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THE ON GUARD

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Russians review Guard

■ *'The National Guard can be an instrument of peace'*

By MSgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

The Russian officers looked with interest at the prints of the U.S. presidents who have served in the National Guard and militia. They examined the battle streamers and photos of the chiefs of the National Guard Bureau that are tastefully displayed in Minuteman Hall at the Pentagon.

Then the five high-ranking military men from the Russian Federation got down to business. They quickly made it clear on the second Monday in August that they intended to do much more than look at plaques and see the sights during their historic, week-long visit to this country.

The first delegation from the Russian Ministry of Defense to officially visit the National Guard came armed with a lot of questions about how the United States' Army and Air Guard and other reserve forces functioned. Clearly, they had come to learn.

"We came to your country to familiarize ourselves with your people and to get acquainted with our colleagues by profession," Gen.-Lt. Vasily Smirnov, the head of the delegation, explained through an interpreter. "This entire event should really be construed as an exchange of opinions and ideas."

Smirnov, who is engaging and direct, is a two-star general. He is the chief

mobilization officer for the defense ministry that is attempting to streamline and reduce the Russian army by 70 percent -- to 1.2 million soldiers -- during this decade following the Cold War. At 47, he is the federation's military equivalent to Lt. Gen. Edward Baca, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, it was explained.

Baca underscored the significance of the August visit.

"It means building a spirit of cooperation between these two countries as well as with all of the former Warsaw Pact nations," he observed. "It means the National Guard can be an instrument of peace -- to bringing about a lasting world peace -- with freedom."

"President Clinton has talked about building a bridge to the 21st century," Baca added. "We can talk about building a two-way bridge of peace between America and these former Warsaw Pact countries." Smirnov responded by offering to arrange a trip to Russia for Baca, perhaps within the next year.

Guard officials worked overtime to make that invitation possible.

"We wanted to show them the National Guard from a national perspective and from a grass roots perspective," explained Col. Robert James Jr., the Bureau's International Affairs director. He spent a year arranging the historic visit.

The Russian delegation was originally expected in May. The trip was put off until August. There was no doubt the Russians wanted to come.

"We have heard of the American system for training and preparing the reserves," Smirnov told Baca. "But there is



Photo by MSgt. John Thornton

HOLDING COURT - Lt. Gen. Edward Baca (above), the NGB Chief, enjoys a lighter moment with his Russian visitors.



Photo by Lt. Col. Mike Waters

LOUD LIST

A munitions specialist with the New York Air Guard's 174th Fighter Wing in Syracuse checks the inventory on a load of 500-pound bombs. The Wing was practicing its warfighting skills during a recent Operational Readiness Exercise. See related story and photos on Page 16.

■ See RUSSIANS, Page 13



COMMENTARY

• The Pine Tree State and Ayuh

ABOUT the PAPER

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Mailing Address:

NGB-PAI-C
2500 Army Pentagon
Washington, DC 20310-2500

Express Mail Address:

NGB-PAI-C
Park Center IV, Suite 450
4501 Ford Ave.
Alexandria VA 22302-1454

Phone/FAX Numbers:

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

E-Mail:

jmalthan@ngb-cmh2.army.mil

NGB Home Page:

<http://www.dtic.mil/defenseink/guardlink/>

STAFF



Chief, National Guard Bureau
Lt. Gen. Edward D. Baca
Chief, Public Affairs
Daniel Donohue
Chief, Command Information
Maj. Andrew Smith Sr.
Editor
MSgt. John Malthaner
Senior Correspondent
MSgt. Bob Haskell

Understanding the nuances of 'Ayuh'

By MSgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

Thought you'd like to learn a thing or two this month about how us Maine people talk. Seems like a whole bunch of folks from up our way have come down to Washington to do some important jobs at the Pentagon.

William Cohen has become Secretary of Defense. Wilfred Hessert has become the deputy inspector general for the Air Force. John Leonard Jr. has become the Army National Guard's command sergeant major.

Awful good boys -- every one of 'em. Smart, too.

But they may sound a little funny to many people in the Beltway. Our sharp Maine accent is a bit strange in this neck of the woods where most folks converse in a gentle Virginia drawl. Now, Secretary Cohen sounds pretty normal because he's been rubbin' elbows with that crowd in Congress for a good many years.

But talkin' with the rest of us can take some gettin' used to.

For example, our vocal alphabet only has 25 letters most of the time. We don't have much use for the letter R. Oh, we use it when we write. And we pronounce it when it begins a word - like "run" and "rank" and "restaurant."

But the rest of the time we kind of overlook it.

That's why car comes out like *cah*, here and hear sound like *heah*, lobster winds up as *lobstah*, and beer becomes *beah*. That's one reason why we get so many *queeah* looks when we talk.

There are a couple of other reasons. Take the word "ain't." We may not have invented it. But we sure use it like we did. "Ain't that somethin'" and "I ain't goin'!" are common examples.

But the word that really sets us apart is "Ayuh."

It's not just the word. It's the way we say it. It's generally spoken in one concise syllable and with one sharp breath. We either punch it out or breathe it in.

It has an endless variety of meanings. "Ayuh" in Maine is like "Hooah" in the Army. Some examples:

"Ayuh" exhaled sharply means: You can count on me. We will get the hay in before it rains. You're absolutely right. I couldn't have said it better myself.

"Ayuh" exhaled softly means: I hadn't thought of that. It's too bad. He was too young to die at 97.

"Ayuh" inhaled sharply means: I suppose you're right. I'll have to think that over. What do you mean, you're pregnant?

"Ayuh" inhaled softly means: This is our little secret. I'm really going to

miss that dog.

There are a couple of other variations.

"AY-uh" exaggerated over two syllables means: Who do you think you're kidding? I was born at night, but not last night.

And ayuh, ayuh, ayuh, ayuh, ayuh exhaled in disgust means: Yeah, I know. Now get out of my face.

Most of the folks from Maine who are moving to Washington are too refined to resort to the latter two variations. But if you hear one of us use either expression, it's best to leave us alone for a little while.

Ayuh.

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 your Letters to the Editor to DSN 761-0732 or (703) 681-0732. Letters can be mailed to: NGB-PAI-C, 2500 Army Pentagon, Washington, DC 20310-2500.

GUARD TOONS

By Lyle Farquhar

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



"Frankly, Crawford, my excitement about being invited to your 'Boss Day' is beginning to fade."



IN THE NEWS

• New Army Guard Deputy • Connecticut Wing • Georgia Leaders

Squier assumes deputy post

Idaho native succeeds Gen. Bilo as Army National Guard's 'No. 2'

By MSgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

Fostering relations with the active Army to make the Army National Guard a key national defense player in the 21st century will become a paramount concern for Col. Michael Squier in early November.

That is when the 51-year-old career Guardsman from Boise, Idaho, will become deputy director for the 367,000-member Army National Guard.

Squier will succeed Brig. Gen. William Bilo who will step down Oct. 31 after holding that job for four years.

"I commend Brig. Gen. Bilo for his superb vision and leadership contributions to the Army National Guard for the past four years," stated Lt. Gen. Edward Baca, Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

Army Secretary Togo West named Squier to the Army Guard's number two position Aug. 8. Squier is expected to be promoted to brigadier general by the first of next year, pending Senate confirmation.

"I hope to improve the relevancy of the Army National Guard, especially our combat arms," said the infantry officer.

Squier added that he intends to be an advocate for the Army National Guard's 54 state and territory organizations at the National Guard Bureau in Washington D.C.

"My most important job will be to act as a spokesman for our constituents in the states," added Squier. He has been learning the ways of Washington since September 1978 when he reported to the Army Guard's Mobilization Readiness Division as a staff officer.

He has been the chief of staff for Maj. Gen. William Navas, director of the Army National Guard, since last September. He spent the previous year as Baca's executive officer.

Squier has a diverse background. He is as highly regarded by associates for his modesty as for his attention to detail.

He was the first commander of the Army's Equipment Maintenance Center for Europe that was established in 1988. That center is now managed exclusively by the Army Guard in Kaiserslautern, Germany.

He also has been the Bureau's Deputy Chief of Public Affairs and Chief of the Army Guard's Readiness Division.

"I'm honored to have been selected for this position from among many highly-qualified people," Squier said.

"There are significant challenges facing the Army National Guard today and in the future," Squier added. "I am proud to have the opportunity to face these challenges and to help shape our future."

Squier was commissioned as an ordnance officer in 1965. He has also served as an infantry officer. He holds a business management degree from the University of Maryland. He has completed Command and General Staff College and the Army War College.

He and his wife Phyllis live in Manassas, Va.

"I join the Secretary and Chief of Staff of the Army in extending congratulations to Col. and Mrs. Squier and their family," Baca said.



"I hope to improve the relevancy of the Army National Guard"

Col. Michael Squier

Idaho helicopter crash claims two lives

Two members of the Idaho National Guard were killed and a third seriously injured recently when their OH-58 Kiowa helicopter crashed while they were directing flood relief efforts near Firth, Idaho.

Maj. Donald R. Barter, commander of the Idaho Air National Guard's 124th Communications Flight, and 1st Lt. William Neal, 1st Battalion, 183rd Aviation, pilot of the helicopter, died in the crash. The co-pilot, CWO2 Shelby Wuthrich, also from the 1-183rd, suffered severe back injuries when he was thrown from the helicopter.

Barter, 41, of Boise, was in charge of the Guard's flood relief task force in eastern Idaho at the time of his death. He joined Idaho's Air National Guard in 1980 as a weapons systems officer, flying in the backseat of the RF-4C reconnaissance jet and later in the F-4G Wild Weasel fighter. Barter served as the intelligence officer for the 190th Fighter Squadron before taking command of the 124th Communications Flight in 1994.

Neal, 29, of Picabo, began his military career in 1988 as an enlisted member of the Idaho Army National Guard. He was commissioned in 1991 and earned the Army Aviation

Badge in 1992. Neal was the aeroscout platoon leader in Co. C, 1-183rd Battalion from 1992 until 1996, when he joined the battalion's A Company.

Barter and Neal were honored at a memorial service held at Gowen Field. Families and friends of both men attended the ceremony, along with Idaho's Gov. Phil Batt and more than 200 members of the state's Army and Air National Guard.

"These two died serving others," Batt said. "This has been their trademark throughout their lives."

Each were awarded the Meritorious Service Medal posthumously.

