

## IN THE NEWS

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# THE ON GUARD

Volume XXIV, No. 10

NEWSPAPER of the ARMY and AIR NATIONAL GUARD

September 2000

## Army Guard will eclipse 10,000 mark in Bosnia

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

The flash and roar from Abrams tanks puncturing the quiet of the eastern Georgia night kept Lt. Col. Curtis Torrence on his toes.

It was late into August's final Tuesday on the Red Cloud Range at Fort Stewart south of Savannah. The active Army armor officer was paying close attention to how well 74 of his North Carolina Army National Guard tankers were prepared for their September deployment to Bosnia.

Two months after taking command of the 30th Enhanced Separate Brigade's armor battalion, Torrence was witnessing first-hand the dawn of yet another new day in the Army Guard's commitment to helping keep the peace in that central European land and to supporting the total force Army.

These were among the first Guard ground soldiers training to use weapons of war in the American sector should the peacekeeping mission turn ugly sometime between October and the end of next March.

More significant, based on current plans, next year the Army Guard will surpass 10,000 soldiers who have sewn American flags on their right sleeves and left families and civilian jobs for a season of peacekeeping duty in Bosnia.

"These are true patriots," marveled the agreeable Torrence, a West Point graduate and 15-year Army veteran who has joined the lengthening line of active duty officers leading National Guard troops.

"The nation as a whole doesn't under-

stand what these people give up to be part of the Guard," added Torrence of the citizen-soldiers who trained for six straight weeks through Labor Day with just one weekend off. "Until you get involved on a day-to-day basis, it's hard to put it into context."

The troop total will hit 11,414, according to an Army Guard official in Arlington, Va., when the Stabilization Force begins its 10th rotation next Oct. 1 with a record 2,461 Guard soldiers serving a six-month tour. That's when the Virginia Army Guard's 29th Infantry Division takes command of the U.S. sector.

"Ten thousand citizen-soldiers is a sig-



Photos by SSgt. Bob Jordan

**BOSNIA BOUND** -- North Carolina Army Guard 1st Sgt. William Spencer (above) talks to troops prior to boarding a plane to Bosnia. Sgt. Lindsey Black (right) is hugged by his four-year-old son Cameron before deploying for six months.

nificant contribution to our Army and to the people in Bosnia who have lived in relative peace since the ethnic fighting ended in November 1995," observed Maj. Gen. Roger Schultz, director of the Army National Guard. "It supports our conten-

■ See 10,000 SERVED, page 5







## COMMENTARY

Readers Return Fire

## ABOUT the PAPER

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## GUARD MAIL

## S.E.A.L.S. of Approval

The On Guard and cartoonist Lyle Farquhar owe no apology to the two recruiters who were offended by the July "Guard Toon" that depicted a recruiter attempting to enlist a seal into the Navy S.E.A.L.S.

Those recruiters apparently suffer from the afflictions of humor impairment and an exaggerated sense of self-importance. The point of the cartoon was a play on words between the aquatic animal and the Navy's special force -- readily apparent to anyone with the ability to recognize humor.

Contrary to popular consensus among their brethren, they do not deserve to be deified because of their positions. Recruiters work hard and are justly compensated for it (in the form of pro-pay). That doesn't entitle them to be treated with kid gloves. Their public image was earned, not forced upon them.

My advice to the offended recruiters is to work to change that image. In the mean time, lighten up.

TSgt. Brent Knutson  
Idaho National Guard

I would like to ask the recruiters who were offended by your July "Seal" cartoon to lighten up. I'm sure the cartoon in question was meant to be funny, not offensive. It was funny.

I believe the vast majority of recruiters work very hard at their jobs and can

see the humor in that cartoon. My guess is that every cartoon you publish could offend someone.

I enjoy Lyle Farquhar's humor. Keep up the good work.

Michael Meixner  
Wisconsin National Guard

I have been a recruiter for the Army National Guard for about a year, and I feel compelled to come to your defense, and to the defense of open-minded recruiters, regarding the letters from the two recruiters who were offended by July's "S.E.A.L.S." Guardtoon.

Any recruiter, who has a good working relationship with their unit, knows that their fellow soldiers are aware of what our work demands, and respect us as professionals. I apologize for the humorless response you received, and encourage you to drive on.

As for those two recruiters who responded unfavorably to the cartoon, just remember: "Thick-skinned and open-minded."

Sgt. Seth J. Bordelon  
Louisiana National Guard

I cannot believe how thin-skinned some people are. I am talking about the two complaints from recruiters regarding the seal/S.E.A.L.S. cartoon. The cartoon was cute. It was drawn to entertain and it served that purpose.

Recruiters have traditionally been the butt of jokes in the military, most much worse than that cartoon. Those recruiters need to lighten up. The quality of recruits is quite high. Our recruiters are doing a fine job for us and should be proud of it. Some folks tend to take

everything seriously.

Laugh a little, it doesn't hurt. Honest.

CSM John Hurley  
California National Guard

I am utterly amazed that two recruiters actually complained about that innocuous "S.E.A.L.S." cartoon.

Humor is funniest when it is directed at oneself, and I found it quite amusing. No one actually thinks that a National Guard recruiter would or could put a seal in the Navy! Lighten up guys.

We're still laughing in Louisiana.

SSgt. Joseph M. Srofe  
Louisiana National Guard

I am writing regarding the humorless recruiters offended by the "Seal" cartoon. It was just a cartoon, a light-hearted attempt at levity. Lighten up.

I have great respect for recruiters, however, some seem to be taking themselves very seriously.

Although the Navy would never consider serving with those aquatic mammals, the ones we've hired to help us launch planes are doing just fine.

SSgt. Bill Kaltenbach  
Indiana National Guard

## LETTERS POLICY:

'Letters to the Editor' are subject to editing for space and style considerations.

FAX your letters to DSN 327-3686 or (703) 607-3686

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## GUARD TOONS

By Lyle Farquhar

Comments or ideas: [lfarquhar@mostj.ang.af.mil](mailto:lfarquhar@mostj.ang.af.mil)

"I was told that I couldn't be discharged until I found a replacement."





## IN THE NEWS

■ Army Alliance ■ Command Clarification ■ Prairie State Patrol

## Guard combat units align with Army

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

The Army's ranking soldier endorsed the ability of the Army National Guard's front-line combat units to take their place in the total force on September's second Thursday in Atlantic City, N.J.

All of the Army Guard's eight combat divisions and its 15 enhanced separate brigades have been aligned with the Army's four war-fighting corps, reported Gen. Eric Shinseki, Army chief of staff.

"It's about readiness," Shinseki told some 3,000 officers and defense industry representatives at the National Guard Association of the United States' annual conference.

It's also about credibility, stressed Maj. Gen. Roger Schultz who has devoted his two years as director of the Army National Guard to fostering closer ties with the active Army.

"Having our combat divisions and our enhanced brigades aligned with the Army's four corps gives us the credibility we have been striving to achieve for the past 10 years, since so many of our citizen-soldiers took part in Desert Shield and Desert Storm," he said.

"We are gratified that the Army's chief of staff has expressed this level of confidence in our Guard soldiers

as part of his vision for the Army. We welcome this opportunity," added Schultz 10 years after massive Desert Shield mobilizations helped allied forces drive the Iraqi army out of Kuwait during the Persian Gulf War.

The Atlantic City announcement is an extension of a policy the Army embraced last year when six Army Guard enhanced brigades became the primary combat forces for two integrated Army divisions that were reactivated at Fort Carson, Colo., and at Fort Riley, Kan.

Guard infantry brigades based in Arkansas, Oregon and Oklahoma will remain with the 7th Infantry Division at Fort Carson in the new assignments announced by Shinseki. That division is part of the Army's III Corps based at Fort Hood, Texas.

The Guard's brigades in North Carolina, Georgia and South Carolina will remain with the Army's 24th

Infantry Division, at Fort Riley, that falls under the XVIII Airborne Corps based at Fort Bragg, N.C.

The 7th Infantry Division will be reinforced with the Mississippi Guard's 155th Armored Brigade. The 24th Division will roughly double in size with the addition of Guard brigades in New York, Florida and Indiana.

Shinseki also indicated that 122 Black Hawk utility

"Having our combat divisions  
and our enhanced brigades  
aligned with the Army's four  
corps gives us credibility"

■ See COMBAT UNITS, page 4

## Chain of Command issues clarified for deployed airmen

By Maj Ellen G. Krenke  
National Guard Bureau

When you deploy in Title 10 status, do you know who your commander is? What about your first sergeant?

If you are an Air National Guard (ANG) member deployed in Title 10 status, your orders will assign you to the 201st Mission Support Squadron at the ANG Readiness Center at Andrews AFB, Md., and attach you to your duty location.

Since you are assigned to the ANG Readiness Center, your commander will be Brig. Gen. Craig McKinley, who is also the Air Guard's Deputy Director. The vice commander is Col. James E. Thompson, and your first sergeant is SMSgt. Chris Coyne.

"The implementation of the Aerospace Expeditionary Force has dramatically increased the number of ANG members that we have on ac-

1st Sgt. Chris Coyne (left)  
and Col. James Thompson.

tive duty," Thompson said. "It is important they know who to turn to for help."

