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THE ON GUARD

Volume XXVI, No. 4

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January 1997

Guard celebrates 360th year

*Birthday bash honors
Rep. Sonny Montgomery*

By MSgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

No one really believes that retiring Congressman G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery will ride off into the sunset to his native Mississippi and forget about the National Guard. He has made too many friends and devoted too much energy to military people in general and the Guard in particular during 30 years on Capitol Hill to simply walk away.

Nearly 1,000 of his friends affiliated with the Army and Air National Guard let him know they appreciate all he has done while celebrating the 360th anniversary of the nation's oldest military service during a Yuletide-spiced evening Dec. 13, at a Washington D.C., hotel.

"The National Guard has had many friends in Congress, but it has never had a friend like Sonny Montgomery," said Lt. Gen. Edward Baca, chief of the National Guard Bureau, refusing to let his raspy voice fail him on this occasion.

The tributes came from the heart for the man from Meridian, Miss., whose father suffered from the effects of a World War I gas attack.

Men and women grasped Montgomery's hand and thanked him for establishing the Montgomery GI Bill that has enabled many of them to earn their college degree during the past dozen years.

A 12-minute video titled "My Name is Sonny: Tribute to an American Patriot" captured the spirit of his 35-year Army and National Guard career -- including a

Bronze Star for Valor for capturing a German machine gun crew -- and the fights he won in Congress for all kinds of veterans benefits during the 30 years he represented Mississippi's Third District. As an Army National Guard officer, Montgomery also was called to active duty during the Korean War. Many states sent gifts. Among them: the Admiral of the Chesapeake Bay Award from Maryland; a branding iron with the initials SM from Montana; an American flag flown over every armory in Ohio.

Best of all, he was the first to receive an award that has been named for him and that has been designated the highest honor the chief of the National Guard Bureau can bestow.

The G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery Award will be presented on each National Guard birthday for outstanding and selfless contributions to the organization that was first mustered as three militia regiments in Massachusetts on Dec. 13, 1636, and that was first called the "National Guard" in New York in 1824.

The new award, featuring a miniature bust of Maj. Gen. Montgomery on a cherry wood base, was designed by MSgt. Walter Sistrunk, a sculptor and an Air National Guardsman from Jackson, Miss., now on duty at the Air Guard's Readiness Center at Andrews AFB, Md.

"I don't believe it. I don't deserve it. But I certainly am enjoying it," quipped Montgomery after receiving the award from Baca and three former National Guard Bureau chiefs -- retired Lt. Generals Emmett H. Walker, La Vern E. Weber and John B. Conaway.



Photo by MSgt. Bob Haskell

CUTTING IN - Congressman Sonny Montgomery (above, right) joins Lt. Gen. Baca in carving the cake, and certainly; a place in National Guard history.



Photo by Maj. Joe Woodbury

AS THE
TURRET
TURNS

South Carolina Army Guard's Lt. Col. Tommy Whitehead (above, left) and Sgt. Tommy "Scott" Whitehead take their positions as tank commander and gunner, father/son atop their Bradley Fighting Vehicle. Both are members of Headquarters Company, 4th Battalion, 118th Infantry, based in Union. "Scott listens to all my firing commands," joked his dad, "except cease fire."

See BIRTHDAY, Page 4



COMMENTARY

COUNTERDRUG UPDATE

• As of Dec. 18, the National Guard has assisted in 116,754 arrests and seized 13,850 weapons, 42,395 vehicles and nearly \$281.3 million in cash while conducting 8,848 counterdrug mission.

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Mailing address:
NGB-PAC
2500 Army Pentagon
Washington, DC 20310-2500

Express Mail address:
NGB-PAC
Park Center IV, Suite 450
4501 Ford Ave.
Alexandria VA 22302-1454

Telephone numbers:
(703) 681-0716
DSN 761-0716
FAX: (703) 681-0732/0731

e-mail:
jmalthan@ngb-emh2.army.mil

STAFF

Chief, National Guard Bureau
Lt. Gen. Edward D. Baca

Chief, Public Affairs
Daniel Donohue

Chief,
Command Information
Maj. Robin F. Carrington

Editor
MSgt. John Malthaner

Special Correspondent
MSgt. Bob Haskell



LETTERS

A GOOD READ, EH

I recently received a few chewed-up copies of your excellent publication in a rather unusual way.

Members of The Korea Veterans Association of Canada recently took part in a commemoration ceremony for members of 1st Battalion, 109th Field Artillery, Pennsylvania National Guard, who were lost in a train wreck while enroute to Korea in 1950. We have had close ties with the Wyoming Valley PA Korea War Veterans, and as we had lost a number of Canadian gunners under similar circumstances a few weeks after your own disaster, we felt that this would be an appropriate time to visit the Wilkes-Barre area.

During the visit, appropriate souvenir gifts were exchanged, and on return to Canada I found that the mugs, glasses, etc., from the 109th were packed in newspaper -- you guessed it, they were pieces of *The On Guard*. (I suppose that is at least a step up from lining a birdcage).

I was very interested in the bits and pieces that I could salvage and consider the paper a "bonus gift" from your artillerymen. I was especially interested in the story of the 65th Infantry in Korea (naturally), the "Armories" article in the August edition and especially the story of the French Canadian in the story "Quintero's Quest," as we have close ties with the Hong Kong Veterans Association -- too bad that I only had

Page 11 and not the continuation on Page 13). The soldier probably came from the Royal Rifles of Canada, a Quebec regiment.

Anyway, congratulations on an excellent publication -- please keep up the good work.

Les Peate

Korea Veterans Association of Canada

STINGING OBSERVATION

In the article "First to Fire" (October 96) the caption for the picture "tracking" is incorrect. The training weapon is actually a Stinger tracking head trainer. The picture was taken at the 16S MOS school. The 16S MOS is a prerequisite for the Avenger 14S MOS.

Additionally, some information in the article is incorrect. Fort Stewart's Improved Moving Targeting Simulator is the correct name for the "IMTS" used in Stinger 16S training.

I'm currently in the 164th Air Defense Artillery Brigade that is transitioning to Avenger. My people are instructors for the training. These instructors deserve high praise and special recognition for their dedication and devotion to duty. They are: 1st Sgt. Enrique "Rick" Mendez and SSgt. Peter Leary.

CWO2 David G. Romero
Florida National Guard

BALTIC GRATITUDE

Thank you very much for your write-up on Exercise Baltic Challenge '96 that appeared in the October issue.

As the platoon leader for the Pennsylvania unit that participated in this Partnership for Peace exercise, I wish to express the thanks of each member of my platoon for the coverage.

1st Lt. William R. Smith
Pennsylvania National Guard

MORE FUEL ON THE FIRES

The article called "Blazing On" (Oct 96) about the forest fires in Oregon needs some updating. In the article there is only one mention of the Air National Guard, and then only the 142nd Fighter Wing. I'm from the 244th Combat Communications Squadron (CBCS) and was a participant in all the state disasters; the 100-year flood, the wind storm and the fires, along with countless others from my unit.

Citizen-airmen from the 104th Air Control Squadron, 116th ACS, 173rd Fighter Wing, 270th Air Tactical Control Squadron and the 272nd CBCS were also involved.

MSgt. Vern Estey
Oregon 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. **FAX Letters to the Editor to DSN 761-0732/0731 or (703) 681-0732.** Letters may be mailed to: NGB-PAI-C 2500 Army Pentagon, Washington, DC 20310-2500.

GUARD TOONS

By Lyle Farquhar



"The recycling campaign is a great success, but we're running out of work space"



IN THE NEWS

- New York Flood
- AAFES on the Web
- Safe Year

New CSM keys leadership

Army Guard's CSM John Leonard calls upon enlisted force to learn

By MSgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

Teachers and students love Christmas week. It marks the end of a long fall of learning. It's a time to eat, watch some football, open presents and think about anything other than school. Or not think about very much at all.

That was not the case for John Leonard Jr. of rural Glenburn, Maine. He thought a great deal about education that week. Military education.

He deliberated the ways and the means to continue educating the Army National Guard's noncommissioned officers for the Herculean task of directing the world's largest force of reserve component enlisted people into the 21st century.

Why? On Jan. 2, Leonard moved into his new office near Washington, D.C. -- on the E-Ring, second floor, the Pentagon -- to begin a three-year hitch as the Army National Guard's command sergeant major. He has succeeded CSM Larry Pence as the chief advocate for the Army Guard's nearly 326,000 enlisted soldiers on the staff of Maj. Gen. William Navas, director of the Army National Guard.

Improving the NCO Educational System that prepares sergeants to lead squads, platoons, companies and batta-

lions is his top priority, Leonard stressed.

"I want to look at the future and be able to keep the noncommissioned officers on the plain they are today as far as their professionalism and their ability to perform all of the tasks that are required in their grade. I want to prevent the NCO Educational System from becoming a hollow education system," explained Leonard, who is 50 and who has been the Maine Army Guard's state sergeant major for eight years.

"Our Guard soldiers serve side-by-side with active duty soldiers in Bosnia, in the Sinai," he pointed out. "Our soldiers need to be able to perform their jobs and take care of other soldiers.

"It's up to this generation to ensure the next generation has the training that it takes to perform those tasks. Our NCOs, I believe, are the best that we've ever had. Shame on us if we don't continue that process and make the next generation the best we've ever had. You don't do that without education."

John James Leonard Jr. appreciates education. He was 31 when he earned his business degree from Husson College in Bangor, Maine, the hard way -- as a non-traditional student with a family and full-time job.

He has also seen the Guard grow from a confederation of state-controlled units to a national force that has maintained an international tempo in the Persian Gulf, Haiti, Somalia, the Sinai and Bosnia throughout this decade as Army

and reserve force budgets and manpower have been steadily reduced following the end of the Cold War.

■ See LEONARD, Page 13



"We have a better total soldier in the Guard today."

CSM John Leonard

New York engineers confront devastated river

By 1st Lt. Linda Thorburn
New York National Guard

More than 60 members of the New York Army Guard's 204th Engineer Battalion were activated by Gov. George Pataki to support local authorities in Clinton County following severe flooding Veteran's Day.



An unprecedented single rainfall of seven inches, caused flooding throughout New York's Clinton and Essex counties and sparked the declaration of a state of emergency. Estimated damages exceed \$6 million to roads, bridges, businesses and homes. By the storm's end, 64 bridges were destroyed and parts of 33 roads were washed out.

"When contractors designed the waterways, they did not anticipate this much rain in such a short time," explained Maj. Edwin Rodriguez. "The banks just couldn't hold anymore."