NATIONAL BRIEFS

Active commander takes reigns of Connecticut Wing

History was made Aug. 7 when Col. Walter "Buster" Burns formally began a three-year tour as commander of the Connecticut Air National Guard's 103rd Fighter Wing.

The unit, stationed at Bradley Air National Guard Base in East Granby, became the first Air National Guard unit to be commanded by an active duty Air Force officer.

The traditional "passing of the colors" took place before an assembly of 1,000 unit members. Maj. Gen. Donald W. Shepperd, Air Guard director, and Brig. Gen. Paul A. Weaver Jr., slated to succeed Shepperd this fall, were present.

"Many people have asked me, 'why do we have to do this?' The answer is, we don't have to do this. We want to," Shepperd said. "What better way for Air Force officers to learn the capabilities of the Air Guard?"

Burns assumed command from the acting commander Col. Jim Skiff, who accepted a new assignment to command the Pennsylvania Air Guard's 111th Fighter Wing. Burns was previously assigned to the Joint Staff at the Pentagon as the Chief of the Strike Warfare Assessment Division.

The Air Force Academy graduate and former F-5 and F-15 pilot promised to continue the 103rd's successful ways.

"I may not know all the rules, regulations and cultural nuances of the Air Guard yet, but I do know what is right," Burns said. "My commitment to every one of you is to do what is right, starting with each individual in the 103rd Fighter Wing."

Georgia commands change

The two largest Army National Guard commands in Georgia, the 48th Infantry Brigade and the 78th Troop Command experienced senior command changes recently.

The command of the 48th Infantry Brigade, with over 4,500 troops across Georgia, was passed to Col. Robert C. Hughes from Brig. Gen. William T. Theilemann during a ceremony at Fort Stewart Ga.

Col. Michael L. Seely took the reigns of the 3,600 member 78th Troop Command from Hughes Aug. 2 in Atlanta. Seely was the 78th Troop Command's deputy commander.

Hughes and Seely are promotable to brigadier general. The two commands represent 90 percent of the men and women who serve in the Peach State's Army Guard.

IN THE NEWS

Guard wages battle on computer screen

By Maj. Pauline Geraci
Minnesota National Guard

With the touch of a computer key and access to communication, one soldier can fight a six-pronged war. Well, a simulated one.

Thanks to the JANUS Strategic Simulation System -- named for the two-headed Roman God of War who has a head that looks forward and another that looks back -- soldiers can use past experiences while training for the future.

Being used by the active Army, JANUS is currently fielded in several National Guard states. There are seven suites, or systems, in Idaho and seven in Georgia. JANUS also has also expanded to one in Camp Ripley, Minn.; one in Fort McClellan, Ala., and another in Columbus, Ohio.

According to Tom Smith, a JANUS project manager, the system the Guard uses is more Combat Service Support (CSS) enhanced.

"The Army version did not play CSS very well, so there was a concerted effort to improve CSS for the Guard system," he said.

Before JANUS there was the antiquated Army Training Battle Simulation System or ARTBASS. Unlike its predecessor, JANUS can model almost any scenario imaginable, said Glenn Rosen, a computer systems analyst.

"JANUS can go from the individual foot soldier walking through a mine field to an all out six-sided war," he insisted.

In the near future, JANUS will be fielded on laptops and will be capable of networking with other states.

When not being used for simulated battle, the computers won't just collect dust. Smith said they can be used for distance learning or routine work.

"Using these computers and equipment for training is not that expensive considering the the same type of training without a computer," he said.

Alabama answers Hurricane Danny

By SSgt. Michael P. McCord
Alabama National Guard

For every action, there must be a reaction. It's a reality members of the Alabama National Guard help confirm after Hurricane Danny belted the Alabama coastline with 30 inches of rain and wind gusts of up to 100 mph in mid-July.

More than 275 Razorback Army and Air Guardmembers from 26 units joined county, state and federal authorities over six days to provide relief for the citizens of Mobile and Baldwin counties who federal officials estimate suffered \$23 million in damage.

"You couldn't have asked for a better relationship than we've had working with the different agencies," said Lt. Col. Bryan Swindle, the commander of one of the six task forces Alabama has ready to combat state emergencies.

Even before Danny came ashore, 30 military police from the Army Guard's 231st MP Battalion were staged at the Brewton armory, about 90 minutes from the coast. They were dispatched to assist county and state law enforcement officials with traffic control and to help evacuate residents. Once Danny cleared the coastal area, they were sent back to provide security and prevent looting.

Two 40-person engineer cells with dump trucks, front-end loaders and chain saws went to Evergreen, some 80 miles north of Mobile.

Sgt. Walter Engel, a computer repairman with the 711th Signal Battalion, was called upon to help rescue those residents stranded by Danny's flash floods.

"During one trip," he recalled, "we had two-and-a-half feet of water in the cab of a 'deuce-and-a-half.' The water rose a foot in one hour.



Photo by SFC Melinda Early

DANNY'S DAMAGE - Members of the Alabama Guard's Special Forces (above) give officials a lift to assess bridge and road damage after Hurricane Danny struck.

"One other time," he added, "the whole front end of the truck was under water."

The 14-year Guard veteran said his call-up was difficult because it forced him to leave his grandmother behind in Mobile. But, like Danny, he couldn't be stopped.

"When you put on this uniform, you do what it takes," he said.

Baldwin County residents like Bob Moore and his wife, who watched water creep within two feet of their upstairs in their two-story home, appreciated the Guard's effort.

"I was told we were the last people out," Moore said. "I can't praise (the Guardmembers) enough. I don't know what we would've done without them."

As rescues continued, Bama engineers began clearing roadways along the coast. More than 1,000 loads of sand and dirt were scooped from the roads in the area and hauled to dumps. Generators were dispatched to provide power for public

utilities in the area.

MSgt. M. D. Evans, and fellow members of Company B, 1st Battalion, 20th Special Forces Group in Mobile, also were called into action. Using their F-470 Zodiacs -- rubberized all-purpose boats -- they assisted county and state bridge inspectors tasked with assessing bridge and road damage.

"Our soldiers need to be commended for their super work during this emergency," stated CSM Dale Byrne. "They worked very long hours in very dangerous conditions to help their communities.

"These soldiers were called out at the height of the storm," he added, "left their families, and put themselves in harm's way to help others."

CRUISING the CLOUDS

A hydrojet boat belonging to the Alabama Army Guard's 167th Engineer Company in Demopolis is airlifted across the Coosa River on Fort McClellan. The engineers recently spent their annual training building assault floating bridges. The helicopters were also used to drop bridge sections -- they open like clams upon impact. The boats were used to push and bolt the sections together.



Photo by Sgt. John R. Wood



PEOPLE

• **Crowning Achievements** • **Missouri Milestone**

Former Miss Rhode Island would rather talk about a leadership award she earned

Getting beyond BEAUTY

By MSgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

There is a word for people like Gloria Haggarty. Driven.

At 31, the Rhode Island Army National Guard lieutenant has become her state's new public affairs officer -- the spokesperson for the adjutant general, Maj. Gen. Reginald Centracchio, and Rhode Island's 3,800 Army and Air Guardmembers.

1st Lt. Gloria Haggarty brings a unique background to the job.

Eight Septembers ago, in 1989, the former Gloria Berlanga took her flute and tiara and title as Miss Rhode Island to Atlantic City, N.J., as a contestant in the Miss America Pageant.

No, she didn't win. Miss Missouri, Debbye Lynn Turner, was crowned Miss America that year.

And, no, that was not her life's defining moment, maintained Haggarty, whose most enduring quality may be her candor.

"That was one of many things that have happened to me," said the daughter of the late Jesus Berlanga, a chief petty officer who died during his 21st year in the Navy.

"The Navy paid a lot of my college expenses," she said, "but I competed for the Miss America title for the scholarship money as much as for anything else."

The 5-foot-7 Haggarty has dedicated herself to her seven-year military career with the same intensity that earned her nine varsity letters in basketball and other



CROWNING ACHIEVEMENTS - 1st Lt. Gloria Haggarty (left) has made the transition from tiara (1989 Miss Rhode Island coronation) to hard hat (building roads on U.S./Mexico border) with hard work and aplomb.

an Air Force officer and is now a full-time Air Guard major in Arizona.

She has paid her own military dues since going to work for the Rhode Island Army Guard a few days after completing basic training at Fort Dix, N.J., in November 1990. Among them:

- Five mobilizations for state emergencies, including Hurricane Bob.
- More than five years in Rhode Island's counterdrug program.
- Three years as a platoon leader in the 861st Engineer Company after earning her bars.

She is now her company's operations officer. She has started her engineer officers advance course. She has not begun to rest on her oars.

Airborne school at Fort Benning, Ga., is among her goals. So is graduate school -- perhaps law school because criminal law appeals to her. And she plans to run a marathon every year after finishing the Marine Corps Marathon in Washington, D.C., last fall.

Most of all, she wants to make a mark. For now, that means telling the people of Rhode Island about the positive things their Guardmembers are doing -- such as telling teenagers it doesn't make sense to do drugs.

There is one other part of her past that she expects will serve her well as a public affairs officer. She broadcast high school basketball games and reported the morning news for a couple of Rhode Island radio stations.

The Miss America Pageant? Yes, she acknowledged, it was all very interesting, but other concerns have long since filled her plate. So how does she feel about this September's new Miss America twist ... Two-piece swimsuits?

Sorry, that chapter's closed.

Four Missouri F-15 pilots took to the skies with more than 10,000 flying hours between them

Experience in the PIT

By Maj. Ken MacNevin
Missouri National Guard

Four F-15 fighters took off. They were closely pursued by another four Eagles, and perhaps, history.

Soon, eight pilots with the Missouri Air Guard's 110th Fighter Squadron were conducting combat tactics training -- four Eagles would be the good

guys, while the others simulated the tactics of an enemy aircraft.

It was not, however, an ordinary day.

The F-15 experience that left the ground at Lambert International Airport in St. Louis June 21 boasted more than 10,300 F-15 flying hours.

And that's just four pilots.

Lt. Col. Gordon Kimpel flew one Eagle, while Maj. Jon Kelk, Alan Miller and Steve Mills flew the others. Kelk said it may have marked the first time a quartet of pilots "with over 10,000 hours of F-15 flying time has been fielded from one squadron."

Kelk is the Show-Me State Air Guard's high-time Eagle pilot with more than 3,025 F-15

hours. His 3,000th hour was logged on a combat patrol over northern Iraq during the 110th's deployment this year for Operation Northern Watch.

