

ROCKET LAUNCHERS

Page 4



TAKING on the DRUG PROBLEM

Pages 8-9



MARINE MARATHON

Page 10



THE ON GUARD

Volume XXV, No. 4

Newspaper of the Army and Air National Guard

January 1996

Guard called into Bosnia

*Public Affairs, Finance
Detachments lead list*

By MSgt. John Malthaner
National Guard Bureau

S Sgt. Joseph Garrison is no stranger to missing Christmas, or earning imminent danger pay for that matter.

When the Maryland Army Guard's 29th Public Affairs Detachment (PAD) was called upon by President Clinton to deploy to war-ravaged Bosnia, Garrison -- a single dad and veteran of conflicts in Panama and Saudi Arabia -- had to explain to his six-year-old daughter, Hannah, why they were opening presents Dec. 14.

Sometimes bullets are easier to face.

"The hard part is telling her she'll have to transfer schools (her mom lives in Indiana)," Garrison said. "I just have to make sure I bring her a present back."

As of Dec. 18, the 29th PAD is among 19 National Guard units and more than 2,223 troops activated for 270 days in support of Operation Joint Endeavor.

According to Maj. Robert L. Gould, 29th PAD commander, his group of photojournalists and broadcasters will join other Guardmembers at Fort Dix, N.J., for refresher training. They will then deploy to Bosnia.

"There is optimism countered with apprehension," Gould said.

For Gould, the call-up could not have come at a worse time. His wife, also a Guardmember, just delivered their first child a month ago.

"She understands that this is what we sign up for," he acknowledged, "but it

still doesn't make it any easier."

Having a supportive civilian employer helps. Before being ordered to active duty, Gould was called in by the president of CSX Transportation -- a company with 29,000 employees -- and told, "The way you leave today is the way you come back." The president also assured Gould that any loss in pay going on Guard status would be covered.

"Words can't express how that makes you feel, knowing that your family will be taken care of," he said.

Maryland's Spc. Rick Roth makes wine for a living and takes pictures for the Guard. His bosses put a cork in any bottled-up fear he had over job security. They look forward to toasting his return.

"Hopefully not with the cheap red stuff," Roth joked.

A camera is not the only thing the 24-year-old can shoot.

"I'm a pretty decent shot with an M-16 and I know how to keep my head down," he said. "Besides, I have a bayonet that

mounts on my 35-millimeter camera."

Maj. Michael Pacheco, commander of Massachusetts' 126th Military History Detachment (MHD), was among the first wave of units to be alerted. His detachment has since been pulled from the mobility ranks. He sees the deployment for fellow MHDs as "the only way to test our mettle."

History detachments, said Lt. Col. Leonid Kondratuik, the National Guard



Photo by SSgt. D. Chris Martin

MINE DETECTION - Spc. Kenyon McAfee with D.C.'s 715th Public Affairs team goes through mine detection training before being deployed.

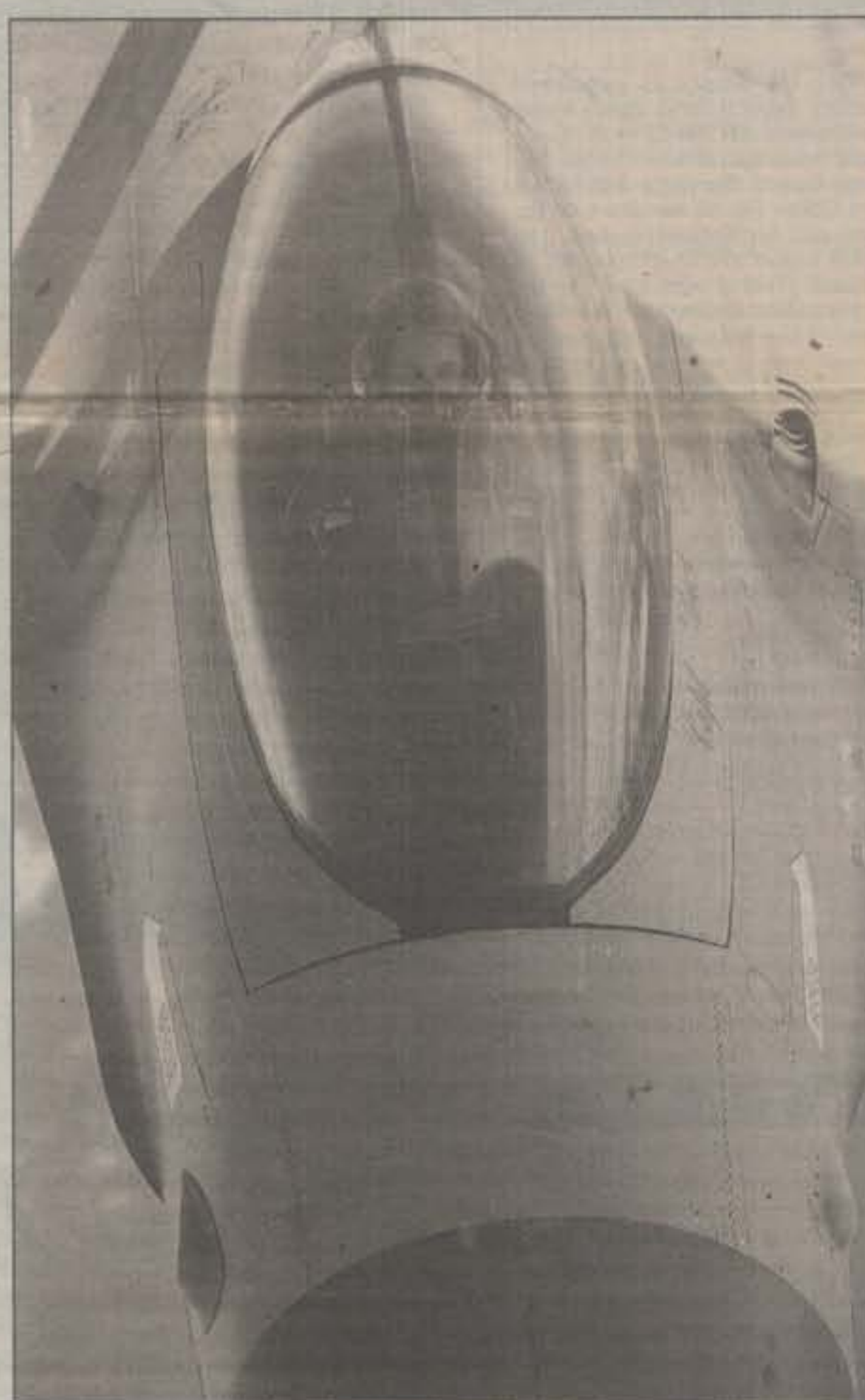


Photo by Eric Michelsen

AMALGAM WARRIOR

A pilot from the Illinois Air Guard's 183rd Fighter Wing flies over the Atlantic Ocean during Amalgam Warrior, an annual North American Aerospace Defense Command exercise. See related story and photos on page 16.

■ See BOSNIA, Page 4

**DRUG USE
IS
LIFE ABUSE**



COMMENTARY

COUNTERDRUG UPDATE

• As of Nov. 15, more than 8,200 counterdrug support missions were conducted throughout the country.

• As of Nov. 15, the total value of cash and drugs seized this fiscal year by police with National Guard assistance is more than \$27 billion.

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

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Deployed during the holidays

Guardmembers no strangers to missing Christmas

By Capt. Robert E. Bullock
New York National Guard

Once again, Americans are spending the holidays in a combat theater far from the warmth and security of home.

Each evening as we turn on the television, our consciousness is invaded by the sights and sounds of America troops disembarking from C-130s to protect a fragile peace in a war-ravaged land.

This image tugs at our heartstrings as we stop to remember fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers, girlfriends, boyfriends, sons and daughters who are sleeping tonight in austere and very uncertain conditions, at a time when most are focused on Christmas shopping or the holiday dinner.

How foreign this notion of war seems at this time of year. Yet, how familiar it is to those of us who have grown up studying the history of America's military. Who can forget the stories of the men freezing at Valley Forge as they listened to a holiday message delivered by the general who would someday be their President, or the stories of the British officers in a ship on the Delaware River caught unaware by that same general as they raised their mugs in a holiday toast?

More contemporarily, how many of us remember the images of World War II and lonely GIs peering at a barren, snow-covered and volatile European countryside as Christmas carols played quietly on the radio.

Sadly, the thought of Americans deployed at holiday time is as persistent and real as the holiday itself. Yet, often the picture is incomplete. We remember the stories of the GI and his comrades reminiscing about holidays past, but we forget the stories of the wives and children sitting around the holiday table looking forlornly at the seat that remained vacant or, during the Second World War, the candle in the window, its beam shimmering off the silver or gold star which stood as the sole reminder of one family's sacrifice.

In so many ways, the link between the holidays and war is as real as humanity itself. Yet, how could it be otherwise? It is the holidays for which we are fighting, not necessarily the religious meaning. Although, that is a factor too. We are fighting, or in this case preventing fighting, to give a child in a far off land the opportunity to see his or her father home at the holiday. We are present in Bosnia, or wherever we might be called, to give future generations the ability to celebrate the joy to which we feel so richly entitled at this time of year.

This does not come without a price. It means that our brothers and sisters in arms are not with us this season. It

means that we too might soon be gone. Yet, this is the price that we agreed to pay. This is the responsibility we assumed. Let us, therefore, use this holiday as a time to recommit ourselves to these sacred duties and the notion that happiness and joy are values to which everyone is entitled, regardless of religious or ethnic background.

In a matter of days, someone will feel the pain of absence or loss. As we have accepted the responsibility to defend our comrades at all costs, let us now accept the responsibility to provide support to those they left behind.

Let us also pray; pray that by making this sacrifice now, that next holiday season we might all be together and the children of Bosnia, for whom formerly there was so little hope, might remember this as their first holiday in a lifetime of peace.