BULLED OVER - New York engineers take a bulldozer to a recent flooding disaster in Clinton County.

The unit's mission was to restore the washed out roads and bridges to usable conditions. The unit repaired and replaced culverts, filled in holes, and when needed, rerouted the roadways. Assisting the soldiers in the restoration were bulldozers, five and 20-ton dump trucks, tractors and bucket loaders.

Working with the county highway departments, the 204th identified 34 sites where they could best used.

"We really do enjoy doing this sort of thing," said MSgt. Robert Maus, operations NCO. "It's nice to be able to help people."

The 204th's effort did not go unnoticed.

"We truly appreciate them being here," said resident Alice Norton.

NATIONAL BRIEFS

AAFES SURFS THE WEB

Those who are fans of the Army and Air Force Exchange Service and computers can now access the latest AAFES updates on the world wide web.

Many of their news releases are on the web site as well as hours and locations of some stores. There's also a display of some of their catalog merchandise and a way to communicate with them via e-mail and the world wide web.

"We've had a lot of people send us messages via the site and would like to see people use it to get information on AAFES," noted MSgt. George Smock, an AAFES spokesman. AAFES web address is: www.aafes.com

ARMY GUARD SAFETY CELEBRATES BANNER YEAR

Cutting a commemorative cake with one symbolic slice of a knife, the Director of the Army National Guard brought the hammer down for safety in 1997 recently.

"Safety starts with me" is the theme for the year.

Maj. Gen. William Navas and the National Guard Bureau's other directors acknowledged that 1996 was one of the safest training years in the Army Guard's modern history. They then encouraged America's citizen-soldiers to protect the force by keeping up the good and safe work for the next year.

Particularly satisfying was the absence of Class A flight accidents in '96, said Col. William Squires, chief of the Army Guard's Safety and Occupational Health Division.

Aviators flew 310,000 hours without an accident that resulted in a fatality or permanent disability or that caused \$1 million dollars in damages, Squires said. Army Guard aviators have flown 350,000 hours during the past 13-1/2 months without being involved in such an accident, he added.

The shadow over the safety celebration involved an increased number of accidents and fatalities in personally-owned vehicles, Squires said.

Of the 18 Guardmembers killed in separate accidents from October '95 through September '96, 11 died in accidents involving private vehicles. The increase in all types of private vehicle accidents from 25 in 1995 to 32 last year is hardly an encouraging trend, Squires added.

Commanders are being encouraged to hold safety huddles with their soldiers and to urge caution during potentially dangerous times -- such as following weekend drills and annual training periods when troops are tired, he said.

BIRTHDAY

From Page 1

"We can't go (to war) now without the regulars having the National Guard and Reserves helping them, and that's the way it should be," said Montgomery who has pushed for modern equipment and an equal role in the total force for the nation's citizen-soldiers.

He also made it clear the National Guard cannot let down its guard in Washington.

The new Secretary of Defense and the 13 new members of the House Armed Services Committee will have to be educated about the Guard, said Montgomery.

"I've worked with Bill Cohen in the past. He's a good man," said Montgomery of the retiring senator from Maine and Senate Armed Services Committee member nominated by President Clinton to succeed Defense Secretary William Perry.

"We have to let the new Secretary of Defense know what the Guard stands for, and I think he'll come through for us," he added.

Young Guardmembers who turned out for the celebration indicated they are ready to help spread the word.

"I wanted to see Mr. Montgomery because he's done so much for my generation," said Sgt. Chris Benton, 25, a Virginia Army Guardsman on duty with the National Guard Bureau.

"I can't tell you how many people I know who are going to school because of Montgomery's GI Bill," added Benton after spending the evening rubbing elbows with many of the Guard's senior members and with industrial and congressional officials who work closely with the organization.

Among the many people introduced was CSM John Leonard Jr. from Maine who in January will succeed CSM Larry Pence as the Army National Guard's command sergeant major.

"It's good for everyone's morale," added Benton. "It's great to go out and see what you can achieve."

District cops patrol Germany

By Sgt. Lynford A. Morton
U.S. Army Reserve

As Yolanda Lopez, a Washington, D.C., metropolitan police officer, patrolled the District's popular Latino Festival she didn't know duty would call her to perform a similar job a couple of weeks later, only in a different country and uniform.

Lopez and 51 members of Washington, D.C. Army Guard's 275th Military Police Company helped patrol one of central Germany's biggest festivals — Jahrmarkt.

"This was a piece of cake," said Spc. Lopez, a unit clerk. "We were basically providing security."

The Guard unit's primary mission during its two-week training was assisting the 410th Base Support Battalion patrolling Bad Kreuznach's military community, said SFC Earthy Peterson, unit operations sergeant.

"We weren't expecting to do that (patrol the Jahrmarkt), but as long as Americans are there, we go," said Peterson.

Americans were among 600,000 people who visited the 187th version of the Nahe Region's festival. Jahrmarkt dates to a decree by French Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte. He ruled that every year after his birthday, Bad Kreuznach would hold a market in his honor.

In the early years, Jahrmarkt was a one-day event where Germans came to buy goods to last them through the next year. It has grown to a five-day festival, comparable to a county fair in the United States, where throngs come to eat, enjoy amusement park attractions, listen to live music and purchase everything from clothes to knickknacks.

The United States' military involvement goes back almost 25 years, said

Peter Anheuser, Germany's Wine Growers Association president. Back then, the community was short on German police officers, known as Polizei. Germans turned to the U. S. military for help and a partnership was formed.

MPs provide a presence at the festival that serves as a deterrent to disruption. Organizers boast that in 25 years, there has never been an incident.

The 275th kept the streak going. "We are there for Americans, but if we see other situations where we can help, we usually get involved," Peterson said.

Sgt. Della Wilson found a lost boy. "We were standing there and a German lady brought this little lost boy to us. We took him to the station to wait for his parents," said Wilson.

Even with minor incidents, MPs said they found training opportunities.

Sgt. Gregory L. Randolph said Jahrmarkt provided garrison MP training. "It's the same as the training for urban areas," said Randolph. "But you learn different things each place you go."

One of the biggest opportunities for learning came in the interaction with different cultures.

"People stopped us, wanting to know what the unit patch on our uniforms was for and why we were there," said Randolph.

"When you're dropped right in the middle of the festival, you get to see the culture up front," added Sgt. William I. McLaughlin Jr., military police officer. "The Germans were very kind. They work



Photo by Sgt. Lynford A. Morton

ON PATROL - D.C. Army Guard's Sgt. Richard Sears (above) stands guard outside the Jahmarkt entrance.

hard and play hard.

"We didn't have much of a communication problem. There was always someone who spoke English," he added.

The relationship built between the two communities also tells of the successes.

"I'm extremely impressed with the relationship I've seen so far," said Col. James Chalkley, 53rd ASG commander. "We have to remember that we're guests in this country. It's tremendous to see the friendship that exists. I look forward to fostering that sense of community."



BRINGING the BANG

A Chinook (right) delivers a howitzer during a training mission in New Brunswick, Canada. Soldiers in the New Hampshire Army Guard's 197th Field Artillery (above) fire away. Nearly 700 troops participated.



Photos by Maj. Walter H. Debany



PEOPLE

Home for the HOLIDAYS

The Hayes family from Maine has learned to cope with deployment

By MSgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

Christmas Day will mark the end of a remarkable year for Thom and Tammie Hayes of Augusta, Maine.

It will be a year to the day that Thom, a staff sergeant in the New Hampshire Army Guard, landed in Germany with many other citizen-soldiers

to begin his duties for the Bosnian peacekeeping mission Joint Endeavor.

It will be a year to the day that Tammie began to discover she could care for their two young sons while she was on her own in Maine.

It has been a year of change during which the Hayes have learned just how closely they are connected as a couple.

It has been a year when they have come together in the way that many military couples have bonded because of unexpected duty in faraway lands.

"She became more independent, which was good," said Thom. "She managed all of the household affairs while I was gone."

There was much to manage.

Their youngest son Nicholas, age 2, became deathly ill with cat-scratch fever last spring and required surgery to remove a lump from his neck. That, Tammie recalled,

made for a memorable Mother's Day weekend.

Their oldest son, Ben, age 7, was adjusting to his responsibilities as the man of the house.

And their landlord made it clear he wanted to move into the house they were leasing in nearby Winthrop because their lease would expire in June, and he had sold the house where he was living.

Tammie, therefore, got her act together, put their worldly goods into storage and flew with her two sons to Colorado to stay with her family until Thom returned from Europe late in July.

"I really felt overwhelmed," recalled Tammie who nonetheless found the strength to cope while her husband was doing his bit in Germany and Croatia.

Thom Hayes, 33, is a slender, serious sort who manages 65 people and millions of dollars in inventory at the Barnes and Noble booksellers in Augusta. He is also a 15-year Guard veteran and a journalist in New Hampshire's 114th Public Affairs Detachment that was mobilized to help tell the peacekeeping story in Europe.

He and Tammie had been married for eight years when his unit got the call. They had been friends since her high school days in Raymond, N.H.

"He took me to get my driver's license," said Tammie, who is four years Thom's junior.

It was, therefore, not an easy separation -- especially since they had moved to Maine just four months before Thom left for Europe.

But she discovered that she had friends where she least expected.

MSgt. Margaret Williams, the new director of the Maine National Guard's Family Support Program, let Tammie know she had a friend in Augusta. A group of Maine Guard volunteers helped Tammie put her furniture into storage before she left for Colorado.

"At first I'm afraid I was rude because there was so



Photo by MSgt. Bob Haskell

FAMILY PORTRAIT - The Hayes family: Nicholas (left), Tammie, Ben and Thom.

much going on, and I didn't know who (Williams) was," Tammie lamented. "But she hung in there and convinced me she really wanted to help. She was really wonderful."

She also connected with Thom when needed to. Joint Endeavor has been called the e-mail operation because it is so easy for soldiers to

communicate on their computers with their loved ones back home.

"We were close when he left. Then we talked about everything on e-mail on our computers," she explained. "We still had that connection, like when you're in a room full of people and all you have to do is look at each other to know what the other person is thinking."

Those connections went a long way toward resolving their initial concerns about whether they would be so different when they were reunited that they would end up going their separate ways.

That does not appear to be the case.

"Within moments, Nick reached out and grabbed his daddy, and the boys have never really let go of him," said Tammie. "They really missed him."

So the issue for the Hayes during this yuletide season is not about getting along with each other so much as it is the possibility of having to again get along without each other.