Kelk's first hours over Iraq came during Desert Storm, where he was credited with the first enemy fighter downing, a MiG 29. That was during the 11 years the University of Wisconsin graduate spent on active duty. He is a graduate of the Air Force's F-15 Fighter Weapons Instructor Course.

Miller also is a Fighter Weapons Instructor grad and Desert Storm vet. The University of Missouri graduate has over 2,675 F-15 hours.

Kimpel has logged 2,400 F-15 hours. The University of Connecticut grad served 13 years on active duty and is also a fighter weapons instructor grad. He also

EXPERIENCED HAND - Missouri's Maj. Jon Kelk (right) conducts a pre-flight check of his F-15 Eagle.

has close to 500 F-4 Phantom hours.

Mills, another of the squadron's six Desert Storm alums, has 2,250 hours in the Eagle's cockpit. A graduate of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical, he served eight years on active duty.

All four of the pilots are traditional Guardmembers flying for major airlines.

The St. Louis squadron has a total of eight pilots with more than 2,000 F-15 hours. Among their six Desert Storm vets is one with three MiG kills.

The 10,000-plus hour four-ship flight was done, in part, because the squadron could do it, Kimpel noted.



Photo courtesy 131st Fighter Wing

He knows his unit is not alone. "(Guard units) have a wealth of experience both in combat and peacetime that our nation can rely on," Kimpel noted.

Army Guard crews and aircraft mechanics are giving humanitarian mission wings

By SFC Eric Wedeking
Theater Support Element, Panama

Flying stories often resound with the themes of cocky, swaggering helicopter pilots grabbing the glory and medals while back on the ground unappreciated enlisted mechanics quietly work maintenance miracles busting their knuckles trying to loosen an over-torqued hydraulic fitting.

But U.S. military engineers building schools and medical clinics deep in the tropical swamps and savannas of Guyana can tell no such tales. Lately they have been receiving supplies flown to them by Army National Guard helicopters as part of an on-going engineer-

training, humanitarian and civic-action exercise called New Horizon-Guyana.

Two of those relief-flying helicopters had a Peoria, Ill., return address.

Members of the Illinois Army Guard's 106th Aviation Battalion recently loaded and accompanied two partially dismantled CH-47 "Chinook" helicopters, a crane and numerous tools on to a U.S. Air Force C-5A "Galaxy." They then lumbered thousands of miles to the northern coastline of South America.

Once the aircraft, equipment and troops disembarked from the flying behemoth at Timehri Airport in Guyana, the mechanics reassembled the helicopters in four days. The Chinooks were used to fly Air Force and Marine engineers and equipment to sites where schools, medical clinics and bridges were being constructed.

Along with flight crews, about 20 expert-aircraft mechanics ventured to Guyana from the Army National Guard's 1108th and 1109th Aviation Classification Repair Activity Depots, or AVCRADs, from Gulfport, Miss., and Groton, Conn., respectively.

"It was the first time they performed this type of mission on this type of aircraft and they performed admirably," said Maryland Army Guard's Lt. Col. Mike Sweeney, who serves as the National Guard aviation officer for Exercise Sup-



HELICOPTER HAUL - Guard mechanics (above) and U.S. Air Force crew members push a Chinook from the belly of a C-5A Galaxy in Guyana.



Photos by SFC Eric Wedeking



BRINGING RELIEF - Army Guard aviation mechanics (above) from Connecticut and Illinois use a crane hoist and guide straps to reassemble a CH-47 Chinook at Timehri Airport. A Chinook (left) emerges from the bay of a C-5.

port Command at Fort Clayton, Panama. "They're the best in the Army."

Other aviation maintenance leaders who traveled to Guyana said the National Guard depot-level mechanics from the North and South blended well.

"They couldn't be doing any better even if we had handpicked the crew ourselves," confirmed Mississippi Army Guard's Capt. Richard Poole, a 1108th production control officer.

Over the last several years, mechanics with the much-in-demand AVCRADs have processed aircraft for sea and air transport for various military exercises like Operation Joint Endeavor in Hungary and Bosnia, Operation Uphold Democracy in Haiti and Exercise Bright Star in Egypt.

"We go wherever the Army says our expertise is needed," reported CWO Charles Spicer, a Maryland Army Guard

liaison with Mobilization AVCRAD Control Element, or MACE, headquartered at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. "These AVCRADs are good. They definitely know what they are doing."

Besides getting to venture to a developing nation for the first time, helicopter maintenance technicians with specialties ranging from avionics to aircraft mechanic said the two-week deployment to Illinois and Guyana further challenged their abilities to function without their depot-level tools and equipment inventory being available.

"It's excellent training out here in this old Guyana Air Force hangar. You have to think on your feet because our resources are limited," said Connecticut Army Guard's Spc. Jason Dumas, a mechanic with the 1109th AVCRAD. "At the depot back in Groton, we're surrounded by equipment, but not here.

We've tried to do the best we can with what we have."

However, operating from a tent-city base camp during the initial phases of the U.S. Air Force-led military exercise in Guyana, Dumas quipped that living in insulated, air-conditioned tents erected over freshly poured concrete while using air conditioned trailers for latrines was indeed a pleasant surprise.

"I get here to Guyana and it's like paradise," he added. "I'm used to sleeping in a tent with the mud and the insects."

Helicopter pilots, crew chiefs and other support specialists who also ventured to Guyana with the mechanics said they were surprised by the rapid turnaround time. AVCRAD mechanics, they marvelled, managed to dismantle, load, unload and then reassemble two CH-47 helicopters. Those Chinooks are being flown in Guyana by crews with the Iowa and Illinois Army Guard.

"I don't know much about the AVCRADs, but they look like they know what they're doing," said Illinois Army Guard's 1st Sgt. Mike Milam with the Peoria-based Company F, 106th Aviation. "They haven't stopped since they've been here in Guyana."

Because operational helicopter units are not trained to perform the extremely technical maintenance required to prepare a CH-47 for air transport and then

INSIDE GUYANA

Connecticut's Spc. Jason Dumas is using his expert skills for good in Guyana

Wrenching Effort

By SFC Eric Wedeking
Theater Support Element, Panama

With just 25 years of life on this planet, Connecticut Army Guard's Spc. Jason Dumas could be considered by some a rookie aircraft mechanic.

However, during a recent deployment to Guyana as part of an engineer-training, humanitarian and civic-action exercise called New Horizons-Guyana, Dumas displayed the skills of a veteran "wrench turner" as he and other National Guard citizen-soldiers quickly reassembled two CH-47 "Chinook" helicopters at Timehri Airport, Guyana.

"It's excellent training out here at the airport in Guyana. It's been different," related the Mossup, Conn., resident.

"We've tried to do the best with what we have. It's been challenging because we don't have all the tools and equipment we need. At the depot, we're surrounded by equipment."

Dumas is a full-time aircraft mechanic with the Connecticut's 1109th Aviation Classification Repair Activity Depot (AVCRAD) based in Groton. He was part of a group of 20 aircraft mechanics who loaded

two Chinooks (see related story, Page 6), a crane and numerous tools onto an U.S. Air Force C-5A "Galaxy" aircraft from the Illinois Army Guard's 106th Aviation Battalion in Peoria. They then delivered the partially disassembled helicopter thousands of miles to the northern coastline of South America.

Once the aircraft, equipment and troops disembarked at Timehri Airport, Guyana, the mechanics reassembled the CH-47s in only four days.

The Chinooks were then used by Iowa and Illinois Army National Guard flight crews to bring U.S. Air

Force and Marine engineers and equipment to various work sites where schools, medical clinics and bridges were being constructed as part of an ongoing engineer-training, humanitarian and civic-action exercise.

The Constitution State's expert-aircraft mechanics were not the only depot-level soldiers in Guyana. They were joined by the Mississippi Army Guard's 1108th AVCRAD from Gulfport, Miss.

Dumas said the North and South-based troops formed a perfect union.

"In my old unit, we never had it so good, and working with the guys from Mississippi has really been a great experience," he said as he carefully negotiated his way atop the hulking Chinook while others feverishly went about re-assembling the aircraft's rear pylon and rotor system.

"Everybody has been getting along really good," he added. "We sure did need the guys from Mississippi helping us put these helicopters back together, because we've been busy."

Maintenance leaders lauded Dumas and the others for their commitment. Their surprisingly fast turnaround also meant troops working in the steaming tropical swamps and jungle of Guyana would be resupplied more quickly.

"The AVCRAD mechanics are the best in the entire Army. They turn wrenches eight hours a day back home, so this is routine for them," said Maryland Army Guard's Lt. Col. Mike Sweeney, who serves as the National Guard's

Exercise Support Command aviation officer at Fort Clayton, Panama. "They go all over the world to do this kind of work."

This is not news to Dumas. Prior to his South American trip, he took his skills to Florida and Hawaii from his home station in Groton to process the double-rotor Chinooks for shipment to various military exercises occurring around the world.

"We're on the road quite a bit," he reported. "Our services are very much in demand, especially with the U.S. Army."

Not everyone, it turns out, is taken

with Dumas' efforts.

"My fiance (Kim Griffin) doesn't like it," he said, "but then again, she is getting used to it, I guess. It's part of my job."

The son of Robert and Shirley Dumas said he will return home with stories about his mechanical adventures in Guyana.

"It's like paradise here in Guyana at the Air Force-run base camp with air-conditioned tents and air-conditioned trailers for rest rooms," he said, smiling. "I'm used to sleeping in the tent in the mud with bugs."



THE RIGHT FIT - Observers are saying Guard aviation mechanics like Iowa Army Guard's Spc. Jake Naber (above), checking a hydraulic line fitting on a Chinook helicopter, are making a difference in Guyana.



Photo by SFC Eric Wedeking

ON TOP OF IT - Connecticut Army Guard's Spc. Jason Dumas (above), a member of the Groton-based 1109th Aviation Classification Repair Activity Depot, helps place a forward-rotor transmission atop a CH-47 Chinook helicopter from a steamy hangar in Timehri, Guyana.

reassemble the aircraft again for immediate missions, Milan said the knowledge of the depot-level mechanics was obviously a dire requirement.

"We couldn't have done it without the AVCRAD," he added.

Seeing up close the professionalism displayed by citizen-soldiers, all of whom were working together for the first time, impressed U.S. Air Force SSgt. Bill Myers, one of the C-5 loadmasters that flew the group to Guyana.

