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THE ON GUARD

Volume XXVII, No. 11

Newspaper of the Army and Air National Guard

August 1998

Davis named Chief

First Black: Clinton appointment historic

By MSgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

A career aviator who grew up in the eastern Alabama city where black Americans were first trained to be military pilots has become the National Guard's first African-American leader.

Air National Guard Lt. Gen. Russell C. Davis, 59, was confirmed by the Senate as the 25th Chief of the National Guard Bureau July 30 after being nominated by President William Clinton earlier in the month.

Davis was promoted to lieutenant general in August. He succeeds Lt. Gen. Edward Baca, who retired on July 31 after nearly four years as the Guard Bureau's chief.

"I could not think of a better person to pass the baton on to," said Baca during his retirement ceremony.

Davis, who has earned a law degree, has been vice chief of the bureau since December 1995.

He was born in Tuskegee, Ala., in 1938. He was two years old when the Army Air Corps began training African-American pilots at the famed Tuskegee Institute, founded by black educator Booker T. Washington, and at the Tuskegee Army Air Field.

The Tuskegee Airmen, a 1995 HBO movie starring Laurence Fishburne, dramatized the development of the 99th Fighter Squadron that never lost a bomber to enemy action during World War II.

Davis became the Air Guard's first African-American general in December 1982. Now he will lead this country's 480,000 citizen-soldiers and airmen who

are coming to grips with diversity. Air Guard officials are especially concerned that Air Guard units reflect the communities in which they are based.

The Air Guard has scheduled a "What's Next" Diversity Conference for late August in Houston, Texas. It will take place 50 years after President Harry Truman integrated the U.S. armed forces and nearly 40 years after Russell Davis reported to Graham Air Force Base in Florida for undergraduate pilot training.

Davis' appointment is the culmination of a significant transitional year for the National Guard's leadership.



Lt. Gen.
Russell Davis

Maj. Gen. Paul Weaver Jr. succeeded Maj. Gen. Donald Shepperd as the Air National Guard's director in January. Maj. Gen. Roger Schultz replaced Maj. Gen. William Navas as the Army Guard's director in late May. And CMSgt. Gary Broadbent succeeded CMSgt. Edwin Brown as the Air Guard director's senior enlisted advisor.

Davis is the third Air National Guard general to become Guard Bureau chief.

He has logged more than 5,000 hours in nine different fighter, bomber and cargo planes. He served seven years in the active Air Force, and he spent more than 14 years in the Iowa Air Guard.

He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska, and he earned his law degree from Drake University in Iowa where he received the Jury Award in 1969. He received the NAACP's Roy Wilkins Achievement Award in 1984.

Davis has also been part of the Washington, D.C., military community since June 1979 when he became the Air Guard's deputy chief of manpower and personnel at Andrews AFB, Md.

He was named commanding general of the District of Columbia's Air National Guard in December 1991. He became the Bureau's Vice Chief four years later.



Photo by SMSgt. Joe Pastre

'RODEO' REPAIR

Ohio Air Guard MSgt. Frank Powell, a member of the 121st Air Refueling Wing, checks for leaks during "Rodeo '98" at McChord AFB, Wash., a biennial competition that pits Air Guard, Reserve, active Air Force, Army and Marine Corps flight crews, security forces and maintenance workers in timed and graded events. Powell and crew took home a trophy for best KC-135 pre-flight inspection.



COMMENTARY

• A Son Remembers • Back to Basic • Soldier Story

ABOUT the PAPER

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

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GUARD MAIL

'Wall in D.C.'

A boy stands with his mother, as his father drives away to go fight for his country, somewhere far away. A place called Vietnam, across the deep blue sea. He'd return when all was safe.

His promise made to me.

A boy stands at a grave. He holds his mother's hand. He has to say goodbye, yet he doesn't understand. Forever's much too long to see his dad again.

He made a promise to his son, as did so many men.

A man stands at a wall, 30 years have passed since his father drove away, the day he saw him last. He finds his father's name and cries into his hands. The boy forgives his father.

A man now understands.

PFC Shawn M. Arey

Massachusetts National Guard

Missouri Promise

Outstanding job covering the homecoming of our Army Guard soldiers from Macedonia (April).

It is great to see the promises made by Maj. Gen. John Havens and Congressman Ike Skelton (to help Guardmembers find jobs after their activation) have come to fruition.

Lt. Col. Dan Jensen

V Corps Army Guard advisor

Thankful for the Memories

I read the story "Getting back to 'Basic'" (May) issue with much inter-

est. When I read that the author (MSgt. Bob Haskell) had performed his basic training with Delta Company, 5th Battalion, 2nd Brigade in the late summer of 1971, my interest soared.

I, too, was in Delta 5-2. I entered the Army on Aug. 2, 1971. I believe our class actually started on Aug. 11. Our class graduated on Sept. 30, 1971.

There were a couple of things that I wanted to point out. The post was usually referred to as "Fort-lost-in-the-Woods." Also, the name of the drill sergeant discussed in the story is SSgt. Clarence Sweat. He was certainly an impressive physical specimen, much like Carl Weathers who played Apollo Creed in "Rocky."

We were told midway through basic training that the likelihood of our serving in Vietnam had dropped from 70 percent to 30 percent, because of America's plans to phase down our involvement in the war.

I can recall hearing the song "I'll Be There" by the Jackson Five playing at the snack bar near our barracks. I also recall that there were four meal sign-in sheets at the dining hall: One for Regular Army; Draftees; Army Reserve; and Army National Guard.

I also recall a guy from Rolla, Mo., who was a reservist. We used to razz him because he came such a short distance (30 miles) to Fort Wood, and was returning home after basic.

Thanks for the memories.

TSgt. Mark Setterberg

Texas National Guard

Guard-Ho

I just read the letter (July) relating a fellow Guardmember's experiences

with "active" Army soldiers.

I've had some of the same experiences, except my experiences were with active component officers and warrant officers.

I have attended three active components schools. My full-time position also has required me to attend several "active" courses.

The active component officers and warrant officers always seem to come in second-best behind the Guard and Reserves in all categories; including the academics.

They also seem to complain a great deal more. One of the courses I attended had 40 students; equally divided between active and Guard/Reserve. When it became apparent that four of the top five students were all National Guard warrant officers, several of the active component officers went to the school commandant to get test scores changed. Fortunately, the commandant at the Fort Benjamin Harrison school had some integrity.

If the active component would just stop fighting with the National Guard and conduct themselves professionally, the Pentagon could provide this country a better and more prepared force.

CWO3 Ronald G. Petty

Oklahoma National Guard

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GUARD TOONS

By Lyle Farquhar

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FARQUHAR
Thank & a salute to
MSG Bob Haskell ★



IN THE NEWS

• Baca Retires • New Air Advisor • Wilkins Award

Baca retires, ends reign as Chief

Hail to the Chief: Military luminaries line up to pay tribute

By MSgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

A restructured Air Force that will make better use of this country's Air National Guard and Reserve resources was attributed to Lt. Gen. Edward Baca as he retired as Chief of the National Guard Bureau during July's final days.

"We could not have instituted these important reforms without the incredibly professional, well-trained, well-equipped and gung ho forces we get from the Guard," Acting Air Force Secretary F. Whitten Peters told 600 people at a retirement dinner honoring the Baca family in Arlington, Va., on July 30.

"And it is all because of the leadership provided by you and your Guard commanders over the last few years," added Peters during his tribute to Baca, who said so long after 46 months as the Guard Bureau's chief and after 41 years and nine months in uniform.

The celebration for Baca and his wife Rita featured a sentimental dinner address by their oldest son Brian, an Army Guard major, and a video about the family's life in New Mexico and Washington, D.C., prepared by their daughter Karen, an Air Guard technical sergeant.



Lt. Gen. Edward Baca

"Having the courage to dream is what life is all about," reflected Maj. Baca about his father's career that progressed from Army Guard private to three-star general, and that included a voluntary tour in Vietnam in 1965.

The Bacas' five other children also turned out, as did the general's four brothers and sister, and retired Brig. Gen. Antonio Martinez who enlisted Baca in the New Mexico Army Guard on Nov. 19, 1956.

Baca was presented the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the nation's third highest military honor, and Army and Air Force Distinguished Service Medals the following morning at Fort Myer, Va., for his nearly four years as chief of the country's 480,000 Army and Air Guardmembers.

Mrs. Baca accepted the Commander's Award for Public Service for befriending orphans around the world and an Army Certificate of Appreciation for her 40 years as a military wife.

The pomp and precision of the 3rd U.S. Infantry and the stirring selections by 32 members of the U.S. Army Band added to the pageantry.

Peters' preview of the restructured Air Force punctuated Baca's contributions.

Active, Guard and Reserve wings and squadrons will be linked into 10 force packages, each with a cross-section of Air Force weapons systems, the acting secretary

explained.