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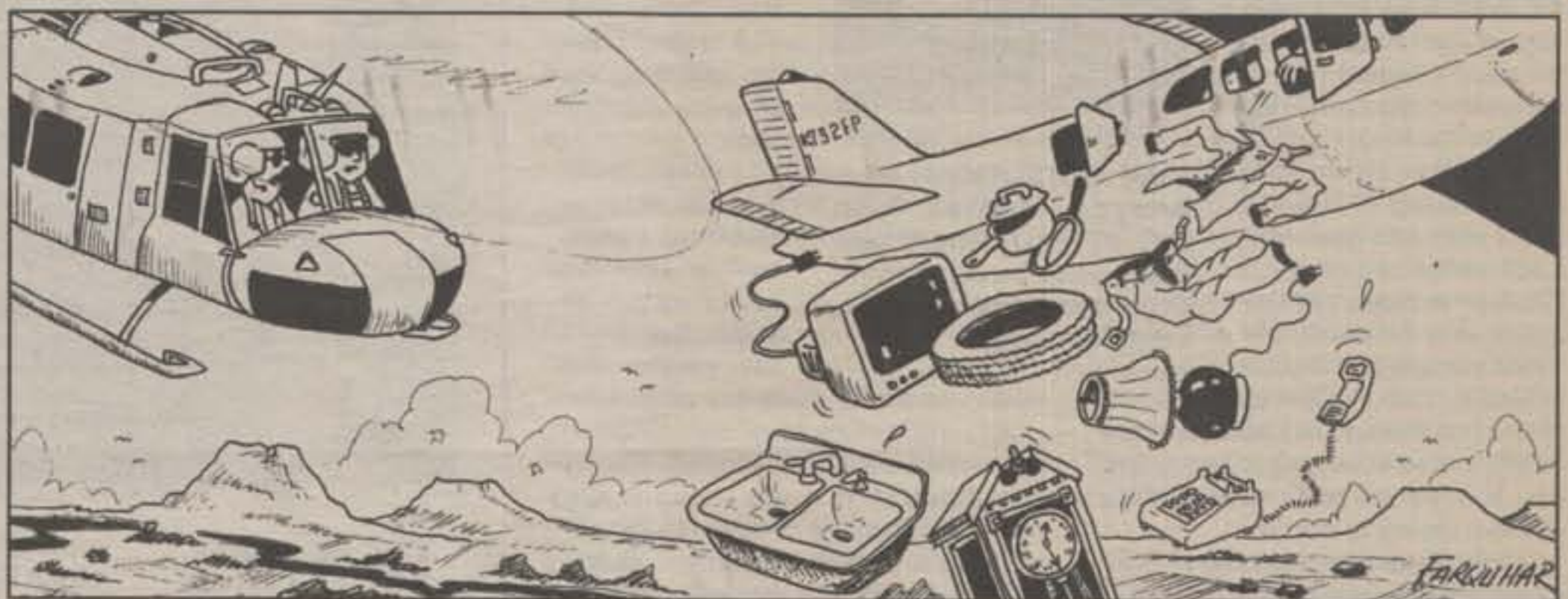
The On Guard welcomes letters from readers. All letters must include the writer's name, address and daytime phone. Names may be withheld, but letters must be signed in order to confirm them.

All letters are subject to editing for style, content and space requirements.

FAX Letters to the Editor to DSN 761-0732/0731 or (703) 681-0732. Letters may be mailed to: NGB-PAC, 2500 Army Pentagon, Washington, DC 20310-2500.

GUARD TOONS

By Lyle Farquhar



"I know it's not drugs, but I think we should call it in anyway."



IN THE NEWS

- Ohio Cross
- Disney Resort
- Mishap Rates

Mississippi gets C-17 mission

172nd Airlift Wing assigned six of the Air Force's largest aircraft

The Mississippi Air Guard's 172nd Airlift Wing near Jackson was recently assigned six C-17 Globemaster III aircraft, one of the largest planes in the Air Force's inventory.

"We feel very fortunate that we were selected to receive the airplanes," said Col. Maxey Phillips, 172nd AW commander. "We felt we were the best unit to be selected because of our experience, performance and background in the airlift missions."

The assignment of the C-17s to the wing is no accident. Mississippi legislators Rep. Sonny Montgomery (a retired National Guard major general) and Sen. Trent Lott, began lobbying for the aircraft five years ago.

The 172nd also contributed to the cause. They formed a "process action team" to study alternatives to the C-141, the aircraft the unit presently flies. It is scheduled for retirement from the reserve components by 2006.

The 16-member team — headed by Lt. Col. Bob Matthews — decided the C-17 would be the wing's best option for future security.

"We wanted to do all we could to advertise the fact we were ready, willing and able to take that aircraft," Matthews said in an *Air Force Times* interview. "We beat everybody to the punch."

The 172nd's maintenance professionals should also have their hands full going from fixing C-141s to the



Photo by SMSgt. Bob Mason

AIRLIFTERS - Mississippi's 172nd Airlift Wing has a long history of cargo hauling.

larger, more complex C-17. No problem, says Maj. Richard B. Howard, the unit's Aircraft Generation Squadron commander.

"We're excited," he said. "The depth of our maintenance folks' experience in supporting cargo aircraft — the C-124, the C-130, the C-141 — shows that we're now ready for the next challenge."

If history is an indicator, Howard's enthusiasm is not without merit. The unit has had a long history of air successes, including six Air Force Outstanding Unit awards. They were also the first Air Guard unit to fly the C-130H, at the time the newest of the Hercules airlifters. Perhaps most telling, the 172nd has not had a major aircraft accident in nearly 40 years.

Mississippi's Capt. Jackie Brown and the *Air Force Times*' Andrew Compart contributed to this story.

Bowers earns Ohio Cross

By Sgt. Kathy McGee
Ohio National Guard

A day of recreation turned into a test of courage and strength for the Ohio Army Guard's Spc. Sidney Bowers.

A member of the 684th Medical Company, Bowers received the Ohio Cross for his actions while training at Camp Grayling, Mich.

Last July 13, with temperatures soaring well into the 90s, commanders were encouraged to provide relief to their soldiers. Seizing the opportunity to battle the heat in swimsuits and sandals, several Guardmembers headed for Lake Margarethe. While many soldiers relaxed on the beach, others paddled kayaks out to a small island about a mile away from shore.

Without warning, the weather suddenly changed. While a few soldiers decided to stay on the island, others tried to make it back to shore before



Photo courtesy Ohio National Guard

the storm hit. The first to get his kayak back to the beach, Bowers was amazed at how quickly the sky turned black and how threatening the waves had become.

"I knew others were coming in behind me, so I waited on the beach for them," Bowers recalled.

One of the kayakers, occupied by Spc. Kathy Schlemmer, flipped over leaving her struggling to get to shore. Bowers immediately went in after her.

With Schlemmer safely back on land, Bowers looked for the rest of the kayakers.

"We didn't see anyone else in the water, so we left the beach," he said.

"Once we got out of the storm, I noticed the guy from the kayak behind me was missing," Schlemmer said. She expressed her

SAFELY ASHORE - Spc. Sidney Bowers (center) poses with Spc. Kathy Schlemmer and Cpl. Mark Chapman.

concerns to Bowers, who immediately headed back to the beach. By this time, it was hailing outside and visibility was poor.

"All I saw on the water was a log floating in the distance," Bowers said. "Then I heard a call for help."

The log turned out to be Cpl. Mark Chapman.

Though he was told by officials at the beach the water was too dangerous to enter and to wait for a lifejacket, Bowers went in after Chapman.

"I could see him going under and knew there was no time to waste," Bowers said.

Chapman's kayak had turned over and rammed him in the back, causing a compression fracture to his spine. Bowers safely brought him to shore.

In a fitting tribute, Chapman read the orders when Bowers was presented the Ohio Cross. The honor is given to Guardmembers who put their lives at risk to save another.

NATIONAL BRIEFS

DISNEY RESORT OPEN TO GUARDMEMBERS

The Shades of Green, a first class Armed Forces Recreation Center, is located on the Walt Disney World Resort. It offers affordable lodging for National Guardmembers and their guests.

Room rates begin at \$55 a night for Guardmembers E-1 to E-5.

Recently, more than 250 members of the Illinois Air Guard's 183rd Fighter Wing returned from a vacation at the resort. The 183rd's Family Support Program coordinated the trip with the help of MSgt. Kevin Downey, the unit's recruiting and retention manager.

"The hotel was wonderful," Downey said. "We were very surprised at the top-notch accommodations. It's really first-rate. This is the first time we've ever done this in our unit, but it definitely won't be the last."

Guests staying at the Shades of Green are entitled to savings on theme park tickets and other well-known Orlando attractions.

Guests are reminded to bring their military identification cards or a current leave and earnings statement upon check-in.

For more information on Shades of Green, call the Reservations and Travel Services at (407) 824-3600. They can be reached by FAX at (407) 824-3665.

AIR GUARD MISHAP RATE ACHIEVES HISTORICAL LOW

The Air National Guard finished Fiscal Year 1995 with the lowest Class A mishap rate in its history.

During FY-95, Air Guard units recorded only a 1.24 rate, the lowest since records were kept in 1948.

Col. Dennis Nielson, the ANG's director of safety, attributes the mark on the focus given to the Air Guard's "zero mishap" goal.

"If you don't want any mishaps, how can your goal be anything other than zero," he said.

In a related story, the following units received the USAF Safety Award: Maine's 101st Refueling Wing, the District of Columbia's 113th Fighter Wing, Florida's 125th Fighter Wing, Washington's 141st Air Refueling Wing, Wyoming's 153rd Airlift Wing, Kansas' 184th Bomb Wing, Alabama's 187th Fighter Wing and Pennsylvania's 193rd Special Operations Wing.

Florida's 125th Fighter Wing received the Air Force's explosive safety plaque, while D.C.'s 113th Fighter Wing took home a missile safety plaque.



Photo by TSgt. Sandy Switzer

SHOT IN THE ARM - Military Police with Mississippi's 113th MP Company get their immunizations updated before deploying.

BOSNIA

From Page 1

Bureau's History Branch Chief, are tasked with collecting all written documentation generated during an operation. Since the drawdown, all but one MHD is in the Guard or Reserves.

"If there's an operation, we know one of us is going to be called," Pacheco said.

As of Dec. 18, North Carolina's 130th MHD and Kansas' 102nd MHD have been deployed to Bosnia.

Army Guard Military Police companies from Missouri, Mississippi, West Virginia, Iowa and Michigan were also called in. They are expected to backfill for MPs in Germany, already sent to Bosnia.

"We'll be performing basic law enforcement on post; pulling traffic duty, filing accident reports, responding to domestic disputes," said Capt. James Tate, Missouri's 1137th MP Company commander and a civilian police officer. "We're comfortable with our mission."

They should be. Of the 150 MPs in the 1137th, more than half have served in combat. Eleven are Vietnam vets, 36 supported Just Cause in Panama and 66 pulled duty in Desert Storm.

It still didn't prepare Tate, a Drug Abuse Resistance Education officer, for a question one fifth grader asked him about his impending deployment.

