

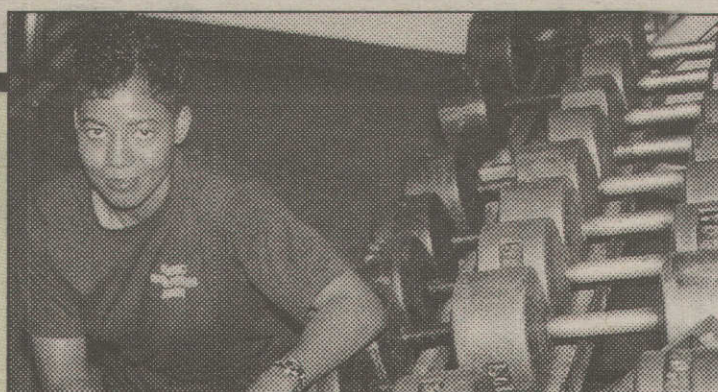
## TOP FLIERS

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## THE GUARD GETS PHYSICAL

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## WINNING EFFORT

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# THE ON GUARD

Volume XXV, No. 9

Newspaper of the Army and Air National Guard

June 1996

## Guard catches Olympic spirit

*More than 11,000 involved in Atlanta games*

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

The Olympic hype has begun, and it is not amusing.

Yes, Olympic and world athletic records will undoubtedly be broken. Television ratings and attendance figures may also go through the roof during the Summer Games to be played out in Atlanta from July 19 through Aug. 4. It will, after all, be the 100th anniversary of the modern Olympics.

The pre-Olympic hype that most bothers the National Guard, however, involves the T-word. Terrorism.

The article, "A Shadow Over the Olympics," in the May 6 *Newsweek* addresses the concerns expressed by many people expected to provide security for the international athletes and audiences anxious to make these Olympics one of their lives' defining moments.

Nearly 11,000 Army and Air National Guardmembers will do their best to make that possible.

Security will be the National Guard troops' main mission from early June until after the closing ceremonies, explained Col. Forest "Mike" Ramsey II, the man overseeing the National Guard Olympic Task Force.

It is serious business. "The threat assessment is close to an all-time high," a New York counter-terrorism expert told *Newsweek*. Oklahoma City, the World Trade Center, Beirut and Munich are the nightmares that federal, state and city officials want to avoid in Atlanta.

"The Guard will provide the largest

contingent of security personnel," said Ramsey. "We'll be there as a security presence. We're not going to be doing direct law enforcement, but we'll be very visible."

Georgia and the 38th Infantry Division from Indiana, Michigan and Ohio will field most of the Guard's Olympic force, Ramsey explained. The Air National Guard will provide about 1,300 people, he added.

Passive security will be the unarmed Guardmembers' major mission, said Massachusetts's Maj. Pete Aylward, the task force commander.

"There is the potential for everything, and it's being planned for," he said.

"We will not be searching people," Ramsey added.

Guardmembers will, however, watch the routes that the anticipated 16,500 international athletes and officials travel to the multitude of events; patrol the perimeters outside the arenas such as Olympic Stadium, the Atlanta-Fulton

County Stadium and the Georgia Dome; and check vehicles for suspicious objects.

About 4,000 citizen-soldiers from the 38th Division have had three months to prepare to be the eyes and ears for Georgia law enforcers, said Maj. Randall Smith.

"Security is always a very great concern for an Olympics because of the enormous visibility," said Ramsey. "The estimated TV audience is 4 billion worldwide. It's a tremendously enticing environment for somebody who wants to make a political statement."

"Also, you have a great number of

"It's a tremendously enticing environment for somebody who wants to make a political statement"



Col.  
Forest  
"Mike"  
Ramsey  
II



Photo courtesy Hawaii National Guard

## WATCHING OVER CHINA

A boom "drogue" from an Hawaiian Air Guard KC-135 refuels a U.S. Navy F/A-18 Hornet from the *USS Independence*. Members of Hawaii's 203rd Air Refueling Squadron were supporting the Navy in the Pacific near Taiwan as they monitored military live-fire exercises conducted by the People's Republic of China.