Each Aerospace Expeditionary Force will be on call to handle contingency operations for 90 days every 15

■ See BACA, Page 11

Broadbent assumes Air Guard's top enlisted post

By Leslie Filson
1st Air Force

The Air National Guard's new top senior enlisted advisor (SEA) makes no bones about it: He joined the Air Force in 1974 because he was "gainfully unemployed" and needed a paycheck.

Now, almost 25 years later, CMSgt. Gary R. Broadbent has reached his ultimate goal of serving the Air National Guard's 95,000-strong enlisted corps.

He's wanted the job since he was a staff sergeant.

"Taking care of people is the most important job in the Guard," said Broadbent, who assumed the SEA post July 17. "If you want to make an



Chief Broadbent

impact on people and individuals, being a SEA is the job to have.

"There is nothing more satisfying than knowing you've helped someone personally," he added.

"It's the best compliment anyone can receive."

Broadbent is responsible for advising the Air National Guard director, Maj. Gen. Paul A. Weaver Jr., on all issues affecting Air National Guard enlisted members and their families. It's something you can't

do without getting to know airmen and their issues, Broadbent insisted. He plans to be on the road close to 250 days a year doing just that.

"If I'm not out traveling, I'm not touching the people and wouldn't be able to take their concerns back to General Weaver," he said.

The Air Guard's top enlisted man also has a message to deliver.

"First of all, integrity is foremost," he began. "Secondly, I tell people to take advantage of all educational opportunities available — military and non-military."

Broadbent, who wears a Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy ring on his right hand and wedding

■ See BROADBENT, Page 4

NATIONAL BRIEFS

Cleckley receives NAACP's 'Roy Wilkins Service Award'

Col. Julia J. Cleckley, in charge of one of the largest divisions at the National Guard Bureau, was recently named this year's recipient of the NAACP's Roy Wilkins Renown Service Award.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People annually recognizes members of the military for excellence in community service and mentorship.

Cleckley, the first African-American woman on Guard active duty to be promoted to colonel, was cited for her role in establishing an impending mentorship program at the Bureau. She is also the president of the education committee of Mount Olive Baptist Church in Arlington, Va. Under her leadership, the church established a scholarship program that awarded 50 students tuition assistance to historically-black colleges and other undergraduate institutions.

With few mentors who could relate to her ethnicity, Cleckley admits that her career has had many challenges.

"Being a military officer of any race or gender carries a great deal of responsibility and pressure," Cleckley said in a *Minority and Business and Employment Times* interview. "Being the only African-American and, in many cases, the only woman, increases that responsibility. I stand out in most settings, and am easily missed at others."

"The bigger the challenge," she added, "the more I am determined to succeed."

New York helps host Medal of Honor recipients

More than 1,000 members of the New York Army and Air Guard volunteered to help honor nearly 80 Medal of Honor recipients.

The heroes were gathering in Saratoga Springs for the annual Congressional Medal of Honor Society Committee's convention.

The Empire State's Guard provided a multi-service color guard, escorts, Black Hawk and F-16 flyovers and more than 750 marchers for a parade.

"It's hard to describe the overwhelming feeling of pride you feel when standing side-by-side with a Medal of Honor recipient and saluting the American flag," said New York Air Guard SSgt. LaGina Bridges.

Of the 3,428 Medals of Honor awarded, only 163 recipients are still alive.

IN THE NEWS

BROADBENT

From Page 3

band on his left, says airmen and women need to set goals and constantly review them.

"And share your goals with everyone around you," he advised. "I had a general from New Hampshire call me the other day and tell me he remembers me saying I wanted to be the Air National Guard SEA."

Broadbent, most recently the 1st Air Force's senior enlisted advisor at Tyndall AFB, Fla., is a staunch proponent of the Air Force's core values, especially "service before self."

"Service before self" is interpreted a lot of ways," the Chief observed. "I've had a lot of people tell me they put their family first, and I tell them, 'I do too.' But that's not what 'Service before self' means to me. It means, are you thinking 'me' or 'we'?"

"It means, are you benefiting the organization, or yourself?"

Broadbent added that he firmly believes if one works toward the betterment of the organization, the personal rewards and benefits will follow.

Maj. Gen. Larry K. Arnold, 1st Air Force commander, said Broadbent's contributions to the organization are a living testament to that philosophy.

"Gary has cut a path of excellence through wherever he's gone," Arnold said. "It is a great loss for us, but we're seeing our good people move into responsible roles so that all of us can achieve more."

SMSGT. Joe Shelley, 1st Air Force first sergeant, also enjoyed working with Broadbent during the Chief's 11-month tenure.

"Chief Broadbent's life as a son, husband, father, friend, confidant, leader and mentor is a model for all of us to follow," Shelley said. "He is a leader who lives his life in service to others."

Broadbent credits the people he's been associated with for helping him reach his ultimate goal.

"I have been fortunate throughout my career to work for and with tremendous people," he said, "and for supervisors who empowered me and allowed me to make mistakes."

"No man or woman makes it to the top on their own."

Former Army Secretary visits roots

■ Homecoming: Walker served as MP with D.C. Army Guard during the '70s

By Lt. Col. Phyllis E. Phipps-Barnes
District of Columbia National Guard

Who says you can't go home? After more than 25-year hiatus, former Acting Secretary of the Army Robert M. Walker revisited his old stomping grounds at the District of Columbia National Guard Armory in Washington, D.C., recently, where he spent three years as a military policeman.

Walker was assigned to D.C.'s 825th Military Police Company from 1972-1975. He had transferred from the Tennessee National Guard. His company commander was D.C. Commanding General Maj. Gen. Warren L. Freeman, then a captain. Freeman remembers "Sergeant" Walker as being an "excellent NCO."

As it turns out, both men have come a long way. They also have stayed in touch over the years.

It was one of the reasons the General extended the opportunity to Secretary Walker to see firsthand the improvements in technology and training made since his exodus.

After a scheduled Black Hawk flight to Fort A.P. Hill, Va., to observe two MP companies completing "lanes" training was scrubbed because of inclement weather, Walker received an extensive

tour of the Armory. He also visited the 140th and 547th Truck Companies in Anacostia. They were preparing to convoy to Fort Pickett, Va.

It didn't take long for the Army Secretary to stroll down memory lane, as Maj. Cecilia Flores learned during her briefing to Walker on the D.C. Guard's history, worldwide operations, unique chain of command and support of the community and youth. Several times, Walker excitedly stopped the briefing to relate personal recollections.

Once, when a slide depicted a group of District Guardmembers maintaining law



Photo courtesy of the D.C. National Guard

VIP VISIT - Former Army Secretary Robert Walker (left) talks with D.C. Army Guard 2nd Lt. Nikki Wooten.

and order during a civil disobedience mobilization, Walker insisted that he was probably in the photo.

Following the briefing, Walker was presented with the D.C. Guard's highest award, the Distinguished Service Medal.

Walker also took in D.C.'s new state-of-the-art Distance Learning Center. There, CWO2 Janice Fontanez informed him on how the network will tie in with all the networks throughout the National Guard. It also will provide Guardmembers opportunities for training and to pursue military and civilian education. The network, she noted, will cut travel costs by bringing the school to the soldier.

Across the hall, Walker took a look at the D.C. Guard's new museum that contains uniforms and artifacts from the early years to Desert Storm, when nearly 40 percent of its people were mobilized.

At the District's electronic firing range, Walker and Freeman relived their early days of marksmanship training. However, it was a little different this time. This range, called the Engagement Skills Trainer, is in an air-conditioned, darkened room with a large screen that projects several scenarios for the shooters. Armed with M-16 rifles, the Secretary and the General took on attackers over hilly terrains and in urban surroundings.

Following each scenario, the shooter's number and score would appear for all to see.

Both were pretty good shots.

Walker's last stop was at the Anacostia installation, one of four where District troops train. Friendly and outgoing, Walker "trooped the line," shaking hands and talking with many of the soldiers who were preparing to depart on a four-hour trip to Fort Pickett for training.

It's not everyday that a Secretary of the Army sees you off.



Photos by SFC David McCrary



BRIDGING the GAP

A soldier (left) with the Indiana Army Guard's Company E, 113th Engineer Battalion lowers a floating bay bridge into Puff Lake while training at Camp Atterbury, Ind. Company E troops (above) use a river raft to push the bay into place.



PEOPLE

• Desert Artist • Gator Hunter

Lt. Col. Brad Loewen
finds humor in desert

FUNNIES from the FIELD

By MSgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

Brad Loewen has become many things: copper miner, military policeman, family man, teacher, Cub Scout leader, wrestling coach, Eucharist minister and certified master physical fitness trainer.

Did we mention artist? Oh yes. That, too.

Loewen, 53, is a lieutenant colonel in the Montana Army National Guard. For three weeks

in July he spent every spare moment at the National Training Center in southern California capturing the spirit of Desert Avenger in a series of carefully crafted cartoons that he called "Funnies from the Field."

Officially, the Butte, Mont., native was an escort officer for Army generals and other dignitaries visiting the Idaho-based 116th Cavalry Division's first training rotation in the desert at Fort Irwin where the Army finds out just how well armor outfits can function.