"She wanted to know if there was a chance I could get shot," Tate began, his voice straining for composure. "I told her 'probably not.' So she says, 'Well, I'm going to Sunday school to say a prayer for you and your soldiers' ... It was very emotional."

Sometimes bullets are easier to face.

Rocket systems launched

Kentucky, Michigan get a taste of MLRS

By Lt. Col. Jerold Foehl
Michigan National Guard

Many Americans recall the news footage of Multiple-Launch Rocket Systems in action during the Gulf War. Scores of the 14-foot, MLRS rockets streaked across the desert sky to strike Iraqi targets more than 100 miles away.

Two Michigan Army Guard units qualified at Camp Grayling to operate the MLRS. The units were Detroit's Battery A and Lansing's Battery C, 1st Battalion, 182nd Field Artillery.

The battalion's 27 launchers are deployed three to four kilometers (1.8 to 2.4 miles) apart on a simulated battlefield. One MLRS launcher, with a three-man crew, equals the firepower of five self-propelled cannon battalions with 100 cannons.

"A MLRS battalion is the most lethal weapon system available to the corps commander on today's modern battlefield," said Col. Berri K. Meyers, 1st Battalion, 182nd Field Artillery commander. "The maximum effective range of the rockets is 300 kilometers, or 187.5 miles. From Camp Grayling (in northern Michigan), missiles could reach targets in such outlying areas as Milwaukee, Wis., and Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario."

Until January 1993, batteries of the 1-182nd were designated as field artillery and equipped with eight-inch, self-propelled cannons. Fielding the \$182 million MLRS required the battalion to retrain its soldiers from cannon artillerymen to rocketeers.



Photo by Sgt. William Blevins

The Michigan unit was not alone.

With a thunderous boom and pillars of smoke and flame, soldiers of the Kentucky Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 623rd Field Artillery launched themselves into the history books by live-firing their new MLRS at Fort Knox, Ky.

The event marked the culmination of two and a half years of new equipment training in all types of weather and terrain as part of the battalion's transition from the M-203 eight-inch howitzer to the MLRS.

The rocket system is mounted on a modified Bradley Fighting Vehicle chassis which houses two weapons pods and



Photo by Maj. Phil Miller

LIVE FIRE - Kentucky's Sgt. Jeff Campbell (left) fires the MLRS.

all the equipment necessary to load, aim and fire the surface-to-surface rockets. A three-man crew, consisting of a driver, gunner and section chief, operate the system from inside the cab. The crew can aim and fire up to 12 MLRS rockets in less than one minute, with each launcher possessing the equivalent firepower of nearly four battalions of howitzers.

Kentucky's Sgt. Jeff Campbell, a member Battery B and a veteran of the Persian Gulf War, applauded the MLRS track-mounted launcher's combat versatility.

"It will go 40 mph. It's more maneuverable, shoots faster and has more firepower than our old eight-inch guns," he said.

Michigan has fielded the fifth battalion of MLRS in the entire Army National Guard. The first two battalions are located in Oklahoma, with one each in Kentucky and Tennessee. Ten are in the active Army.

Besides increased firepower, the MLRS offers other benefits.

"When we fire the practice round designed for the MLRS, our neighbors at Camp Grayling will hear about 92 percent fewer noise events," Meyers said. "This will no doubt make for quieter nights in northern Michigan."

Kentucky's Sgt. Will Blevins and Spc. John Blackburn contributed to this story.

SECURING the BRIDGE

Soldiers with the Ohio Army Guard's 1st Battalion, 148th Infantry secure a bridge for crossing during lanes training recently. They were supported by elements of Ohio's 237th Forward Support Battalion.



Photo by Joe Levack



PEOPLE

SSgt. Dean Dyer has helped protect the District's environment and history

STAYING INVOLVED

By Capt. William Wiggins
District of Columbia National Guard

Time is a fleeting commodity for most Guardmembers. For SSgt. Dean Dyer, it's a chance to invigorate life and change the world.

Dyer, a District of Columbia National Guard training technician and an 11-year D.C. Guard veteran, has become sort of a man-for-all-seasons within the community, from saving historical forests from developers to pied-piping Scottish tunes as a drum major.

An environmental activist, Dyer has helped other environmentalists secure a court ruling that further maintains one of the county's most venerable natural resources, Belt Wood Forest. The 470 acres of dense forest, located in a well-traveled and well-developed section of Prince George's County, Md., is an historical forest that has been protected from any cuttings since the discovery of the western hemisphere.

In 1992, *National Geographic* photographed the forest's splendid and unique growth of hardwood and a 45-acre virgin tract to illustrate what America looked like at the time of Columbus' landing, according to Pam Cooper, president and founder of the Western Shore Conservancy, a non-profit land trust in Bowie.

Turning to other interests when he's not protecting sacred forests, Dyer also is a drum major for the county's

Police Pipe Band. On rare occasions, he even plays the bagpipes.

A bandmember himself for more than five years, Dyer has performed at many events throughout the metropolitan area. Recently the band performed at the Korean War Memorial Dedication in Washington, D.C., where Dyer had an opportunity to visit with one of his mentors, SGM James McGarity, the drum major for the U.S. Army Band, "Pershing's Own."

McGarity, a 26-year veteran drum major, said that several years ago he provided Dyer with a few fine points on the art of drum majoring in the more formal British style.

"I told Dean to change a few subtle nuances in his routine and to get more experience," he said.

"The sergeant major was so receptive and kind by freely giving me insight on what it takes to become a successful drum major," said Dyer, who served as the drum major for D.C.'s 257th Army Band for seven years.

"It was especially nice seeing him (McGarity) at the dedication," said Dyer. "With us both wearing our drum major's garb (the sergeant major had on the bearskin hat), we had Korean War veterans asking us to pose for photographs."

Besides being a full-time trainer in the D.C. Guard's operations office, Dyer is also the D.C. Guard's museum curator. Recently he began the process of meticulously and carefully chronicling the known history of the D.C. Guard.

"The museum is my way of finding out who came before us and what is our story," Dyer said. "We have many artifacts, but it's the photographs that give the most impact. For example, you can see from old photos the mint green polyester dresses women used to wear and the large Capital Guardian (D.C. Guard unit crest) crests that were worn on helmet liners."

"One photograph that is really significant is a turn-of-the-century, pass-and-review ceremony held by the D.C. Guard (then D.C. Militia)," Dyer added. "It showed then-President William McKinley boating down the Potomac River. It is those small bits of history that often times are lost when history is recorded."



Photo by D. Chris Martin

ON PARADE - SSgt. Dean Dyer, a member of the District of Columbia National Guard, is a drum major, among other things.

Pounding pavement in Panama

By Sgt. Julie Geer
U.S. Army Reserve

Some people are content to see the world from a lounge chair on a cruise ship, or the safety of a chartered tour bus, but for Pvt. Amy D. Baniak adventure is better when experienced close-up and personal.

"I'm not a desk-type person," said Baniak, a military police officer with the Missouri Army National Guard's 1137th Military Police Company located in Kennett.

"The military is something exciting and new," she added. "At first, I joined the service to experience something different.

The benefits were an added attraction."

The 1137th was training in Panama recently.

The battalion was in charge of setting up traffic control points on various road construction sites, supplying additional drivers for vehicles, monitoring access to the base camp and maintaining the peace.

Although Baniak is new to the unit and far from home, she is performing her job well, said 1st Lt. Douglas L. Gifford, a 1137th military police officer.

"This is her first time overseas and her first deployment with the military," he said. "She is a good, solid young troop."

For many soldiers, it may be

years before they are deployed overseas.

"I didn't think I would be going overseas on my first annual training. I love the Panamanian people. They give their friendship freely and without reservation," she said.

Communication can be a challenge with so many people trying to make themselves understood at the same time, she said.

"I took some Spanish in school, so I could understand some of the things they were saying. However, they were talking so fast, and they were trying their hardest to speak English. After much frustration, one of them gave me the English-Spanish dictionary and said, 'You



Photo by Sgt. Julie Geer

learn. You learn,'" Baniak said. Working jointly with the Panamanian people has been extremely rewarding, Baniak said.

"Training gives us the chance to do our jobs together, and we work together well," she said.

"Overseas training gives our troops the kind of experience they need to be able to accom-

ON THE JOB - Pvt. Amy Baniak talks with a Panamanian police officer.

plish their mission," said SSgt. William E. Jackson, a 1137th MP. "Baniak just graduated from Military Police school, and she has learned quite a bit being down here."



LOGGED IN - A Huey (far left) delivered planks and logs to Camp Grayling, Mich. Soldiers (left and below) offload logs and wood.

Photos by Capt. Stephen Tompos



Michigan, Ohio team up to save their environment

Preserving WETLANDS

By Capt. Stephen T. Tompos
Ohio National Guard

Though Ohio and Michigan are usually considered rivals, especially during football season, National Guard troops from both states joined forces for a mission of preservation.

During annual training at Camp Grayling, Ohio's 137th Aviation Battalion and assets from the 148th Infantry Battalion assisted the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in building a 73-mile loop trail to help preserve northern Michigan wetlands.

The trail, known as "The High Country Pathway," is cut through a cedar swamp and loops through the Mackinaw State Forest and Pigeon River State Forest wetlands. The pathway is intended to keep people from meandering through the wetlands, according to Gerrie Caro, a

Michigan DNR representative.

"The pathway will protect the wetlands by helping people go where we want them to go," Caro said, "not wherever they want to."

Due to rough terrain that was inaccessible by vehicles, Michigan's DNR asked the Michigan National Guard to help airlift multiple 600-pound loads of treated

yellow pine boards into the wetlands to build the pathway.

Seeing this as a chance for Ohio and Michigan to cooperate on a joint mission, the Michigan National Guard requested Ohio's involvement in the pathway project.

"It's a great opportunity for the Ohio and Michigan National Guard units to

work together, and also for the DNR to look at our assets and see what we can do," said CWO Bryan Simecki, assistant safety officer for Grayling Army Airfield and liaison between the DNR and the National Guard.

Caro says that without the cooperation from the National Guard, the pathway project wouldn't be possible.



PRESERVERS - Ohio Guardmembers from the 148th Infantry unload lumber in support of a Department of Natural Resource project.

"It's so exciting to have all of these people come together from different organizations and work together as a team to pull this project off," he said.

The Ohio units involved in this mission seized the opportunity for quality, real-life training.