"I'm really looking forward to Christmas," said Tammie. "But I'm still not at ease with the holidays coming. I'm afraid he's going to have to go again. It's not something you can rely on not happening again."

The prospects of the Hayes being separated for a second straight Christmas because of a military mission appeared to be remote. Other National Guard units have been alerted for Joint Endeavor duty in Europe beginning early in 1997.

Therefore, the promise of the holiday refrain "I'll be home for Christmas" was playing very well at the Hayes' home in Augusta.

Growing your family tree

By MSgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

Consider your family tree. A century from now, when you are a name among the branches, some member of your family may want to discover who you were and what you did.

Michael Bonneville, a sergeant major from the Minnesota Army Guard now on duty in Germany, believes your military record will help your great-great-grandchild satisfy some genealogical curiosity.

That, he continued, is one of hidden benefits for wearing the uniform and,

perhaps, for staying in the National Guard.

"I like to tell Guard folks they are earning a spot in history; that they will have an identity through the military that will always follow them," said Bonneville, the senior enlisted Army Guard advisor for the 21st Theater Army Area Command in Kaiserslautern.

He is on duty in a part of the world where many of his fellow American's family trees were planted centuries ago.

He began delivering his message in mid-1996, after he had learned as much as he could about his ancestor from southern France who sailed to Canada in 1755 to fight the British in the French and Indian Wars.

Joseph Bonneville was a soldier in the



SGM Joseph Bonneville

Regiment of the Queen and was SGM Bonneville's great-great-great-great-grandfather, he said.

When the war ended in 1760, and England had claimed much of the territory east of the Mississippi River, Joseph was discharged and stayed in the Canadian province of Quebec, around Montreal, according to Bonneville. Joseph married his second wife, Marie Magdeleine Buisson, in 1775. That union

led to the Bonneville family to which the 53-year-old sergeant major and native of Duluth, Minn., belongs.

Bonneville said he learned much about his ancestor from the obscure military records he uncovered in Montreal and near the French town of Rodez where his ancestor was born.

That led him to believe that modern military records will tell future genera-

tions a great deal about what the military people of today were all about.

"Except for people who are famous, most everyone's records include just four dates -- their birth, baptism, marriage and death," Bonneville said.

Staying in the Guard for posterity's sake is one of the retention points he makes to the enlisted citizen-soldiers he visits after they report for duty in his area, said Bonneville whose Army Guard career dates back to 1974. Some 2,000 Guardmembers train in his German territory each year, he added.

The far more thorough military records of this century will tell future genealogists everything from how many medals the old soldiers received to how many pushups they did on their PT test.

"Their military records give people an identity they might not have otherwise," Bonneville said. "They will always have their 15 minutes of fame."

BOSNIA UPDATE

More Guardmembers are deployed for peacekeeping

Tabbed for TUZLA

By MSgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

I-See-O Hall is a building named for a unique figure in the history of the U.S. Army and Fort Sill, Okla. He was a Kiowa Indian and the last Indian scout to serve at the fort where horse soldiers once protected settlements on the vast southern Great Plains and put down Indian uprisings. The old scout died in 1927 when he was 77.

In November, I-See-O Hall briefly became the military finishing school for members of the Army National Guard from Indiana and Texas who sharpened their skills for a far more modern mission a long way from southwestern Oklahoma.

The 86 men in Echo Battery, 139th Field Artillery out of Indianapolis brushed up on their highly technical target acquisition abilities and packed millions of dollars worth of computerized radar equipment before flying off for several months of Joint Endeavor peacekeeping duty in Bosnia.

They will man five radar sites around Tuzla as part of the new Stabilization Force announced Nov. 15, by President Clinton. They are expected to replace an active Army target acquisition battery and pinpoint the source of enemy artillery and small arms fire for other allied artillery units.

"Our radar mission is primarily force protection. Discipline will be our most important weapon," explained Capt. Stephen Pickrell, 41, of tiny Monrovia, Ind., who is the battery commander and who has welcomed 16 Texans into this unit that has become one of many Army Guard outfits mobilized for the extended peacekeeping mission.

Other Army Guard artillery specialists were also on board. A 16-member meteorological section out of Kansas, called up to determine the atmospheric effects on artillery rounds and Air Force missions, had also reported to Fort Sill to prepare for duty in Bosnia.

Saturday, Nov. 16, was a day off for most of the soldiers at the expansive home of the Field Artillery School known as the "fire base for America's Army."



Photos by MSgt. Bob Haskell

The slate gray dawn and unrelenting wind, however, signaled another busy day for the Guardsmen who knew for sure that this mission was for real.

The day before President Clinton had announced that 8,500 American troops will stay in Bosnia until June 1998 in an effort to keep the peace between the Serbs and the Muslims and Croats.

That meant two things during that pivotal weekend.

- Army Guard artillery people will have to continue stepping up because they own about 70 percent of the Army's artillery assets.

- A lot more Guardmembers will be needed to support the mission that has been extended 18 months longer than originally expected when American troops were sent to the war-torn country last December.

Coincidentally, 884 other Army Guard members belonging to 18 units from North Carolina to Washington were told to prepare for 270 days of European service beginning early next year.

That is nothing new.

A total of 2,073 Army Guard members belonging to 52 units have already joined the peacekeeping force this year. Artillery elements from Pennsylvania, Kansas, Massachusetts and Minnesota have already been sent to support American and French forces in Bosnia.

"The Army National Guard is aware of its important role in the artillery community, and it will continue to provide that support as well as every other asset the Army needs to succeed in this mission,"



RADAR LOVE - Texas' CWO2 M.J. Wade (above) checks out target acquisition computer equipment. Indiana's Spc. Jason Beam (left) installs a filter in a radar unit.

mission all the way through."

That mind set was evident at Fort Sill where fieldstone buildings constructed in the 19th century speak of many men who have come together to preserve the peace.

It was the first time that Fort Sill had prepared citizen-soldiers for Joint Endeavor duty. Most of the others had passed through Fort Benning and Fort Dix on the East Coast.

"Weeding out false signals has been the focus of our training at Sill," said Pickrell. "Top to bottom, the people at this school have done everything they can to support this unit's mission," he added.

The Texas Guardmembers, from the 133rd Field Artillery in San Antonio, were quickly brought into the fold.

"I was initially concerned about a long deployment with another unit," said Texas CWO Earnest Metcalf, who spent 12 years in the active Army. "But as soon as we got here they welcomed us with open arms. We meshed together a lot faster than I would have expected."

"We work together great. A radar guy is a radar guy," said SFC Stanley Hunt of Indianapolis, the platoon sergeant in charge of the unit's 50 radar operators. "It's a lot like going home. It's like seeing a cousin."

There is no difference, as far as Pickrell

promised Maj. Gen. William Navas, the Army Guard director.

That was fine with the 86 members of the target acquisition battery from Indiana and Texas -- from the North and the South -- who came together in early November at Fort Sill.

After reporting to Sill, they learned the scope of the mission had been changed from a covering force for the allied withdrawal until next March to a stabilization force that will remain in place into 1998. They also were told they could expect to be away from home until next summer.

They quickly tuned in to Clinton's hope that "with time, the habits of peace can take hold" in the ethnically divided country.

"Right from the beginning, I told these guys it will be for 270 days, plus 10 days of annual training afterwards," explained Pickrell, a warehouse supervisor for American Trans Air in Indianapolis who has been the E Battery commander for three years. "I told them to plan for the

BOSNIA UPDATE

Hungary for LAUGHS

Montana 'jocks' are tuned into Endeavor troops

By Spc. Thomas Mullen
Alabama National Guard



ON DUTY - SFC Stanley Hunt (above, left), SSgt. Antonio Garza, Sgt. Jerry Karn, Sgt. Jose Escobar and Sgt. Marty Geer are headed for Tuzla.

is concerned. "They're all mine," he insisted. "These guys are all National Guardsmen, and I can command National Guardsmen."

These radar operators belong to an exclusive, technical fraternity. "Before the round hits the ground," is the unit's motto. It indicates their determination to tell the firing batteries where an enemy shell comes from before it lands.

They will man two large radar units that can identify and track rounds fired from 32 miles away and three smaller, more mobile units that can track rounds from about 15 miles.

Although this is the first time that most of these citizen-soldiers are deploying into a tactical area, some are old hands at the trade. Hunt, for example, was the first recruit for the Indiana battery that was formed nearly 20 years ago.

"Once radar gets into your blood, it stays there," he said

Others are learning that lesson.

SSgt. Brian Stoffers of Alexandria, Ind., is one of about 20 men who have recently transferred in to the battery and who are getting a crash course in the function codes that operate the equipment.

"I like it. It's not hard for me. I have to get some more experience to see if want to stay in the unit after we get back," said the 30-year-old postal clerk who served three years in the Army and who convinced his wife he had to go to Bosnia with the National Guard.

"I've been in the military going on 10 years, and I never went anywhere," he explained over the hum of generators at I-See-O Hall.

"My active Army armor unit from Fort Knox went to Desert Storm within two months of my leaving. I felt guilty because I didn't go," Stoffers said. "I never felt like I was serving my country. I was always training. I want to be able to say went somewhere."

If you tune into Armed Forces Radio in Tazsar, Hungary, on any given weekday you can expect to hear some good rock and roll, live reports from redeploying troops and the standard command information blips. But you should also be ready to hear about naked pilgrims, Maggie the Worm Lady and steamy excerpts from the occasional romance novel.

All find their way into the radio show that turns AFN Hungary into a seeming source of counseling statements.

Responsible are Montana Army Guard's Sgt. Charlie Heit and Spc. Dan Rapkoch, who are the travelling correspondents in a live radio program airing mornings and afternoons throughout the Intermediate Staging Base in Hungary.

Logging four hours of airplay every weekday on a quasi-request format, the program is backed by the musical hodgepodge that characterizes military radio. But the show's punch is delivered by host Scott West's interaction with roving cohorts Heit and Rapkoch, who are just as likely to talk to a redeploying troop as they are to play "Col. Rapkoch and SGM Heit" with a fictional shopping spree in the rank section at the Tazsar PX.

The two, from the 103rd Public Affairs Detachment in Helena, Mont., share more than 35 years of civilian radio experience. They say their present show has "evolved" from the very camaraderie they share back home on drill weekends. Rapkoch is a staid 35-year-old journalism graduate from the University of Montana; Heit is a 45-year-old Vietnam veteran. In the unit together since early 1993, they call their homestation partnership the key to their cohesion on the air in Tazsar.