Unofficially, he parodied and portrayed the lives of the Desert Avenger soldiers as concisely as Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist Bill Mauldin captured the essence of World War II through his venerable "dog-faces" Willie and Joe.

"We're here to serve the soldiers," said Loewen who became



Lt. Col. Brad Loewen



a soldier himself in 1965 and served a year in Saigon with the 18th Military Police Brigade. "If I've given them a chuckle because of my drawings, then I've done something. I've succeeded."

He had a considerable audience considering that some 3,900 citizen-soldiers took part in the training.

A Desert Avenger, in Lt. Col. Brad Loewen's world, is a lean, hard-looking private with a big

helmet and dirty boots.

"He's out there doing his job with the right attitude," said the artist who is as lean and direct as the soldiers he draws. "I try to keep the characters generic enough so anybody can look at them and feel as if they're part of the program."

"I like to poke fun at lieutenants because I used to be one myself," added Loewen who was commissioned from Montana's officers candidate school in 1975.

One cartoon portrays an eager young lieutenant telling his desert-frazzled men how they are all going to put on their heavy chemical suits and "attack, break through, pursue and kick some butt before it gets really hot!"

Another depicts a determined lieutenant who has replaced his lost helmet with an endangered desert tortoise in order to complete his National Training Center mission.

Loewen's cartoons are an extension of his profession. He is one of five art teachers at Butte High School. He specializes in

oil landscapes and portraits because, he explained, "oils are the most forgiving form of painting. You can make a lot of mistakes and fix them, whereas with water colors you've got one shot."

He is also self-taught.

He earned his bachelor's degree in biology from Western Montana College in 1971 because he wanted to go into cancer research. He earned his master's in education because he considered becoming a school administrator.

But his life-long passion for drawing and then painting became his livelihood as he matured in his own right while influenced by the works of American illustrator Norman Rockwell and the raw talent of Vincent van Gogh and Pablo Picasso.

Consequently, Loewen has become a serious artist with the knack for portraying the funny side of life in the National Guard in pen and ink. His cartoons about the Desert Avengers got laughs from everyone except, perhaps, the lieutenants.

Fighting anything that BITES back

By SSgt. Diane Farrow
Ohio National Guard

SFC Mitch Gorsuch likes to hunt "anything that fights back." In years past, that has meant tracking down rattlesnakes.

Recently, a 12-foot-long alligator was on the losing end of this quest.

Like many young boys, Gorsuch was first introduced to hunting by his dad. As an 8-year-old, he hunted rabbits and squirrels. He then graduated to white-tailed deer.

But his passion for hunting waned.

That was until the Ohio Army Guard's full-time state training NCO was approached by two uncles and three friends about pursuing considerably more dangerous quarry.

With adventures like rattlesnake hunting in Texas and Arizona under their belt, the daring crew entered the Florida lottery for an alligator harvest permit. According to Gorsuch, 15,000 people put in for the lottery and only 780 licenses were granted.

"It was just dumb luck that my name got picked," he said. With each license, which costs \$1,000, four other hunters can be named and five alligators can be har-



Photo by SSgt. Diane Farrow

SMILE EVERYONE - Ohio Army Guard SFC Mitch Gorsuch poses with his 11-foot tanned alligator.

vested. They hunted on Lake Okeechobee.

An admitted novice, Gorsuch took a four-hour course on alligator hunting.

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

The crew of hunters agreed to hunt the "old-fashioned way." For Gorsuch's team, this meant three would go hunting in a row boat: a driver, a spotter and the trapper. The others stayed behind on a pontoon boat, waiting for a whistle to signal a catch.

In the rowboat, the middle man would spotlight the gator, and once they pulled along side it, the trapper would harpoon the reptile with a detachable gig -- the

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

"We let out the rope and the gator heads for the deep water to sit, but it has to come up to breathe every 15 minutes," Gorsuch said. Once the gator tires, the hunters are able to pull it next to them. The trapper then shoots it with a "bangstick" -- a harpoon-like weapon which is spring-loaded and fires a .357 cartridge.

On the first night, Gorsuch's friend Jim Wright landed a gator within three hours. It measured 7-feet 3-inches. Wright and one of Gorsuch's uncles, Jack Loudermilk, took the alligator ashore to ice it down.

Gorsuch's other uncle, Jim Loudermilk, caught the second alligator; also 7-feet 3-inches. He joined the two others on land to take care of his catch.

Five minutes later, Gorsuch spotted his prey.

"Once I hooked him, he flipped back, knocking me into Tom (Brown)," he recalled. "All I could think was, 'Man, we're not messing with this guy.'"

After what seemed an eternity, they wore the gator out enough to use the bangstick. Gorsuch's gator measured 11 feet and weighed nearly 400 pounds.

His Uncle Jack and Brown both snared 12-footers.

Each paid several hundred dollars for a prized tanned alligator hide. Although his weighs about 115 pounds, Gorsuch wants to display it on his living room wall.

"I'm single. I can get away with it," Gorsuch chuckled. "It's all the other guys that are going to have a problem (mounting the gators). My aunts have already said 'No!'"



Photos by MSgt. Bob Haskell

National Guard historians have been called upon to help preserve documents

Protecting the PAST

By MSgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

Something is missing from the Army's Center of Military History in Washington, D.C. — most of the records from the Persian Gulf War.

No, it is not a case of grand theft. The FBI has not been called in. But the Army's National Guard and Reserve military historians have been urged to help.

The Army did not process or preserve the all Gulf War records in the first place, military historians explained. That means that orders and situation reports and other documents pinpointing the day-by-day locations of countless soldiers, including National Guardmembers and Reservists, who took part in Desert Shield and Desert

Storm in 1990-91 have not been located.

That means, among other things, that veterans claiming to be afflicted with Gulf War Syndrome cannot prove they were in parts of Iraq and Kuwait where nerve gas and other toxic agents may have been released into the atmosphere.

That the records-keeping system broke down during that short, decisive conflict was one of the lessons hammered home to nearly 70 military historians who participated in an intensive total Army training course at the Army Guard's Professional Education Center in Little Rock, Ark., during the second week in July.

They were also told, many times, that they are part of the solution for the future.

"Keeping records is part of taking care of soldiers," West Point educated William Epley admonished the Army National Guard, Army Reserve and Air Force historians during the course run by the active Army's 44th Military History Detachment out of Fort McPherson, Ga.

Epley, an historian at the military history center, explained that only about 10 percent of the records from the more than 600 brigades, battalions and separate companies that served in the Gulf made it back to this country.

Tons of records were probably de-

stroyed, Epley said. But many other movements and actions were never documented in the first place, he added, because the Modern Army Records Keeping System was too complex for the battlefield.

"It failed us miserably," Epley said.

"We have detailed records of most units that fought in World War II 55 years ago. But we can't go back seven years to find out where a battalion was in the Persian Gulf."

But broken systems can be fixed.



"We have detailed records of most units that fought in World War II ... but we can't find out where a battalion was in the Persian Gulf"

WILLIAM EPLEY
U.S. Army Center for Military History

The Army's deputy chief of staff for personnel, for example, has reassumed the responsibility for collecting and maintaining all of the records that other records-keeping managers failed to protect during the Gulf War, Epley explained. And

soldiers such as historians are being urged to advise commanders what is worth saving.

"These Army historians, these military history detachments (MHDs) are responsible for collecting historical documents and for advising commanders about what records to keep," said Epley.

Epley was preaching to the converted, including Massachusetts Army Guard Sgt. Patrick Murphy. At 35, he is new to the Bay State's 126th Military History Detachment that has already served a nine-month peacekeeping tour in Bosnia.

Murphy's former unit, Massachusetts' 181st Engineer Company, deployed to northern Saudi Arabia for Desert Storm but did not bring home its truck-load of documents.

"All of those files and records were lost," said Murphy who did not go to the desert. "The biggest joke in the Army used to be that everything was in triplicate. I guess it's not that way anymore."

Murphy is a former Army Guard truck driver who has become a unit clerk in hopes of improving his chances to serve

overseas within the small family of three-member history detachments.

He certainly understands the job.

"We're the scavengers of the battlefield," he said. "We're looking for stuff that at the end of the day most people



throw away."

A uniform understanding about what stuff should be saved was one of the course's objectives, indicated Lt. Col. Robert Leach, commander of the 44th MHD, the only active Army history detachment.

The Army Guard has five detachments. The Army Reserve has 16. Leach, 39, has been credited with making all of those units feel like they are playing for the same team—even as he is about to leave for a new assignment in Turkey.

"Two years ago, every military history detachment was doing its own thing," he said. "I've been trying to fix the focus and the direction so every detachment can do the same things."

"The 44th is the Army's no-notice deployment MHD," he explained. "These reserve detachments are the backup. I want them trained to do their job when they come to support us."

That's why the six-day conference near the Arkansas capital included morning physical training sessions, a day devoted to interview techniques, and a detailed tour of the Wilson's Creek Battlefield near Springfield, Mo., where every class member explained an aspect of that early Civil War battle.