"This was valuable training while providing a service," said CWO Terry Ault, a pilot commander with Company B, 2nd Battalion, 137th Aviation. "Typically when we do sling load training, we pick up a concrete block, fly a pattern and set it down. That's a lot different than picking up a load of lumber, seeing how it's going to sling and hauling it 16 miles."

This mission was a chance for everyone to use their judgment and skills to adapt to various situations, said CWO Brian Michael, 2-137th Aviation air mission commander.

"There was a lot of talk on the radios: '(such as) has anybody thought of something else or tried it a different way.' That's the kind of real-life training we need to do," Ault said.

The soldiers on the ground receiving the sling loads were also enthusiastic about using the mission.

"Who knows if we'll need to do this in a different situation.... We may need fuel, water or an extra vehicle airlifted to our position," said Cpl. William R. Duncan, Company B, 1-148th Infantry. "If we keep our people up to speed, then we don't need to wait for outside help to come in and hook us up."

"There's a lot of coordination between the man on the ground, who is watching the target with the sling loads coming in, and the man in the bird. There has to be a lot of hand and eye contact between those two," said Sgt. John Cepek, 1-148th. "Once you can get that done, you can do any mission you want."

Cepak also had a personal interest in the DNR mission.

"I feel really good about this because in my civilian life I am a biology major and I hope to work for the DNR," he said. "It's one of the best partnerships I can think of."

Maryland Guard teaches local educators about opportunities

CLASS is in SESSION

By Maj. Jean Marie Beall
Maryland National Guard

More than a dozen educators went back to school recently for a special course on career opportunities in the Maryland Air National Guard.

Educators, including those from Towson, Parkville, North Harford and Patapsco High Schools, studied *Career Opportunities 101* and *Enlistment Qualifications 102* during a day-long course at the home of the 135th and 175th Fighter Wings, based at Martin State Airport in East Baltimore.

Col. David Beasley, 135th FW commander, welcomed the educators and briefed them on the unit's global missions. He detailed the unit's involvement in international operations in Somalia, Haiti and Bosnia, not to mention their support of domestic relief missions during Hurricane Andrew, Gilbert and Hugo.

Recruiter TSgt. Bob Gluck told educators about the advantages of being a Guardmember.

"We want you to know what we have to offer in educational and work opportunities," Gluck said.

"Those who enlist may receive college credits through the Community College of the Air Force, an accredited, degree-granting institution serving the job-related educational needs of the Air Guard enlisted community."

Two assistant principals said they were surprised by the career opportunities offered.

"I was aware you did these missions, but I did not know about all the educational oppor-

tunities," said Tom Rochfort, an assistant principal at Parkville High School. "I did not know about all the money available for those who enlist. And I didn't know they gave you college credit for your (advanced individual) training."

Added Stan Neumann, a Towson High School assistant principal, "I think it's great. When I was in the Air Force you didn't get all that credit. It was a good experience. I needed it as a youngster."

Len Bostian, a teacher at Towson High School, works his school's co-op program, where students go to school for a half day and work the other half. He said many of his students are interested in joining the military.

"Before coming here, I didn't know anything about the Guard," Bostian said. "The nice thing about this (the Guard) is that the students come back to something (after training)."

Cathy Kearney, a counselor at Patapsco High School, liked the real-world skills the Guard offers.

"To learn a trade free of charge, I think that's wonderful," she said.

Kearney said she wanted to bring students back.

"We do Maryland's Tomorrow program," she added. "We do a shadow day where a student and a Guardmember are paired for a day. The kids have always liked that."

Educators were also surprised at the variety of jobs in the Guard.

"When one thinks about the Air Guard, they think of planes," Kearney said. "I have learned that there are a lot of jobs out here."

IN CLASS - Maryland Air Guard's SSgt. Sam McGee (below, right), a security policeman, explains the components of the M-16 rifle to Baltimore-area educator Jane Mooney, a counselor at Mount Hebron High School.



Photo by TSgt. Ed Bard

DRUG SUPPORT

Keystone State youths shown a better way

A Red Ribbon WEEK

By Sgt. Ann Everest
Pennsylvania National Guard

Encouraging youths to stay drug free, while using a variety of equipment demonstrations, Pennsylvania National Guardmembers provided role models to nearly 1,000 youths in Lancaster County during Red Ribbon Week.

Red Ribbon Week is an annual nationwide celebration symbolizing a commitment to a drug-free lifestyle.

In Pennsylvania, the National Guard's Drug Demand Reduction (DDR) program strengthens this message by supporting community efforts.

This year, motivated by the Lancaster County Drug and Alcohol Commission and rising drug and violence problems, county schools asked the Guard for assistance. The Guard supported five schools with various displays including night vision equipment, a HUMVEE, a computer simulator and drug awareness displays and lectures.

Lt. Col. Robert L. Nissley, an Air National Guard chaplain who works for the Pennsylvania Alcohol Foundation as a civilian, spoke to middle school youths about inappropriate alcohol advertising.

The Guard also participated in an after-school drug awareness presentation for parents.

Other Red Ribbon efforts included a week-long display in downtown Harrisburg where Guardmembers distributed drug awareness educational materials.

Also, the Keystone State's DDR personnel provided support to a Dauphin County "Run for the Ribbon" 3-mile walk/run. National Guard personnel acted as guides on street corners. The run had nearly 1,000 participants from seven schools. A helicopter from Fort Indiantown Gap was also on display with a pilot available to answer questions.

Combining transportation, manpower and storage facility resources, the Guard distributed more than 60,000 DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) workbooks to hundreds of Pennsylvania police de-



Photos by Spc. Nancie Whelan

RUNNER'S HIGH - Pennsylvania's SSgt. Kerry Myers (above), accompanied by his two sons, act as corner guides during the "Run for the Ribbon" 3-mile run/walk.



NEW CREW - Sgt. Robert Dougherty Jr. (above) finds a youth happy to wear a tanker's helmet.

partments.

The DARE workbooks are used in schools for a 17-week drug education program taught by trained police officers.

"The shipping costs of the books are astronomical," explains Roy Willoughby, the state's DARE coordinator. "Because of their weight, the cost is as much as the books' purchase price."

"Without the Guard's assistance," he added, "I'm not really sure how we'd have gotten the books out."

Supporting DARE has been an important mission to the state's DDR program for three years. It is an education program that continues to grow in Pennsylvania with National Guard support.

"Our ultimate goal is to get the DARE program underway in every community in Pennsylvania," Willoughby said.

Since the late 70s, the Guard has assisted state law enforcers in ...

Ridding the streets of DRUGS

By SrA. Beth Brady
National Guard Bureau

The wars Guardmembers fight are usually in foreign lands with air, land and sea power no other nation can match. But what happens when the war is close to home?

That's where the Guard steps in. Guardmembers are making a difference in the war against drugs through programs that benefit not only their neighbors and communities, but sometimes even their own children.

The programs, according to Lt. Col. Charles Billingsly, the National Guard Bureau's Northeast region senior support coordinator, reached more than 7.5 million youths and more than 47,000 adults and family members last year.

"These are very cost effective programs," he added. "We work with more than 8,000 activities and/or organizations. The cost per person reached was slightly over \$1."

All 54 states and territories now participate in what began in 1990 as a volunteer plan to attack the demand for drugs rather than just interdiction. States develop activities and programs such as youth camps, mentoring programs, and Drug Abuse Resistance Education to deliver their message.

"The Guard has been very proactive in drug demand reduction because the Guard is part of the community," Billingsly said. "We are part of the community long-term so we obviously have a keen interest in what goes on where we live and work."

More than 52,000 volunteers



Photo by Sgt. Ann Everest



participated in drug demand reduction programs last year with 31,000 of those volunteers being National Guardmembers. The remaining 22,000 were family and community members.

Success, however, is measured by many yardsticks in the ongoing campaign to eliminate illegal drugs.

When you calculate the 1995 contributions made by the National Guard, the tally includes more than 718,000 workdays of support to national, state and local law enforcement agencies. Last year, the Guard effort alone contributed to the seizure of nearly \$62.4 billion in illegal drugs. Drug-related arrests supported by the National Guard added up to 99,225.

These missions are not glamorous; there are no victory parades.

Working in cooperation with a wide range of civilian law enforcement officials, each state develops its own plan, approved by the Department of Defense, to make maximum

GUARD SUPPORT

- 31,000 Guardmembers and family members participated in drug demand reduction programs last year
- 718,000 workdays of support to national, state and local law enforcement agencies
- \$62.4 billion in illegal drugs seized
- 99,225 drug-related arrests supported by the National Guard
- More than 52,000 volunteers participated in drug demand reduction programs last year

IN THE FIGHT - Members of the North Carolina Guard (bottom photo) and race car driver Jeff Gordon join in getting the drug-free message out. Pennsylvania's 1st Lt. Michael Roth (left) loads DARE workbooks for distribution to area police departments. Maine Guardmembers (below) deliver excess vehicles.



Photo courtesy Maine National Guard



Photo by SSgt. Ed Eudy

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use of National Guard assets. National Guard volunteers do not perform police functions such as arrest of drug traffickers or seizure of contraband. What they do is help federal, state and local authorities with efforts such as these:

- The North Carolina Guard formed an alliance with several NASCAR drivers and their crews to advance the drug-free message.

- Pennsylvania Guard volunteers delivered more than 60,000 Drug Abuse Resistance Education workbooks to hundreds of state police departments.

- Since 1992, the Maine National Guard has had DoD approval to transfer excess property, such as vehicles,

weapons and clothing to support state counterdrug efforts. In that time more than 36,000 items valued at more than \$4 million have been transferred.

- Guard units in Mississippi, Florida, Massachusetts and Oregon have loaned high-tech equipment,

including night vision goggles and radios. They conduct training for law officers and can perform various administrative tasks for police.

- Troops can monitor known and suspected drug-smuggling routes and report suspicious actions to civilian authorities.

- Guard helicopters are used to patrol suspected marijuana gardens growing on public lands. Civilian law enforcement spotters aboard these helicopters report the locations to colleagues on the ground. In Hawaii alone, more than \$548,699,700 of marijuana was confiscated last year with the Guard's help. Some of the earliest missions were conducted in Hawaii during the late 1970s.

The Guard's role began more than a decade ago. Now, with increased awareness, changes to federal laws and congressional appropriations that totalled \$158.2 million in 1995, members of the Guard are producing results for their neighbors and law enforcement authorities.

The Guard Bureau's Lt. Col. David J. Super contributed to this article.

Academy of drug prevention

Mississippi facility teaches drug fighters urban warfare

By Lt. Col. Parker Hills

Mississippi National Guard

There is no dope out there worth an officer's life."