Thompson said it is also important

for deploying citizen-airmen to know their chain of command, particularly if they have an administrative or disciplinary problem.

"You should expect to remain in country for punishment if your actions adversely affect good order and discipline or have an adverse impact on the theatre commander's ability to prosecute the mission in that command," he said.

Since the first quarter of this calendar year, three ANG enlisted members have received an Article 15 with punishments ranging from a reduction in rank to confinement, according to 201st MSS figures.

A manual on administrative control issues will be published and sent to wing commanders and adjutants general for review before being distributed to the field.

Until then, if you have any questions call Thompson or Coyne at DSN 278-8001 or (301) 836-8001.

## NATIONAL BRIEFS

Guard Bureau headquarters  
celebrates 2nd anniversary

The National Guard Bureau citizen-soldiers and civilians that work in Jefferson Plaza 1 celebrated their second anniversary in the Arlington, Va.-based office building

that serves as the NGB headquarters.

"While the center of gravity will never change from the Pentagon, we still have pretty good digs here," said Lt. Gen. Russell C. Davis, Chief of the National Guard Bureau. "Our young men



Lt. Gen. Davis

and women are scattered all over the world, this building represents a home for them, a place of support.

Home to nearly 1,400 Guard employees, JP1 is a state-of-the-art building one-half mile from the Pentagon.

Illinois rifle company reports  
to Kuwait to provide security

Soldiers with Illinois Army Guard Company A, 1st Battalion, 178th Infantry arrived to the barren landscape of Kuwait recently when they replaced a similar Oregon National Guard outfit.

The Guardmembers are providing force protection and security at various sites in the region.

"What you notice first is the heat when you get off the plane," said Sgt. Jeffery Barnes, administrative sergeant.

Even though the temperatures in Kuwait are 30 degrees warmer than Woodstock, Ill., the soldiers say they are thrilled.

"It's pretty exciting to come to a different place and meet different people," Barnes said.

That and the real-world mission were the attraction of the assignment.

"We have soldiers who volunteered to come here," said Maj. Rommel Guerrero. "Our soldiers seek out these opportunities."

While this is its first deployment to the Persian Gulf, overseas deployments are nothing new to the Illinois unit, who have deployed to England, Germany, Bosnia, Honduras and Panama.

Barnes added that while its primary focus is force protection, the unit is prepared for combat operations.

"Our soldiers are ready for anything," he said.



## COMBAT FROM PAGE 3 UNITS

helicopters and 68 Apache attack helicopters will be transferred from the active Army to the Army Guard in 2002 to replace older, Vietnam-era helicopters.

All of the Army Guard's eight divisions, however, will benefit most from the new corps assignments because they have not been incorporated in Army training and war-fighting plans for many years.

The Kansas-based 35th Infantry Division, for example, will become part of the Army's V Corps based in Germany, the only one of the four corps outside of the United States.

"This division has suffered for a long time from being at the bottom in terms of training dollars," Maj. Mark Stevens, with the 35th Division's headquarters at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., told the *Associated Press*. "This can't do anything but increase the focus for modernization and training dollars. They are going to have to give us modern resources."

"This will give us the opportunity to do the military things that help toward recruiting," predicted SGM Gary Olson.

The XVIII Airborne Corps gets most of the Army Guard combat units including three infantry divisions -- the 28th in Pennsylvania, the 29th in Virginia and the 42nd in New York.

The III Corps will also be reinforced with three Guard divisions -- the 34th and 38th infantry divisions in Minnesota and Indiana and the 49th Armored Division in Texas.

The California Army Guard's 40th Infantry Division will be assigned to I Corps at Fort Lewis and will be teamed with the Army's 2nd Infantry Division based in South Korea.

"I am convinced our Army Guard soldiers will rise to the challenges of their new assignments with active Army units," Schultz predicted. "Just as the citizen-soldiers from the 29th Division rose to the challenges of Omaha Beach on D-Day, June 6, 1944, this same magnificent division is preparing for deployment to Bosnia in 2001."

# Suicide rate concerns Guard leaders

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

America has forged a new contract with the National Guard, but this nation's oldest military family has to work harder to take care of its own.

Suicides and workplace violence are concerns that demand immediate action.

Two of this country's foremost reserve force leaders delivered those messages to an arena of advocates for the National Guard's more than 400,000 enlisted people attending their organization's 29th annual conference in North Dakota's capital city of Bismarck in late August.

"America has a new contract with the members of its Guard and Reserve," Charles Cragin, the Defense Department's acting undersecretary for reserve affairs, told approximately 1,000 members of the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States.

The fact that members of the seven reserve components have increased their active duty time 13 fold with fewer people during the decade since the Persian Gulf War means "it's not two days a month and 14 days in the summer anymore," Cragin added.

Lt. Gen. Russell Davis, chief of the National Guard Bureau, tempered that observation with his assessment that "while the people who serve do a great job, we have to be careful that we don't push them over the brink."

He challenged his audience of Army and Air National Guard enlisted leaders to get involved with programs that National Guard chaplains are promoting to alleviate the stress that leads to suicides and violence on the job.

Davis has the statistics to support his cross-country crusade.

The rate of suicides among full-time

Army Guard soldiers is 4.5 times the national average of 10 per 100,000 people, said Davis who has been tracking suicides among National Guard people for three years. Suicides among the Air Guard's full-time force are nearly 2.5 times the national average, he added.

"We've got a relatively small force, our full-time force, our Active Guard and Reserve people and our military technicians, and we are not doing very well by them," Davis observed.

Increasingly detailed reports from the Guard's 54 states and territories further indicate the magnitude of the problem, according to Chaplain (Col.) Donald Hill, the Army Guard's chief chaplain. Eleven

**"The loss of one human life is too much. I would say 21 (suicides) is a significant increase"**

members of the Army National Guard and 10 members of the Air Guard have reportedly committed suicide this year alone, said Hill.

"The loss of one human life is too much," remarked Hill, a Catholic priest for 33 years. "I would say that 21 is a significant increase."

Hill said it is hard to know why people take their own lives. Davis maintained that a Guardmember's comment he first heard three years ago, "I was forced to volunteer," increased his concern.

"When we can't get enough people to go on deployments, we always call on the full-time forces," Davis added. "That personnel tempo is pushing them and putting a lot of stress on them."

The demands of duty at home and abroad now shouldered by America's citizen-soldiers and airmen have made the Guard considerably busier than it was just a decade ago, Davis pointed out.

"This is a different Guard than the Guard I joined [in 1965]," said Davis before listing 23 countries around the world where Army and Air Guard troops and other reservists were serving in the name of national security that week.

"Today, 1,500-plus Guard people are out fighting wildfires and performing other state missions," he added. "These are very, very busy times for us."

August marked the 10th anniversary of the start of Desert Shield that included a large reserve call-up, including National Guard troops from 51 states and territories.

Since then, the operational tempo has increased at the same time that personnel numbers have declined, Cragin said.

"Ten years ago, when we had 300,000 more people in our reserve components, we were contributing one million duty days a year to the active components," noted Cragin, the principal undersecretary for the nation's reserve forces since September 1997.

"Now with 300,000 fewer people, we are performing 13 million duty days a year, roughly the equivalent of adding 35,000 men and women to the active components," added the former Navy enlisted man who retired from the Naval Reserve as a captain in 1998.

That makes this a critical time to care for the Guard family, insisted Davis.

"We've got to be mindful of the stress on our people. It's part of our job as leaders," Davis encouraged the crowd.

"A family can't heal itself unless it sits down and talks about the tough issues. And these are tough issues."

## DANGEROUS DUTY

Members of the New Mexico National Guard's 64th Weapons of Mass Destruction civil support team wade through contaminated waste as part of their training to deal with the aftermath of a potential terrorist attack. There are currently 10 Guard WMD teams across the country.



Photo by SRA, Pete Harley





Photo by MSgt. Bob Haskell

10,000

FROM PAGE 1

SERVED

tion that the Guard is ready and able to serve wherever we are needed."

Furthermore, beginning this October, some 350 Guard soldiers from North Carolina, Oklahoma and Arizona will for the first time assume a combat posture among the multinational force in the U.S. sector formerly delegated to active Army troops. The Guard troops will join the maneuver force for the Fort Stewart-based 3rd Infantry Division that will oversee the U.S. sector for the coming year.

Another 136 military police from Rhode Island departed for Hungary in August and will spend this winter keeping order among U.S. troops and escorting convoys through Croatia into Bosnia.

In short, 10 years after the Persian Gulf War, the total force pace is accelerating for the National Guard unless the new president slows the tempo after next January's inauguration.

The 3rd Infantry Division, commanded by Maj. Gen. Walter Sharp, will lead 3,900 U.S. soldiers during the next two Stabilization Force rotations.

The Army division will provide 2,800 soldiers and the Army Guard will supply nearly 500 troops from October through next March. The division will provide 1,720 soldiers and the Army Guard will provide 1,648, primarily from brigades in Georgia and Arkansas, for the six months after that.

The Guard's 29th Division will command the following rotation, and the total Guard force will escalate to more than 2,400.

Other countries have benefited from that resolve.

