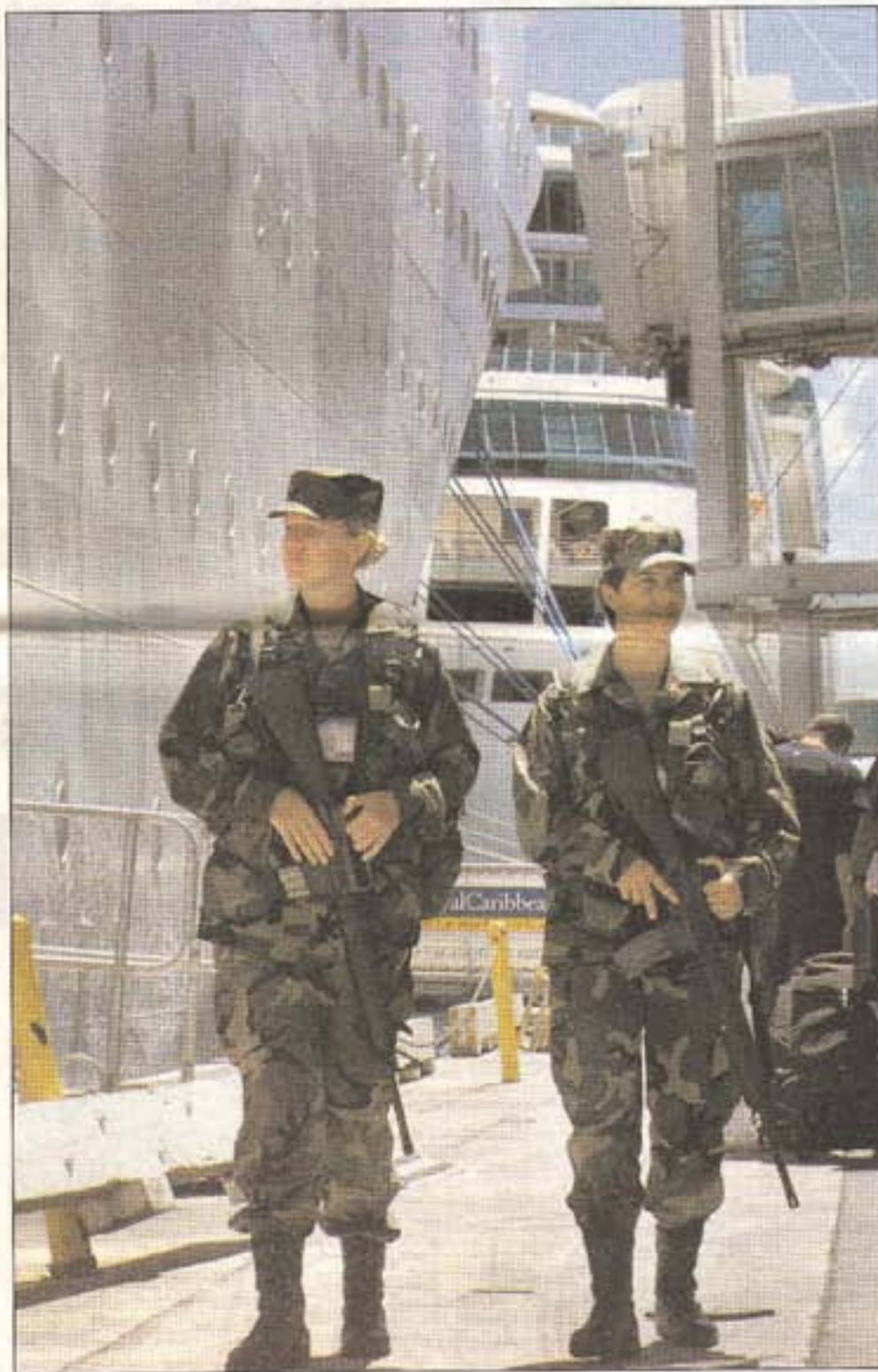


# THE ON GUARD

Volume XXXI, 05 NEWSPAPER of the ARMY and AIR NATIONAL GUARD May-June 2002

## Guardians retire from missions



By Spc. Thomas Kielbasa

Florida Army National Guard

MIAMI - Since late last year, citizen-soldiers like Florida Army National Guard Sgt. Xavier Sanchez patrolled the cruise ship terminals at the Port of Miami.

Sanchez, a Florida Guardsman with Company B, 260th Military Intelligence Battalion, was one of the hundreds of citizen-soldiers assigned to protect the state's deepwater seaports under "Operation Safe Harbor." He recently completed his last day walking patrol through Miami's busy port terminals.

After more than five months, the Florida Guard's seaport security mission was finally ending, and the job of serving as "the eyes and ears of the port's security operations" was ready to be handed over to local law enforcement - just as the Guard's airport security mission transitioned.

"Sir, you need to move your vehicle," Sanchez said to a taxi driver parked in a restricted zone in front of Terminal No. 3. The driver sighed wearily, but acquiesced to the uniformed soldier carrying the M-16 rifle and two-way radio.

"They know they're not supposed to park there, but most of them are pretty good about moving when I ask," Sanchez explained after the taxi had driven off into the late-morning Miami haze.

Duty for Sanchez and the other soldiers was not always interesting. Each day these National Guard soldiers stood guard and watched as passengers boarded their ships, or spent hours patrolling the crowded terminals looking for security breaches. But when Florida Gov. Jeb Bush directed the National Guard to augment security at Florida seaports following the Sept. 11 attacks, Guard personnel eagerly stepped up to the chal-

lenge.

In early November more than 300 armed soldiers from Florida National Guard units throughout the state were replaced at four designated seaports - Port of Miami, Port Everglades in Fort Lauderdale, Port of Tampa, and Port Canaveral - and tasked to provide assistance with passenger and baggage screenings, cargo inspection, and to enhance security at port perimeters and storage areas. Later a smaller contingent was assigned to Key West under the same mission.

Perhaps nowhere were those operations more important than at the Port of Miami, which has the world's largest year-round cruise fleet. Designated the "Cruise Capital of the World" it is home to 17 cruise ships and several major cruise lines. The port also handles more "megaships" - vessels capable of transporting in excess of 3,000 passengers - than any other port in the world. Last year alone, nearly eight million tons of cargo and 3.4 million passengers passed through the Port of Miami. According to the International Council of Cruise Lines this amounted to an \$8 billion impact on the Miami-Dade area.

"Our most important duty was to provide a sense of security to the American public," Maj. Omar Segura, officer in charge of port operations for the Guard contingent, said. Segura, also of the 260th Military Intelligence Battalion, started at the port earlier this spring when his unit took over the last leg of the operation.

"The people have seen the presence of our soldiers and that presence has provided them with a sense of comfort, both when they depart the U.S. on a cruise and when they

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Photo by Spc. Thomas Kielbasa

Private 1st Class Christy Nantz (left) and Spc. Marion Mau, both of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 260th Military Intelligence Battalion, walk patrol beside massive cruise ships at the Port of Miami, during the waning days of Operation Safe Harbor. More than 300 soldiers in the Florida National Guard were activated for the five-month-long mission.

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## About The On Guard

The On Guard is published monthly using federal funds under provisions of AR 360-81 by the Command Information Branch of the National Guard Bureau's Public Affairs Office for all members of the Army and Air National Guard. The 50,000 copies are distributed to all National Guard units and selected organizations throughout the Total Force. The views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Department of Defense, the Army, the Air Force or the National Guard Bureau.

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E-mail your stories to us by the 20th of each month. We prefer that photos be high-quality digital (200 dpi or more) and e-mailed to:

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# Mentoring young soldiers

By Spc. Christina Davis

Today's Army is full of bright, motivated soldiers who are yearning to learn more about their jobs and how to be leaders themselves.

Young soldiers need guidance from their squad leaders, platoon leaders and anyone else willing to pay attention to them.

In this time of draw-downs, high optempo, day-to-day duties, as well as guard duty requirements, leaders must not forget about soldiers' basic needs.

Too many times in these stressful moments, leaders get so caught up in the need to meet deadlines and make meetings, and in figuring out who will do the schedules, they sometimes forget to give soldiers basic guidance and attention.

Instead of telling a soldier that "I have no time right now. You will just have to wait," maybe leaders could tell the soldier to come up with a plan and after the busy meeting the two of them can sit down and discuss it.

Instead of getting angry with a soldier because he or she didn't do a job the way the leader wanted, maybe they could take a deep breath and tell the soldier what they could have done better and show them how to do it if they don't know how.

Leaders, sit back for a moment and remem-

ber when you were a young soldier. How did you learn your job? How did you learn to lead and teach young soldiers? Who gave you the time you needed? Who mentored you?

Answer those questions and then ask yourself if you are really doing the same for your soldiers. Are you being the mentor someone was for you?

This is a stressful time for everyone, but it can also be a tool for learning and guidance for many young soldiers to develop their leadership skills and styles.

They can become proficient in their jobs and complete projects that may have been otherwise too difficult, or advanced. Soldiers are everyone's number one priority. Remember, your soldiers will be the way you teach them to be. They will be like you. It is up to you to make them the best soldiers and leaders they can be. You are the teacher.

(Editor's note: Spc. Christina Davis is editor of the Talon newspaper in Bosnia and a member of the 305th PAD.)

## Reunion

At least 200 former Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve veterans will hold a reunion in Berlin Nov. 4-11, 2002. Federalized for one year by then-President John F. Kennedy, in 1961-62, to counter a blockade by the former Soviet Union and its

allies. They were stationed in France and (then) West Germany - composed of fighter and tactical air control squadrons. Details, including an open invitation to join in the festivities, which are being co-hosted by the German Army in Berlin, can be found at the following website:

<http://home.earthlink.net/~hryan1>

## Letter

Dear Editor:

Tech Sgt. Mark Olsen's front page article and picture about Todd Beamer were excellent. The "Let's Roll" nose art is a great tribute to true American hero.

The caption under the picture stated that Todd was a National Guardsman but I could not find any further information in the article concerning his National Guard membership. I did not realize he was a Guardsman until I read the caption. Knowing that Todd was a Guardsman further enhances my pride in being a member of such a great institution as the National Guard.

Lt. Col. Norm Brosi, 139th Airlift Wing, Missouri Air National Guard

(Editor's note: The On Guard made an error in reporting that Todd Beamer was a member of the National Guard. We apologize for the mistake.)