With these final words of caution from Tom Slowik reverberating in their minds, five officers practicing raid techniques trudged up the hill to the Mississippi National Guard's Regional Counterdrug Training Academy (RCTA).

For many law enforcement agents sworn to rid their states of drugs, the Academy's combat town, or MOUT (Military Operations in Urban Terrain), is the final test, a chance to practice what they have learned in the classroom.

Construction of the MOUT began even before the walls of the Academy's classrooms were nailed in place. Because an officer's survival is the RCTA's primary purpose, the practical exercises make the mock town essential.

Constructed by Army and Air National Guard engineers with some assistance by active Navy personnel (the Academy is located on the Naval Air Station in Meridian), the town offers unlimited training scenarios.

The cinder block buildings with brick veneer were built to last and boast steel beam construction with solid concrete roofs. Because raid teams often work from rooftops, the buildings were constructed to withstand the wear of tactical training. The town includes a two-story motel with balcony, a convenience store, an office building, two mini-storage warehouses, a two-story barn, a residential home and a four-story rappelling tower.

A dog kennel is in construction. It will allow drug dog handlers to board their own dogs during training.

The raid planning classes offer drug fighters a chance to practice intelligence gathering techniques, make their approach and assault, get in and out of buildings and how to use target analysis and officer extraction if a member of the team goes down. Once they have mastered these techniques, they can sign up for the advanced class where training becomes more intense.

The advanced class includes "bad guys" who shoot back with paint guns. In this class, rapid and accurate target identification is essential. Students are also videotaped so they can assess their performance. Of course, a bright orange paint blotch adorning a student's body armor is evidence enough of a flawed mission, as is an orange spot on an innocent bystander's clothing.

Slowik, the Academy's tactical training coordinator, employs the paint blotches to emphasize target selection. For every round a cop fires and misses, he or she is held accountable. He teaches students about ambient light or the absence of light and the use of high-powered mini-flashlights secured to the weapon.

Avoiding or overcoming hazards is the purpose of the urban terrain training, as many Guardmembers would attest. In today's dangerous world of brush-fire

wars in third world countries, most of the combat will occur in built-up areas, as rival factions or gangs fight for territory or turf. National Guard and active duty units have used the Mississippi facility, particularly for room-clearing techniques.

Recently, a Special Forces unit trained in the MOUT.

"It was pretty interesting because I wasn't sure how the military would relate to law enforcement training techniques," Slowik said. "They were very receptive, and said they would recommend that all of their troops come through here."

Recently, a Marine Corps mobile training team conducted a course for a class of law enforcement officers. The students responded overwhelmingly to the professionalism of the Marine instructors.

"The Marines did a super job. They were dynamic instructors -- well-versed and well-trained," said Col. Steve Goff, the Academy's commandant. "They were no-nonsense, and the law enforcement officers really responded to them."

Accordingly, Gunnery Sgt. J.L. Vessey came away with praise for the Academy and its mission.

"It truly was a pleasure to conduct training at such an excellent facility. The entire instructor staff has already started looking forward to next year's trip with excitement and enthusiasm," he said.

The Academy offers training opportunities to military and civilian law enforcement personnel nationwide.



Photo courtesy Mississippi National Guard

COMBAT TOWN - The Mississippi Guard's Regional Counterdrug Training Academy's MOUT facility looks good overhead and to those who have used it on the ground.



SPORTS

- Bike Helpers
- Golf Winner
- Marathoners

SPORTS SHORTS

BIKE EVENT GETS LIFT

When organizers of the Multiple Sclerosis Society's "Wheel and Rock to Woodstock" bike tour needed communications support, they turned to the New York's 1st Battalion, 156th Field Artillery.

Forty two Guardmembers from Kingston deployed to the Catskill Mountains to provide radio contact through rugged terrain where most civilian equipment could not reach.

Other Guardmembers were on hand to "sweep the course" in HUMVEEs and 5-ton trucks. They assisted competitors unable to finish the race.

The New York Air Guard's 105th Security Police Squadron, based in Newburgh, helped ensure a safe race by directing traffic and aiding lost competitors.

FLORIDA'S BOOTH WINS GOLF TOURNEY

Florida's Maj. Jeanette Booth won the Commander's Gold Tournament beating 80 others at the Marsh Creek Country Club in St. Augustine.

Booth, an intelligence officer with the 125th Fighter Wing, shot an 82 on what some consider one of the toughest courses in North Florida.

"Everything was on that day," she said. "I don't think I missed a putt under six feet."

PUERTO RICO RUNNERS SWEEP MARATHON

Several women with the Puerto Rico National Guard turned in top performances at a recent interagency marathon where nearly 300 runners competed.

Puerto Rico's women swept four of the five women's categories. They were Sgt. Norma Morales (30-34-years-old), Sgt. Migdalia Rodriguez (35-39), SFC Miriam Neron (40-44) and SGM Isolina Neron (45-49).

Puerto Rico men ace Marine marathon

Colon-Malave, Cuevas-Cardona take Open, Masters titles

By SSgt. Ron Bradrick
Nebraska National Guard

Two Army National Guard sergeants from Puerto Rico ran away with the top Open and Master's category titles against other Guard runners at the 20th Marine Corps Marathon held in Washington, D.C., Oct. 22.

Sgt. Ramon Colon-Malave, running for the first time in the Marine Corps Marathon -- finished ninth out of 16,000 runners overall -- and first against the top male Guard runners in a time of 2:29:20.

"I'm used to training in 85 to 90 degree weather in Puerto Rico," said Colon-Malave, "so running here in this mid-50 degree temperature was very hard on me. I almost dropped out at the half-way point because my hands and feet were so cold that I couldn't feel them. But, just then, we turned and ran into the sunshine and I began warming up."

According to Colon-Malave, this was only his second try in a marathon race after a nine-year layoff. He had finished second earlier this year in the Guard competition at the Lincoln Marathon (Neb.) in May with a 2:34:44 finish, behind South Carolina's 1st Lt. Paul Laymon. Laymon was recovering from injuries in this race, but still finished in 2:35:48, fourth among Guard runners.

Colon-Malave is a switching systems operator with the 92nd Signal Detachment based at Fort Buchanan. In civilian life, he works for the municipal government as a track and field coordinator with the public schools.

Sgt. Victor Cuevas-Cardona, an 18-year veteran medic with Puerto Rico's Headquarters and Headquarters Com-



Photos by SSgt. Bruce Nickeson

pany, 1st Battalion, 296th Infantry was the Guard's fastest Master's (40 and over) runner clocking 2:38:32.

"This is my 10th Marine Corps Marathon," said Cuevas-Cardona. "I've only missed one since the Guard started sending a team and that was while I was in college. It has been a dream come true for me. It was a great win for me since I just turned 40."

TOP RUNNER -
Utah's SSgt. Deanne Trauba (inset) was the Guard's top woman finisher at the Marine Corps Marathon. Puerto Rico's Sgt. Ramon Colon-Malave (left) was the Men's Open winner.

In civilian life, Cuevas-Cardona is a registered nurse at the hospital in Las Marias. He also runs his own coffee, banana and orange orchard.

Utah's SSgt. Deanne A. Trauba finished first for the second consecutive year in the women's competition with a time of 3:16:13. Last year, she took the title running 3:32:06 in the rain.

"I didn't think I could run this fast," said Trauba, "because I'm just coming out of a six week Advanced Non-Commissioned Officer course where I had to get up at 4 a.m. and run in the dark before PT. Today, I just felt good and ran an even pace every mile."

According to Trauba, this was her third Marine Corps Marathon and her 13th marathon. She was followed by South Dakota's Lt. Col. Nancy Wetherill (3:28:34) and Utah's SFC Susan Cole (3:44:37).

Traubá is a full-time Readiness NCO with Detachment 1, STARC (97th Troop Command).

The National Guard uses the "All-Guard"

marathon team, which is made up of the top male and female Guard qualifiers from the Lincoln Marathon each May, to promote physical fitness in the Army and Air National Guard.

The Marine Corps Marathon is an open, amateur race, beginning and ending near the Marine Corps War Memorial (Iwo Jima Monument) in Arlington, Va. It is the fourth-largest marathon in the U.S.

For the first time since WWII, Puerto Rico, Texas fliers enter Brazil airspace

Destination BRAZIL

By SSgt. John B. Dendy
U.S. Air Force

Forty Aviators with the Texas Air Guard's 136th Airlift Wing were part of the first full-scale American airpower deployment to Brazil since World War II recently when they participated in Operation Tiger II.

The Tiger II exercise provided combat training for aviators of both countries. It also supported the two nations' objective of strong cooperation among the democracies.

It was the first exercise for the Brazilians in more than nine years that involved more than one U.S. aircraft.

"The Brazilian Air Force and all the people have been extremely hospitable and accommodating to us," said Texas Lt. Col. Jackie Vaughn. "We're anticipating this becoming a regular exercise, and hopefully next year we can host the Brazilians coming to Dallas."

Operation Tiger I was a similar exercise flown in October 1994 in Puerto Rico with pilots from that territory's 156th

Fighter Wing.

Many pilots from the 156th were also in Brazil.

"This is a first, a historic moment, landing the first team of U.S. fighter aircraft here in 52 years. Especially since this base was significant in executing the missions that helped toward ending World War II," said Puerto Rico's Lt. Col. Jorge Cantres, an aircraft commander assigned to the 198th Fighter Squadron's "Bucaneros."

Cantres and other members of the contingent expressed pleasure with the result of their historic operation.

"It is super to fly the same types of missions in Brazil that they flew with us in Puerto Rico," said Col. Joaquin Rovira, 156th FW commander. "They have the same level of ground facilities and airspace freedoms as we do. We are very proud to participate in static display day at the airport with an F-16 that has '156th Fighter Wing' on the tail."

For the Brazilians, this is the first time any U.S. Air Force fighter wing has flown with them over their airspace. The last

time Americans were in Brazil they flew P-47 fighters during WWII.

Opposing the F-16s are Brazil's F-5s, Mirage, and the A-1 air-to-ground battle airplane that is similar to the American A-7.

The Brazilians flew for a week in Puerto Rico with the 156th FW's aviators in Operation Tiger last year.

The idea began for Operation Tiger II as a reciprocal request for an aviation intensive military-to-military training opportunity envisioned by the government of Brazil. The request was coordinated through the U.S. ambassador and his country team to the Department of Defense in November 1994.