By the end of August, according to an Army Guard report,

**TANKER'S VIEW**—North Carolina Sgt. Scott Wyrick checks out a Tank Table VIII range atop an Abrams.

542 citizen-soldiers had reinforced the peacekeeping force in Kosovo and another 1,619 had been sent to Southwest Asia in addition to the 6,813 who have served in Bosnia.

That means that the Army Guard should surpass 10,000 troops ordered to active duty on foreign soil under President William Clinton's three on-going call-ups well before October 2001.

Georgia's 48th Infantry Brigade, for example, has already begun preparing 1,200 citizen-soldiers for Bosnia duty next April.

The troops have a pretty good idea of what lies ahead.

Patrolling on foot and in Humvees will be the basic job in Bosnia for 170 light infantry soldiers from Oklahoma's 45th Infantry Brigade and for the tank crews and mechanized infantry troops from North Carolina. They rehearsed those tasks at Fort Polk, La., during August's first two weeks.

But the Guard soldiers have to be prepared for the worst should push come to shove among the Serbs, Croats and Muslims, who many observers believe continue to honor the Dayton Peace Accords only because of the foreign military presence.

The 21 Arizona Guard soldiers, for example, have been charged with identifying, disarming and disposing of explosive devices. Bosnia is still considered hazardous duty.

That's why the North Carolina Guard soldiers spent August's final two weeks maneuvering their Abrams tanks and Bradley Fighting Vehicles and firing live rounds day and night on ranges in Georgia.

"Most of our job at Camp Dobol will be presence patrols in Humvees," said North Carolina SSgt. Christopher Padgett after pushing his new Bradley crew through a tough trial run on

## INSIDE THE DEPLOYMENT

## Seeing Stars

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

Tom Berenger has logged time in a helicopter while earning an Academy Award nomination as the sadistic SSgt. Barnes in *Platoon*. He has ridden horses while featured as future president Teddy Roosevelt in *Rough Riders* and Confederate Gen. James Longstreet in *Gettysburg*.

The veteran movie actor added a bone-rattling ride in a troop-transporting Bradley Fighting Vehicle to his personal experiences during a visit to Fort Stewart, Ga., on August 30. The visit also gave him some insight into the total force Army.

"I'd never been in an armored vehicle. It was an amazing ride," said Berenger who visited the sprawling Army post near Savannah with his wife Trish, because her father is a sergeant in the North Carolina Army Guard.

Sgt. William "Rex" McKenzie is a former Marine Corps captain and combat engineer now serving as a ground grunt in a North Carolina mechanized infantry company from the 1st Battalion, 120th Infantry that is preparing for six months of peacekeeping duty in Bosnia.

Berenger is 50. His wife of three years is 28. They live in Beaufort, S.C. McKenzie is 46. He lives, coincidentally, in Beaufort, N.C.

The plot thickens. Berenger was reunited at Fort Stewart with another North Carolina Army Guard soldier, PFC Ronald Ferguson, who is one of McKenzie's buddies. Ferguson was an extra in *Platoon* and *Born on the Fourth of July*, in which Berenger played a Marine Corps recruiter.

The 3rd Infantry Division and Army Guard soldiers Berenger met on the Red Cloud Range were not at Fort Stewart to film a movie. Maintaining a fragile peace in central Europe was the real-life mission for

which the troops were training.

The three-man active Army Bradley crew the Berenger party rode with for 20 memorable minutes was qualifying for the kind of combat they hope they do not encounter during their winter in the Balkans.

The jerking starts and stops and quick turns of the 22-ton tracked vehicle, the concussion of the rapid-firing 25-millimeter main gun and the rattle of the coax machine gun, plus the smell of gunpowder in the confined troop compartment were as real as it gets.

"I hope I didn't go too fast for our guests," said Pvt. 2 Robert Greenier, the Bradley's driver, after completing the series of offensive and defensive maneuvers.

Don't worry, they ate it up.

"I wanted him to go faster. I wanted to fire that gun," laughed Trish.

The visitors learned just how closely the active Army and the National Guard are working together these days and about the nature of the Guard.

"I know very little about the Guard,"

Berenger acknowledged.

"I didn't even know if they have to take an oath to their states, as well as to the country, when they sign up."

McKenzie, for example, is among 164 infantry and armor Guard soldiers from North Carolina's 30th Enhanced Separate Brigade who will serve with 2,800 3rd Infantry Division troops in Bosnia.

McKenzie earned a degree in psychology from The Citadel in South Carolina in 1976. He is a supervisor for North

Carolina's Department of Transportation.

"I missed the military lifestyle, but I don't miss the responsibilities that I had as an officer," said McKenzie who joined the North Carolina Guard in 1993, four years after leaving the Marines.

Ferguson, the former movie extra, is 36. That is old to be private first class. He knows plenty about medicine, because he's a physician's assistant in the Cape Fear Hospital's kidney center in Fayetteville, N.C. He's still learning the ways of the Army since joining the National Guard 18 months ago.

Both he and Berenger now know a little more about how today's Army and Guard soldiers work together to keep the peace.



Photo by MSgt. Bob Haskell

**NO ACT**—Actor Tom Berenger (front), wife Trish and North Carolina Sgt. 'Rex' McKenzie enjoy a ride in a Bradley.

the table eight qualifying range at Fort Stewart.

"They've told us that if the Bradleys come out over in Bosnia, things have gotten bad," added Padgett, the 30th Brigade's reigning "top gun" for the troop-transporting tracked vehicles armed with rapid-firing 25-millimeter cannons and machine guns.

"We hope this is just one of the boxes we have to check off before we go over there," said SFC Gary Warren, an Abrams tank master gunner. "All we want is to do our part and come home."

The exchange between Bradley and Abrams commanders and their gunners during the live-fire missions at Fort Stewart captured the spirit of National Guard

troops intent on helping to keep the peace in Europe.

The commanders barked "Fire!" The gunners responded "On the way." The glowing rounds streaked down range with ear-splitting roars.

More Army Guard troops are on the way to Bosnia. By this time next year the total could well be 10,000 and counting.





Photos by MSgt. Bob Haskell

# Military Model

Industry heavyweights travel 8,400 miles to learn about Guard's role worldwide

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

A small, square piece of cement that he chipped out of the crumbling Berlin Wall a decade ago reminded engaging Clarence "Buddy" James Jr. just how much the world, and the National Guard, has changed since he last explored the United States' military presence in Europe.

"The Guard was always relevant. It is even more relevant now," observed the Washington, D.C., consultant and retired lawyer who remains a key figure in the Executive Leadership Council for 150 top minority business executives. "It shows the European countries a military system that works under a democracy."

Just how well and how hard the National Guard is working these days was repeatedly brought home to 20 accomplished leaders from corporate America recently.

They traveled 8,400 miles, paying their own expenses, to meet Guardmembers serving in Europe.

They learned how America's citizen-soldiers and airmen are helping the 50-year-old North Atlantic Treaty Organiza-

tion and the fledgling European Union preserve peace and promote prosperity.

They were told how the National Guard has become a model of a military force controlled by civilian authorities for central European nations that used to be part of the Warsaw Pact.

Lt. Gen. Russell Davis, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, hosted the civic leaders tour that took place during the 15th anniversary of the first such trip to Central America.

"We need to get back into the business community. We need to educate these people about what we're all about," explained Davis, well into his second year as head of this nation's nearly 455,000 National Guard troops. Davis in turn paid close attention to the executives' ideas for getting that word to more American business people.

The business heavyweights, including representatives from Kraft Foods, Sears Roebuck, Pepsi Cola, IBM, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and the state of Texas, heeded the messages they heard in Germany, Hungary and Belgium.

"Without the contributions of the Air and Army National Guard, we would not have been able to do the operations in the Balkans," Canadian Col. Richard Bowes told them at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, home of NATO's military alliance, outside Brussels.

"The men and women in our Guard and Reserve are our nation's treasure. They have to be taken care of," stressed Gen.



**CHIEF CHAT** -- Lt. Gen. Russell Davis (top photo), National Guard Bureau chief, explains the Guard's mission to civic leaders. Missouri 2nd Lt. Sharon Dixon (above, right) fields a question from civic leaders during a stop in Germany.

Gregory Martin, commander of the U.S. Air Force Europe, at Ramstein Air Base in Germany.

Their busy week of troop visits and top-level briefings was an eye-opening experience. Most had no idea that the National Guard plays such an integral role in this nation's defense.

They talked with Army Guard soldiers from California and Missouri spending three weeks repairing vehicles and rebuilding engines at a Guard-managed Army maintenance center in Kaiserslautern, Germany. They visited with people from a California Air Guard refueling wing who are based for a fortnight at Geilenkirchen to refuel NATO Airborne Warning and Control Systems airplanes.

"It's obvious that these Guard people

are not just doing summer busy work. They're doing the same work as the other military professionals," observed Carl Brooks, human resources vice president for GPU Energy and president of the Executive Leadership Foundation.

"It was important for the troops to see African-American executives from major corporations, and this trip expanded our knowledge about how the National Guard and NATO are interrelated," Brooks added. "That helps us understand how to communicate with other people in American industry about supporting National Guard programs."

