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# THE ON GUARD

Volume XXVII, No. 3

Newspaper of the Army and Air National Guard

December 1997

## Guard to fight anti-terrorism

**Secretary of Defense sees role as initial responders**

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

**W**e must consult a dictionary to learn what the explosive letters TNT stand for: trinitrotoluene. It's the chemical compound "used chiefly in military and other explosive devices," Webster's tells us.

Those letters now represent a new twist and a new challenge for the Defense Department and the National Guard. Trans-National Threat is the TNT that concerns the people most responsible for the nation's domestic tranquility and our security abroad.

Secretary of Defense William Cohen has called for action. His sweeping Defense Reform Initiative, has called for many changes. One of the major features of the plan mandates the National Guard's "increased participation in the Army's domestic crisis response center."

"The trans-national threat is as serious as a major military conflict," warned a spokesman for the Defense Science Board.

The Army National Guard is spending \$10 million put up by the House of Representatives to study how it can best help the American people afflicted by acts of terrorism that individuals such as Timothy McVeigh and groups from small

Middle East nations are using with increasing frequency to try to bring big countries to their knees.

That terrorists generally do not succeed in their long-range goals is little consolation to innocent victims of violence in such places as Oklahoma City and at the World Trade Center in New York. That people are vulnerable just about anywhere has been brought home by the June 1996 Khobar Towers tanker truck bombing that killed 19 American service people in Saudi Arabia.

"The attitude has changed. Women and children are acceptable targets," lamented Col. Howard "Bo" Mayhew, chief of the Army National Guard's new Military Support Division. "We have to be able to respond."

Victims of today's weapons of mass destruction need help immediately. Providing as much of that help as possible has become the National Guard's new calling for the '90s, officials insist.

"The National Guard will rise to that challenge. Our war-fighting organization, training and equipment are directly transferable to our domestic response capability," said Maj. Gen. William Navas,

Director of the Army National Guard. "As always, we will stand ready to help our fellow countrymen."

Navas is the executive agent for National Guard domestic programs. He represents the Guard on a senior-level working group. That includes the assistant



*"Our war-fighting organization, training and equipment are directly transferable to our domestic response capability."*

Maj. Gen. William Navas

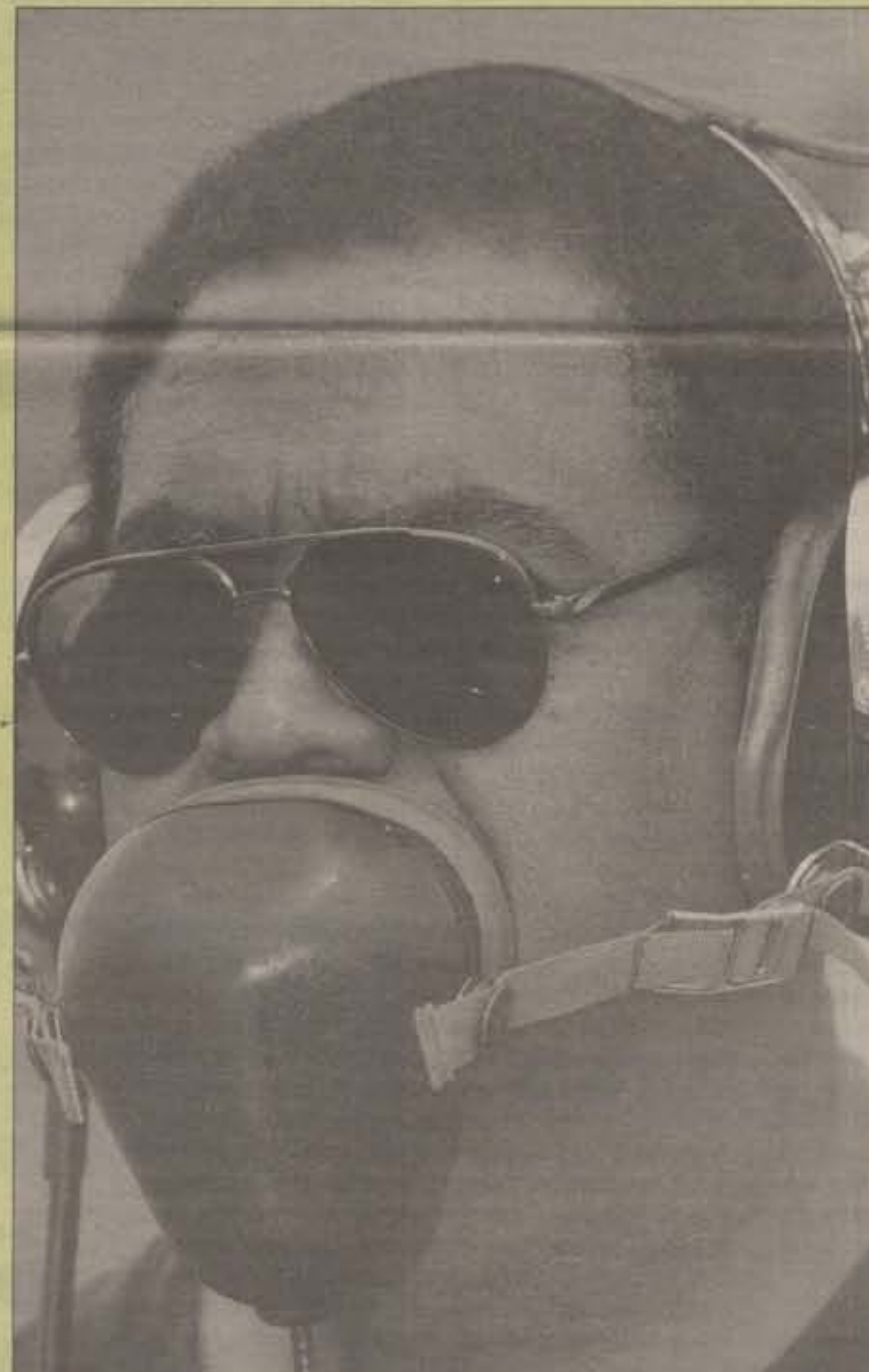


Photo by Lt. Col. Mike Waters

## BACK to IRAQ

New York Air Guard's MSgt. Carlton Derby, a crew chief with the 174th Fighter Wing, was among a contingent of Guardmembers deployed to patrol the no-fly zone over Iraq in support of Operation Northern Watch. See related story, photos on Pages 6-7.

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# COMMENTARY

• Crimson Pride • 'Err'or Defenders • Well Interpreted

## ABOUT the PAPER

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## GUARD MAIL

### Crimson-faced over Razorback Reference

*I would like to thank The On Guard for the article covering the Alabama National Guard's recent call-up for disaster relief during Hurricane Danny.*

Our Guardmembers go unnoticed and unthanked far too often. It is always good to see some recognition given to them in a forum as widespread as yours. These soldiers did a great job under terrible circumstances.

However, I wrote to clarify something in that article. In the second paragraph the Alabama National Guard is referred to as "Razorback" Army and Air Guardmembers. Although we hold no animosity toward our Arkansas neighbors or their football teams, if we are going to be given nicknames based on our favorite state college football teams, you would have a difficult time picking one favorite for us. In the great state of Alabama we have several top ranking teams to choose from. At best we would have to boil them down to the two largest and nationally-ranked teams, the Auburn University "Tigers" — also known as the "War Eagles" — and the University of Alabama "Crimson Tide," who have an elephant as a mascot.

As you can see, it would be difficult to pick only one of these nicknames for our Guardmembers to keep us all happy. Maybe a combination of the two schools, such as, "Alaburn" or "Au-

bama" Guardmembers would keep a majority of us appeased, but even that would not be wise in a state where college football takes on an almost religious reverence.

I guess, in retrospect, it would be best to call us what we are: Alabama National Guardsmen and women. Or how about "soldiers," which is what we all are.

Rest assured, your reference to us as "Razorback" Guardmembers did not go unnoticed by anyone in one of the 10 largest standing armies in the world.

CSM Dale Bryne  
Alabama National Guard

### Launching Countermeasures

*In the October issue on page 14 there is a mistake. The Florida unit that actually participated in the Roving Sands exercise at Fort Bliss, Texas, was the 164th Air Defense Artillery (ADA) Brigade from Orlando, Fla.*

This misprint is an injustice to the 68 soldiers from this unit who spent 15 days performing this critical, total force mission. Our soldiers and units often do jobs where no credit is asked for. However, when we recognize their accomplishments, we should at least ensure the right people are praised.

Also, in the picture with the article, Lt. Col. Bill Alspach is an active duty officer with the U.S. Army Space Command. Lt. Col. Tim Sullivan is the S-3 (operations officer) for 164th ADA Brigade, not the 1st Battalion, 265th ADA. The picture represents the working environment between the active component and the Army Guard within

the Air and Missile Defense Command. We are side-by-side counterparts, not fillers on the midnight shift.

Capt. Alan Beasley  
Florida National Guard

### Pleased in Bosnia

*I am an interpreter working at the National Support Element Public Affairs Office at Taszar Main, Hungary. I was looking at your paper and found several interesting stories.*

I was really happy to see a story written by the Alabama National Guard's SSgt. Michael McCord. I worked with the guy and can tell you that he did an excellent job with his unit over here.

Monika Nagy  
Task Force Eagle, Bosnian interpreter

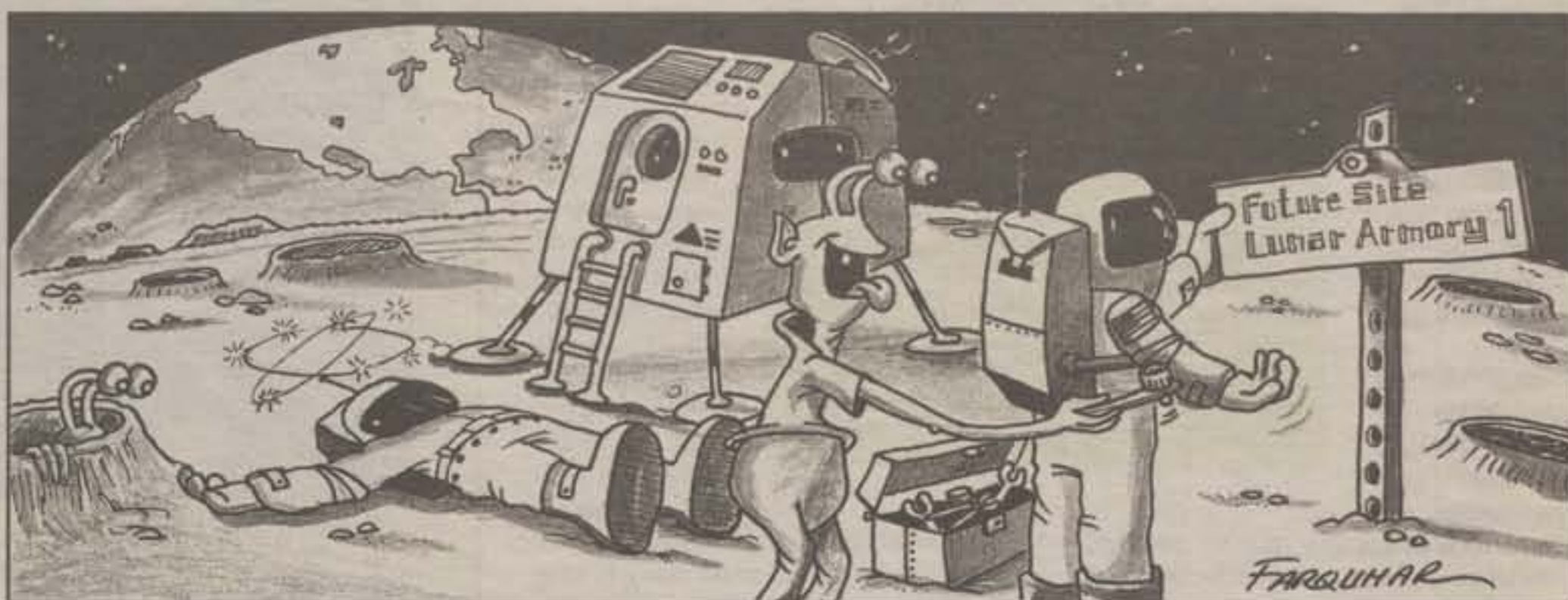
## LETTERS POLICY:

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

You may FAX your 'Letters to the Editor' to DSN 761-0732 or (703) 681-0732. Letters can be mailed to: NGB-PAI-C, 2500 Army Pentagon, Washington, DC 20310-2500. Our e-mail address: [jmalthan@ngb-emh2.army.mil](mailto:jmalthan@ngb-emh2.army.mil)

## GUARD TOONS

By Lyle Farquhar



"I thought getting involved in the space mission was a good idea, but I get a weird feeling about this place."





## IN THE NEWS

• Worst to First • Wyoming Firefighters • Lithuania Deal

## New York goes from worst to first

**■ Recruiting, Retention numbers attributed to tuition assistance bill**

By Maj. Paul Fanning  
New York National Guard

The New York Army Guard, bolstered by a new tuition assistance bill, has rocketed from virtually worst to first in recruiting and retention nationwide over a two year period, according to National Guard Bureau reports.

Officials are crediting last year's passage of the New York National Guard Tuition Incentive Bill, as powering what is popularly described as "The New York Comeback." The state-supported program provides free college tuition at any of New York's public colleges and universities, or up to the public college tuition rate at any of the state's private schools.

"Ninety percent of the new recruits that I have been signing up are joining because of the tuition bill," confirmed SFC Ken Stoddard, New York's Army Guard 1996 Recruiter of the Year. "This incentive works."

Charles Price, a National Guard Bureau spokesperson at the Pentagon, said "the sleeping giant has awoken."

"They have turned it around," he said. "I have never seen anything like this."

As executive director of the National Guard Association of the United States -- regarded as the Guard's biggest lobbying arm on Capitol Hill -- retired Maj. Gen. Edward Philbin said lawmakers should heed the Empire State's example.

"New York's comeback should serve as testimony to what may be accomplished when a state invests in its National Guard," he said.



Photo by SFC James Fillio

**GIVE ME SOME SHEEPSKIN** - In an impromptu moment, New York's Spc. Jason Taluto expresses sincere thanks for free schooling to his commander-in-chief, Gov. George Pataki.

Before the bill was passed, New York had averaged losses of 1,000 citizen-soldiers per year as far back as 1985. In their wake, unit force structure -- entire battalions at a time -- exited New York taking federal defense dollars with them. To stop the bleeding, Pataki appointed a new Guard leadership team, headed by Maj. Gen. Jack Fenimore, the adjutant general, and Brig. Gen. Bill Martin, the deputy TAG.

State leaders traced the source of their recruiting and retention woes to education's doorstep. Research showed

■ See NEW YORK, Page 4

## Wyoming deploys firefighting C-130s to Indonesia

By 1st Lt. Teresa K. Howes  
Wyoming National Guard

Arriving to a country literally on fire, 47 Wyoming Air Guardmembers and three C-130 Hercules aircraft -- two fitted with Mobile Airborne Fire Fighting Systems -- flew to Indonesia to fight forest fires and make history.

"There are at least 1,000 fires on the island of Sumatra alone," reported Col. Harold Reed, mission commander. "The smoke is thick and the days are long."

The Equality State airmen and women from the 153rd Airlift Wing in Cheyenne flew halfway around the world within 66 hours of being tasked by the Secretary of Defense Oct. 11. According to Col. Robert Rodekohl, 153rd commander, his



Photo by TSgt. Gerald Johnson

**BLAZING ON** - A Wyoming Air Guard C-130 drops water on a fire in Indonesia.

people are the first Air Guard unit to fly overseas to fight fires.

This is the first major natural disaster Indonesia has experienced, he added. Ironically, the South East Asian country normally battles mon-

soons this time of year.

"The country is rich in rare, exotic hardwoods," he explained. "These hardwoods and millions of the acres of forest are burning up as well."

The MAFFS is a self-contained, reusable, liquid dispensing system that fits into a C-130 aircraft. The U.S. Forest Service owns the MAFFS units. They are operated by Air Guard units in Wyoming, California and North Carolina.

The 153rd Wing is no stranger to the mission, having fought blazes in California, Arizona and Wyoming's Yellowstone National Park.

Combatting long hours, unbearable heat and difficult breathing conditions, 153rd fliers have logged 166 sorties -- one takeoff and landing equals a sortie -- in just their first month abroad.

## NATIONAL BRIEFS

## Lithuanians ink formal deal with Keystone State Guard

Saying the "bridge is built on a solid foundation," Lithuanian Minister of Defense, Ceslovas V.

Stankevicius, ended his first visit to Pennsylvania very impressed with the four-year relationship between Lithuania and the Keystone State.



Pennsylvanians and Lithuanians sign formal agreement.

As part of the military-to-military contact program, 92 exchanges of civilian and military personnel have occurred between nation and state since 1993.

Highlighting the visit, Maj. Gen. James W. MacVay, Pennsylvania's adjutant general, and Col. Valdas Tutkas, the Lithuanian Armed Forces' deputy commander, signed a formal agreement intent on furthering the goals of the partnership program.

The proclamation solidified the need for further advances in democratic principles and acknowledged there is, "much to be gained from mutual commitment and cooperation" between the Pennsylvania National Guard and the Republic of Lithuania.

## Otay border road completed

A ribbon cutting ceremony marked the completion of Operation Otay-97, a 12-month, 21-mile road upgrade project of the California National Guard.

At the request of the U.S. Border Patrol, whose agents spend many hours patrolling the rugged wilderness area, active and reserve component soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines completed the Otay Mountain road improvements on schedule and without incident. Approximately 1,700 military engineers from across the U.S. and Guam participated in the \$4 million training exercise.

"As a result, narcotic trafficking and alien smuggling activities in this area have significantly decreased," said San Diego Sector Chief Patrol Agent Johnny Williams.

Truck drivers made 11,000 trips delivering more than 47,000-cubic-yards of clean, commercially purchased gravel to improve the badly deteriorated road network. Military engineers installed and upgraded 132 culverts, spending 90,000 hours on the project.



## IN THE NEWS

## NEW YORK

From Page 3

that soldiers join and stay in the military because of education and training opportunities. New York offered no state educational opportunities to its Guardmembers. Neighboring states, like Massachusetts, were reportedly luring New Yorkers to their ranks by offering tuition assistance and other benefits. New York had traditionally relied on the Montgomery G.I. Bill to attract recruits. It wasn't enough.

In the Fall of 1995, Guard leaders went to Pataki and the state legislature for relief in the form of the National Guard Tuition Incentive Bill. The primary selling points: if New York invests in its most vital and versatile emergency response force -- its "citizen-soldiers and airmen" -- the achievement of immediate and long-term goals of improved readiness, an educated workforce and potential for matching new federal military funds, would be considerably enhanced.

On July 31, 1996, following unanimous support in the legislature, Pataki signed one of the nation's most formidable state tuition assistance programs into law. The landmark measure provides for 100 percent undergraduate-level tuition for qualified New York Army and Air Guardmembers at state and New York City-sponsored universities and colleges. Private college students may also receive up to \$3,400 per year in benefits.

The tuition bill is one of the nation's most robust, in a state that had never offered its Guardmembers a true higher education benefit of any kind.

"Fifty to one -- a long shot by all accounts, but not for Governor Pataki and New York's Legislature," proclaimed Fenimore on the odds of getting their citizen-soldiers free tuition. "They bet on us and we won."

The Empire State's Adjutant General said his force's recruiting comeback isn't the only thing worth crowing about.

"Once again, New York is taking a role as a national leader in a citizen-soldier-based military," Fenimore added. "The sleeping giant has awoken."

# Montana airlifts dinosaur fossils

By SrA. Dan Rapkoch  
Montana National Guard

Larry Boychuck loves the rugged beauty and mystery of Makoshika State Park in far eastern Montana. It was during his annual exploration of the stark, barren park, noted for its prehistoric appearance, that the Canadian made a discovery -- a thesclerasaurus skeleton.

The thesclerasaurus (Latin for *wonderful lizard*) fossil is one of only two dinosaur of this variety ever found. It is also the only full skeleton of this creature ever discovered.

As it turns out, the find was both a blessing and dilemma for Jack Horner, the chief paleontologist at the Museum of the Rockies, located on the Montana State University campus in Bozeman.

After sending chief preparator Bob Harmon to the site for months to cover the dinosaur fossil in a plaster shell so it could be safely transported to the museum, it became clear that retrieving the two pieces -- the main portion of the body weighed 5,000 pounds, while the tail section tipped the scale at 800 pounds -- would take some help from above.

The museum staff searched for commercial airlift help, but to no avail. They then contacted Capt. Scott Smith and Pat Flaherty from the Montana National Guard's Military Support to Civilian Authorities (MSCA) division. The two officers immediately began work to clear the hurdles necessary for the Montana Army Guard to help.

Because of the weight, the officers identified the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter as the best way to lift the two fossil pieces out of the canyon.

National Guard Bureau approved this mission as an Innovative Readiness Training exercise. The Bureau saw the mission



Photo by Col. Ray Read

**'DINO DEED' - A Montana Army Guard Blackhawk crew rigs a plaster-encased dinosaur fossil before lifting it to a museum.**

as an opportunity to recover a valuable piece of history, and a way to offer an air crew a real-world training mission, explained Col. Ray Read, the Montana National Guard's public affairs officer.

The Montana Departments of Fish and Wildlife and Parks, along with local officials, helped coordinate the lift.

On Sept. 22, the helicopter crew from the 1st Battalion, 189th Aviation -- piloted by CWO3 Chuck Brenton and 1st Lt. John Spencer -- left Helena for the 400-mile flight to the Glendive, where the park is located. The air crew included crew chiefs SSgt. David Warburton and Sgt. Tim Pulliani and riggers SFC Jeff Loy and SSgt. Don Van Daele. After arriving, the crew hiked more than a mile to the site to scout out the area and prepare the rigging.