FOR THE RECORDS - Massachusetts historian Sgt. Patrick Murphy (above) tells about his unit's Bosnia experiences. A reanactor (top photo) at the Wilson Creek Battlefield explains the nine steps to loading a rifled-musket. Historians (opposite page) were put to the test in the field.

"This is far more than I expected," said Lt. Col. Leonid Kondratiuk, the National Guard Bureau's chief historian. "It's been the most thorough military history training course I've ever seen."

Collecting documents and preserving records were covered in agonizing detail. It is not, instructors acknowledged, a glamorous job.

But as William Epley observed, those documents certify claims for combat pay and pensions and for awards like the Purple Heart. They also tell the sad truths of where and how soldiers die.

For the majority who return alive from places like the Persian Gulf, however, the records are the things that serve soldiers for the rest of their lives.

INSIDE HISTORY CONFERENCE

Missouri Army Guard historian CWO3 Timothy Roberts is on an eternal quest for primary sources

His STORY

By MSgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

One hundred thirty-three years after the final shots were fired at Appomattox, the Civil War remains a perplexing part of the American psyche—especially to people like Timothy Roberts.

You'd think he would have it all figured out, considering history is his passion and profession. He holds a doctorate in ancient and medieval history from the University of Missouri, and he is the command historian for the Missouri Army National Guard.

However, Roberts is intrigued by the idea that the bloodiest, ugliest war in this country's history is generally remembered as a romantic, heroic struggle.

"It was the saddest chapter in our history," he reflected while helping to explain the obscure, August 1861 Battle of Wilson's Creek in southwestern Missouri to 65 other military historians on the third Wednesday in July. "But people seem to be fascinated by the Civil War because it was well documented, it took place not that long ago, and most people can find some personal connection."

"It was supposed to have brought out the best in Americans. It really brought out the worst," said the man who has spent his life searching for the significance of historical events.

At 55, Chief Warrant Officer Timothy Roberts of Jefferson City, Mo., is arguably one of the National Guard's foremost scholars. He has published four books on ancient mythology and civilizations with his wife Iris. He is a recently retired high school and

college Latin and history teacher. He is a pioneer of the Army Guard's military history detachments that were formed in 1980.

He is also a prime example of how a lot of education generally generates a lot more questions; of how the search for knowledge never ends.

"History is the eternal quest for primary sources," explained Roberts. "That's what military historians do, collect reports, orders, maps and other primary source material so other historians can recreate the battles and situations."

That quest has led him to the records and his report about the Missouri Naval Militia that existed during the first half of this century. Its gunboats docked on the Mississippi River in St. Louis included

the Isla de Luna that was captured during the Spanish-American War, Roberts said.

A quest for more contemporary information led him to Panama in January 1990 after Missouri Army Guard military police had been assigned to guard prisoners captured by invading

American forces during Operation Just Cause, the overthrow of dictator Manuel Noriega.

His decades of research have fostered his faith in the goodness of mankind, Roberts said.

"You see man at his worst, and you see man at his best. Happily, the best seems to win out," he said. "If you are looking for the best in man, you see it in history."

Examples?

Prisoners captured during ancient wars were executed or forced to fight as gladiators. The Geneva Convention now requires far more humane treatment.

European history has been marked by a slow but steady progression from the absolute rule of kings to the democracies of today.

And, 133 years later, the United States is continuing to heal the wounds of the divisive and perplexing Civil War.



CWO3 Timothy Roberts

NATIONAL TRAINING CENTER

Environmental teams do their jobs so others can train

Saviors of the SAND

By MSgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

Waking up on an Army cot in the body of a dump truck parked in the Mojave Desert is not how Danny Taylor begins most Monday mornings. The rattle of tanks in the distance and the hum of helicopters flying overhead is also a radical departure from his normal routine.

Yet, that's exactly how Taylor, a 48-year-old sergeant in the Idaho Army National Guard, began the third Monday in July as part of a 14-man detail sent out to clean up fuel spills at the Army's National Training Center at Fort Irwin in southern California.

Taylor ordinarily goes to his office at the Idaho State School and Hospital in Nampa where he supervises a team of five people who fashion custom wheelchairs and braces for handicapped children and adults who want to live on their own.

For most of July, however, the former Marine belonged to an environmental cleanup team whose main mission involved seeking out and digging up fuel and antifreeze spilled on the desert floor by the tanks and trucks used during the Idaho-based 116th Cavalry Brigade's three-week rotation at the world-renowned training center.

"Everything -- every drop -- has to be cleaned up. It's the law," explained Idaho Army Guard Capt. Tom Rasmussen, who commanded the 38 citizen-soldiers in the environmental "White Cell" at the vast, 1,065-square-mile post in a state where people are very picky about clean air, water and soil.

"California state laws are much tougher than federal regulations," added Rasmussen, a full-time Idaho Army Guard environmental engineer. The brigade budgeted \$120,000 to comply with those laws at Fort Irwin, he said.

Therefore, part of Rasmussen's team dug up a 60-gallon fuel spill in the desert with a back hoe and five dump trucks. They sniffed the dirt for the harsh odor of



Photos by MSgt. Bob Haskell

SMIFFING OUT TROUBLE - Idaho Army Guard SFC Bob Paxton (above) smells a shovel-full of soil for traces of fuel. SSGT. Thomas Henrie (top photo) uses a backhoe to dig a hole where spilled fuel was found.

"Every-
thing --
every
drop -- has to be cleaned up. It's the law"

Capt. Tom Rasmussen

JP-8 fuel as they dug a square hole six feet into the desert floor. They had to return with more trucks because they had not gotten all of the contaminated soil.

And there were many more smaller spills to clean up from the 100 or so Abrams tanks and hundreds of other vehicles employed in the exercise.

Although the White Cell is not part of the tactical training, the tanks and trucks and the brigade's 3,900 soldiers could come to a screeching halt if the 116th's

environmental team and others like it do not do that job.

"If we are not environmentally responsible, the American people will not allow us to train here," cautioned Brig. Gen. Dean Cash, Fort Irwin's commander, in a March 10 policy letter. "Environmental stewardship is essential to our mission."

Every rotation has fielded a cleanup team since the 1st Infantry Division devised the concept in 1990, related Dwight Sappington, a retired Army master sergeant who is one of four civilian compliance officers with the post's Environmental Division.

Although the fuel spills do not directly threaten any of California's primary water sources, Sappington said, they could quickly make for a dirty desert considering that Fort Irwin conducts 10 training rotations every year.

"One rotation's spills can be pretty insignificant," he added. "But they add up fast. Then, who's going to do the cleanup when the regulatory agencies start beating us up?"

Those agencies watch Fort Irwin very closely, he explained, because an Abrams tank, for example, carries 500 gallons of JP-8 fuel. A blown carburetor or a ruptured line can dump a lot of fuel fast.

California's Department of Toxic Substance Control has conducted annual inspections for the past three years, Sappington said. The Lahawaton Water Board visits every 90 days. The state's Solid Waste Management inspectors check the landfill every month.

Even though Fort Irwin has never had to pay a heavy fine because of an environmental violation, at least one Army division has learned an expensive lesson about keeping the desert clean, Sappington recalled.

An 1,800-gallon fuel spill from an overturned tanker in January 1993 cost that division three-quarters of a million dollars for a civilian contractor to clean up, he said, because the division waited 36 hours before reporting the problem. The same division paid another \$300,000 after trying to grade dirt over another 700-gallon spill.

"If you have a problem, all you have to do is ask us and every resource will be made available to help you," Sappington said. "But if you have a problem and you try to cover it up, we will use those same resources against you."

That is why the commanders of the Idaho Army Guard's cavalry brigade made sure that people like Capt. Tom Rasmussen and Sgt. Danny Taylor were in the right place at the right time to clean up spilled fuel and antifreeze -- even if it meant sleeping in a dump truck in the middle of the desert.



FROM THE TOP - Secretary of the Army Louis Caldera talks with Idaho leaders.

Idaho's 116th cavalry takes on Fort Irwin

Desert CRUCIBLE

By MSgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

Life be hard in the desert. It may be awhile before that song and those lyrics break into Billboard's top 40.

But the ballad penned and performed by Utah Army National Guard field artillery Spc. Mike Christensen certainly strikes a chord with every soldier who has ever pulled a rotation at the National Training Center in the middle of southern California's Mojave Desert.

That it is "hot, hot, hot" and "dirty, dirty, dirty" was especially true for some 4,000 members of the Army Guard's Idaho-based 116th Cavalry Brigade who squared off against the mountainous desert terrain, a scorching heat wave, and the most intimidating opposing force the Army has to offer during the final three weeks in July.

It was like playing the Bulls in Chicago for the second of the Army Guard's 15 separate enhanced combat brigades to tackle a training rotation at Fort Irwin, Calif., since the end of the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

Some very important people were paying attention. Among them were new Secretary of the Army Louis Caldera, Army Chief



TANK TOW - Sgt. Vernon Hancock (left) helps guide the tow of an armored personnel carrier. An Idaho-owned M-1 Abrams drives into battle.

of Staff Gen. Dennis Reimer and Maj. Gen. Roger Schultz, the Director of the Army National Guard.