See OLYMPICS, Page 11





# COMMENTARY

## COUNTERDRUG UPDATE

• As of May 6, the National Guard has assisted in 58,047 arrests and seized 5,691 weapons, 21,109 vehicles and nearly \$65.3 million in cash while conducting 4,572 counterdrug missions this fiscal year.

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## What your recruiter should have told you

By Sgt. Michael Kirchmann  
*Washington National Guard*

**B**ack in '67, a warning hung over the entrance to the U.S. Marine Corps Basic Infantry Training School. Bold, scarlet letters declared: "The more you sweat in peace, the less you bleed in war."

Regardless of the pomp and hype, or whether they do or do not screw their hats on, Marines are basically soldiers. Army or Marine Corps, soldiers face the same enemy, the same weapons and tactics, and the same problems. We all sweat. And we all bleed.

Instructors at the school, recently returned from Vietnam, were hard as nails. They were relentless, serious and cocky. They saved lives.

No training, no matter how harsh, tiring or "ate up," can possibly demand more of a soldier than combat. This is something combat veterans know firsthand, and effective leaders understand.

No trainer in his or her right mind will drive soldiers to the brink of death. It's just not wise. But combat does so without hesitation. Combat isn't smart. It is deadly.

Failing to sweat in peacetime, while training for battle, is simply stupid. Soft training gives death, and the enemy, an edge that will be taken.

When the Army declared, "Be all that you can be," it may not have meant to be physically, emotionally and mentally prepared to face the toughest challenge of your life, but it should have.

If you're going to soldier, do so. Soldiering is a whole lot more than tossing on a uniform and wheeling out to the field for a few days. A Cub Scout could do that.

If you don't want to soldier, get out. Otherwise you'll get someone killed.

Soldiering takes guts. It takes smarts, strength, commitment and camaraderie.

Like family, soldiering also takes teamwork. The wise officer or non-commissioned officer knows we can learn from Pvt. Joe Snuffy.

Snuffy is in the trenches, in the action. Snuffy's where the battle pulls its oddest quirks demanding new ideas to survive. Snuffy is on the receiving end of "ate up."

The flip-side of this coin is Snuffy can't see the big picture without popping his head up and looking around. This could get Snuffy ... well ... snuffed. That's why God created NCOs.

NCOs are responsible for spreading the word, letting soldiers know they're not only appreciated, but critically necessary.

Face it. Regardless of position or authority, without the troops the leadership is dead meat. And so is the battle.

Nothing, nowhere, nohow, is as "ate up" as war. Something is always going wrong. Always.

Getting it fixed and driving on is the only equalizer. Hanging in there and surviving is the goal. It's what soldiers do. Together. It's what gives us the

right to take pride in being a soldier. And if you can't proudly declare, "I am a soldier," give it up.

Because, buddy, you're not. And those of us who are don't mind a bit of sweat.

## LETTERS

*I just finished reading the April issue and I'm interested in the National Guard's involvement in the Partnership for Peace program.*

How does one participate?

**SSgt. John Jenson**

*Oklahoma National Guard*

*Editor's Note: Those interested in the state partnership program should call Col. Robert James, director of NGB International Affairs, at (703) 681-3097 or DSN 761-3097.*