"The enthusiasm level is higher than the active component people I've worked with," he said. "They made what could have been a very hard job, a very easy job. We certainly didn't have any hiccups."

Once the two helicopters and tons of equipment were off the C-5, Myers watched with near awe as the Guard mechanics busily went about their work. He said the spiteful phrase "weekend warrior" no longer exists in his vocabulary.

"The National Guard may be a little more mature and older than the active duty," Myers said, "but there is no difference."

"Nowadays they're on active duty status all the time," he added. "The Guard is getting called on with a lot to do."

EMPLOYER SUPPORT

Rhode Island judge and retired colonel, Thomas Needham, enters a verdict

By MSgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

Thomas Needham, as a young combat engineer with Patton's 3rd Army, witnessed the scarred and ugly face of Europe at war.

More than a half-century later, the distinguished Rhode Island jurist has gone back to the same part of the world to judge the impact of duty on a cross-section of part-time military people from his state and the people for whom they work.

Marshals, sheriffs, bailiffs, members of the capital police force and clerks of the court who belong to the National Guard and Reserves are the group that concerned him the most while on a fact-finding trip to the western German city of Kaiserslautern during the third week in July.

"They come to me because they know I was active in the Reserves," said the silver-haired Needham who retired as a full colonel from the judge advocate generals corps in 1978. He holds their respect because, at 75, Needham is the Rhode Island superior court system's senior trial judge.

He traveled to Europe with 39 other Rhode Island business and government leaders, including nine state senators, during the trip sponsored by the state's civilian Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve.

There was much to consider during what was believed to be the first European trip of its kind orchestrated by any of the ESGR's state and territorial committees.

• What benefits do employers get when their workers are mobilized for extended periods for such operations as Joint Guard, the Bosnian peacekeeping mission?

• How often can the nation's military leaders go back to the well and expect employers to let their people leave for training and active duty?

• How much longer will this demand go on -- in light of President Bill Clinton's indication in mid-July that U.S. troops may have to remain in Bosnia beyond next summer?

Rhode Island's aggressive ESGR committee, headed by North Smithfield attorney Paul Baillargeon, has been drumming

up support for citizen-soldiers within the state's business community for the past 16 years.

Justice Thomas Henry Needham returned to Germany in July to see for himself what was expected of 104 National Guard soldiers from his state serving for three weeks at the Army's primary equipment maintenance center in Europe.

It was clear that maintaining the peace is far better than fighting a war and that the duty can be challenging in its own right.

"Being a soldier is a lot different than it was during the Second World War," he observed. "Back then we did what we were told and we didn't ask many questions. Now, soldiers need to understand the international implications of what they are doing. We are asking them to be diplomats as well as do their military jobs. They deserve our full support."

Needham considers himself lucky because his World War II unit did not endure a lot of the horrors encountered by a lot of other combat soldiers.

He was a sergeant in C Company of the 1282nd Combat Engineer Battalion that crossed the English Channel for the French port of Le Havre in August 1944, a couple of months after the D-Day invasions.

His unit spent the next eight months cutting across northern France and Luxembourg. They then served near Kaiserslautern and crossed the Rhine River near Wiesbaden during the Battle of the Bulge.

"We were 80 or 90 miles north of Wiesbaden when the Germans surrendered," Needham recalled.

"We never saw any of the cities. They kept us in the field. We stayed in 'cigarette camps' named Lucky Strike and Chesterfield," he added.

"Our first casualty was a souvenir hunter," Needham elaborated. "He left the camp to get a war souvenir. All we found was a hand and a foot."

"We were not so concerned about bullets that had our names on them," he said. "We were more worried about the ones that were addressed to whom it may concern. We didn't want to be caught in the wrong place at the wrong time."

Supporting the members of the Guard and the Reserve called up to preserve the peace, he hoped, will diminish the prospects of American soldiers having to again wonder how the bullets are addressed.



Justice Needham

JUDGING Employer SUPPORT

Ocean State employers go to Germany to see their weekenders in action

GIVING the BOSS a LIFT

By MSgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

Few people are as sure of themselves as veteran lawyers who have survived the slings and arrows of the courtroom. That helps explain Rhode Island attorney Paul Baillargeon who, at 54, has been practicing law for three decades.

It also explains the cutting-edge nature of Rhode Island's 16-year-old civilian Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. The imposing Paul Baillargeon has been the chairman for six years.

Rhode Island may be the smallest of our 50 states, but it took a giant step in the cause of gaining more respect for this country's citizen-soldiers by conducting a civic leaders lift to western Germany recently to visit an Army Guard maintenance company and grab the active Army's attention. Baillargeon, a former Army officer and Vietnam veteran, led the way.

"As the Army's drawdown goes on, the pressure on employers will increase because we need to retain our Guard and Reserve men and women," Baillargeon told the 40 business people and state senators who made what is believed to be the first fact-finding trip to Europe by any ESGR state committee.

"I care what you think after you come back from this mission," he added. "It is important that our business people and elected officials understand what the National Guard and Reserves have to do."

Maj. Gen. Reginald Centracchio, Rhode Island's adjutant general, who traveled with the delegation, said the trip was "absolutely essential to our democracy."

"Rhode Island has to be competitive on the national scene or we're out of business," he added.

Adequate time off for training, educational benefits and a bigger piece of their state's financial pie are



among the items committee members are encouraged to fight for.

The Rhode Island visitors to Germany got an eyeful. They dropped in on the small city of Kaiserslautern where 104 members of the 1043rd Maintenance Company from East Greenwich were into their three weeks of annual training.

They were rebuilding diesel engines and repairing other equipment essential to the Joint Guard peacekeeping operation nearly 1,000 miles away in Bosnia.

They got an earful from military officials, including Army Maj. Gen. Charles Mahan Jr., about how important a steady flow of reserve units is to sustaining the U.S. presence in Europe and helping keep the Bosnian Serbs, Croats and Muslims from each others' throats.

"Without the reserve components, we'd be dead in the water," said Bill Rast Jr., a spokesman for the 21st Theater Area Army Command.





Photos by MSgt. Bob Haskell



TAGGED - On the way home, Rhode Island TAG, Maj. Gen. Reginald Centracchio, played Uno with 9-year-old Garrett Stevenson. The boy was going to visit his grandparents in Belfast, Maine.

"It is better to pay the price of peace in dollars than to pay the price of war in lives," added Mahan, 21st commander.

They also got an education.

"I was completely in the dark as to what the Guard does. I had no idea what they did here in Europe," said Patricia O'Rourke, manager of the U.S. Small Business Administration's information center.

"I found these Guard people to be hard-working, enthusiastic and excited about what they're doing," she added after observing the operation at a former German army tank complex.

More than 100 Guard maintenance companies have rotated through there since 1989. Twelve units, nine from the Army Guard, will repair the

OCEAN STATE OVERVIEW - Rhode Island employers are briefed by SFC Walter Hunt (far left) on the mission his unit, the 1043rd Maintenance Company, is supporting in Germany.

Army's equipment there this year alone.

Many employers indicated they want to help their Guard and Reserve soldiers.

"Educational assistance should be a high-priority item," said Jeff Johnson, a vice president for a West Warwick insurance firm.

"If we can give our prison inmates free tuition, we should certainly do the same for members of the Guard," he maintained.

The importance of working an extra week in Germany, intrigued State Senator Jonathan Oster.

"The soldiers told me they would not get nearly as much done without that third week," he explained. Most units have reported accomplishing 65 percent of their work in the third week.

He then wondered if more reserve units should be sent to Europe to reduce the costs of German labor.

"I saw a lot of German workers here," he said. "If we need a peacetime army to do a mission, we don't need to hire private contractors at three times the cost."

That was good news to Baillargeon, an unabashed advocate for America's Guardmembers since serving a tour in Vietnam as an infantry officer -- after he had finished law school.

"I hated the Guard," he admitted, "because many of my friends joined to avoid going to Vietnam."

He began to understand the commitment to the Guard, Baillargeon explained, when a North Smithfield police officer insisted on going through the Infantry Officers Basic Course at Ft. Benning, Ga., after completing his initial six-year tour.

Baillargeon got involved with Rhode Island's employer support committee shortly thereafter.

Yes, Baillargeon, is concerned that this country's reserve forces are being stretched thin, but he also wants tell the world what the Guard has to offer and how his committee can help.



Photo by SSgt. Brenda K. Benner

Gunning for Goodwill

Lone Star employers brave the heat at Fort Hood to watch the 49th Armored Division

By Spc. Aaron R. Reed
Texas National Guard

Keith Mattern was having the time of his life. Never mind it was 90 degrees in the shade; no matter lunch was an MRE.

"This has been wonderful," said Mattern, an Overton, Tex., feed store owner. "Today was our first helicopter ride, and it was terrific. Since we got down here everyone has really gone out of their way to make sure we're having a good time."

Mattern was just one of 259 employers and civic and business leaders from around the state who visited Fort Hood as part of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve program during the first week of the Texas Army National Guard's 49th Armored Division annual training this summer.

ESGR, as the program is commonly known, is one tool Guard and Reserve leaders rely on to keep civilian employers' goodwill during a time when the operations tempo for citizen-soldiers is on the rise.

"Downsizing of the active duty components has really kicked this program into high gear," said Lt. Col. Jeffry D. Vaughn, the civil affairs officer who oversees the program for the 49th Armored Division. "More and more missions are coming our way, and even though the law is on our side and employers have to let their people go to get the training and perform their military duties.

"We want to have their goodwill," he added.

Vaughn said that even though much has changed in the last decade, there is still a perception among some civilians

that annual training has more to do with playing dominoes than practicing military skills.

"Alcohol was banned here 12 years ago," Vaughn said. "The National Guard is conducting significant military training, and we want managers and business owners to be enthusiastic about their employees coming to Fort Hood."

Some employers were quick to note the benefits of military training.

"I talked to a fellow yesterday who works at a mortgage company," said MSgt. Victor J. Aquino, the division personnel operations sergeant. "He told me he has a young sergeant, 25 or 26 years old, who he has always felt was mature beyond his years. After seeing the training here, he said he believes that employee's military experience is the reason."

For Kilgore, Tex., Mayor Bill Wilson, participating in his second ESGR trip, the visit brought back old memories. He spent 10 summers at Fort Hood during the 1960s.