"We know the same people, we're from the same state, we're in the same business," Heit said of the partnership. "I'm older so I don't know some of the music Dan knows, like Rush or... (pausing as Dan laughs) Barry Manilow."

As for their on-air antics, Rapkoch said he and his partner know what fits -- and what doesn't -- in the confines of radio.

"You can get away with making comments about naked pilgrims because people will laugh and then not remember it two minutes later," Rapkoch said. "If they were to write down everything we've said on a day-to-day basis, though..."

Does their boss ever worry about stepping over the line of military propriety?

"Oh, about once a day," said Chief Petty Officer John Kenney, AFN-Hungary station manager. "We have a

deployed audience of grown-ups here and because of that we can do some things that are right there toeing that line. If we cross the line, of course, it's time to reevaluate what we're doing, but I don't think we'll go there."

Kenney said the show has come a long way since its beginning. He had Tazsar's radio station functioning for just over a month when he was asked by the post's higher-ups to perform live interviews with troops redeploying through the area. With his staff comprised of two broadcasters and a handful of techies, he turned to Tazsar's public affairs unit for assistance. He ended up with two guys named Charlie and Dan.

"I didn't know what to expect," Kenney admits. "When Charlie and Dan arrived we were in the process of building listenership and, quite frankly, were trying to establish an identity. I really didn't know how this was going to turn out."

West, the show's studio host, said he and his partners decided early what to do with the show.

"The three of us took the attitude, I think from the beginning that, 'Okay, we have to do this,'" West recalled. "But we've also been told that they want it to sound like we're having fun. So we we're like, 'Let's party.'"

Like most comedy teams, Heit and Rapkoch are complete opposites: Dan a self-admitted, often brooding cynic, and Charlie rarely managing a fully serious comment. While their role revolves around talking to soldiers

redeploying through the area, their antics have quickly become the hallmark of the show.

Rapkoch said he reserves himself to briefly nailing home many of the duo's countless in-jokes, while letting Charlie run things by, well, being Charlie.

"He's infectious," Rapkoch said. "He's always got a smile on his face, he's always on the verge of chuckling about something and people grab onto that."

Rapkoch said that's how

his partner is able to turn a group of indifferent soldiers into ones willing to share their experiences with a total stranger. Heit sees his relationship with the troops differently.

"I think people feel sorry for me," he deadpanned. "I think they see this old man who's twice their age and they think, 'I'll help this guy out.' That's the reason they talk to me. And of course I have forints (Hungarian money) in my pocket just in case. On my first deployment (in Vietnam) it was nylons and Hershey's bars; but on this one it's money. It's the 'me' generation, you know."

Heit has equally self-deprecating reasons for he and his partner's success.

"We steal from people throughout 30 years of broadcasting and here in Hungary we just call it our own," Heit said with a chuckle. "Everybody has forgotten where they heard it the first time."

"Also, we're the only English-speaking station around," his partner added. "We've got a lock on the competition."

Kenney said he has received nothing but praise for the show and sees no change in its future format. So until the show's trio redeploys around the same time in mid-February, the show will go on.

"And we'll have fun until we're told to stop having fun," West promised.



Photo by Spc. Thomas Mullen

BANTERING - Montana Army Guard's Spc. Dan Rapkoch (above, left) and Sgt. Charlie Heit (center) yuck it up with a soldier in Hungary.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Oregon's Mark Horner named Recycler of the Year

Ninety tons of PAPER

By Julia Brim-Edwards
Pacific/West Communications Group

What do you get when you combine the recycling know-how of Waste Management of Oregon with the dedication and willingness of 800 Portland Air National Guard Base employees and the dogged, determined work of recycling coordinator Mark Horner?

An award-winning program. In a recent ceremony at the Oregon State Capitol, Gov. John Kitzhaber recognized Horner, a state employee in the 142nd Civil Engineer Squadron and the coordinator of this impressive recycling program, with the individual Recycler of the Year Award.

The Air National Guard program increased the amount of paper products being recycled by 80 tons in just one year.

As the recycling contractor for the base, Waste Management of Oregon provided the framework for this award-winning program and Horner and his fellow Guardmembers did the day-to-day work.

"The National Guard has a commitment to build an environmental ethic into everything it does. As part of that effort, we teamed up with Waste Management of Oregon last year with a goal of increasing the amount of recycling done at the Portland Air Base," Horner said. "They did a superb job in helping us reach that goal."

"Prior to the implementation of the program, we recycled 10 tons of paper products. Now, one year later, we are recycling 90 tons of paper -- that's about 80 tons of paper that didn't go into area landfills," Horner said.

The recycling program has also reaped benefits for the taxpayer. The program has resulted in a \$28,400 reduction in the base's solid waste bill. In addition, the 90 tons of paper products recycled is just one part of a much larger recycling program.

Altogether, a half-million tons of materials are recycled annually at the base.

Waste management of Oregon won the Guard contract in 1995 in a competitive bid against eight other companies. The company immediately brought in all new recycling containers that were consistent in color and design to make it easier for Guardmembers to identify for recycling purposes. They also provided a better labeling system.

The cornerstone was the "Recycle All Paper" program.

"We couldn't have asked for a better partner in this project. As the largest recycling company in the world, we know how important it is to have a committed person in an organization to take the tools we give them and make a recycle program work," said Darrell Lyons, Waste Management's recycling coordinator. "Mark is that type of person. He made the recycling program convenient to use -- that is the hallmark of a successful program. The commitment was there to improve recycling, but they needed the framework and resources to pull it all together."



Photo courtesy Oregon National Guard

SPELLING IT OUT - Members of the Oregon Air Guard's 142nd Civil Engineer Squadron made their message clear. Their efforts led to an 80-ton increase of recycled paper products.

Recycling is easy these days. "It's not like doing the laundry; no more separating the whites from colors. No more stacking newspapers, bundling magazines or pulling staples," Horner said. "Just one choice, drop it in the box. Recycle it."

Horner, whose job as recycling coordinator is an "additional duty," needed help. He started what he calls "Recycling Rangers" -- people committed to recycling and looking for a way to make it work. He tracks the weekly recycling weights on a computer spreadsheet that rolls the weights into monthly, quarterly and annual figures.

Horner passes the credit for the program's success to others.

"I'm deeply honored at being selected as 'Recycler of the Year,'" Horner began, "but without the 800 full-time and 2,000 traditional members of the Guard and Reserve, we would have had a great plan, but we could not have achieved such outstanding results."

Guardmembers help Navajo Nation build road to future, preserve past Paving a way to a 'good life'

By Maj. Ken MacNevin
Missouri National Guard

More than 1,300 National Guard soldiers from eight states and territories will travel to a nation within a nation in 1997 to improve a road and the lives of the people alongside it.

They will serve in the Navajo Nation, working on the biggest domestic action project ever undertaken by the National Guard within the continental United States. Task Force Zia will be led by the New Mexico Army Guard, with Army Guard engineer and support troops coming from Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri, Oregon, South Carolina, Vermont and the Virgin Islands.

The mission for the engineers and the support soldiers is to improve approximately 13 miles of road that runs north and west from Fort Defiance, Ariz., to the small community of Sawmill, just across the state lines between New Mexico and Arizona and just west of Window Rock, capitol of the Navajo Nation.

Tens of thousands of National Guard men and women have undertaken scores of similar projects in the past 12 years, but almost all of those in Central and South America.

Lt. Gen. Edward Baca, chief of the National Guard Bureau, became familiar with Native American needs while serving as Adjutant General of New Mexico.

"There are lots of infrastructure issues similar to those we were working on in Central and South America," Baca said.

While the Latin American projects remain important to U.S. strategic and regional interests in improving the infrastructure of the emerging democracies to the south, Baca said, "it is just as important to use our training assets to help meet the needs of people at home."

Along with providing excellent training, Baca says the Navajo Nations mission will be like the work in Central and South America because "it will allow our troops to learn about another culture. It enhances



their morale to know they're helping people help themselves."

Albert Hale, who began a four-year term as the Navajo Nation president in January 1995, echoes Baca.

"This arrangement is beneficial to both the Navajo Nation and the National Guard," Hale said. "The soldiers receive the training they need and the Navajo Nation receives improved infrastructure without a significant drain on Navajo Nation funds."

Baca's interest began at the urging of people in New Mexico. In 1993 the state legislature asked the New Mexico Guard to look into the feasibility of conducting nation building activities on Native American reservations.

At a planning meeting hosted by Task Force Zia, a Navajo archaeologist told soldiers to go out and look at a small section of ground near where the road work will be constructed.

GROUND BR

KANSAS

- 891st Engineer Batt

KENTUCKY

- 217th Quartermaster

MISSOURI

- 35th Division Support
- 110th Engineer Batt
- 135th Engineer Gro
- 203rd Engineer Ba
- 235th Engineer Det
- 835th Support Batta
- 735th Main Support

NEW MEXICO

- 515th Support Batta
- 717th Medical Com

OREGON

- 442nd Engineer De

SOUTH CAROLINA

- 122nd Engineer Co

VERMONT

- 131st Engineer Cor

VIRGIN ISLANDS

- 635th Engineer Det

Weeding out the enemy

From goats to insects, the North Dakota Guard is eating away at leafy spurge

By Dalena Kanouse
National Guard Bureau

The North Dakota Army Guard does not typically like to get down in the weeds on certain issues, but given their newest enemy, they have no choice.

This fast moving foe can measure as much as 15 feet in length and goes by the name of leafy spurge (euphorbiaceae) -- a noxious weed that has taken much of the high and low ground at Camp Grafton, Devils Lake, N.D., a major training area for 44 states, one territory and three foreign countries.

The weed, which costs the North Dakota Guard more than \$50,000 a year to control, is seen by most as a major problem. However, Terry Messmer, a former North Dakota Guardmember saw it as an opportunity, according to Steve Richter of the Cooperative Partners publication.

"Dr. Terry Messmer, a North Dakota State University (NDSU) assistant professor and extension wildlife specialist, thought that grazing spurge would provide animal feed, while cutting herbicide use and expenses," said Richter. Messmer proposed a study to research the idea and the project began at Camp Grafton in 1991 in coordination with NDSU, DowElanco and Eddy County Extension agents.

One of the challenges with this unwelcome plant is that most livestock avoid pastures overrun by it and insects do not eat it fast enough, according to one environmental specialist.

As a result, Messmer and the Guard put down their guns and brought in the goats. Angora goats were the mammal of choice. They are a domesticated goat believed to have originated in the Himalayas of Asia, that have long silky hair and stand about 30 inches high.

