlando, Fla.

During February and March, 23 personnel from the 220th EIS installed a fiber optic backbone for the 45th Civil Engineering Services at Patrick AFB.

The installation involved two major phases—the first being placement of innerduct and fiber optic cable. The second, and most tedious phase, was the installation of 400 SC connectors for the fiber optic network.

The installation involved connecting 17 buildings that use more than 22,000 feet of innerduct and 20,000 feet of fiber optic cable. An additional task to the project included the installation of a 200-pair copper cable by the 220th EIS to the new base housing office.

Unit members also helped allied support on base install backboards and hardware for patch panels and remove outdated lead and copper underground cable. The 45th CES estimated the work done by the 220th EIS saved the Air Force approximately \$40,000.

Col. Will Allen, 220th EIS commander said, "The job the 220th did for the 45th CES is further proof of our unit's ability to transport our people and equipment anywhere, anytime to get the job done." ■

## Annual training and the environment

Where are you headed for annual training this year? Whether it be Germany, Fort Story, Camp Dodge, Camp Grayling, the National Training Center at Fort Irwin or the Ravenna Army Training Area in Ohio, the environmental requirements and responsibilities will be similar.

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

Before traveling to your annual training site, find out the environmental guidelines for that location. In most cases, they will be similar to the following information which applies to Camp Grayling, Mich.

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

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

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

- ♦ Stop the spill if possible.
- ♦ Report immediately to the Post Environmental Officer by phone or radio. Transmit in the clear that you have a "spot report" and need environmental team assistance.
- ♦ Contain the spill with absorbent materials or by whatever means possible. Spilled liquids will move very quickly through Camp Grayling's sandy soil. This could result in contamination of rivers and streams or ground water.
- ♦ Limit access to the spill area. Do not allow matches, lighters, smoking or anything which could cause a spark.
- ♦ Place contaminated soil in barrels which are available from the post.

## Destruction of trees sends lieutenant to jail...



Photo by MSG Candace Kline, HQ STARC.

**A seemingly innocent act of cutting down trees at Camp Grayling, Mich., resulted in a short incarceration for the platoon leader who was in charge. Stands of Jack Pines at Grayling provide the habitat for the Kirkland's Warbler, which is a federally endangered species.**

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

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

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

During May 1990, approximately 5,000 acres of the Grayling area were destroyed by a forest fire in less than five hours. Open fires and burning of trash are prohibited everywhere on Camp Grayling. When fire danger is high, live firing, pyrotechnics and other fire producing training may be restricted. Cigarette butts and matches should be cool to the touch before discarding in trash receptacles.

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

Some of the trees at Camp Grayling provide nesting areas for birds and small animals. Others are protected for forestation. Do not cut live trees without written authorization from post operations. The Department of Natural Resources charges for the cutting of trees at a rate reflecting full growth. In other words, if you cut down a small tree, they will charge you for a full size tree.

If trees are removed or destroyed, the soil is more susceptible to wind and water erosion. Damaged trees are susceptible to disease. Do not cut tree branches and other parts of trees for camouflage. Cut ground cover only.

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

These guidelines that are specific to Camp Grayling may apply at other annual training locations. They may vary based on the types of soil, terrain, plants and wildlife. Be sure to learn the rules before you train. This will ensure meaningful training and the protection of the environment at the same time. *Submitted by Candace J. Kline, Environmental Office.*

## OSHA training offered to Air, Army Guard

Members of the 121st Air Refueling Wing's BioEnvironmental Engineering Office will be conducting several General Industry Outreach Programs during 1998.

The program is designed to standardize mandatory Occupational Safety and Health training for all guardmembers. The two-day program consists of 17 instructional segments including hazardous control of energy, hazardous chemical communication and safety standard awareness.

What's unique about this program is that it's transportable to any unit in Ohio with OSHA qualified instructors available to conduct the seminar. Any interested members of the Ohio Air and Army National Guard are encouraged to participate. Questions concerning the course material or arranging a training seminar should be directed to Master Sgt. Kelly Ruff at DSN: 950-3131 or Master Sgt. Tim Caudill at DSN: 950-3105. *Submitted by Staff Sgt. Shannon Scherer, HQ, Ohio ANG.*

## Drinking, driving costs in more ways than one

The last decade has witnessed a tremendous increase in public awareness of the serious hazards associated with drinking alcohol and operating a motor vehicle. Due largely to the awareness-raising efforts of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Americans have developed an adamantly anti-drinking and driving stance where there was once predominantly apathy. As a result, all states in the nation have passed legislation imposing increasingly stricter laws regarding what constitutes impaired driving and what its penalties should be.

The good news is, statistics show a relatively steady improvement in Americans' decisions about drinking and driving. The 17,126 alcohol-related traffic fatalities in 1996 represent a 24 percent reduction from 22,715 such deaths reported in 1985.

In light of the encouraging data, it is easy to become complacent and assume the dilemma of drunken drivers is a thing of the past, however, statistics show this to be anything but true.

In the past decade, four times as many Americans died in drunk driving crashes as were killed in the Vietnam War. In 1996, an average of one person was killed in an alcohol-related traffic accident every 32 minutes. These deaths constituted approximately 41 percent of the total 41,907 traffic fatalities that year. Additionally, about 1,058,990 people were injured in such incidents last year—an average of one person injured every 30 seconds.

Do not become lulled into thinking that since you don't get behind the wheel after indulging, you are not threatened or affected by this scourge. One of the most tragic aspects of the drunk driving phenomenon is that thousands of innocent people are killed every year.

Drunk driving is the nation's most frequently committed violent crime. In fact, every weekday night from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m., one in 13 drivers is drunk (having a blood alcohol content of 0.8 or more). Between 1

a.m. and 6 a.m. on weekends, one in seven drivers is drunk. In 1995, 32 percent of all fatal crashes during the week were alcohol related, compared to 54 percent on the weekends. About two in every five Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related crash at some time in their lives.