"The heat's the same," he said. "But other things have changed." Wilson mentioned the addition of women's latrines, for one. And the advances in technology for another.

"Computers are everywhere out here," he added.

Wilson said Kilgore's utilities manager is a member of the National Guard, and called the manager's military training an asset to the city.

"I worked for people who had to let me off for two weeks every summer, and it's a credit to all the employers who do that," Wilson said. "The National Guard couldn't exist without them."

TANK TALK - PFC Josh Graham (top, left), a crewmember with the Texas Army Guard's Battery A, 4th Battalion, 133rd Field Artillery, shows employer Robert Grady how to load ammunition into the feed tray of an M-2 .50 machine gun.

OPERATION JOINT GUARD

South Carolina firefighters are busy keeping Bosnia a safe place to serve

Dousing DANGER

By Spc. Janel R. George
North Dakota National Guard

As the flickering flame grows into a bustling array of orange-yellow billows, a general purpose-medium tent is engulfed by ever-changing shadows. The soldiers, on all fours, stay close to the floor as they exit to safety.

Minutes seemed like hours as the flames destroyed everything in its wake. The occupants, safely away from the inferno, conduct a headcount. In just seven minutes, photos of loved ones, deployment memorabilia and military equipment sizzle and snap as their remains drift toward the heavens in a thick black cloud.

It has been the job of firefighters with the South Carolina Army Guard's 264th Engineer Detachment, based in Allendale, to prevent this situation from occurring to troops supporting Operation Joint Guard from Eagle Base in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

"We are here 24 hours, seven-days-a-week and always ready to provide fire support throughout Bosnia-Herzegovina," said Spc. Brian Wooten, a firefighter. "Even when we sleep we know that we could be awakened at anytime."

The 264th's primary peacekeeping duties is to douse fire to Army aircraft and structures on base.

"If an aircraft crashes we ensure the safety of the personnel on the aircraft and extinguish the fire with minimal loss of life and property," reported SSgt. Jeff Harter, fire chief. "We can be anywhere on 'Tuzla-Main' in less than five minutes."

Because of the vast amounts of fuel stored at Eagle Base, Harter and crew are aware of the dangers inherent to their line of work. Knowledge, Harter insisted, helps level the playing field.

"We have to know how to respond to each type of hazardous material," he said. "It could be anything from using water to clearing a half-mile radius."

To limit their showdowns with the red devil, the 264th spreads the word on fire safety like, well, wild fire.

"Our job is to prevent fires as well as put them out," the Chief noted.

Part of that effort includes coordinating a fire prevention program and conducting inspections.

"Fire protection policy was established by Task Force Eagle to provide guidelines for what can and cannot be done," Harter added. "We are making soldiers aware of the rules. The biggest part of our job is fire prevention education."

Heater, fire extinguisher and fire safety classes are given to the mayor, fire warden and fire marshal of each base camp.

"Because we only have a 22-member detachment, we cannot have a fire department at every base camp," Harter said.

Each camp that does not have an established fire department must designate one person as the fire marshal. The fire marshal then ensures that fire protection policies are heeded.

Each unit also appoints a fire warden to work with a fire marshal.

"The fire wardens are an extension of

the fire marshal because the marshal can not be everywhere," Harter said.

Thus far, Harter noted proudly, peacekeepers are following the guidelines laid down. The 264th sees to that.

"When minor deficiencies are found they are corrected on the spot," Harter said.

On his third deployment in six years, Harter knows the secret to keeping troops safe from the red menace.

"As long as everyone doesn't become complacent and stays aware of what they are doing and where they are doing it," he observed, "we can greatly reduce the chance of a fire."

PALMETTO PEACEKEEPERS - South Carolina Army Guard's Spc. John Belusz (foreground) and Spc. Brian Wooten (center), members of the 264th Engineer Detachment based in Allendale, load a hose onto a fire truck in Bosnia.



Photo by Spc. Janel R. George

The National Guard's Marksmanship Training Unit is giving deployed troops an edge Targeting Peacekeepers

By Maj. Sherri Sims
Arkansas National Guard

SFC Jimmy Green has helped many Guard soldiers and airmen improve their marksmanship skills. But doing it for troops scheduled to patrol a land where ethnic hatred and tensions are high, is a different story.

Green and other members of the National Guard Marksmanship Training Unit (NGMTU) based at Camp Robinson in North Little Rock, Ark., recently traveled to San Antonio to take aim at easing the concerns of 46 soldiers from the Texas Army Guard's 49th Armored Division slated for peacekeeping duty in Bosnia.

As NCO-in-charge of the Small Arms Instructor's Range Operations Course, Green has taught soldiers and airmen to find the bull's eye for many years. Suddenly, he said, his job has taken on a whole new meaning.

"The whole purpose of marksmanship training is to put bullets into the enemy in combat," Green said. "Hopefully, these troops won't be faced with having to do that. But if they get in harm's way, we want to ensure that we've done our best for them."

That goal is being met by providing top-notch preliminary marksmanship instruction and range qualification. This has meant requiring Texas Guardmembers to fire a practice and record qualification. They also had to gun down targets wearing a protective mask, and at night.

Sixty-seven Texans participated in the training. Of those, 46 have been tapped to deploy.

Capt. Steven Holguin, a member of the El Paso-based 3rd Battalion, 133rd Field Artillery, said the Guard's marksmanship experts were on target.

"They're doing it right," Holguin said. "They're showing us the right way to shoot the weapon and to clean the weapon, rather than just handing us a weapon and a book to learn on our own."

Most of the 49th citizen-soldiers are excited about the opportunity to put their training to use. Spc. Douglas



Photo by Maj. Sherri Sims

TOP GUN TIPS - The NGMTU's SSgt. Sarah Taylor (above) shows a Texas Army Guard soldier headed for Bosnia how to fire a weapon while wearing a protective mask.

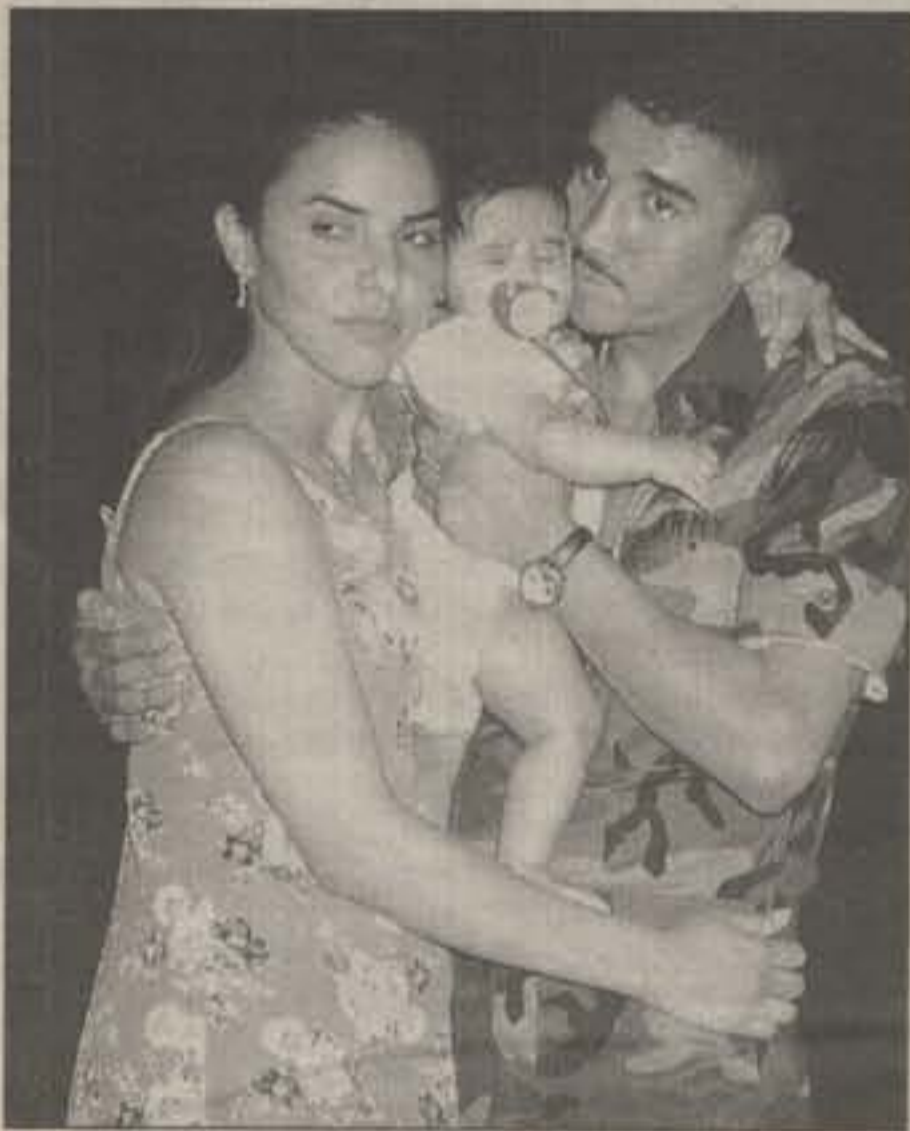
Crosby, with the Division's Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, joined the Guard after a three year stint at Fort Hood, Texas, never having seen any real-world action. This reality, Crosby confessed, has left him feeling somewhat stressed.

It is why Green and his fellow marksmen and women say they are eager to share their knowledge with deploying Guardmembers, many of whom are limited to just one-weekend-a-month of training.

"That is why the presence of the NGMTU is so important," observed one soldier. "Anything that will increase a soldier's or airman's confidence in the face of adversity is welcome."

The 49th's soldiers were not the only Texans grateful to the Guard's "Top Guns." The NGMTU brought their small arms message to Austin, training more than 130 members of the 111th Area Support Group. They are currently serving in Hungary. Prior to that, they taught the money handlers with the 49th Finance Battalion, who are now scattered throughout Germany, Bosnia, Hungary and Macedonia, to ante-up on the range.

Editor's Note: Units can request small arms training through their State Marksmanship Coordinator. Requests should be directed to: Commander, NGMTU, Camp J. T. Robinson, North Little Rock, AR 72199-9600. You also may call (501) 212-4523/4525 (DSN prefix is 962) to schedule training.



Photos by SFC Steve Gamboa

TIME TO GO - Texas Army Guard's Spc. Miguel Torres (above), an administrative specialist with the 111th Area Support Group headquartered in Austin, is embraced by his wife and baby girl before deploying to Europe for nine months.

