

## IN THE NEWS

### NEW ERA:

Gen. Schultz takes charge of Army Guard

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# THE ON GUARD

Volume XXVII, No. 9

Newspaper of the Army and Air National Guard

June 1998

## New York's bold program hailed

**GuardHELP: Backers insist it will redefine national defense at the local level**

By Lt. Col. P.C. "Pete" Kutschera  
New York National Guard

The New York National Guard has launched "guardHELP," a bold new program that Gov. George Pataki and its backers believe will redefine national defense at the local level.

At a crowded press conference at the state capitol in Albany May 20, flanked by hundreds of Army and Air National Guard members and legislative and community leaders, Pataki said that Guard units statewide would immediately begin partnering with communities to help solve problems locally.

The "help" in "guardHELP," Pataki noted, stands for Hear, Educate, Link and Partner.

"That means we will be listening to the needs of local governments," he began. "We're going to be educating them. We're going to link Guard resources with the needs of the community, and have a partnership where the Guard works to make our communities better."

Brig. Gen. Bill Martin, New York's deputy adjutant general, characterized the announcement as "arguably the most significant day" in the state's recent history.

"We are redefining national defense at the local level," he said. He recalled how Gov. Pataki portended in a speech nearly two years ago — during the bill signing of New York's landmark Tuition Incentive

Program — that the law would allow the state to use its military forces "in ways we can't even anticipate."

"Today," he added, "we are seeing the reciprocation to you in the announcement of guardHELP."

Dubbed "guardHELP," the program will bring Guard units closer to their communities, to the mutual benefit of both, through better communication and jointly coordinated community-action projects. As the Governor made the announcement, more than 70 armories and air bases around the state hosted "get-to-know-you" meetings with local civic leaders, kicking off the first part of the four-step "help" process.

Maj. Gen. Jack Fenimore, the Empire



Photo by MSgt. Jeannine Mannarino

**PROTOTYPE PROGRAM - Flanked by Guard members and lawmakers, New York Gov. George Pataki announces the start of 'guardHELP,' a program that will redefine the Guard's approach to community support.**

State's adjutant general, believes the prototype homeland defense program will serve as a national model, because it will match the Guard's capabilities with identifiable community needs.

Those needs, he added, will reflect the program's core disciplines: Aid to law enforcement, emergency response, community action and renovation projects, youth education, environmental enhancement, humanitarian assistance and



Photo by Sgt. Kevin Hynes

## GOING the DISTANCE

Indiana Army Guard Spc. Curt Carey sprints to the finish line at the Guard Bureau Marathon Trials (26.2 miles) in Lincoln, Neb. Carey took second place, clocking in at 2:34:47. Oregon Sgt. Tim Vanderlugt was first. See page 10.

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## COMMENTARY

• Romanian Rave • Miffed over Mouse • Sold on Sleep

## ABOUT the PAPER

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## GUARD MAIL

## Regaled in Romania

I had the honor and pleasure to lead the Romanian Civil Protection delegation who participated in the recent Earthquake Preparedness Workshop in Memphis, Tenn.

It was the first time that I took part in an activity — where representatives from the National Guard exchanged impressions and suggestions about disaster response — that enabled us to learn from each other, even if we are an ocean apart.

I remember, with much pleasure, Lt. Gen. Edward Baca's comments two years ago in Washington D.C., detailing ways through which the army can become more useful in their communities. This recent workshop highlighted, in very clear terms, the National Guard's efforts in exploring and explaining its plans for disaster situations.

I offer my sincerest congratulations for the professionalism and competence of the officers who work for the U.S. National Guard.

Division Gen. Gheorghe Popescu  
Romania's Civil Protection Command

## Of Mice and Guardsmen

In the article "Hay haulers 'bale' out New Mexico" (February), I was pleased to learn that the National Guard had once again helped someone in need. However, I was disappointed with the passage about kicking the

mouse out of the rear of the plane and the amused crew yelling, "Airborne."

I don't think that the cruel and unusual death of any creature needed to be included in any article about the Guard.

If I were there, I'm not so sure that I wouldn't have laughed at that moment, but to relay that kind of behavior in print is not image the Guard needs.

Guardmembers are not the only ones who read your paper — my family does, and I don't want my kids asking me if I like to kick mice out of planes.

Sgt. Clinton B. Allen  
California National Guard

## A 'Chem' Suit in every Car

We are overlooking some serious aspects in the recent initiative to prevent America from Nuclear Biological and Chemical attack (Weapons of Mass Destruction). Having response teams is important, but what we also need is for every National Guard soldier to:

- Have chemical protective overgarment protection in the trunks of their cars so they can make it to their duty station in the event of an attack.
- Make a sealed room in their house and stock it with food so they can perform their duties assured that their families will be OK.

The weak link in all of our NBC response theories is that those who are tasked to combat these attacks must drive to their armories/duty stations in privately-owned vehicles. If they become victims, they cannot help anyone.

Mike Sparks  
National Guard

## Losing Sleep over Story

This is in response to the article titled "Sleepless in Panama" (March).

It scares to me think that anyone, especially a police officer who carries a gun, would be so ignorant to think that two to three hours of sleep a day is sufficient to perform his/her duties.

I'm also disappointed that your paper would glorify such ignorance. This type of information only enforces the unmindful behavior of too many military people/leaders who believe that going without sleep is a sign of toughness and increased productivity.

You need to do an informative article on sleep. Maybe then military people will understand the necessity of eight hours and 15 minutes of sleep every night. They will also find themselves and their people more productive.

SMSgt. Donald A. Riddle  
Florida National Guard

## LETTERS POLICY:

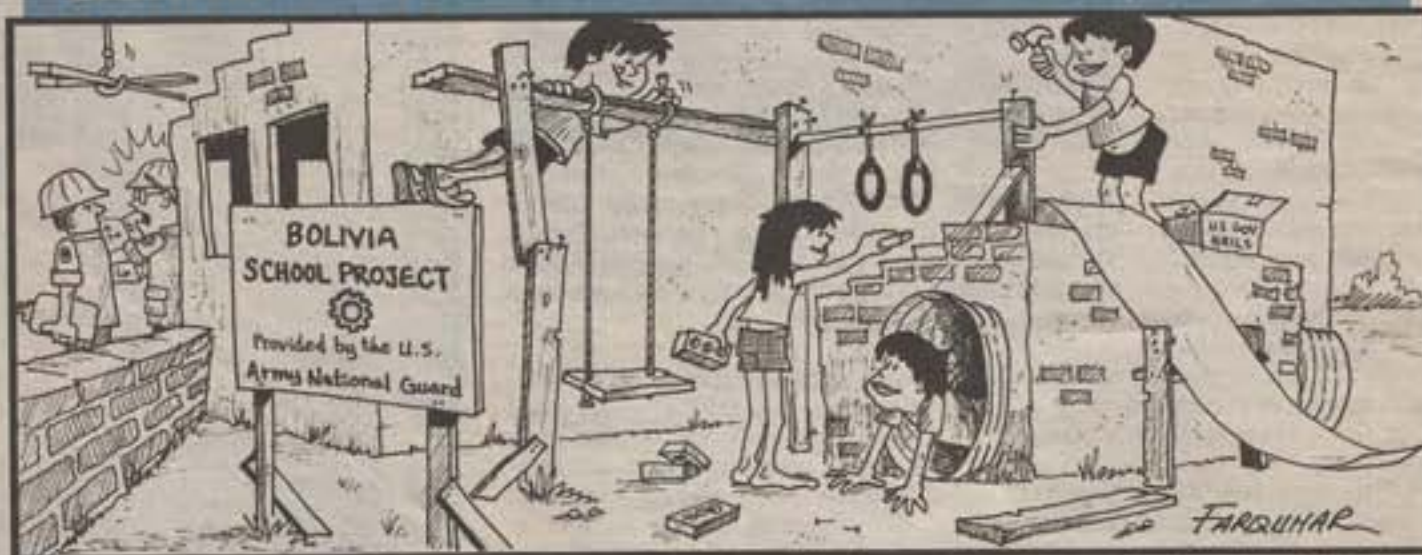
The On Guard welcomes letters from readers. All letters must include the writer's name, address and daytime phone. Names may be withheld upon request. All letters are subject to editing for style, content and space requirements.

You may FAX your 'Letters to the Editor' to DSN 761-0732 or (703) 681-0732. Letters can be mailed to: NGB-PAI-C, 2500 Army Pentagon, Washington, DC 20310-2500. Our e-mail address: malthanerj@ngb.ang.af.mil

## GUARD TOONS

By Lyle Farquhar

Comments or ideas: lfarquhar@ngb.ang.af.mil



"I don't get it! We should be further along with this school, but we keep losing materials."





## IN THE NEWS

• Schultz Takes Over • Oregonian Mourned • Shelton Staffers

## Schultz assumes director's post

**Tense Times: Appointment coincides with major global events**

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

An Iowa National Guard general hailed as "a consummate Guardsman, a consummate professional" became the 17th director of the Army National Guard in Arlington, Va., May 29.

Maj. Gen. Roger Schultz, a decorated Vietnam veteran, began his four-year tour as successor to Maj. Gen. William Navas who has held the director's position since October 1995. Schultz was promoted to major general on June 4th.

"As a single soldier, I can accomplish very little," Schultz told some 300 well-wishers at the Army National Guard Readiness Center. "But with God's help, with your help, we can accomplish this mission."

As the National Guard is assuming responsibilities for defending the homeland against weapons of mass destruction, "we have a leader like Roger Schultz to help us go into the 21st century," praised Lt. Gen. Edward Baca, Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

Schultz credited Navas with giving the Guard "the vision, the doorstep to the future, that we have before us."

"It will be a successful tour if I can implement the things he (Navas) has put in place," he added.



Maj. Gen. Roger Schultz

Navas said enabling this country's 54 adjutants general "to come together with a single vision and a single voice" was his biggest challenge and, he hopes, his most important accomplishment.

Schultz, 52, became director of the nation's second largest army, its nearly 370,000 Army Guard citizen-soldiers, in a month that produced many reminders about how the world remains an uncertain place.

His installation came the day after Pakistan announced it had conducted five underground nuclear tests that matched similar tests by neighboring India on May 11 and 13 and accelerated what the U.S. feared would become a dangerous nuclear arms race in South Asia.

He moved into office one week after Defense Secretary William Cohen announced the 10 states where National Guard rapid assessment teams will be stationed beginning next October to help domestic agencies deal with the threat of weapons of mass destruction.

Those states are California, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Massachusetts, Missouri, New York, Pennsylvania, Texas and Washington.