If the risks of life, limb or incarceration are not enough of a reason to designate a sober driver, how about the threat to your wallet? In *Ohio Driving Under the Influence Law 1997*, Jim Looker proposes the personal financial costs of a Driving Under the Influence, or DUI, conviction as follows:

Fine .....	\$200
Court Costs .....	\$50
Mandatory treatment .....	\$300
Reinstatement Fees .....	<u>\$500</u>
Sub Total .....	\$1,050

Guilty Plea .....	\$200 to 1,000
Not Guilty Plea .....	\$2,000 and up
Insurance.....	from \$570 a year to \$1,750 per year for five years, after which a reassessment of your driving record could bring it back down. Also, a \$6,000 insurance cost difference for 5 years.

### Total cost for a first time DUI with no crash is approximately \$8,000 (minimum).

Guardmembers who are charged with a DUI soon find out their military membership may also be affected.

When a civilian or commercial driver's license is revoked or suspended for any reason whatsoever, the member's military licence shall be revoked or suspended for a similar period of time. The guardmember is responsible for proving to the commander or the unit's designated representative that his or her civilian license/permit has been restored.

When security clearances are completed, for sensitive military positions as well as for promotions of officers and senior enlisted, the DUI will become evident during the criminal records check. So it's best to report such incidents to your unit as it occurs.

Additionally, it is the policy of the Ohio Adjutant General's Department to hold the commander responsible for unit functions where alcohol is being consumed. That obligation includes ensuring there is no

underage drinking and that any intoxicated individuals do not drive once the function ends.

As a nation, the cost of alcohol-related crashes is estimated to be \$45 billion every year. An additional \$70.5 billion is lost in quality of life due to these crashes. *Submitted by OC Devin Braun, Drug Demand Reduction Office.*

## Guard seeks youths for character awards

The Drug Demand Reduction Program is reaching hundreds of today's youth about living their lives on *Higher Ground*. *Higher Ground* is the Guard's program based on the Josephson Institute of Ethics' CHARACTER COUNTS! These programs are built around the Six Pillars of Character—trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship. During this year's upcoming CHARACTER COUNTS! Week, Oct. 18-24, the National American Youth Character Awards will be announced.

The American Youth Character Awards are a project of the CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition. The coalition identifies worthy nominees through the resources of its members, including Boys & Girls Clubs, Big Brothers-Big Sisters, 4-H, YMCA and the National Education Association. The awards identify and honor young people who are the real and proper role models for their generation. The stories of these praiseworthy youngsters prove that character does count and that no child is predestined to be good or bad.

The coalition is seeking young people whose lives and achievements demonstrate an enduring commitment to any or all of the following qualities associated with good character:

- ♦ Perseverance and inner strength enabling the young person to overcome physical, financial or other difficulties.
- ♦ Uncompromising integrity and courage demonstrated by a willingness to do the right thing despite social pressures or personal risk.
- ♦ Generosity of spirit and a willingness for self-sacrifice in devotion to helping others.
- ♦ Community service in working for the common good.

All nominees must be between the ages of 9 and 18. Winners or finalists in local award ceremonies taking place before June 1 may be entered in nomination for the national awards. If you would like to nominate a young person for an American Youth Character Award, please contact the Drug Demand Reduction Office at (614) 336-7432. *Submitted by OC Jodie McFee, Drug Demand Reduction Administrator.*

## THE PARTY'S OVER AND ...





Photo by MSgt. J. Ernest A. Paquette, Indiana Air National Guard.

**CMSgt. Earl Lutz, left of plaque, presents award to SMSgt. James Bergdall, center, NCOIC of Jefferson Proving Ground.**

## Ohio, Indiana ANG both honor Jefferson Proving Ground staff

During the 1997 Leadership Symposium in Phoenix, Ariz., members of the Ohio and Indiana Air National Guard honored the staff of the Jefferson Proving Ground range. Since the early 1980s, Jefferson Proving Ground has been the site for the interstate "Turkey Shoot," which is a tactical exercise that pits aircraft fighter units from Ohio and Indiana against each other.

"The staff at Jefferson Proving Ground has done so much to make the Turkey Shoot a success each year," said Chief Earl Lutz, Ohio's senior enlisted advisor. "We wanted to express our appreciation for their hard work."

Lutz organized with Indiana's Senior Enlisted Advisor, Leslie Parr, to award the Chief's Coin at the symposium last November. Wing senior enlisted advisors and human resource managers from Indiana and Ohio presented the joint state award to Senior Master Sgt. James Bergdall, NCOIC of the Jefferson Proving Ground at an informal ceremony. *Submitted by Staff Sgt. Shannon Scherer, HQ, Ohio ANG.*

## Air Guard to award 'Order of the Musket'

Nominations are now being accepted for the Ohio Air National Guard's Order of the Musket Award. The award, established in 1992, is patterned after the United States Air Force's Order of the Sword.

The Order of the Musket was established by AGOH Regulation 900-4 as a means of recog-

nizing and honoring individuals, both military and civilian, for conspicuous and significant contributions to the welfare and prestige of the enlisted corps of the Ohio ANG.

Nominees should be exemplary citizens with volunteer and civic service who display an active concern for the betterment of the state, nation and its citizens. The State Senior Enlisted Advisor and the State Senior NCO Council will review letters of nomination. For more information, please call Headquarters Public Affairs at (614) 336-7191 or e-mail Senior Enlisted Advisor Chief Earl Lutz at chiefewl@eangus.org. *Submitted by Staff Sgt. Shannon Scherer, HQ, Ohio ANG.*

## Hall of Fame seeks 1998 nominations

The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame, located in Sandusky, is a unique memorial that honors Ohio veterans for their contributions of honorable military service. It was established in 1992 with the induction of 317 veterans. Today, there are 458 veterans inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame.

Every year a panel reviews nominations into the Hall of Fame. In order to be considered for nomination, nominees must have been born in Ohio or lived in Ohio for a minimum of five years. They must have received an honorable discharge for active U.S. military service, and be of good moral character. Nominees will be recognized for significant contributions at the local, state or federal level, and for excellence achieved through actions above and beyond the call of duty in their selected field or profession. Non-veterans may also be nominated if they have done significant volunteer work in support of veterans or the military. The nominations will be evaluated on the scope and impact of a nominee's achievements, and the extent to which his or her efforts benefit and provide inspiration to other veterans.