"Most of these people came off their normal jobs to participate in this mission," Read reported. "All of the men enjoyed working on such a special project."

On Sept. 23, a large crowd of Glendive

residents watched as the helicopter crew gently lifted the two pieces out.

Boychuck, invited to observe the move, beamed with excitement as the skeleton was lifted from its discovery place. He said he is now looking forward to searching the park again next summer for more dinosaur fossils.

The thesclerasaurus currently resides at the museum. Harmon said he will spend the winter freeing the fossil remains from its plaster encasement.

"It will be a long winter sitting in the basement working on the dinosaur," he said.

As for the Guard's involvement, Read said it proved mutually beneficial.

"The crew was able to use its skills for the good of all Montanans by recovering this treasure," he said. "They each received great training flying this mission."



Photo courtesy: HQ, ANG Family Support Program

## 'COUNTing' on Family Support

Brig. Gen. Paul Weaver (dressed as Count Dracula), the Air Guard's next director, offers two young ninjas toy spiders at a recent Halloween party attended by more than 400 costumed Air Guardmembers and their families at Andrews AFB, Md. The event, sponsored by the Headquarters, ANG Family Support Program, was the first in a series of events designed to demonstrate the Air Guard's renewed commitment to its families.





## PEOPLE

Joint Guard Update: • Someone to Bank on • Deploying Love

## Tuzla Bank and Trust

Texas banker  
makes dollars  
and sense for  
Joint GuardBy MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

Wall Street would not wake for another 29 hours. It was Sunday, and financial institutions across America would be closed except for the impersonal transactions at ATMs.

No matter. The Tuzla Bank and Trust -- officially known as the 39th Finance Battalion -- was open for business as usual on the November morning in northern Bosnia. Jeff Bingham, who is a banker from Victoria, Texas, and a major in the Texas Army National Guard, was on hand to make sure the customers were satisfied.

His desk in a nondescript cement, single-story building was fashioned from two-by-four studs and unpainted plywood. A vault behind him consisted of a half-dozen olive drab safes stacked against a wall and secured with a heavy chain. The shoulder holster strapped over his camouflage shirt held a 9-millimeter automatic pistol.

The trappings may be considerably more Spartan than his office at the South Texas Bank back in coastal Victoria where he is an investment counselor. But the job is essentially the same.

"We think only about the customers. We make sure the soldiers' finances are straight," said Bingham, 39, of the

21-member team that caters to a large but exclusive clientele -- the thousands of U.S. soldiers and independent contractors involved in the Joint Guard peacekeeping mission.

Bingham is the executive officer -- second in command -- of the Texas Army Guard's 49th Finance Battalion from Austin.

Sixty-nine members of that battalion are working behind the scenes with the active Army's 39th Finance Battalion until next spring to keep their customers' pay and other financial benefits in order.

Finance and food, he acknowledged, are critical for any army's morale.

"Knowing that their money is going to their banks and that their families are being taken care of still has a great effect on soldiers," said Bingham who has been in banking for 22 years, since earning his bachelor's degree in finance from Sam Houston State. He has been a finance officer for most of his 17 years in the Texas Army Guard.

He is also a husband and father of two young sons in Texas. Families, he knows, need to feel financially secure even if dad or mom can't be home for Christmas.

"There are more similarities than there are differences," said Bingham of the job he is doing this winter in



Maj. Jeff Bingham

Tuzla rather than Texas. The computer technology that drives commercial banking these days works equally well for the military finance system.

"I can do the same work here that I do back home in Victoria," he explained.

The differences, however, are significant.

Rolling over certificates of deposit, calculating the quarterly interest for savings accounts, and dealing with expired credit cards and bounced checks are not the major items on this financial institution's plate.

Basic pay, allotments to people back home, the \$150 per month hazardous duty pay, foreign duty pay based on each soldier's rank, and combat zone tax exemptions are the issues that keep these Army beancounters busy.

The finance center also pays the private Bosnian contractors who supply gravel, clear land and build tent towns for the soldiers.

"When the 7,000 soldiers from the 1st Infantry Division moved out and the 1st Armored Division moved back in last October, we were really working for two or three weeks," said Bingham. "We had to make sure those soldiers coming in were taken care of."

That the vast majority brought no finance problems with them indicates the units are taking care of the soldiers, he added.

But there are still lots of questions, especially from soldiers who do not know how much they should be making because they have never before been sent to a combat area -- even if it is in the name of peace.

Bingham, and the people working with him this winter in Tuzla, will answer those questions and resolve any financial problems that could keep a soldier from focusing on the peacekeeping mission. That, you can bank on.

## 'Hungary' to help orphans

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

Fields of golden corn still waiting for the harvest in early November gave the impression that Hungary is a land of plenty. But like every other place, the newly independent republic in Eastern Europe has plenty of people who need.

Members of the Texas Army Guard engaged in NATO's Joint Guard peacekeeping mission are doing their best to help 300 emotionally-troubled orphans who live and learn at an aging estate that was owned by a baron before the Communists took control in 1946.

In effect, about 30 members of the 111th Area Support Group from Austin and San Antonio have adopted the youngsters who range in ages from 6 to 18 and

who are desperate for the love and gifts that their new friends bring every Saturday.

They may not speak the same language, but the orphans and the Guardmembers get just as much from this affair of the heart.

The handshakes, the hugs and the pats on the head do as much for the citizen-soldiers who are a long way from their families during this season of giving as for the youngsters who crowd around them.

"Maybe that's why we get along with the kids so well, because they miss their homes, too," said Chaplain (Maj.) Robert Ewing. He is the spiritual spearhead for the 111th's efforts to bring some sunshine to the lives of the dark-eyed youngsters who tug at the Texans' heartstrings.

The Guard soldiers delivered several hundred pounds of clothing packed on two pickup trucks to the orphans on Nov. 6. The clothes were donated by a San Antonio radio station.

"If you come here once, you just have to come here again,"



Photo by MSgt. Bob Haskell

**DEPLOYING CARE - Texas' SFC 'Blue' Delgado is surrounded by orphans in Hungary.**

said MSgt. Bob Dashman, the unit's public affairs spokesman, while driving to the orphanage.

It is an old mustard-yellow palace with a red tile roof located in Somogyvar, 26 miles from the Tazsar Air Base where 130 members of the 111th are directing the flow of American troops, supplies and equipment to and from Bosnia.

"We have some contact with a German school, but your American soldiers are the only ones who visit," said Ilona Horvath, who has directed the 51-year-

old orphanage for 33 years.

About a third of the orphans live there because they have been abandoned by or taken from their parents, she said. Others attend the institution's schools where the girls learn such domestic skills as dress making and horticulture and the boys are taught carpentry and masonry.

SFC "Blue" Delgado is 55. He has four children and seven grandchildren. He is an Austin building inspector.

"I get my motivation from the kids' smiles, mainly," said Delgado who took a crew of combat engineers to the estate in October to cut down many trees to be sold for lumber.

Delgado is one of the orphans' favorites. He teaches them a smattering of English from a small English-Hungarian dictionary that he always carries.

Sgt. Leah Schwarz is 25. She

is not married. She is pursuing a master's degree in counseling at a Dallas seminary.

"I just have a heart for kids," said Schwarz who worked with youth programs during her undergrad years at Texas A&M.

"I'd take these two back to the states if I could," she said of her young companions who never left her side.

The Texans have another reason for spending as much time as they can with the Hungarian youngsters. It is a chance to break away from the routine and the demands of the base where the work goes on 24 hours a day.

"This is a way for us to get back into our human selves that we have to put away when we do our military jobs," said Ewing. "It's hard to be emotional when you're working operations. It's hard not to be emotional when you're out here."

"I get four hours of quiet time every Saturday," explained Delgado. "There's no stress. These kids are not hollering orders in my ear. They're hollering for candy and gum."





Photos by Lt. Col. Mike Waters

The players have changed. But, the mission is the same. Prevent Saddam Hussein's Air Force from flying in the airspace over northern Iraq.

Members of the New York Air Guard's 174th Fighter Wing were once again patrolling the no-fly zone over a part of the world that has many world leaders nervous.

In 1995, the 174th deployed to Incirlik AB, Turkey, as part of Operation Provide Comfort, a relief effort aimed at helping the Kurdish people left behind after the Persian Gulf War. Since then, the coalition forces here have downsized. The French no longer participate. Many U.S. aircraft, such as the EF-111 and F-4G, have been replaced with modern weapon systems such as the EA-6 and F-16CJ. The Brits traded their Jaguars for Tornados.

In keeping with the U.S. Air Force, the U.S. forces are now known as the 39th Wing (Air and Space Expeditionary Force). Instead of supporting Provide Comfort, 174th fliers now call Operation

**New York's  
174th Fighter  
Wing returns  
to the 36th  
Parallel to  
patrol the no-  
fly zone**

**By Lt. Col.  
Mike Waters  
New York  
National Guard**

## BACK TO IRAQ

Northern Watch their latest mission.

The Syracuse-based unit began their most current stint at Incirlik Sept. 1, just before the recent standoff with Hussein and United Nations inspectors. Prior to their arrival, the Alabama Air Guard's 187th Fighter Wing from Montgomery, patrolled the skies above the 36th parallel using six of their own F-16Cs and six from the New York Air Guard. All 12 fighter jets were flown back to the states by 174th pilots the first week in October.

Northern Watch did not lack for involvement from airmen and women from the Empire State. About 30 members of the 106th Air Rescue Wing based in Westhampton Beach were also on the job; many for their second tour.

The participation of traditional Guard-



**JET CHECK - SSgt. Nicole Fastineau, a 174th fuel systems technician, gathers samples following a flight over Iraq.**

members -- those with full-time civilian occupations -- is essential given the 174th's frequent involvement in exercises abroad, inspections and real-world

missions. In February and March alone, the unit was in Andoya, Norway, for a North Atlantic Treaty Organization exercise.

To permit this level of support to the active component, a mid-deployment airlift was conducted to swap-out people.

"It's very important that we do not over extend individual members of the Air Guard," said Maj. Gen. Jack Fenimore, New York's adjutant general. "We cannot exist without strong family and employer support."

The opportunity for aircrews to hone their skills flying training missions is new for Northern Watch observers. Previously the only sorties flown were in support of the mission. Training days also provide an opportunity for munitions specialists to practice loading bombs. The live air-to-air missiles, as well as air-to-ground ordnance, were downloaded for training flights and replaced

for operational missions.

The deployment also allowed Guard fliers to match their skills with pilots from the active U.S. and British Air Forces.

Maj. Tom Owens said the Air Guard's presence enhanced the operation.

"We bring some fresh ideas that may be used to fine-tune tactics used by flights in the AOR (area of responsibility)," he





explained. Owens is the most recent member of the 174th to graduate from the prestigious U.S. Air Force Weapons School.

Former Air Force Thunderbird pilot and current 174th vice commander, Lt. Col. Scott Anderson, said the Guardmembers were not merely augmentees helping out the active forces.

"Because of the high level of experience our people have, we often had leadership roles planning and flying missions," he reported.

Although leisure activities were limited because of the mission's pace, Turkey provided a unique opportunity for many to enjoy a different culture, shop, dine and visit historical sites.