And Schultz is taking charge as the National Guard is implementing a new distance learning network throughout the 54 states and territories that is intended to be a relatively inexpensive way of training Guardmembers to react to emergency situations.

Preparing American communities to deal with the modern threat posed by terrorists had been Schultz's main concern since becoming the Army's Deputy Director of Military Support at the Pentagon last September.

"Homeland defense is going to take on quite a different meaning for us," he predicted.

## Slain Oregon enlistee buried with military honors

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

Mikael Nickolauson, an Oregon Army National Guard recruit, was buried with military honors the Tuesday after Memorial Day, five days after he was killed during a student's shooting rampage at Thurston High School in Springfield.

The 17-year-old junior had enlisted in the Oregon Army Guard's 41st Personnel Services Company in Salem three days before being killed in the high school's cafeteria before classes began May 21.

More than 900 people, including 75 crisply uniformed National Guard troops, packed the modern Eugene Christian Fellowship Church for the afternoon service. Nickolauson was remembered as a boy who taught his

teachers how to use their computers and who was always eager to please.

Military buglers played "Taps" beside the flag-draped coffin of one of the nation's newest and youngest citizen-soldiers.

Mikael was the second of four children born to Dawna and SSgt. Michael Nickolauson, a 14-year Oregon Army Guard veteran. He had signed up to become a computer programmer and systems analyst and was planning to begin his military training this summer.

The father is a squad leader in A Company, 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry and is a full-time manager for a local chain of convenience stores.

Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, Oregon's adjutant general, led the National Guard delegation that attended the services.

"The entire National Guard com-

munity is truly saddened by the tragedy," Rees stated. "It really hits home when one of the losses is a new Guardmember and when the father of the victim is also a member of the National Guard."

"We will give whatever support we can to the family to ease their pain," Rees added.

The seven-member honor guard was commanded by Capt. William Edwards, SSgt. Nickolauson's company commander.

The alleged killer, Kipland Kinkel, 15, remains in a juvenile facility. He has been charged with killing his parents in their home before driving to the high school, entering the cafeteria and firing more than 50 shots into the crowd before being wrestled to the floor.

Nickolauson was pronounced dead at the scene.

## NATIONAL BRIEFS

## Army Guard General joins Joint Chiefs' staff as assistant

Army Guard Maj. Gen. Michael W. Davidson has been selected to serve as an assistant to Gen. Hugh Shelton, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Air Force Reserve Maj. Gen. Robert A. MacIntosh also received an appointment.

These full-time Joint Staff positions were established by the 1998 National Defense Authorization Act.

Davidson and MacIntosh will advise Shelton on National Guard and Reserve matters, act as his personal liaison with their respective service branches and associations, and will participate when Guard and Reserve issues are brought before defense forums such as the Joint Review Board. The assistants will serve for a term of two years, which may be extended for an additional term.

"Both of these officers bring tremendous talent, experience and energy to these new positions," Shelton said. "I'm confident that General Davidson and General MacIntosh will help further our goal of forging a Total Force to meet the defense challenges of the 21st Century."

The new assistants began their assignments in June.

## Maj. Gen. Killey unretires to lead South Dakota, again

After recently retiring as the director of the 1st Air Force, Maj. Gen. Philip Killey — the former Air National Guard director — unretired to take the reins of the South Dakota, again.

During a May 2 ceremony Killey accepted command from Maj. Gen. Harold Sykora, who had served as the Prairie State's adjutant general since 1988. Killey was that state's adjutant in March 1987, but left in November 1988 when he was called to active duty to lead the 110,000-person Air Guard. His subsequent appointment to command the 1st Air Force and the Continental U.S. North American Aerospace Defense Command at Tyndall AFB, Fla., marked the first time in recent history that an Air Guard officer was picked to run a "numbered" Air Force. He retired from that post last December.

Killey enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in August 1963. By February 1965, he had earned his pilot's wings. Deployed to Southeast Asia in May 1967, Killey flew 129 combat missions over North Vietnam.



## IN THE NEWS

## 'guardHELP'

From Page 1

counterdrug operations.

Martin said the program will help Guard units become more relevant in their communities.

"The era of the big land Army is ending and the era of homeland defense is emerging," he observed. "The National Guard is uniquely configured because it is community-based, and this is where citizens-at-large perceive the greatest threat."

"All the reliable polls suggest that citizens do not perceive the threat as some place in the Middle East," the General added. "The enemies are illegal drugs, crime, declining values, denial of educational access and environmental degradation."

"These are all areas where the National Guard is poised and positioned to make a difference."

GuardHELP, Fenimore noted, allows local commanders to reach out to their communities and begin dialogue over the units' capabilities and how those unit assets (personnel, technical expertise, equipment, vehicles or the armory or air base itself) may best be matched to assist in local problem solving.

Although Guardmembers have engaged in numerous community projects over the years, Fenimore said "guardHELP" is unique.

"For the first time the Guard will put their ear to the ground and find out what the community truly needs, and apply those needs to solutions," he insisted.

The impetus for the effort was profiled in a June 2, 1997 letter to President Bill Clinton where Pataki outlined his vision for the National Guard's future role.

He wrote that "defense planners need to employ the Army Guard more effectively to meet the perils of ever-changing security threats."

Fenimore said New Yorkers are ready to roll.

"Never before have we as an organization been in a better position to bring real service and support to people at home," he stated. "We will reach out to our neighbors to discover new ways our special training, skills and capabilities can help make life in the community better for all."

## Ohio unit digs in to save the earth

## Mansfield's 179th Airlift Wing performs 16 beautification projects in one day

By SSgt. Shannon Scherer  
Ohio National Guard

What began as a small project to promote Earth Day awareness at an Ohio Air Guard unit in Mansfield blossomed in a large scale community effort.

Flanked by school children and members of the community, nearly 250 airmen and women with Ohio's 179th Airlift Wing tackled 16 separate beautification projects.

"This is certainly the largest project we've ever done in one day," assured Lt. Col. Charlie Daugherty, the 179th's support group commander.

For the past 28 years, Earth Day — which traces its roots to the Kennedy administration — has been a way for the nation to show concern for the environment. The first Earth Day took place in the spring of 1970 with more than 20 million people nationwide participating in peaceful demonstrations.

The seeds were planted for the 179th's Earth Day involvement during the unit's quarterly Environmental Protection Committee meeting. Committee members were looking for base activities to make unit members aware of the day. But, according to 2nd Lt. Troy Cramer, the unit's environmental manager, those seeds spawned an oak tree of interest.

"Originally I thought it would be nice to do something for the base," Cramer recalled. "But as people found out about our activities, it just grew."

Teamed with the City of Mansfield, local schools and the Ohio Department of



Photo by SSgt. Shannon Scherer

**DIGGING IN** - Ohio Air Guard TSgt. Glen Gailey works with a student at Newman Elementary to till a vegetable garden as part of an Earth Day project.

Transportation, Air Guard technicians spearheaded an Earth Day 1998 effort that identified 16 areas in need of sprucing.

Amerihost Hotel and Wayne's Country Market donated money, supplies and equipment for the community beautification projects. The 179th also received \$5,000 from the National Guard's Environmental Office Earth Day Fund to purchase pavers, seed and ground cover for projects at their base.

Bolstering the effort, Col. Don Eby, 179th commander, closed down operations at the Mansfield base for the day, allowing Guardmembers — divided into work teams — to deploy to various project sites on and off base. Retired members even returned to restore and cleanup the area around an F-84F monument near the entrance of the base.

"This is an absolutely terrific turnout," stated Eby.

The 179th work teams were assigned to plant wildflower beds at major state intersections, clean-up city parks and work with local schools. Teams assigned to the Newman Elementary School helped prepare a vegetable and flower garden that will help students learn about economics through gardening.

"This has been a good way to pay back the community for services they've given us," Eby said. "And at the same

time, protect and preserve the environment."

The Guardmembers environmentally-conscious efforts also reaped rewards during a pig roast luncheon that day. The meal was paid for by money saved through a unit recycling program.

"Everyone's worked hard on the recycling program," Cramer said. "This was a way to say thanks for their efforts."

As the day came to close, many tired Guardmembers, school children and community leaders looked upon their efforts with pride and a new sense of environmental responsibility.

While Jessica Stanton, a sixth grader at Russell Elementary, said she enjoyed working with members of the Guard, she found something else more gratifying.

"It's nice to be helping the Earth," Stanton observed, "and not polluting it."



Photo courtesy of the California National Guard

READY for his  
CLOSE-UP

California Army Guard Sgt. Chris Shaw, a crew chief with Company B, 1st Battalion, 140th Aviation, and two Blackhawks from the Los Alamitos-based unit, were on the set of the blockbuster film "Deep Impact." The unit's aircraft have also been used in "Air Force One" and "Clear and Present Danger."





## PEOPLE

• Remembering Memorial Day

# H

James Logan is a seemingly ordinary man who displayed extraordinary courage

# EROIC

# RETURN

By Spc. Aaron R. Reed  
Texas National Guard

One Star Division troops were visited by a seemingly ordinary man with an extraordinary history while training at Fort Hood, Texas recently. Flanked by friends and soldiers, the grandfatherly figure in jeans and a cowboy hat greeted troops, inspected equipment, observed M1A1 Abrams tanks and mortars on the firing range. He even tried a meal-ready-to-eat for lunch.

It wasn't his first taste of life in the Texas Army National Guard.

That came more than half a century ago. In 1936, a Luling boy called James M. Logan lied about his age to enlist in the 141st Infantry Regiment. When Company I, 141st Infantry, part of the 36th (Texas) Division, was called to active duty to fight in Europe, Jim Logan went too.

After training in North Africa, Logan's company spearheaded the Allied invasion of Italy. Logan hit the beaches near Salerno on the morning of Sept. 9, 1943. Over the next few hours, he proved Texas National Guard soldiers were among the best in the U.S. Army. Or, in the words of his Medal of Honor citation:

*Voluntarily exposing himself to the fire of a machine gun located along the rock wall, which sprayed the ground so close to him that he was splattered with dirt and rock splinters from the impact of the bullets, Sergeant Logan killed the first three Germans as they came through a gap in the wall. He then attacked the machine gun.*

*As he dashed across the 200 yards of exposed terrain, a withering stream of fire followed his advance. Reaching the wall, he crawled along the base, within easy reach of the enemy crouched along the opposite side, until he reached the gun. Jumping up, he shot the two gunners down, hurdled the wall, and seized the gun. Swinging it around, he immediately opened fire on the enemy with the*

*remaining ammunition, raking their flight and inflicting further casualties on them as they fled.*

*After smashing the machine gun over the rocks, Sergeant Logan captured an enemy officer and private who were attempting to sneak away.*

Later the same morning, Logan again left his company when a sniper began firing at the Americans from a house some 150 yards away. According to the citation, Logan ran a gauntlet of fire to reach the house. Once there, he shot the lock off the door, kicked it in and shot the sniper, who had just reached the bottom of the stairs.