If you are interested in submitting a nomination, 1998 nomination forms are available from any Ohio Bureau of Employment Services Office or County Veterans Service office in Ohio. Forms may also be requested via fax at (614)728-

0155 or by writing to: Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame, 65 South Front Street, Suite 426, Columbus, Ohio 43215. All nominations must be postmarked by June 30 at the above address.

## Cleveland wants players, sponsors for military football team

A group of service members are joining forces to establish the Cleveland area's first semi-professional military football team, and "are looking for a few good" sponsors and players.

Billing itself as the "first ever semi-pro military football team in the Cleveland area," the "Army-USMC Eagles" will be a member of the Lakeshore Football League, operated under the auspices of the American Football Association. Other teams in the LSFL are located in Toledo, Findlay, Fremont and Vermilion, as well as in the Detroit area.

All players must be members of the active or reserve forces, which includes Army or Air National Guard. Retirees are also welcome. All must have passed their most recent physical fitness test and must not be in an AWOL status.

"This is it!" exclaimed Spc. James Krych, a member of the Ohio Army Guard's Company B, 112th Combat Engineer Battalion, located in Lorain. "Not flag football, or touch, but real football with pads and helmets."

"Not many chances exist to play football after high school or college....we will keep the dream alive," he said. The team has established a strict set of guidelines, and will play its games in accordance with basic National Football League rules.

"The Eagles are trying to reduce the cost for our players to participate," said Krych, the general manager of the team. The team must provide funds to cover the cost of referees, uniforms, equipment and travel. To cover costs, the Eagles hope to secure business sponsors to support their endeavor.

The Eagles will kick off their inaugural season the first week of July, and will play their home games at the Brookpark Recreation Center. All home games will be played at night.

Unlike most semi-pro teams, Krych said, the team will hold regular, mandatory practice sessions and conduct physical training. "This is where we can have an incredible advantage ... combining our inherent discipline from our military background with practice and training."

Service members interested in participating in the project—players, coaches, trainers or potential sponsors—may obtain an information packet by contacting

Krych at (440) 979-9295 or e-mail him at ab453@cleveland.freenet.edu. *Submitted by Staff Sgt. Jerry Gutlon, HQ STARC.*

### 179th plans celebration of 50th anniversary

Preparations have begun for the 50th anniversary of the 179th Airlift Wing—now only months away.

The unit plans on celebrating the big event during the weekend of June 20-21. Saturday morning will be marked with a ceremonial flag-raising and the afternoon will be filled with ceremonial activities, taking place with current and retired members.

A hangar dance is planned for the evening in the unit's newer hangar, Building 409. Social hour begins at 6 p.m., with dinner at 7 p.m., followed by a program from 8-8:30 p.m. Dancing will fill the remainder of the evening, with music provided by the 555th Air Force Band from Toledo. Organizers have also planned for unit members to perform skits depicting different events in each decade of the unit's existence.

On Sunday, unit members, retirees and their families are invited to enjoy a family fun day. Coffee cups, wine glasses, t-shirts, sweat shirts, posters and other memorabilia with the 50th logo are available now, while a 50th anniversary video and book are due out soon. For more information on the 179th's 50th anniversary, contact Maj. Mike Howard at DSN 696-6114 or commercial (419) 521-0114.

### OHARNG band plays at park dedication

Members of the 122nd Army National Guard Band performed at the dedication of Groveport Veterans' Park last November. The ceremony took place at the conclusion of the village's first Veterans' Day parade.

"One of the band's primary missions is to promote public awareness of the National Guard in Ohio communities," said Staff Sgt. Lonny Kirby, unit readiness NCO. "When Groveport asked for our support, we were anxious to help out since it's the closest town to our home station." The band is located at Rickenbacker Airport.

"Our concert band played a variety of military tunes prior to the ceremony, which was special to us since the park was dedicated to veterans."

Four distinct areas were developed within the park to honor those who served our country's armed forces. The areas include: a Donor's Common, with benches, flag poles and a drink-

ing fountain forming a brick plaza; a Peace Garden with a reflective site surrounded by evergreens and shade trees; an Honor Court that displays a monument and a plaza of inscribed bricks; and a Quiet Garden landscaped with ornamental trees and access to the park for those who require handicapped parking.

The dedication address was provided by Thomas R. Wilson, rear admiral, U.S. Navy, and associate director of central intelligence for military support. Also participating in the ceremony were the Vietnam Color

Guard and Warren Motts, director of the Motts Military Museum. Wilson once resided in Groveport and Motts founded a museum which houses one of the nation's most extensive military collections, located in Groveport.

"We also provided buglers to perform *Echo Taps* at the end of the ceremony," Kirby said. One musician played in view of the audience, while the other performed 30 yards away, creating the effect of an echo, he explained.

A time capsule honoring Groveport's Sesquicentennial Celebration was buried within the park as a permanent record of the Village's 150th birthday. The capsule is to be opened in 50 years during the village's bicentennial celebration. *Submitted by Linda Haley, Community Affairs Director, Village of Groveport.*

### OMR: Ready to serve

The National Guard often is referred to as "America's best-kept secret." In Ohio, however, the best-kept secret may very well be the National Guard's backup force: the Ohio Military Reserve.

The Ohio Military Reserve is an organized state militia force at the governor's call, and placed under the auspices of the adjutant general. The 420 men and women who make up the OMR may be called to duty at the discretion of the governor during those times the National Guard is mobilized for service, or during a time the Guard needs to be augmented.

"It's a volunteer force which can assist civil authorities for policing duties and assistance during times of disaster," explained Col. Herbert A. Holinko, OMR public affairs officer.



Courtesy photo, OMR Public Affairs.

**LTC Alexander Kocsis, OMR general staff, briefs scouts from Toledo area council on the OMR and its mission to the state of Ohio during the organization's annual training.**

Dubbed "Raising the Standard," the scaled-down version of annual training conducted by OMR during September 1997 at Camp Perry, culminated in a 24-hour field training exercise.