Deploying Pride

Texas Army Guard eager to show their stuff for 'Joint Guard'

By Spc. Aaron Reed
Texas National Guard

It was a tearful goodbye. But for family members and soldiers alike, the pain of an impending separation was tempered by the pride and excitement of being part of the historic NATO peacekeeping mission to Bosnia.

For 1st Sgt. Rickey Gibson, a member of the Texas Army Guard's 136th Signal Battalion based in Temple, this is his first deployment in an 18-year National Guard career.

His wife, Kathy, said she's glad her husband has an opportunity to contribute to the peacekeeping mission.

"I'm really proud of what he's doing," she said. "Although we're going to miss him, this is what he's trained to do."

The deployed units will serve in and around the theater of operations in a variety of combat

service and combat support roles. The 130 members of the 111th Area Support Group, headquartered in Austin, are currently serving at Tászár Air Base in southern Hungary. There they are responsible for controlling the movement of troops and supplies into and out of Bosnia.

Some of the troops they have welcomed to the region are friends and neighbors from the 49th Finance Battalion in Austin, the 49th Division's Fire Support Element, based in San Antonio, and the 136th Signal Battalion.

The Austin and San Antonio units deployed July 20 and spent a week-and-a-half receiving additional training at Fort Benning, Ga., before heading to destinations in Bosnia, Hungary and Germany.

The 39 members from the 136th departed Aug. 10. Once in Europe, the signal soldiers split into small teams augmenting U.S. Army V Corps signal

INSIDE the TEXAS GUARD

Texas couple uses overseas deployment to get married

'Altar'ed Plans

By SSgt. Brenda Benner
Texas National Guard

Overseas deployments often mean long-term separations from family and friends and a departure from normal day-to-day

rights and rituals.

For SSgt. Andrew Gotts and Sgt. Janie Wasdin, who recently bought a house and were engaged to be married, the news that their unit was being sent to Hungary to support the Operation Joint Guard peacekeeping mission almost wrecked one of the most important plans they had ever made.

Almost.

Gotts is a support operations sergeant with the Texas Army Guard's 111th Area Support Group. Wasdin is the Austin-based unit's clerk. Both are currently serving in Tászár, Hungary, and thanks to some inspired thinking by fellow 111th citizen-soldiers, the wedding is still on ... although thousands of miles away.

soldiers in Germany, Hungary and at sites in Bosnian cities like Banja Luka, Mostar and Sarajevo.

"This is why we train. This is what we do," said Maj. James Sailors, who is leading the Division's 46 artillerymen into Bosnia. "There's a time when every Guardsman and woman faces a deployment."

Sailors added that support from loved ones back home makes all the difference.

"My hat's off to the families and friends who accept that, and to the soldiers who say, 'Let's go.'"

While most deploying soldiers said they believed in the

mission and understand its humanitarian value, some also were eager to prove that the National Guard -- which leads the nation in the number of units deployed to support the peacekeeping mission -- can do the job.

"I'm really pumped-up right now," said Spc. Bryan Ray on the eve of his departure.

"Actually it was the unit's idea for us to get married while deployed," Wasdin said. "Many have offered to help in any way possible."

Gotts and Wasdin say they will reserve their rest and restoration (R&R) leave for the sacred event.

"I'd really like to get married in a church. The old churches in Budapest are so beautiful, so historic," Wasdin said. "We certainly don't want to get married in the beer tent at Tászár, Hungary, where we are assigned."

"I think it's romantic," added the groom.

Asked how her family was taking the news of missing the ceremony, Wasdin said everyone is taking it in stride.

"We'll have a reception party when we return," she said. "My dad is happy for me regardless of where we have the wedding. He understands; he was a soldier too."



Photo by SSgt. Brenda Benner

DEPLOYED NUPTIALS - Sgt. Janie Wasdin and SSgt. Andrew Gotts, members of the Texas Army Guard's 111th Area Support Group, are planning to be wed in Hungary while supporting 'Joint Guard.'

10 years," the Chaplain added. "This will certainly be an event -- something everyone will remember."

Chaplain (Maj.) Robert Ewing, deployed to assist soldiers of the 111th ASG, is confident that the logistics and legalities of the wedding will not pose a problem.

"One of the reasons chaplains are deployed with units is to make sure that everyone has the same rights and privileges as they do back home," Ewing said. "The religious freedom to be married in a church is one of those rights."

"This wedding will be the first I've ever performed overseas, and I've been doing this for

10 years," the Chaplain added. "This will certainly be an event -- something everyone will remember."

RICH HISTORY -- Texas' CSM Eusebio Gonzalez (left), took proof of the 111th ASG's pedigree with him to Europe.



The Rockwall native will help coordinate artillery and air cover for the Polish battalion in Bosnia.

"Everyone in this unit has trained very hard as a team," he said, "and I'm positive we'll impress a lot of soldiers over there."

"We're only as strong as our weakest link," Ray added, "but I feel we have no weak links."

NEWS

MAKERS

Compiled by MSgt. John Malthaner
National Guard Bureau

Better late than never. Secretary of the Army Togo West decorated the colors of the Pennsylvania Army Guard's 103rd Engineer Battalion, 28th Infantry Division, with eight Revolutionary War campaign streamers. Pennsylvania Guard and NGB historians did the research to prove that the 103rd's ancestor unit, the Pennsylvania Artillery, also organized the 4th Artillery of the Continental Army. The honors -- some 216 years late -- were earned by both organizations for participating in the Battles of Monmouth, New York and Yorktown, according to Lt. Col. Leonid Kondratiuk, NGB Historical Services chief.

The Nebraska Army Guard stepped into an area few organizations ever tread when they won the Secretary of the Army's Energy and Conservation Award for the third straight year.

In winning the rare three-peat, Nebraska's energy saving measures were judged to be the best in 54 states and territories representing the National Guard.

According to CWO Harold Bingham, Nebraska registered a 7.1 percent reduction in energy usage in comparison to 1985, the year established as the baseline for the competition.

Vehicle and aircraft usage were down 23.9 percent while facility fuel usage climbed 44.7 percent over 1985. However, Bingham said, considering that the Nebraska Army Guard has more than tripled the square footage of facilities since 1985, the energy savings is remarkable.

The Georgia Air Guard's 165th Airlift Wing went to unprecedented measures recently in acknowledging the Savannah-based unit's 50th anniversary.

In a ceremony at the 8th Air Force Museum near Savannah, the unit presented the Museum with a memorial plaque to honor past and current members of the C-130 unit. For several years, the 165th was a part of the Eighth Air Force. The commemorative plaque is prominently positioned in the museum's memorial gardens.

Brig. Gen. Daniel James III, the Adjutant General of Texas, was recently given the 1997 Texas Benjamin Foulous First Flight Award by the Air Force Association.

James was presented the award in recognition of his contributions to the continuing close cooperation between the Texas Air National Guard and the U.S. Air Force. It is a goal he has aggressively pursued since becoming the Lone Star State's TAG in 1995.

The Benjamin Foulous First Flight Award is named for the U.S. Army aviator who made the first U.S. military flight west of the Appalachians. It occurred on March 2, 1910, at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio and helped lay the groundwork for the creation of today's U.S. Air Force.

The son of Gen. "Chappie" James, the nation's first African-American four-star general, James has more than 5,000 hours as a pilot in fighter and trainer aircraft. The former 149th Fighter Wing commander, based at Kelly AFB, Texas, flew more than 300 combat missions in Vietnam.



Secretary West (above, right) honored the Pennsylvania Guard for something they did 216 years ago.



Cols. Steve Westgate (above, left) and William Searcy, 165th AW vice commander and commander respectively, visit their plaque.



Foulous Award winner, Brig. Gen. Daniel James III (left).



Missouri educators (above) treated to two-day tour by 139th Airlift Wing.

Missouri Air Guard recruiters recently boarded a C-130 with 41 Show Me State educators and flew to Keesler AFB Miss., to learn about career opportunities in the National Guard.

The aircraft and some of the recruiters were from the 139th Airlift Wing in St. Joseph.

While the two-day tour of Keesler was the first exposure to the military for some of the educators, it was nothing new for Oleda Cooper, a high school teacher.

"I've known for a long time the military was the best opportunity for some young people," she said. "It made my husband grow up." Cooper's husband, Harold, served in the Air Force from 1952-1956, and was an air traffic controller.

A large crowd of well-wishers from the Tennessee Air Guard's 172nd Airlift Wing were on hand to watch as the first group of Satellite NCO Academy Program graduates received their certificates from the Air Force's NCO Academy at McGhee Tyson ANGB, Tenn. recently.

The graduates were a pioneer group, who through their participation in the base's first Satellite Network course, opened the doors for other traditional Air Guardmembers unable to attend the Academy's resident program for six weeks, said MSgt. Willis Allen, the Satellite NCO Academy site coordinator.

The course, Allen added, allows students to attend classes at their home unit two nights-a-week for the first four weeks.

"The home station course is taught by McGhee Tyson instructors over the Warrior Network," Allen said, "with local facilitators doing all the in-classroom duties and conducting the critical group discussions."

Students complete the course by attending a two-week residence phase at McGhee Tyson.

Jody Urbauer, a member of the Nebraska Air Guard, wrote another page into the history book when she became the first woman in her state to be promoted to the rank of chief master sergeant.

The 25 year veteran, also was one of the first three women to enlist in the Cornhusker State's Guard on Jan. 27, 1972.

In those days, Urbauer recalled, women's uniforms were not in stock. Women also were restricted to serving in administrative, personnel and nursing career fields. Today, Air Guardswomen can choose from among 250 different jobs. At the time of her promotion, the 48-year-old was a computer purchasing and account manager.

"I'm very happy," Urbauer said. "Not just for me, but all the girls out here. It's a milestone a lot of other women will be making real soon."

The Utah Air Guard's 109th Air Control Squadron (ACS), based in Salt Lake City, recently received the 1997 Distinguished Mission Support Plaque from the National Guard Association of the United States. The honor makes them one of the ANG's top five mission support squadrons. In addition, the 109th ACS won the 1997 Air Guard Outstanding Air Control Unit Award.

RUSSIANS

From Page 1

an old Russian saying that it is better to see something once than to hear of it one hundred times."

The Russians spent a week conversing with and questioning experts on mobilization and military support to civilian authorities at the Army Guard's Readiness Center in Arlington, Va. They visited the District of Columbia National Guard and Air Guard operations at Andrews AFB, Md.