Leafy spurge may be an enemy to the environment, however, to Angora goats, it's "like candy," said to Ross Rinas, goat owner.

What would take insects years to eat, the goats can clear in weeks. In addition, cattle will follow the goats into spurge infested areas and continue grazing.

Although Angora goats show the best

results in controlling spurge, still more has to be done, according to experts.

"No single plan for trying to control leafy spurge is going to work," said Randy Mehlhoff, Eddy County Extension. "What we need to do is to put together an integrated pest management plan that includes chemicals, cultural and biological methods to try and control this weed."

"Our approach is to put goats and cattle on at the same time," said Dr. William Barker, NDSU professor of Animal and Range Sciences, who has coordinated the project. The sheep graze down the leafy spurge, allowing the cattle to graze on the grass beneath it.

"The grass seems to be stimulated, and we get more production from the grass," Barker added.

Spurge-eating insects, which also control spurge growth, were introduced on a longterm basis to provide on-going control of spurge-covered areas. Finally, in the fall, herbicides are applied to the

spurge infested areas, Barker said.

"To control spurge, ultimately, we have to use a herbicide approach as well as other biological means," said Barker. "We can treat an area in a given year by using all of these approaches. This is not eradication of spurge, but it is control."

The plant hampered training for citizen-soldiers. It was a problem in every way, noted CWO Neal Jacobson, North Dakota Army National

Guard. The weed is everywhere and gets wrapped in the axles of the vehicles and greatly slows transportation, he said.

Initially, herbicides controlled the plant at Camp Grafton. However, it was expensive and could not be applied while soldiers were in the field.

Cindie Fugere, the North Dakota Department of Agriculture's noxious weed coordinator, spoke highly of the North Dakota Guard's weed control program.

"They were the first to set the example of how to carry out weed management for leafy spurge," she said.

Through this study, the NDSU and the North Dakota Army Guard have established a natural resource management study at the Camp Grafton training site. Major components of the study include the development of a resource database for decisions regarding land-use. It also will serve as the development of an integrated pest-management program.

Dan Allen, also a member of the NGB Public Affairs Office, contributed to this story.



PAVING THE WAY - Missouri's Lt. Col. King Sidwell (center) peers through a culvert. An Army Guard engineer (left) puts some heavy equipment to work. Navajo President Albert Hale (below, left) greets a Guardmember.



Photos by Maj. Ken MacNevin

A few hours later a team of engineer soldiers found a scattering of small rock chips. It was evidence, they were told, that Native American craftsman had made some sort of rock tool or arrowhead there hundreds of years before.

That concern for the history and culture of the native people in the area is part of a larger plan to ensure the Navajo Nation project exceeds environmental standards.

Environmental experts from the New Mexico National Guard, the Navajo Nation and several state and federal agencies have been working together for months to coordinate the various plans and studies needed for the project to proceed. New Mexico Guard officials and Task Force Zia soldiers have worked to ensure water and other natural resources are properly protected.

"The ground work has been done for an exercise that will improve the environment," said Col. William Sanchez, Task Force Zia commander. "Once we start work on the base camp and then on the road, each of us working on the project will become an environmentalist."

"Each soldier will be

responsible for understanding and following environmental guidance that affects their job," he added.

Soldiers working on the project will be given a laminated environmental compliance pocket card that helps explain how to handle various situations.

The local people are the Diné, the Navajos' own name for themselves which means simply "the people." Their Navajo Nation consists of 16.2 million acres (25,351 square miles) covering parts of northwestern New Mexico, northeastern Arizona and southeastern Utah. About the size of West Virginia and larger than 10 other states, the Navajo Nation is lightly populated with an average of less than seven people per square mile.

Statistics from the Navajo Nations Division of Community Development (DCD) indicate that more than 96 percent of the 169,000 residents are listed as American Indian -- almost all Navajos. DCD statistics list more than 5,800 veterans living in the Navajo Nation, included 1,335 World War II vets.

Residents expressed hope for what the project could mean for them.

Sawmill Chapter secretary Marian Begay, a chapter official for 23 years, said the road has been needed for years.

"The road brings in a good life for our people," Begay said. "There is no limit to what this means to our area."

PEAKERS

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SPORTS

- Skill-at-Arms
- Wilson Matches
- Chief's Top 50

SPORTS SHORTS

GUARD SHOOTERS GUN DOWN VICTORIES AT SKILL-AT-ARMS MEET

The U.S. National Guard Rifle team won the coveted "Commander-in-Chief" trophy for the first time in six years of international competition.

The victory came during the Armed Forces Skill at Arms Meeting held at Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Ark.

The Commander-in-Chief, or eight-man team match, is considered a prestigious "coup" because of the combat skills and teamwork involved. 250 shooters from nine countries -- Australia, Great Britain, Canada, France, Italy, Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands -- competed.

The U.S. was represented by teams from the National Guard, the Marine Corps and the Army Reserve.

The Guard's pistol team also scored significant achievements at the combat shooting event. Three National Guard pistol teams collectively won seven of the eight pistol team matches, including the International Interservice Pistol Team Match and the overall pistol team championship.

"This is the best we've ever done," says Maj. Michael Clites, operations officer at the National Guard Marksmanship Training Unit. "We competed against the best shooters the allied countries had to offer."

The U.S. National Guard had three pistol teams in the competition. The "Gold" team, consisting of SSgt. Charles Allen, Sgt. David Kaigle, CWO Lawrence Grace and Capt. Michael Michie, won three team matches, placed third in two others and were members of the eight-man team winning the prestigious International Interservice Pistol team match. In individual pistol competition, Grace took first, winning the Australian Defense Force Trophy.

Wilson matches produce Guard's top guns

Nebraska shooters take overall state trophy

By MSgt. Bernard E. DeLisle
Arkansas National Guard

It is said that records are made to be broken. That was the case during the U.S. National Guard's 25th Annual Winston P. Wilson Championships, held at Camp Joseph T. Robinson.

The match is the premier shooting event in the Army and Air National Guard and annually attracts the Guard's very best shooters in rifle, pistol, light machinegun and sniper competition.

The 1996 matches featured 718 shooters from 48 states, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

The Wilson championships are named for Maj. Gen. Winston P. Wilson, former chief of the National Guard Bureau. He was a member of the Arkansas Air National Guard.

The combat rifle individual championship was won by Oklahoma's Capt. Shannon Jordan who bested all comers with a resounding score of 813. Second place in the individual competition went to Vermont's Sgt. Ralph Young (792) and third place was gunned down by Pennsylvania's SFC David Kerin (787).

They each won the Chief's 50 Marksmanship Badge, presented on behalf of the Chief, National Guard Bureau, to the top 50 shooters each year. All were previous winners.

The combat rifle team championship was won by Vermont's team from Headquarters, State Area Command (STARC) with a score of 4,138. They were followed in second place by South Dakota's STARC (4,042) and Pennsylvania's 28th Signal Battalion (3,921).

Vermont's CWO2 Lawrence Grace set a new record score in the combat pistol individual championship with a final score of 1499 points. He was followed closely by Connecticut's SSgt. Charles Allen (1,492) points. Grace's teammate, SSgt. Bruce Beauregard, took third with 1,471 points.

In the team combat pistol competition, Missouri's STARC shattered the previous record with a stunning 6,644 points. Vermont's STARC was second with 6,635 points and Connecticut's STARC third (6,507).

Machine-gunners were busy setting their own records too. South Dakota's SSgt. Jerry Seiner of Company A, 153rd Engineer Battalion, fired a record score of 1,087 to win the individual championship. Second and third place was won by Michigan's Sgt. Glenn Culbert and SSgt. John A. Hitsman, firing 972 and 968 respectively. Culbert and Hitsman are members of 3rd Battalion, 126th Infantry.

The Wolverine duo easily won the machine-gun team competition with a



Photo courtesy Arkansas National Guard
HUSKERS ON TARGET - Nebraska shooters pose with their TAG, Maj. Gen. Stanley Heng (back row, 4th from left), and the Overall State Champions Trophy earned at the Wilson Championships.

score of 1,900 points. South Dakota's Seiner and SSgt. Phillip D. Lakner were second (1,632) and Texas Air Guard's Capt. Brian Hoffman and TSgt. Forrest Steadman third. The two are members of the 136th Airlift Wing in Dallas.

Combat snipers also were busy. Oklahoma's Capt. Gary Waymire was the individual sniper champion with 577 points. Nebraska's 1st Sgt. Mike Strasburger took second (545) while Washington's SFC John Hubbard placed third with 522 points.

In the combat sniper team championship event, Nebraska's 1st Battalion, 168th Field Artillery won, rolling up 848 points. Washington's STARC was second (817) and North Dakota's 68th Troop Command took third (810).

The Nebraska National Guard shooters were named "Overall State Champi-

CHIEF'S 50

COMBAT RIFLE

Capt. Shannon Jordan, Okla.
Sgt. Ralph Young, Vt.
SFC David Kerin, Pa.
SSgt. Larry Reynolds, Vt.
2nd Lt. Victor Marcelle, Ark.
SFC Greg Neiderhiser, Pa.
Capt. J.R. Treharne, Wis.
SFC George Morgan, Pa.
SFC George Mayer, Del.
MSgt. Steven Fillion, Vt.
SFC Darrel Barry, S.D.
SSgt. Daniel Marquart, N.D.
SSgt. Gary Varberg, N.D.
MSgt. Glenn Bowles, Mich.
Spc. Daren Plaender, Ore.
SSgt. Kenneth Wallin, S.D.
SSgt. Richard Zothowsky, S.D.
Sgt. Herb Germain, Vt.
1st Sgt. Jeffery Jike, Wis.
MSgt. Nelson Shew, Ore.

COMBAT PISTOL

CWO Lawrence Grace, Vt.
SSgt. Charles Allen, Conn.
SSgt. Bruce Beauregard, Vt.
Sgt. Derrick Martin, Ariz.
Lt. Col. John Berheim, S.D.
MSgt. James Schulte, Mo.
Spc. Wade Fowler, Mo.
Maj. David Smith, Neb.
TSgt. Mark Volchko, Pa.
Capt. David Kleiber, Alaska
SSgt. Ron Fagans, Vt.
Sgt. David Kaigle, Vt.
Sgt. Todd Wagner, Neb.
SMSgt. Michael Ward, Miss.
Sgt. Larry Levesque, Conn.
SMSgt. James Kostboth, S.D.
Capt. Michael Michie, Va.
SSgt. Robert Jaeger, Hawaii
Sgt. Darwin Hukill, Mo.
SFC John Brinkley, N.C.