To kick off its AT cycle, OMR soldiers qualified with pistols and/or shotguns at the facility's small arms range. Following a day of instruction and preparation, the 300 participants then took to the woods.

Broken into two separate task forces, OMR personnel employed skills honed through previous training sessions: command and control, communications, search-and-rescue techniques, police operations, civilian evacuations, supply operations and emergency medical treatment.

Most of the OMR force are retired service members or have prior service in the armed forces. The OMR cadre provide "basic, boot camp-type training" for those who have no prior military experience, according to Holinko.

OMR's AT was evaluated by a number of senior Army Guard commanders, including the assistant adjutant general, Brig. Gen. John S. Martin. Several retired senior officers and enlisted men also gave the OMR's training efforts the "once-over."

One of those retirees, former Army Reserve Col. Robert Wetterstroem, former commandant of the 2075th Reserve Forces School, offered high praise to OMR personnel.

"The dedication of the soldiers of the OMR is impressive. Everyone is committed to doing the right thing, something not always seen in the active or reserve components. Considering the shortage of key resources, time, equipment and... personnel, the level of training is good." *Submitted by Staff Sgt. Jerry Gutlon, HQ STARC.*



Photo by Todd Cramer, AGOH Photo Lab.

**Maj. Gen. John H. Smith is congratulated on his promotion by Ohio Adjutant General MG Richard C. Alexander as Smith's wife Anita replaces his epaulets.**

## Assistant AG for Air Smith gets promoted

Ohio's Assistant Adjutant General for Air John H. Smith was promoted to and federally recognized as major general on Mar. 3.

An impromptu promotion ceremony took place shortly after the National Guard Bureau forwarded Smith's orders via e-mail and fax. The general's wife Anita, several members of state staff and former Ohio ANG Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Thomas W. Powers was present as Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander added a second star to the general's shoulder.

The promotion was possible due to a legislative change that allowed for the assistant adjutant for Air to be the ranking Air Guard officer in the state. Formerly, the chief of staff held the two-star slot, while the assistant AG was authorized only one star. *Submitted by Staff Sgt. Diane L. Farrow, HQ STARC.*

## Boling bids farewell to Public Affairs Office

The Air Guard officer often called the right-hand man of the adjutant general recently gave up his post after 11 years of loyal service.

Last December, Maj. James T. Boling stepped down as director of public affairs for the Ohio Adjutant General's Department to accept a full-time position as director of support for the 121st Air Refueling Wing at Rickenbacker Airport in Columbus.

In his former position, Boling was the public spokesperson for both Air and Army Guard elements throughout the state. He also represented the Ohio Emergency Management Agency for many years, until it reorganized

under the Department of Public Safety in 1995.

"He helped regain the Guard's credibility in the eyes of the public through some very tumultuous times," said Ohio Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander, referring to the Tuition Grant Program reduction in 1987 and the more recent force structure cuts.

The general emphasized that Boling was a key advisor during many state emergencies, including the Shadyside flood in 1991 and the Lucasville prison uprising in 1993, in terms of getting "correct, current and important information to the public and government officials in times of crisis."

In mid-January, public affairs personnel past and present, together with several members of state staff, gathered in Alexander's office to offer Boling a proper good-bye.

"I have two presentations to make," Alexander said, "and both were initiated not by me, but by members of Boling's staff." Turning to face Boling, the general remarked, "It says a lot when co-workers think that highly of you."

Capt. Neal E. O'Brien, former Drug Demand Reduction administrator and new state public affairs officer, honored the major with a Meritorious Service Medal and Christine Santiago Foos, legislative liaison for the department, presented him with a proclamation from the governor. Both touted his expertise in public relations and cited his many accomplishments, including the national recognition received for several public affairs programs such as the *Buckeye Guard* and various Drug Demand Reduction initiatives.

Brig. Gen. Steve Martin, assistant adjutant general for Army, also took the opportunity to commend Boling for his service, particularly on the Army side of the house.

"And if Jim would have listened to me and transferred over, he'd be a lieutenant colonel by now," Martin joked.

Boling enlisted in the Ohio Air National Guard in No-

vember 1977, and later was commissioned as an officer in October 1984. His federal technician career began in October 1980 when he worked as public affairs officer for Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base. In August 1986, Boling accepted the position of state public affairs officer, where he stayed until December 1997.

In his new position, Boling is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the wing's civil engineering, security police and communications squadrons, as well as services, mission support and headquarters functions. He has served as a traditional guardmember with the 121st Air Refueling Wing his entire military career. *Submitted by Staff Sgt. Diane L. Farrow, HQ STARC.*

## Guardsman awarded for volunteer work

The 178th Fighter Wing's Tech. Sgt. Mike Myers got top honors at a recent ceremony for the Franklin County Children Services volunteer recognition program. "Mike received the Terry Glass Memorial Award, which is the highest award we present to a volunteer who has gone beyond the call of duty," said Rachel Bibb, recruitment specialist for FCCS.

Myers, who became a Friendship-tutor volunteer in November 1989, was chosen from 645 volunteers in the FCCS program. "The Friendship program provides abused and neglected children with one-on-one relationships with caring adults," Bibb said.

Bibb said Myers has worked with a total of six children and most recently helped with the transition of two young brothers who moved from birth home to foster home to adoptive home.

In 1993, Myers was matched with nine-year-old Chris and seven months later, with Chris's older brother Brian. The boys lived with their father, but family problems caused them to be placed in foster care, then an adoptive home in December 1996.

As a volunteer, Myers tutored the boys in their school work, tried to expose them to the interactions in a "normal" family and offer them opportunities they may not otherwise get to experience. For example, he took the boys to their first pro football game.

The most frustrating part of volunteering with children going through these types of problems is the inability to control things for the child, Myers said.

"Mike was the steady presence during this whole process," Bibb said. "Mike knew he was important in the children's life and



File photo.