"You don't know what you don't know until you've been run through this crucible called the National Training Center," observed Maj. Gen. Jack Kane, Idaho's adjutant general.

"This is the first time that everyone in this brigade has had the chance to maneuver together," added Kane about the Army Guard outfit that was reorganized into a heavy armor brigade in 1989.

Its primary armor, mechanized infantry and cavalry units are based in Idaho, Oregon and Montana. But its total force -- including an air defense artillery company in North Dakota, a signal company in Arkansas and a chemical company in Minnesota -- are scattered over 41 states, Kane observed.

Reimer, however, made no bones about the value of bringing the Army

Guard's brigades together for tough, heavy armor training at Fort Irwin and for light infantry tactics at Fort Polk's Joint Readiness Training Center.

"We want to make a seamless force," said Reimer, pointing out that more than 22,000 Army Guard and Reserve troops will train on the 18-year-old National Training Center's 1,065-square-miles of high desert proving ground this year.

"That number was much lower five years ago," Reimer added. "Over time we have been increasing the numbers of reservists training here because they make up 54 percent of our Army's force."

Reimer said the NTC served another important function.

"This is a professional development course," he added. "The Cold War was won right here because of the standardization that we've achieved across the Army. It's been tremendously important to where we are today, and I think it's even more important to the future."

Incorporating reserve soldiers into Fort Irwin's world-renowned opposing

force and the active Army's rotating brigades as well as training the Army Guard's brigades were Reimer's options for bringing and keeping America's citizen-soldiers up to speed.

"We need to continue to push the integration forward. We've got to train the reserve component soldiers to the same high standards (as active duty soldiers)," insisted Caldera during his first trip to the field since July 2 when he became the civilian leader of the Army's more than one million full-time and part-time soldiers.

Caldera speaks from experience. At 42, he is a 1978 graduate of West Point and a former active Army and Reserve military police officer who has earned a law degree and master's in business administration from Harvard University.

"I can tell as I've gone around that you can't tell the difference between the active and reserve soldiers," Caldera observed.

It's not an easy process. Just ask the Guard soldiers who referred to the National Training Center as Disneyland, considering that California is the original home of Mickey Mouse.

Visitors to the Magic Kingdom, however, do not spend endless hours in 120-degree temperatures. Sweat does not drip from the insides of Kevlar helmets. Mickey wouldn't let his visitors endure the conditions that taxed the 116th's citizen-soldiers and equipment every day.

SAND WARRIORS - PFC Jason Gross (right) radios his position while Sgt. Bill Walsh watches for trouble.

The mission involved maintaining and operating up to 81 Abrams tanks, 57 Bradley fighting vehicles and 20 self-propelled howitzers along with hundreds of trucks and Humvees against an uncompromising home team -- the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment.

"You take care of the equipment, and the equipment will take care of you," said Idaho maintenance Spc. Joel Todd, a store clerk from Boise, at the Brigade Support Area. "But over a period of time the dust and the heat takes its toll. We've had lots of flat tires, generators going down, and dead batteries."

Medical people at the brigade's aid station had to contend with soldiers hurting from the heat and the aching backs and sprained ankles that go with living on the land along with simulated injuries from combat.

"We were swamped in our staging area in the Dust Bowl, but people are starting to take care of themselves and their buddies. And they're getting acclimated to this country," said 2nd Lt. Tobin Hill, a medical officer, during the sixth day in the field. "They're seeing that the heat is not something to play with."

The heat came in many forms, including candid reviews of the battles by Col. James Thurman, commander of the training center's operations group, and the brigade's senior leaders. It didn't take an after action review, however, to figure out what needs work.

"What did we learn? We need to improve our command and control, our movement to force and our logistics actions. And don't move the tactical operations center," said Montana infantry 1st Lt. Aubrey Davis.

"The individual units are fine," assessed Schultz. "We have to bring them together and synchronize the movements at the task force and brigade levels. We have to get to know one another," added the Army Guard's director.

The tough lessons learned in the desert will not be forgotten, vowed the brigade's commander.

"We will continue to train hard," said Col. Lawrence Lafrenz four days before the field exercise was finished. "We will get better every day. We will go home a much better brigade than we were when we got here."



SPORTS

• New Mexico/Spain go the Distance

With 400 years of history between them, New Mexico and Spain hit the road

On the HEELS of ANCESTORS

By MSgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

The southern New Mexico desert is a forbidding place even when air conditioners are humming inside vehicles and there is plenty of bottled water.

That is when Army National Guardsmen from New Mexico and special forces soldiers from Spain got an inkling of what their ancestors endured in that harsh wasteland four centuries ago.

Recently pairs of the soldiers from the two countries ran in three-mile relays across a 90-mile expanse of brush and baked sand called Jornada del Muerto, *Journey of the Dead*, while helping New Mexico celebrate its 400th anniversary of Spanish settlement.

"To be able to run through the desert where those people suffered is to touch what they experienced," observed Maj. Jose Crespo-Frances, a military historian and leader of the 10-man infantry team from southern Spain. "It is to realize how strong they had to be. These hard lands made hard people."

That was but one leg of the soldiers' four-day, 300-mile run through history along the old El Camino Real — New Mexico's Royal Road — from the southern border town of Anthony north to the state's capital in Santa Fe.

Paved highways through rich farm country and cities of Las Cruces and Albuquerque and dirt roads through the high, dry desert have replaced the trail blazed by Spanish explorer Don Juan de Onate during eight months in 1598.

Onate's four-mile long caravan of 400 soldiers, colonists and priests and 7,000 head of livestock traveled 1,800 miles from Mexico City to San Gabriel north of Santa Fe, according to New Mexico historians. Onate claimed all of the lands



Photo by MSgt. Bob Haskell

watered by the Rio Grande River for Spain.

"It is good to be part of this cultural and athletic event that unites the National Guard and the Spanish Army. Plus, I like to run," said Capt. Michael Montoya after logging nine miles during the first day. He was part of the New Mexico Army Guard team formed by Capt. Michael Herrera for that part of the state's quadricentennial celebration.

That team includes SSgt. Michael

Guard state headquarters.

It is ironic that New Mexicans are celebrating the 400th anniversary of Spanish colonization during the same year that the United States is quietly acknowledging the 100th anniversary of the Spanish-American War. Spain spent much of the 16th century exploring and settling huge sections of the future United States — from Florida to the Rocky Mountains. The U.S. victory in 1898 ended Spain's era of colonial rule in Central America.

The countries are now North Atlantic Treaty Organization allies.

The New Mexico runners represent what Army Guard Brig. Gen. Alex Garcia, the state's deputy adjutant general, claims to be this country's oldest militia force.

"Our militia goes back to 1598," Garcia insisted after the runners reached media mogul Ted Turner's desert ranch in

Engle and helped dedicate a mission marker commemorating 400 years of the passage of many people and cultures.

"The militia was known as 'Los Vecinos,' *The Neighbors*," Garcia explained. "They got together to defend their villages."

"Hell," he added, "we're older than Plymouth Rock."

Garcia makes no bones about challenging the National Guard's claim that it originated in 1636 in the Massachusetts

GOING THE DISTANCE - A team of New Mexico National Guard and Spanish special forces soldiers run a 90-mile trail their ancestors traveled 400 years ago.

Bay Colony.

The Spanish soldiers brought their own tradition to New Mexico. They belong to the 2nd Special Forces Group - Santa Fe, an elite unit formed in 1492, the year Christopher Columbus discovered America, explained Crespo-Frances.

It is the Spanish Army's oldest special forces outfit, said Capt. Raimundo Roca.

"We are proud to be here because our people established the roots to build this great country 400 years ago," said Roca. "It is part of our history and tradition."

The American Southwest, with its large Hispanic population, surprised the well-spoken Spanish soldiers.

"The climate is very much like Spain, but the country is much more open here," said Pvt. Israel Garrido. "The cities in Spain are more compact, surrounded by mountains."

"We are surprised that so many people speak Spanish," added Garrido.

The combination of Spanish and American cultures has given New Mexico and all of the Southwest its character, said Air Guard Maj. Gen. Melvyn Montano, New Mexico's adjutant general.

"We've been living together for 400 years," Montano explained. "We are a model for the rest of the world."

"To be able to run through the desert where those people suffered is to touch what they experienced"

MAJ. JOSE CRESPO-FRANCES
Leader of 10-man Spanish running team

Romero, 38, a veteran marathoner who owns a personal record of 2 hours, 45 minutes. He ran the Los Angeles Marathon in 3:20 in March. He also belongs to the New Mexico Guard's marathon team.

"They run very well," was Romero's assessment of the superbly-conditioned Spanish soldiers.

A high-level delegation from Spain joined the runners in Santa Fe recently to help dedicate a 10-foot bronze statue of Onate that was placed at the National

Lt. Gen. Baca's influence extended beyond U.S. borders

The Global GENERAL

By MSgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

Three diplomats with new designs on ensuring their nations' domestic tranquility presented a compelling case to National Guard leaders in March 1996 at the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's headquarters in Belgium.