## LETTERS POLICY:

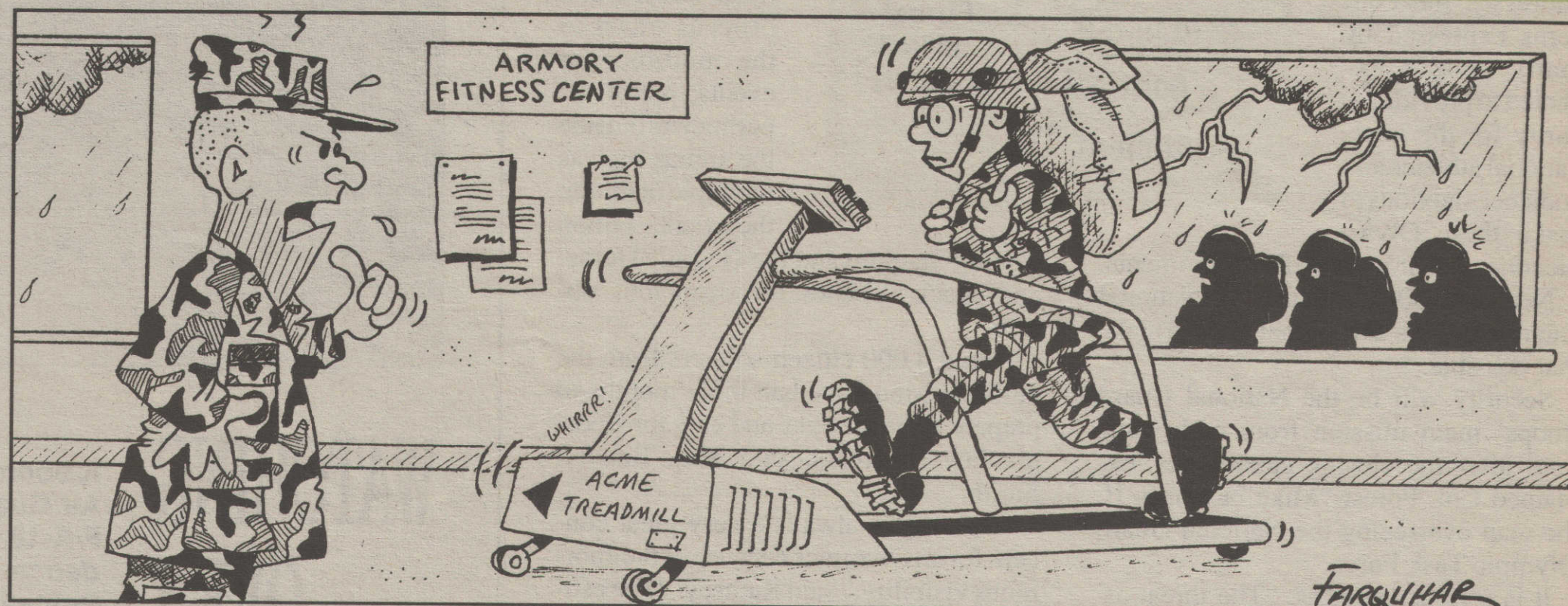
*The On Guard* welcomes letters from readers. All letters must include the writer's name, address and daytime phone. Names may be withheld upon request.

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

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

## GUARD TOONS

By Lyle Farquhar



"I'm telling you for the last time, this isn't an acceptable substitution for a road march."





# IN THE NEWS

- Called Up
- Chevron Wear
- Safety Record

## Guard fliers take U.S. helicopter title

*Idaho pilots, Guard women duo will represent U.S. at world meet*

By Sgt. Pat Caldwell  
Oregon National Guard

CWO3 Dorothy Payne says she became interested in flying for a selfish reason. "I wanted to look at the top of clouds instead of the bottom," she confessed.

Payne, a member of the Texas Army Guard's Detachment 1, Company E, 149th Aviation, and co-pilot Capt. Elaine Berryman, a member of the Oregon Army Guard's Company A, 249th Aviation, claimed second place at the USA National Helicopter Championships held May 3-6 in McMinnville, Ore.

CWO3 Jim Hutchens and CWO4 Jeff Johnson, members of the Idaho Army Guard's 1st Battalion, 183rd Aviation, took first place at the event with an overall score of 775 out of a possible 800 points. They competed against 21 other civilian and military teams.

The National Helicopter competition consisted of four events; land navigation, precision flying, timed arrival with load drop off and a slalom and skill course.

"I think the thing that we enjoyed most was knowing that if we are able to duplicate our score at the world championships, we will win," Hutchens said.

Hutchens, Johnson, Payne and Berryman earned spots on the USA helicopter team that is preparing for the World Helicopter Championships in Salem, Ore., Aug. 14.

Teams from France, Germany, Russia, Canada, Greece, Great Britain, Monaco, South Africa, Belams, Brazil and Italy will be on hand for the World Championship.

"We've been flying together for 10 years," Hutchens said. "We know a lot of little tricks to competition flying."

Payne and Berryman, who scored 729 points flying an OH-58 Kiowa, bring lots of experience to the cockpit.