"It's great how friendly the Turks are," said TSgt. Kelly Besaw who was deployed overseas for the first time.

The American dollar is extremely strong in Turkey with inflation running 85 to 90 percent. A complete Turkish meal at one of the many small restaurants just outside

**MISSION COMPLETE - New York Air Guard pilot Lt. Col. Richard Goodwin is greeted by fellow 174th winger, SSgt. Nicole Fastineau (on ladder) following a visit to the no-fly zone in Iraq.**

the base cost just \$5.

Turkey also is well known for fine hand and machine-made carpets, some costing tens of thousands of dollars in the U.S. Prices in Incirlik are just a fraction of that. The owner of the aptly named "Top Gun" carpet shop said New York Guardmembers have bought more than \$200,000 worth of carpets from his shop. Many of the New Yorkers who deployed to Incirlik two years ago were instantly recognized and greeted by name.

With two overseas deployments behind them this year, the 174th now turns their attention to preparing for a deployed Operational Readiness Inspection in 1998.

It's a test many from Syracuse have already passed over the skies of Iraq.

## Redefining citizenship

By Lt. Col. Mike Waters  
New York National Guard

Immigrant, surgeon, financier, philanthropist; not exactly words you would associate with your typical member of the Air National Guard. But then, Ravindra Shah is not your average U.S. citizen either.

He's a man New York Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Jack Fenimore describes as, "Having impressive professional credentials; but far more important, demonstrates the essentials of leadership to everyone who comes in contact with him."

Shah, a colonel in the New York Air National Guard, is best known among fellow aviators as "Shakti," his tactical call sign. He is a native of India where "Shakti" means "force for good over evil."

Upon completion of medical school, an internship in his homeland, and a short stay in the United Kingdom, Shah emigrated to the U.S. Armed with his medical degree and only \$8 to his name, he set upon his dream.

The colonel was a research scientist at the New York University Medical School when his visa ex-

pired. He feared his dream was going to be shattered, as he faced deportation back to India.

But, the Indian doctor's pioneering work on organ transplants piqued the interest of the U.S. Navy. U.S. Senators Jacob Javits and Robert Kennedy, of New York, came to the rescue. Through a special bill they introduced, Shah was granted U.S. citizenship.

"Everything I have, I owe to this country," states the colonel. "You only deserve the rights of freedom if you do your duty," is the philosophy that led to his membership in the Air National Guard.

Shah first joined the 174th Fighter Wing in 1982, became chief flight surgeon in 1985, and subsequently, clinic commander.

In 1992, in recognition of his dedication and expertise he was appointed state air surgeon where he oversees the medical well being of more than 6,000 members of the New York Air Guard.

These airmen are assigned to five flying and five separate, non-flying units spread across the state from Niagara Falls to eastern Long Island.

"Shah demonstrates, by his actions, that he places a much higher value on the well-being and security of fellow airmen and their families than his own comfort and security," Fenimore said.

Fliers especially love and respect "Shakti."

Shah continually devotes hundred of hours above and beyond what is expected of a traditional Guardmember. The colonel has logged 400 hours in the F-16, including a trans-Atlantic crossing.

Military deployments have taken him to many foreign countries as well as both the North and South Pole. He is also a graduate of the demanding "Top Knife" fighter surgeon school.

While deployed to Incirlik AB,

Turkey, as he often does, Shah saved the military thousands of dollars by providing his special expertise. The colonel is a board-certified

urologist. In addition to his regular flight surgeon duties, he saw 15 patients that would have otherwise been flown to Germany for care. He also conducted a continuing medical education class for the professional staff at the base hospital.

"Marvelous! When can you come back?" was the reaction of Lt. Col. Gordon Landsman, the commander of the local aeromedical squadron.

In his latest mission, like others he's performed, "Shakti" proved once again that he has more than earned his right to citizenship.



"You only deserve the rights of freedom if you do your duty"

—Lt. Col. Ravindra Shah



Alabama Army Guard's Spc. Richard Heard (right) holds his six-month-old daughter, Merthesha, for the first time after returning from an eight month deployment supporting the Joint Guard peacekeeping effort. At-risk students (below) at Hawaii's ChalleNGe program, run by the Guard, learned to make beds and succeed in life.



Photo by SSgt. Norman Arnold

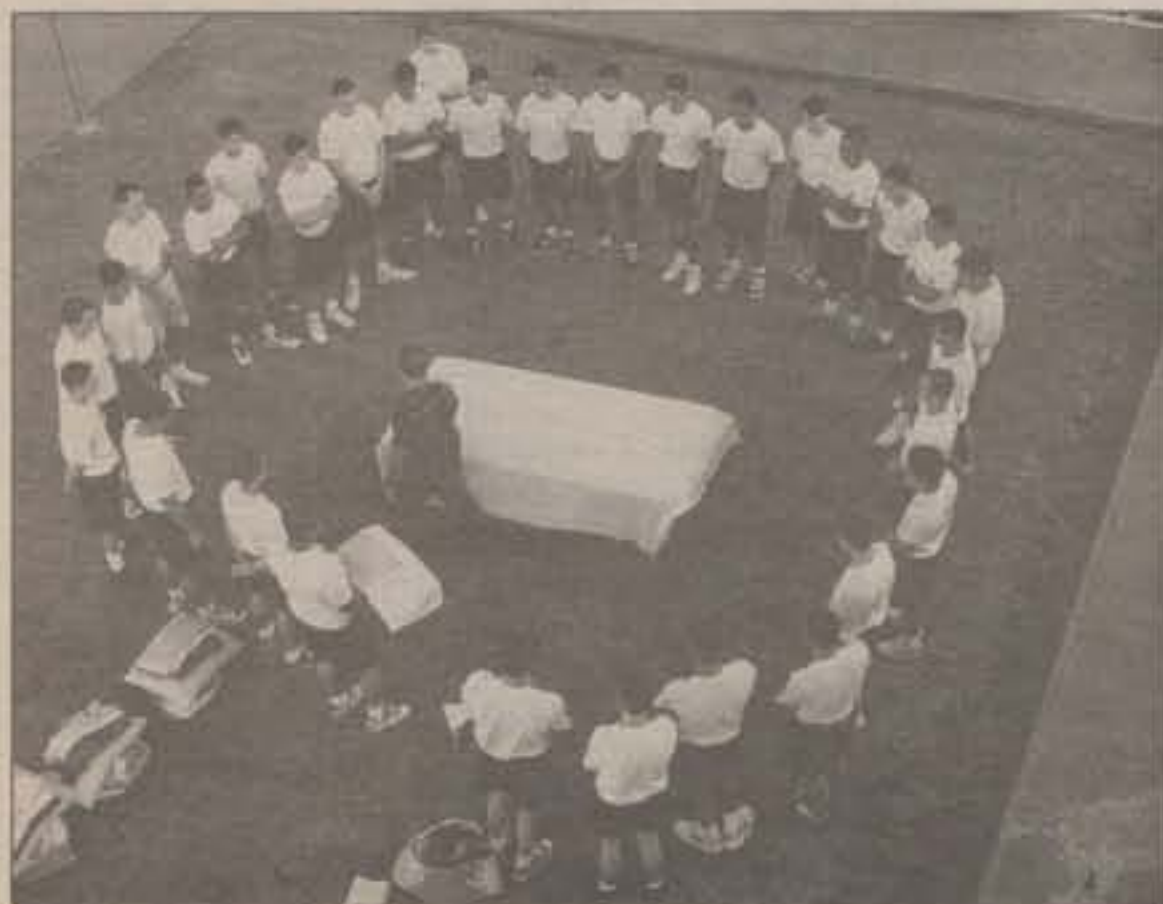


Photo courtesy Airman Magazine



Photo by Maj. Bob Stone

Guardmembers could be found eradicating marijuana (above) in California, or in Norway (right) supporting a NATO exercise like one sleigh-riding New York Air Guardsman.

1997  
YEAR in REVIEW

# GLOBAL Guardians

Still a visible force in their own backyards, many Army and Air Guardmembers also were making a difference abroad last year

## ALABAMA

More than 440 Army and Air Guardmembers were called to state duty in early summer after Hurricane Danny caused massive flooding. Nearly 1,500 'Bama citizen-soldiers worked in Panama in two-week rotations assisting in Southern Command operations. Air Guard people and equipment supported missions in Bosnia, Norway, Turkey, Kuwait, Japan and Spain.

Army Guard: 15,800  
Air Guard: 2,469

## ALASKA

The Frontier State Guard was credited with saving 113 people last fiscal year. The Rescue Coordination Center at Camp Denali directed Air and Army Guard and Civil Air Patrol crews to assist lost, injured, or marooned people across the state. Guardmembers were also deployed to Bosnia, Hungary, Germany, Turkey, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Australia, Singapore, China, Russia, Japan and Korea.

Army Guard: 2,060  
Air Guard: 1,878

## ARIZONA

In February, members of the Arizona Army Guard's 385th Aviation Group deployed to Operation Joint Guard, part of NATO's peacekeeping operations in Europe. At the same time, members of the Air National Guard's 161st Air Refueling Wing security force deployed to Saudi Arabia.

Army Guard: 4,074  
Air Guard: 2,788

## ARKANSAS

March came in like a lion as tornados roared across the state striking 24 communities and killing 25. Within an hour, the Razorback Guard were on the scene helping people. This was the state's worst disaster since 1968. A combined force of Army and Air Guardmembers worked more than 6,000 mandays.

Army Guard: 8,718  
Air Guard: 2,089

## CALIFORNIA

During a three-month period, more than 1,100 soldiers and airmen using more than 390 pieces of equipment and 41 aircraft, assisted local jurisdictions to handle emergency efforts caused by record breaking floods. The floods resulted in the Governor declaring 42 of 58 counties as disaster areas.

Army Guard: 17,301  
Air Guard: 4,907

## COLORADO

Hundreds of Army and Air Guardmembers appeared in the NBC mini-series "Asteroid." The 137th Space Warning Squadron assumed the 24-hour mission of guarding America's skies for the U.S. Air Force. The Centennial Guard served as the host for the "Denver Summit of the Eight" leading economic world powers. Soldiers with the 1st Battalion, 157th Field Artillery and aviation units evacuated hundreds of people after flooding.

Army Guard: 3,392  
Air Guard: 1,409

## CONNECTICUT

The 103rd Fighter Wing welcomed Col. Walter L. Burns as their new commander. He is the first active Air Force commander of a state-side Air Guard unit. Twenty two members of the 103rd's medical squadron provided medical, dental and prenatal care to isolated mountain villagers in Honduras. More than 140 Army Guard engineers improved a 25-kilometer road along the U.S./Mexico border.

Army Guard: 3,821  
Air Guard: 1,206

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

More than 800 Army and Air Guardmembers provided traffic and crowd control, logistical support, and marched in the parade during President Clinton's inauguration. More than 120 members of the 273rd Military Police Company served 270 days at five sites in Germany supporting Operation Joint Endeavor. The 113th Fighter Wing received an "outstanding" for its Operational Readiness Inspection.