No one knows for sure how many GIs Logan saved that morning, but his citation says that he "aided materially the success of the beachhead at Salerno." The word "materially" is the Army's way of saying that Logan's courage may have been the difference between victory and defeat that day.

He was no Rambo. He did not enjoy war; the misery, the killing, the terror. He turned down a battlefield commission, afraid that if he accepted, the Army would keep him in Europe longer. Friends say that now he regrets that decision. They say he feels



**"When we stood at attention to recite the Pledge of Allegiance, I told the kids: 'You know, Sgt. Logan is one of the reasons we do this' ... They all stood a little straighter after that"**

Leslie Listenbee, Second grade school teacher

bad about coming home before the war ended. As if, contrary to the abundant evidence, he didn't do his part.

When Logan returned to Texas in 1944, after having been wounded and twice more recommended for the nation's highest military honor (the second award was downgraded to the Distinguished Service Cross), he was subjected to a lot of fanfare and hoopla. Parades, dinners, and an immensely successful statewide war bonds drive kept him in the limelight for a while.

Then, it was all over. Logan went to work in the oil field. For more than four decades he lived quietly near the small East Texas town of Kilgore, doing the things an ordinary man does; working hard and raising a family.

But he wasn't forgotten.

SFC David L. Squires said he first read about Logan's exploits back when he was a brand-new private. Much later, after becoming the fulltime readiness NCO for the Texas Army National Guard's Company D, 3rd Battalion, 144th Infantry at Kilgore, he realized the quiet hero lived just a few miles away.

"A lot of guys in Kilgore didn't even know he had the medal," Squires said. "I started to get to know him, and realized what a great guy he is. And there are so few Medal of Honor winners left, I just wanted to do something to honor him."

Squires saw an opportunity to do just that when the National Guard decided to build an addition to the Kilgore armory in 1994. When the addition was dedicated on May 17, 1997, it was named for TSgt. James M. Logan.

The relationship that has blossomed since then has led to some extraordinary things. Through Squires' efforts, and the efforts of Capt. Dennis E. Spillman, a 3rd Battalion officer, last Memorial Day, the 76-year-old Logan became the first person in history to receive the Texas Legislative Medal of Honor.

At a Texas Rangers baseball game last May, the old sergeant was introduced to a packed stadium and received a standing ovation. Spillman, who works full-time as the 3-144th Infantry's officer in charge, says recruiting is up.

"I get calls all the time now," he said. "It's all because of Jim and all the attention he's getting."

But there are other, less tangible and perhaps more important benefits to this new rush of attention. Logan has started visiting area schools to talk about patriotism, service and respect for the flag.

"He's really starting to enjoy talking to the kids; he's really coming to life," said Richard Fuhrman, a retired Air Force combat veteran and Logan's friend and neighbor. "He does so much good for the children. They just love him."

Others agreed.

"At first, as a group, they were a little bit in awe of him," said Leslie Listenbee, a second-grade teacher at Kilgore's Chandler Elementary School. "The day after his visit, when we stood at attention to recite the pledge of allegiance, I told the kids: 'You know, Sgt. Logan is one of the reasons we do this' ... They all stood a little straighter after that."

Listenbee said Logan's visit has given her seven- and eight-year-old students something to think about.

"One of my students told his mother on the way home from school: 'Mom, a lot of people think stars like Michael Jordan are heroes, but Sgt. Logan is really a hero.'"

Texas Army National Guard officials say he's also been a great role model to citizen-soldiers.

"I'm in awe of him, really," said Lt. Col. Bill Moeller, 3-144th Infantry commander. "I think a lot of our troops are. He's a friend to all the soldiers here in Kilgore."

"I wish every community across the state of Texas had someone of the caliber of Mr. Logan to be able to come by the armory and be a role model and mentor to the soldiers," he added.

During his visit to Fort Hood, Logan said that he still believes in a strong National Guard. He also was impressed with the technological advances he had seen.

"I don't think I could get in now," he joked.





**VET VISIT** - Lt. Gen. Edward Baca chats with Bataan veterans prior to the race.

More than 200 Guard runners test their mettle on Bataan Death March trail

# Battling BATAAN

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

**M**aj. Steve Bueche paid a remarkable tribute to a soldier he never knew on the third Sunday in April.

The California Army National Guard officer carried the name of Pvt. John Halligan close to his heart while walking and jogging 25 foot-blistering miles at the vast White Sands Missile Range in southern New Mexico.

The occasion was the 10th annual Bataan Memorial Death March that honors the aging veterans and the memories of the American servicemen who did not survive the inhuman, 65-mile march through the jungle after 70,000 American and Filipino soldiers surrendered to the Japanese in the Philippines on April 9, 1942.

Pvt. Halligan died during the death march 56 years ago, explained Bueche. The Army National Guard's 40th Infantry Division, however, remains their common bond.

Bueche is the operations officer for the 132nd Engineer Battalion in Sacramento that supports the division. Halligan was one of the 40th Division's soldiers sent to the Philippines who did not come home.

"We wore these name bands in commemoration of those soldiers from the 40th who died during the march. A lot of men died," said Bueche whose satisfaction at completing the demanding course in New Mexico was tempered by an un-

derstanding of how soldiers endured or died on Bataan.

So it was for a record 1,900 military and civilian runners and walkers, including some 200 National Guardsmen, who celebrated the Bataan memorial march's 10th anniversary. That milestone, organizers agree, is a good sign it will be around for awhile as one of the world's unique military tributes.

It was originally staged by the New Mexico State University Army ROTC to honor the state's National Guardsmen from the 200th and 515th Coast Artillery Regiments who formed the last line of defense before the Bataan surrender. White Sands Missile Range and the New Mexico National Guard joined forces in 1992.

"The thing I like is not to be forgotten, because this wasn't an easy thing we did,"

said Ruben Flores, 81, a retired security guard from nearby Las Cruces who withstood the death march and four years as a prisoner of war. "This event keeps the memories alive, just like the Civil War."

Winston Shillito, 78, a 200th Coast Artillery platoon sergeant on Bataan who has since retired from the Air Force and gone into private business in El Paso, Texas, joined the memorial marchers for the third straight year.

"The fact that any of us survived was amazing to those of us who came back," observed Shillito, one of 23 Bataan veterans distinctive in maroon vests and service caps who turned out for this year's event.

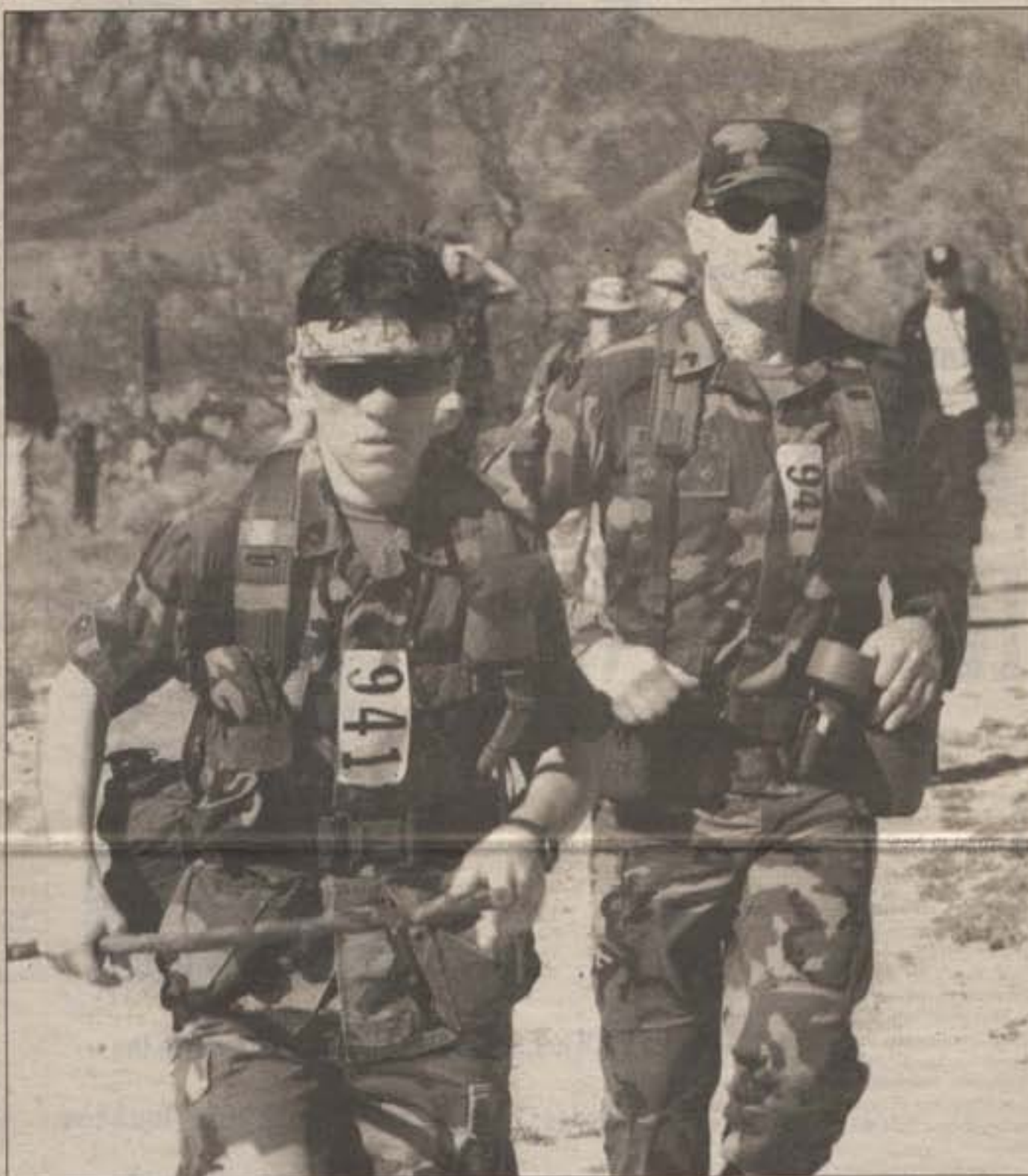
Lt. Gen. Edward Baca, Chief of the National Guard Bureau and New Mexico's former adjutant general, is determined that they not be forgotten.