Payne began flying for the National Guard in 1980. The 38-year old has flown helicopters for National Guard units in Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas. She flew corporate jets in Oklahoma City until taking a job with Continental Airlines in 1989.

Berryman joined the U.S. Army in 1986 and graduated from flight school at Fort Rucker, Ala., in 1987. She left the active component in 1991 and joined the Oregon National Guard. Currently, she flies commercially for Horizon Airlines.

Berryman first realized she wanted to be a pilot while parachuting in Germany as a civilian.

"I watched the pilots and I thought, 'Wow, that looks like a blast.' I guess I want more women to realize that they can be fliers," she said.

The Vancouver, Wash., resident admitted there is a subtle attraction to flying.

"I like the feeling of freedom. It is as close as we will ever be to knowing how a bird feels," Berryman said.

The two female pilots met just two months before the competition. They had only two weeks of practice.

"We did in two weeks what the active duty pilots did in six months," Payne said.

Berryman commuted over an hour from Vancouver to Salem to practice and was allowed leave time from Horizon Airlines to fly in the competition.

"This is where the Guard-employer relationship pays off," she said.

The burdens of competition are unique, says Berryman. "It is intense," she said. "There is a lot of timing and coordination involved between both of us."

During the competition Berryman handled the navigation duties while Payne sat at the pilot console.



Photo by Sgt. Pat Caldwell

**LADY LUCK - Capt. Elaine Berryman (foreground) and pilot CWO3 Dorothy Payne will represent the U.S. at the world championships.**

## Baca visits Bataan veterans

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

Thirty World War II survivors of Bataan and Corregidor stood taller and prouder in Albuquerque, N.M., May 14 when the National Guard's only three-star general told them their legacy is still important to the American people.

"A lot of people don't know and they don't appreciate what you did, that you held off the entire 14th Japanese Army for five solid months," Lt. Gen. Edward Baca, Chief of the National Guard Bureau,

told the aging veterans and nearly 650 guests at the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor's 51st national convention.

It was an emotional address.

Baca flew to his native New Mexico -- where he was the Adjutant General for 12 years -- to revisit with his heroes from the New Mexico National Guard what they had accomplished when they were young men battling the Japanese forces before the Philippine Islands were surrendered in April and May 1942.

"You gave this country time to

prepare," Baca told the veterans of the 200th and 515th Coast Artillery Regiments. "You were able to make good on that promise that (Gen. Douglas) MacArthur made when he said, 'I shall return.'"

"He helped us do a lot of things. He was a big supporter of our memorials and conventions," said Orville Padilla, a 200th Coast Artillery officer who was sent to a Japanese labor camp in Manchuria.

Baca made no bones about why he honors these veterans.

"Someone has to make the sacrifice. Someone has to shed his blood," he said. "You paid the price for our freedom, and we, as a nation, are eternally grateful."

## NATIONAL BRIEFS

### MORE GUARD UNITS CALLED UP TO SUPPORT JOINT ENDEAVOR

*The Secretary of the Army recently announced the mobilization of Army National Guard units to relieve Reserve Component units currently in the Balkans and Germany who are nearing the end of their 270-day tour of duty.*

Currently, nearly 1,000 National Guardmembers from 17 states are serving in units overseas and in the U.S.

Those units recently called are:

- Alabama's **131st Public Affairs Det.**, (18 soldiers)
- Alabama's **Det. 2, HHC, 31st Armored Bde.**, (42)
- Alabama's **158th Ordnance Co.**, (224)
- Georgia's **3rd Infantry Det.**, (19)
- Iowa's **135th Public Affairs Det.**, (18)
- Massachusetts's **126th Military History Det.**, (3)
- Montana's **103rd Public Affairs Det.**, (5)
- New York's **133rd Ordnance Co.**, (190)
- North Carolina's **49th Aviation Group**, (6)
- Texas's **100th Public Affairs Det.**, (18)

### CHEVRON WEAR DATE CHANGED

*The Air Force has accelerated the mandatory wear date for the new enlisted chevron from Oct. 1, 1999, to Oct. 1, 1997.*

The original date coincided with the mandatory wear date of the new uniform. But since sales of the old chevron have tapered off, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman agreed to accelerate the new chevron wear date by two years.