Army Guard: 1,533  
Air Guard: 1,382

## DELAWARE

Troops with the 945th Service Company performed annual training in Zutendaal, Belgium, inspecting large quantities of bridging equipment. The 166th Airlift Wing sponsored a C-130 "aircraft pull" that netted \$17,000 for the Special Olympics.

Army Guard: 1,537  
Air Guard: 983

## FLORIDA

The Guard's drug demand reduction program was named as the nation's foremost program by the Secretary of Defense. Begun in 1993, it has reached 35,000 students in 200 state high schools. The Sunshine State's legislature passed a tuition exemption bill for non-prior service Guardmembers at 11 state universities and colleges for an eight-year enlistment.

Army Guard: 10,065  
Air Guard: 1,798

## GEORGIA

The 124th Public Affairs Detachment supported Joint Endeavor in Bosnia from July through September. More than 100 Army Guard engineers participated in the Partnership for Peace program in the Republic of Georgia repairing for hospitals and orphanages. The 165th Airlift Wing provided airlift support in Bosnia and Panama. The Youth ChalleNGe Academy graduated its 1,200th at-risk student.

Army Guard: 9,234  
Air Guard: 2,931

## GUAM

Units of the 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry deployed to Korea for annual training. The territory's Army and Air Guard were called-up after the crash of Korean Airlines Flight 801 to provide search, rescue, and security support to federal and local agencies. The Guam Guard celebrated its 16th anniversary.

Army Guard: 670  
Air Guard: 200

## HAWAII

Aloha State Guard men and women participated in Operation Kokua assisting flood victims following weeks of torrential rains. The 117th Public Affairs Team spent eight months in Bosnia and Croatia supporting Joint Endeavor. More than 400 soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 299th Infantry deployed to Japan for Exercise Orient Shield. The 154th Civil Engineer Squadron deployed to Cambodia in support of a nation-building project.

Army Guard: 3,116  
Air Guard: 2,397

## IDAHO

More than 5,000 soldiers and airmen spent 11 days practicing their warfighting skills in Boise. Their infantry brigade will be tested next summer at the U.S. Army's National Training Center, Calif. Nearly 300 Army and Air Guardmembers were called-up after severe flooding. A-10 and C-130 units participated in exercises Red Flag, Reindeer Rendezvous and Air Warrior.

Army Guard: 3,247  
Air Guard: 1,157

## ILLINOIS

In the spirit of the Marshall Plan, the Lincoln State Guard went to Poland -- recently tapped to join NATO -- to participate in the Eagle Talon and Brave Eagle exercises. It was the first military exercises performed by any U.S. force since World War II.

Army Guard: 10,245  
Air Guard: 3,486





Photo by Lt. Col. Mike Waters



Photo by MSgt. Bob Haskell

Soldiers with the Virginia Army Guard's Company C, 116th Infantry (left) made history recently becoming the first reserve component infantrymen to be deployed for overseas since Vietnam. They are currently serving in Bosnia supporting the peacekeeping effort there. In a daring rescue, an Alaska Army Guard rescue team hoisted victims who fell into a crevasse. Alaska's rescuers were credited with saving more than 110 people last fiscal year.



Photo by Jim Lavrakas, Anchorage Daily News

## INDIANA

Two F-16 Fighter Wings guarded the no-fly-zone over Iraq as part of Operation Southern Watch. The 122nd Fighter Wing from Fort Wayne was the first unit in the nation to modify their aircraft to the Night Vision Imaging System. Seventy members of Battery E, 139th Field Artillery provided missile defense for eight months in Bosnia.

Army Guard: 12,064  
Air Guard: 2,010

## IOWA

The 132nd Fighter Wing completed a rotation south of the 32nd parallel over Iraq. The Army Guard activated four new units, the 554th Quartermaster Battalion, the 2133rd Transportation Detachment, the 1555th Water Purification Detachment and the 3658th Ordnance Detachment.

Army Guard: 7,361  
Air Guard: 2,071

## KANSAS

The Sunflower State's Army Guard was the first unit in the country to receive the "Paladin" M109 155mm Howitzer. The 1st Battalion, 635th Armor received 60 M1-IP tanks. Two weather teams of Detachment 5, Headquarters Battery, 35th Division Artillery served nine months in Bosnia supporting Joint Guard. The 190th Air Refueling Wing operating from Pisa, Italy, assisting NATO aircraft over the skies in Bosnia and Croatia.

Army Guard: 6,255  
Air Guard: 2,115

## KENTUCKY

The Bluegrass State dedicated the "Wendell H. Ford Regional Training Center" in Greenville. The 8,500-acre center offers tankers maneuver space, billeting for more than 500 troops, video teleconferencing and engagement skills facilities and a 4,200-foot runway for C-130s. The Air Guard celebrated its 50th anniversary with an airshow that drew over one million people. More than 1,500 Guardmembers responded to statewide flooding.

Army Guard: 6,603  
Air Guard: 1,214

## LOUISIANA

More than 3,400 troops led Task Force Pelican, the largest humanitarian exercise in the western hemisphere, for six months. Guard engineers and units from other states built and renovated several schools and upgraded over 14-kilometers of road in Panama and Belize. The Air Guard supported Northern Watch monitoring the no-fly zone over Iraq.

Army Guard: 11,554  
Air Guard: 1,544

## MAINE

Guard men and women were activated for three major deployments in support of Joint Guard: the 265th Communications Squadron deployed to Tazsar, Hungary, the 101st Air Refueling Wing pulled duty in Pisa, Italy, and 39 soldiers from the 133rd Engineer Battalion were called to Tuzla, Bosnia.

Army Guard: 2,364  
Air Guard: 1,295

## MARYLAND

The 175th Wing's, 135th Airlift Squadron participated in Exercise Baltic Challenge in Estonia. The airmen were the first Air Force unit to operate there since the withdrawal of Soviet Forces in 1994. The 2nd Battalion, 115th Infantry participated in readiness exercises at the National Training Center, Calif.

Army Guard: 6,370  
Air Guard: 1,762

## MASSACHUSETTS

The 26th Personnel Service Company served six months in Germany processing soldiers serving in Bosnia. Eighty seven members of Battery E, 101st Field Artillery provided missile defense in Bosnia. Operation Challenge, a drug demand reduction program, provided 7th and 8th graders with leadership, team building, and decision-making skills at six different armories throughout the Bay State.

Army Guard: 8,943  
Air Guard: 2,509

## MICHIGAN

Members of the 507th Engineer Battalion volunteered for duty over the 4th of July weekend after a tornado ripped through Detroit. F-16 pilots and support personnel with the 107th Fighter Squadron deployed to Kuwait for Operation Southern Watch. 171st Airlift Squadron airmen deployed to Panama for Operation Coronet Oak, and to Brazil for joint training.

Army Guard: 9,400  
Air Guard: 2,642

## MINNESOTA

In the largest deployment of state troops since the Korean War, more than 3,000 soldiers and airmen were called to assist local authorities during record floods in April. The Guard rescued more than 6,300 citizens, 500 by helicopter.

Army Guard: 9,392  
Air Guard: 2,315

## MISSISSIPPI

Eleven troops with the 172nd Security Police Squadron deployed to Saudi Arabia for 90 days to provide security for Operation Southern Watch. The 186th Air Refueling Wing deployed approximately 150 people to Istres, France, and Company G, 185th Aviation sent four C-47 helicopter platoon leaders to Tazsar, Hungary. The 2nd Battalion 20th Special Forces Group sent troops to Ecuador, Costa Rica, Panama and Belize to perform humanitarian missions and to teach light infantry tactics to local forces.

Army Guard: 10,612  
Air Guard: 2,644

## MISSOURI

Guard pilots enforced the "no-fly" zones over Iraq. Army and Air Guardmembers trained Fiji soldiers to build bridges, policed bases in Panama, served in Thailand, and built a road for native Americans in Arizona. The Guard also assisted law enforcers in manhunts and helped with water shortages at home.

Army Guard: 7,335  
Air Guard: 2,707

## MONTANA

The Army Guard undertook an extensive \$62 million construction program that included an \$8 million, 375-bed training center and a \$1.2 million, 45-bed quarters. The 120th Fighter Wing upgraded hanger facilities, a dining hall, a medical dispensary and a squadron support center. The 819th (Red Horse) Engineer Squadron became the first joint Air Guard-active Air Force unit at Malmstrom AFB.

Army Guard: 2,681  
Air Guard: 1,023

## NEBRASKA

More than 260 members of the 155th Air Refueling Wing participated in Joint Guard. Members of Company B, 67th Support Battalion deployed to Germany to repair and maintain equipment being used for the Bosnia operation. They also refurbished military equipment that is scheduled to be resold to Poland and the Czech Republic.

Army Guard: 3,489  
Air Guard: 925

## NEVADA

Hundreds of Guard volunteers aided in recovery and lifesaving missions during the "New Year's Flood." The 152nd Airlift Wing completed its conversion to the C-130 and deployed to Bosnia. Detachment 1, Company G, 140th Aviation assisted the Air Force for two months in searching for a missing A-10 fighter in Colorado.

Army Guard: 1,591  
Air Guard: 1,056



## 1997 YEAR in REVIEW



Photo by MSgt. Bob Haskell

District of Columbia's Sgt. Charles Dannah carried the guidon for the D.C. Guard at President Clinton's inaugural parade.

Lt. Gen. Edward Baca (right) paid homage to the Bataan Memorial in the Philippines. Soldiers with North Carolina's 505th Engineer Battalion (below) were on top of building schools in Ecuador.



Photo by MSgt. Bob Haskell



Photo by SSgt. Bob Jordan



Photo by Maj. Ken MacNevin

Nearly 1,000 Guardmembers (above) from 10 states went to Arizona to help rebuild a road for the Navajo. The Vermont Army Guard-operated Mountain Warfare School (opposite page) was the answer for active, Guard troops seeking higher learning.

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

The Army Guard participated in New Horizons, the largest humanitarian exercise in the western hemisphere, and conducted a partnership exchanges with the Republic of Belize. The 197th Field Artillery trained at Gagetown and Val Cartier, Canada. The 157th Air Refueling Wing deployed to Turkey, and continues to support NATO's North-east Tanker Task Force.

Army Guard: 1,749  
Air Guard: 933

### NEW JERSEY

The Guard's counterdrug task force helped law enforcers in seizing and destroying over \$400 million worth of drugs, weapons and contraband. More than 60 airmen and soldiers are on duty every day providing support for cargo inspections, aerial surveillance, intelligence analysis, marijuana destruction and drug education. Garden State Guardmembers provided medical care and meals for more than 600 homeless veterans.

Army Guard: 7,133  
Air Guard: 2,369

### NEW MEXICO

The 150th Fighter Wing provided 100 people and 12 F-16s to Operation Joint Guard in Bosnia. The Guard commemorated the Bataan Death March—honoring the 78,000 U.S. and Filipino troops who battled the Japanese—with a 26-mile memorial march.