"We are surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean and the Caribbean Sea in Puerto Rico, and the Brazilian deployment site is a port city on the Atlantic, with similar opportunities to fly within unrestricted airspaces," said Rovira.

The Puerto Rico unit uses the Roosevelt Roads Naval Air Station range for conducting the same type of air-to-ground and air-to-air flying training closer to

OVER BRAZIL - A Texas Air Guard cargo hauler from the 136th Airlift Wing based in Dallas flies over Brazil during Operation Tiger II.

home.

"The operation shows the depth of our friendship and the desire to adapt to increased operational experience and knowledge," Rovira said. "Our deployment to the Brazilian base that Americans were permitted to use in the 1940s is a happy coincidence."

Brazilian pilot Capt. Wagner Benetti enjoyed hosting the U.S. contingent.

"I took military training in the U.S., and the Americans I met did not realize the size of my country until I showed them a map," he said. "When you show them that America or Canada could fit inside Brazil, they remember Brazil is a vast nation. Then they become more curious about you ... your nation's flying operations. It's good."

Texas' Capt. Amy L. Asher contributed to this story.



Photo courtesy Texas National Guard

TRANSPORT OLYMPICS

Members of the Ohio Guard's 1486th Transportation and 211th Maintenance Companies crawled their way to the finish line during a recent Transportation Olympics. Some of the events included a wheelbarrow race, a serpentine relay, a tractor trailer relay and a relay dressed in drag, or "drag race" to those in the know.



Photo by MSgt. Robert Jennings

NEWS

MAKERS

Compiled by MSgt. John Malthaner
National Guard Bureau

Deidra D. Johnson, daughter of the District of Columbia Air Guard's SSgt. Yvonne Coates, won the National Guard Bureau's "Drug use is life abuse" poster and essay contest. The 12-year-old's essay was entitled, "Why I stay drug free." In the poster competition, Danielle Glugla, daughter of West Virginia's Spc. Peter Glugla, won with an illustration depicting street signs named "Pot Street" and "Cocaine Lane" leading to a one-way dead end.

North Dakota's 119th Fighter Wing won the coveted Hughes Trophy naming it the most outstanding air-to-air unit in the U.S. Air Force. The Happy Houligans won the honor on the strength of their victorious effort in the William Tell competition last year. Flying F-16s, the Houligans bested other elite U.S. and Canadian Air Force units.

North Carolina's Capt. Debra Wilfong was selected the Air Guard's Nurse Corps Officer of the Year for 1995. Wilfong, a member of the 156th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, is assigned to the squadron's recruiting and retention section. Wilfong developed a program that increased nurse manning from 70 to more than 100 percent in less than two years.

Dwight Eisenhower was President and gas was 29 cents a gallon when CMSgt. Herbert Baker enlisted into the Maine National Guard 41 years ago. Recently, the 101st Air Refueling Wing chief decided to retire. In May 1956, Baker was hired as a full-time personnel technician at the Bangor-based unit. He retired from full-time status after 35 years in 1991. Until his recent retirement, Baker served his state's Personnel Resource Manager as a part-timer in Augusta.

Members of the Ohio Guard spent two days at the Columbus Family Expo '95, sponsored by the Red Cross, preparing more than 750 identification cards for parents looking out for the safety of their children. The Guardmembers belonged to the 684th Medical Company, 16th Engineer Brigade and the 196th Public Affairs Detachment.

Wisconsin's 128th Air Refueling Wing dedicated a monument honoring six unit members killed in an aircraft explosion Dec. 10, 1993. The dedication honored the lives of MSgt. James Schlicht, MSgt. Roy Starszak, TSgt. Michael Heath, TSgt. James Russell, TSgt. Russell Shurr and SSgt. Patrick Foran.

Three South Carolina medical professionals were recently recognized as the best the Air Guard has to offer. Lt. Col. Jim Chow, Maj. Janet Noble and 1st Lt. Karl "Butch" Bowers Jr. received individual awards. All are members of the 169th Medical Squadron.

Nebraska's SrA. Jesse Hraban was presented the 1994 Founder's Award by the Order of the Arrow Golden Sun Lodge 492 recently. Hraban, a freight and packaging specialist with the 155th Logistics Management Squadron, was recognized for his 13-year commitment to area Boy Scouts.



Capt. Debra Wilfong,
Nurse of the Year.



Weighing in at
Ohio's Family
Expo.

SrA. Chad
Gurnon,
1,000th
graduate.



Massachusetts's Sgt. Ronald Lopes
and his unit crest collection.

Arkansas' SSgt. Ben Dolan was named the outstanding enlisted competitor at the Peacekeeper Challenge in Kirkland AFB, N.M. The annual competition tests only the best security policeman from around the country. Dolan, a member of the 188th Security Police Squadron, is the only Guardmember to ever win an award at Peacekeeper.

Members of Oregon's 463rd Aviation Detachment battled steep terrain for several hours before finally rescuing a downed Cessna pilot in Pendleton, Ore. Two Huey helicopters were sent to the crash site to help local paramedics in assisting victim S. M. Hossain. Oregon's SSgt. Robert Veatch, Spc. Michelle Musia, Spc. Joe Meyers, Spc. John Patching and PFC Patrick Hasbrouck were recognized for their efforts.

Missouri's Dr. (Col.) Edith Mitchell, formerly commander of the Air Guard's 131st Medical Squadron, was recently named the state's air surgeon, one of the few women in the nation to hold the top medical post at a state level. Mitchell, who directs a major cancer research program in Philadelphia as a civilian physician, was also Missouri's first aeronautical-rated woman. "Diversity, in terms of ideas and background, allows a skilled commander to blend those resources into a more functional unit, and allows individuals to accept new ideas more easily," she said.

Rhode Island's SrA. Chad Gurnon, a loadmaster with the 143rd Airlift Wing, was the 1,000th graduate from the Arkansas Air Guard's Aircrew Basic Academic School. The school, managed and operated by Arkansas' 189th Airlift Wing, moved to its present Little Rock location in 1988. It provides entry-level training for Air Guard loadmasters and flight engineers.

Tucked away in a corner building at the Massachusetts Military Academy is Sgt. Ronald Lopes and his extensive collection of Distinctive Unit Insignias. Lopes, a 28-year veteran and member of the American Society of Military Insignia collectors, began seriously gathering unit crests (as they are more commonly known) in 1976. Lopes has 959 crests, shoulder patches, beret flashes and shoulder tabs in his collection.

Ohio's PFC Billy Holloway helped saved a fellow student's life during a dormitory fire and explosion at Mount Vernon Nazarene College. Holloway, a member of the 2nd Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery, helped freshman Stephen Ball from the dorm after a match Ball lit triggered a gas explosion. Holloway was also credited with comforting Ball until paramedics arrived.

Mississippi's SrA. Tim Bryant rescued 65-year-old Dorothy Weaver from a burning car and carried her up an embankment to safety. Bryant was traveling down Interstate 10 when he witnessed a ladder fall from a painter's van causing Weaver to swerve off the road and careen down a ravine. Bryant is an aeromedical technician with the 183rd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron.



Photos by Lt. Col. George Becker

Utah's 19th Special Forces Group brings medicine, TLC to Thailand Keeping strong 'Thais'

By Col. Reese Stein
Utah National Guard

Utah National Guard Special Forces used medicine and a little tender loving care as their weapons in Thailand.

About 190 members of the 19th Special Forces Group staged exercise "Balance Torch 95-5" at three sites in southern Thailand.

The Green Berets provided their counterparts in the Royal Thai Army and Marines with instruction in a wide variety of special operations and military training, including advanced marksmanship, special reconnaissance, mountaineering and helicopter insertion.

The Thai soldiers reciprocated with training in mule rigging, an essential element of ground transportation in the rugged, mountainous jungle.

In addition, the medical staff assigned to the Group, which included two surgeons, a veterinarian, a dentist and several medics, provided free medical services at remote villages.

Hundreds of men, women, children, and even their dogs and cats, poured out of the hills each day to receive medical treatment.

The ornate Buddhist temple in the remote mountain village of Ban Muan Com served as one

of the clinic sites.

"It's the first time I've operated in a temple, or barefoot for that matter," said Maj. Warner "Butch" Anderson, group surgeon from Gallup, N.M. "With Buddah at the temple, we feel like we have somebody watching over our shoulder. We try to be very respectful of the Thai people, but we're especially respectful of the environment."

During their stay the doctors diagnosed life-threatening ailments in two teenage girls. A 15-year-old with a potentially fatal heart murmur and a 13-year-old with an enlarged spleen were referred to local hospitals for care.

Lt. Col. David Remington, a group dental officer, supervised the extraction of teeth by Special Forces medics. The medics are legally barred from practicing many procedures in the United States.

"In the U.S., we are pretty regulated and they couldn't get away with performing treatments on real people. They need to come to a country like this where the people need the treatment and we need the training, so it's beneficial on both sides,"

said Dr. Remington.

Maj. Ron Larsen, another group surgeon, says the Special Forces medic is a unique breed.

"They are trained to take care of their men in the wild bush away from any tertiary medical care for as many days as it takes to keep a person alive," he said. "They perform first aid, emer-

going to be a shock for them if they ever have to go to war because they have already done it," said Larsen as he painted a smiley-face on an inflated surgical glove for a younger patient.

Larsen says the time away from his civilian job as an emergency room surgeon at Utah's St. George Hospital is well worth it.

"I went through a local hospital and they had ten beds filled with patients with diseases I had only heard about: diseases like typhoid, typhus ... stuff we only read about in medical books," he said.

Most of the cases treated are minor and require simple treatment or basic medication.

Meanwhile, Lt. Col. Lyle Jackson wonders about his practice back in Park City as he wanders the streets of Ban Muan Com in search of dogs and cats.

"I'd never seen a case of rabies before I came to Thailand," said the group's veterinary officer. "While we might have but one rabies death a year in the United States, Thailand, with a fraction of our population, may have as many as 800."

The group chaplain runs an impromptu optical shop passing out inexpensive reading glasses while the group's engineer is busy cutting PVC pipe and fitting the sections together to make

SPECIAL TRAINING - Utah's SSgt. Guy Jenkins (above) gives a Thai soldier weapons instruction. Lt. Col. Lyle Jackson (below) vaccinates a cat.

soccer goals. The Guardmembers take on the locals in a friendly soccer match. Capt. Mark Drown purchased balls and brought them to the schools in the villages.

"Soccer is their national sport, but many of the village schools can't afford balls or goals," said Drown.