The new chevrons have bolder stripes, making ranks easier to identify.

### CALIFORNIA AIRLIFT WING REACHES SAFETY MILESTONE

*Shortly after one of its monster-sized, military-green cargo planes nosed up into the sky, the California Air National Guard's 146th Airlift Wing flew past a key milestone.*

Cruising up the sun-splashed coast toward San Luis Obispo, the crew logged the air wing's 250,000th hour of accident-free flying, racked up over more than three decades, most of them when it was based at Van Nuys Airport. The air wing moved to Ventura County in 1990.

Although impressive, the Californians will have to do some flying to catch Oklahoma's 137th Airlift Wing. The Oklahoma City-based wing has amassed more than 561,000 hours and 35 years without a mishap.



# Environmental winners announced

## Army Guard's commitment to future recognized

By Jim Stueve  
National Guard Bureau

The Army National Guard recently received national recognition on two fronts for its environmental programs.

During Earth Day ceremonies in April the White House's "Closing the Circle" award was given to the Michigan Army Guard's Mobilization and Training Equipment Site (MATES) at Camp Grayling. The Texas Army Guard's pollution prevention committee also was recognized. These awards are presented annually by the Office of the Federal Executive.

The Camp Grayling MATES introduced cost effective pollution prevention practices and initiatives that reduced waste from spent antifreeze, oils, fuels, batteries, and solvents. Disposal of sulfuric acid used in lead batteries has been virtually eliminated with only eight gallons in 1994 compared to 1,800 gallons in 1992.

Waste fuel disposals were reduced by a closed-loop filtering system that removes existing contaminants, thereby allowing the fuel to be reused. Also introduced was a citrus based solvent that is expected to decrease solvent disposal by more than 3,000 pounds per year.

Texas' pollution prevention committee was cited for its efforts to "preserve, protect and improve the environment." Since its creation, the committee's aggressive pollution prevention programs have re-

sulted in waste reduction, increased energy efficiency and substantial savings or avoidance of energy costs.

Programs were launched to reduce waste and increase energy efficiency through innovative processes that include purchasing recyclable materials, monitoring building temperatures, composting yard waste and using government car pools. Recycling vehicular products, such as diesel fuel, motor oil, cleaning solvents and antifreeze, has resulted in ap-



Photo courtesy Missouri National Guard

**WILLOW WORLD - Members of the Missouri Army National Guard's 110th Engineer Battalion plant willows at the Macon Training Site. Willow plantings help stabilize the banks and control silt buildup.**

proximately \$45,000 in savings and \$1.2 million in cost avoidances due to reductions in waste disposal.

"The Camp Grayling MATES, the Texas Army National Guard and the other Closing the Circle award winners not only benefit surrounding communities with their commitment to environmental protection, but also serve to demonstrate how the federal government is leading by example," said Fran McPoland, the Federal Environmental Executive.

At the Department of the Army's environmental awards ceremony, the Army National Guard won a first place, two seconds and a third place award.

The Missouri Army Guard's Macon Training site was selected as the best natural resources conservation for installations of 10,000 acres or less.

Macon was recognized for successfully implementing ecosystem-based land management planning while supporting training requirements. These efforts resulted in the restoration of land parcels seriously damaged by past private mining operations.

Macon's efforts also resulted in the discovery of a plant on the federal endangered species list.

The California Army Guard's Stockton Army Air Support Facility took a second place award in the Environmental Quality for Industrial Installations category. Local environmental regulators use this facility as a model for county businesses and facilities.

The Montana Army National Guard received two awards. Their Organizational Maintenance Shop in Helena was a second place winner of the Pollution Prevention Award for Industrial Installations.

The shop was recognized for a fuel cart they built to reduce potential spills.

In recognition for their efforts in cleaning up unexploded ordnance, Montana also received a third place award in the Pollution Prevention for Non-Industrial Installations category.

"We are proud of these awards," said Col. Marilyn Muzny, the Army Guard's Environmental Directorate chief. "We take our role as stewards of the environment very seriously, and these awards reflect the level of excellence we have attained."