## GUARDTOONS

By Master Sgt. W.C. Pope  
439th Airlift Wing

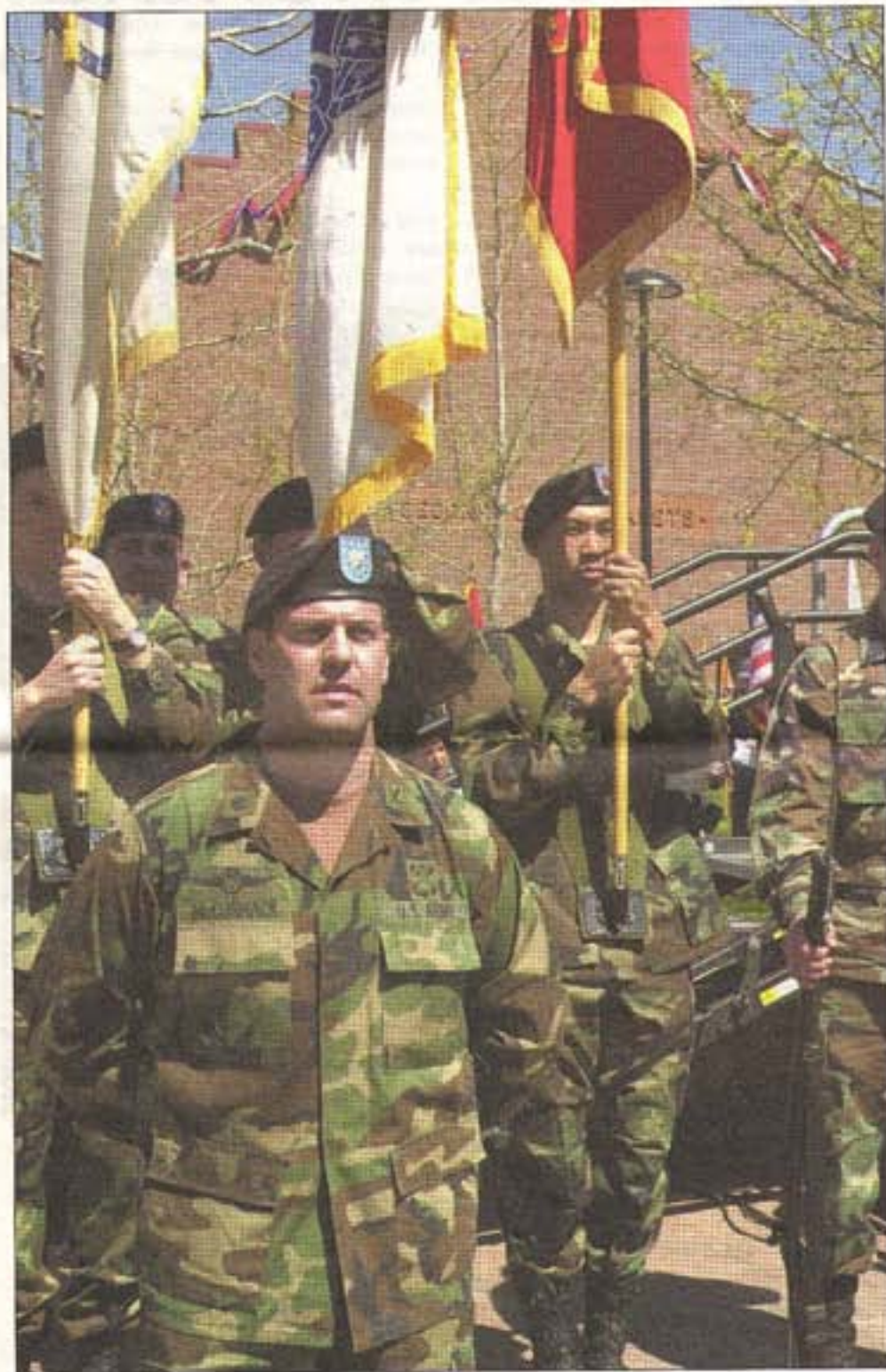






## In the News

# 365 years later, the Guard maintains the mission



By Master Sgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

SALEM, Mass. - Corporals and colonels and sergeants and senior leaders in the modern National Guard claimed to have much in common with the English colonists who took up arms against the Pequot Indians in the cause of homeland defense along coastal Massachusetts 365 years ago this spring.

Some 2,000 men and women in black berets and camouflage uniforms, and others wearing uniforms from earlier wars recently gathered this spring to observe the first muster held by the East Regiment in Salem, Mass., in 1637 on the same historic ground.

The same ceremony on the Salem Common was held in conjunction with the Peabody Essex Museum's dedication of nearby Armory Park, site of the Salem Armory that was gutted by fire in 1982. The \$2.5 million, acre-size park honors the National Guard and all Essex County veterans.

The citizen-soldiers and re-enactors first formed up on the common and then marched through Salem's streets to commemorate the birthplace of the organized militia and the National Guard that still considers homeland defense its most sacred trust.

"They came together to protect the colony from Indians and pirates and things like that," observed Staff Sgt. Joseph Stone, a newcomer to the 101st Engineer Battalion, now based in Reading, Mass., that traces its lineage to the East Regiment.

"We come together to protect the state against natural disasters and the country against our enemies," he added.

Indeed, more than 1,000 members of the Massachusetts National Guard are actively engaged in homeland defense missions with more than 50,000 other Army and Air Guard members from throughout the country because of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, said Air National Guard Brig. Gen. George Keefe, Massachusetts' adjutant general.

A stone marker, featuring the 1984 "First Muster" painting by renowned military artist Don Troiani, was unveiled on the Salem Common on the brisk Saturday morning to mark the spot where the Guard's first regimental unit first stood together.

Troiani traveled from his Southbury, Conn., home to help dedicate the marker that pays tribute to "the beginning of the National Guard of the United States" in Salem, which is also known for its 17th century witch trials and thriving early-American maritime trade.

Three civilian colonial English re-enactors carrying matchlock rifles and wearing armor and clothing similar to what citizen-soldiers would have worn in 1637 also attended the ceremony.

They added historical perspective to the ceremony that was punctuated by martial music from Bay State Army and Air Guard bands, by an artillery salute fired by the

Massachusetts Army Guard's modern howitzers and by a fly-over by three Massachusetts Air Guard A-10 "Thunderbolt II" fighters.

"As we think about this new war, this global war, it is different in some respects, and in others, perhaps not so," said Lt. Gen. Roger Schultz, director of the Army National Guard, to a crowd that included several decorated veterans from 20th century conflicts.

"We all ought to be reminded that service to this nation, setting aside one's life for others, has been commonplace in this region. And what's special about it is that it all started right here, in this place, with the first muster," added Schultz, who earned a Silver Star during his combat tour in Vietnam.

December 13, 1636 is considered the National Guard's actual birth date. That's when "the Massachusetts General Court directed the establishment of the first militia regiments in North America," points out retired Army Guard Col. Michael Doubler in his 2001 book: "I Am The Guard: A History of the Army National Guard, 1636-2000."

"Regiments eventually became the basis for all modern armies, and ... Massachusetts was the first government in North America to raise militia regiments" explains the significance of Dec. 13, Doubler added.

Militia units, however, were common throughout the colonies, and 15 towns in Massachusetts contributed companies "with a combined strength of 1,500 men," to form the new North, South and East Regiments, Doubler reported.

Today's members of the Massachusetts Army National Guard's 181st and 182nd Infantry, the 1st Battalion, 101st Field Artillery and the 101st Engineer Battalion claim descent from "the U.S. Army's oldest units. They directly trace their lineage to the North, South and East Regiments," Doubler and other National Guard historians stated.

The Massachusetts Army Guard's 1st Battalion, 102nd Field Artillery from Lynn, Mass., shared the spotlight with its parent outfit, formed in 1786 as the 2nd Corps of Cadets, during the Armory Park dedication because the Salem Armory was the home for both units.

"Our names and equipment have changed greatly over the past 365 years," said Lt. Col. Michael McCormack, a West Point graduate and the 102nd's commander, about the Massachusetts National Guard's history. "However, the one constant remains from the first muster here at Salem to the battlefields of France to our mission today, the war against terrorism."

"That is our steadfast commitment to the nation and to the commonwealth, to the security of our citizenry and defense of our way of life."



Photos by Master Sgt. Bob Haskell  
(Above) Massachusetts Army National Guard Lt. Col. Michael McCormack, commander of the 1st Battalion, 102nd Field Artillery, said the Guard remains steadfast in its commitment to the country and the commonwealth during the dedication of Armory Park in Salem, the battalion's former home, on Saturday, May 4. (Right) The Massachusetts Army National Guard's 101st Engineer Battalion from Reading passes in review near the new stone marker commemorating the first muster in 1637 of the East Regiment.



# Back-to-back deployments: From Kuwait to Germany in six months

## 66th Infantry Brigade provides security in Europe

By Petty Officer 3rd Class  
Melissa Mullins  
U.S. Navy Reserve

GARMISCH, Germany — After more than five months, citizen-soldiers with the Army National Guard's 66th Infantry Brigade are settling into their security duties after being thousands of miles away from their family, friends and careers back in the Midwest.

For Prairie State citizen-soldiers with the brigade's Company C., 2nd Battalion 130th Infantry based in Litchfield, Ill., the overseas deployment to Germany after their call up last December has made a profound impact in their lives following the Sept. 11th terrorist attacks that resulted in their being activated along with more than 50,000 other National Guard troops.

Some of the 66th Brigade soldiers went to Germany after only being back to their hometowns for a short period of time from a previous security deployment to Kuwait.

Staff Sgt. Daniel J. Maloney, who previously served more than 10 years with the U.S. Army had to leave behind his wife, Paula Anne, and 1-year-old son in Swansea, Ill., and his civilian job as a professional mover with Mayflower Long Haul Drivers.

"It was hard leaving home again in less than seven months from getting back from the Kuwait deployment," Maloney said.

Currently, the 66th Brigade is providing force protection in and around the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies to help augment the U.S. Army 6th Area Support Group, which is part of U.S. Army-Europe. The Marshall Center is an international defense institution promoting dialogue and understanding between defense and foreign affairs officials from the Americas, Europe and Asia.

For Litchfield's Company C, Sgt. Jay C. Hultz, who before the deployment served as a police officer in St. Peters, Mo., said the unit spent two weeks of mobilization processing and another two weeks of force protection training at Fort Stewart, Ga., before departing for Stuttgart, Germany. Once in Germany, they spent more time learning about security procedures and rules of



By Petty Officer 3rd Class Melissa Mullins U.S. Navy Reserve  
Illinois Army National Guard Sgt. Jay C. Hultz checks a driver's license while performing guard duty in Garmisch, Germany, months after his unit, part of the 66th Infantry Brigade, was federally activated and deployed to Europe.

engagement under U.S. Army-Europe guidelines before Company C was one of the first units posted at Garmisch in late February.

Like Maloney and Hultz, the Illinois infantry unit brought to counter-terrorism mission a wealth of both civilian and military experience. Sgt. Michael P. Tungett of Belthalto, Ill., served five years on active duty with the U.S. Navy prior to joining the National Guard.

Tungett left behind wife, Amanda, who is expecting their first child and his civilian job as a social skills tutor at Catholic Children's Home, along with his college studies at Southern Illinois University. "But with the seriousness of the world's situation, that will have to wait," he said.

"These are sacrifices that men and women in our position have to make and I am proud to serve my country," Tungett added.

Besides performing guard duty, identifica-

tion checks and vehicle inspections, their mission to Germany is not all work and not play. The citizen-soldiers have been able to take tours throughout Germany and participate in sporting activities like hiking and mountain biking on their off-duty time.

Illinois Army National Guard soldiers such as Spc. Brandon J. Braun of Sparta, Ill., who just graduated from high school have also had to make sacrifices. Others like Spc. Adam D. Laurent of Irving, Ill., had to forego his studies at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Ill., and Spc. Leslie N. Smay of Jerseyville, Ill., could not enroll for the spring semester at Lewis and Clark Community College in Godfrey, Ill.

Coping with the disruption to their civilian lives, the citizen-soldiers still say their morale is high.

"Knowing I'm doing everything I can to protect my family and the United States

makes it all worth it," Braun added.

Some say the mission in Germany increased in importance as the war on terrorism continues to rage.

"Our random anti-terrorism measures keep the would-be terrorists from being able to gain information on our mode of operations, therefore giving them good reason not to attempt anything," said Staff Sgt. Michael D. Alexander of Shipman, Ill., who serves as a four-man squad team leader.

Although Alexander has for more than five months not seen his wife, Christine, and three children, not to mention leaving behind his supervisor's job at Georgia Pacific Corp., the Illinoisan's patriotism was still readily evident.

"No price is too great to pay for the freedom of our citizens, both now and forever," Alexander added.



FROM PAGE 1

## Mission

return as well," he explained. "Since we have been here they have expressed a sincere appreciation for what we do."