Photos by MSgt. Bob Haskell  
**LONG HAUL** - Missouri Army Guard SFC Kate Barr (left) was up to the task as she and other National Guard soldiers tested their mettle at White Sands Missile Range to honor Bataan veterans.

"These men are my heroes because they put their lives on the line to hold off the Japanese Army for four months and buy this country the time it needed to prepare for war," said Baca during the opening ceremonies before sunrise.

The memorial march was held, coincidentally, on April 19, Patriots Day, that commemorates the battles and heroes of Lexington and Concord in Massachusetts where the Revolutionary War began in 1775.

The Boston Marathon is the sporting event affiliated with that holiday.







**HEART AND SOLE** - PFC Johnny Black, a medical specialist with the California Army Guard and emergency medical technician in Los Angeles, was a sight for sore feet for those who braved the grueling 25-mile death march in New Mexico.

The athletic spirit also coursed through the crowd in New Mexico because the march features 19 competitive categories, primarily for teams of five to seven people.

Members of military "light" teams had to carry two quarts of water with their camouflage uniforms and combat boots. Members of "heavy" teams lugged 35-pound backpacks that, for many, seemed to weigh 350 pounds as the sun baked the desert.

The course wound around Mineral Hill at the base of the San Augustin Mountains and rose from 4,100 to 5,300 feet above sea level. A stream bed of dry, "boot-sucking" sand tested tired legs from miles 20-22.

"I've run some half-marathons. This is a little different than running in a T-shirt and tennis shoes," said Missouri Army Guard SFC Kate Barr after finishing.

Approximately 20 teams, predominately from New Mexico, Texas, Missouri, California and Washington, D.C., represented the National Guard. New Mexico's Roadrunners were the light division's defending champions.

Military teams from Great Britain, Germany and Spain made it an international field.

The British came loaded for bear. Thirty-two soldiers from an air defense regiment in the southern coastal city of Portsmouth spent a month training in the Southwest's considerably drier climate and higher altitude.

"We do love beating your special forces and Marines and whole shedful of people,"

cracked Lt. Col. Morton Burdick, a British liaison officer at Fort Bliss, Texas, about why the British army has taken this event seriously for a half-dozen years.

"It is good that we train together as NATO allies and compete as professionals," he added. "The British have nothing but admiration for those who beat us, because we know what it takes."

British Bulldog teams did well, but they hardly ruled the roost.

They reclaimed the overall light title by doing the distance in 4 hours, 14 minutes, 51 seconds and beating New Mexico's Army Guard team by an impressive 8 minutes, 28 seconds. They also won the coed military light prize, but

they lost the overall heavy division they had ruled for five years.

The American's Joint Task Force 6 team claimed that title.

New Mexico finished as the top National Guard team for the second straight year, and California's team from the 3rd Battalion, 160th Infantry Regiment took home the Guard's heavy championship.

Indiana Army Guard SSgt. Trent Sinnett and Spc. Curt Carey scored a one-two punch in the individual male military light class, and New Mexico Sgt. Bernadette Salazar won the women's military light race.

The California Guard's 40th Infantry Division Lionesses won the female military light title for the third straight year, and a National Guard Bureau team from Washington, D.C., captured the coed military heavy crown.

Capt. Mike Herrera, the New Mexico light team leader, captured the spirit of the day.

Yes, he was disappointed about not beating the British for a second straight year.

But he spoke of his cousin, Pedro Herrera, who persevered through the death march and long years of imprisonment as one of the "Battling Bastards of Bataan."

Pedro has lived quietly on his farm in northern New Mexico and served as the family's spiritual leader for the half-century since his liberation, Capt. Herrera explained.

"Pedro and these other veterans are the important ones," he added. "We must never forget them."

Merrimack workshop addresses readiness, ice storm experiences

## For the FAMILY

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

The promise of summer warmed the southern New Hampshire town of Merrimack during May's third weekend. But memories of last winter's killer ice storm that crippled northern New England remained vivid for many people who gathered together because they are concerned about the welfare of National Guard and other Reserve Component families.

What they experienced and what they learned in January were hot items of discussion among many of the 250 Family Program volunteers and coordinators taking part in a training workshop sponsored by the eight-state Northeast Multiservice Military Family Readiness Council.

"The storm left a lot of people who did not know who to contact. There was no family support program in our battalion," said

forthright Patricia Penree of Cooperstown, N.Y. Her husband, Capt. John Penree, was one of 4,000 New York Guardmembers called to state active duty to deal with the devastation across the northern part of that state.

There's a program now, Penree said. Family support packages, including registration forms, have been sent to 619 families in the Syracuse-

based 427th Support Battalion. And all seven companies and detachments have family support volunteers, she explained, because of the lessons learned from Operation Ice.

"It is our goal that the family of every soldier in this battalion have available to them the information necessary to receive the help and support they may require during their soldiers' absence," wrote Lt. Col. Peter Ingalsbe, the battalion commander.

Her next goal is to help develop family programs for the four other battalions that form the 27th Infantry Brigade in New York and Connecticut, said Penree who owns a children's clothing store.

That kind of commitment is critical, said Maj. Gen. John Blair, New Hampshire's adjutant general, because "family programs are directly tied to our readiness. They relate to our Guardmembers' willingness to perform in training and, ultimately, in combat."

Family programs are intended to help the spouses and other family members of National Guard and Reserve troops who must leave their homes for foreign deployments or state emergencies.

January's icy assault across New York, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine reminded people that families can be just as vulnerable if their Guardmembers travel across the state for nine days as they are if the citizen-soldiers travel across the ocean for nine months.

They can feel alone in many ways.

One Guardmember's wife called New York volunteer Jo'El Drajem in a

panic because a rat from nearby flooded farmlands had gotten into her house. The woman was concerned about her two babies, even though the rat was munching on a cookie at the time.

Another Guard wife called because the landlord was threatening to evict her family, Drajem added.



"Family programs are directly related to our readiness. They relate directly to our willingness to perform ... in combat"

MAJ. GEN. JOHN BLAIR  
New Hampshire Adjutant General

See FAMILY, Page 13



TOP SOLDIERS / AIRMEN

Airmen, Soldiers of the Year go to Washington

# Setting the STANDARD

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

Andre Walker is a God-fearing man who believes in role models. Bishop James Johnson of the Bethesda Temple in St. Louis is a man Walker admires most.

"He is the greatest role model in the world," said Walker who is striving to be a role model for others in his capacities as a Christian and as a senior airman in the Missouri Air National Guard.

At 31, he is making his mark. Walker counsels elementary and junior high school youngsters in his neighborhood about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse. He teaches a Bible study class and prayer techniques at the Bethesda Temple.

He is also the 110,000-member Air National Guard's Airman of the Year.

"I am living proof that you can achieve anything you want to as long as you go about it the right way," said

the soft-spoken Walker while visiting the nation's capital with the National Guard's nine other outstanding airmen and soldiers for 1998 during the second week in May.

He is concerned that too many young people, especially from inner city neighborhoods such as his own North St. Louis, have no one to help them expand their horizons.

"The young men who killed that 6-year-old girl, Dominique Evens, in St. Louis (the Wednesday) before Moth-

er's Day in the drive-by shooting do not have good role models," he said. "Their whole world is made up of two or three blocks. I know because that's how I grew up."

"I try to give the young people other options, to broaden their scope about the world," added Walker whose own horizons have been expanded considerably since becoming a communications specialist in the 239th Combat Communications Squadron at Lambert Field in St. Louis in July



1995.

He has served once in Germany and twice in the Middle East. He has landed his job of installing and maintaining computer networks for an international telecommunications company thanks to his military training, he explained.

"The Air Guard has rewarded me far more than I ever would have imagined," said Walker.

Spreading that word among the young people back home is one way that Andre Walker is giving back.

There was no shortage of positive

role models among the two women and eight men from Delaware to Hawaii tapped as the National Guard's top enlisted people for 1998.

Take the Hawaii Army Guard's artillery Sgt. Iven Sugai and medical Spc. Mi Soon Han, winners of the Pacific Command's competition. Sugai is studying

economics and intends to earn his commission through the University of Hawaii's ROTC program. He has also set his sights on a master's in business administration. Han is majoring in biology at the University of Hawaii and wants to become a doctor.

Colorado military police Sgt. Michael O'Connor, a five-year Army veteran, has become the Fifth U.S. Army region's top Army Guard

NCO eight years after traveling to Washington, D.C., and finishing second in the active Army's Soldier of the Year competition when he was an MP in Oakland, Calif.

And Nevada MSgt. Steve Hanneman, the Air Guard's First Sergeant of the Year, owns a seven-member office machine dealership with his wife Katherine in Sparks, Nev., near Reno. He has been the top sergeant for the 126 members of the



Photos by MSgt. John Thornton

**CRAIGIN'S CREW** - Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs Charles Craig was happy to pose with the Army and Air Guard's finest enlisted men and women in May.

## BEST in BLUE

### Outstanding AIRMAN



SrA. Andre L. Walker  
239th Combat Communications Squadron, Mo.

### Outstanding NCO



SSgt. Arthur E. Thompson  
146th Maintenance Squadron, Calif.

### Outstanding SENIOR NCO



SMSgt. Holly A. Morris  
142nd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, Del.

### Outstanding 1ST SERGEANT



1st Sgt. Steve P. Hanneman  
152nd Civil Engineer Squadron, Nev.

"People like you inspire all of us to wear our uniforms with pride"

CSM John Leonard

G



Spc. John  
Co. C, 2-123



Spc. Todd  
Co. D, 1-635



Spc. Mi So  
Co. C, 29th



## REAT in GREEN



**Outstanding  
SPECIALIST/  
NCO**  
1st U.S. Army

John Joyce Jr.  
Armor, Ky.



**Sgt. Paul W. Dahlen**  
Co. F, 147th Aviation, Minn.



**Outstanding  
SPECIALIST/  
NCO**  
5th U.S. Army

Todd Loughney  
Armor, Kan.



**Sgt. Michael R. O'Connor**  
220th Military Police Co., Colo.



**Outstanding  
SPECIALIST/  
NCO**  
U.S. Army Pacific

Sgt. Iven T. Sugai  
Sgt. Bn., HI



**Sgt. Iven T. Sugai**  
HHB, 1-487th Field Artillery, HI

152nd Civil Engineer Squadron for nearly four years.