**Maj. Jim Boling briefs the press during the Lucasville prison uprising.**

made it a priority to be a constant and stabilizing force in their lives during the transitions.”

Myers said the most rewarding part of his volunteer experience, “is seeing the kids end up in a situation they are safe and comfortable in.”  
*Submitted by Capt. Ann-Maria Coghlin, 178th Fighter Wing.*

### Ohio Air, Army Guard commended by CFC

Members of the Adjutant General’s Department showed their good will by pledging donations to various charities sponsored by this year’s Combined Federal Campaign. During an awards luncheon on Dec. 10, several awards were presented to the department and its members for marked generosity during the 1997 campaign.

The **Gold Honor Award**, given to agencies with per capita giving levels of \$75 or more, was presented to the employees of Beightler Armory “in recognition of outstanding citizenship and service to the people.” The headquarters for the Ohio Guard also received a **Gold and Glass Award** for having the most significant improvement in overall campaign performance.

The Ohio Army National Guard at Rickenbacker was presented a **Silver Merit Award**, while **Certificate of Merit** awards were presented to Army National Guard units at Howey and Sullivant Road armories and the Air National Guard at Rickenbacker.

Some individual donors were recognized as well. Spc. Brian Lehigh and Lou Ann Wehling pledged three percent of their salaries to CFC charities, while Lt. Col. Deborah Ashenurst, Maj. Duncan Aukland and Capt. Lee Coyle committed two percent of their annual income. All five individuals are full-time employees of Beightler Armory.

Overall, members of the National Guard in central Ohio gave \$59,326 to the CFC fund drive, \$9,000 more in contributions than in 1996. *Submitted by Staff Sgt. Diane L. Farrow, HQ STARC.*

### Brave act honored

Tech. Sgt. Roger N. Newsome, aircraft armament systems technician, and Tech. Sgt. Patrick A. Ewing, avionics integrated systems technician, recently were awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal for courage. Both are members of the 180th Fighter Wing, Toledo.

During the 180th’s deployment to Incirlik, Turkey, last December, Newsome and Ewing took control of a situation which a highly explosive M-2 mobile kitchen caught fire near lunch-

time. The fire spread to a pressurized gasoline line, intensifying the flames.

They directed nonessential personnel away from the area and cleared aerospace ground equipment away from the fire. They used a halon fire extinguisher to put out the fire. Fire fighters completed the extinguishment. Both Newsome and Ewing required medical treatment from inhaling the halon. *Reprinted from The Stinger.*

### Medical officer recognized by peers

Capt. Terrence A. Smith of the 2/107th Cavalry was awarded the Outstanding Medical Officer Award by fellow military medicine officers of the Wright State University School of Medicine—Military Medicine Group on June 6, 1997. Smith served as charter commander of the group from 1993 to 1996. Medical officers from the Army, Navy and Air Force are members of the group.

Smith is the first-ever recipient of the award, given for qualities including leadership, professionalism and academic excellence. The award will be presented on an annual basis by Merck Pharmaceuticals. *Submitted by Wright State University School of Medicine.*

### Cearley earns award of excellence

Maj. Stewart Cearley, the communications squadron commander for the 178th Fighter Wing, was awarded the I.G. Brown Command Excellence Award for 1997.

Six awards are presented annually by geographic location. Cearley won the award for Region 6, which covers Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, Illinois, Kentucky and West Virginia. The award is presented to recognize extra efforts which support the Noncommissioned Officer Academy Graduate Association.

Tech. Sgt. Teresa Kinter Buford, member of the 178th’s audio/visual section, nominated Cearley for the award. “I submitted Maj. Cearley because of the continued support and dedication he has provided to us, our community and our local Chapter 32,” Kinter Buford said. The winning submission must contain strong supporting documentation, and the selection process is long and challenging.

Cearley received the award, a replica of an eagle sitting on a base, and a plaque during a ceremony at the Adams Mark Hotel in Tulsa, Okla. “I am very proud that my commander was chosen for such a prestigious award. I



Courtesy photo.

**Lt. Gen. Charles Roadman, Air Force surgeon general, presents MSgt. Kelly Ruff the 1996 ANG Outstanding Bio-environmental Engineer SNCO Award.**

believe it is well-deserved,” said Kinter Buford. *Submitted by Tech. Sgt. Mike Myers, 178th Fighter Wing.*

### 121st ARW’s Ruff named best in field

The 121st Air Refueling Wing’s bio-environmental engineer, Master Sgt. Kelly Ruff, was presented top honors in his field at a nationwide conference last November.

At the Association of Military Surgeons U.S. Society conference in Nashville, Tenn., Ruff received the 1996 Air National Guard Outstanding Bio-environmental Engineer Senior NCO Award.

“Master Sgt. Kelly Ruff has emphasized a strong personal commitment to ensuring the occupational health and safety of his unit,” said Master Sgt. Malcolm Jones, National Guard Bureau bio-environmental superintendent.

Ruff was recognized by his commanding officers as being instrumental in developing and maintaining strong programs at a time when the 121st ARW was undergoing aircraft conversion, unit consolidation and various facility changes.

The award, which is presented annually by the National Guard Bureau, looks for the individual who successfully supports the missions of peacekeeping, humanitarian relief, domestic improvement and the defense of America.

“It is quite an honor to be the one person nationwide to receive the award,” Ruff said. “It really shows the unit is confident in my abilities.” *Submitted by Staff Sgt. Shannon Scherer, HQ, Ohio ANG.*

# GUARDMEMBER BENEFITS

## Authorization Act approves pay raise

Since January, guardmembers should have noticed some additional money in their monthly drill checks. A 2.8 percent pay raise was included as part of the fiscal year 1998 Defense Authorization Act President Clinton signed Nov. 18.

End strength for active duty personnel is set at 1,431,379 for fiscal 1998. This is a drop of 26,039 service members from the fiscal 1997 figure. Reserve components will see a 15,471-member drop to 895,259 at the end of fiscal 1998.

The authorization act kills the Ready Reserve Mobilization Income Insurance Program. Under the program, reservists bought insurance to cover income losses if they were involuntarily mobilized. The act ensures those enrolled reservists currently mobilized continue to receive insurance benefits.