That appreciation was clear at the port terminals. Guard personnel making their security rounds barely went 15 minutes without being stopped and thanked by grateful tourists.

"Thanks for serving. You're doing a great job!" an elderly man waiting in line to board a cruise ship said to Sgt. Angel Demoya as he made his morning rounds.

Demoya, who had been on duty at the port for two and a half months, smiled and explained that the complement wasn't unusual: a lot of people, especially parents with children, stopped and thanked the soldiers.

"Especially children," he said. "They like to take pictures and even some ask us for autographs."

Security was nothing new to Demoya, who is a federal corrections officer in Miami when he's not serving with the Guard. But dealing with the public every day was a "different" type of mission they all had to get used to.

Cpl. Nilda Gutierrez, standing guard at one of the terminal entrances, also agreed that most of the passengers were happy to see the armed guards at the port. But some, she said, were a bit wary of the armed soldiers.

"We have some cruise ship passengers from

other countries, and some of them aren't used to seeing military soldiers in the entrances of the terminals, so they get a little shocked," Gutierrez added.

Gutierrez, who has been on duty in Miami since late March, said one couple from Israel seemed to feel exactly the opposite when they came through her checkpoint and remarked the armed security made them feel "like they were in their own country."

There were no major incidents reported or terrorist actions taken against the seaports during Operation Safe Harbor, and the mission was definitely a success, according to National Guard leadership at the Port of Miami.

"The one thing that we have learned from this mission is that our soldiers are highly motivated and highly committed," Segura said. "Once again the National Guard has fulfilled one of the most sacred missions, which is providing security to our homeland and to be prepared to answer the call when our nation requires it. Our soldiers have what it takes. We can tailor our organization and our forces to fulfill requirements as they are needed."

U.S. Coast Guard Petty Officer 2nd Class Eric Gustafson, who works with the port security management office which helped direct the Guard's contingent at the Port of Miami, agreed the Florida National Guard

members performed their mission well.

"Actually it was a new mission for everybody," he explained. "From the beginning we all started out together - both the Coast Guard and the National Guard - treating this as a priority mission. I don't think we could have done the things we've done out here with security - revising (and) improving all areas of security - without the National Guard's attention to detail."

A review of port security measures following the terrorist attacks last fall designated the state's seaports as "high risk" due to their significant levels of cruise ship traffic and high volume of hazardous materials. According to Gustafson, the Coast Guard became the "go-to-guys" for the port security mission, and now that the National Guard is leaving they will use local law enforcement to provide the extra security.

"It will be tough," he said. "The Coast Guard especially is going to miss the National Guard. It's been a good professional relationship and they've helped us do our mission 150 percent better."

Carnival Cruise Lines - one of the three major cruise companies operating out of the Port of Miami - also expressed their appreciation to the Florida National Guard soldiers involved in Safe Harbor.

"We have received many favorable comments regarding their professional and cour-



Photo by Spec. Thomas Kielbasa  
**Sgt. Xavier Sanchez of the 260th Military Intelligence Battalion directs a taxi into a busy loading zone at the Port of Miami, during his last day of duty for the National Guard's port security mission.**

teous manner," Jennifer de la Cruz, a spokesperson from Carnival, said. "And their presence was a very reassuring sight to our guests and crew. We are truly grateful for their outstanding efforts."

# Airport security: Troops turn over duties

By Master Sgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

ARLINGTON, Va. - Thousands of Army and Air National Guard troops are returning to life as they knew it before the terrorist attacks of last Sept. 11 now that they are no longer helping to safeguard the country's civilian airports.

May was the month that Guard troops left more than 400 airports where they steadfastly stood watch in their distinctive camouflage uniforms at security checkpoints since President George W. Bush asked the governors for the Guard's help late last September.

The mission for all Guard troops, who have become familiar figures to millions of airline passengers from coast to coast, ended May 31.

Virginia Army Guard Sgt. Ishma Hodges gained a new respect for the civilian security screeners, and Spc. Derrick Kysar discovered that boring could be beautiful during the seven months they served at the airport located near Washington, D.C.

Both are traditional citizen-soldiers in the 29th Infantry Division that ended its mission at Reagan National in mid May.

"I gained a lot of respect for what the civilian screeners do," said Hodges who took military leave from his civilian job as a land acquisition negotiator for the Virginia Department of Transportation to do his bit

for the war against terrorism.

"It's hard but tedious duty," added Hodges about the civilians with whom he worked closely at passenger security points. "They get a lot of abuse, but under the circumstances they do a really good job."

Kysar, meanwhile, balanced his airport duties with his part-time job as a geology instructor at George Washington University in the District of Columbia.

All told, nearly 9,000 Army and Air Guard troops were assigned to 444 airports by last December after the president asked for additional personnel through the holiday season, explained Greg Funk of the National Guard Bureau's homeland security staff in Arlington, Va.

Many of them, like Kysar, continued to hold down civilian jobs while pulling regular shifts at airports from Boston to Los Angeles. Others put their civilian jobs and college on hold.

The Guard's numbers were reduced to 5,071 troops at 341 airports by May 10 and then to 2,182 personnel at 223 on the Monday after Mother's Day, Funk added. "The Transportation Security Administration, being committed to creating a workforce that commands the respect of the traveling public, is in the process of hiring security screeners and supervisors at over 400 airports who are taking and will take the place of our

Guard members," stated the National Guard Bureau.

"This has gone extremely well. There was a lot of competition to do this mission, so we were able to select the best National Guard soldiers and airmen," said Lt. Col. David Green, who coordinated a force of about 50 Army and Air Guard troops for four airports in New Mexico. "It has certainly boosted the National Guard's image."

The fact that the vast majority of passengers accepted the additional security measures made the duty pretty mundane most of the time, said Kysar.

"Hey, boring is good," he added before recalling some less than boring moments.

One man, for example, intentionally dropped his trousers after being asked by a civilian screener to open his belt buckle, Kysar said, because he felt his personal rights were being violated.

Another man threw his shoes at a screener when asked to remove them so they could be checked for wires. The shoes did not hit the screener, Kysar added.

And there was the occasional government official or diplomat who, Kysar said, would try to cut through the security process by impatiently asking the tired old question "Do you know who I am?"

"Usually we could defuse a situation by walking up and making our presence

known," Kysar added.

"Your mere presence at the checkpoints no doubt averted would-be criminals and terrorists who have, presumably, chosen other paths of less resistance," said Christopher Browne, Reagan National's vice president and manager, told the departing Guard soldiers, as reported American Forces Press Service.

"You have been absolutely instrumental in restoring the nation's confidence in this critical mode of transportation," Browne added. "I truly hope we can maintain that confidence in your absence."

Others have echoed Browne's praise as the mission wound down.

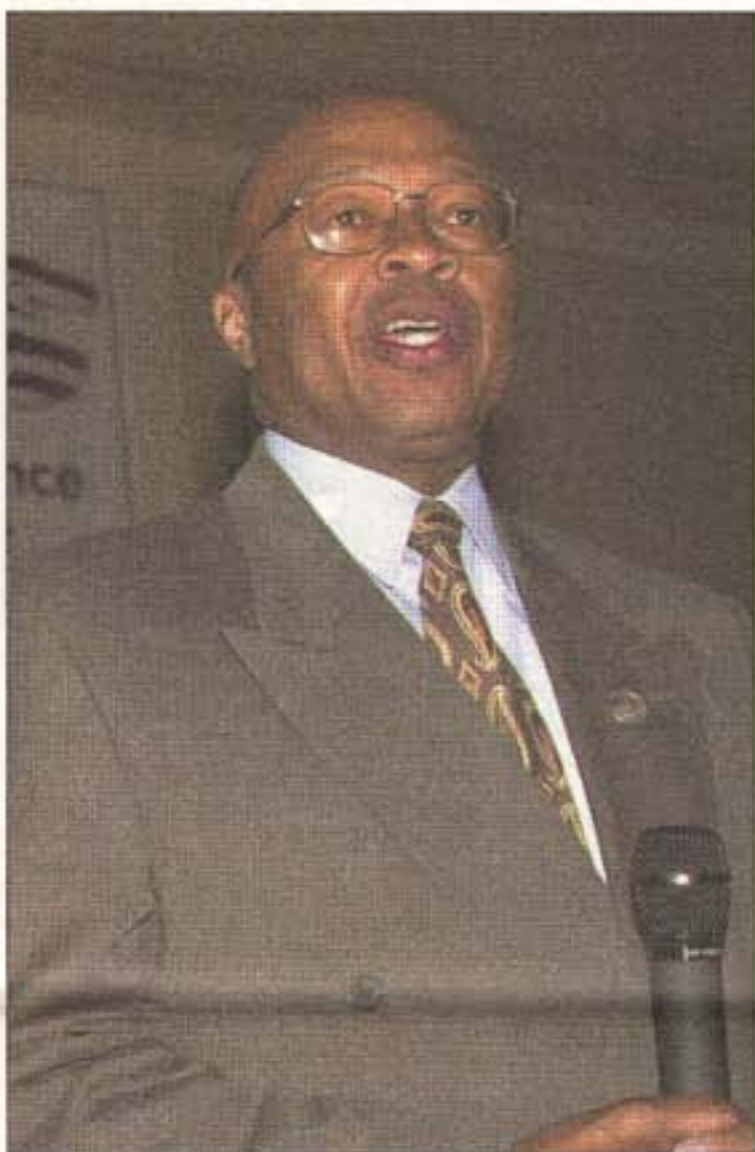
"They did a good job," said a Harbor Police officer in San Diego about the troops who ended the mission at that international airport on May 5.

"I want to express my appreciation to the National Guard men and women in the airports," stated Margot Cranford of Little Rock, Ark., about the troops she encountered at half a dozen airports in California, Texas, Florida and Georgia.

"Their presence should be intimidating to the wrong people, but they have been so friendly and helpful to the general public," she added. "It makes me feel that I am part of them instead of apart from them."



# A Year in Diversity: Building a well rounded force



Photos by Master Sgt. Bob Haskell, National Guard Bureau  
**Felton Page, the new chief of the National Guard Bureau's Equal Opportunity Division, stressed the idea in Denver that all people can contribute to the Army and Air Guard forces.**

By Master Sgt. Bob Haskell  
 National Guard Bureau

DENVER – Felton Page learned his most important lesson about people from his factory-worker father while growing up in Buffalo, N.Y. "Treat people for who they are, not for who you think they might be," were the late Y.C. Page's words of wisdom that have served his only child well.

Felton Page has instilled that idea in his two sons. The former armor officer in the active Army has made it the foundation for his military and civilian career as an advocate for equal opportunity and as the National Guard Bureau's new spokesman for equality.

"My father was right," reflected Page, now 55, while recently spending time with 390 of his National Guard colleagues in Denver, Colo. "We have to value everybody for who they are and what they bring to the table. We all may be different, but we are still united toward one goal. And our differences, our diversity, make us stronger."

That was the message that Page and other specialists from the Guard Bureau and Department of Defense repeatedly stressed during the Bureau's four-day Equal Opportunity and Equal Employment Opportunity Training Conference during the National Guard's Year of Diversity.

"DIVERSITY=US" was the theme for the conference which Page directed for the first time as the new chief of the Guard Bureau's Equal Opportunity Division in Arlington, Va.

He is living proof that the equal opportunity movement is steadily gaining ground in this country. In February he became the first African-American to take charge of that division whose stated goal is to "guarantee each man and woman, military and civilian, equal opportunity for entry and advancement in the National Guard in an envi-

ronment free from discrimination, bias and sexual harassment."