Army Guard: 3,584  
Air Guard: 1,038

### NEW YORK

The Army Guard lead the nation in recruiting largely due to the enactment of a state tuition assistance bill. The 133rd Maintenance Company and the 3rd Battalion, 142nd Aviation deployed to Europe in support of Operation Joint Guard. The 109th Airlift Wing assumed the Antarctic mission, in addition to the Arctic mission, in support of the National Science Foundation. The 107th Air Refueling Wing deployed to Iceland for a NATO exercise.

Army Guard: 11,979  
Air Guard: 6,000

### NORTH CAROLINA

The Army Guard's Brig. General Alfred Tobin was awarded one of the NAACP's highest national awards. The Tarheel State's Air Guard deployed 500 people to support Bosnia's Operation Joint Guard in multiple European deployments.

Army Guard: 10,268  
Air Guard: 1,540

### NORTH DAKOTA

Severe snowfall and flooding led to the largest state call-up in Peace Garden State's history. Nearly 5,000 soldiers and airmen logged more than 22,000 mandays providing emergency response and recovery assistance. The Air Guard celebrated its 50th anniversary by showcasing seven restored aircraft its 119th Fighter Wing's "Happy Hooligans" have flown since its inception in 1947.

Army Guard: 3,352  
Air Guard: 1,098

### OHIO

More than 1,900 Army and Air Guardmembers were called-up in response to severe flooding in 18 counties. This was the largest state emergency call-up since the blizzard of 1978. The 594th Engineer Battalion sent 22 firefighters to Tuzla, Bosnia. Ohio's fighter wings patrolled the no-fly-zone over Iraq. The Buckeye Air Guard hosted numerous events with the Hungarian Air Defense Force.

Army Guard: 10,031  
Air Guard: 4,977

### OKLAHOMA

The Sooner State Army and Air Guard had record-setting recruiting years. Five troops with the 145th Public Affairs Detachment served in Tazsar, Hungary, while the 45th Field Artillery's weather section and medics with 812th Aviation provided backfill for active duty troops sent to Bosnia. The 138th Fighter Wing rated "Outstanding" on their Operational Readiness Inspection.

Army Guard: 7,416  
Air Guard: 2,618

### OREGON

The 82nd Rear Tactical Operations Center deployed to Croatia, becoming the first reserve unit since the Korean War to assume command and control of an active component task force. The 142nd Fighter Wing passed its Organizational Readiness Inspection with a high score.

Army Guard: 6,582  
Air Guard: 1,889

### PENNSYLVANIA

1997 marked the 250th birthday of the Pennsylvania Army Guard. Ninety-two Guard communities in the state celebrated Benjamin Franklin's 1747 organization of the colony's "Associators." Members of the Air Guard's 171st Air Refueling Wing and 271st Combat Communications Squadron deployed to Europe in support of Bosnian peacekeeping.

Army Guard: 18,457  
Air Guard: 4,276

### PUERTO RICO

Army Guardmembers continued their highly successful counterdrug mission in the commonwealth's public housing projects. The Guard presence has led to a decline in drug-dealing, as well as crime in general. The Air Guard continued to deploy for exercises and ongoing operations throughout Central and South America.

Army Guard: 8,774  
Air Guard: 1,371

### RHODE ISLAND

Army Guard personnel made two desert deployments this year. While Company A, 2nd Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group went to Egypt, a detachment from the 172nd Infantry deployed a bit closer to home, to support counterdrug operations on the U.S.-Mexican border. The 143rd Airlift Wing and the 102nd Air Control Squadron received Air Force outstanding unit awards.

Army Guard: 2,524  
Air Guard: 1,397

### SOUTH CAROLINA

Fifty-four obsolete tanks and military vehicles are now serving their country as artificial reefs for ocean plants and animals at the bottom of the sea, thanks to an environmental program carried out by the Guard. The Air Guard deployed to Qatar in the Persian Gulf, where F-16s, pilots and crews patrolled the no-fly zone over Iraq.

Army Guard: 11,242  
Air Guard: 1,272

### SOUTH DAKOTA

Last winter's record-setting blizzards and flooding meant record emergency call-ups (18,000 mandays) for the Coyote State's Army and Air Guard. Army Guard helicopter crews helped save the lives of several stranded motorists. Air Guardmembers escaped temporarily from blizzard conditions when they deployed to Southeast Asia for Operation Commando Sling in Singapore.

Army Guard: 3,457  
Air Guard: 1,002

### TENNESSEE

The Volunteer State's Guard counterdrug effort led to the seizure of 1 million marijuana plants, over 230 pounds of cocaine and 35 pounds of heroin, culminating in 986 arrests. Weather forecasters with the 196th Field Artillery Brigade deployed to Bosnia. The Air Guard hosted Bulgarian Air Force civil engineers.

Army Guard: 11,790  
Air Guard: 3,580





Photo by MSgt. Bob Haskell

## TEXAS

Nearly 300 Army Guard soldiers deployed to Bosnia, Hungary, and Germany to support the U.S. peacekeeping efforts in the former Yugoslavia. The Air Guard sent aircraft and crew to support on-going operations Panama, Italy and Kuwait. Lonestar State C-130's made their first deployment "Down Under" for a joint U.S./Australian Army airborne exercise.

Army Guard: 17,505  
Air Guard: 3,499

## UTAH

When the 128th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment returned from eight months in Europe supporting Bosnian peacekeeping, it marked the end of the Beehive State Army Guard's first extended mobilization since the Gulf War. At home, Army Guard and Air Guard troops helped host one of the four sites operated concurrently during the Global Apache 97. This Guard-sponsored exercise involved more than 75 active, Reserve and Guard units.

Army Guard: 5,052  
Air Guard: 1,454

## VERMONT

The Green Mountain State made history when the state legislature elected Martha V. Rainville as the National Guard's first woman Adjutant General. Maj. Gen. Rainville is a former aircraft maintenance commander with the Burlington-based 158th Fighter Wing.

Army Guard: 3,202  
Air Guard: 1,022

## VIRGINIA

Nearly 150 Members of Company C, 116th Infantry, made history by becoming the first Army Guard infantry unit since the Vietnam War to be activated for overseas duty when they were sent to maintain the peace in Bosnia. The Old Dominion State's Air Guard recently celebrated their 50th anniversary with an open house attended by more than 20,000.

Army Guard: 7,638  
Air Guard: 1,213

## VIRGIN ISLANDS

Army Guardmembers provided support for Exercise Tradewinds 97 on the island nation of Grenada. St. Croix's 666th Army Band travelled to Virginia to play for the National Boy Scout Jamboree. The Air Guard 285th Combat Communications Squadron teamed with members of the Puerto Rico Air Guard to operate a Virgin Islands radar site.

Army Guard: 792  
Air Guard: 49

## WASHINGTON

Members of the Evergreen State Army Guard's 122nd Public Affairs and 141st Military History Detachments spent almost nine months deployed to Hungary and Bosnia, respectively, in support of Bosnian peacekeeping. Air Guardmembers also supported Bosnian peacekeeping efforts with the 141st Air Refueling Wing's deployment to Pisa, Italy.

Army Guard: 5,755  
Air Guard: 2,321

## WEST VIRGINIA

Nearly 200 members of the Mountain State Guard were called for flood recovery operations in March. Eight members of Company C, 104th Aviation from Wheeling deployed to support Operation Joint Guard in Bosnia. The Eastern Army Aviation Training Site at Bridgeport, the SGM Earl R. Biggs Armory in Ceredo and the West Virginia Guard Distance Learning Network were officially dedicated.

Army Guard: 3,466  
Air Guard: 2,113

## WISCONSIN

Three Badger State Army Guard units spent almost nine months in Europe supporting the Operation Joint Guard peacekeeping mission in Bosnia. The Air Guard sent its F-16 fighters to Turkey on a one-month deployment to patrol the no-fly zone over northern Iraq.

Army Guard: 7,560  
Air Guard: 2,180

## WYOMING

Thirty Equality State Army Guard engineers helped the state Department of Transportation and the U.S. Forest Service clear a mud and tree slide of more than 1-million-cubic-yards that was blocking a U.S. Highway. The 153rd Airlift Wing - rated the best C-130 wing in the Air Guard - sent three aircraft, equipped with fire retardant and nearly 100 crewmembers, to fight forest fires in Indonesia.

Army Guard: 1,511  
Air Guard: 1,002



Photo by Sgt. Timothy W. Fischer

After severe flooding struck West Virginia in March, Guardmembers pitched in to clean up.



Photo by SFC Steve Gamboa

Texas Army Guard's SFC Miguel Torres, an administrative specialist with the 111th Support Group, embraces his wife and baby girl before going off on a nine-month deployment overseas. The Texas Guard currently has more than 300 soldiers supporting Operation Joint Guard.



## NEWS

## MAKERS

Compiled by MSgt. John Malthaner  
National Guard Bureau

*For the second straight year, TSgt. Richard Simon* was selected the Air Guard's top historian, winning the Beckwith Havens Outstanding History Award. Havens, one of the Guard's earliest aviators, joined the New York National Guard in August 1912.

Simon, the historian for California's 144th Fighter Wing in Fresno, was chosen by a distinguished panel of U.S. Air Force major command-level historians. Maryland's TSgt. Gary Gault, a member of the 175th Wing in Baltimore, and Montana's TSgt. Jim Sharpe, the 120th Fighter Wing's docu-menter, finished second and third, respectively.

Missouri's TSgt. David Pepper, a member of the 139th Airlift Wing in St. Joseph, won the Addison Baker Special Achievement in History Award. Baker, a lieutenant colonel and member of the Ohio Air Guard, received the Medal of Honor posthumously for his actions during the Ploesti Raid in August 1943.

*Running has become a part of the life style of SGM Mike Johnson's family.* On Oct. 4, six family members participated in the 21st Annual St. George Marathon.

Johnson, a member of the Utah Army Guard's 115th Engineer Group located in Draper, began running in the 1980s as a way to stay in shape. In 1990, he decided to run "one" marathon and prove to himself that he was capable of running 26.2 miles.

Seven years and five marathons later he is still running and has had five of his seven sons join him.

*Montana Army Guard's SSgt. Joe Schmitz*, an artillery repairer with the 3669th Maintenance Company's combined surface maintenance shop, was called upon recently to repair a cannon used by the University of Montana.

The cannon, used by the University's Reserve Officer Training Corps to celebrate a touchdown or field goal by its Grizzly football team, had developed stress fractures. The Montana Grizzly football team won the Division I-AA title in 1995 and placed second last year.

The weapon needed a number of repairs. Schmitz rebuilt the bore, repaired the firing mechanism, repainted the wheels and treated the gun carriage to preserve the wood.

So far this season, the rebuilt cannon has received quite a workout. At one recent game, the Grizzlies rolled-up 52 points against rival Sacramento State University.

*The Kentucky Air Guard's Edward W. Tonini*, their chief of staff, was promoted to the rank of brigadier general Oct. 30.

Tonini, a long-time spokesperson for the Kentucky Air Guard, became the first career public affairs officer in Air National Guard history to become a general officer.

He also was awarded the Hoyt S. Vandenberg Award for his work connecting Thunder Over Louisville to the U.S. Air Force's 50th anniversary celebration. The event drew a million people.