The act also establishes two joint staff positions: assistant to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for National Guard matters and assistant to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for Reserve matters. Both are two-star positions. (*American Forces Press Service*)

## Financial aid available from many sources

Finding a way to pay for college can be a challenge for many families. But money is available from thousands of private student aid programs in the United States. Check with high school guidance counselors and your local library for leads on student aid programs. Finding financial aid isn't easy, so don't leave any stone unturned. It'll probably be worth the effort.

Here are a few tips to get you started:

- ♦ **Army Emergency Relief** has undergraduate scholarships available for dependent children, stepchildren or legally adopted children of soldiers on active duty, retired or deceased while on active duty or after retirement. Scholarships are awarded primarily based on financial need. Academic achievements and accomplishments are considered. Scholarships are awarded annually for up to a total of four academic years. Completed applications for a school year must be submitted by March 1. For more information write: AER National Headquarters, ATTN: Education Department, 200 Stovall St., Alexandria, Va. 22332-0600.

- ♦ **The Retired Officers Association** offers 900 interest free loans of \$2,500 per year for up to five years of undergraduate study to selected,

## Reserve Pay for 4 Drills

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YEARS OF SERVICE

Pay Grade	<2	2	3	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
O-10	1,008.84	1,044.32	1,044.32	1,044.32	1,044.32	1,084.40	1,084.40	1,144.48	1,144.48	1,226.36	1,226.36	1,308.48	1,308.48	1,308.48	1,389.96
O-9	894.08	917.52	937.08	937.08	937.08	960.88	960.88	1,000.88	1,000.88	1,084.40	1,084.40	1,144.48	1,144.48	1,144.48	1,226.36
O-8	809.80	834.12	853.88	853.88	853.88	917.52	917.52	960.88	960.88	1,000.88	1,044.32	1,084.40	1,111.16	1,111.16	1,111.16
O-7	672.88	718.64	718.64	718.64	750.88	750.88	794.40	794.40	834.12	917.52	980.64	980.64	980.64	980.64	980.64
O-6	498.72	547.92	583.88	583.88	583.88	583.88	583.88	583.88	603.72	699.16	734.84	750.88	794.40	821.24	861.56
O-5	398.92	468.36	500.76	500.76	500.76	500.76	515.84	543.68	580.12	623.56	659.24	679.28	703.00	703.00	703.00
O-4	336.20	409.44	436.72	436.72	444.84	464.44	496.16	524.04	547.92	572.04	587.72	587.72	587.72	587.72	587.72
O-3	312.44	349.32	373.48	413.20	433.00	448.48	472.80	496.16	508.32	508.32	508.32	508.32	508.32	508.32	508.32
O-2	272.48	297.56	357.48	369.52	377.16	377.16	377.16	377.16	377.16	377.16	377.16	377.16	377.16	377.16	377.16
O-1	236.56	246.20	297.56	297.56	297.56	297.56	297.56	297.56	297.56	297.56	297.56	297.56	297.56	297.56	297.56
O-3E	0.00	0.00	0.00	413.20	433.00	448.48	472.80	496.16	515.84	515.84	515.84	515.84	515.84	515.84	515.84
O-2E	0.00	0.00	0.00	369.52	377.16	389.12	409.44	425.08	436.72	436.72	436.72	436.72	436.72	436.72	436.72
O-1E	0.00	0.00	0.00	297.56	317.88	329.56	341.56	353.40	369.52	369.52	369.52	369.52	369.52	369.52	369.52
W-5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	543.28	563.84	580.16	604.60
W-4	318.32	341.56	341.56	349.32	365.24	381.32	397.32	425.08	444.84	460.48	472.80	488.04	504.36	520.08	543.68
W-3	289.32	313.84	313.84	317.88	321.60	345.12	365.24	377.16	389.12	400.76	413.20	429.32	444.84	444.84	460.48
W-2	253.40	274.16	274.16	282.12	297.56	313.84	325.76	337.68	349.32	361.60	373.48	385.20	400.76	400.76	400.76
W-1	211.12	242.04	242.04	262.28	274.16	285.92	297.56	309.80	321.60	333.56	345.12	357.48	357.48	357.48	357.48
E-9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	370.32	378.64	387.20	396.12	405.00	412.80	434.48	451.40	476.80
E-8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	310.52	319.48	327.84	336.36	345.28	353.12	361.80	383.08	400.12	425.80
E-7	216.84	234.08	242.68	251.24	259.80	268.08	276.64	285.28	298.16	306.64	315.12	319.24	340.68	357.64	383.08
E-6	186.52	203.32	211.76	220.76	229.08	237.32	246.04	258.68	266.84	275.44	279.60	279.60	279.60	279.60	279.60
E-5	163.68	178.16	186.80	194.96	207.76	216.24	224.76	233.08	237.32	237.32	237.32	237.32	237.32	237.32	237.32
E-4	152.64	161.24	170.72	183.88	191.16	191.16	191.16	191.16	191.16	191.16	191.16	191.16	191.16	191.16	191.16
E-3	143.88	151.72	157.76	164.04	164.04	164.04	164.04	164.04	164.04	164.04	164.04	164.04	164.04	164.04	164.04
E-2	138.44	138.44	138.44	138.44	138.44	138.44	138.44	138.44	138.44	138.44	138.44	138.44	138.44	138.44	138.44
E-1A	123.48	123.48	123.48	123.48	123.48	123.48	123.48	123.48	123.48	123.48	123.48	123.48	123.48	123.48	123.48
E-1C	114.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

unmarried students under age 24, who are dependent children of officers and enlisted soldiers. It includes children of active duty, National Guard and Reserve members, and retired service personnel and their surviving spouses. Loan repayment is after graduation. Also more than 180 special \$500 grants will be awarded. All who are awarded loans will automatically be considered for grants, which don't have to be paid back. For more information, write to TROA Educational Assistance Program Administrator, 201 N. Washington St., Alexandria, Va. 22314-2539 or call 1-800-245-8762.