"These Guard people are so engaged in what they're doing. You want your own people to be as enthusiastic about their jobs," marveled Sears Northwest Region Vice President Billye Alexander. "When





**FUELING INTEREST** — California Air Guard MSgt. Julie Farmer, a member of the 163rd Air Refueling Wing, explains the workings of a KC-135 refueler to civic leaders.

I return, I will check our policies to make sure they do not make it cumbersome for people to do their Guard duties."

"My perceptions have been dramatically changed," said Roger Campos, a lawyer and executive director for the Minority Business RoundTable that represents more than 200 minority-owned businesses.

Campos, who has never served in uniform, said his previous impressions of the National Guard included memories of bull-horn blaring citizen-soldiers marching through Santa Barbara, Calif., when he was a college student during the late, turbulent 1960s, and stories about annual training from Guard members he employed in his former business.

"I thought they were part-timers having fun going to camp, like I did when I was a Boy Scout," Campos related. "Now I understand they are doing a lot more during their two or three weeks of training than roasting hot dogs."

Even though Guard troops have temporarily left civilian jobs and families to serve in Europe for years, the work is just beginning, said a NATO expert on central and eastern European affairs.

Former Warsaw Pact countries, including new NATO members Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic, "need to see the model of the Guard," Chris Donnelly told the American business people.

"These European countries are buying the wrong kind of soldiers. The soldiers they are getting now will fight to the death for their villages because that's how they were trained under the Warsaw Pact," he explained. "They need flexible soldiers who can be sent away and sustained to keep the peace in places like Kosovo."

"They need to build a whole new relationship between their armies and the civilian population," Donnelly added. "The United States is leading the European countries in the way they reform their military. Guys, like it or not, you're it. There's no better example than the National Guard."

## INSIDE THE CIVIC LEADER TOUR

SSgt. Gregg Tyler is among a unique group of security police trained to protect aircraft in remote countries

# Original Raven

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

At 26, Gregg Tyler is an intense New York State Police trooper who holds a special distinction among the nearly 105,000 members of the nation's Air National Guard. He is the Air Guard's original Raven.

"Phoenix Raven" is the official designation for members of the special Air Force police unit trained to provide security for U.S. military airplanes when they fly to 45 of the world's most remote countries — from Albania to Yemen.

Tyler, a staff sergeant in the New York Air Guard's 105th Airlift Wing, is Raven 133 — the number for life he acquired when he became the first member of the Air Guard's blue-beretted Security Force to complete 12 days of Raven training at Fort Dix, N.J., in April 1997.

He and three other Air Guard Ravens were assigned to a special detail recently. They watched over 20 American business executives who visited National Guard troops and operations in three European countries — Germany, Hungary and Belgium — during a civic leaders tour hosted by Lt. Gen. Russell Davis, chief of the National Guard Bureau.

"We usually wear flight suits and guard airplanes. Doing security in our blue uniforms for distinguished visitors is different duty for us," said SSgt. Chris D'Angelo, another New York state trooper who is an Air Guard Raven with Tyler.

MSgt. David Beun, a patrolman and Drug Abuse Resistance Education officer in Mount Laurel, N.J., and a Raven in the New Jersey Air Guard's 108th Air Refueling Wing, was the senior enlisted member of the delegation's security team headed by Maj. Mark Allen.

These are far different Ravens than the forbidding bird immortalized by American poet Edgar Allan Poe who died in 1849, when the idea of airplanes was little more than a flight of some men's fancy.

"We need to provide protection for our aircraft in high-threat locations," explained Allen, who supervised the Air Guard's new Raven program before becoming the assistant executive officer for Davis. "That's what Ravens do," added Allen of the special Air Guard force

that, so far, numbers fewer than 100.

Raven training for those who have made the grade as Air Force security personnel includes qualifying with an array of weapons, using night vision equipment, dealing with host nation security people, and passing the Army's physical fitness test.

It can be interesting duty.

The three enlisted Ravens who made the European trip, for example, have worked with the Secret Service during presidential trips over the past two years.

Beun and D'Angelo were part of the security force for Air Force C-17 cargo planes during President William Clinton's trip to Central America in 1999. Tyler helped shuttle presidential limousines to South Africa in 1998.

All three got into law enforcement while serving in the Air Force. All three civilian police officers belong to Air Guard units that fly huge C-5 cargo planes and KC-135 tankers to many places as part of America's Global Guard.

Those planes can be inviting targets for terrorists and criminals when parked at international airfields that are not nearly as secure as the military and major civilian airports in the United States, Allen explained.

"The Air Guard's eventual goal is to put Ravens in all of our airlift and tanker units because those are the planes that are most likely to fly into high-threat locations," he said.



Photo by MSgt. Bob Haskell

**PHOENIX RAVENS** — New York Air Guard SSgt. Chris D'Angelo (left) and SSgt. Gregg Tyler, both members of the 105th Airlift Wing based in Newburgh, man their post at Gellenkerchen NATO Base in Germany.

Security work has some common denominators.

"Preparation is the most important thing," said Beun. "Researching the countries to determine the security threat and educating the delegation about what to look out for was a key part of this week's work."

"Then we watch for suspicious people," he added. "The threat level in all three countries is pretty low. Usually our presence is enough of a deterrent."

But being a Raven in the Air National Guard has some advantages. With the job come the prospects of traveling with the airplanes.

"There were so many things I wanted to do on active duty, but I didn't get a chance to do them," explained D'Angelo who guarded F-16 fighters at an air base in Germany. "I'm seeing more of the world now that I've joined the National Guard."



# National Guard: Woven into the fabric of America

When you look closely at the events that have shaped this nation, you'll see the National Guard. You'll see men and women from every walk of life -- lawyers, laborers, presidents and shop-keepers. All of them answered the call when America needed them.

Today, these citizen-soldiers and -airmen serve as part of America's Total Force, fighting our wars, saving lives during disasters, forging peace-keeping partnerships with other nations and making our communities better places to live.

The National Guard will always be ready and always be there. Strengthening the fiber of our great nation. No matter what the future holds.



**1586** Spanish militia protect St. Augustine, Florida against raid by Sir Francis Drake.



**1607** First permanent English colony in North America established at Jamestown, Va.; Capt. John Smith leads military garrison.



**1620** Pilgrims land at Plymouth Rock; being militia tradition to the New World.



**1687** English colonial militia fight back against constant attacks from the French and their Indian allies.



**1758** During the French & Indian War, New Hampshire militiaman Robert Rogers organizes the predecessor of America's Special Forces.



**1775** The militiamen from Massachusetts begin the Revolution at Concord.



**1792** Militia Act requires all males 18-45 to join the militia; basis for all future draft laws.



**1804** Former militia members Captains Meriwether Lewis and William Clark begin exploring the newly acquired Louisiana Purchase.



**1812** War of 1812 starts over maritime conflicts with Britain.



**1846** A regular army of 8,000 is joined by 70,000 militia volunteers during Mexican-American War.



**1861** In Bull Run, the first major battle of Civil War, the Alabama militia holds off Union advance and assures Confederate victory.



**1862** Mass. organizes the 54th Regiment, a volunteer militia force made up entirely of African-Americans.



**1899** During Philippine Insurrection, National Guardsmen were among the first American troops to fight in Asia.



**1903** Wright Brothers make first flight.



**1910** New York Guardsmen purchase first Guard awards with private funds.



**1927** Former Missouri Guardsman Charles Lindbergh makes first solo flight across Atlantic.



**1939** WWII begins in Europe.



**1940** In Sept. president begins the guard's greatest peacetime mobilization.



**1947** The Air National Guard is created as a separate reserve component of the Air Force.



**1950** 1/3 of Army Guard and 4/5 of Air Guard are called up for duty in Korean War.



**1951** Guardsmen of Puerto Rico's 65th Infantry earn numerous awards for gallant service in the Korean War.



**1965** National Guard called out to contain a rash of looting and burning in Washington, D.C., Los Angeles and Detroit.



**1968** Over 8,700 Guard members called to active duty and sent to Vietnam.



**1969** Over 3,000 Guard members respond to the massive devastation caused by Hurricane Camille.



**1986** An Air Guard tanker refuels bombers during air strikes against Libya.



**1990** More than 70,000 Army and Air Guard members participate in Desert Storm.



**1992** Air Guard flies relief missions to war-torn Somalia.



**1622** Virginia militia defends settlements against major Indian attacks.



**1630** With a well-equipped militia, Puritans establish Massachusetts Bay Colony in what is today Boston.



**1636** Bay Colony militia companies organized into three regiments. Today they are the oldest regiments in the U.S. Army.



**1643**

Abraham Pierce joins Plymouth Colony militia and becomes first African-American National Guardsman.



**1776** Declaration of Independence is signed.



**1777**

Battle of Brandywine provided the bulk of men in the greatest American victory of the Revolutionary War.



**1789**

The concept of "militia" is written into the Constitution. Former militia member George Washington becomes first President.



**1814**

Francis Scott Key writes "Star Spangled Banner" about Md. militia's defense of Ft. McHenry.



**1825**

N.Y. 7th Regiment, in honor of Lafayette, renames itself "National Guard," a term taken from the French militia, or "Garde Nationale."



**1832**

Abraham Lincoln elected captain of his Illinois militia company during Black Hawk War.