Page knows the movement has come a long way since 1969 when, as new lieutenant, he was one of just three African-American officers permanently assigned to Fort Knox, Ky., and when he was abruptly ordered to leave the Officer's Club one afternoon while wearing civilian clothes.

Officials point out that the Guard mirrors America more than ever because the Army Guard includes 26.5 percent minorities and the Air Guard 20.2 percent, according to the most recently published statistics.

They also point out that those percentages are significantly lower in the upper third of the enlisted ranks and throughout the officer corps and that Hispanics, this country's fastest growing minority, make up but 7.1 percent of the Army Guard and 5.3 percent of the Air Guard.

Women, meanwhile, represent 11.3 percent of the Army Guard and 16.8 percent of the Air Guard. However, 52 percent of the Army Guard's slots are open to women, and women can serve in 97 percent of the Air Guard's positions, states the National Guard Almanac.

The equal opportunity practitioners in Denver, therefore, were challenged to encourage their commanders to reach out to the communities where their units are located and make it clear that people of all cultures are welcome.

"Don't just talk diversity. Get out there and make it work," urged Lt. Gen. Russell Davis, chief of the National Guard Bureau. "We've got to reach out to the Hispanic communities to make sure they're properly represented in our National Guard. We want to be representative of all of our communities."

Davis, the first African-American to serve as the

– Felton Page

*"We have to value everybody for who they are and what they bring to the table. We all may be different, but we are still united toward one goal. And our differences, our diversity, make us stronger."*

See DIVERSITY On Page 7

## Growing more diversified: First female state command chief warrant officer

By Sgt. 1st Class Eric Wedeking  
 National Guard Bureau

LANSING, Mich. – Chief Warrant Officer 5 Rhea R. Pruett was recently selected as state command chief warrant officer in the Michigan Army National Guard, marking her with the distinction of being the first woman in the entire Army National Guard to attain this position.

National Guard Bureau officials in Arlington, Va., said Pruett's promotion adds even more impact to Bureau Chief Lt. Gen. Russell Davis' decree of the year 2002 as the National Guard's "Year of Diversity."

"We're in a year of outreach, so to speak, in that we're diversifying the chief warrant officer ranks as well," said Chief Warrant Officer 5 Jon Wharton, command chief at National Guard Bureau.

Pruett will serve as the state's adjutant general's principal advisor regarding all actions affecting warrant officers, emphasizing strength management, education programs

and career development for warrant officers.

Pruett began her military career by enlisting in 1974 as a personnel records specialist in the Michigan Army National Guard. In 1978, she served on active duty in the U.S. Army with assignments at Fort Carson, Colorado and Stuttgart, Germany, before returning to the Michigan Army National Guard later that same year where she served as a sergeant with the 46th Brigade, 38th Infantry Division and became the unit's full-time administrative supply technician. In 1980, she was selected as the military personnel



Pruett

technician for the 3rd Battalion, 126th Infantry and was appointed to Warrant Officer 1.

CW5 Pruett transitioned to the Active Guard-Reserve program in 1987 and established the Personnel Services Branch at State Area Command headquarters while also serving as the officer in charge for the 163rd Personnel Services Company. During

this tenure she sat on numerous committees at the National Guard Bureau-level to address system improvements in the person-

nel community. In 1998, she was promoted to Chief Warrant Officer 5 with the distinction of being the first woman soldier in the state of Michigan to attain this rank.

Wharton noted that Pruett's nomination as command chief warrant officer continues to bring attention to the fledgling command chief program, which was authorized by the U.S. Congress in 1999 and allows each state adjutant general to appoint a command chief warrant officer.

"Not every chief warrant officer 5 is a command chief," Wharton added. "There are a total of 50 command chiefs out of 54 states and territories."

Pruett was born in the Netherlands, but her family settled in western Michigan when she was 18 months old. She is a graduate of the Warrant Officer Senior Staff Course and possesses a bachelor's degree in business management from Davenport College of Business in Lansing, Mich.



FROM PAGE 6

## Diversity

National Guard Bureau's chief, will retire this summer after 44 years in uniform, including 36 years in the Air National Guard.

His legacy, however, will include a historic "Memorandum of Understanding" between his office and National Image Inc., a Denver-based national organization that advocates employment, educational opportunities and civil rights for Hispanic people.

The document Davis signed with Albert Rocha, the National Image president, commits the Guard Bureau to "identify and establish goals to diversify the ranks of the National Guard with qualified male and female Hispanics serving as soldiers and airmen."

The Guard Bureau "agrees to seek input from Image to assist in identifying and establishing those goals," the memorandum further states.

Other Guard Bureau leaders, including Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, the vice chief, and Christopher Gardner, director of the Joint Staff, pledged their support to the idea that equal opportunity and diversity go hand-in-hand with keeping the Guard strong enough to support the 54 states and territories, while increasing commitments overseas.

The Army Guard's director stirred the crowd with his candid comments about the status of women.

"We're not even close to reaching the potential of female leadership in the Army National Guard," said Lt. Gen. Roger Schultz.

"I have to be concerned with where we're going next, and I'm not satisfied with where we are today," Schultz added. "The message we're sending is that it's OK to serve here, but it's not OK to lead here. I believe that women make our force stronger."

Schultz recognized African-American Col. Julia Cleckley, chief of the Army Guard's Human Resource Office, who will be promoted to brigadier general later this year. He also insisted that diversity is not a theme for just this year but a crusade that must be carried into the future.

"In terms of equal opportunity and diversity, we have only begun," he said.

That is the ball that Felton Page, who played football at Central State University in Wilberforce, Ohio, must now run with as the National Guard Bureau's new equal opportunity chief. He made a solid impression in Denver.

"He comes across as very genuine about the message and the job he's doing," assessed Chief Warrant Officer 2 Kathy Mauch, an equal opportunity officer for Army and Air Guard personnel in North Dakota.

"He is personable and approachable," added Lt. Col. Jill Thomas, that state's Army Guard equality officer.

Page is clearly a people-person who has promised to carry the equal opportunity message to the states.

"We need to make more staff visits to the states. We need to get out to where the rubber meets the road," he said about the impor-



Photo by Master Sgt. Bob Haskell, National Guard Bureau

**Lieutenant General Russell Davis, chief of the National Guard Bureau, signs a Memorandum of Understanding with Albert Rocha, president of National Image Inc., that pledges the organizations' cooperation to further diversify the Army and Air National Guard with qualified Hispanic soldiers and airmen.**

tance of improving the equal opportunity environment and avoiding costly, time-consuming complaints. "It's like maintaining an automobile. A checkup costs a lot less than repairing a problem."

"People think that equal opportunity means that something is wrong. But there are so many proactive things we can do up front," Page added. "All that most people need is an

opportunity. We need to do a better job of guiding the minority people we get into the Guard."

"We need to do a better job of reaching out to their communities and to historically black colleges and universities, to Hispanic serving institutions, and to tribally controlled colleges to find them. We need to fish someplace else."

# A commitment to equal opportunity

## Guardman remembered for helping others succeed

By Master Sgt. Bob Haskell

National Guard Bureau

DENVER — Benito Saucedo Jr. was concerned about equal opportunity for others a long time before he began serving in that capacity for the Texas National Guard.

That is how the senior master sergeant in the Texas Air Guard was remembered by his friends and colleagues in Denver, Colo., on May's third Friday, the day he was eulogized and buried with full-military honors at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio. He was posthumously promoted to chief master sergeant, the highest enlisted rank in the Air Force.

Saucedo, 55, was the Texas Guard's full-time assistant equal opportunity manager. Helping others to improve their lives regardless of their gender or their racial or cultural differences was his cause before it became his career, said those who knew him well.

"Benny convinced me to stay in four years ago. I was going to get out after 18 years," said Senior Master Sgt. Melvane Lanier, an African-American woman who will soon become the human resource advisor for the Texas Air National Guard. "He was one of the few people who pulled me aside and talked to me about the contributions I could make to the Guard."

Ironically, had things not gone terribly wrong for Saucedo on Mother's Day Sunday at his San Antonio home, he would

have been one of the featured speakers during the National Guard Bureau's Equal Opportunity Training Conference in Denver on the Friday of his funeral.

He was scheduled to discuss methods for dealing with equal opportunity issues before they become major problems for commanders with the 390 National Guard equal opportunity people who came to Denver from across the country.

Instead, he was mourned as the apparent victim of a shooting that Bexar County authorities are investigating after his wife and one of his daughters discovered him dead with a single gunshot wound to his chest outside his home the previous Sunday.

The equal opportunity practitioners in Denver paid tribute to one of their own with a moment of silence when their four-day conference opened.

Saucedo is survived by his wife Gloria, daughters Joanna and Anna Saucedo and two sisters and four brothers.

In Denver, members of the Texas delegation and Felton Page, the new chief of the National Guard Bureau's Equal Opportunity Division, elaborated on what the outgoing family man who was said to be everybody's friend meant to them.

"He was a mentor always. He was a man of passion and conviction. He was always concerned about my upward mobility," said Lanier who was promoted twice during the eight years she knew Saucedo thanks, in large part, to his guidance.

"This is a terrible loss to the National Guard, to Texas, and to me personally," said Page of his close friend and golf partner who helped Saucedo to be inducted into the Alamo Silver

Wings, an organization for Hispanic military veterans.

"He would introduce me to his friends as his brother who had been separated from him at birth and raised by another family," added the first African-American to become the Guard Bureau's equal opportunity chief.

Saucedo persuaded members of the Texas Guard to support the youth programs he championed in the barrio where he lived with his family, Page explained.

Indeed, the family has asked that donations be sent in Saucedo's memory to the Centro Del Barrio, a center for homeless families in San Antonio, which was one of his labors of love. The address is: Centro Del Barrio, 204 Nolan St., San Antonio, Texas, 78202.

"He was active at that center year round, not just at Christmas," Lanier explained.

Everybody knew him and knew what he stood for, said Capt. Audwin Taylor, chief of equal opportunity for Texas Air Guard members at the 149th Fighter Wing in San Antonio.

"He spoke his mind, and you could always count on him for good counseling," added Taylor, who recalled meeting Saucedo in 1991 at an equal opportunity conference in Las Vegas. "He was willing to do anything for anyone. He was the warmest person I've met in my 13 years in the National Guard."

And, with a melancholy smile, Taylor recalled the times when his telephone would ring and Benito Saucedo Jr. would simply ask, "What's going on, my brother?"

The captain made it very clear he will miss those calls and the man who made them.



# Road project provides training a

By 2nd Lt. Jamie Melchert

Missouri Army National Guard

ANNETTE ISLAND, Alaska - How tough was your last Field Training Exercises? If your answer was anything less than "grueling" then you will have a new respect for National Guard and other cadre that prepare a totally self-sufficient base camp for 1,600 soldiers each year on a remote Alaskan island. The training site is only accessible by a one-hour ferry ride across the frigid northern Pacific Ocean.

Adding to challenge the National Guard faced for the past five years, carving out a roadway to federal highway standards by clearing large timber and blasting through a solid-granite mountainside. Also compounding the logistics challenge is a climate that receives 150 inches of rain annually. Most of the military troops come from various branches and they change every two weeks. They measure progress in meters in this rugged land that chews up rubber tires. But most importantly, the National Guard has maintained a five-year spotless safety record.

The cadre and civilian staff of the Operation Alaskan Road project meets these challenges and more each day. They are tasked with one of the largest Innovative Readiness Training programs ever undertaken by the Department of Defense, according to Lt. Col. Jerry West, joint task force commander for the project on Annette Island, located 15 miles southwest of Ketchikan, Alaska. He said that the troops call it "The Rock" because of the difficult terrain.

"Considering the environment and diverse personnel, we are proud of the remarkable safety record we have set," said West, of the 35th Engineer Brigade, Missouri National Guard from Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. "And we want to keep that record in tact."