Canzoneri



Cecile-Grow



Metcalfe



Miller



Morgan



Taylor

## MacArthur winners announced

Six National Guard officers were among 24 U.S. Army first lieutenants and captains selected to receive the Gen. Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award.

The award is given annually to recognize officers who embody, "Duty, honor, country."

The National Guard winners were:

Florida's **Capt. Mike Canzoneri**, Company A commander in the 3rd Battalion, 124th Infantry.

Nevada's **Capt. Melinda Cecile-Grow**, 321st Signal Company commander.

Oklahoma's **Capt. Paul Metcalfe**, Battery A commander in the 1st Battalion, 158th Field Artillery.

Utah's **Capt. Richard Miller**, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 2nd Battalion S-1 in 222nd Field Artillery.

Virginia's **Capt. Thomas Morgan III**, Company B commander in the 1st Battalion, 116th Infantry.

Iowa's **Capt. James Taylor**, Headquarters and Headquarters Company commander in the 2nd Brigade, 34th Infantry Division.

## STORM TROOPERS

Kentucky Army Guard's SFC Kenneth Willis clears away debris in Berea, Ky., after a tornado devastated the community. More than 130 Bluegrass State soldiers were called up after the storm hit. Guardmembers in Alabama, Indiana and Arkansas were also asked to help restore order in their states during April storms.