Such was the cross-section of America's enlisted citizen-soldiers and airmen that National Guard leaders including Lt. Gen. Edward Baca, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, and his wife Rita, honored in Washington, D.C.

"We are the envy of many countries, such as Russia and Poland, because we have a solid, good non-commissioned officer corps," said Baca during a Wednesday night reception at his Quarters One home at Fort McNair. "They realize the NCO is the backbone of the Army and the backbone of the Air Force."

The Guard's enlisted leaders used that occasion to induct the surprised Baca into the NCO corps. The National Guard chief, who plans to retire this summer, once was a staff

sergeant in the New Mexico Army Guard and is widely regarded as an enlisted-man's general. Army Guard CSM John Leonard Jr. and Air Guard CMSgt. Edwin Brown appointed Baca a command sergeant major and chief master sergeant.

"Always keep this on your person as you've always had us in your heart," said Brown after he and Leonard had presented Baca with their official coins.

"Many years ago my first sergeant told me they were sending me to officers school because staff sergeant was as high as I was going to get in the enlisted ranks," Baca replied.

"Now, after 42 years in uniform, I can tell him I've realized my dream and that he was wrong."

Kentucky Army Guard armor Spc. John Joyce Jr., a criminal justice student and assistant scout master; Kansas armor Spc. Todd Loughney, a George S. Patton Award winner during basic training at Fort Knox, Ky., and Minnesota aviation Sgt. Paul Dahlen, who is studying international affairs, are this year's other top Army Guard soldiers.

"I am asking you to go back to your states and serve as role models and examples of what people can aspire to," Maj. Gen. William Navas, Director of the Army National Guard, told the six citizen-soldiers during a fatherly chat at the Army Guard's Readiness Center.

California SSgt. Arthur Thompson, a deputy sheriff and board member for a chapter of the American Diabetes Association, is the Air Guard's NCO of the Year. Delaware SMSgt. Holly Morris, a certified emergency medical technician, is the Senior NCO of the Year.

Every one of them has set a positive example by doing their jobs right rather than following an easier road, said retired Air Force Col. Charles McGee, a World War II Tuskegee Airman, during the week's final banquet at Andrews AFB, Md.

"I know that you know that what you have accomplished is grounded in more than thanking some lucky star," McGee told the premier enlisted people before a room packed with 320 of their peers who turned out on the final night of *Seinfeld*.

The fellowship punctuated by a polished U.S. Army Chorale presentation made the effort worthwhile.

"People like you," Leonard told the guests of honor, "inspire all of us to wear our uniforms with pride."



**TOP 'TOP' - 1st Sgt. Steve Hanneman and his wife Katherine were honored guests during their recent visit to the Washington D.C., area. Back in Nevada, they own a small office machine dealership.**

The Air Guard's top first sergeant knows what it means to employ Guardsmen

## Life from both sides

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

Steve Hanneman is a tall, engaging sort who knows of what Judy Collins has sung.

Hanneman is also the first sergeant, the top enlisted member, for 126 men and women in the Air National Guard's 152nd Civil Engineer Squadron in nearby Reno.

He also owns a small office machine dealership with his wife Katherine that employs five other salespeople and technicians and serves a 100-mile area, including western Nevada's Fallon Naval Air Station.

That six-year-old venture has given Hanneman a unique perspective about the demands and benefits that people involved in the part-time military service can mean for other people who work hard to mind their own businesses.

He has, indeed, "looked at (Guard) life from both sides now," to paraphrase the folksinger Collins.

Hanneman is convinced the careers can coincide as long as Guardmembers give their civilian bosses enough time to adjust to their military obligations.

"Employers don't want to support the Guard by surprise," said Hanneman who has made a unique name for himself among this nation's 110,000 Air Guard members. The 19-year Air Guard veteran is the Outstanding First Sergeant for 1998.

"It certainly gives me a better understanding of both sides of the coin," said Hanneman who divides his time between his business and his first sergeants' duties he assumed nearly four years ago.

"The Guard unstresses him for some reason," explained his wife. "Even though he's working hard, that's his change of pace."

Hanneman could conceivably put himself in for a "My Boss is a Patriot" award sponsored by the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve.

Volunteers for that organization spend much of their time addressing the concerns of small business owners who miss absent Guardmembers far more than major companies with large numbers of employees.

Hanneman uses the example of his own company, Sierra Imaging, when he volunteers to tell other business people what Guardmembers can do for them.

One of his workers belongs to the Army National Guard, he explained. The man has already received much of his training and a large measure of discipline courtesy of the government.

"Most business people like the idea of 10 percent of their people getting training at no charge," Hanneman offered. "That makes it easier for them to give their Guard people the time to perform their military duties."

"If the Guard people give their employers enough advance notice," he added, "it's generally not a problem."

**"Most business people like the idea of 10 percent of their people getting training at no charge"**

1st Sgt. Steve Hanneman





## SPORTS

• Inside the National Guard Bureau Marathon

Vandervlugt, Wild lead men,  
women marathonersGoing the  
DISTANCEBy MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

Tim Vandervlugt thanked a lot of people for his milestone marathon achievement in sun-baked Lincoln, Neb., on the first Sunday morning in May.

He thanked his new bride Celine for being there. He thanked Arizona Guardsman Chase Duarte for giving him some tough training runs around Tucson during his honeymoon last June. He thanked Olympic running legend Lasse Viren for inspiring him while visiting Viren's native Finland last September.

At the end of the day, however, the sinewy, 33-year-old sergeant in the Oregon Army National Guard had mainly himself to thank for renewing his commitment to the marathon and for becoming the new king of the National Guard Bureau's Marathon Trials that have been part of the Lincoln Marathon in eastern Nebraska for 15 years.

Civilian Marklee Boynton, 33, of Monument, Colo., easily won the tight, flat 26.2-mile run in 2 hours, 29 minutes, 35 seconds — Lincoln's slowest winning time ever. Vandervlugt finished a distant second in 2:33:58.

But the full-time training NCO from Eugene, Ore., and Indiana's three-man National Guard team helped write a new chapter in the Lincoln race that determines members of the Guard teams for this next year's three military marathons — the Air Force race in September, the Marine Corps Marathon in October and the Navy's Blue Angel Marathon next February.

They broke the venerable Puerto Rico team's seven-year stranglehold on the Guard team championship and gave hundreds of Guard athletes some new heroes to cheer for and chase after.

Indiana's Curt Carey and Whitney Miller finished third and fifth. Louisiana's Ross Shales took sixth. Kansas Curt



Photo by Sgt. Kevin Hynes

Rogers claimed seventh. Utah's Dan Alder finished ninth.

Trent Sinnett locked up Indiana's team title by finishing 32nd.

"I've been chasing Puerto Rico for six years," smiled the satisfied Vandervlugt, a former Marine, after finishing his 23rd marathon in two decades. "I took last year off, and I met Lasse Viren when I visited Finland last September. The Fins are so serious about running. They changed my attitude about training. I have focused on this race since last September."

Puerto Rico failed to win, place or



Photo by MSgt. Bob Haskell

**TO THE VICTOR GOES THE 'GOIL' - Oregon Sgt. Tim Vandervlugt displays winning form during (left) and after (above, with wife Celine) the race.**

show during the Kentucky Derby weekend that was not kind to some highly-regarded horses. Real Quiet stole the show from 7-2 favorite Indian Charlie in the Run for the Roses in Louisville, Ky.

Indiana, Utah and Oregon runners claimed the National Guard's top team honors in Lincoln.

Florida Army Guard Sgt. Kelly Wild persevered to win the National Guard women's championship for the fifth straight year. She overcame chills and dehydration to finish 159th overall in 3:15:37.

"I almost quit at 14 miles," said the disappointed Wild who believed she had trained hard enough to break three hours. "But you can't quit Lincoln."

Although they accounted for about 10 percent of the 2,200 entered in the warm morning's marathon and half-marathon races, most of the 235 Guard marathoners shared Wild's sentiments. The first 50 Guard people finished among the top 73 runners, and 211 Guard men and women completed the course.

Losing one of their top three contenders cost the Puerto Ricans plenty.

Ramon Centeno-Ayala dropped out at eight miles with a pulled muscle in his right calf. Ramon Colon, Lincoln's 1996 individual champion, had trained for only two weeks for this year's race and finished 18th. And Victor Cuevas nursed an injured leg to the 36th place.

"We did as best as we could," said the subdued Colon. "This is a learning experience. Our team is already talking about coming back next year and taking back that trophy."

They can expect plenty of competition from runners such as Indiana's Carey, 34, and Miller, 29, who are coming into their own as marathoners.

"Our younger runners are coming on stronger. They've been getting used to the marathon distance," said Tom Frazee, coach of the Indiana team that had already recorded two second-place finishes and a third-place showing in Lincoln.

Carey finished third overall, in 2:41, in January's Disney World Marathon in Florida, and Miller recorded a 2:34 in the Marine Corps Marathon last October in Washington, D.C., Frazee noted. His team has also won the National Guard division in the last two Army 10-mile races in Washington.

"This was just our year," Frazee added.

It certainly was for Carey, a traditional Army Guard artillery specialist from Freedom, Ind., who is a tree nursery sales manager.

The former Indiana high school star resumed serious running in 1995 after a 10-year hiatus, the crewcut redhead related. His 2:34:47 in Lincoln was a personal record.

"I just wanted to see what I could do," Carey commented. "It feels good to be back where I should be."

Florida's Sgt. Kelly Wild has been the Guard's leading lady for five years

## Running 'Wild'

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

It takes 3,496 calories to run the 26.2-mile Lincoln Marathon in eastern Nebraska. So says some of the promotional posters.

Florida Army National Guard Sgt. Kelly Wild burned up all of that energy and more on the first Sun-

day in May while prolonging her reign as the National Guard's premier woman marathoner.

She limped across the finish line at the University of Nebraska's Ed Weir Track and slumped into the arms of two Army Guard soldiers who gently walked her to a medical aid tent. Her dehydrated body was a ghostly white against her black shirt and shorts. Her temperature had dropped to 95 degrees. She was burned out.

She had, however, claimed the National Guard Bureau Marathon Trials' women's championship for the fifth straight year.

She was not happy with her time of 3 hours, 15 minutes, 37 seconds. She had been logging 70 or 80 miles a week and doing speed work at the track. She believed she was primed to break three hours.

■ See RUNNING 'WILD,' Page 11



55-year-old Colorado optometrist eyeballs death on mountain, lives to run another day

# Dodging DEATH

By **Spec. Rick Breitenfeldt**  
Nebraska National Guard

Marathoners often describe the 20-mile mark as the "wall," the notoriously imaginary obstacle runners of a 26.2-mile race must conquer before finishing.