**1842**

At the beginning of a great wave of immigration to the U.S., immigrants establish their own militia units.



**1863** Militiamen of 1st Mass. help save the Union line at Gettysburg. As a result, they incur the highest casualty rate for a single battle in the war.



**1876**

America celebrates its centennial.



**1898**

War with Spain makes U.S. a world power. Most troops in the war are militia volunteers.



**1912** 19C Buckwold Haven is first Guard pilot to fly with the army in maneuvers.



**1914**

WWI breaks out in Europe.



**1916**

The term "National Guard" officially replaces "militia."



**1918**

Guard divisions make up 40% of the combat divisions in France.



**1944**

29th Division (made up of Va., Md., D.C. Guard units) storms Omaha beach in the first wave of the D-Day invasion.



**1945**

87th Division, Ohio National Guard, helps secure the Philippine city of Manila.



**1946**

New Jersey officially integrates Guard, two years before integration in active Army begins.



**1953** Air Guard fighter-interceptor units begin to assume the peacetime air defense mission for the continental United States.



**1957**

Arkansas National Guard helps maintain order during school integration.



**1961**

In response to Cold War tensions in West Berlin, 68,038 Guard members are federalized for one year; some serve in Europe.



**1963**

Capt. Russell Schweickart is first astronaut selected from Air Guard (Maine).



**1971**

Pennsylvania Air Guard unit named USAF outstanding unit of the year for radar and airborne control missions during Vietnam War.



**1978**

2Lt Marilyn Koon of Arizona becomes the Air Guard's first female pilot.



**1984**

Army Guard engineers begin major road building in Central America.



**1993** Nearly 8,000 Guard members are called up to aid in the great Midwest floods.



**1999**

In the 50th presidential call-up of the decade, the Air Guard deploys in Kosovo in Operation Allied Forces.



**2000**

Texas' 49th Armored Division commands regular Army units in lead of peace-keeping task force in Bosnia.



**2036**

National Guard celebrates 400 years.







## SPORTS

■ Minnesota Eyes 'Ironman'

Minnesota Maj. R. Clay Brock Jr. is the only Guardsman to qualify for Ironman championship

# Triple Threat

By Maj. Pauline M. Geraci  
Minnesota National Guard

**M**aj. R. Clay Brock Jr. is a triple threat and he intends to prove it next month in Hawaii.

Brock, a supervisor flight instructor/flight operations officer for the Minnesota Army Guard 34th Infantry Division's Aviation Brigade in St. Paul, will compete in the Ironman Triathlon World Championship to be held Oct. 14th in Kailua-Kona, on the Big Island of Hawaii.

According to Trishe Boutin-Jacocks, a sports specialist for the Army Sports Office in Virginia, Brock is the only Guardmember to qualify. More than 50,000 triathletes from more than 50 countries annually attempt to qualify for the world's most famous endurance event.

The Army will pay for his travel, room and food.

"I'm really glad they came through," Brock said.

Brock qualified for the prestigious Ironman Triathlon at the Florida Ironman last November. It is one of 19 worldwide qualifying events.

In Florida, he competed against nearly 1,700 entrants for one of 1,500 worldwide slots. Of those 1,500, 14 slots were reserved for men ages 35 to 39. Brock placed 6th in that group.

However, Brock, who turned 40 in September, will compete in the age 40 and over category in Kona.

A member of the Army Guard for nearly eight years, Brock joined the Gopher State Guard in May. He had previously served



in the Virginia Army Guard.

Brock began competing in triathlons — 2.4 mile swim, 112-mile bike ride and 26.2 mile run — just two years ago.

A former Texas A&M University competitive swimmer (he also swam for the U.S. Army while on active duty in 1984), Brock discontinued that sport when he left the Army and picked up running.

"I did it to keep the fat off," Brock recalled. He liked running so much that he tried out for the National Guard Bureau marathon team.

"The first time I tried out I survived it," he said. "The second year I made the team."

Shortly thereafter, a friend convinced

him to try competing in triathlons.

After hours of grueling training, Brock took on the Florida Ironman. He swam the 2.4 miles in 56 minutes; cycled 112 miles in 5 hours and 24 minutes; and ran 26.2 miles in 3 hours and 17 minutes for a total of 9 hours and 48 minutes.

The Kona Ironman record is men age 40 and over is 9 hours and 7 minutes.

"My goal for the Ironman is to be in the top ten," he said. "To do that I need to come in between 9 hours and 15 minutes to 9 hours."

During the work week, Brock trains about three hours a day.

"I try to mix my training up because it gets mentally fatiguing," he said.



Photos by Spc. Anna Lewicki



**IRONMAN** - In or out of the pool, on the bike or running, Maj. Brock has impressed.

With the Ironman race day nearing, Brock said he has focused on his swimming and running, because they make up the majority of the race. He added that he will taper off his training two weeks prior to the event.

Brock must also contend

with Hawaii's heat and humidity. Average temperatures for the event have ranged from 85 to 92 degrees with asphalt temperatures around 100. The humidity is expected to be around 90 percent.

"The key to all that is to eat and drink a lot during the race," Brock noted. "My glycogen level will drop off and I have to maintain that for energy," remarked the 5-foot 9-inch, 160-pounder. "Sometimes after a workout I drop to 152 pounds."

In addition to the support he's received from his National Guard bosses, Brock credits his wife of 18 years, Terri, and his children Joshua and Stephanie for inspiring his efforts.

"You really have to have the family support because you spend so much time training alone," Brock said. "It is a difficult time, especially when you are so used to doing family things, and you have to drop it to go ride or run."



## Air Guard C-130s, equipped with fire-fighting systems, have been busy out West

By SFC Eric Wedeking  
National Guard Bureau

**D**ropping fire-retardant from a C-130 aircraft, while maneuvering at tree-top level over rugged mountain terrain and through thick smoke, can be perilous duty.

"They're flying so low that you're sure we'll be picking pine cones off the wings when they get back," noted TSgt. Syd Martin, an instrumentation technician with the Wyoming Air Guard's 153rd Airlift Wing based in Cheyenne.

Lately, the 153rd and the three other Air Guard and Air Force Reserve Modular Airborne Fire-fighting Systems, or MAFFS units, have gotten their fill of pine cone picking trying to keep pace with this year's record-breaking western fire season.

The U.S. Forest Service-owned MAFFS, which are more than 20 years old, are rapidly mounted in C-130 "Hercules" aircraft. They can carry a mixture of 3,000 gallons of water and retardant that can be jettisoned in only five seconds from twin manifolds protruding from the rear of the aircraft.

Flying through thick smoke and turbulent updrafts created by the raging infernos can make the ride a "bit bumpy," according to one fire-fighting crewman. But flying through unfamiliar mountainous terrain in poor visibility is what really makes aircrews nervous.

"That's really scary going through smoke because you're IFR (Instrument Flight Rules, or flying by instruments only) for a second or two, then the pilots maneuver over a mountain or down a canyon," said North Carolina Air Guard Maj. Bob Kotula, a navigator with the 145th Airlift Wing in Charlotte. "But our pilots are really good at what they do, so I don't get too worried."

Wyoming and North Carolina crews alone racked up 350 mis-

## HELP from ABOVE



Photos by SFC Eric Wedeking

sions and dropped more than one million gallons of retardant while rotating through Hill AFB, Utah, recently.

California's 146th Airlift Wing, based at Channel Islands, and the Air Force Reserve's 302nd Airlift Wing from Colorado Springs, Colo., focused their aerial attack in Spokane, Wash. The crews also used an air-attack base located in Boise,



**AIR ATTACK** — SSgt. Brendan Scott (left), a 145th crew chief, inspects a propeller blade. North Carolina TSgt. Chris Whitcomb (above) takes a fire retardant pressure reading during a recent fire mission. A Wyoming C-130 (top photo) drops fire retardant near Morgan Creek, Idaho.

Idaho, where the National Interagency Fire Center is headquartered.

Forest Service officials praised the National Guard for helping commercial air-tanker crews, who officials say are stretched to the limit fighting the worst blazes in 50 years. So far, the wildfires have scorched an area of 5.6 million acres, or an area bigger than the state of Massachusetts.

"Our fire season has kept us so busy, and we know you all are busy too with the other air operations you are involved in," said Jim Rogers of Atlanta, Ga., the U.S. Forest Service air-tanker operations chief. "We ap-

preciate everything the Air Guard does."

More than 20 years ago the Air Guard and the Forest Service entered into a joint agreement to use the MAFFS when commercial assets were stretched to the breaking point. Ironically, this was the first time the Cheyenne crew has had to fight fires at home.

"The closest we came before that was when we dropped (retardant) in north Yellowstone National Park in 1988, but that was on the Montana side of the park," recalled the 153rd's Lt. Col. Pat Curran.

For years, the U.S. Forest Service have looked to Air Guard for their support in backing up fire crews on the ground.

"When I used to work on the fire lines, we loved it when the MAFFS made their drops, because they were always more accurate and they just did a better job all around," reported Kim Marshall, a U.S. Forest Service logistics chief. "They are appreciated out here because they've saved houses and property."

Only four units in the entire Air Mobility Command are tested and qualified to fly the fire-retardant drop missions. Predictably, the citizen-airmen are proud of their elite status.