By late March, the staff on Annette Island was bustling with activity even though winter weather conditions were still present. This past winter had been harsh and the base camp preparations had just begun. Broken water pipes that froze during the winter were repaired. Fuel and equipment deliveries were received. Electrical and telephone services were restored. Snow and ice was being plowed off the unimproved logging road that connects the Wy Wuh base camp to the construction area. All of these preparations were well underway to make sure the construction equipment was operational and the weather-beaten 16 feet by 32 feet wood-frame "hooches" were suitable for soldiers when they arrive.

Although 1,800 members of the Metlakatlan Indian community inhabit the 180-square-mile island, there are no modern utilities available and all food, fuel and equipment must be shipped in by boat. So all the necessities and modern conveniences for soldiers must be provided through the logistical ingenuity of the full-time staff.

More than 10,000 gallons of water must be drawn from a creek over one mile away from the base camp and processed daily through a water purification unit before it can be used. Waste water is also treated extensively before being released as into the nearby bay. Diesel-powered generators produce electricity for everything from light bulbs to sophisticated computer equipment. Twelve telephone lines provide necessary communication with the outside world through the use of satellite technology. Vehicle and ferry transportation operations were reestablished. Fuel deliveries are made by barge to two 20,000-gallon fuel bags to feed the appetite of all the engines, including the massive heavy equipment required for road construction.

All of these endeavors must take environmental and safety concerns into account. For instance, when fuel is transferred from a tanker to the bulk fuel point, no boat traffic is allowed in the entire bay area until the task is complete.

But with all the equipment and resources available to the project, the soldiers are still the most important commodity to keep everything running, according to West. During the peak of the work season over 600 hot meals are prepared. Hot showers and flushing commodes are maintained. Chaplain services are provided to meet the soldiers' spiritual needs. Soldiers are even provided with the use of telephones to call loved ones all over the world.

Even though spring has officially begun in March, Lt. Col. Valerie Thomas, executive officer for operations, watches snow fall outside her office window and notes that the unpredictable climate in southeast Alaska is a constant obstacle for working soldiers to overcome.

"There is no doubt that the weather can get pretty bad here," said Thomas of the Marine Corps Reserve from Camp Pendleton, Calif. "The day may start out with patchy snow, then the rain will wash some of the snow away and leave some places with several inches of snow left."

Harsh weather conditions definitely contribute to the challenging work environment, West agreed, noting that it rained for 34 consecutive days during one point of the work season last year. Despite poor weather, he said that there have only been five days of work stoppages since the project began.

Thomas credits the caliber of the duration staff from all service branches for the outstanding operation of the facilities and work site. Flexibility is also essential to coordinate all of the logistics that bring soldiers to the island - sometimes with as little as 12 hours notice.

"It is a very labor intensive endeavor to keep things up and running," said Thomas. "I am amazed at the amount of work done and I am proud of the level of the profes-



Everything from toothpicks to trucks must be transported by ferry Ketchikan to Annette Island. Alaskan terrain combined with severe weather conditions, make the mission difficult. The project continues to make great progress while maintaining safety and environmental precautions.



sionalism we have here from all the services represented."

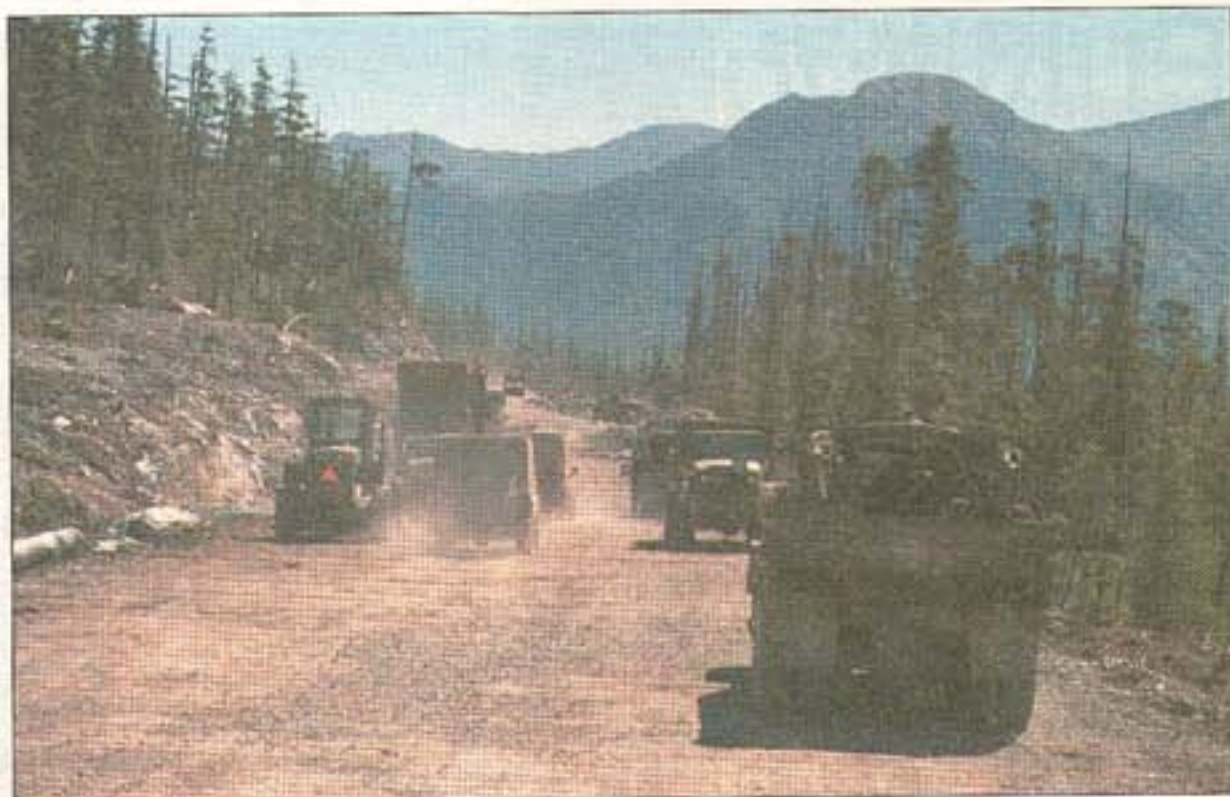
The Alaskan Road Project has already been touted as a "phenomenal accomplishment" noting the progress of the construction, magnitude of the equipment involved and excellent safety record, according to Maj. Jeff Peterson, chief, Military Support of Civilian Authority for National Guard Bureau.

"I think this project has provided a great benefit for the community and all the military branches involved," said Peterson. "I receive calls on a routine basis from units that want to participate. I think that speaks highly of those involved."

West credits the project's success to the remarkable support he has received from the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Alaska



# and much needed infrastructure



Photos by 2nd Lt. Jamie Melchert, Missouri National Guard  
 Metlakatla Island to Guardsmen working on the road project. The rugged  
 at best. However, the men and women of the National Guard con-  
 s.



and Missouri National Guard, U.S. Army Alaskan Command, the Federal Highway Administration, local and regional civilian agencies and all services that provide support. "This is truly a joint effort with a lot of players actively contributing," said West. "I am proud to be a part of this." According to West, some of the most difficult drilling and blasting have been accomplished in

previous years with more than 755,000 cubic yards of granite moved. This year's lofty goal will be to nearly double the construction progress from the existing 5.5 miles to 9.6 miles of roadway.

When completed the road will traverse the island and will be 14.7 miles in length. It will provide the Metlakatla Indian community with much needed access to hospitals, education and

commercial trade that is not currently accessible during winter months.

Through rain or shine, the duration staff at the Alaska Road Project continues to work diligently to make this desolate island a comfortable and safe training site. The first rotation of National Guard and other construction engineers continue working through the spring and summer.

**Although it is officially spring, snow and ice are still concerns of the Alaskan Road Project staff who must use a single unimproved logging road to move manpower and equipment to the road construction site.**





## Sports

# Fulfilling a dream: Running the Boston Marathon

## On Guard Staff Report

BOSTON - She ran her dream race in under four hours. In a field of 14,000 runners who finished, now the Alaska Air National Guard's 1st Lt. Paulette Goodwin can claim the achievement of completing a Boston Marathon for the first time.

Goodwin ran the race in three hours, 56 minutes, and 26 seconds, placing 2,428 among women, and 8,884 overall.

Like countless others, Goodwin strove to stay in good physical condition before the race. And, like a lot of people who work out regularly, she likes to run. But this executive support officer for the Alaska Air Guard's 168th Air Refueling Wing, based at Eielson Air Force Base near Fairbanks, takes her running further - several miles further. She's a committed marathon runner.



"I started working out with a couple friends here in the Guard and became interested in running marathons," Goodwin said.

Goodwin says her running partners encouraged her to enter the Capital City marathon in 1994, which she completed.

She says her home town of Fairbanks has a very active running community, which has helped her stay in the sport.

"There's some kind of race here every other week or so. Everyone that finishes gets a T-shirt or something," she added. "When I was starting out this helped me feel my efforts were worthwhile."

In all, Goodwin competed in 11 marathons in Alaska and the lower 48 United States before entering the Boston Marathon.

"I've run the National Guard marathon twice and in 1998 came in first place for my age group," she said. "That was also my first finish in under four hours."

Goodwin ran the race of her life in an event that's become synonymous with marathon running, the Boston Marathon. However, she says that it's not a race that just anyone can

enter.

"To run the Boston Marathon for my age group, you have to be able to run in 3 hours, 40 minutes," Goodwin explained. "Last year, I beat that time at the Wine Glass Marathon in Corning, N.Y., which qualified me to run in Boston."

Used to running races with 1,000 or so other participants, Goodwin was not sure what to expect in Boston.

"There are 15,000 runners in this marathon and I've been told it's 26 miles of spectators cheering you on," she added. "It was really hard to hold myself back and not push too hard early on."

Unlike some other sports that become cost-prohibitive for some, marathon running has not put a cramp on Goodwin's wallet.

"I usually travel with friends, and we try to pick places where we have friends or relatives to stay with," she said. "If not, we double up on hotel costs."

Running is a sport that requires little in the way of equipment, and entry fees for various events are not out of reach. "The Boston Marathon costs about \$80 to enter," she added.

Marathon running has become a passion for this young lieutenant, one she says has endless rewards.

"I feel that when I finish a 26-mile race, that there's nothing I can't do," Goodwin said. "When I run, there're no other distractions and I can mentally work through a lot of issues."

She feels it has helped her tremendously in her job with the 168th Air Refueling Squadron.

"I have a lot more stamina and confidence since I started running - both mental and physical," said said. "I'm in a lot healthier state of mind to start the day."

Goodwin concluded by offering advice to would-be marathoners.

"Anybody can become a marathon runner," she said. "The key is proper training."

She says a runner shouldn't set too many expectations, other than finishing a race.

"I've made myself a promise never to quit a

race, even if I have to walk," Goodwin added. "Any race you finish, you're a winner."



Submitted photo  
Alaska Air National Guard's 1st Lt. Paulette Goodwin can claim the achievement of completing a Boston Marathon. (above) Determined to be prepared for the marathon, Goodwin ran miles on end in the freezing cold temperatures of Alaska. A little ice and snow would not deter her from completing her mission.





# News Makers

## OCS fast track

By Master Sgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

FORT INDIANTOWN GAP, Penn. — Army National Guard soldiers in the eastern United States determined to train to become officers as quickly as possible will learn a great deal about "The Gap" beginning this summer.

Fort Indiantown Gap, in southeastern Pennsylvania near Harrisburg, will become home to the second "fast-track" eight-week officer candidate school run by the Army National Guard.