For veteran marathoner Col. Cleve Armstrong, however, hurdling that "wall" was just another in a lifetime filled with such challenges. A lifetime in which he has faced gut checks most never imagine ... including a terrifying glimpse into death's face.

When the 55-year-old Colorado Army National Guard optometrist is not running, he can be found on the side of a mountain.

"The mountains have been my passion since I was seven years old," said Armstrong, recalling the day he purchased his first climbing rope at the expense of his entire life savings.

While both sports require its

participants to maintain excellent aerobic conditioning, Armstrong has always been intrigued by another aspect.

"In both cases," he noted, "it is an act of will."

Over the last 20 years that resolve has been tested on some of this planet's most challenging peaks as Armstrong has led nearly 25 major world class expeditions.

Most of those journeys, he added, were thrilling and rewarding. However, a trek to the top of Annapurna IV, a 24,690-foot-high, towering wall of snow and rock in west Nepal, still haunts him.

While leading a seven-member expedition to the mountain's summit, Armstrong narrowly escaped death when his camp was socked by 10 feet of monsoon-driven snow as the mountaineers slept in their tents.

Armstrong recalled sensing something was terribly wrong that terrifying night, where he continually pushed snow from the top of his tent.

"I kind of have a point-man mentality," he said. "I feel where the ambushes are and when something isn't quite right."

That intuitive sense proved to be a lifesaver. By brushing the snow off the tent, it prevented it from collapsing and smothering Armstrong in his sleep.



Photo by Sgt. Kevin Hynes

**ANOTHER CHALLENGE - Colorado Army Guard Col. Cleve Armstrong is equally adroit at running marathons as he is scaling some of the world's tallest peaks.**

Two other members of the team, who were sleeping in a nearby tent, weren't as fortunate.

Sometime after 4:30 a.m., when Armstrong had instructed his teammates to dig out their tents, the two mountaineers were buried alive from the tremendous weight of the snow.

When Armstrong awoke at 8 a.m., he realized that something had gone disastrously wrong.

According to an article published by Reuters News Agency,

Armstrong described a scene of utter destruction.

"Huge avalanches were now raining down all around the camp ... I was beginning to feel like a mouse, kept alive and tormented by a cat for a long time before its death and consumption," Armstrong recalled.

When the snow finally stopped, Armstrong had to dig his way through a three-foot high wall of snow that surrounded his tent.

Armstrong was plucked to safety by an Army helicopter two days later and taken to Kathmandu, the capital of the Himalayan kingdom.

Throughout the days and weeks following his narrow escape, as Armstrong struggled to come to grips with what happened, the National Guard was by his side.

"I think the most exciting and heartfelt part of the whole thing was the tremendous support that I got from my unit and the entire Colorado National Guard," said Armstrong, a member of Detachment 5, Headquarters, State Area Command.

That same level of Guard support was in evidence May 3 when Armstrong successfully navi-

gated the streets of Lincoln, Neb. at the 15th Annual National Guard Bureau Marathon Trials.

Armstrong, who was running in his ninth consecutive Guard Bureau Marathon, completed the race with a time of 3:46:40, good enough to earn him second place in the 55 and over age category.

In addition to marathoning and mountaineering, Armstrong has logged other notable accomplishments.

Two of the most memorable, he said, were navigating more than 10 inches of fresh powder on skies down the steep slopes of Mt. Everest, and working in mission control for the National Aeronautic and Space Administration (NASA), as an optometrist for the astronauts on the first two manned Apollo moon missions.

The experience in Nepal hasn't dulled Armstrong's fascination with the mountains, either. Just two weeks after the National Guard Bureau Marathon Trials, he was scheduled to travel to Bolivia to lead a seven-member, high-altitude medical expedition for the military.

Despite those feats, the grandfather from Lafayette, Colo., said that serving the National Guard has been the most meaningful thing he has ever done.

"I love the Guard so much that I'd serve until I dropped dead if I could," Armstrong insisted. "I've been through some really difficult situations and nobody has been more there for me than the Guard."

## RUNNING 'WILD'

From Page 10

The overall women's winner, Omaha civilian Roxi Erickson, had cruised to her fifth Lincoln victory in 2:44:00, the second fastest women's time in the event's 21 years.

But Kelly Wild had done what many people had seen her do before. She had given every ounce of herself to the effort. This time it meant refusing to surrender to the chills that afflicted her at 10 miles and to a series of four taxing hills between miles 18 and 21.

Here's the kicker. Kelly Wild does not consider herself a marathoner even though, at 33, she has run between 25 and 30 of those self-inflicted torture tests. Her personal best is the 2:52 she ran in Seattle in 1988.

The 10,000-meters is her race, she insisted. She also ran cross country and the mile at the University of Utah on a full track scholarship, she explained. Marathons take too much out of her, she reasoned.

So, what makes Kelly run? Good question.



Sgt. Kelly Wild

came up to 99 and she felt a lot better."

That she does not let running rule her life makes the 5-foot-8, 122-pound Wild one of the National Guard's most perplexing athletic personalities.

She lives with her husband Ed, an electrical engineer and doctoral candidate, in Niceville on Florida's northern Gulf coast. She is a 10-year National Guard veteran and the full-time training

"I use up more [energy] than I have. If it means I have to do a nine-minute mile, I will not stop," she explained following a half-hour's recovery in the medical tent where her resiliency impressed attending nurse Cathy Welch.

"She came in here real dry and chilled," Welch reported. "Ten minutes later she was perspiring, her temp

NCO for the 653rd Signal Company in nearby Crestview. She has a master's degree in exercise and sports science.

"She's not obsessed with running," said longtime friend and Utah Army Guard marathoner Deanne Trauba. "Sure, she's competitive. But she doesn't show it."

Still, Wild's background in the shorter, faster distances makes her a formidable opponent come race day, Trauba observed.

"A lot of people who can do speed can do marathons real well," she said.

That may be why something inside her clicks when she steps up to a marathon's starting line, Wild acknowledged. Her caution is the first casualty. She ignores her own warnings against starting too fast. She sacrifices all of her energy and feels lousy when she finishes. She takes it all too seriously.

"What I have to do is go out and have a good time," said Wild of the marathons she insists she has no business running.

The only thing is, she trains for them hard enough and runs them well enough to believe she can still break 3 hours. That's what keeps bringing her back. That's what makes Kelly Wild run.



## NEWS

## MAKERS

Compiled by MSgt. John Malthaner  
National Guard Bureau

**Maj. Gen. Irene Trowell-Harris** added another honor to an already impressive list of firsts when the Eastern Regional Chapter of the Tuskegee Airman, Inc., voted unanimously to name its chapter after her.

Comprised mostly of minority members of the New York Air Guard's 105th Airlift Wing, the chapter is headed by Capt. Glendon Fraser, a C-5A Galaxy pilot with the Newburgh-based unit.

Trowell-Harris, the Air Guard's first African-American woman to reach the rank of general officer, was the also Air Guard's first woman to command a squadron when she took the reins of the 105th's medical squadron.

**The National Guard armory in Inman, S.C.**, recently celebrated its 50th anniversary. Part of the festivities included a parade hosted by the town of Inman, and the swearing in of South Carolina Army Guard SFC Bobby Barton, who will have logged 45 years of service after his current enlistment ends. Brig. Gen. Harry Burchstead, the Palmetto state's deputy adjutant general, presided over the ceremony.

Burchstead also recognized one of the original members of Service Battery, TSgt. Bill Lamm, who joined the unit in 1940. The armory was organized on March 18, 1948 with 15 enlisted men. Currently, 86 Guardmembers serve in Inman's Service Battery, 1st Battalion, 178th Field Artillery.

**MSgt. Faustino Jose Gutierrez**, a member of the California Air Guard's 163rd Maintenance Squadron, was selected as the recipient of the 1998 Air Force Association's Chief Master Sgt. Dick Red Award.

He was selected from a group of his peers as having made the most significant contributions to aerospace maintenance within the Air Guard last year.

**The South Carolina Army Guard's pistol team** took several honors at the Regional Southeastern Dixie Pistol Match in Jacksonville, Fla.

For individual shooting, Sgt. Shane Clevenger took first place in the "centerfire category" and fourth in the overall match. Sgt. Tim Hinson finished third in the "expert class," while Sgt. Jerry Johnson finished fourth.

In team competition, one of their pistol teams finished first in the .45 caliber match, while another took fourth in the overall team match.

**Triplets Aaron, Benjamin and Christopher Harding** made history recently when the 19-year-old trio enlisted into the West Virginia Air Guard's 167th Airlift Wing in Martinsburg.

The Hardings also will be together later this summer when they report for basic military training at Lackland AFB, Texas. Upon graduation, they will begin their technical training as communications/navigation systems technicians at Keesler AFB, Miss.

They graduated from Berkeley Springs High School in 1997 and are currently attending Shepherd College in Shepherdstown, W. Va.



Irene Trowell-Harris is honored, again.



SFC Bobby Barton (left) re-ups on his armory's 50th.



Carolina shooters on the mark in Florida.



Ben (left), Chris and Aaron Harding receive the oath from Lt. Col. Patricia Burkhardt.

**Seven communications-electronics systems** noncommissioned officers and airmen, two from the Air National Guard, were named to the 1998 Air Force Association Team of the Year.

Missouri's TSgt. Keith A. Wright, a member of the 218th Engineering Installation Squadron (EIS), and Pennsylvania's SrA. Corey M. Eckrich with 211th EIS, were the Air Guard selectees.

Each year, the association and the Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force select a specific enlisted career field for recognition. This year's honorees serve in the communications-electronics systems field.

**On Nov. 26, 1958, Lt. James B. Kaster**, a Naval reservist, administered the oath of enlistment to his son Max, making him a sailor in the U.S. Navy. Twenty-three years later (April 1982), Max retired from the Naval Reserve having served 14 years on active duty, plus nine years as a drilling Naval reservist.

During that period, Max and his wife (a former "Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service" or WAVES) had five children. Their three sons entered the military. Jonathan, the eldest, is currently a Petty Officer First Class stationed at Norfolk, Va. Jefferson, the middle son, is now a captain in the Marine Corps and a platoon commander in a reserve tank company in Columbia, S.C. Joshua, the youngest son, is a Petty Officer Third Class and a submariner, also stationed in Norfolk.

In 1991, Max came out of retirement and enlisted in the South Carolina Army Guard, where he now serves as a military technician at the McEntire Air National Guard Base in Eastover (near Columbia).