"I'm not living a job, I'm living a dream. That's how much I

love my job," said SSgt. Shelton Coe, a 145th mechanic. "I think these fire missions give the civilian world a better idea of what we do, which is not just hauling passengers, supplies or trash."

But being in a high-demand unit does provide citizen-airmen with added stressors back home with both family and employers. Besides flying seasonal fire-retardant drop missions in the summer and fall, the airlift wings must also meet other regular mission requirements. Along with firefighting duty out West, both the 145th and 153rd are currently committed to supply aircraft and crews to support "Operations Coronet Oak" in Puerto Rico. Both units will also soon be rotating aircraft and crews to support "Operation Southern Watch" in Oman.

"We like to do these fires missions, but we also have to go overseas quite a bit," added Curran. He said both units possess active family support and employer support programs to help deal with the high-deployment rate.

Meanwhile, all four Air Guard and Air Reserve firefighting units have continued to fight fires through September.

The citizen-airmen say they are ready for the long haul.

"Your family always has fears and concerns, but they know we've got a mission to do," said SSgt. Brendan Scott, a 145th crew chief. "There's a lot of long hours, lots of sun and heat, but we need to ensure we have the aircraft ready to fly."

Photo by Maj. Bob Kotula



# NEWS MAKERS

Compiled by MSgt. John Malthaner  
National Guard Bureau

*Aislinn Joy Peck and TSgt. Scott Malin* recently won the National Guard Year of the Family Essay Contest for the Army and Air Guard, respectively.

Peck is the 14-year-old daughter of Vermont Army Guard Chaplain (Maj.) Douglas Peck. Malin is a member of the 152nd Airlift Wing in Reno, Nev. They penned their winning entries to "Why Guard families matter to America?"

Twenty-three states and territories were represented in the contest. Peck and Malin received a \$500 savings bond.

*SFC David Fulkerson of Evansville, Ind.,* was named the Army National Guard's Recruiter of the Year.

Fulkerson recently received a certificate from Deputy Secretary of Defense Rudy de Leon during an award ceremony at the Pentagon, where 12 military recruiters from each branch of the Armed Forces were honored.

de Leon called bringing young men and women into the military is "one of our greatest military challenges."

"Despite the enormity of the challenge of recruiting," he added, "nearly 30,000 young people every month America's recruiters have demonstrated that they're up to the job. That's why we are supporting our recruiters with increased enlistment bonuses and educational benefits and by a major rise in recruiting advertising over the last year."

Fulkerson, who for the past three years was placed on Recruiting and Retention Command's "Top 10" recruiting list, said the awards ceremony was the highlight of his ongoing 11-year military career.

"It's been an awesome ride," said the 28-year-old Evansville native, who also wears a "Master Recruiting Badge" from his state.

He credited much of his recruiting success to the Indiana National Guard's 100-percent state university tuition scholarships.

*The West Virginia Air Guard promoted its* first woman, Sharon Lowery, to the rank of Chief Master Sergeant.

Lowery, the daughter of the late Fred Carte and Jeanette Carte of Sissonville, W.Va., was pinned in a ceremony at state's Air Guard Headquarters in Charleston by Maj. Gen. Allen E. Tackett, adjutant general, and her husband Henry E. Lowery, a retired Army Master Sergeant.

Chief Lowery is assigned as the personnel resource manager for Headquarters, West Virginia Air National Guard. She is a 1976 graduate of Sissonville High School and currently resides in Amma W.Va.

*More than 80 members of the Greater Terre Haute Chamber of Commerce* rose early August 4 to attend "Wake Up With Terre Haute," an event hosted by members the Indiana Air Guard's 181st Fighter Wing.

Col. Gary Peters, 181st commander, briefed the group, treating them to a pictorial show of his unit's combat and humanitarian mission over the



Essay contest winner, TSgt. Scott Malin.



Army Guard Recruiter of the Year, SFC David Fulkerson (right) and Rudy de Leon.



New Mexico CMSgt. Steve Moya donates soaps and shampoos to a Santa Fe shelter.

past year. Peters also thanked the employers for their support of traditional Guardmembers.

Master of Ceremonies Bob Day, a WMIX-FM radio personality, applauded the 181st for their community involvement and for "keeping their fingers on the pulse of the Wabash Valley."

After the briefing, several visitors went to the maintenance hangar to see one of the unit's F-16 Fighting Falcons. They also were treated to a four-fighter minimum interval launch.

Rod Henry, Executive Director of the Chamber, said the visit to the 181st was tremendous.

"It was exciting to see the long line of cars at the gate," he said. "We appreciate the opportunity to come out and see the base first-hand."

"This organization means a lot to our community," he added, "both in terms of payroll and community service."

Bob Murray, Associate Vice President at Indiana State University, also was impressed.

"I've lived in Terre Haute 33 years, and my wife and I enjoy the presence of the Air National Guard." He added that he admired the people who served with the unit and those who attend and work full-time at the university.

"Their dedication reflects well on them and our community," Murray said.

*New Mexico CMSgt. Steve Moya recently* found a thoughtful way for people to get rid of the soaps and shampoos they collected when they travel.

Setting up five-gallon buckets around his Santa Fe headquarters, Moya took the cleaning products to the nearby Bienvenidos Shelter.

"It's a great way for the National Guard to show interest in the community, especially for those less fortunate," he said.

*Laura Feeney made Oklahoma Army Guard* history recently, becoming the first woman in the state to be promoted to the rank of Sergeant Major.

Feeney enlisted in the Oklahoma Army Guard on July 11, 1980. After completing basic training, she was trained as an administrative specialist and assigned to State Area Command headquarters in Oklahoma City. In September of 1981, Feeney joined the Sooner State's Recruiting and Retention office, where she has remained for most of the past 19 years.

Since 1981, she has held a number of positions within the recruiting office. She is currently the recruiting office's Operations Sergeant Major.

Accompanied by her children, Tiffany and Michael, and her husband SGM Tom Feeney, Feeney was promoted in a ceremony that involved nearly 100 Guardmembers, including the Oklahoma Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Stephen Cortright.

"SGM Feeney is a shining example of what a soldier, gender aside, can accomplish when they put themselves to it," Cortright told the crowd. "SGM Feeney is the only sergeant major I have known to attain the rank of sergeant major in just 20 years. This speaks highly of her and the Oklahoma Army National Guard."





Photos by SFC Jack Holt

**CARING HANDS** — Pvt. Max Moreno (left) inoculates a young Pima County patient. Spc. Travis Dana, an Arizona Army Guard medic, checks a young girl's blood pressure. Both Moreno and Dana are members of Company C, 111th Area Support Medical Battalion.



Arizona National Guard medical professionals reach out to help underserved community

## Caring Hands

For Pvt. Max Moreno, providing hands-on medical care for needy neighbors, beats the heck out of your run-of-the-mill drill weekend.

"This is a lot better medical training by far than we normally do," said the Arizona Army Guard medic. "You can't simulate this."

Moreno and fellow members of Company C, 111th Area Support Medical Battalion spent a recent drill weekend reaching out and treating local children.

The Children's Assistance Resource Event, known otherwise known as Operation CARE, was designed to bring medical care to underserved residents in Pima County, Ariz. The civil-military Innovative Readiness Training, or IRT, exercise also involved nearly 40 other government and civilian agencies.

Doctors, nurses and physician assistants converged on Pueblo High School in late July to evaluate and treat minor injuries and

illnesses. They also provided well-baby care and immunizations.