Utah's running Johnson family: Jerry and Janice (front row), SFC Russ, SFC Brett, SGM Michael and Brad.



Brig. Gen. Edward Tonini, a public affairs first.



California's 129th Rescue Wing lives up to their name.



Tarheel soldiers put on a Halloween bash.

*As a community service, members of the Vermont Army Guard's 186th Support Battalion* hosted the 11th Annual Operation Bulls-Eye at their Ethan Allen Firing Range in Jericho.

During the course of a drill weekend, Green Mountain State Guardmembers helped nearly 1,000 local hunters sight in their deer rifles, pistols and black powder rifles.

*A new National Guard program will provide scholarships to 25 Minnesota high school seniors* this year.

The award, known as Leadership and Dedicated Service Scholarship, or LEADS, will be presented to high school seniors who best demonstrate leadership potential, community service and academic ability, according to National Guard officials.

"This is another way that we can help our young people, our most precious natural resource, achieve their full potential," said Minnesota Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Eugene Andreotti. "This program also helps us maintain the strength and viability of the National Guard."

*Sixty employers of Texas Air Guardmembers* with the 149th Fighter Wing in San Antonio were flown to the Air National Guard Combat Readiness Training Center at Gulfport, Miss., to see their full-time employees do their part-time jobs.

The employers arrived as 650 members of the 149th were going through an Operational Readiness Exercise.

"I wasn't sure what Sal (SSgt. Salvador Rojas) was involved in," said Mike Perez, a district operations manager for an area cable company. "He talked about combat readiness, but I really didn't understand it until today."

"It's difficult to fill in for employees when they are gone," Perez continued. "But Sal helps make things go smoothly every time he plans to go on training with the Guard."

*In yet another rescue, this one 750 miles off the California coast west of San Francisco*, members of the Golden State Air Guard's 129th Rescue Wing, saved a man suffering from chest pains.

Called in by the U.S. Coast Guard, MSgt. Don Allee, SSgt. Damon Foss and SrA. Sundance Scardino, all pararescue jumpers or PJs, boarded the stranded fishing vessel and quickly assessed the victim's condition. Requiring immediate hospitalization, the PJs hoisted the man to their HH-60 helicopter hovering above. The victim was flown safely to a waiting ambulance.

*The Southern Pines Police Department, in conjunction with a North Carolina National Guard Armory*, hosted a Youth Awareness Day and Halloween Party.

Several members of the Tarheel State's Company C, 1st Battalion, 252nd Armor were on hand to coordinate and judge many of the Halloween-related activities.

The object of the Awareness Day was to allow youths and local law enforcers to interact.



## INSIDE JOINT GUARD

Virginia infantry settle Veteran's Day incident near Bosnian border

## Bridge over troubled water

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

A dark-haired woman driving a late-model compact station wagon discovered on Veteran's Day just how seriously Army National Guard infantrymen from Virginia are protecting a bridge over the Sava River along the northern Bosnian border.

The woman in the white car cruised past a military police checkpoint on the paved road leading up to the bridge early on a mild afternoon Nov. 11. Approaching the north end of the bridge, she slowed down to negotiate the cement barriers that every car must zigzag around before reaching the bridge.

That was as far as she got.

Two citizen-soldiers from Virginia's 116th Infantry — the legendary Stonewall Brigade — charged into the middle of the road, from a guard tower that overlooks that end of the bridge on the Croatian side of the river, and faced down the woman and her two passengers.

Sgt. Adam Crippen and Spc. Erik Carlson had their M-16 rifles locked, loaded and leveled at the white car. The woman braked to a sudden stop. She then backed the car down to the checkpoint, where she was questioned and the vehicle was searched, before the three women were sent on their way.

It ended as a harmless encounter for everyone concerned. The woman told the MPs she did not know the bridge was so heavily protected. But it



Photo by MSgt. Bob Haskell

said a mouthful about the resolve that 130 Dominion State Army Guardsmen from Company C in Leesburg have brought to their winter's mission of guarding the rebuilt span between Bosnia and Croatia. They inherited the mission from active Army soldiers in the 10th Mountain Division Nov. 1.

It was the first encounter for the Virginians in that region, said SSgt. Joe Miller, the squad leader for Crippen and Carlson.

It said much about the training they have received at Fort Benning Ga., and Fort Polk, La., since being alerted for this foreign duty last May.

It said even more about their determination to do this job right, now that Charlie Company has become the first reserve component infantry outfit deployed to a foreign tactical zone since the Indiana Army Guard's Company D., 151st Infantry were sent to Vietnam in 1968.

"This is our bridge," 1st Lt. Charles Muzzi emphasized shortly after the encounter.

The bridge has recently been reopened to international traffic, he explained. But every vehicle is carefully monitored because the bridge is still a vital military link between the Army's staging base in Tazsar, Hungary, and camps in Bosnia where NATO forces have been enforcing a fragile peace

**LINE OF DEFENSE** - Virginia Army Guard infantrymen like SSgt. Dan Miller (left) are now protecting the Sava Bridge in Bosnia.

for nearly two years.

Relations between the Serbian and Muslim-Croatian factions remain tense.

"We still hear gun fire here every day," said Miller. "It's celebratory fire, for weddings and parties and things like that. At least that's what they tell us."

Sounds of a political rally carried by loudspeakers to the "Troll Village," where the Virginia citizen-soldiers have taken up residence in tents under the Bosnian end of the bridge, was another sign of the war-

torn area's unrest.

But these Guardmembers had seen enough during their first two weeks "in the box" to reinforce their commitment to help the people resume life as they knew it before the nearly four-year war reduced parts of their community to rubble.

"We see corn and firewood stacked in rooms of the houses where people are still living so they can try to make it through the winter," Muzzi reported.

"When you start patrolling the streets around here," he added, "you have a daily reminder of why this mission is important."

Meanwhile, the Guard soldiers are making the best of their own Spartan accommodations.

"The living conditions aren't bad," said Miller, a civilian map maker for the National Imagery and Mapping Agency. "We have our own weight room and chow hall and shower tent. It's not home, but it's not complete misery," he said, smiling.

Therefore, protecting the bridge from any potential threat is as important to the Guard soldiers who live under it as it is for the Bosnian and Croatian people who live near it.

"Most likely she was unaware of what was going on," said Miller of the woman driving the white car. "But you never know."

## ANTI-TERRORISM

From Page 1

secretary of defense for special operations and low intensity conflict, the assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs, the undersecretary of the Army, and other general officers. They have been chartered to tell Cohen how to best incorporate the National Guard and Reserves in this emerging mission.

Should the Guard form teams in each state to train other civil authorities in 120 cities how to respond to terrorist acts and how to survive themselves? Do we need rapid-response teams on call throughout the country to help victims of chemical and biological agents? How do we work with other military organizations, such as the Army Reserve and the Marine Corps' Chemical-Biological Incident Response Force?

That's what the \$10 million study is expected to determine by the time Guard leaders report to Congress in February.

Important people are paying attention. "The National Guard is the ideal organization to transfer specialized military

knowledge to the local domestic level according to long-standing norms and practices in this country," stated a House Appropriations Committee report.

"The Guard and Reserve are going to play a major role in dealing with detection of chemical and biological weapons; how to intervene; how to deal with victims of terrorism when it occurs," Cohen told *Army Times* recently.

The process has already begun.

The National Guard Bureau established a general officer steering committee of adjutants general from New York, Florida, Illinois, Mississippi and Oklahoma to assist Navas.

Six-day courses in "Planning For and Managing the Consequences of Terrorism" have been subsidized by \$500,000 in congressional funds and have been developed by the Guard's National Inter-agency Counterdrug Institute.

Plans are in place to continue this training for the coming year.

"Because of our unique dual state and federal responsibilities, this is a natural mission for us," Navas said. "In the '70s it was civil disturbance. In the '80s it was counterdrug. Historically, every time we

have undertaken a new challenge, we have turned it into a National Guard success story."

Guardmembers have been working with civilian authorities on a regular basis since the 1970s when citizen-soldiers began to train seriously to control civil disturbances. That primed Guard units for riot duty in 1992 when Los Angeles erupted because four white police officers were not convicted of beating black motorist Rodney King the previous year.

Counterdrug operations took center stage in the '80s after Hawaii Guardmembers were activated in 1977 to help eradicate marijuana. In 1996, aviators and other Army Guardmembers helped seize about 185 tons of cocaine and crack, 69.2 million marijuana plants, other drugs worth \$31.5 million on the street, 49,000 weapons and vehicles and build a steel wall along the U.S.-Mexican border. Their actions contributed to 254,279 arrests.

Officials are confident that Guard members will take their new anti-terrorism assignments just as seriously.

Terrorism is hardly new.

It can be traced back to the first century AD when Roman emperors Tiberius and

Caligula seized property and executed those who opposed their rule. The term evolved from the Reign of Terror during the French Revolution in the late 18th century when some revolutionaries who seized power adopted a policy of violence against their enemies.

Terrorism has been commonly used during this century by dictators Adolf Hitler, Benito Mussolini and Joseph Stalin against their own people and by such groups as the Ku Klux Klan and the Irish Republican Army.

How can the National Guard help offset the threat?

Its new Distance Learning Network can serve as the country's communications highway into every state for emergency information and for training first responders. Its medical and aviation assets can be quickly mobilized. Its ordnance personnel can seek out and remove or destroy dangerous devices.

"The better we are at our wartime mission," Mayhew said, "the better we will be at our domestic one."

What the National Guard is waiting for now, he added, is a clear definition of its mission in this new war.





## STATES

• Blackfeet Honor • Spirit of New York • Rough and Ready

## MONTANA

The Blackfeet Tribal Council conducted a special awards ceremony at the Tribal Council Room in Browning to honor a number of people and organizations who were instrumental in providing veterans outreach on the Blackfeet Nation.

Adjutant General Maj. Gen. John E. "Gene" Prendergast was honored for providing personnel, resources and equipment for several Indian Nation-related projects.

## MINNESOTA

Minnesota Lt. Gov. Joanne Benson helped the Gopher State National Guard celebrate a major initiative at the Mall of America in Bloomington.

Benson helped cut the ribbon at the ceremonial opening of a National Guard information and opportunity store at the mall. The store is located near the mall's east entrance on the third level.

"What we are offering at this store is information about the National Guard, what it is, what it does and its historical significance," said Maj. Gen. Eugene Andreotti, the state's adjutant general.

"And," he added, "we can let shoppers know what kind of employment opportunities and education benefits are available for those who choose to join the National Guard."

## MISSOURI

## THIRSTING for KNOWLEDGE

Kentucky's Pvt. Kristie Keene, a member of the 217th Quartermaster Detachment, travelled with her unit to Nevada, Mo., home of Company A, 735th Support Battalion, to learn how to use the Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit. "It (the unit) can take sea water to pond water and make it drinkable," said SFC David Parks, 735th water platoon sergeant.



Photo by MSgt. Rennie Davis

## NEW YORK

Stewart Air National Guard Base in Newburgh, home of the 105th Airlift Wing, was chosen by the U.S. Air Force's Air Combat Command as the host for the naming of the next B-2 "Stealth" bomber dedication ceremony. The B-2 was named "The Spirit of New York" Oct. 10.