Three years later, Capt. Jefferson Kaster administered the oath of enlistment to his brother Joshua, when the youngest Kaster joined the Navy. Jefferson also administered the oath of reenlistment to his older brother Jonathan.

Completing the circle, Jefferson administered the oath of reenlistment to his dad, Max, who will have 43 years of service when he completes his current enlistment.

"It all began when my dad gave me the first oath, and ends with my son giving the last," Max said. "Sure makes a man mighty proud."

**Ten members of the Indiana Army National Guard's Small Arms Readiness Training Section (SARTS)** team recently participated in a marksmanship competition on the island of Puerto Rico and returned home with more than just a tan.

Against Guardmembers from 50 states, the SARTS squad garnered two first place finishes and a second.

Sgt. Carolyn Spence took first in the overall women's division in the 25-meter and 50-meter pistol competition.

The team of SSgt. Mark Richard, SSgt. Charlie Morris, Sgt. Keith Lester and Spc. Doug Biehl were first in M-16A2 rifle competition.

Morris and Spc. Justin Harris also teamed up to bring home a second place medal in the rifle competition.



## FAMILY

From Page 7

The landlord can't do that, Drajem assured the wife.

Maine volunteer Tracey Rancort drove to the rescue of a Guardsman's young wife who could not get her activated husband's check from his civilian employer because she could not drive and because she was living in a remote mobile home with two babies in diapers.

Rancort, who worked for a week after the storm at the armory in Lewiston, picked up the husband's check, took it to the woman so she could endorse it, took it to the bank, and then bought groceries for the stranded family.

Many families merely wanted to know where their Guardmembers were, what they were doing and if they were all right.

"My husband told his 30 men with him at Fort Drum that he would call me and that I would call their families," said Drajem whose husband is 1st Lt. Bruce Drajem, commander of an Army Guard engineer company at Niagara Falls. "That worked fine until they got their own cell phone and could make the calls themselves," Drajem added.

Some families required a financial shot in the arm. Army Guard MSgt. Margaret Williams, the Maine coordinator, said she authorized loans of \$100 to \$250 for about 15 activated Guardmembers so

they could keep their loved ones in food and fuel.

She got \$2,500 from the United Way earmarked for the Maine Guard's non-profit foundation fund, and Guardmembers collected another \$1,300 to help their own, Williams explained.

Family programs that were in place functioned quite well even though people were without power for days on end, said 1st Lt. Vicky Tillman, the New York Guard's state coordinator for nine years.

"We have 300 active volunteers. A lot

more people were willing to help when they were needed. They just showed up, cell phones and all," Tillman said.

"The system is beginning to work," she added. "Families are part of the planning process now. We're part of the checklist. I can remember some bad snowstorms when we weren't; when I'd find out from one of the volunteers that Guard troops had been activated. This is a lot better."

That need will not go away, projected New Hampshire Air National Guard

Brig. Gen. Joseph Simeone.

"Watch what's unfolding in America," he said. "You see more and more people in fatigues supporting their governors."

Family support programs must be available for everyone to reinforce those efforts into the 21st century, Simeone said.

"We have to be able to respond quickly or we are irrelevant to the military structure," he added. "The family support programs are meaningful contributors to the readiness and the well-being of our people."

## INSIDE the CONFERENCE

Tireless volunteer Donna Rivera tried to turn 40 quietly, but her efforts to support Guard families were too loud to ignore

## Coming of Age

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

Donna Rivera hoped to get through her 40th birthday — the Big Four-Oh — without a lot of fanfare.

More than 200 of her multiservice Family Program colleagues unwittingly turned the tables on her hopes for a quiet birthday May 15, in Merrimack, N.H. They also reinforced her faith in the cause for which Rivera has worked tirelessly as a volunteer for nearly 15 years.

They sang "Happy Birthday" to Donna Rivera, not once but twice. The keynote speaker, M. Carolyn Smith from Fort Myer, Va., told them to. The second time they stood up and belted it out because Smith was not satisfied with the crowd's first, considerably tamer, effort.

"That meant more to me than anyone in the room can imagine," said Rivera, a native of East Hartford, Conn., during the first evening of the Northeast Multiservice Military Family Readiness Council's training workshop in New Hampshire.

The outgoing Rivera was a mainstay member of the Connecticut delegation during May's third weekend because her husband Juan is a major in the Constitution State's Army National Guard, because her daughter Marina is an Air Guard airman and X-ray technician at Bradley Field, and because she remembers some tough times when she could have used some family support of her own. But no one came to help.

Back to the birthday.

Her 40th was going to be tough, Rivera thought, because her mother, Beverly Fultz, had sung "Happy Birthday" to her over the phone every May 15th of her daughter's adult life.

There was no call this year, Rivera explained, because her mother died of lung cancer last July 4. She was 58. This birthday would not be so nice, said the daughter

who is withstanding the first year's grief of losing a loved one.

That all changed when Smith, Fort Myer's Chief of Change Management, asked if anyone in the Merrimack audience was celebrating a birthday that Friday. Donna Rivera raised her hand and unexpectedly became the center of the crowd's good-natured attention.

That was appropriate because she has been paying attention to Guard families in central Connecticut since 1984 while raising her three children and working for the state's Department of Transportation. Her Guardsman husband is also an East Hartford police sergeant.

"She has a bottomless heart," said Kim Hoffman, Connecticut's Family Program coordinator. "She balances her family and her job, and she is our lead volunteer. She is extremely dedicated."

Rivera learned that people need help the hard way in 1983 when her husband, a new Army Guard lieutenant, spent 23 weeks learning to be a maintenance officer at the Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland.

She remained in Connecticut, caring for two babies in diapers. No one from her husband's unit called her. No one told her she could buy food at a commissary or get free medical attention or that the family was eligible for other military benefits because her husband was on active duty.

"I went four days without eating. We were living on powdered milk. I didn't know anything about the Guard, and I hated the Army," recalled Rivera about that difficult time.

The Riveras learned about the benefits the family could have had after her husband returned from Maryland. She began sharing that information with other Guard families. She began preparing welcome packages with information about military benefits for new families in her husband's unit. She became a volunteer when the Connecticut National Guard launched its family program in 1986.

Now, Donna Rivera makes no bones about what that program means to Connecticut's Guard family.

There are 30 active volunteers in the state, she said, but many other people are prepared to help if they are needed for an emergency.

And, last summer, some of those volunteers rallied around the Rivera family when Donna's mother died. "They brought food. They sent cards. They did everything they could to help. They were wonderful," she recalled.

"It's like they're your family without being your blood family," she added.

Therefore, standing in the middle of a room while 200 volunteers from the Northeast Readiness Council sang to her on the 40th birthday, that she had hoped would pass quietly, was icing on Donna Rivera's cake.

SOLD on



Patricia Penree  
N.Y. volunteer



Tracey Rancort  
Maine volunteer



Jo'El Drajem  
N.Y. volunteer

SUPPORT



Donna Rivera





## STATES

• Work in the Park • Blizzard of Support • Field of Dreams

## KANSAS

Soldiers with the 891st Engineer Battalion and 226th Engineer Company are putting their skills to use improving parks throughout the state.

Through a comprehensive five-year agreement with the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks the engineers will perform several upgrades, to include building a pond that is accessible to the handicapped, improving drainage problems and leveling camp sites, putting in railroad ties and gravel, and installing buried cable for electricity.

## INDIANA

Ten Hoosier State Army Guard armories opened their doors to their neighbors who needed shelter after a blizzard and high winds left thousands without power.

The Guard also donated over 1,500 meals-ready-to-eat and put 160 soldiers on state active duty for a five-day period in March.

"I was thanking God for the Indiana Army National Guard," said Glenn Taylor, an Atlanta resident who was travelling through the state. "This is the first time I have been in an armory. I had been sitting on the highway for the last six hours."

The American Red Cross was also grateful to the Hoosier Guard after receiving 500 cots and blankets.

## MONTANA



Photo by Spc. Chris Coleman

## DOWN on DOPE

Montana Air Guard Maj. Ken Switzer, a pilot in the 120th Fighter Wing, buckles up his flight suit prior to taking off in his F-16 to monitor the skies over Panama. The unit was there supporting Coronet Nighthawk, an on-going mission to keep drugs from crossing the U.S. border by airplane.

## GEORGIA

The Air Guard's Combat Readiness Training Center (CRTC) in Garden City was awarded the Air Force Organizational Readiness Award.

The CRTC supported more than 79 deployed units and over 21,500 people during a one year period. According to the Air Force, the training available at the CRTC "greatly aided air combat readiness for units that subsequently deployed to Europe and Southwest Asia."

During the rated period, the CRTC was also involved in providing facilities, security, transportation, and eating accommodations for more than 600 personnel involved in the 1996 Olympic Games in Savannah.

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The enemy this time was on home turf, but unarmed, except for the overgrown weeds that lurked on the basepaths. Battling the weather to upgrade a little league baseball field at Upshur Park at 13th and Taylor Streets in northwest D.C., Air Guard civil engineers recently completed renovations that will ensure local youngsters have a better place to baseball.

The construction crew stripped the base path of weeds and grass and leveled the playing field. They also constructed two dugouts.

## ALASKA

By Capt. Mike Haller

Alaska National Guard

A group of sea lions and seals from Vancouver Zoo in British Columbia, Canada received a ride aboard a 144th Airlift Squadron C-130 Hercules to their new home.

The Anchorage-based unit transported the sea mammals to a nearby Sea Life Center.

"We were able to get approval from the Department of Defense to fly a mission that we truly wanted to do," said Col. Jerry Gillean, the Frontier State's Air Guard commander. "The opportunity to be part of this premier sea life center is an unexpected treat for us."

The Air Guard had the enormous C-130 transport plane headed home, otherwise empty, after a mission to McChord AFB, Wash. A stop at Vancouver

was right in their flight path, Gillean said. The animals have made the Vancouver Zoo their home in recent times. Handlers said the sea mammals made the ride with little problem.

Alaska Air Guard fliers are no strangers to animal and sea-life passengers.

"Over the years the 144th Airlift Squadron has moved moose, polar bears and even ostriches to the zoo, taken musk ox to College (University of Alaska-Fairbanks), hauled reindeer to new pastures and carried sled dogs -- lots of sled dogs (in the old days before there were many iron dogs)," Gillean explained.

"We were also involved in moving wounded eagles and sea otters from Valdez to recovery centers in Anchorage and Seward in the days immediately following the Exxon Valdez oil spill," he added.

Gillean said the sea lions and seals were a gift from the people of Vancouver to the people of Seward to help them get their new Sea Life Center started.