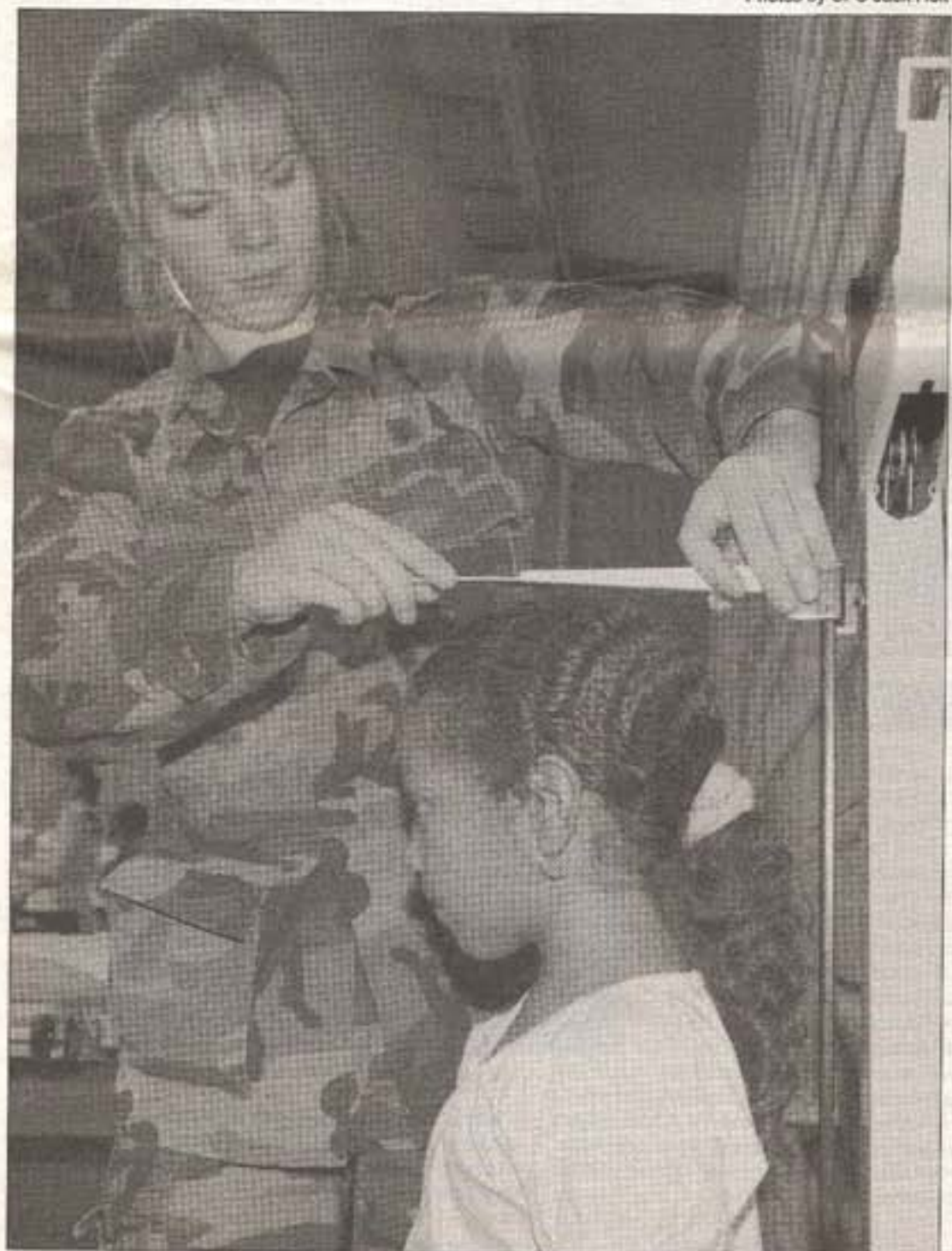
This is second year that that Company C medics have participated in Operation CARE. Last year more 10,500 patients were treated. This year medical personnel saw 2,800 people in the first two hours alone.

The National Guard medics participating in Operation CARE met two goals in the exercise, officials said. While the medics received real-world training that pertains to their military mission, they also provided a valuable "leave-behind" for the community.

Both are key requirements for Department of Defense readiness training. The special exercises, designed to be partnerships between the military and local authorities, usually focus on health care, transportation and engineering needs.

Arizona officials say that they have submitted a request to conduct Operation CARE again next year. They would like to expand the exercise to one or more additional clinics.

**WEIGHING IN** — Arizona Air Guard A1C Kim White, a medical service apprentice with the 162nd Fighter Wing, checks the heights and weight of a young girl.







# STATES

■ Muster Memories ■ Prison Presence ■ Buckeyes at the Border

## VERMONT

*Webster's Dictionary* defines the meaning of muster as "to assemble troops for battle, display, inspection, orders, etc."

The Vermont National Guard's definition of muster has a more personal meaning; it comes from a sense of camaraderie, patriotism and history.

The entire Vermont National Guard, more than 3,000 strong, assembled at the Champlain Valley Exposition in Essex Junction, Vt., Aug. 12 for Muster 2000.

"The purpose of Muster 2000 is to communicate the Guard's story to our members and their families, as well as to our communities, to our business leaders and to Vermonters," said Maj. Gen. Martha Rainville, adjutant general.

The day's events included a pass in review; children's activities, a blood drive, and a college and job fair.

Until the 1830s, Vermont held a muster each summer to rally the troops and to disseminate information. The last recorded muster of that century was held at the conclusion of the Civil war.

The entire Vermont Guard was not reassembled again until a chilling day in November 1980 when then adjutant general Maj. Gen. Reginald M. Cram called a muster to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Vermont's mobilization for World War II.

## NEVADA

### UNITED at the 'DIVIDE'

Soldiers with the 72nd Military Police Company in Las Vegas and Ely guard radio towers along the 7,700-foot Continental Divide west of Helena, Mont. The group of 25 MPs, who braved 40 mph wind gusts, were called to provide security for the towers during the Fierce Mercy Training Exercise.



Photo courtesy of the Nevada National Guard

## RHODE ISLAND

*Marching through angry guards* and directing his 11 citizen-soldiers to extinguish burning trash and pick up urine-soaked newspapers are SFC Roger Brisson's enduring impressions from a long, anxious night of guarding some of Rhode Island's most hardened criminals.

"It wasn't so bad once we were inside," said Brisson, after 14 hours helping to watch 470 inmates at the Adult Correctional Institutions in Cranston, R.I., recently.

It was indeed an unusual duty for 280 unarmed Rhode Island Guardsmen activated after the Brotherhood of Correctional Officers went on strike at the state's major prison. They helped the 200 remaining prison guards watch 3,400 locked-down inmates in the seven facilities that make up the prison complex.

Watching their backs and doing what the prison guards told them to do was the order of business, explained Lt. Col. Howard Webster.

But first they had to get in. The striking guards would not let the buses carrying the Guardsmen cross the picket line.

Maj. Gen. Reginald Centracchio, adjutant general, personally led the Guardsmen through the gauntlets.

"Seeing the general walking in front of us like that made all of us feel a lot better," said Brisson.

The striking guards were back in the prison the next day after being ordered to return by a judge.

## OHIO

By PFC Haraz N. Ghanbari  
*Ohio National Guard*

*U.S. Border Patrol agents at Eagle Pass, Texas,* were not the only people to benefit from the efforts of Buckeye State engineers recently, so did children at a local youth camp.

Soldiers from the 512th Engineer Battalion and the 16th Engineer Brigade were deployed to the border to build bridges and improve access roads to the Rio Grande River. Their efforts will help border patrol agents reach areas where illegal immigrants and drug smugglers enter the United States.

Despite their rigorous work schedule, a group of engineers spent a portion of their free time meeting with youngsters at a youth camp at Fort Duncan, an old Army fort located in Eagle Pass.

"When we first walked in, they were like, 'Wow!

Soldiers!'" recalled Spc. Tracie Ford, a soldier from the Columbus-based 16th Engineer Brigade.

Along with a border patrol agent, a group of explorers and two active-duty soldiers, the Ohio group greeted nearly 150 youngsters. They used the time to talk about achieving goals in life.

After a short video on Army operations, the engineers took time to arm wrestle, play chess, offer samples of Meals-Ready-to-Eat, and take pictures.

"This was an eye-opening and learning experience (for them), just to be around a variety of different people," said the 512th's Spc. Julian Fussnecker. "They were making us necklaces and bracelets. They wanted our autographs and didn't want us to leave."



Photo by PFC Haraz N. Ghanbari

**CHECK MATES** — Ohio Army Guard Sgt. James Willas spent some of his spare time playing chess with local youngsters near the Texas border.





## HISTORY

■ Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War

Texas Air Guardsman James Hagerstrom made a name for himself during World War II, the Korean War

## Two-War Ace

During the Korean War, Air Guardsmen flew 39,530 combat sorties, destroyed 39 enemy aircraft and produced four aces. One of them, James P. Hagerstrom, was a two-war ace.

In many respects, he embodied the Guard's doctrine of readiness. Hagerstrom stood out as one of service's virtuoso pilots, emerging from the Korean War as one of only six two-war aces in American history.

The son of an electrician, Jim Hagerstrom was born in 1921 and grew up in Waterloo, Iowa. He entered college in 1941 at Iowa State, but left during his sophomore year to join Aviation Cadets.

During World War II, he flew 170 missions with the 8th Fighter Squadron in New Guinea and shot down six Japanese planes. On one mission, Hagerstrom and another pilot took on 15 Japanese fighters in an attempt to rescue two P-38s. In the process, he bagged four aircraft.

After the war, Hagerstrom left the Army Air Forces, earned a college degree from Iowa State Teacher's College, and then went into the municipal bonds business in Houston, Texas. There, he joined the Texas Air Guard's 111th Fighter-Bomber Squadron, where he flew F-51 Mustangs.

Although many of his regular Air Force colleagues viewed Hagerstrom's unit as "the bottom of the heap," he recalled his Guard experiences with fond memories.

"I could take a Mustang and go to a bond sale a thousand miles away," Hagerstrom said. "You got your own Mustang, instead of flying the airlines. It was faster and you could go when you wanted to go. I was flying 500 hours a year, much more time than the 200 hours a year I would have gotten in the Air Force."

As a Guardsman, Hagerstrom brought honor to his unit by flying the F-51 and P-38 in the 1948 Cleveland Air Races.

In October 1950, Maj. Hagerstrom, now the 111th squadron commander, mobilized with his unit to Korea. He later transferred to the 334th squadron, a regular unit with the Air Force's 18th Wing.

When Hagerstrom left the United States, he was determined to become a two-war ace. To give himself an edge, Hagerstrom studied every intelligence report he could find on the MiG-15. He even convinced an optometrist to grind him a special pair of half-mirrored glasses that enabled him to see at 20 feet what a normal person

would see at 10. He also ordered a customized winter white flight suit made of raw silk for maximum insulation, and packed his survival kit with extra food, medicine and a .22 caliber Hornet rifle.