- ♦ **Federal Pell Grants** are reserved for the neediest students and provide a foundation of financial aid to which other federal and non-federal scholarships, grants and loans may be added. Pell Grants are awarded to help undergraduates pay for their education after high school. For free copies of *The Student Guide: Financial Aid from the U.S. Department of Education and Free Application for Federal Student Aid*, write to the Army Family Liaison Office, Asst. Chief of Staff Installation Management., 600 Army Pentagon, Washington, DC 20310-0600.

- ♦ To make it easier to apply for Pell Grants and other federal student aid programs, the Department of Education has made available the *Electronic Application for Federal Student Aid*. You must have an IBM-compatible personal computer and modem to fill out the electronic paperwork. To receive the free applica-

tion software (on two 3.5" disks), send your name and address to: Student Aid, Consumer Information Center, Pueblo, Colo. 81009. When you write, you'll also receive two free publications: *All About Direct Loans* and *Preparing Your Child for College: A Resource Book for Parents*. Both offer additional advice for meeting tuition and other college costs. (*Army Families*)

## VA insurance hoax resurfaces on Internet

A message on the Internet has caused some confusion among veterans who have VA insurance policies. False information about dividends appear periodically. These announcements declare that Congress has recently passed a bill which entitles veterans and service persons to a dividend based upon their prior years of service.

The hoax had its origins in a special dividend that the Department of Veterans Affairs did pay to World War II veterans who had National Service Life Insurance policies. Approximately \$2.7 billion was paid in 1950 to over 16 million veterans. The latest rumor is that active service persons, reservists and personnel recently separated from the military are eligible. **There has been no recent legislation authorizing any "special dividends."**

For additional information, contact your local VA Regional Office or call 1-800-827-1000.

# RED HORSE charges to Guam's aid

Story by Sgt. Edward I. Siguenza  
and Maj. Raymond C. Diaz  
Guam National Guard

Packing only a handful of necessities, 45 members of 200th and 201st RED HORSE Squadrons based out of Ohio and Pennsylvania arrived in Guam Dec. 29 in the wake of Supertyphoon Paka, one of the island's worst storms ever.

Even prior to arriving, a heavy load of responsibility was placed on the engineering unit which logged more than 4,000 travel miles in two days.

"I wouldn't say we weren't properly notified (of coming to Guam), but we left rather quickly," said Chief Master Sgt. Duke Munford, the unit's structural manager. "All we were told was that Guam took some heavy damage and our help was needed right away. All most of us could do was bring hand tools—and an ice machine, which will stay here."

Carpenters, electricians, heavy equipment operators and masonry experts concentrated on assisting Guam's National Guard rebuild six dormitories. They were to be used as temporary homes for approximately 1,200 residents who flocked to public schools designated as typhoon shelters prior to the storm. Many lost their homes completely. Their length of stay at Liheng Ta, a local phrase for "Our Shelter," will vary from 30 days to six months.

Guam was hit hard by Supertyphoon Paka Dec. 16-17. It left extensive damage (more than \$100 million) and caused Guam's governor, Carl T.C. Gutierrez, to mobilize the Guam National Guard into active duty. More than 500 Guam guardsmen aided the community in roles such as debris cleanup, water distribution, traffic control, security missions and mass feeding.

Col. Robert M. Cockey, assistant adjutant general of the Guam Air National Guard, requested support from the RED HORSE unit to augment his own membership who suffered personal property damages themselves.

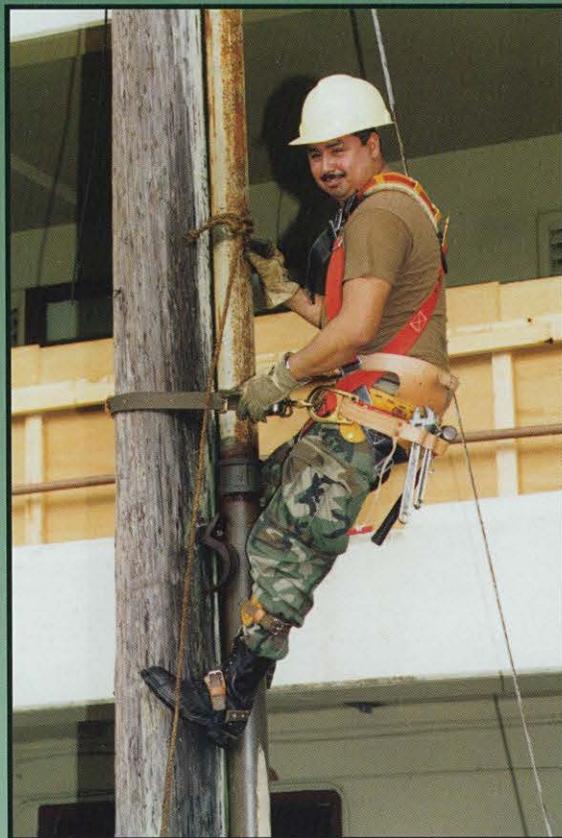
"Having the RED HORSE here relieves some of our duties so that our people can go and take care of their lives," Cockey said. "Some of us, and that's both Army and Air National Guardsmen, have put our duties first before our personal sacrifices. The RED HORSE will not only help us speed up our federal mission, but will help our soldiers and airmen with their personal obligations. Some of our people lost everything they owned."

The 200th/201st RED HORSE, which stands for Rapid Engineering Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineers, is roughly 400 members strong, Munford said. With two operating locations, the 200th provided more



Photos by Sgt. Edward I. Siguenza, Guam N.G.

**ABOVE: A RED HORSE member works with U.S. Army Reserve-Marianas to remove old tile at a dormitory. RIGHT: SSgt. Rudy Hernandez, 200th RHS, climbs a utility pole to install new power lines at Liheng Ta, a temporary shelter for victims left homeless by Supertyphoon Paka, which struck Guam Dec. 16-17.**



than half its deployment team from Camp Perry, while the rest came from its sister flight, the 201st, at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa.