Animals are not the only species who have benefited from the Alaska Air Guard. They have worked with the Canadian Forces' Search and Rescue units for the last five years.

"We always look forward to our annual joint Canadian-Russian-Alaskan Search and Rescue exercises," Gillean said. "It is a highlight to us."

The Alaska Air Guard currently has nearly 2,000 members with three major flying units: the 176th Wing at Kulis; the 168th Air Refueling Wing at Eielson AFB; the Alaska Rescue Coordination Center at Camp Denali on Fort Richardson; and the 206th Combat Communications Squadron at Elmendorf AFB.





# HISTORY

• The Guard and the Spanish-American War

Confusion greeted soldiers in June 1898 as they gathered at a staging area in Tampa, Fla., before the United States' invasion of Cuba.

Most of the units identified for overseas deployment were regular Army, part of the newly organized V Corps that included Guard infantry regiments from the District of Columbia, Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, New York and Ohio. It also listed among its brethren, the 1st U.S. Volunteer Cavalry, known as the "Rough Riders."

Due to the quickness of the mobilization, the Army had a hard time gathering enough transport ships. Most of the vessels available were leased "tramp" steamers that were small, dirty and overcrowded. This also limited the number of horses that could be shipped, forcing most of the cavalry to fight dismounted. Fortunately, enough animals landed to move the artillery and supply train.

On June 14 the Navy began escorting the troop ships to Cuba. Instead of attacking the most obvious political target, the colonial capital of Havana, the force would besiege the harbor of Santiago, home station of the Spanish fleet. Since the port entrance was heavily defended, it was decided to disembark the troops several miles away and attack from the land side.

On June 22 men and animals began "hitting the beach" at a site named Daiquiri, 15 miles east of Santiago. Among the first troops wading ashore were men of the Rough Riders. Early the next morning, the 2nd Cavalry Brigade, including the Rough Riders, captured the town of Siboney without a fight.

On the 24th, as the balance of the Army waded ashore, the cavalry moved onto the next objective, the heights of Las Guasimas — the first serious clash between the Spanish and American armies.

The defenders were situated on a hill, protected by thick undergrowth, making visibility poor and coordination between units difficult. The attacking force was divided into two wings, with two Regular cavalry regiments on the right of the road and the Rough Riders on the left. The Rider's second in command, Lt. Col. Teddy Roosevelt, was entering combat for the first time.

Despite a determined defense by the Spanish, the Americans forced them to retreat to the outer defenses of Santiago. More than half of the American losses (16 killed and 52 wounded) were Rough Riders.

The Spanish then took up positions on the hills protecting Santiago from attack. Their names — El Caney, Kettle Hill and San Juan Hill — would become very familiar to Americans during that period, and beyond.

As a prelude to the attacks on these positions, the Guard's 33rd Michigan Volunteer Infantry executed a diversionary feint on a nearby bridge on the morning of July 1. Despite the 33rd's effort, the feint failed to draw enemy forces from other areas as intended.

The main operations against the enemy positions opened with the American attack on El Caney starting at 7 a.m. El Caney was a small village around which the Spanish had constructed six blockhouses. The American

force detailed to take the town included the 2nd Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry.

At the cost of 81 lives and 360 wounded (five and 44 from the 2nd Massachusetts), the U.S. captured El Caney by mid-afternoon.

While the attack on El Caney was being fought, the Cavalry and 1st Infantry Divisions

moved into positions at the base of San Juan Heights, consisting of San Juan Hill to the south and Kettle Hill on the north. The two hills were divided by a ravine and small lake.

At 8 a.m. the Americans opened artillery fire on the Spanish positions. Due to the thick clouds of smoke this produced, revealing the gun's location, the Spanish were able to return a very effective barrage. The Americans soon ceased fire.

With calm restored, the U.S. Signal Corps launched a hot air balloon, allowing observers to gather intelligence about the enemy's strength and positions. This included an unmapped path that led to the base of the heights.



Photo courtesy of the National Archives

**ROUGH AND READY** - Officers with the Guard's 71st New York Volunteer Infantry await orders to attack, below San Juan Hill, July 1, 1898.

The first unit to use the path was the Guard's 71st New York. As the 1st Battalion took the lead, they came under enemy artillery fire while crossing a stream nicknamed "Bloody Ford" by veterans. The unit quickly suffered casualties. As it moved to a nearby treeline to reorganize, the 71st's other two battalions — followed by three Regular regiments — continued up the path to an open field, forming their battlelines for an impending assault.

Meanwhile, the troopers of the Cavalry Division also were positioning themselves at the base of Kettle Hill. The Rough Riders, now commanded by Roosevelt, were on the far right of the American line. By 12:30 p.m. the regiments were ordered to attack.

Due to the lack of horses, most of the cavalry officers and all of its enlisted men, launched their assault against Kettle Hill on foot. Roosevelt, mounted on his horse "Little Texas," led the charge. Before starting up the slope, the troops had to cross a field of high grass, breaking up their ranks. The Rough Riders were soon intermixed with the unit on their left, the 10th Cavalry, one of four African-American Regular regiments known to history as the "Buffalo Soldiers."

As this mixed force swept up the slope, it came under



## GUARD HISTORY

By CWO2 John Listman  
Army Guard Historian

intense enemy fire. Despite moderate losses, Roosevelt and his men steadily advanced toward the crest. They were briefly held up by a barbed wire fence near the summit. While his men tore down the fence, the Spanish on Kettle Hill quickly withdrew, falling back toward Santiago.

Roosevelt now had a "splendid view" of the 1st Division's advance up San Juan Hill, to his southwest. He watched as Spanish riflemen — fortified in a blockhouse halfway up the hill — pounded the U.S. infantry, stalling their ascent.

In a position to help from atop Kettle Hill, Roosevelt directed his Rough Riders to fire into the enemy's flank, allowing the stalled infantry — that included

the 71st New York — to renew its assault.

To support this last push, Roosevelt, now on foot, led a charge onto the northern slope of San Juan Hill. At the same time, the infantry succeeded in pushing up the eastern slope, forcing the Spanish to retreat to positions outside of Santiago.

The day of fighting claimed 124 U.S. lives and wounded nearly 1,000 others. Of those killed, 20 were members of the Rough Riders, 15 of the 71st New York.

Despite the toll, the U.S. force was now within artillery range of the enemy's fleet anchored in harbor.

With the fall of Santiago now likely, the Spanish fleet sailed the morning of July 3, and was quickly engaged by the American naval squadron. After several hours, all of the Spanish ships were either sunk or run aground.

Following that defeat, the Spanish government saw no need to continue fighting. While negotiators talked, American artillery had surrounded Santiago by July 8, and waited for the order to attack.

The U.S. force now numbered 13,000 troops and included several Guard units. They were: the 71st New York, 1st District of Columbia, 2nd Massachusetts and 1st Illinois Volunteer Infantry regiments.

The 33rd Michigan and 8th Ohio guarded Siboney. Among the 8th Ohio's officers was Lt. Col. Charles Dick, who was later elected to Congress and helped draft the legislation that laid the foundation for today's National Guard.

As surrender talks continued, sickness (mostly yellow fever) started to take its toll. As more men fell ill, the Army's leadership pushed to end the campaign. By July 15, half of its force was sick.

Two days later the Spanish surrendered Santiago, allowing the U.S. to occupy the city. The fever epidemic had spread to nearly 80 percent in some units, prompting President William McKinley to recall the V Corps.

As units of the V Corps started boarding ships to return home in early August, they were replaced by fresh troops arriving from the VII Corps, composed almost entirely of Guard regiments.

On Aug. 12, the VII Corps occupied Havana as part of a general armistice. That force totaled 24 Guard infantry regiments, plus a field artillery battalion from Maine. Those troops remained on duty until the final peace treaty was ratified in March 1899. By May, all of the Guard units had returned home.





# TRAINING



Photo by SSgt. Jose Azola

New York tank crews see  
real value in AFIST

## BANG FOR THE BUCK

SSgt. Jose Azola  
*New York National Guard*

When New York's state headquarters moved its publication center from the New Scotland Avenue Armory in Albany and vacated the storage building it was in, it provided a local armor company a unique training opportunity.

That was just fine for troops of the Hoosick Falls-based Company C, 1st Battalion, 101st Cavalry, who recently visited the new home of their counterparts from Company B.

As SFC Dennis Haynes explained, both units started to convert the building last December for their special use by making a hole in the wall big enough to drive, well, an M1 tank. They then sealed that hole and disengaged all of the tank's controls in order to convert a main battle tank into an electronic simulator.

Once reconnected, they had created an Abrams Fullcrew Interactive Simulation Trainer, or AFIST for short.

The AFIST system uses two pentium computers to run various training programs. After each crew finishes a simulated mission, a computer printout pro-

vides that crew with a review of their performance.

"At a cost of approximately \$180,000 per system, this finally provides a way to train crews of four personnel without the usual wear and tear and expenses we have on the real tanks," noted Capt. Albert Thiem, Company C commander. That price tag also includes the cost of spare parts, training ammunition and fuel.

"This is one of the best ways of building and developing tank crews," he added.

According to Thiem, the hope is to eventually have one of these high-tech simulator units for each armor company in the state.

Tank crews require continuous training, Thiem noted, and until AFIST came along the only simulator available was the Mobile Conduct of Fire Trainer, known as the M-COFT -- it only trained the gunner and tank commander, leaving the driver and loader out in the cold.

"This outdated simulator used painted-on switches and the targets and graphics weren't realistic," reported Spc. Christopher Hoffman. "It was the only training vehicle we had, except for annual training at Fort Drum."

The M-COFT, as it turned out, is not as

**'AFIST' OF FURY** - New York Sgt. James Cooke (right), tank commander, instructs gunner Spc. Layne LaJoy to fire at a target.

mobile. It takes soldiers about three days to tear it down and as much time to setup. The M-COFT is usually rotated between units scheduled for gunnery qualification so they can prepare.

On the AFIST, computer monitors replace the usual sites for the driver, gunner and tank commander.

Sgt. Daniel Camp, a unit administrator and one of the first troops trained at Fort Dix, N.J., to operate the AFIST, is a believer.

"The training is not only realistic for the gunner, but the whole crew," he insisted.

Sgt. James Cooke, a tank commander, or TC to those in the armor community, agreed.

"The driver really drives the tank and the TC really gives the commands to the gunner and the loader ... real team cohesion takes place," he said.

"Dollar for dollar, it's the best simulated tanker's training around," Camp added. "A big bang for the buck."