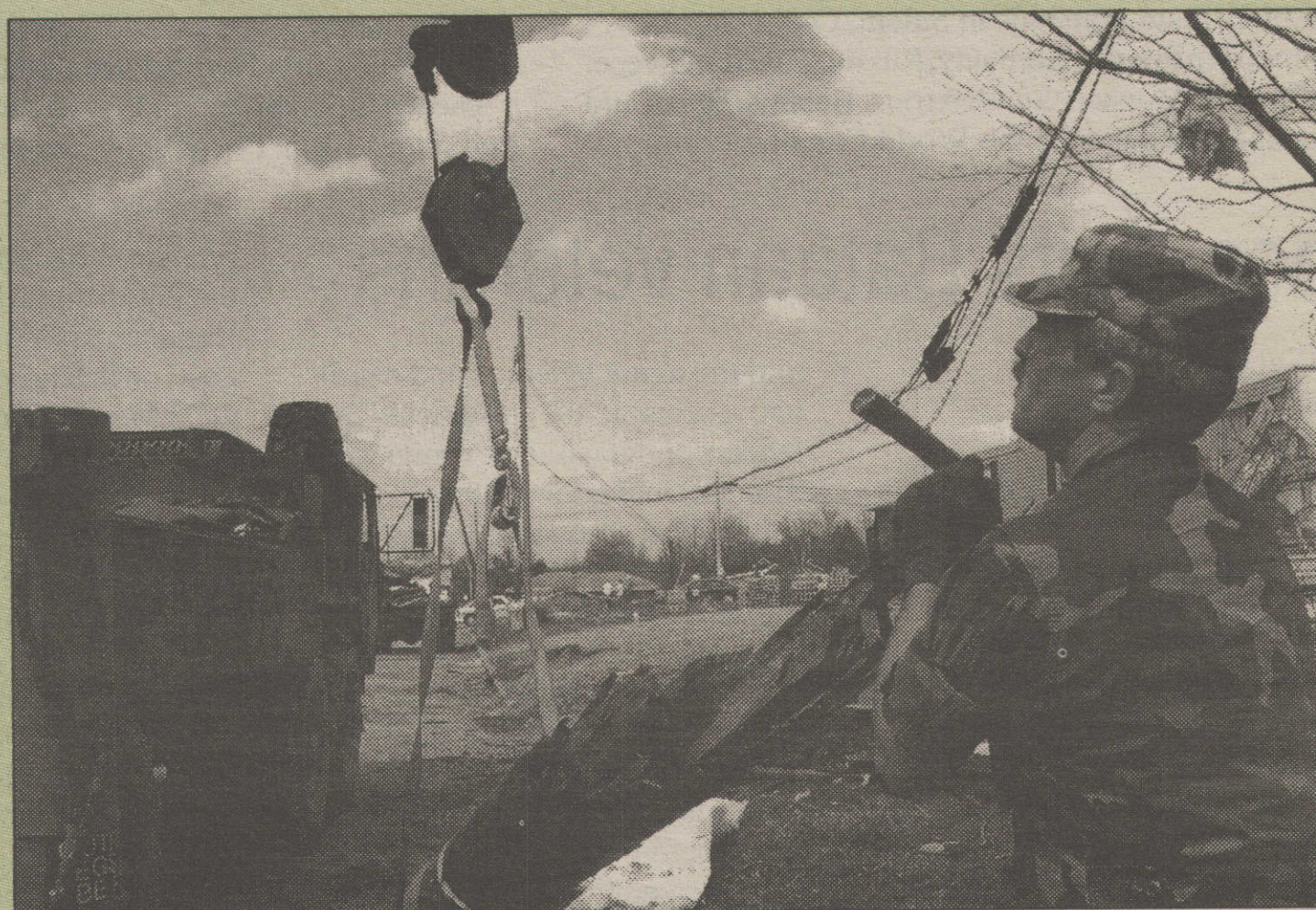


Photo by Maj. Kelly Byrd





# PEOPLE

## Mainiac family members promoted on same day

By Maj. Stuart J. Bullion  
Maine National Guard

It was "like father, like daughter" recently for two Maine Army National Guard officers.

Lt. Col. Kimberly Boothby-Ballantyne and her father, CWO5 Kent Boothby, were promoted to their current ranks in May at Camp Keyes, Maine.

Between them they have served 55 years in uniform, with Boothby racking up the lion's share -- 41 years.

"The Guard has been like my second family," he said. "It's not more important than my real family, but I've given the Army a lot of my time over the years."

Boothby-Ballantyne, an Army nurse, is equally enthusiastic about her service, which includes three months of active duty at Walter Reed Medical Center during Operation Desert Storm.

"It has never been anything



Photo courtesy Maine National Guard

## Like Father like Daughter

but a pleasure," she said. "Even when it was difficult, it was rewarding."

As a civilian, Boothby-Ballantyne leads a busy life. A nurse-practitioner with a master's degree, she's an associate professor at Westbrook

College in Portland where she heads the nurse-practitioner program and directs the college health center.

She and her husband, Maine Air Guard Capt. Bruce Ballantyne, have three children, Kendrick, 13, Keegan, 9, and

join the Guard. Rather, he helped her decide if she was committed to an Army career.

"I advised her to take that commission only if she was serious about it," recalled Boothby. "I wanted her to understand that Guardsmen can be mobilized

Kayleigh, 4.

CWO5 Boothby launched his military career in 1955 when he enlisted in the Maine Army Guard's 142nd Ordnance Company, predecessor to the 152nd Maintenance Company. He became a warrant officer 17 years later, after rising through the ranks to master sergeant.

In 1993, he retired after almost 38 years as a technician. He expects to retire from the National Guard at the end of 1996.

Lt. Col. Boothby-Ballantyne said her father never actively encouraged her to

**PROUD PINNING** - Maine Army Guard's Lt. Col. Kimberly Boothby-Ballantyne (left) and her dad, CWO5 Kent Boothby, pin each other.

anytime."

At this point, she interrupted her father.

"Dad, I believe you mean 'Guardmembers,'" she said.

"Yes, ma'am," Dad answered with a smile.

Both officers credit the same person with much of their military success: Angenett Boothby -- her mother, his wife.

"My wife totally supports the National Guard," Boothby said. "She's as much a force in our success as we are." (A retired state microbiologist, Mrs. Boothby and her husband live in Hallowell.)

"My mother's an unsung hero," the lieutenant colonel said. "My husband and I usually drill on the same days, and my mother takes the children for the weekend. She'll even help iron uniforms and shine boots."

"We couldn't do it without her."

## Guard Bureau mother discovers Navy son on display in Pentagon

## Picture Perfect

By Lt. Col. Mike Doubler  
National Guard Bureau

A National Guard Bureau mother received an early Mother's Day surprise recently when she looked at a Navy public relations display at the Pentagon and saw a familiar face.

Dottie Tipa, a civilian employee in the National Guard Bureau's Administrative Services Division, did a double take when she saw her son, Jonathan, featured in a large photo at the center of the display outside the Navy Public Relations Center.