The first school of its kind to be accredited by the Army, was for past three years held at Fort Meade north of Rapid City, S.D. As many as 275 officer candidates, including some from the Army Reserve, will be able to earn reserve commissions as second lieutenants during two months of intense training that will begin this June, said Pennsylvania Army National Guard Maj. Jonathan Scott.

The men and women enrolled in the Guard's eastern Officer Candidate School Accelerated Course 501 will report to "The Gap" for four weeks of leadership training on after completing their first two weeks at Camp Fretterd in Maryland. They will spend their two final weeks, beginning in July, at Fort McClellan, Ala., before graduating in early August, said Scott.

Scott is the operations officer for the Pennsylvania Army National Guard's 166th Regiment, commanded by Col. Steven Ward. The training area is based in a compact, \$27 million campus of modern brick buildings at the sprawling National Guard Training Center, which the Army first opened in 1931. There were 2,038 vacancies for first and second lieutenants and 4,220 vacancies for captains throughout the Army Guard at the end of March, said Lt. Col. Cindy Dwyer at the National Guard Bureau.

"There is a significant shortage of second lieutenants and other junior officers in the Guard," said Scott. "This is one way to help fill those ranks."

## New Director...

By Master Sgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

ARLINGTON, Va. — Major General Daniel James III from Texas will become the 11th director of the Air National Guard after the United States Senate confirmed his presidential nomination on Tuesday evening, May 14. He will be promoted to the rank of lieutenant general.

James has been the adjutant general, the state military leader, for Texas since November 1995. He will become the first African-American and the first three-star general responsible for formulating, developing and coordinating all policies, plans and programs affecting the more than 104,000 Air Guard members. They serve in more than 1,841 units throughout the United States, including Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Guam.

Congress approved three-star rank for the leaders of the nation's seven reserve components in August 1999 as part of the 2000 Defense Authorization Act.

President George Bush nominated James to the Air Guard's top position early last October. The Senate confirmation came during the National Guard's Year of Diversity that recognizes the contributions that people from various ethnic and cultural backgrounds bring to the force.

Two other African-Americans also hold senior leadership positions in the Guard. Air Guard Lt. Gen. Russell Davis is chief of the National Guard Bureau, and Chief Master Sgt. Valerie Benton is the Air Guard's command chief master sergeant for all enlisted personnel.

James will become director of an Air Guard force that has been heavily engaged in the war against terrorism in this country and overseas following the terrorist attacks of last Sept. 11.

By mid-May, 24,426 Air Guard members, nearly a quarter of the force, were participating in Noble Eagle missions for homeland defense and were on Enduring



Major General Daniel James III

Freedom duty in foreign lands.

James will succeed Maj. Gen. Paul Weaver Jr. who retired as the Air Guard's director last fall. Brigadier General David Brubaker from Indiana, has been performing the director's duties since becoming deputy director last October.

James is the son of Gen. Daniel "Chappie" James Jr., pioneer Tuskegee Army and the Air Force's first African-American four-star general. The father was an instructor pilot during World War II, and he flew 179 combat missions during the Korean War and in Vietnam.

President Bush was the Texas governor who appointed James to lead the Lone Star State's National Guard forces more than six years ago.

James was a distinguished graduate of the Air Force ROTC program at the University of Arizona in Tucson where he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in June 1968 and received a degree in psychology.

## CST: Preparing for any possible threat

By Master Sgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Department of Defense recently notified Congress that the 52nd Weapons of Mass Destruction-Civil Support Team from the Ohio National Guard in Columbus, Ohio, is now certified. The team is fully ready to assist civil authorities' response to a domestic weapon of mass destruction incident, and possesses the necessary skills, training and equipment to be proficient in all mission requirements.

Also, the Defense Department announced that the 103rd Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team from the Alaska National Guard was officially certified. The Army National Guard team, the 103rd, is stationed at Camp Denali on Fort Richardson, Alaska.

"With the horrific events of September 11 still fresh in all our minds, it is comforting to know that Alaska has a team that is ready to respond to incidents involving biological, chemical, or nuclear weapons," said Alaska Gov. Tony Knowles. "I salute them for their willingness to prepare for events that most of us don't even want to imagine."

Among other duties, the team will train local community fire fighters, police officers, and emergency managers across Alaska.

The threat of terrorism since Sept. 11 and the possibility since early October that deadly anthrax spores could be delivered in the mail have generated a groundswell of business for the 11th Weapons of Mass Destruction-Civil Support Team. The Department of Defense certified that team for federal duty in mid-January. It was the seventh team to be certified among the 17 that were authorized by the National Defense Appropriations Act for 2000.

All 10 of the teams authorized in 1999 have been certified, and five more teams authorized in 2001 are being organized, Defense officials announced.

## National Guard air crews assist in rescue mission of downed Air Force Reserve helicopter

By Maj. Jeff Julum  
Oregon National Guard

SALEM, Ore. — A total of four 1042nd Medical Company (Air Ambulance), Oregon Army National Guard, UH-60 "Blackhawk" helicopters and their crews recently left Salem to assist in the rescue of seven climbers who fell into a crevasse on Mount Hood after an Air Force Reserve "Pavehawk" rescue helicopter crashed on

rugged mountain while attempting the initial rescue.

The crews of the Oregon Army National Guard helicopters were pulled out of pre-deployment training to assist in this real-world mission.

The crew for the first helicopter was: pilot Chief Warrant Officer 4 Mike Cataldo; co-pilot Chief Warrant Officer 4 Al Jung; crew chief Sgt. James Tournay; and flight medics Sgt. Patrick Casha and Sgt. John Thelt.

The second helicopter crew was: pilot Chief Warrant Officer 4 Rick Chagnon; co-pilot Chief Warrant Officer 4 John Trotter; crew chief Sgt. Scott Dye; and flight medics Staff Sgt. Frayne Fowler and Sgt. Jason Johnson.

Two additional 1042nd "Blackhawk" helicopters and their crews also were later dispatched from Salem to Mount Hood to assist the first two helicopter crews in the rescue of the downed Air Force Reserve

"Pavehawk" crew and the trapped hikers.

These soldiers will soon travel with the remainder of the 1042nd to Fort Bragg, N.C., in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

They will be tasked to perform their primary mission of medical evacuation and initial treatment.

The duration and location of their deployment was not known.



# Weatherman becomes National Guard warrior

By Capt. David S. Kolarik

Missouri Army National Guard

FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo. — Meteorologist Mike Roberts of KRCG-TV Channel 13 in Jefferson City, Mo., like most weathermen, has a rough job forecasting the weather affecting hundreds of thousands of citizens in central Missouri. But that job paled to Roberts's latest endeavor.

Roberts recently took a leave of absence from his duties as chief meteorologist at KRCG, a CBS affiliate, to attend basic training at Fort Leonard Wood and graduated Thursday after being tracked on camera throughout nine-weeks of training by his civilian employer.

Roberts said he "always wanted to join the Army." He was actively recruited by the United States Military Academy at West Point after graduating from high school in St. Louis, yet he eventually chose the University of Evansville (Ind.) and played soccer for them on a full scholarship.

After graduating from Fontbonne College in St. Louis with a degree in communications, Roberts began his media career in radio, then moved to television. He went back to school for meteorology and has been the main weatherman for KRCG for the past seven years.

Roberts, 31 at the time, seemed to have everything going for him, a loving wife and children, a great job and a bright future in broadcast media, but he still felt a personal void. While it appeared he was living the American dream, something very important was missing from his life, the urge and great desire to serve his state and country in the Missouri Army National Guard.

Realizing that he was 31 and had the desire to serve as an officer, Roberts knew it was time to make a move. He didn't want to look 10 years down the road and say: "I sure



Photos by Capt. David S. Kolarik

Spc. Mike Roberts places a Claymore mine during the end of basic training.

wish I would have gone with my dream and joined the Army."

Most people have been in similar situations at some juncture in their lives and the day-to-day decisions they make can affect them for the rest of their lives.

Roberts decided to move forward with his dream and join the Army. He called Lt. Col. Bill Ratliff, a public affairs officer with Headquarters State Area Command in Jefferson City, who actively pursued

Roberts, hoping to bring another quality soldier into the Missouri Army National Guard.

After filling out the requisite paperwork and getting mentally prepared to make the move in 1998, Roberts headed to the Kansas City Military Entrance Processing Station to receive his U.S. Army entrance physical needed for enlistment into the guard.

The results shocked him and his family. He was informed that he had testicular cancer. Devastated that his dream was crushed and that he was seriously ill, Roberts began the arduous rigors of chemotherapy. Though the chemotherapy didn't stop him from working, he continued to do the weather while fighting his cancer.

Braving the hair loss and the rest of the collateral damage of his disease, Roberts still never lost sight of his dream, because he said there was still some hope his cancer was going away so he continued to hold on to his dream to one-day serve in the Army.

With the help of radiation treatments and an unyielding spirit, Roberts conquered the cancer and again sought entrance into the Missouri National Guard. After consulting with the state surgeon, Roberts was told that regulations stated the cancer would have to be in remission for three years before the military could consider him for enlistment. The cut-off age for joining the Army is 35.

Roberts, now 34 made his final attempt to join the "Show-Me State" Guard last year. Heading to the same Army medical station that informed him three years ago of his cancer, Roberts once again attempted to physi-

cally qualify. The results were negative the second time.

Roberts reported to basic training at Fort Leonard Wood in January 2002 to begin his dream. Army basic training is hardly a dream, but under Roberts' circumstances it was pretty close, he said.

For the younger troops going through training, Roberts was quickly singled out as a mentor. His self-admittance of being well-organized allowed him the time to help his battle buddies with the demands of time management that comes with the regimens of basic training.

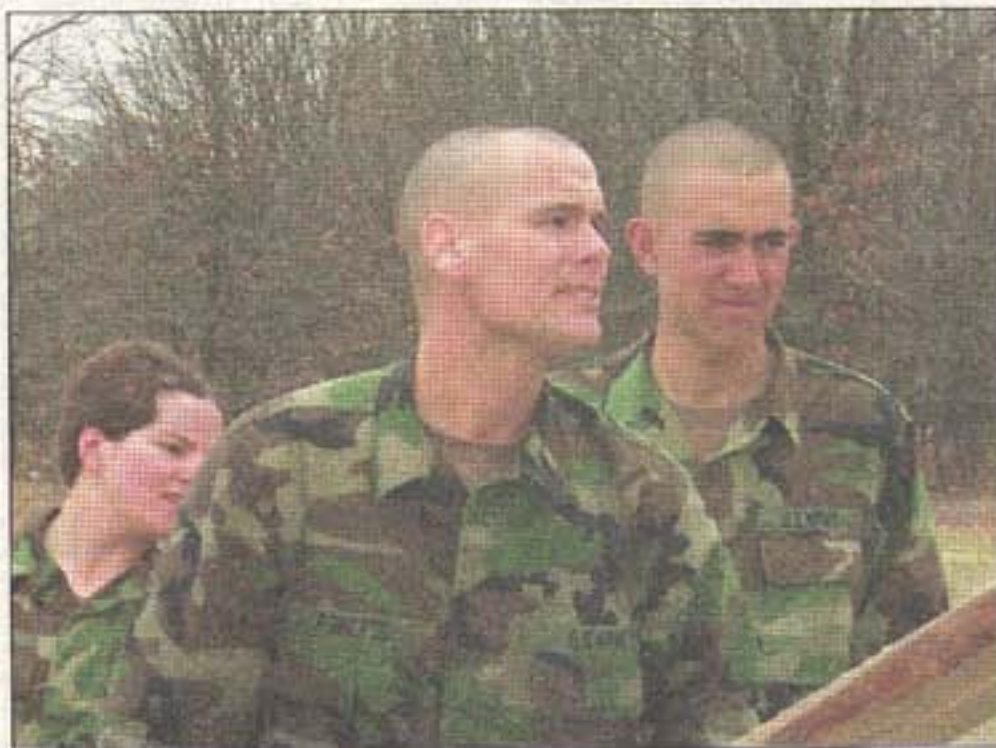
Roberts admits that he, like most soldiers going through basic training, relied on the camaraderie needed to help get a soldier through both physically and emotionally.