CWO2 John Wester ran the advanced marksmanship training for Thai soldiers. He says the classes teach the trainers as well as the trainees.

"We develop more confidence in our own skills and abilities as instructors, as people who are able to provide our skills to other ethnic groups and nationalities," he said.

"This is the mission of Special Forces," added CSM Owen Quarenberg. "To train soldiers from other lands to defend their country while promoting democracy and human rights. We want to plant seeds. The military is such a big player in the society of emerging nations that if we can demonstrate those values through them, we will be leaving a lasting legacy."

The help is appreciated, says Lt. Col. Pajum Tamprateep, Thai exercise director.

"Our soldiers have the heart to fight, but not always the best training or equipment," he said. "It is important to supplement strong heart with strong body."



gency surgery and dentistry. They are a combination of a paramedic and a physician's assistant, but even more."

Balance Torch afforded the medics the opportunity to do the training in the same environment they would face in combat.

"They not only treat their people, but live in the village with them, eat their food and learn their cultures. This is not



STATES

- Britian Bound
- Border Patrol
- STARBASE

PENNSYLVANIA

The 111th Fighter Group based in Willow Grove became the first Air Guard unit tasked with a real-world mission (patrolling the no-fly zone over southern Iraq) in conjunction with an Operational Readiness Inspection.

The unit's initial involvement in Operation Southern Watch began in 1992.

Aside from being the first ANG assigned to the operation, they were also able to deploy all 12 of their A-10 warthogs to the region without any mechanical breakdowns.

MINNESOTA

About 150 soldiers with the 2nd Battalion, 135th Infantry travelled to the United Kingdom recently to train with British reservists.

The training was intended to familiarize the Guardmembers with British soldier skills, weapon systems and tactics.

"The soldiers received compliments from the Brits on how fast and how well they picked up on the training," said Capt. Paul Zimmerman.

MAINE

Members of the Guard's counter-drug program provided logistical support recently to U.S. Border Patrol agents conducting searches for illegal aliens and contraband.

The citizen-soldiers furnished portable lighting, generators, a communications trailer and manpower.

TOWER of POWER

A Minnesota Guardmember installs an antenna at Camp Ripley, Minn. The Gopher States Army and Air Guard combined resources to build a new navigation system that enables aircraft to land without seeing the runway. By salvaging parts and volunteering time, Guardmembers built the system for \$50,000. A new system would have cost \$1 million.

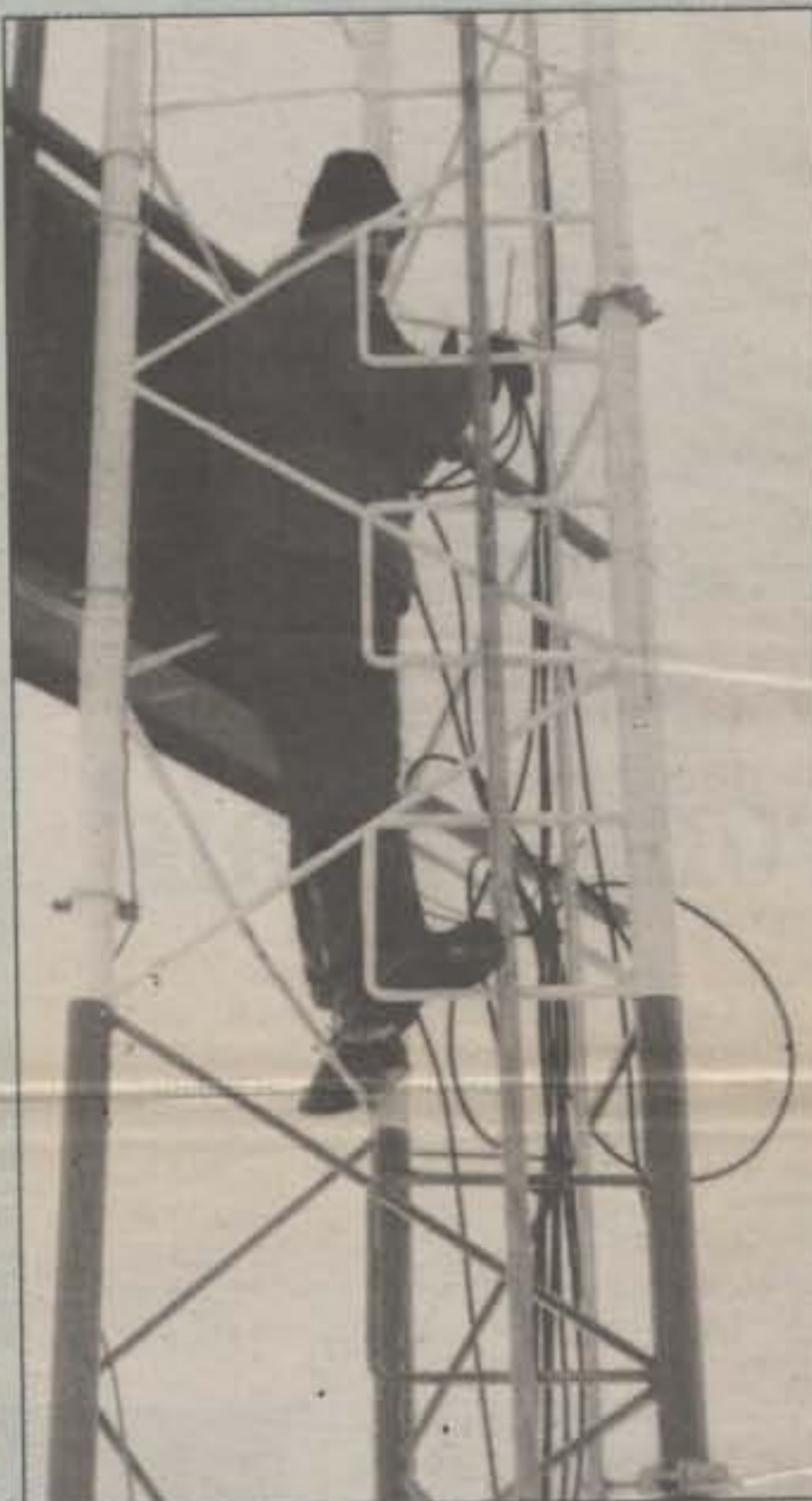


Photo courtesy of Minnesota National Guard

NEBRASKA

Soldiers with the 1st Squadron, 167th Cavalry and the 1st Battalion, 195th Armor took a leap into the future when they received 87 M-1IP (improved performance) Abrams tanks from the Tennessee National Guard.

The Abrams will replace the aging, Vietnam-era M-60A3 main battle tanks the units had been using.

KANSAS

The Jayhawk State's Army Guard welcomed the 226th Engineer Company to its rolls recently.

The unit will consist of two vertical construction platoons and an earth-moving platoon. It is authorized 135 soldiers.

The unit was activated at the same time the 891st Engineer Battalion was reorganized with one less line company. The 226th will consist of members from the inactivated Company C, 891st.

CALIFORNIA

Thirty-one members of the 146th Airlift Wing, based in the Channel Islands, recently returned from a history-making trip to Chile.

It was the first time the American military visited Chile to demonstrate aeromedical evacuation procedures.

The C-130 Hercules unit spent 18 days travelling the length of the 2,700 mile long nation from the freezing cold of Punta Arenas to the desert region of Antofagasta.

PUERTO RICO

Maj Jose L. Ortega
Puerto Rico National Guard

Puerto Rico youths converged on Muniz Air National Guard Base to learn about math and science through the STARBASE program.

The program provides at-risk youths real world applications of math and science through experimental learning, simulations and experiments in aviation and space-related fields. It also addresses drug use prevention, health, self-esteem and life skills.

Puerto Rico's Department of Education provided teachers and the Puerto Rico National Guard provided pilots assigned to the 156th Fighter Wing. They talked to students about their career choices.

"We want to show you that through studying and putting forth the necessary effort we achieved our

goal, which was to become pilots. Nevertheless, we did not have the opportunity you have as to be in those facilities and receive this type of education," said a 156th FW pilot.

The classroom instruction included physics, model rocketry, basics of flight, astronomy, drug demand reduction, computer technology, environmentalism and career awareness. The hands-on experiences are goal-setting/self esteem, rocket building and launching, and glider construction.

The Puerto Rico National Guard is one of 14 states that have STARBASE. STARBASE stands for S-science, T-technology, A-academics, R-reinforcing, B-basic, A-aviation, S-space, E-exploration.

"We are totally committed to helping youths, and with this type of initiative, we are doing something that will last forever," said Maj. Gen. Emilio Diaz-Colon, Puerto Rico's Adjutant General.



Photo by Spc. Juan Torres

IN THE COCKPIT - STARBASE students (above) get a lesson in avionics.



HISTORY

Air Guard supports real-world mission

CREEK PARTY

Today it is common to find significant numbers of Air Guard volunteers supporting "real-world" missions around the globe. On a daily basis, they aid the shrinking post-Cold War active duty military U.S. establishment while honing their own skills.

For example, in January 1995 the Air Guard deployed 72 aircraft and 1,241 personnel to support theater CINCs. In recent years, Guardmembers participated in humanitarian relief operations in Somalia, Rwanda, northern Iraq, and Bosnia among others. They have conducted theater airlift, air defense, and counterdrug operations in Latin America for years. Guardmembers have also enforced no-fly zones over Bosnia as well as southern and northern Iraq. But, the precursor to such missions occurred during a far different era.

On May 1, 1967, Col. (later Brig. Gen.) Nowell D. Didear launched his lumbering KC-97L tanker on a mission over Baumholder, Germany. Didear commanded the Texas Air Guard's 136th Air Refueling Wing (ARW). The mission, which lasted nearly four hours, off-loaded 14,000 pounds of jet fuel to F-100s from the United States Air Forces in Europe (USAFE) -- pioneered Operation Creek Party. The operation continued for 10 years. During that period, hardly a day passed when ANG KC-97Ls were not airborne over Europe from their base at Rhein Main, Germany. It served as a precursor of the total force by using contingents of Air Guardsmen volunteers, technicians, and members on annual training to support an active duty Air Force continuing operational requirement overseas in peacetime.

The origins of Creek Party can be traced to August 1961 when the 126th Air Refueling Group (ARG) of the Illinois ANG began flying tanker missions in the KC-97. The Tactical Air Command (TAC), which managed Air Guard tankers at that time, wanted them to become increasingly involved in refueling its new Century-series fighters. But, takeoffs and landings of fully-loaded KC-97Gs in hot and humid weather were extremely dangerous. If an engine failed, aircrews had to jettison the tanker's externally-mounted auxiliary fuel tanks to stay airborne. That was unthinkable because most ANG tanker units were based at municipal airports adjacent to heavily-populated business and residential areas. Without a more reliable aircraft, the future of the ANG's tanker mission and the continued existence of those units was questionable.