Ambassadors from Hungary and Poland and a general from the Czech Republic asked generals from nearly half of this nation's states to support their bids for membership in NATO.

Lt. Gen. Edward Baca, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, led that delegation of stars to Europe that March. It helped secure a legacy as the National Guard's global general for the forthright man from New Mexico who retired from nearly 42 years of military service on July 31 at Fort Myer, Va.

"We are a window to America and we must continue to contribute to the peace and security of our world in this critically important way," commented Baca on the eve of his departure.

The State Partnership Program, in which Ohio, Illinois, and Texas are helping the three former Eastern Bloc countries evolve into democratic societies with military forces under civilian control, has placed the National Guard squarely in the middle of the international peacekeeping arena.

"I have witnessed proof that the National Guard is the very best tool for advancing this concept," Baca said.

In all, 23 states have forged alliances with former Communist countries in Europe since 1992, and five more states have established partnerships with countries in Central and South America.

President William Clinton, who made Baca the Guard Bureau's 24th chief in October 1994, in May signed the Senate-

approved bill endorsing the admission of Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic into NATO. That came 26 months after the three diplomats met with National Guard leaders.

It capped one of Clinton's biggest foreign policy victories before this summer's successful trip to China. It did much to define Lt. Gen. Edward Baca's 46 months as Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

His trips to all seven continents made him one of the most widely traveled chiefs in National Guard history. He expanded the Guard's horizons far beyond this nation's borders.

In 1997 Baca visited Army Guard artillery soldiers training in northern Norway in March and the scarred hilltop where citizen-soldiers dealt with the trauma of a commercial airline crash in Guam in August.

He also carried the message of forming a strong reserve force to the Philippines where his heroes from the New Mexico National Guard helped hold off the 14th Japanese Army during the dark, early months of 1942 before surrendering.

And meetings in Washington and Moscow with Russian military leaders who also want to know what makes the National Guard tick highlighted Baca's final year at the Pentagon.

'Baca'yard DIPLOMAT

Whether he was in Central America (top photo) explaining the Guard's many humanitarian efforts, chatting with Bataan Death March survivors (above), or in Russia brokering a partnership, Lt. Gen. Edward Baca traveled with a cause.



Photos by MSgt. John Thornton



Russian Gen.-Lt. Vasiliy Smirnov attended his retirement ceremonies in late July.

"It would have been unthinkable for my Russian counterpart to honor me in this way just a few short years ago," Baca observed.

Meanwhile, more than 4,500 citizen-soldiers from 46 states have served in Europe since December 1995 while helping to preserve the peace in Bosnia. Air Guard outfits have routinely patrolled the no-fly zones over Iraq and, this year, have taken charge of an Air Force hospital for four months in Saudi Arabia. And Army Guard engineers, aviators and military policemen

last winter pulled a peacekeeping tour in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

To be sure, official Washington praised Baca for the Guard's many other achievements during the past four years.

New Army Secretary Louis Caldera remarked on the successful domestic Youth Challenge Program for at-risk teenagers, the support in the fight against illegal drugs, and a massive improvement in automated systems that have linked "over 10,000 units at over 4,000 sites across the country."

"Whether it's the Summer Olympics, or sandbagging levees, or dropping hay to bliz-

zard-struck cattle or fighting forest fires at home and abroad, our Guardsmen are helping Americans and our friends around the world face natural and man-made disasters," praised Air Force Gen. Joseph Ralston, Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

"The Guard today is a military force without a peer competitor in the world. It has the finest men and women this nation has to offer. It is well led, and it is capable of performing any mission it is assigned," said Baca, the global general who took every opportunity to make new friends for the Global Guard and for America.

BACA RETIRES

From Page 3

months, "which should lead to a substantial reduction in the operational tempo," he added.

"Most importantly for the Guard and Reserve," Peters promised, "we will schedule deployment periods and exercises a year to two years in advance -- so you can tell your employers long in advance when you might be gone."

That was music indeed to Baca who championed the total-force cause during his dozen

years as New Mexico's adjutant general and during his four years as the Guard Bureau's chief.

"The key to our success is the evolving nature of our organization, and today that means an increasingly integrated force able to stand on the line as a full partner with our active component teammates," he remarked at Fort Myer.

"We have historically had our differences with the active components, but always for the best reasons as we try to serve our constituency -- the American people," Baca said. "In the final analysis, we are all advocates for freedom -- Active, Guard and Reserve."

NEWS

MAKERS

Compiled by MSgt. John Malthaner
National Guard Bureau

Kentucky's 123rd Airlift Wing in Louisville was selected by the National Guard Association of the United States to receive its sixth Distinguished Flying Unit Plaque.

The honor is given annually to the top five Air National Guard flying units.

The wing received the award for its consistently high standards of excellence in everything from flight safety to mission accomplishment.

Members of the Bluegrass Air Guard unit were cited for their participation in two major contingency operations overseas, providing airlift in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Saudi Arabia.

Back home, wing members responded in record numbers when unprecedented flooding hit the state. They also organized Thunder Over Louisville, one of only two marquee events honoring the 50th anniversary of the U.S. Air Force.

Members of the Ohio Air Guard's Headquarters staff and airmen with their 121st Air Refueling Wing were volunteers at the 3rd Annual Urban Scout Olympics in Columbus.

The Urban Scout Olympics -- an activity of the Boy Scouts of America -- encourages the participation of inner city youth ages 7-14.

Air Guardmembers constructed and ran the nine events more than 200 youths participated in. Some of those events included a football throw, scout trivia and a mystery course.

"Young children make up 60 percent of this country's population," said Ohio's CMSgt. James Mock. "But they are 100 percent of our future. We do all we can to help develop these kids."

New York's 105th Airlift Wing was recognized for its partnerships with the local community recently when it was awarded the "Friend of Education Award" by the Newburgh Teachers Association.

Since 1993, the 105th has educated children and teens through job shadowing and "career day" programs.

105th volunteers also coordinate and manage a program called the "Corps of Cadets," where teens develop self confidence, team building and leadership through a variety of hands-on activities and field trips. The 105th also has established a "Galaxy" program geared toward elementary school-aged children. It focuses on providing activities involving math, science and technology to reinforce the skills that are taught in class.

The following received 1998 Air National Guard Outstanding Recruiting Awards in their respective categories:

- Outstanding Recruiting Office Supervisor -- MSgt. Sharyne Albertson, 177th Fighter Wing, N.J.
- Outstanding Rookie Recruiter -- TSgt. Barbara Hudson, 133rd Airlift Wing, Minn.
- Outstanding Production Recruiter -- TSgt. Tammy Babcock, 158th Mission Support Flight, Va.
- Outstanding GSU/MSU Recruiter -- MSgt. Louis Birkholz, 128th Air Control Squadron, Wis.



Buckeye airmen register gold medal effort at Urban Scout Olympics



SSgt. Christian Shaw and wife Terra had a red, white and blue wedding.



South Carolina's 246th Band recent performance sparked a positive response.



Indiana's Busse, Petrowski and Campbell are no dummies when it comes to helping kids see the perils of drug use.

Students at Valley Central Middle School are the beneficiaries of 25 computers, thanks to New York's 105th Airlift Wing in Newburgh.

The computers will be used for the school's special education program, according to Kim Brosius, a special education teacher at the school. "Any way in which we can help the youth of our community will have a tremendous impact on the future," said Maj. Ron LoPorto, 105th Community Initiatives Office.

According to Maj. Charles Faro, 105th Communications Flight commander, the unit has approximately 100 computers per year become "excess" due to system upgrades. The Department of Defense, he added, decides which schools receive the computers.

SSgt. Christian R. Shaw, a police officer for the Los Angeles Police Department and a 13-year California Army Guard veteran, was married recently to Terra Jo Brickey.

Shaw, a Desert Storm vet, met his wife two years ago when his Blackhawk unit -- Company B, 1st Battalion, 140th Aviation, was activated to help put out fires at Yosemite National Park.

The wedding was held at the bride's family residence in Sonora. Decorations included American flags and an authentic Civil War cannon. Attendees wore red, white and blue carnations.

The South Carolina Army National Guard's 246th Band fired up their state's Independence Day celebration with a sunset concert at the Cowpens National Battlefield in Chesnee.

The band's weeklong tour -- which included jazz, dixieland and traditional offerings -- began June 30 at the Newberry Opera House. They also performed in Greenville, Aiken, Abbeville, Chesnee and Lexington.

The band's 40-plus members are headquartered in Columbia, S.C.

The Indiana National Guard's counterdrug program has been busy this summer educating Hoosier youths about the dangers of drug use.

1st Lt. Sean Meagher, Indiana's drug demand reduction program assistant, took some elementary school children in Lake County fishing, as part of the "Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs" program.

He was not alone in his efforts to educate Hoosier youths. SFC Char Busse, SrA. John Petrowski and Spc. Gordon Campbell visited the Carver and Aetna Elementary Schools in Gary to perform a puppet show. Their message: Only dummies do drugs.