The Air Force has 21 of the stealth bombers in its inventory. The B-2 is a multi-role bomber capable of delivering both conventional and nuclear munitions.

The B-2 provides the flexibility and effectiveness of manned bombers. Its low-observable, or "stealth," characteristics give it the unique ability to penetrate an enemy's most sophisticated defenses and threaten its most-valued, and heavily defended, targets.

## KANSAS

The 1st Battalion, 127th Field Artillery, received its first four M109A6 Paladin 155mm howitzers, making it the first National Guard unit in the nation to be equipped with this artillery system. The battalion is scheduled to receive a total of 18 Paladins.

The Paladin is the same self-propelled howitzer currently used by the active Army. The system not only includes the howitzer, but the M992A2 Field Artillery Ammunition Supply Vehicle.

## CALIFORNIA

By Lt. Col. Doug Hart  
California National Guard

A catastrophic earthquake occurred along the Newport-Inglewood fault affecting a major portion of the infrastructure of Orange County. Damage was widespread. Thousands of casualties and most hospitals were closed due to damage.

Roads and highways were blocked, power and communications interrupted, and drinking water supplies contaminated. Casualties and victims far outnumbered available city, county, and regional medical capabilities.

National Guard resources were requested to assist the deployment of civilian Disaster Medical Assistance Teams (DMAT) and conduct aeromedical evacuations.

For the 750 military and civilians that participated

in the two-day disaster medical exercise dubbed "Rough and Ready," the above scenario was just the beginning.

The exercise, held at Los Alamitos Armed Forces Reserve Center near Los Angeles, tested the response skills of the California Air and Army National Guard, the state's volunteer DMATs, Air Force Reservists and Civil Air Patrol cadets.

"This exercise went excellently," reported Jeffrey Rubin, chief of the Emergency Medical Services Authority of California's disaster medical services division. "It could be used as a blue print on how to work in a disaster; a disaster we hope we will never see."

**ROUGH AND READY - A California Air Guard medic (right) checks victims of a staged earthquake.**



Photo by SSgt. Karin Porter





## HISTORY

## • George Mason and the Militia Clause

Virginia's George Mason is credited with getting the 'Militia Clause' written into the Constitution

# Getting it in WRITING

*To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the Militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed in the service of the United States, reserving to the States respectively, the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the Militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress.*

## Article I, section 8, U.S. Constitution

The militia clause of the Constitution is the legal instrument by which the Federal government has authority to issue weapons, equipment and publish regulations concerning the training and administration of the National Guard of the states.

It also divides responsibility for the National Guard to both the national and state governments. The militia clause -- as Article I, section 8 is called -- is a wisely-crafted compromise that gives both the Federal and state governments authority over the National Guard.

The country has George Mason to thank for this.

Until 1775, the militia had only a local defense mission: protection of the colony and its settlements. During the Revolutionary War the militia acquired a national mission when it provided the initial units of the Continental Army, served on temporary tours of active duty in order to reinforce the Continental Army while continuing its local defense mission by checking British patrols and forays.

When the delegates of the Constitutional Convention met in Philadelphia in the summer of 1787, most realized that some agreement had to be reached concerning the state and Federal role of the militia. It was Mason, a colonel and Virginia delegate, whose genius helped shape today's National Guard mission.

Largely unknown outside of Virginia, George Mason, patriot, militia officer and founding father, was born in 1725. As a young man he was influenced by the essays of John Locke, an English philosopher and Sir Edward Coke, a distinguished English judge. He settled in Fairfax County, Va., where he became one of the county's leading citizens.

In addition to his business activities, Mason devoted his time to making his Gunston Hall plantation a profitable enterprise. Col. Mason came from a long-line of Virginia Militia colonels all named George Mason (it was a family tradition to name the eldest male child George). All three of Mason's sons also served in the Virginia Militia.

As the Fairfax County lieutenant of militia, Col. Mason was responsible for the command and administration of the Fairfax County Regiment. Mason took his duties seriously and as relations with England worsened, he reorganized the county's militia in February 1775 and required all men between the ages of 16 and 50 to enroll.



### GUARD HISTORY

By Lt. Col. Len Kondratiuk  
National Guard Historian

Fairfax Independent Company which was the county's first uniformed and trained light infantry unit.

As the chairman of the Fairfax Committee of Public Safety, Col. Mason was also for acquiring weapons and ammunition as well as planning the defense of the county. Mason was a firm believer in the militia concept when he wrote in January 1775 "a well-regulated militia is the natural strength and only stable security of a free government."

In July 1775, as a member of the state legislature, Col. Mason planned the reorganization of the Virginia Militia which became one of the best trained and often served in the front ranks next to regular units. He also strongly believed that company-grade officers should be elected by their men, a practice that lasted well into the early 20th century in many states.

He also helped draft the constitution for the state of Virginia in the summer of 1776. He was largely responsible for the Virginia Declaration of Rights which became the basis of the Bill of Rights of the U.S. Constitution. His article 13 called for a well-regulated and trained militia which would insure the defense of a free state.

Eleven years later, on May 17, 1787, Mason arrived in Philadelphia, along with his neighbor Gen. George Washington, as a member of the Virginia delegation to the Constitutional Convention. Mason spoke some 136 times and on August 18 introduced a resolution to incorporate the mission of the militia into the Constitution.

He thought that the militia had a national mission and that the Federal government should have a major role in its training and administration. Col. Mason called for a small regular army and a large militia upon which the nation's defense would rest. He realized that 13 states could not agree to one system of training; therefore, the Federal government was to be responsible for regulation of the militia. The militia would retain its state mission but would also come under Federal command when ordered to enforce Federal laws, suppress insurrections and to repel any invasion of the U.S.

The Federal government would provide weapons and direct how units were organized and trained. In order to insure that the militia remained under the command of state authorities in peacetime, the states retained the right to appoint officers. This prevented the Federal government from attempting to take control of the militia and use it illegally. Mason's resolution was adopted.

As much as he was a gifted and talented man, he was also a man of principles. Because the convention did not adopt a bill of rights, Mason refused to sign the Constitution. He returned to Gunston Hall where he lived peacefully until his death in 1792. Mason's militia clause continues today as the National Guard's Constitutional charter.

Kondratiuk lives in Mason Neck, Va., near Gunston Hall. It is open every day to visitors.



Photo courtesy Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

### FOUNDING FATHER - George Mason, father of the Constitution's 'militia clause.'

New companies were organized; minute companies made up of younger men able to respond to emergencies quickly were activated and began training as well as the





# TRAINING



## Delivering the PEACE

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

**J**erry Beasley can tell you some hair-raising stories about flying in a C-130.

There was, for example, the time over Fort Campbell, Ky., in mid-October when a couple of parachutes were supposed to yank a 19 1/2-ton bulldozer out of the back of the airplane at 1,200 feet. Eight more cargo 'chutes on top of the machine would then blossom open and let it down gently.

The first two 'chutes, however, did not open. The bulldozer didn't move.

Beasley, a senior master sergeant in the Texas Air National Guard, did it by the book. He released the locks that held the pallet in place so that gravity would roll the heavy 'dozer out the back.

But as it reached the ramp under the tail, that extra 39,000 pounds in the rear was forcing the plane to climb almost straight up.

"There was nothing I could do but watch," said Beasley, who knew that the laboring aircraft's engines were close to stalling. "I thought, 'well, if it don't go, I'm toast.'"

But the bulldozer did fall out of the back, the pilot pushed the airplane's nose back down before the plane stalled, the top parachutes opened so the dozer landed like it was supposed to, and Beasley, 49, lived to fly another day.

"It happened in a matter of seconds. But watching it, it seemed to take forever," said Beasley, who was flying a completely different mission recently.

He was the chief loadmaster from the Texas's 136th Airlift Wing that ferried 14 broadcast journalists and about three tons of children's clothing, Tex-Mex food and care packages from Austin to Hungary.

The visitors and the packages, including two hoops and backboards and a pair of NBA-regulation basketballs donated



Photos by MSgt. Bob Haskell

by the San Antonio Spurs, were destined for Hungary and Bosnia where about 300 members of the Texas Army Guard are pulling seven months of Joint Guard peacekeeping duties.

The 5,400-mile trip to Newfoundland and across the North Atlantic and into Eastern Europe took about 20 hours and was split up over four days.

The journalists were the eyes of Texas assigned to interview the Army Guard peacekeepers over there. They learned a few things about the tried and true C-130 Hercules that are powered by four turbo-prop engines and that are among the U.S. military's load-bearing workhorses.

They may be a lot slower than a 747 jetliner, but they will get you there. And the C stands for Cargo, not Comfort.

"It's like riding a horse," related KHOU-TV reporter Ron Trevino from Houston. "The ride's a bit bumpy, and at the end of the day you're a bit sore from the saddle."

The rows of red canvas seats with web backs do not recline and do not come with arm rests. But you can curl up on them and get some shut-eye.

The floor is of unforgiving steel with a thin layer of rubber for traction. Rows of steel rollers run the length of the cargo area for moving pallets of cargo on and off. But you can lay your sleeping bag on

the floor and be lulled to sleep by the steady drone and the vibration from the 3,600-horsepower Allison engines.

The interior is an antiseptic green found in many old hospitals. It's appropriate considering the planes are used to carry up to 71 patients strapped on stretchers.

They may not be pretty, but C-130s have been flying troops and cargo in and out of the world's hotspots since the 1950s. And there is no indication that anyone wants to give them up. The H-model airplane that flew from Texas to Tazsar was built in 1985, said Maj. Scott Purtle, the pilot.

They can haul 69,000 pounds of fuel and cargo, and they have carried the darnedest things. Three years ago, during a flight into Sarajevo while the war in Bosnia was still going strong, steel drums filled with cooking oil sprung several leaks after the plane had reached altitude.

"It got pretty slick back there," Purtle related.

As well as the planes are maintained, they sometimes break. Beasley had to break the news to the news people about an hour into the third leg over the Czech-Slovak border, that the plane had to return to Ramstein AB in Germany because the an engine had to be shut down.

But he assured the anxious passengers

**CARGO HAULERS - Texas Air Guard's Maj. Scott Purtle (above), a pilot, surveys the skies over Hungary. SMSgt. Jerry Beasley (Inset) was a study of calm from the bay of a C-130.**

that the plane could fly on three engines.

The engine's propeller valve housing assembly was replaced later that day, and the Hercules flew into Hungary the following morning.

Beasley, who has worked on and flown in military transports since 1967, has been on a few C-130s that have flown into harm's way.

The 24-year Texas Air Guard veteran made about 25 flights into Sarajevo during 60 days of active duty in mid-1993.

"We could see the war going on below us," recalled Beasley. "There was always small arms fire around Sarajevo. I'm sure I was shot at. I just didn't know it."

Once the cargo is loaded, the doors are locked and the plane is in the air. Flying in a C-130 can go from one extreme to the other, said Beasley as the plane cruised along at 25,000 feet.

"It's hours and hours of boredom interrupted by moments of sheer terror," he said.

Jerry Beasley prefers the boredom.