"During training, we all needed someone to lean on and share with every now and then," Roberts recalled. "We shared each others' experiences - both high and low, and we offered support to each other when needed to ensure we as a team made it through."

Roberts words echoed those he heard from his battalion commander upon his arrival to his Missouri Army National Guard unit Company C, 1st Battalion, 48th Infantry.

"We expect you to work and focus on getting the person to the left and right of you through this training, before you even begin to think about yourself," said Lt. Col. Casey P. Haskins, commander of 1st Battalion, 48th Infantry Regiment.

Roberts said his next endeavor includes applying as a candidate in the Missouri National Guard Officer Candidate School program at Fort Leonard Wood later this year.



Roberts completes the leader's reaction course with fellow teammates.



# Guard Olympian legend 'Breeze' remembered

By Master Sgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

CHICAGO - Army National Guard Col. Willie Davenport believed until the day he died that determined and promising young athletes should have the same chances he had to fulfill their Olympic dreams.

That was how friends and colleagues remembered the five-time Olympian and 1968 gold-medallist in the 110-meter hurdles on June's third Tuesday, the day after his death from a reported heart attack shocked the National Guard family, U.S. Army sports officials and the U.S. Olympic community.

Davenport, 59, was pronounced dead at the Resurrection Medical Center in Chicago, the Associated Press reported, after collapsing on Monday, June 17, at O'Hare International Airport while returning to his northern Virginia home from a National Guard adjutants generals' conference in Boise, Idaho.

He had been chief of the National Guard Bureau's Office of Sports Management since September 1999, and he was planning to retire before his 60th birthday next June. He had coached the All-Army men's and women's track teams to an unprecedented four undefeated seasons from 1993 through 1996.

A funeral was held June 27 in Baton Rouge, La., and a memorial was held the following day at Fort Meyer, Va. for the divorced father of two sons and one daughter.

Davenport, whose own Olympic career spanned a remarkable 16 years, was responsible for getting the National Guard's sports program validated by the U.S. Army so that it could be funded with \$4 million for four years beginning in 2003, said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Dennis Loy.

That funding has been increased to \$8 million for five years beginning in 2004, added Loy, who worked with Davenport for two and a half years.

"This program would not have gotten off the ground had it not been for Willie Davenport," added Loy who explained that 3,000 National Guard athletes are participating in biathlon and bobsledding, marathon racing, parachuting, and marksmanship programs sponsored by the National Guard Bureau.

Utah Army Guard soldier Jill Bakken won a gold medal in women's bobsledding and Mike Kohn from Virginia and Dan Steele from Oregon won bronze medals in men's bobsledding during the Salt Lake City Winter Olympics last February. And five of the eight members of the U.S. men's and women's biathlon teams were in the Army National Guard.

All but two of them were part of the Army's World Class Athlete Program, but their success convinced Davenport that National Guard athletes could hold their own in international arenas just as he had done when he was younger.

Davenport was best known as being one of the first American to compete in both the



Photo provided

**Willie D. Davenport (center) runs to an Olympic Gold medal during the 110-meter hurdles in the 1968 Summer Olympic Games in Mexico City.**

Summer and Winter Olympics and the first African-American to compete in the Winter Games.

Born in Troy, Ala., he was the oldest in a family of seven children, and he became a state high school hurdling champion in Ohio before joining the Army in 1962 and making the U.S. Army track team.

Davenport made the 1964 U.S. Olympic team for the Tokyo Games where he advanced to the semifinals in the high hurdles. He won his gold medal in Mexico four years later, after leaving the Army and while studying physical education at Southern University A&M in Baton Rouge, La.

The man nicknamed "Breeze" by his teammates finished fourth during the 1972 Summer Games in Munich, and he took the bronze medal during the Montreal Games in 1976, when he was 33 and after he had recovered from a severe knee injury.

He became one of two African-Americans to first make the U.S. bobsled team for the 1980 games in Lake Placid, N.Y. Davenport's four-man team finished 12th in his fifth and final Olympics.

Davenport was honored as one of this country's 100 Golden Olympians before the 1996 Centennial Olympics held in Atlanta, Ga., after being inducted into the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame in 1991. He was first vice president of the U.S. Olympians, the governing branch of the 6,000-member U.S. Olympic Alumni Association. He was also in the U.S. Track and Field Hall of Fame.

"Competing in five Olympics was phenomenal," said Paulette Freese, manager of the Army's World Class Athlete Program since 1994. "And he didn't just show up. He

brought back the medals. He was a winner."

Davenport never forgot his roots, added Freese. "He gave the Army credit for his medals and for much of the success he achieved in his life."

"Colonel Davenport was always a strong advocate for Army sports, not just for the National Guard soldiers but for all Army athletes," she said. "He never gave up the battle when it came to fighting for the rights and for funding for the soldiers."

The United State Olympic Committee called Davenport one of the greatest U.S. Olympians of all time in a June 19 press release.

"Willie Davenport was a true Olympian in every sense of the word," said University of Alabama-Birmingham Athletic Director Herman Frazier, a U.S. Olympic Committee vice president and Davenport's teammate at the 1976 Olympic Games. "And, like many Olympians, Willie gave back to the movement by remaining active in support of not only America's athletes, but also sport around the world."

Loy said his boss encouraged young citizen-soldiers.

"He really relished working with young people and helping them along, and he understood how the Army's sports program worked," Loy said. "We patterned our National Guard Bureau office after the Army's program."

Davenport's sports "Tiger Team" at the Guard Bureau in Arlington, Va., was increased to five people early this year.

"He was probably the most demanding boss I've ever had," Loy added. "With Colonel Davenport, you had to hit the ground run-

ning and keep on running. But I learned more from him than I learned from anyone else."

Davenport received a direct commission after joining the Louisiana Army National Guard in 1981. He was a National Guard community relations officer for nearly five years, and he commanded the Oregon Army Guard's 741st Corps Support Battalion for 19 months until September 1998.

But the fast tracks where athletes run in the summer and slide in bobsleds during the winter were foremost in his heart. So were the young athletes.

"Athletics relates to everything you do," Davenport said during the 2002 Winter Games in Salt Lake City. "You have to know the mission, know what you have to do to accomplish it, and be prepared."

"He was more proud of the fact that he had competed in five Olympics and that he was one of the first two African-American Olympic bobsledders for this country than he was of his medals," said Loy.

Loy also pointed out that Davenport used the proceeds from a celebrity golf tournament he held each year in Oregon to provide scholarships for young women going on to college.

That, Loy added, was one more indication of his commitment to the youth of this country.

Davenport is survived by one daughter, Tanya Davenport Morris of Monroe, La., and two sons, Willie Davenport Stewart Jr. of Youngstown, Ohio, and Mark Davenport of Baton Rouge, La. He was engaged to Barbara Henry of Louisiana.





# States

## D.C. Guard celebrates 200 years of serving the nation

By Lt. Col. Phyllis Phipps-Barnes and  
Sgt. 1st Class Eric Wedeking

D.C. National Guard Public Affairs and National Guard Bureau

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The District of Columbia National Guard recently celebrated its 200th anniversary May 6th. Participants in the event included citizen-soldiers and airmen of the D.C. Army and Air National Guard, veterans, retirees and local and national dignitaries.

The guest speakers at the formal reception included Reginald J. Brown, assistant secretary of the Army for manpower and reserve affairs, and Craig Duehring, principal deputy assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs.

The event was especially important to Master Sgt. Susan Murray of the D.C. Headquarters, Air National Guard's 121st Weather Flight based at nearby Andrews Air Force Base, Md., because she represented three generations of Murrys. Her uncle, Warren Murray, served and was killed in action during WWII with the D.C. Army Guard's 4th Infantry Division and her grandfather served with the D.C. Guard's Naval Militia during the Spanish-American War.

"We represent 104 years of service with the D.C. Guard," said Murray, who works full time at Andrews as a meteorological technician. "Our family has spent a lot of years and a lot of activation in the D.C. Guard."

The D.C. National Guard, then the D.C. Militia, was created by an act of Congress in March 1802 and organized in May and June of that year as an official volunteer military organization. For the past 200 years, the D.C. National Guard and its units have faithfully served the nation in every military engagement including the War of 1812, the Seminole Wars, the Creek and Indian Wars, the Civil War, the 1898 War with Spain, the Mexican Border Campaign of 1916, the First and Second World Wars, the Korean and Vietnam Wars, the Persian Gulf War, and most recently, the

central Europe campaigns in the Balkans, and air defense of the United States following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Unlike the other 53 National Guard organizations, the D.C. National Guard has always been a federal organization, directly under the command of the president of the United States although, since 1949, command and control of the organization has been vested in the Department of Defense, and more specifically, the Secretaries of the Army and Air Force. The "Capital Guardian's" history, which reflects the military history of the United States, includes spectacular events unique to the organization.

Notable D.C. National Guard historical events included:

- In 1814, 1st Lt. Francis Scott Key, a member of the D.C. Militia, traveled under military orders to Baltimore to arrange for the release of a physician being held by the British. After watching the British bombard Fort McHenry, he was inspired to write the poem, "The Star-Spangled Banner," which later became the national anthem.

- In 1861, two days before the Confederate attack on Fort Sumter, S.C., President Abraham Lincoln ordered the mobilization of the D.C. Militia. As the only militia directly under presidential control, the D.C. Militia provided the first man, first company and first regiment mobilized for the American Civil War.

- In 1917, 12 days before the United States entered World War I, the secretary of war ordered the D.C. National Guard commanding general to mobilize forces to protect vital facilities in the nation's capital from possible enemy sabotage.

- One of the more famous Army Air Corps units of WW II was the Air Force's 352nd Fighter Group. Flying P-51 Mustangs out of Bodney, England, the unit, known as the "Blue-Nosed Bastards of Bodney" for the blue paint on the aircraft noses, was awarded the French Croix de Guerre with Palm for their heroism. That honor is still carried forward today by the Air Guard's 113th Fighter Wing.

- In 1950, several units from the D.C. National Guard were mobilized for the Korean conflict; only the 715th Transportation Truck Company, an all-black unit formed in November 1947, went to Korea. The 715th served in eight campaigns and received the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation for their services.

- Following the seizure of the U.S.S. Pueblo in January 1968, the 113th Tactical Fighter Wing was mobilized. Although the main body of the Wing was sent to Myrtle Beach, S.C., many pilots and support personnel served combat tours in Vietnam. Also, that spring during the civil disobedience demonstrations following the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., D.C. citizen-soldiers were called to duty for a 12-day period to help restore order.

- In 1990, six D.C. Army Guard units and one D.C. Air Guard unit were mobilized for the Persian Gulf War. The Army Guard units deployed to Saudi Arabia and Iraq; the Air Guard's tactical hospital unit remained on duty at Andrews.

- Recently, the 113th Wing's F-16s "Fighting Falcon" aircraft flew combat air patrols for several months over the skies of Washington, D.C., and the unit continues to remain on alert while Army Guard units stood guard at the Capitol building for more than five months as part of their homeland defense mission.