MACHINE GUN

SSgt. Jerry Seiner, S.D.
Sgt. Glenn Culbert, Mich.
SSgt. John Hitsman, Mich.
TSgt. Forrest Steadman, Texas
Capt. Brian Hoffman, Texas
SSgt. Phillip Lakner, S.D.

SNIPER

Capt. Gary Waymire, Okla.
1st Sgt. Mike Strasburger, Neb.
SFC John Hubbard, Wash.
SSgt. Charles Anderson, Alaska

• Listed in order of finish

ons" and received a trophy.

"You're all winners, absolutely every one of you," said Maj. Gen. Stanley Heng, Nebraska's adjutant general. "But your job is half done. You've got to go back to your homes, to your communities, and help take care of the effectiveness and the energy of this program."

Kansas 'metro' unit hasn't the luxury of predicting storms

Weathering 'Endeavor'

By MSgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

Seven-year-old Mattaniah Dubber can tell his first-grade class in Bob Dole's hometown of Russell, Kan., some interesting things about his grandmother.

Such as:
His grandmother -- not his mother -- wears combat boots.

His grandmother predicts the weather.
His grandmother is going to Bosnia.

Caroline Rieger-Seibel, 42, is a sergeant in the Kansas Army National Guard, so she does wear combat boots. She is going to Bosnia. And she is going to be concerned with the weather. But she will not be predicting it.

Rieger-Seibel is a six-year veteran of the 35th Division Artillery's 16-member meteorological -- or metro -- section from Hutchinson that has been mobilized for nine months of Joint Endeavor peacekeeping duty.

It is the third Army Guard unit from Kansas, and the second artillery element, called up this year.

The metro mission will involve telling artillery units the wind conditions and air temperature, density and humidity more than a mile above the ground so the firing batteries will know how those factors will affect the shells they are arching thousands of meters down range.

"We don't predict the weather, even though we get asked to do that a lot. We tell the artillery what the weather conditions are in the atmosphere. That's the difference between us and weather forecasters," explained SFC John Ruthroff of Indianapolis, who has become the section's leader during its preparations at Fort Sill, Okla., and its deployment to Europe shortly after Thanksgiving.

Weather, enemy and terrain are the most important considerations on a battlefield. If the artillery doesn't know what the conditions are up there, it can put a round



Photo by MSgt. Bob Haskell

hundreds or thousands of yards off target," added Ruthroff whose previous experience includes five years of scanning the Indianapolis area for severe storms and tornadoes with the National Weather Service.

Balloons bearing radiosondes -- weather stations and radio transmitters in small packages -- high into the sky provide the computerized data that the metro people feed from their Meteorological Detection System to the gun batteries.

Boning up on that system occupied much of the citizen-soldiers' two weeks at the Field Artillery School's metro division at Fort Sill.

But they talked about much more than the weather as they got ready to spend several months with the Stabilization Force that President Clinton has announced will be sustained in Bosnia until June 1998.

They had to get acquainted because they are not all from the Kansas unit. They had to prepare for several months in the tactical area around Tuzla where they expect to be split into two eight-member teams. They had to come to grips with leaving behind their loved ones as their thoughts were turning to the holidays.

This metro unit of 14 men and two women is a cross section of the Midwest. Nine come from Kansas. Three hail from Indiana. Three are from Texas. One comes from Oklahoma.

The Kansas section had the most modern equipment but it did not have enough people to fill the Army's requirement, it was explained. And dental problems

WEATHER PERSON - Sgt. Caroline Rieger-Seibel (foreground) trains on a meteorological computer at Fort Sill, Okla.

forced the Kansas unit's senior-most sergeant to stay home. Therefore, seven Guardmembers were assigned from other states, and two of the Indiana Guardsmen -- Ruthroff and SFC Daniel Dunn -- became team leaders.

Other diversities make this a typical National Guard unit brought together for a foreign mission. There is a school teacher, a restaurant manager, a general contractor, an accountant, a professional photographer and a 17-year Army veteran.

But metro, and the challenge of determining conditions in northeastern Bosnia's tricky mountainous terrain, is the tie that binds.

"Metro is an elite corps because there are so few of us," said Rieger-Seibel, explaining she was just the 56th woman to graduate from the Fort Sill school in 1991.

"We've been together as a detachment for only a week and a half, and we're already a family," added the grandmother of five who served in the Women's Army Corps in 1976-77.

SSgt. Alfred Barrera from San Antonio, Texas, is the school teacher. He is also a former Marine, and he is aware of the hazards of prolonged service in a tactical area.

"We have to beware of a false sense of security," Barrera cautioned. "We will have to keep our heads up and look out for each other."

There are also concerns typical among all soldiers who must leave their families far behind, even though most of these Guardmembers have had a lot more time to prepare for the separations than those who were deployed to Europe on short notice last December and January.

"I'm the matriarch for the holidays. I put the dinner together for our whole family," said Rieger-Seibel about one reason why her oldest grandson did not want to see her leave Kansas.

The other reason is that his father has recently transferred from the National Guard into the active Army and has been sent to South Korea.

Grandson Mattaniah, she said, is feeling a little lost. "When he hugged me for the last time, he did not want to let go," she added.

But the gritty grandmother in combat boots is making the adjustment.

"I've left my birth family," she said in mid-November at Fort Sill. "But I'm here with my other family."



Photos by Sgt. Neal Snyder

HUMMING ALONG

New York Army Guard's Sgt. Marconi St. Hill (right), a member of the 133rd Maintenance Company, repairs a HUMVEE grill with a sheet metal spacer he invented. Sgt. Gary Ward (above) changes a tire. The unit was in Germany rebuilding hacked-up hummers.

NEWS

MAKERS

Compiled by MSgt. John Malthaner
National Guard Bureau

The Maryland Army Guard's 1st Squadron, 158th Cavalry was announced as the winner of the prestigious Walter T. Kerwin, Jr. Readiness Trophy at the annual conference of the Association of the United States Army last month in Washington, D.C. The award recognizes the most combat-ready unit in the Army National Guard worldwide. The 158th Cavalry's primary mission is to act as the division's reconnaissance element.

In ceremonies at the National Restaurant Association annual meeting in Chicago, the Tennessee Air Guard's 134th Services Flight at McGhee Tyson Air National Guard Base accepted the 40th presentation of the John L. Hennessey Award for operating the best dining facility in the Air National Guard for 1996. An inspection team of services personnel from the Air National Guard Readiness Center in Washington, D.C., visited each of the 89 Air Guard dining facilities and rated each one on customer service, management, command support of food operations and attitude. In addition to the Hennessey Award, the 134th Services Flight also received the Hennessey Travelers Association Award of Excellence, after being selected by Hennessey Award evaluators.

The Missouri Air Guard's 131st Services Flight was selected as the 1995 ANG Outstanding Services Unit of the Year. This selection was based on the best overall performance and the unit's contributions to the Air Guard services mission over the past 12 months. Particularly notable was the "excellent" rating the 131st Services Flight received during its last operational readiness inspection. The unit's community involvement and support of Air Force contingency operations also was noteworthy.

The following Air Guard units were recently selected to receive the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award:

- 102nd Air Control Squadron, R.I.
- 104th Fighter Wing, Mass.
- 111th Fighter Wing, Pa.
- 113th Fighter Wing, D.C.
- 119th Air Control Squadron, Tenn.
- 131st Fighter Wing, Mo.
- 135th Airlift Group, Md.
- 140th Fighter Wing, Colo.
- 143rd Airlift Wing, R.I.
- 147th Fighter Wing, Texas
- 147th Mission Support, Texas
- 156th Security Police Squadron, Puerto Rico
- 163rd Air Refueling Wing, Calif.
- 165th Airlift Wing, Ga.
- 171st Air Refueling Wing, Pa.
- 172nd Airlift Wing, Miss.
- 192nd Fighter Wing, Va.
- 202nd (Red Horse) Squadron, Fla.
- 218th Electronic Installation Squadron, Mo.
- 231st Combat Communications Squadron, D.C.
- 236th Combat Communications Squadron, La.
- 253rd Combat Communications Group, Mass.
- 269th Combat Communications Squadron, Ohio
- 270th Electronic Installation Squadron, Pa.



Maryland's Lt. Col. Thomas Johnson holds the Kerwin Award.



Illinois infantrymen take to the roof to perform good deed.



Worth their weight in gold: Kansas Air Guard's SMSgt. Gene Mohr (back row, center) and TSgt. William Phillips (back row, right).



Indiana Army Guard's 1st Sgt. Thomas Severe, from Vietnam to Bosnia.

The men of the Illinois Army Guard's Company A, 2nd Battalion, 130th Infantry helped disadvantaged children by reroofing buildings at Camp New Hope, located just outside of Mattoon, Ill. The camp hosts handicapped children each summer in a nurturing environment where good times, teamwork and caring are learned through experience. "This experience is very worthwhile, we are able to give something to the community, work as a team, and provide for children who will gain from what we have done," said an Illinois infantryman.

Two Arizona Air Guard 162nd Medical Squadron members were named winners of national-level medical awards. SMSgt. Sherry J. Shira, health services management journeyman, was named the Air National Guard selectee for the Air Force Medical Enlisted Health Services Management Awards for 1996, and TSgt. Grace Caballero was named Air National Guard Outstanding Medical Service Specialist. The medical squadron also received an award in recognition of its excellent performance during the year -- it was one of six in the nation to be so honored.

Maryland's John C. Schnell was promoted to the rank of brigadier general at a recent ceremony at Warfield Air National Guard Base. Schnell is the chief of staff at the headquarters for the Maryland Air National Guard in Baltimore. Schnell has been a traditional member of the Free State Air National Guard since 1978. He has served as a co-pilot, pilot, instructor pilot, flight examiner, flight commander, operations officer, vice commander and deputy of operations at the headquarters level.

Kansas Air Guard's SMSgt. Gene Mohr and TSgt. William Phillips were members of a seven-person team that finished first at the U.S. Air Force Top Dollar competition at Vance AFB, Okla. Both are members of the 184th Logistics Squadron. The annual competition measures comptroller's ability to deploy to remote locations and operate in a high-threat environment.

The Connecticut Air Guard's 163rd Logistics Group was recently selected as the 1996 ANG Maintenance Effectiveness Award winner in the flying squadron/maintenance small aircraft category. Members will now compete against the best maintainers in the U.S. Air Force.