They also spent two days in New York—exploring the 105th Airlift Wing at Stewart Air National Guard Base and driving around the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

They also did the tourist thing. "We were impressed by the Vietnam and Korean War memorials. We were prepared for a bigger city. Washington is not nearly as big as Moscow," Col. Aleksandr Barinov said. "We are impressed with the openness of your society and the hospitality shown by the National Guard."

Barinov is a transportation officer. The delegation's three other colonels were experts in communications, personnel, air defense and technical cooperation with foreign governments.

They asked nuts-and-bolts questions about the complexities of the half million-member National Guard that is unique among the world's military forces because of its dual state and federal missions.

- How are citizen-soldiers informed of mobilizations?
- How many units are prepared to go right now?
- How are Guardmembers supplied with uniforms and equipment?
- What do NCOs do, and how are they trained?
- How much does the National Guard cost?

"Whatever they asked about, we answered them within the limits of security," James said.

The U.S.-Russian Program of Military Contacts for 1997 made that direct dialogue possible, added James, who belongs to the council of colonels supporting that effort.

It is one of the many ways that presidents William Clinton and Boris Yeltsin have tried to bring their countries closer. The fact that Russians are serving with U.S. peacekeeping forces in Bosnia, and that Russia has agreed to cooperate with the expanding North Atlantic Treaty

Organization, have also strengthened the ties.

Baca has made every effort to increase the National Guard's piece of the international action during his three years as Guard Bureau Chief.

The State Partnership Program, for example, has 23 states affiliated with 21 Eastern European and Asian nations.

Illinois, Ohio and Texas were already paired with Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic before those countries were invited to join NATO in July.

"We represent every community and every group in America," Baca reasoned. "What better group than the National Guard to bring the grass roots of America to these former

Warsaw Pact countries?"

Russia has not asked to be affiliated with a state, but it did sign the NATO Partnership for Peace initiative in 1994.

That country is so vast that it might have to be aligned with the National Guard Bureau itself if the Russians are interested, James projected. The bureau could then draw on what-

ever state resources it needs.

"We want to create an understanding and more kindhearted relations between our two armed forces," Smirnov said.

"Nobody hates war more than a soldier because the soldier pays the price and makes the sacrifice," Baca observed. "So it is appropriate for soldiers to promote the peace."

INSIDE THE RUSSIAN VISIT

International Initiatives Chief, Col. Robert James, opens up his home to dignitaries with Russia's Ministry of Defense

Backyard Diplomacy

By MSgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

Charity, it has been said, begins at home. So does hospitality.

Army National Guard Col. Robert James Jr. went that extra mile on the second Sunday evening in August. He and his wife Cathy welcomed five Russian military officers, including the Russian defense ministry's chief mobilization officer, to this country by having them over for an old-fashioned cookout—in their backyard.

Gen.-Lt. Vasily Smirnov and four colonels were the guests of honor during the comfortable evening that offered a welcome break from Washington's oppressive heat. Smirnov ate his first hot dog.

"This is history. The fact that the Russians have come here to learn about the National Guard is an absolute first," James said. "It is important to do everything to make them feel at home."

As diplomats go, Col. James is about as unassuming as you can get. Yet, as Director of International Affairs, the Ohio Guardsman is the de facto secretary of state for the Guard Bureau and its chief, Lt. Gen. Edward Baca.

A small dining area beside the James' kitchen in Woodbridge, Va., is where the weeklong visit to Washington, D.C., and New York took root about a year before the Russians arrived. That's where James wrote a proposal about how the Guard could help the Russian Federation's emergency management people avoid or, if necessary, deal with natural disasters.

The scope of the initial contact



Photos by MSgt. John Thornton



DIPLOMAT - Col. Robert James (top photo) escorts Russia's Gen.-Lt. Vasily Smirnov (center) on a tour, works the spatula (above) at a backyard barbecue.

expanded, James explained, thanks to the U.S.-Russian Program of Military Contacts for 1997. The Russians specifically asked to visit the National Guard, he said.

They made the trip just three months after President Boris Yeltsin accepted the idea of NATO's expansion to Russia's western border and replaced Defense Minister Igor Rodionov with Gen. Igor Sergeev, because Rodionov had failed to reform the country's military forces.

Welcoming the five officers to his home for hot dogs, hamburgers and some informal, backyard diplomacy with Baca and 30 other National Guard officials and their significant others,

brought the process full circle, James acknowledged.

James grew up in Kenton, Ohio, the son of a career Air Force officer. He holds a bachelor's degree in history and a master's in educational administration from Bowling Green in his native state.

He has been an elementary school principal.

Now the 28-year Guard veteran heads a 12-member staff that oversees the Guard Bureau's State Partnership Program. In five years, the NATO-endorsed program has enabled 23 states to show 21 Eastern European and Asian nations what the National Guard is all about. It also has forged partnerships in Central and South America.

Citizen-soldiers from South Carolina, Alabama and Indiana have worked on hospitals and orphanages in Albania and Romania. Utah has forged a partnership with Belarus. California and Kansas are affiliated with Ukraine.

But a relationship between the National Guard and Russia would be especially significant because of that country's mystique as the United States' chief adversary during the Cold War.

"Anything we do with the Russian Federation brings our countries closer together," James observed.

He was determined to get the August visit off on the right foot by making the Russians feel right at home in his home. How well did it work?

Consider this. After the meal, James presented his visitors with small replicas of the Liberty Bell. The bell, James explained to his visitors, was rung in Philadelphia in 1776 to announce America's Declaration of Independence from British tyranny.

Smirnov capitalized on that theme. "Bells are also a symbol of Russia. They are found in every city and in every village," he replied through a translator.

"Bells draw people together in extreme situations," Smirnov added. "Let us do everything we can to make sure they never ring again because of bad situations between our people."

That ringing endorsement by Russians who were visiting the National Guard for the first time was music indeed to the ears of Col. Robert James Jr.



STATES

• Lone Star Lifesaving • Ukrainians Visit • Orphans

TEXAS

Lone Star State Army Guard soldiers prepared for deployment to Germany, Hungary and Bosnia-Herzegovina in support of Operation Joint Guard, by practicing advanced first-aid training.

Austin-based troops with the 49th Finance Company and 11th Area Support Group, and members of the 49th Armored Division's Fire Support Element from San Antonio, were subjected to 30 hours of lifesaving training.

"Everything they learn makes them a valuable asset not only to their units, but in all aspects of civilian and family life," noted Lt. Col. Nancy Duparc, a State Area Command nursing supervisor.

MINNESOTA

Two British Reserve soldiers visited Camp Ripley as part of an exchange program.

Britain's 1st Lt. Jackie Blake and 2nd Lt. Joe Howard recently pulled their annual training at the Gopher State training site.

"It's huge," Blake said of the Ripley. "It's much bigger than anything we have in the United Kingdom. We don't have anything so modern."

Blake is an Arabic and Russian translator for the Ministry of Defense. Howard just completed her bar exams. Both are assigned to tactical signal units in the U.K.

MISSOURI

Deliberate
EFFORT

Missouri Air Guard's SrA. Anthony Gebbia, a member of the 121st Air Control Squadron, monitors a radar from a site located at Mount Jacotente in Italy. The St. Louis-based unit deployed 53 people to the region to support Operation Deliberate Guard, a NATO mission aimed at controlling the skies over Bosnia.



Photo by MSgt. Jerry Bratten

PENNSYLVANIA

Col. James M. Skiff was recently named the new commander of the 111th Fighter Wing in Willow Grove.

A fighter pilot with nearly 9,000 flying hours, Skiff will oversee a unit that boasts 950 people and maintains and operates fifteen A-10 Warthog aircraft.

CALIFORNIA

For more than a quarter century, the 40th Infantry Division trained for a confrontation with the Soviet Union. Recently the "Sunburst Division" entertained nine representatives from the Ukrainian National Guard.

The Ukraine delegation came to observe and learn how the 40th Infantry delegates authority to, and empowers, its noncommissioned officers.

"Any time we have any former adversary that comes to this country, or we go to their country, we begin to understand their politics and philosophies," said Brig. Gen. Edmund Zysk, the 40th Division's commanding general. "That certainly adds to the formula for World Peace."

Ukraine's Lt. Gen. Igor Valkiv agreed.

"It is (the NCO corps) a very impressive thing," he said. "We understand why the NCO is a big bonus for your National Guard."

LOUISIANA

Members of the 159th Fighter Wing and staff from the Combined Task Force Family Support Center, Incirlik AB, made a special trip to an orphanage in Adana, Turkey recently.

Deployed to the region for 45 days in support of Operation Northern Watch, members of the 159th FW raised more than \$500 at Incirlik AB and shopped for the things most needed at the orphanage: tooth brushes, paper products, grains and a stove.

Fifteen Pelican-State Guardmembers took a bus to the orphanage to deliver the packages. Excited children of all ages ran out of the concrete building and swarmed the citizen-airmen like bees to a hive dripping with honey.

Louisiana's goodwill ambassadors reported that the children were more interested in interacting with them than receiving gifts.

That interaction took many forms. Some played hand games, a few played marbles, but most of the orphans seemed content to touch and make an eye-to-eye connection with their U.S. visitors.

"Seeing the looks on their faces as we gave them a simple thing like peppermint candy was amazing," said TSgt. Frank Tunstall, who along with TSgt. Gina Vendetti and SrA. Kathy Krail were instrumental in carrying out the 159th's humanitarian effort.

"You have a natural urge to care for these children and want the best for them," Tunstall added.

As time drew to an end, the children clung even more. For a brief hour, both Guardmembers and children felt hope, love and bonds of friendship.

As the Louisiana group left, the children gave each a traditional Turkish kiss that no water will soon wash away.



Photo by SSgt. Paul Guttenberg

BAYOU BONDING - Louisiana's SSgt. Kristi Moon Graves (above), a member of the 159th Fighter Wing, wows Turkish orphans with video technology. The F-15 unit was in Turkey supporting 'Northern Watch.'



HISTORY

• *Monstrat Viam ... 'It Points the Way'*

For more than 200 years, Massachusetts' unit has welcomed its new commanders in a unique way

Pointing the WAY

When Maj. Bernard Flynn thrust his Bowdoin Sword skyward July 26, symbolically accepting command of the Massachusetts Army Guard's 211th Military Police Battalion, he was continuing a 200-year-old tradition.