Once in Korea, Hagerstrom drew up a metric conversion table for his aircraft and led patrols over MiG Alley at metric altitudes to improve his odds of spotting enemy aircraft. Hagerstrom shot down the 18th Wing's first MiG of the war on Nov. 21, 1952. His next kill took place on Christmas day, 1952.

No one wanted to fly on Christmas, but he volunteered. Sure enough, his element received a radar plot from ground control. Lining his pipper up on the tail of a MiG at the extreme altitude of 50,000 feet, Hagerstrom held his fire, fearing that a shot would stall his F-86.

However, before he could fire, the MiG pilot bailed out at 45,000 on a 20-degree below zero day; probably freezing to death during his 30-minute parachute descent to earth.

By March 27, 1953, Hagerstrom had 4.5 MiG-15 kills to his credit, and only needed a half-credit more to achieve the coveted double ace status.

Now flying with the 67th Squadron of the Fourth Wing, he gave the following speech to his flight that day:

"Gentlemen, I've been living on coffee; I haven't been sleeping; I've got to do this thing; I'm gonna do it; and if you don't want to go with me, that's fine, I'll understand. We are going to go up there and give it one good try south of the Yalu, and if we don't scare anything up, I'm going after them today."

Sure enough, Hagerstrom's flight picked up six MiGs just north of the Yalu river in China. Hagerstrom got behind one them and began "hammering him" with his 50 caliber guns. As bullets sliced through the MiG's canopy, Hagerstrom glanced quickly over his shoulder to check his flight's position.

"I saw my number-four man with a MiG right behind him, shooting at him," he said. "I hollered, 'pull it tighter Snow, he's got you.'"

Hagerstrom reversed back, pulled around, and took a shot.

"It was just a hip shot, you know," he reported. "It had no deflection, no nothing, just boom, like that. Just sheer-ass luck. It knocked his wing tip off."

The MiG pilot then broke off his attack on Snow and headed down. At 15,000 feet, Hagerstrom pulled up, because in a Mach 1 dive the F-86 needs at least 10,000 feet to recover. The MiG also pulled up, and as he did, Hagerstrom hit him again. The two planes then went into a vertical climb.

"Every time my pipper was in his tail pipe," he recalled. "I'd give him a burst and another burst and another burst. I ended up coming up canopy-to-canopy with him."

As the two planes approached zero air speed,



GUARD HISTORY

By John Sherwood, PhD  
Historian

Hagerstrom slid off the MiG at 36,000 feet.

"He was sitting there, smoke and shit coming out of his airplane right above his air base," Hagerstrom noted. "I saw him lean down and blow his canopy. And as he straightened up his head, he looked over at me. Then he leaned his head back and blew the seat out. So I thought, 'I wonder what he's going to tell those guys at the officers club tonight, because he's going to be landing very close to his own air base.'"

"Seeing a burning MiG crash on your own base can cause a hell of a morale problem," he added.

Hagerstrom would receive credit for destroying that MiG and the first MiG he engaged that day. He went on to bag another MiG on April 13 before the Air

Force transferred him home.

On his last day in Korea, Hagerstrom was in the operations hut in his class A uniform waiting for a C-47 flight to Japan. A friend suddenly came over to him and told him that four aircraft were desperately needed over a sensitive area.

"I'll do it," Hagerstrom volunteered, "and I turned to the operations officers and told them we have an instant mission: 'you're two, you're three, you're four, and Sam Kratz will be the leader' ... that's me."

The radar operator then vectored them into a gaggle of MiGs, where Hagerstrom got his last MiG of the war.

With 8.5 MiGs to his credit, and a Silver Star with five oak clusters, he stayed in the Air Force after the war.

Hagerstrom ended up taking over a squadron of F-86s at Foster AFB in Victoria, Texas. After that, he headed the Far East Air Forces' fighter branch in Japan in 1956. From Japan, he journeyed to Taiwan to train Republic of China fighter pilots. After a stint in Hawaii on the Pacific Air Forces' staff, he joined the staff of the Air Force Office of Inspector General. He also earned a law degree at Loyola University in Los Angeles.

In 1965, the Air Force sent Col. Hagerstrom to Vietnam to run the Seventh Air Force's combat operations center. Hagerstrom quickly became embroiled in disputes with the Army over the roles and missions of Air Force assets attached to the Military Assistance Command Vietnam (MACV). Hagerstrom argued that Air Force planes in South Vietnam should be used to strike targets in North Vietnam, but Gen. William Westmoreland, the MACV commander, wanted the planes used to support Army operations "in-country." Westmoreland ultimately fired Hagerstrom over the issue.

Upon retirement in 1967, Hagerstrom spent his remaining days practicing law in Guam and pursuing his other great love -- sailing his homemade sailboat around the Pacific. James Hagerstrom died on July 1994 and was buried with military honors at Arlington National Cemetery. Today, Hagerstrom's memory lives on with the 111th squadron in Houston, where a maintenance hanger was named after him in 1957.

*Editor's Note: Dr. John Darrell Sherwood is the author of "Officers in Flight Suits: The Story of American Air Force Fighter Pilots in the Korean War"; and "Fast Movers: Jet Pilots and the Vietnam War Experience." He currently works as a historian for the Naval Historical Center in Washington, D.C.*



Two-war ace,  
James Hagerstrom





# TRAINING

## Aiming for

Ohio air defense artillery battalion braves Texas desert

## APPROVAL

Sgt. J.R. Lewis  
Ohio National Guard

**T**he Ohio Army Guard Stinger and Avenger crews that recently braved the heat and sand of Fort Bliss, Texas, did so with good reason -- they were seeking validation.

"This missile live-fire exercise is the final part of the final phase for deployability certification," reported Lt. Col. Michael Bish, commander of the 2nd Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery in McConnellville.

The training was part of Roving Sands, the U.S. military's largest joint service air and missile defense exercise. Roving Sands began in 1989 and is held annually at Fort Bliss and a few satellite locations.

"We're testing equipment in a peacetime environment so we don't have to go to war to validate our equipment," explained Lt. Col. Richard Caldwell, director of the exercise's joint information bureau.

This year's exercise was comprised of more than 18,700 service members from all branches of the U.S. military, as well as several allied nations.

For 2-174th troops, the live-fire exercise required the soldiers to fire missiles at moving aerial targets from both the Stinger and the Avenger air defense systems from McGregor Range, nearly an hour from Fort Bliss over the New Mexico border.

The Stinger missiles are fired from shoulder-held cylinders, while the Avenger fires the same projectile from a series of launch tubes mounted on the back of a Humvee. The crews fired at moving targets launched a few hundred yards away.

The Ballistic Aerial Targeting System, or BATS, gave the soldiers a heated target with an unpredictable flight path that closely resembles an aircraft.

The unit fired 22 live missiles, achieving 20 tactical kills -- 17 of which were direct hits. Firing at both aerial and ground



Photos by PFC Haraz N. Ghanbari

targets, Avenger crews also qualified on the M3P 50-caliber machine gun.

According to Bish, the exercise afforded the soldiers a unique opportunity to test themselves on the weapons outside of classrooms and simulators.

"This is the first time this unit has gotten a chance to do a live-fire (with this system)," he said. Although the McConnellville unit transitioned from Hawk to Stinger missiles in 1997, the battalion is only invited to the live-fire exercise at Fort Bliss every three years.

"One thing is for sure," Bish added, "they came to Texas to be soldiers."

Spc. Charles Klose, Bravo Battery team leader, said the exercise puts into practice

what most of the soldiers only have studied in classes.

"We've spent a lot of time practicing for this, but a live missile acts different than anything we get in training," he said. "The target engagement process is a lot more complex than what we do in classrooms."

The experience also benefited the unit's support elements, whose jobs it is to ensure that gunners have working equipment and no distractions that would take their minds away from hitting targets.

"We are getting tons of hands-on experience," said Spc. Tom Shea, a Battery B maintenance crewman. "If something breaks down, we're getting in there and



**FIRED UP** -- Ohio Pvt. 2 Steven Taylor (left) makes a systems check on an Avenger. Sgt. O. Ross Miller III (top photo) prepares a target for launch. Avenger and Stinger crews (above) prepare for live-fire at Fort Bliss, Texas.

getting it up and running again."

Although most of the soldiers in the unit have been to Fort Bliss before (for their advanced individual training), the shock of the heat, and its effects on safety, were top priorities for the unit.

"Our biggest concern is safety. When you have a live missile packed with C-4 explosives, you cannot be too safe," Bish noted. "We've gone through all of the range safety procedures over and over again. We won't quit until we've left here with all of the missiles fired and every soldier safe."

"The soldiers have done a great job adapting to the transition of coming from Ohio to the heat of Texas," he added.

Sgt. Michael Billups, an Alpha Battery team chief for an Avenger firing unit, said it was necessary for the soldiers to perform in an unforgiving climate.

"The heat is tough, but you have to be able to work in this heat," he insisted. "There are lots of places in the world where we could be deployed that are just like this ... or worse."