The Michigan Army Guard recently received the prestigious "Special Conservation Award of the Year" from this country's largest conservation organization for their environmental efforts at Camp Grayling.

The award cited Grayling's conservation projects, which included the construction of timber bridges, restoring areas damaged by off-road vehicles, erosion control measures, and planting of native grasses and tree seedlings.

PARTNERSHIPS

Texas hosts some of the best soldiers from Beneshov

Czech Mates

By SSgt. Brenda Benner
Texas National Guard

Vpred! K Zemi! Elite Czech Republic reconnaissance soldiers were instructed to "move forward" then "lay flat" while probing a steep hillside with their temporary Texas Army National Guard comrades. During this mission, loud verbal relays can prove costly. Using universally recognized hand signals for these commands helps overcome the language barrier for these experienced infantry troops.

History was in the making for members of Company G, 143rd Infantry (Long Range Surveillance) of the Ellington Air National Guard Base in Houston.

Although they've trained with organizations from Australia, Germany, and the renowned British Special Air Service, for five activity-packed days and nights, they had the distinction of hosting 34 of the finest soldiers representing the 4th Rapid Deployment Brigade, 41st Battalion of Beneshov, Czech Republic.

Since the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's (NATO) recent decision to include the Czech Republic within its membership, a select group of these former WARSAW pact soldiers have trained in the United States and Holland.

"As National Guard members, we're proud to train professional active duty Czech soldiers," said platoon leader 1st Lt. Clarence J. Henderson.

"Besides our mission planning techniques, they're learning the role we play in cooperation with our active duty counterparts," he added. "We'll keep the classroom instruction to a minimum, because they prefer to interact with our soldiers during situational exercises."

Czech soldiers, accustomed to Soviet-made equipment and Soviet-based methods, welcomed every opportunity for hands-on familiarization with U.S. helicopters, small arms and communication equipment. Adjusting to the culinary artistry of MRE preparation also proved a novelty with unlimited surprises.

SSgt. Zdenek Sloup, reconnaissance team leader, plans to share every bit of

information with his squad upon his return, using photographs to supplement his lessons.

"I've never been so close to U.S. weapons, to touch them," said Sloup. "My favorite is the M-16 rifle with built-in grenade launcher. Our launchers are totally separate components."

Mission preparation activities included aircraft insertion procedures, sand table rehearsals, and map reading -- NATO style.

Experiencing his second visit to the U.S., 1st Lt. Jiri Wagner, an intelligence officer for the 41st Battalion, acknowledged the time consuming tasks involved in documenting and learning a new system.

"U.S. standards and procedures will now go into our training," Wagner said. "We must not only learn methods of map reading with different navigational marks and terrain identification, but also mission analysis, planning and execution. Our staff organization is also different."

With two days of preparation behind them, soldiers of both nations were eager to put theory into action. While those going to the field busied themselves double-checking their temporary issues of U.S. uniforms and gear, 1st Sgt. Karel Matocha, the Czech platoon leader, concerned himself with the mission's overall plan.

Two teams, integrated with National Guard cadre members, reported "enemy" in-

formation to Matocha and Czech officers during day and night surveillance missions.

"One barrier certainly exists," Matocha reported. "For many U.S. military terms there are no direct translations into Czech. Otherwise, the execution phases should go well. Every scout knows what to do once they hit the ground."

As two UH-60 Black Hawks touched down for a precious few seconds, Czech soldiers were war-gaming on American soil for the first time in their lives. With the ever growing importance of multinational training, it may not be their last.

Transported into the unfamiliar environmental conditions of a hostile Texas Hill Country summer, they battled stifling heat and humidity, a blazing sun,



Photo by SSgt. Brenda Benner

CZECHING IN - SSgt. Petr Mazurek (left), a Czech scout, listens for instructions as Texas' Sgt. Mario Quinones prepares to copy.

and fire ants. Combat medic, Spc. Dewitt R. Eaton, made sure that no one exceeded the safety threshold.

"Heat injuries can be lethal, especially when someone is not acclimated," Eaton explained. "Regardless of how physically fit a soldier may be, being thrust into this heat and humidity requires caution."

As the mission's tempo slowed during dangerous heat conditions, most everyone took an opportunity to gather their strength while planning night surveillance movements.

For those with an interpreter nearby, it was a chance to get acquainted and slowly close the gap across the Atlantic, a gap of drastically different histories and experiences.

Ending previously conceived Cold War attitudes toward one another, many agreed, is necessary because multinational training is expected to be a part of many soldier's future.

Texas's SSgt. Clayton N. Hardee, a Company G surveillance team leader, will visit the Czech Republic this September to train with parachute riggers and jump masters.

He does not underestimate the significance of this visit.

"With the Czech Republic's upcoming induction into NATO," Hardee began, "it's highly possible that if a major conflict in Europe develops, we could be fighting side-by-side."



Photo by MSgt. Toby R. Youngs

Jolly Good EXCHANGE

Maine Army Guard Sgt. Michael Cox (left) and Spc. Robert LaChance (right) give Britain's Squadron SGM David Weightman and SSgt. David Law (with weapon) M-60 machine gun familiarization training. Part of an NCO exchange program, Brit sergeants spent two weeks training with the Maine Army Guard.



STATES

• Keystone Craft • Hawkeye Help • Twister Support

PENNSYLVANIA

Senator Rick Santorum traveled to the 193rd Special Operations Wing in Harrisburg to announce the purchase of a new EC-130J for the unit.

Included in the \$84 million price tag is the money to modify the aircraft for its special operations mission. The unit expects delivery of the aircraft by 2,000.

The 193rd's mission is to operate and maintain EC-130 aircraft. This one-of-a-kind aircraft is essentially an airborne radio and television station capable of transmitting information over standard frequencies.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The 201st Airlift Squadron officially welcomed its first C-38A Astra operational airlift passenger transport aircraft in a ceremony at Andrews AFB, Md., recently.

The C-38A provides time sensitive, secure and expedient travel for senior National Guard and DOD officials. The aircraft, complete with a portable flying hospital care unit called the *Spectrum 500*, also is used for emergency medical transport.

The C-38A replaces the unit's C-21.

With the ability to fly faster and farther than other similarly sized jets, the C-38A normally carries a crew of two and can seat eight.

INDIANA

FUSSING
over
FUSE

Hoosier Army Guard 2nd Lt. John Pitt, a recent graduate of the Engineer Basic Course and acting executive officer with Company B, 113th Engineer Battalion, untangles a fuse while giving a class on demolitions at Camp Atterbury in Edinburgh.



Photo by Capt. Jenny Lynn Gruenr

IOWA

There was no way Capt. Paul Tiezen could have predicted his 186th Military Police Company's sudden mission change recently.

While setting up tents for a three-day field exercise at Camp Dodge, a devastating tornado struck the community of Washington, 150 miles southeast of them.

Tiezen and 78 MPs reported to the town's sheriff, where they joined other law enforcers to secure the town.

No strangers to emergency situations, 186 policemen and women have been called upon to quell civil disturbances, provide security during the 1993 floods and guard Iraqi prisoners during the Persian Gulf War.

ALABAMA

For the third time since 1990, residents of Elba were forced from their homes after severe flooding.

Army Guard military police were dispatched to the area to control traffic and man road blocks. The Air Guard's 280th Combat Communications Squadron set up lights and generators, and the 20th Special Forces Group used their boats to search for stranded victims.

Armories were used as temporary shelters for those left homeless.

Army Guard engineers also helped repair washed out roads, bridges and culverts.

NEW YORK



Photo by SFO James A. Filio

GRAVE CONSEQUENCE - New York Air Guard SMSgt. Ed Lamora saws a tree knocked down in a cemetery by 200 mph winds. Lamora is a member of the 109th Airlift Wing based in Scotia.

By Capt. Stephen E. Mueller
New York National Guard

Almost 700 National Guard troops and hundreds of vehicles and emergency equipment were call-up in the wake of devastating tornadoes.

A tornado packing wind speeds approaching 200 miles per hour ripped into the Saratoga county communities of Mechanicville and Stillwater, destroying hundreds of homes and businesses.

"I have seen devastation during war and peace time," said Brig. Gen. Bill Martin, deputy adjutant general, "but this is like nothing I have ever seen."

Within hours of their activation, soldiers with the 42nd Infantry Division and the 53rd Troop Command's 204th Engineer Battalion arrived to help clear and remove debris. This allowed utility company crews to restore power. Engineers with the Empire State Air Guard's 105th and 109th Airlift

Wings also were mobilized — a first.

Armed with chain saws, dump trucks, front-end loaders and evacuation equipment, airmen assisted in clearing hundreds of downed trees.

"I was impressed with the support from the National Guard, and in particular, with their dedication in helping the local community," said Fire Chief Bill McGreevy of the Hoosick Valley Volunteer Fire Department.

Patti and James Hemendinger and their three children took shelter underneath a mattress in the basement of their home during the storm. Patti said she never realized the commitment level of National Guardmembers.