Because of the rich lineage and seeing up close how her unit in the D.C. Guard performed following the terror created by Sept. 11th, she plans on staying with the "Capital Guardians" to continue her family's legacy of serve to the nation's capital.

"At Andrews immediately after Sept. 11th, we stood up a battle staff and flying combat air patrol missions," Murray said. "Even though I got into the Air Guard by accident (after previously serving in the active-duty Air Force and Air Force Reserve) I found out this was the best unit right here in the Guard. It makes me want to stay in even more because my family goes back to 1898 in the D.C. Guard."

## Making the switch from Active duty to the National Guard

By Master Sgt. Bob Haskell

National Guard Bureau

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Transferring from the active Air Force to the Air National Guard has made it possible for Tech. Sgt. Fred Kinzel to have the best of three worlds. He can stay in uniform, doing the job that he knows best. He can stay in his adopted state of Alaska. He can stay in one place with his 6-year-old daughter Victoria.

That's important, Kinzel recently explained, because he is a single dad who had invested 12 years and 8 months of his life in the active Air Force, mostly in the air control business, before taking a full-time job with the Alaska Air National Guard last September.

"I had to guarantee stability for my daughter and myself," said Kinzel, 34, who served in such far-flung places as Okinawa and Nebraska before the Air Force sent him to Alaska in October 1996. "The Air Guard is an absolutely family-oriented environment and I now can stay in one place. Besides, this is one of the most beautiful places on earth. I figured this is a good place to stay."

Fact is, Kinzel remained in the same unit,

the 611th Air Control Squadron at Elmendorf Air Force Base near Anchorage, doing the same job — superintendent of maintenance support — because his outfit is undergoing a significant transition.

The unit is being converted from an active-U.S. Air Force unit to an Air Guard unit that will perform the same mission it has been doing for many years — monitoring Alaska's airspace for unidentified and potentially hostile aircraft. It will, however, continue to report to the 11th Air Force as part of the active-duty chain of command, pointed out Lt. Col. Robert Johnson, the squadron's new commander.

And, due to Sept. 11, the squadron is as busy as it used to be during the Cold War, when it searched the skies for aircraft from the former Soviet Union. Plaques of red stars that cover an entire wall represent the many times during the old days that 611th air controllers identified suspect aircraft off the Alaskan coast and scrambled jet fighters to make sure they kept their distance.

The Air Guard is taking on the monitoring part of the Alaskan air defense mission from the Air Force. It is similar to the way the 1st

Air Force, an Air Guard force based at Tyndall Air Force Base in Florida, has taken on the entire air defense mission for the lower 48 states.

The major difference, said Johnson, is that the 611th will remain part of the active-duty 11th Air Force in the Alaskan Air Defense Sector after the squadron is fully staffed by Air Guard people by October 2004.

Air Guard personnel will be able to send up active Air Force fighters from Elmendorf to check out unidentified aircraft detected by 24 radar sites peppered across this country's largest state.

Kinzel is not the only one to switch from the Air Force to the Air Guard to remain with the 611th, according to Maj. Karen Stevens. So far, 14 have already made or are making the change, said the team chief for the 611th's transition that began two Aprils ago.

In all, 28 Air Guard men and women have filled full-time slots formerly held by Air Force personnel, added Stevens. When the transition is completed, the squadron will be staffed by 148 Guard people — 129 full-timers and 19 traditional, or part-time, per-

sonnel.

The squadron is still recruiting Air Guard personnel, Johnson said. Interested candidates can check out job announcements by clicking on "611 Air Control Squadron" on the Internet web site at: [www.akanch.ang.af.mil](http://www.akanch.ang.af.mil).

The unit will continue to include half a dozen members of the Canadian Forces who are assigned to U.S. military installations that watch over the countries' common border. The Canadians are keenly interested in what is flying around Alaskan airspace, especially since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, D.C., said Canadian Capt. Tony Matheson.

Those attacks redefined how the 611th does business, he explained, because the four commercial flights hijacked by the terrorists took off from three East Coast airports.

"Before Sept. 11, we tracked only the flights that were headed toward Alaska. Anything that came from inside Alaska was automatically considered friendly," Matheson said. "Now we track everything as a potential threat."





## History

## Seventy-five years ago in May

By Dr. Joe Gross  
NGB Public Affairs

On 20 May 1927, a virtually unknown air mail pilot coaxed his small, heavily loaded, single-engine monoplane off the rain-soaked runway on Long Island, New York.

Straining to gain altitude, the silver aircraft skimmed dangerously close to telephone lines near the end of the field. Several hours later, it vanished into the stormy skies above the treacherous North Atlantic. Over 33 hours later, the exhausted pilot performed a bumpy night landing on a poorly illuminated airfield outside Paris that he had never seen before. Pandemonium broke loose when he left his airplane. Charles A. Lindbergh, the first man to fly non-stop across the Atlantic, became an instant hero and the most famous human being on the face of the earth. Prior to his heroic journey, at least six lives had been lost by pilots either preparing for or attempting a trans-Atlantic flight in order to win the \$25,000 prize being offered to the first person to complete the trip.

Lindbergh's dramatic flight in 1927 fostered a widespread international interest in aviation. His popularity helped create the financial and technical climate necessary for the large-scale development of aviation. Almost unknown today was the fact that he was a respected aviator in the Missouri National Guard's 110th Observation Squadron. Lindbergh's service in the National Guard illustrated the close linkages between military and commercial aviation in those days. He had learned to fly in 1924-1925 as an Air Service cadet and was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the Organized Reserve Corps (ORC) in July 1925. Lindbergh benefited from a policy adopted by the Army Air Service shortly after World War I. Realizing that it was impractical to seek an expansion of personnel that would begin to meet its projected wartime needs, the Air Service trained and passed into the organized reserves a reservoir of flying officers that would be available in case of an armed conflict. Each year, the states also sent a small number of officers to the Air Service each year to be trained as National Guard pilots. Pilot billets in the Guard were eagerly sought after because, unlike the ORC, they provided guaranteed flying time and pay during monthly drills as well as the annual summer camps.

Despite flying increasingly obsolescent equipment in the 1920s, skilled pilots like Lindbergh were easy for Guard observation squadrons to recruit. Commercial aviation was virtually non-existent in the United States when he joined the 110th. Some pilots eked out a living barnstorming around the country. The armed forces' fledgling programs were by far the largest sources of support for American aviation in terms of both

aircraft procurement and flight training.

Although Guard aviation was a relatively good deal for pilots in the 1920s, its units operated on a shoestring by later standards. In 1925, for example, the 110th's aircraft inventory consisted of three World War I vintage JN-4 "Jennies." It had inherited three corrugated sheet iron hangars built for air races in 1923 at St Louis' Lambert Field. Its headquarters was maintained for a time in a gas station, then above a grocery store, then

faced constant exposure to cold air, especially during winter. Even wearing a heavy flying suit, he sometimes became so numb that his judgement was impaired. Flying the mail became a struggle of endurance and nerves. Other men who flew the mail considered it "pretty much a suicide club."

But Lindbergh thrived on the challenges of flying the mail. He was a natural salesman and self-taught engineer who never finished college. Lindy convinced a group of wealth

booster for starting the aircraft's engine. It generated a strong electrical shock. "Slim" liked to hook a wire to the booster, hang a key on the other end, and drop it in a pan filled with water. Then he would try to get someone to pick it up for him. The jolt always won Lindbergh bets with his fellow squadron mates until an old farmer grabbed the key without flinching. The latter explained that he was used to absorbing electrical shocks from his tractor engine.

Because of his epic solo flight, Lindbergh was promoted to colonel in the ORC in June 1927 while retaining his captaincy in Missouri. (Guard officers held dual commissions.) Since he was too busy to participate regularly in its training, Lindbergh's commission in the Missouri National Guard was vacated in 1933. In his autobiography, Lindbergh fondly recalled his service in the Guard. He wrote that his fellow pilots "joined the Guard for two reasons: first, because of the opportunity it offered to keep him in flying training, and second, because they considered it a patriotic duty to keep fit for immediate service in the case of a wartime emergency." In 1928, he was awarded the Medal of Honor "For displaying heroic courage and skill as a navigator, at the risk of his life, by his nonstop flight ... from New York to Paris."

Tragedy and controversy tarnished Lindbergh's life after 1927. After his infant son was kidnapped and murdered in 1932, the intensely shy man and his wife retreated to Europe to escape the relentless pressures of the sensationalist American media. Once abroad, he accepted the request of the American military attaché in Berlin to collect intelligence on the German Luftwaffe and the aircraft industry that sustained it. Seeking to intimidate the democratic powers with the threat of aerial annihilation, the Germans misled the naive Lindbergh. Because of his dire warnings about the growing threat of German air power and subsequent highly visible role in the isolationist movement, he was accused of being duped by the Nazis. In retaliation, President Roosevelt prevented him from serving in the military during World War II. Yet, Lindbergh is still remembered today for his historic 1927 flight. Jimmy Stewart played him in the movie, "The Spirit of St. Louis." Lindbergh has become a cultural icon who represents the American "can do" spirit. In our popular mythology, he is still a great man who accomplished an enormously important feat alone while other well-funded attempts backed by large bureaucracies failed. Although the realities as suggested by his involvement with Army and National Guard aviation were more complex, the "Lone Eagle" remains a quintessential American hero.



**Charles A. Lindbergh, the first man to fly non-stop across the Atlantic, was a respected aviator in the Missouri National Guard's 110th Observation Squadron.**

to the 138th Infantry Armory in St Louis and later in a warehouse. Flying training was conducted on weekends. Regular weeknight drills featured paddlefoot drill, weapons training and other routines that were not much different from that of a rifle company. A handful of state-paid full-time mechanics helped assemble the unit's aircraft and maintained them.

Lindbergh joined the 110th in November 1925. The following year, he was promoted to captain. "Slim," as he was known to his squadron mates, served as a flight commander as well as a parachute officer and pilot in the 110th. In 1926, Major William Robertson and his two brothers, all pilots in the squadron, were awarded a government contract to fly the mail between St Louis and Chicago. William Robertson was also a founder and the first commander of the 110th. Lindbergh took a job as the Robertson's chief pilot on their air mail route. Flying an open cockpit biplane, Lindbergh

businessmen in St Louis to fund his attempt to master the Atlantic alone and played a key role in helping the Ryan Aircraft Corporation design his plane, "The Spirit of St. Louis." A shy and intensely private man, the "Lone Eagle" became an acknowledged aviation expert. He became the most worshiped, adored, harried, photographed, written-about, and pursued man in the world. Standing six feet three inches tall, with blue eyes and curly blond hair, Lindbergh's infectious smile could light up a room. He neither smoked nor drank and rarely used even the mildest profanity. He was genuinely modest and often blushed. In 1929, he married the only woman he ever courted. Anne Morrow Lindbergh remained his beloved wife and best friend until he died in 1974. Lindbergh was extraordinarily decent, unassuming and loyal.

Although dedicated to aviation as a serious business, Lindbergh had enjoyed a reputation within the 110th as a prankster. For example, the cockpit of each "Jenny" contained a



# 200 Years



Photo by MSgt. Sean Brennan, District of Columbia National Guard

Past and present District of Columbia National Guard members cut a cake in celebration of the District's 200th Anniversary. Pictured left to right are: Maj. Gen. Warren L. Freeman, DCNG Commanding General; Hon. Reginald J. Brown, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs; Hon. James G. Roche, Secretary of the Air Force; Bob Betts, Oldest DCNG veteran (82) present; Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Cunningham C. Bryant, former DCNG Commanding General (1974-1981); and Lt. Gen. Russell C. Davis, Chief of the National Guard Bureau and former DCNG Commanding General (1991-1995). See the complete story on page 10 of this edition of The On Guard.