After a rash of KC-97 engine failures, 1st Lt. Phillip A. Meyer, an aeronautical engineer and technician assigned



GUARD HISTORY

By Charles J. Gross, PhD
AIR GUARD HISTORIAN

to the 126th ARG, suggested a solution to the problem. He proposed that the ANG augment its tankers with jet engines. The Air Force's jet-augmented KB-50 tankers were being phased out and melted down for scrap. The nearly identical wing designs of the two aircraft made it feasible to transfer the KB-50's J-47 jet engines to the KC-97. After the unit convinced the NGB and the Air Force that the concept had merit, two J-47 jet engines were added to a KC-97. The modified aircraft was service tested by the 126th. The jet-augmented tanker, redesignated the KC-97L, performed well.

With a safer and more efficient tanker, Air Guardsmen began searching for a more significant mission for the KC-97L. They looked to Europe where the Air Force had concentrated large numbers of high performance fighter aircraft. Due to the French decision to withdraw from NATO, the Air Force had been told to evacuate its bases in that nation by 1967. Consequently, Air Force tactical fighter units in Europe faced a serious problem. Access to airspace over southern Europe was seriously hampered by the complex political situation and the limited availability of airfields in the region. Both Switzerland

USAFE's flying operations. But, those resources were not available in the active duty Air Force. The Strategic Air Command continued to focus its tankers on supporting the command's nuclear-armed bombers. Increasingly, the bulk of the Air Force's remaining active duty tankers were involved in Southeast Asia. Consequently, it turned to the ANG which was already seeking an expanded role for its KC-97Ls.

In early 1967 the NGB asked Gen. Didear to conduct refueling compatibility tests between a KC-97L and F-4 fighter aircraft in Europe. Although the tests were successful, USAFE was skeptical about whether or not Guard tankers could mesh well into the command's complex flying operations and sustain its commitment over the long haul. Eventually, those doubts were overcome and an operations plan was implemented in the Spring of 1967. It required five ANG air refueling groups (ARGs) to undertake sustained air refueling operations in Europe. Eventually, the number of units was increased to nine groups and three wings. In addition to the 136th, they included; the 171st ARW (Pennsylvania), 126th ARW (Illinois), 171st ARG (Pennsylvania), 160th ARG (Ohio), 151st ARG (Utah), 126th ARG (Illinois), 128th ARG (Wisconsin), 139th ARG (Missouri), 134th ARG (Tennessee), 136th ARG (Texas), and the 161st ARG (Arizona).

The plan called for each unit to rotate about 90 personnel to Rhein Main for two-week stays. In addition to technicians, they included volunteers and individuals completing their annual training requirements. Normally, each unit would take six to eight of its own aircraft to Germany. The Air Guard also assigned a permanent commander and a small detachment consisting of several enlisted personnel to provide continuity and liaison with the active duty Air Force.

Creek Party concluded on April 28, 1977, because the Vietnam War had ended, releasing some active duty Air Force tankers for European missions. Meanwhile, the ANG had begun phasing into the relatively modern all-jet KC-135 tankers in April 1975. The transition accelerated a change in operational concept that had begun in July 1972. During that month, Air Guard air refuelers had begun participating in the Air Force's established tanker task forces overseas -- a practice that continues today.

Ironically, the Creek Party's final missions were flown by crews from Texas's 136th -- the same unit that had initiated it 10 years earlier. According to an official USAFE command history, "During the 10 years Creek Party was in operation, the [Air] Guard made a vital contribution to the mission of USAFE." Air Guardsmen had demonstrated a high degree of professionalism while flying 6,512 accident-free sorties, completing 47,207 hookups, and off-loading 137,398,620 pounds of fuel during the operation. More significantly, Creek Party showed that the Air Guard could sustain a significant operational rotation overseas in support of the Air Force without resorting to a politically-sensitive mobilization by the President or the Congress. It set a precedent for future overseas operational rotations. Back home, Creek Party provided significant recruiting and retention incentives for units participating in the operation.

IN-AIR GAS - An Ohio Air Guard refueler (above) with the 160th Air Refueling Group refuels an F-4 flying in formation over Germany in 1971 during Operation Creek Party.



Photo courtesy of Norm Taylor

and Austria prohibited any tactical aircraft overflights by NATO.

Although the French continued to routinely approve routing American military aircraft through their territory to avoid Switzerland, fighters had to carry drop tanks and refuel in northern Italy if their destinations were further south. But, USAFE discovered that facilities at Aviano Air Base, Italy, could not handle the greatly increased transit traffic. As a result, a considerable number of training missions to Greece, Turkey, and Italy had to be canceled in early 1967. Unpredictable weather over central Europe exacerbated the problem. In addition, USAFE was faced with a growing shortage of experienced pilots because of the escalating demands of the war in Southeast Asia. All of those factors reduced the command's combat readiness.

The solution was to find more tankers to support



TRAINING

Massachusetts' 102nd
Fighter Wing hosts Amalgam
Warrior 96 exercise

TESTING THE WARRIOR

By Frank J. Adinolfi Jr.
Massachusetts National Guard

Ninety million chickens are boxed in. Yet they live in a 500,000 square-mile area. Are they in danger?

"If the fox leaves, you still have to guard the chicken coop," said SMSgt. Glenn French about the perils left in a post-Cold War world and one reason to keep aircraft on intruder alert. French is superintendent of the life support branch at the Massachusetts Air Guard's 102nd Fighter Wing based on Cape Cod.

Otis ANGB became the staging area for aircraft from three different Air National Guard units and two states recently. The event was the annual U.S.-Canadian military exercise Amalgam Warrior 96-1, conducted by the North American Aerospace Defense Command. Their combined mission was to defend the airspace of the northeastern United States and the people below it from hostile acts by terrorists, aircraft hijackers, air-launched cruise missiles and invading aircraft from a hostile nation.

"The scenario looked at how effective our transition would be from peacetime surveillance to protecting against armed attacks and hostilities," said Col. Christopher Lowry, the 102nd's operations group commander.

There was a three-day buildup of activity, according to Lowry. The first day brought suspicious movements in the airspace within the unit's responsibility, such as formations of aircraft rather than a single one trying to penetrate the air defense identification zone. The ability of defending forces to identify the unknown aircraft was tested.

"We have to keep that proficiency sharp," he said. "Who knows when we are going to need it."



Photo by Eric Michelsen

The second day, Lowry said, armed aircraft were scrambled.

"They were testing our capabilities and reactions without attacking," he said.

The third and last day of the exercise required the defending forces to repel armed attacks.

"It's more complicated than you might think because of the identification process we must go through before we can fire," said Lowry.

He cited the tragic April 1994 shootdown of U.S. Army Blackhawk helicopters by U.S. Air Force fighters in northern Iraq as an example.

"You can't assume everyone in front of you is hostile. It could be a strike mission returning and being chased by the enemy," Lowry said. "Our intent is to shoot down attacking fighters and bombers."

For the October exercise, a Canadian Air Force CF-18 Hornet fighter jet joined up with a F-15 fighter from Massachusetts and an Illinois Air Guard F-16. Active duty Air Force B-52s, acting as enemy bombers, tried to penetrate the northeastern borders of the U.S. B-1 bombers from Dyess AFB, Texas, were refueled over Nova Scotia by an Illinois Air Guard KC-135. F-15s from the 102nd Fighter Wing scrambled on the hostile aircraft, identified, intercepted and simulated destroying them.

The Guard's responsibilities expanded into areas other than those of the fighter pilot during Amalgam Warrior.

"A new era in the Air National Guard's role in defending the United States was

WARRIORS - An Illinois' F-16 from Springfield receives fuel from a 126th Refueling Wing KC-135. Massachusetts' SMSgt. Glenn French (below) works life support.



Photo by MSgt. Val Gempis

launched," said Col. Billy Diehi, commander for the North East Air Defense Sector in Rome, N.Y. "For the first time, the unit controlling the air activities for the entire northeastern United States was operated by the Air National Guard."

As a result of actions by the 1993 Base Realignment and Closure Commission, or BRAC, the operational control center at Rome is the first center to make the transition from active duty control to that of the Guard. In this case, the New York Air National Guard. Radar controllers in Rome directed the aircraft, including those at Cape Cod, to targets all over the northeastern United States.

"This exercise clearly illustrated how both countries' varied military forces can work together to meet any airborne threat to the borders of Canada and the United States," said Lt. Gen. Lou Cuppens, deputy commander-in-chief of the North American Aerospace Defense Command.

Due to the vast distances encompassed by the exercise aircraft, aerial refueling was a key component to the success of each unit's mission.

"Everything went very smoothly, especially considering that we could not coordinate directly with the other refueling wing after the exercise began," said Capt. James Silvasy, an aircraft commander with Illinois' 126th Aerial Refueling Wing.

The Illinois unit also refueled Air Guard F-16s from its home state over the Atlantic Ocean off Cape Cod as part of the exercise. The fighters, operating out of

the Air National Guard Base at Otis, were also from the 183rd Fighter Wing.

"Our role was to act as red air (aggressor) to oppose blue air (friendly)," said Maj. Michael Meyer, the commander of the Illinois Air Guard fighter wing's detachment deployed to Otis. "In that role, we engaged in air-to-air combat against the 102nd's F-15s over the Atlantic Ocean. We also escorted B-52s simulating enemy bombers that were intercepted by the F-15 Eagles out of Otis."

Aircraft maintainers were key players in the exercise, too. The 183rd flew 34 sorties with no ground aborts due to maintenance, according to Meyer.

"Otis Air National Guard Base was chosen to be a staging area for this exercise, because of the strategic location we have for our real-world mission. We are centrally located to protect the entire northeast," said Col. Donald Quenneville, 102nd Fighter Wing air commander. "The exercise was practice, but we do this job in real life every day, year-round, with the fighters we have on alert here."

"Cape Cod is on the point, the spearhead for any threat coming from the east," added Diehi. "The strategy is to intercept the bad guys as far out from the coast as possible. The 102nd Fighter Wing has the perfect location for an air defense unit. They can't get any further out without putting them on a boat."

New York's Lt. Col. Mike Waters and the NORAD public affairs staff contributed to this story.