"There have been plenty of tears as a result of their generosity," she said. "My children, who have always been a little intimidated by the green uniforms, now see National Guardmembers as every day people who really care about the community."



HISTORY

• Anniversary of the Spanish-American War

With little opposition, U.S. soldiers wrested the island from Spanish rule

Punchless in PUERTO RICO

America declared war against Spain over the issue of Cuban independence in April 1898. However, the war was fought in several other locations.

Spain also owned the colonies of Puerto Rico, Guam and the Philippine Islands. Although the American government's officially stated goal for the Cubans was freedom, no such promise was made for the inhabitants of these other lands. The United States wanted to use each of these colonies for secure fueling harbors, known as "coaling stations," for the Navy's warships.

While the campaign in Cuba got underway in June 1898, plans were also being made to invade Puerto Rico. However, since all of the transport ships were committed to supporting the Cuban expedition, the Puerto Rican operation was delayed until late July. As it turned out, the campaign in Cuba was over before the first American soldier set foot in Puerto Rico.

Many of the lessons learned from the Cuban invasion were applied to the Puerto Rico attack.

One issue that was addressed was the condition of the ships used to transport U.S. Army soldiers. During the Cuban invasion, the ships—mostly leased tramp steamers—were dirty, overcrowded (there was one latrine shared by 1,000 men) and lacked ventilation. By the time of the Puerto Rican expedition, many of the vessels were cleaner, less cramped and had added toilet facilities.

This invasion force also held another advantage over the Army fighting in Cuba. Because there was more shipping available, the horses for its cavalry were able to be transported. This allowed troopers to scout and fight mounted, unlike in Cuba where dismounted scouts were only able to provide limited intelligence on the enemy. It was why Teddy Roosevelt's famed Rough Riders were forced to charge Kettle Hill on foot.

Another big change was the diminished threat caused by yellow fever and malaria, diseases that incapacitated nearly 80 percent of some units that served in Cuba.

While these diseases existed in Puerto Rico, and did affect some American troops, the peak mosquito season had tapered off. The Americans also benefited from operating in the islands' higher altitudes, as opposed to the swamps and marshes of Cuba where insects prosper.

Still, as in Cuba, more Americans died from disease than from enemy action.

The invasion force consisted primarily of I Corps units, almost all of which were National Guard organizations. Of the 12 infantry regiments, 10 of them were Guard.

One of these, the 6th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, had one Black company—at the time, there were 12 companies in a regiment—in an otherwise all-white regiment. Company L was the only African-American Guard unit to see combat in the Spanish-American War.

While the invasion's artillery force was primarily drawn from the Regular Army, a Provisional Artillery Battalion, combining Guard batteries from Pennsylvania, Indiana, Illinois and Missouri, also took part in the campaign.

The cavalry arm included Guard units consisting of Troops A and C, New York Volunteer Cavalry, and three troops from Pennsylvania.



GUARD HISTORY

By CWO2 John Listman
Army Guard Historian

Two days later a second force landed at Ponce, Puerto Rico's second largest city. These two groups linked-up July 31st.

On Aug. 1 a third U.S. force landed in the western portion of the island. The goal of all three expeditions was to move through the country, defeating portions of the enemy army, and march toward the capital city of San Juan on the northern part of the island. There, they would combine forces and, if necessary, assault the city.

As it turned out, the Spanish put up little resistance because they were clearly overmatched. They had 17,000 soldiers on the island, only half of whom were Spanish regulars. The rest were a poorly trained and equipped Puerto

Rican militia with no vested interest in the outcome. Neither side had promised the Puerto Rican people independence.

The only engagement of significance was at a mountain pass named Coamo. Here, a force consisting primarily of Spanish regulars, fought a concerted battle against the main American advance.

Among the forces engaged was the 16th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. They outflanked the enemy defenses by descending a mountain trail, which placed them behind the Spanish lines. To mask this maneuver, and

keep the Spanish defenders busy, the 2nd and 3rd Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry regiments, along with Troop C, New York Cavalry, attacked their front line. Within two hours the battle was over. One American was killed and 10 were wounded.

A general armistice between Spain and the U.S. began Aug. 13, allowing the American Army to quickly secure the rest of the island, including San Juan.

With the end of the war against Spain, some Guard units were sent home almost immediately to reduce costs and sickness.

For some, the Puerto Rico expedition lasted less than 30 days. For example, the Philadelphia City Cavalry (the lineage of which is carried today by the 103rd Cavalry) landed on the island, marched through the countryside and fought only small skirmishes, before being sent home and discharged.

Other Guard units remained longer, but all were returned to American soil by the fall of 1898.

With Cuba and Puerto Rico secured, only the Philippines' "question" remained unsettled. Political leaders argued whether the U.S. should rule the islands or grant the nation its independence.

The Guard would play a significant role in that conflict.

Editor's Note: Mr. Listman's report on the Guard's involvement in the opening stages of the Philippine Insurrection will be published in October.



Photo courtesy of the Library of Congress

PENETRATING PONCE - Guard soldiers with the Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry march into Ponce, Puerto Rico, July 29, 1898.

Two Guard engineer companies also served; one from the District of Columbia and the other from Illinois.

The invasion took place at three different locations over the course of several days.

On July 25 an American force landed at Guanica on the southern part of the island. Early the next morning it began moving inland.



TRAINING



SIGNAL STATUS - Capt. Pete Meucucci (left) briefs Nevada's Lt. Col. Felix Castagnola on the status of his battalion's communications network.

The Army would be rendered 'deaf and dumb' without the Guard

Signaling a SHIFT

By Capt. Terry Conder
Nevada National Guard

Deaf and dumb. Can't talk, can't hear. It's what the U.S. Army would be rendered without the National Guard's signal corps.

That's because 70 percent of the Army's signal assets are in the National Guard and Army Reserve.

Deaf and dumb.

Of course the Army's signal gods know this. That's why they created Grecian Firebolt — the largest signal exercise in the world — and handed down "The Four Commandments" to signal soldiers:

- Improve readiness.
- Get realistic training.
- Learn to operate new equipment in a field environment.
- Develop cohesion and teamwork among active and reserve signal forces.

If there is a signal heaven, Nevada Army Guard Lt. Col. Felix Castagnola and his soldiers in the 422nd Signal Battalion — headquartered in Reno, Nev. — scored big points during Grecian Firebolt '98.

"The 422nd is completely prepared — a



Photos by Spc. Lesley Mosher

10," Castagnola crowed. "These guys know what they're doing. They're very ready."

To participate in Firebolt, the 422nd loaded its vehicles and convoyed over the Sierra Nevada mountains to Camp Parks, Calif., where Castagnola took command of four companies.

Signal citizen-soldiers immediately pitched tents, laid wire and positioned satellite dishes

First commandment: Improve readiness ... Been there, done that.

In addition to helping build a nation-wide network for the exercise, the 422nd supported "Wild Boar," a training exercise that involved two field hospitals.

The battalion built a local area computer network (LAN) and provided email, Defense Service Network (DSN) phone service and internet access. Medical staff at the field hospitals used the network to transfer patient information and request supplies via satellite.

"This is exactly what we would do in a real-world scenario," Castagnola reported. "It's important to have real subscribers who are counting on us."

Second commandment: Get realistic training ... Ditto.

However, it didn't take long for *Murphy's Law* to surface at Camp Parks, after one of the medical units positioned itself too far away from the base camp to



SIGNAL SHIFT - Nevada Army Guard Spc. Jason Sundland (top photo), a member of the 422nd Signal Battalion, adjusts equipment from a signal van. A van (above) beams data for Grecian Firebolt.

be included in the computer network.

The obvious solution? Move the unit in closer. But local geography, space for tents and tactical considerations precluded such a move.

Enter MSgt. Dave Alfred and 1st Lt. Richard Reba Jr.

Alfred, a Vietnam veteran, is a network specialist for the Nevada Army Guard. Reba is a first term soldier on active duty with the 67th Signal Battalion at Ft. Gordon, Ga.

Alfred and Reba found a device in a civilian "computer geek" catalog that solved the problem. And Camp Parks just happened to be located near the corporate headquarters of the company that makes the device.

"The limitations of a LAN are about 1,000 meters with four repeaters," Reba said. "We found some equipment that works real well with Army WF16 cable. These devices allowed us to spread out the LAN over 18,000 feet — more than three miles."

"We couldn't have built the network without them," Alfred added.

Third Commandment: Learn to operate new equipment in a field environment ... Check.

The close working relationship that developed between Alfred and Reba was typical of the blending that took place between active and National Guard soldiers during Firebolt 98.

The units under 422nd's control were specifically selected. They included an active Army, Reserve and Army Guard company, and an Air Guard detachment.

"Any type of rivalry out there certainly hasn't surfaced here," Castagnola said. "Their company commander has done everything I've asked of him, and his soldiers work very hard."

"I'd be glad to have Alpha Company, 88th Signal Battalion, 11th Signal Brigade work with us anytime, anywhere," he added.

Fourth commandment: Develop cohesion and teamwork among active and reserve signal forces ...

Easy.