"We're ready and willing to support the Guam National Guard in this typhoon recovery," Munford said. "Whatever tasking we're given, we'll do it successfully and to perfection. That's what the RED HORSE is known for."

The unit remained in Guam until Jan. 8. While its main mission was to help rebuild Liheng Ta, its supporting missions included repairing a damaged roof at the Guam Air Guard's main facility at Andersen Air Force Base and installing electrical appliances and repairing perimeter fences at Fort Juan Muna, the Guam Army Guard's home. In addition to Guam Guardsmen, the RED HORSE unit labored alongside soldiers from Charlie Company's 411th Engineers of the U.S. Army Reserve-Marianas and civilians contracted by the Government of Guam specifically to rebuild Liheng Ta.

Staff Sgt. Kimberly K. Dohm of Toledo, the only female member of the RED HORSE's deployment team, said Guam is the farthest west her unit ever has been sent. It has completed missions in Haiti, Israel, Italy, Germany and throughout the United States, including Ohio when flooding leads to state call-ups.

"We're just glad they have the same kind of

electricity and money here," Dohm said. Guam is the farthest U.S. possession closest to the Orient in the Pacific Ocean, east of the Philippines and north of Australia.

Tech. Sgt. Patrick M. Wahlers of Marblehead, Ohio, said the RED HORSE is concentrating on its most important mission—rebuilding the dormitories meant to house the homeless victims.

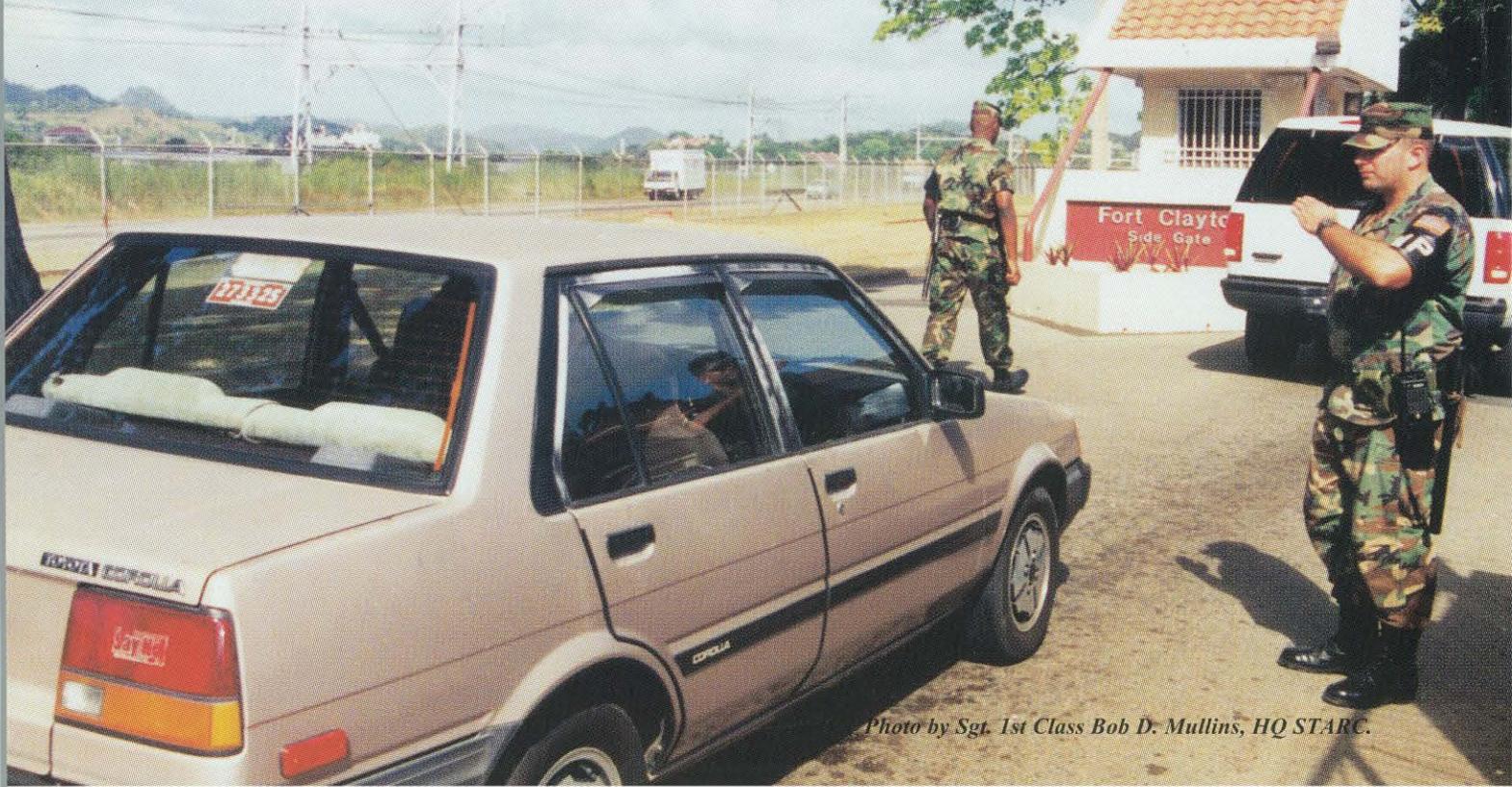
"It's sad to see these people who lost all or most of their valuable possessions," Wahlers said, "but that encourages us to work. We want to help them. If what we do helps them rebuild their lives, then that's more than enough reward for us."

"Vertical" work was the primary mission at Liheng Ta. They erected 2x4 framed support walls and secured gypsum boards onto them to form rooms ranging from 30- to 60-square feet. They laid electrical lines and repaired plumbing fixtures throughout the buildings, and operated heavy equipment to move materials from one building to another.

"They're very skilled and trained airmen, and are valuable assets in completing our mission," said Maj. Gen. Benny M. Paulino, Guam's adjutant general. "We're glad for their support. There are only 45 of them, but they work like a hundred." ■

# MPs in Panama

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*Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Bob D. Mullins, HQ STARC.*

## *Buckeye* GUARD

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