The battalion -- called the First Corps of Cadets -- was formerly led by Richard E. Spicer.

As part of the change-of-command ceremony, Spicer handed the sword to Flynn. The ceremony dates back to 1786 when Massachusetts Gov. James Bowdoin presented the unit with new colors after the Corps' service in the Revolutionary War.

The 211th MP Battalion was organized in Boston in 1741 as the Independent Company of Cadets. Their mission was to serve as the official bodyguard for the royal governor. The Cadets also were the first volunteer militia unit in the colonies. At the time, the standing colonial militia required all males between the ages of 16 and 60 to perform military service. Volunteer militia units were made up of young men who elected to join, buy their own uniforms, and drill on a regular basis.

The most famous Cadet was John Hancock, who commanded the unit from 1772 to 1774. He was dismissed by the royal governor for a perceived insult. Hancock went on to become President of the Continental Congress, and is best known for his large and distinctive signature on the Declaration of Independence.

Because the Cadets were comprised of some of Boston's most prominent citizens, most of its members

served as officers in temporary wartime units from the Revolutionary War through World War II.

Before the advent of officer candidate schools, the First Corps of Cadets had already established a way to prepare its commissioned ranks for greater responsibilities.

In order to maintain its own armory, full dress uniforms and social events, unit personnel had to pay dues. Drill pay was routinely turned in to the unit fund until 1940.

The First Corps of Cadets served as combat engineers in World War I and as air defenders in World War II. In order to stay in the National Guard force structure, corpsmembers have served in the cavalry, armor, infantry, signal and now military police.

The Corps is also unique in that, under Federal law, it must be commanded by a lieutenant colonel and its executive officer must be a major -- guaranteeing its status as a battalion.

This month the Bostonian Society museum will feature an exhibit documenting the Corps' 256-year history, validating its status as the Massachusetts Militia/National Guard's most elite unit.

Noted for its splendid uniforms during its volunteer militia heyday from 1829 to 1860, the Corps is recognized by many as a military fashion trend-setter. The Corps' band and marching unit wore a distinctive full dress uniform which consisted of a white tunic with light blue trousers until 1940.

The First Corps of Cadets heritage and traditions are proudly carried on by the soldiers with the 211th MP Battalion located in Lexington, Melrose, Brockton and Southbridge. The unit's motto, "Monstrat Viam," -- Latin for *It Points the Way* -- has replaced "hoo-ah" at unit formations.

The Corps' distinctive unit insignia is unique in several respects; it is based on the regimental insignia of the Coldstream Guards of the British Army and has been part of the First Corps' heraldry for more than 200 years, making it one of the oldest insignias in the U.S. military.

Flynn, slated for promotion to lieutenant colonel, began his Guard career in the First Corps in 1968. He is the first former enlisted man to command the unit since World War I.

Editor's Note: A special exhibit portraying the history and uniforms of the First Corps of Cadets will open at the

Bostonian Society, located in the Old Statehouse in Boston, Sept. 18.



GUARD HISTORY

By Lt. Col. Len Kondratjuk
NGB Historian



FIRST CORPS NCOs
- Five sergeants are pictured in dress uniform about 1870.

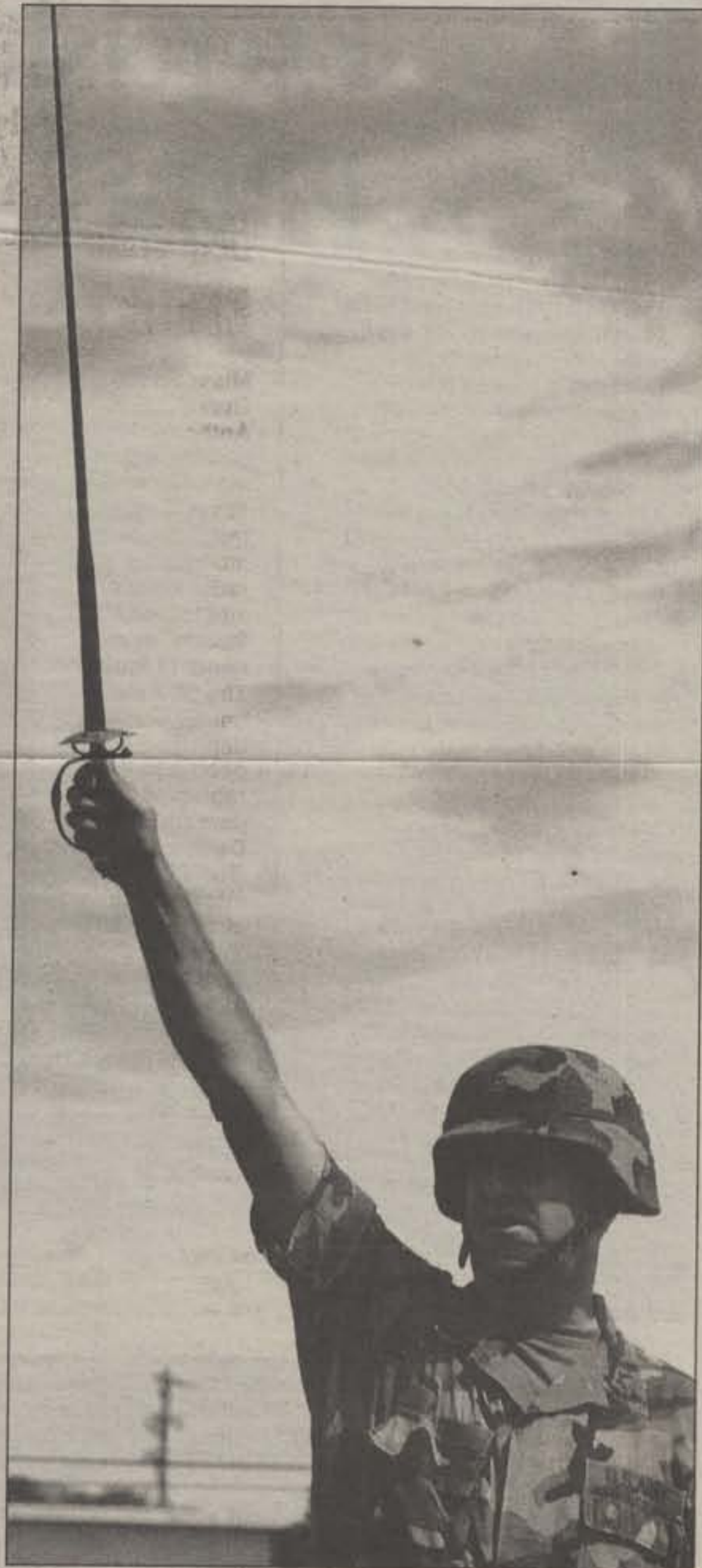


Photo by Ken Buck

MONSTRAT VIAM - Maj. Bernard Flynn brandishes a Bowdoin Sword upon accepting command of the 211th MP Battalion.



TRAINING



Exercising PROWESS

Before deploying to Turkey, New York fighter wing is put through readiness exercise

By Lt. Col. Mike Waters
New York National Guard

It could have been the Persian Gulf or even Incirlik AB, Turkey. This time, however, as news of a possible SCUD attack blared across the base, it was Hancock Field in Syracuse N.Y.

The 174th Fighter Wing was conducting an Operational Readiness Exercise (ORE).

One after another, ten F-16s screamed into the sky for air-to-air and battlefield-

one on a litter, arrive at a Casualty Collection Point (CCP) in the back of a pickup truck. They're moved through triage by medical professionals. Those that did not survive are brought to the mortuary collection point.

The fight goes on.

In between launching aircraft, maintainers get a break for lunch at a field kitchen. They're the lucky ones. A number of people eating at the main dining facility are struck with "food poisoning."

"When the first person walked into the CCP complaining of stomach pains and diarrhea, I didn't think much about it," recalled MSgt. Ron Patrick, a medic. "When a second one with the same symptoms arrived about 15 minutes later, I notified our squadron medical element and asked that they send our 'bio' people

to check on the food." Seven people carrying exercise cards, it was discovered, were instructed to simulate food poisoning symptoms after they left the dining hall.

At 5 p.m., Lt. Col. Scott Anderson, EET team chief, called a recess for the day.

"The first day was a success and I expect the same tomorrow," said Lt. Col. Bob Knauff, 174th wing commander.

At 7:45, Sunday morning, message traffic began. SCUD missiles carrying chemical agents, it is learned, have struck 50 kilometers away. Less than a half-hour later, it's "Alarm Black" and everyone is wearing their full chemical warfare ensemble. And, it's beginning to get hot. The

mercury is predicted to rise to the 90s.

Fully loaded, afterburners lit, F-16s again get away unscathed.

On the ground, people are complaining of a burning sensation in the nose, eyes and throat. Some are twitching and jerking. Ten are brought to the CCP.

"Nerve agent," explained a 174th FW nursing superintendent. "If they have not had three shots of atropine, we administer that, stabilize the patient and transport them out."

As with all OREs, the evaluation team runs many different exercises throughout the day, each aimed at measuring the 174th's response and warfighting skills.

At the conclusion of the weekend drill, 59 F-16 sorties had been successfully flown in simulated combat conditions.

According to Knauff, the exercise has better prepared his Wing to meet future challenges; most immediately in Turkey supporting Operation Northern Watch this month.



Photos by Lt. Col. Mike Waters

EXERCISED - SMSgt. Bill Verity (left), clad in full chemical protective gear, inspects a load of MK-82, 500-pound bombs before take off. Sgt. Joe Fowler (above, left), a crew chief, talks with F-16 pilot Lt. Col. Joe Bulmer during a recent Operational Readiness Exercise.

air-interdiction missions. As the weather warmed, so did activity on the ground.

The war was on.

New York Air Guardmembers, upon hearing SSgt. Pete Alberti's announcement, donned their chemical gear and scrambled for cover as a blue-hatted posse called the Exercise Evaluation Team (EET) charted their every move.

The SCUDs find their mark. Clouds of red smoke billow from the targets that have been struck. Damage reports begin to pour into the Survival and Recovery Center. The initial assessment: A number of buildings have been hit and unexploded ordnance litters the ground. There are many casualties.

Airmen and women of all job specialties call upon their lifesaving emergency medical skills. Two wounded airmen,

BOMB PLAN - SMSgt. Mike Will (left, pointing) plot their next move outside a bunker.