Indiana Army Guard's 1st Sgt. Thomas Severe first saw overseas Army duty in Vietnam 25 years ago. Then, Severe served with the Americal Division. He was wounded in the throat and hand by mortar shrapnel. After recuperating in the United States he returned to overseas duty. Now, Severe is the top enlisted soldier with Battery E, 139th Field Artillery, based in Indianapolis. The unit recently left for Bosnia. He will oversee the welfare of 70 Indiana and 16 Texas Guardmembers. Their job is to detect the source of hostile artillery fire. They will support deployed Army units there for 90 days.

Massachusetts new wastewater course, say students, is a breath of fresh air

By Clifford McDonald
Massachusetts National Guard

To tell this story, kidded A1C Clinton Lowery, some serious sanitizing would have to be done.

"You can't quote the four-letter words we pitch around here," joked the South Carolina airman, one of several Air National Guard students recently attending a wastewater treatment course at Otis Air National Guard Base, Mass.

For the past year, Guardmembers throughout the U.S. have gone to Otis to learn how this military base treats residential waste products, and as a result, protects the environment. In all, 30 Guard students from 12 states attended the course in 1996. The course, which is taught by civilian employees at the new state-of-the-art wastewater treatment plant at Otis, will prepare these Guardmembers in the event they are deployed. Their expertise in sewerage treatment may protect our armed forces and a civilian populace from deadly diseases.

The base has the only treatment plant operated by an Air National Guard unit.

SMSGT. Leon Montgomery, facility manager for the base civil engineering squadron, was involved in developing the wastewater treatment course. He has been with the 102nd for more than 20 years.

"We have received nothing but positive comments from the students who have been through the course," he said.

Visitor's to the treatment plant can sense a difference. Everything appears to be as antiseptically-clean as a hospital,

Learning sewage

not a sewerage facility. Rather than the expected smell of sewage, the only aroma is that of percolating coffee wafting from the employees break room.

Fran Creighton, treatment plant superintendent, boasts that the coffee is the best on base. "It must be the wastewater we use to make it," he joked.

However, when Creighton turns his attention to the operation of the plant, it's serious business.

"Otis has one of the most technically advanced treatment plants in New England, and certainly the best plant in the National Guard community," he said.

To understand this, Creighton provided a history lesson.

"Most Air National Guard facilities are located on municipal airports or Air Force bases where the Guard is not responsible for the infrastructure of the overall installation," he said. "This is not the case for the 102nd Fighter Wing, which is responsible for most base support functions on the 22,000-acre Massachusetts Military Reservation (MMR)."

The reservation also is home to several tenant organizations of the Army National Guard, U.S. Coast Guard, a U.S. Air Force aerospace warning squadron, a



Photo by Clifford McDonald

ANALYSTS - Washington's TSgt. Dan Gapsch (above) measures a water sample as Amn. Robert Graham looks on at Otis' new plant.

U.S. Marine Corps Reserve battalion, the Massachusetts National Cemetery and several smaller state and federal organizations.

Located on picturesque Cope Cod, nearly 90,000 Europe-bound troops were housed and trained at the base during World War II -- then referred to as Camp Edwards and Otis Field.

In 1941, while war raged in Europe, construction began to expand this small military camp. Camp Edwards had taken root where flocks of sheep once grazed

and cranberry bogs were numerous.

The infrastructure for the self-contained military community included a primary wastewater treatment plant first constructed in 1936, which was enlarged to include secondary treatment in 1941. For more than 50 years the plant served this military community that continued to expand throughout the Cold War. Camp Edwards eventually became Otis AFB, the largest air defense installation in the free world.

Otis was inactivated as an Air Force base in the early 1970s and expansion turned to downsizing. The installation was taken over by the state, and responsi-

bility for much of its operation was assumed by the 102nd.

The existing wastewater treatment plant was rehabilitated in 1983, but the treatment process remained unchanged from the original 1941 design. Problems with the plant did not become evident until 1979 when the adjacent town of Falmouth discovered that detergent was contaminating one of the town's water supply wells. The detergent (phosphate) was found to originate from an underground plume at the base treatment plant. The town well had to be closed.

"The subsequent studies of groundwater contamination and its remediation have made many Otis personnel experts on the subject," said Col. Donald Quenneville, 102nd vice commander. Quenneville, a seasoned fighter pilot, added that problems at the base were caused by years of careless environmental practices during the 1940s through the early 1960s.

The new wastewater treatment plant has a computerized operating system, and a self-contained laboratory that continually monitors the quality of the water the plant discharges. One important thing the old plant could not do is provide "tertiary treatment" -- a method of removing nitrogen, a byproduct of the treatment process. The resulting water is safe for human consumption.

For the students, the class is something to write home about. Armed with two text books, both the size of a Boston telephone directory, they must digest information on the nature of sewage, its origin, composition and treatment. In the plant's laboratory, Guardmembers analyze the composition of wastewater using physical, chemical and biological measurements.

Students graduate, but not before Creighton asks all, "Are you sure you won't stay for another cup of coffee?"

LEONARD

From Page 3

He joined the Maine Army Guard's 112th Medical Company in Bangor as a helicopter crew chief in 1972, six and a half years after joining the Marines and four and a half years after returning from Vietnam as a twice-wounded combat veteran.

The man who grew up and played high school basketball and baseball on the Maine coast, in Southwest Harbor, said he knew about 30 people whose names are engraved into the Vietnam Memorial.

He had heard many stories about the Guard by the time he had left the Corps. He soon discovered they were not true.

"My early perception was that the Guard and Reserve was a less-than-professional force," Leonard recalled. "I had a very quick change in that thought pro-

cess in 1972 when I joined the Maine Army National Guard's air ambulance company. I had been in aviation in the Marine Corps. I saw National Guard pilots who could fly as well as Marine Corps pilots. I saw mechanics who could work on the aircraft to the same standards that Marine mechanics and crew chiefs worked on them."

The steely-eyed man's faith in the Guard's ability to serve the people, and in its desire to improve, has not wavered over the past quarter-century.

"Our plate was pretty full in the 70s," said Leonard of the company that distinguished itself in Maine by plucking stranded hikers off remote mountains and flying premature babies to Boston.

"Guardwide, we were safety conscious, but some things suffered because we drilled only two days a month. We didn't do a lot of common task training. In the last 25 years I've seen a

turnabout. We do a lot of common task training now. We devote a lot more time training our young NCOs to be leaders.

"We have a better total soldier in the National Guard today," said Leonard.

He has been part of that process.

- He was a drill instructor in the Maine Military Academy's NCO Leadership School for five years.

- He took a sabbatical from his state sergeant major post to become the command sergeant major for a Maine supply and service battalion for Desert Storm in 1990.

- He helped oversee the downsizing of the Maine Army Guard by retraining and finding new military homes for more than 500 combat engineers.

Those are among the lessons he has carried to Washington where his Army Guard responsibilities have mushroomed 160-fold, from Maine's enlisted force

of 2,000 to more than 320,000 citizen-soldiers spread across the 54 states and territories.

"I want to carry on CSM Pence's plans (for training the force) and still have a view from the state, not a bureaucratic view," said Leonard. "It's important to have someone who can understand the customers' point of view and keep the quality of the training where it's at right now."

His involvement in regional and national Guard committees, including the panel assessing the new Select, Train, Assign and Promote advancement system, has expanded his horizons beyond Maine.

"The operational tempo certainly has increased in recent years. That is not going to level off in the near future," Leonard predicted.

"I see the deployments as good for the Guard. We've been very successful with all of them," he said. "By having this operational

tempo, we're gaining respect in the whole military community.

"To continue this, we need enough dollars for training and we need to balance the call-ups so that families and employers will continue to support the Guard," he added.

That means educating as many citizen-soldiers as possible to perform the artillery, finance, medical, military police, public affairs and transportation missions that the Army frequently requires. It also means educating future leaders.

"We need to continue to teach the right NCOES courses so our soldiers will receive the leadership training that's compatible with the NCO leadership training we're getting today," he said.

"NCOES training is the biggest reason we can stand beside the U.S. Army. I don't want to see it lessen. In spite of the budget cuts, we need to make sure we don't cut the meat out of those courses."



STATES

- Forestry Grant
- Flood Support
- Marsh Armory

LOUISIANA

The training facility, Camp Beauregard, recently received an Urban and Community Forestry Program grant from the Louisiana Office of Forestry.

The Urban and Community Forestry Program recognizes efforts to promote tree care and to educate the public and residents about the importance of community forests.

"The program encourages tree planting, care and maintenance," said CWO Carl Thompson, Camp Beauregard's environmental officer. "We plan to use the grant funds to plant trees, to conduct a tree survey, train tenants and residents.

"This is a special honor for us because we are the first."

MINNESOTA

The Gopher State Guard and the Mid-State Education District #6979 joined in a community partnership by signing an agreement for a mentor program between Camp Ripley and the district's students.

The agreement between the district and Camp Ripley is for the school's Job Shadow Program. By enrolling in the program students from the community will gain exposure to jobs they may want to explore in the future.

The current program began in 1991. Since that time, more than 300 students have participated.

ON the JOB

Missouri's Spc. Joey Day, a military police officer with the 1139th MP Company, checks a driver's identification card while on annual training in Panama. Day and 35 members of the 1139th pulled duty in Quarry Heights, which overlooks the Panama Canal.



Photo by Spc. Steve Henshaw

ALASKA

The Anchorage community pooled their resources recently to conduct another successful Operation Standdown.

The purpose of Operation Standdown is to identify homeless veterans and direct them to sources of assistance. Typically, the type of help they may find ranges from medical screenings, credit/IRS assistance, free haircuts, clean clothes, showers, hot meals, and information to clinics and other social organizations that will provide ongoing follow-up attention.

"The greatest injustice is that we only had one weekday to attend to their needs, perhaps a weekend or a couple days might be better," said 2nd Lt. Samantha Taylor. "Any time we can assist those vets who fought for us, it is a great privilege."

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Granite State Guardmembers played a significant role in aiding residents during recent torrential rains and subsequent flooding.

After a powerful nor'easter hammered the seacoast region, Gov. Steve Merrill called in nearly 220 Guardmembers.

"In the Granite State, the state resources are primarily from one source -- the National Guard," said Gregg Champlin, a spokesperson for the state Office of Emergency Management.

VIRGINIA

The 3rd Battalion, 116th Infantry recently honored Virginian John O. Marsh, Jr., by dedicating a newly constructed Woodstock Armory in his name.

Marsh, a former Congressman and Secretary of the Army, served as a member of the 3-116th in the late 1940s.

"The idea to dedicate the armory to Mr. Marsh came from the citizens of Shenandoah," said Maj. Robert A. Hunt, 3-116th battalion staff officer. "When the decision for a new armory was made, the citizens of that county insisted it be named after Mr. Marsh.

"Not only is he the senior statesman in the commonwealth, but a distinguished and respected citizen," added Hunt. "That, along with the fact that he served in the battalion with distinction, made him the only choice."

The dedication, which took place on Nov. 17,

saw more than 400 guests and VIPs descend on the new armory. Army Guard Director, Maj. Gen. William Navas, was the guest speaker.

According to a spokesman for Marsh, the former Army Secretary was "deeply honored and humbled."

In his acceptance speech, Marsh eluded to the "great history" of the Stonewall Brigade by summarizing its lineage from the French and Indian Wars through the storming of Omaha beach at Normandy during World War II.

Aware of Virginians' penchant for embracing its rich historical past, Marsh quipped, "It takes two Virginians to change a light bulb -- one to put in the new bulb and one to give the history of the old one."

The event was significant for another reason. "What a wonderful and unusual ceremony," observed a guest. "Unusual, because the person being honored is still alive."



Photo by Capt. Mike Patterson

LIVING LEGEND - John O. Marsh Jr. (above, left) chats with Guardmembers in front of an armory named for him.



HISTORY

As America expanded beyond the Mississippi River, the National Guard was there to help show the way

Go West, young Guardmember

Many people across the country recently viewed the television series "The West" on the Public Broadcasting System. Over a period of several nights, the documentary related America's westward expansion beyond the Mississippi River.

Integral to the story were the many military operations that occurred in the western states and territories, including domestic disturbances, humanitarian missions, support to local authorities and responses to foreign threats. Throughout the history of the early West, the National Guard played an important role in all of these missions.

The western states participated fully in the greatest domestic disturbance in our nation's history, the American Civil War. Early in the war, the Confederacy set its sites on westward expansion. A successful Confederate invasion of the West would gain for the South the wealth of western gold fields, access to Pacific ports and new lands for slavery's expansion.

The decisive battles for the West took place in New Mexico, between small Confederate and Federal units augmented by large numbers of organized, territorial militia.

The campaign for the West centered on the control of the valley of the upper Rio Grande.

In early 1862, the Confederate commander, Brig. Gen. Henry H. Sibley, struck out from El Paso with a force comprised mainly of 3,700 mounted, Texas militia armed with rifles, shotguns and cavalry lances.

Sibley's plan was to drive up the Rio Grande and capture Albuquerque, Santa Fe and a number of Union forts, and use the water and provisions stored at those places to sustain his army.

But Union troops were waiting for Sibley.

At Fort Craig, 100 hundred miles south of Albuquerque, the Union commander, Col. Edward R. S. Canby, had assembled nearly 3,800 troops. Much of this force consisted of New Mexico militia with one regiment of New Mexico cavalry commanded by the famous frontiersman, Kit Carson.

On Feb. 21, the opposing forces clashed at the battle of Valverde, just north of Fort Craig. It was a hard fought contest, but Sibley's Texans prevailed. Union troops and New Mexico militia withdrew to the protection of Fort

Craig, leaving the southerners free to push north. Sibley lost no time in capturing Albuquerque, Santa Fe and a number of smaller forts, but each time Union troops destroyed the provisions the invaders so desperately needed.

The climactic battle of the campaign came on March 28 at Glorieta in Apache Canyon east of Santa Fe.

Sibley decided to finish off the Union troops in New Mexico by capturing Fort Union, the North's major outpost in the territory about 60 miles east of Santa Fe. The Confederates were moving through Apache Canyon toward Fort Union when a combined force of Union regulars and militia from Colorado and New Mexico halted their advance. A battle erupted on the canyon floor, but the key action took place in the Confederate rear.

Maj. John Chivington, a fanatical Colorado minister who went into battle carrying a Bible in one hand and a



GUARD HISTORY

By Lt. Col. Michael Doubler
ARMY GUARD HISTORIAN

Low on supplies, Sibley's column endured a punishing retreat across the desert all the way back to Texas, arriving in San Antonio on May 14 with only 2,000 survivors. With Sibley's defeat at the battle of Glorieta - often called "The Gettysburg of the West" -- Confederate hopes for control of the West vanished.

After the Civil War, the country resumed its westward expansion, greatly aided by the completion of the first transcontinental railroad in 1869.

In all of the new states and existing territories, National Guard units played a key role in the settlement and development of the land. Militia units acted under the control of civil authorities while conducting a number of peacekeeping and humanitarian support missions. Guard units intervened in numerous labor disputes among miners and railroad companies. They also had nearly continuous involvement with Native Americans; missions ranged from relief efforts to several tribes to the forcible return of Indians to their reservations.

By 1893, every state and territory west of the Mississippi had a National Guard. In that year, the aggregate strength of the Guard across the country was 112,507 officers and men. Of these, 24,708 were in the West, nearly 22 percent of the entire National Guard. California had the largest National Guard establishment in the West with 4,198 soldiers; the smallest was in Arizona with 293 Guardmembers. The total strength of the Organized Militia in the three territories -- New Mexico, Utah, and Oklahoma -- was 1,791.

The West was also the scene for a major National Guard deployment against a threat from a foreign power.

In March 1916, poor relations between Mexico and the United States erupted in violence when a Mexican raiding party under the bandito Pancho Villa killed 17 Americans at Columbus, N.M. The U.S. government responded with a punitive expedition into Mexico, but it soon became clear that a larger force was needed to protect America's southwestern frontier.

In May, President Woodrow Wilson called out the National Guard in Texas, New Mexico and Arizona, a total of 5,260 troops. But the situation continued to deteriorate, and by early autumn the President had called to active Federal service another 125,000 Guardsmen.

Nearly 40 percent of Guardmembers mobilized for federal service in 1916 were still on active duty when America declared war on Germany in April 1917. Because of the Mexican mobilization, one of every three soldiers on active duty in the U.S. Army at the beginning of World War I were National Guardmembers, a situation that greatly increased United States preparedness

for participation in the Great War.

In short, the National Guard's involvement in the opening and development of the American West included a wide number of missions: conventional and guerrilla warfare, assistance to civil authorities, humanitarian support, and many others.

The men and women of today's National Guard are continuing the traditions of service and sacrifice displayed by the citizen-soldiers of the early West.



Photo courtesy NGB Historical Services

LOVE A PARADE - Members of the Cheyenne Guard in Wyoming march in a statehood parade in July 1890.

.44-caliber revolver in the other, led a Colorado strike force along the heights overlooking the canyon and raided the Confederate supply train, burning wagons and destroying provisions. The raid determined the battle's outcome, and the southerners withdrew.



TRAINING

Maryland Air Guard starts historic alliance with British C-130, A-10 fliers

Jolly good TRAINING

By TSgt. Gary Gault
Maryland National Guard

As the silence of a late morning was interrupted by the whine of 12 Pratt & Whitney C-130 engines, SrA. Carmello Modesto, a loadmaster who has traveled the globe, chatted with passengers.

"This is going to be a very special trip, not just a routine visit," promised the Maryland Air Guard 135th Airlift Squadron airman who has helped deliver humanitarian aid to Latin America, Africa and the Middle East.

A short time later, three C-130s with 125 passengers and four A-10 Thunderbolt aircraft rolled down the airstrip at Martin State Airport and rose like swans into the lightening morning sky.

All were flying into history.

Their destination: Royal Air Force Base (RAF), Lyneham, some 20 miles northeast of Bath, England. It would be the start of the first-ever international exchange program between the Maryland Air Guard and the RAF.

The increasing number of "real world" joint contingency operations the Air Guard has participated in following the end of the Cold War prompted the alliance, noted Col. David Beasley, 175th Wing commander.

"The comradery built between units in an exercise can be as important as the flying experience gained," Beasley added. "Even though they may fly the same aircraft, they have different procedures for both the aircraft and the airspace."

Once in England, crews familiarized themselves with the complexities of flight over and near the high air traffic areas of southwest England. Flying schedules, loads, routes, drop zones and time schedules were developed.

The first flying day also afforded Maryland crews a look from above at the ancient stone circles of Stonehenge and Avebury; over gigantic chalk drawings



NEW FRIENDS - Maryland and British aircrew (far left) check flight plans. SrA. Tom Young (left) gets interviewed by a BBC reporter. A Maryland C-130 (below) is maintained in England.



Photos by TSgt. Gary Gault

of men and horses, carved from the English turf thousands of years ago; and over rolling verdant hills topped at times with the indentations of Roman military encampments.

On the second day the main body of aircraft, a force of two C-130s and four A-10s flew over Scotland, circumnavigating over Dundee, Edinburgh and Glasgow, before landing at RAF Base, Leeming, 150 miles south of the Scottish border.

The C-130 Hercules, which appear to be heavy and clumsy craft on the ground, soared, dove and danced over the beaches, moors and mountains of Scotland. This winding and twisting tactic of aerial evasion afforded Free State Guardmembers a view of the purple heather of the moors and ancient castle towers.

However, it wasn't all sight seeing. As C-130 and A-10 pilots swooped to the

minimum combat operational heights, being careful to maintain proper distance from the ground and each other, they also guarded against "enemy" aircraft. A British "Hawk" fighter from RAF Leeming hounded the convoy of aircraft, adding to the tactical training.

The exercise ended with the Marylanders and Brits gathering to eat native foods, exchange mementos and sing mutual praises.

Aircrews were not the only Marylanders getting training. TSgt. Kathy Wassil, a member of the 175th Wing's Public Affairs Office, spent time with a British Broadcasting Corporation film crew, who were documenting the exercise.

"The Brits were courteous, kind and helpful during our entire stay," she reported.

Others shared that view.

"Although there are differences in the

RAF and the Air Force structures, we came to view our British comrades more as family than any other relationship," said Lt. Col. Dave Rein, exercise commander.

Rein added that the Brit fliers had more in common with the Air Guard than the U.S. Air Force.

"Air Guardmembers possess the maturity and experience more akin to the RAF organization than to active Air Force members."

The RAF's Squadron Leader (major) Dave Fry said the historic training is especially important.

"There is no greater experience than training together with other organizations whom you are highly likely to serve with in a joint NATO or United Nations operations," he said. "The experience fostered a working relationship with our brothers across the sea."