"I was shocked when I first saw the picture," Dottie said. "My heart began to pound, and I couldn't believe I was seeing my own son in a Navy Public Relations display. What are the odds of this happening?"

Jonathan Tipa is an E-4 Quartermaster assigned to the *USS George Washington*, one of the Navy's large supercarriers. On the *George Washington*, the ship's quartermasters help keep the vessel on a safe and accurate course. They also take radar bearings, work with nautical charts and records, and make weather observations.

"I assist in the safe navigation of a 3 billion dollar

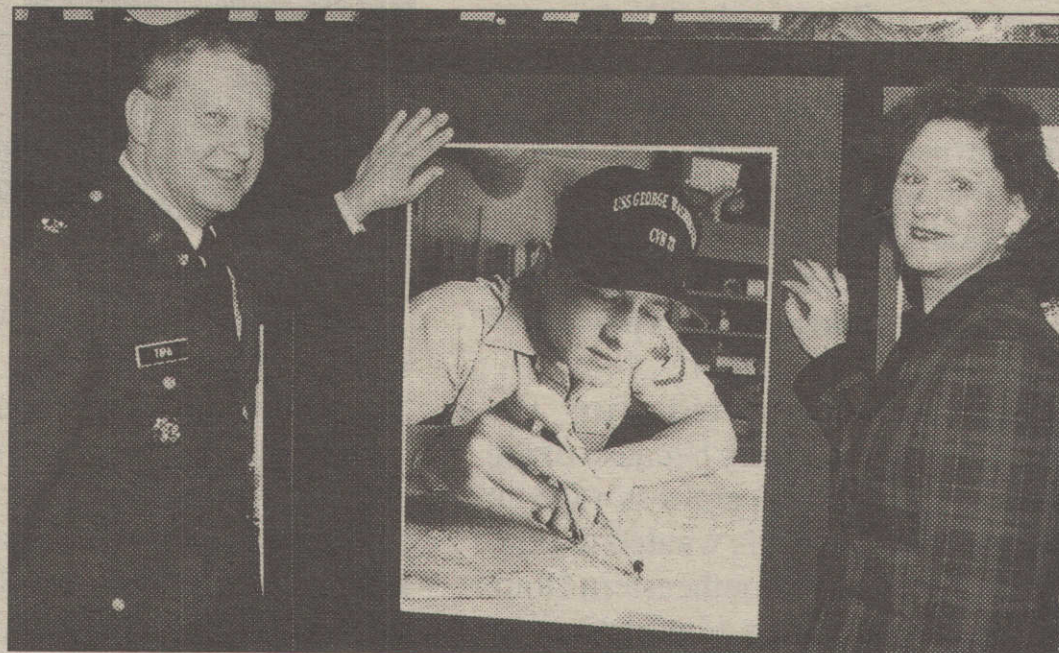


Photo by MSgt. John Thornton

warship," Jonathan said. "The hardest thing about my job is there's no room for error. I'm in full support of the ship's mission, and my part is to bring the ship safely to and from."

Jonathan joined the Navy in 1993. He excelled during his basic training and was selected as the captain of his training company's drill team. After basic training he became a seaman on the *USS Austin*, an amphibious support vessel. But his real desire was to become skilled at navigation. He studied hard, took qualification tests, and was accepted to navigation school.

Jonathan has continued to work hard on the *George Washington*. His superiors have noticed. He recently received the ship's "Spirit Award," given to the most outstanding sailor among the aircraft carrier's 5,000 member crew.

**'TIPA'CAL PARENTS** - Col. Ron Tipa and his wife, Dottie, pose proudly near a display photo of son, Jonathon.

While Jonathan's mother is a civilian employee at the National Guard Bureau, his father is Col. Ron Tipa, the Army Guard's Personnel Directorate chief.

When the elder Tipa first saw the picture, he said he was "very proud" that Jonathan was serving his country.

What did the 31-year Army veteran think upon learning his son had joined the Navy?

"When Jon told me he was interested in military service, I asked him to visit each service recruiter before making a decision. He

made the decision on his own," Tipa recalled. "I think Jon serving in the Navy is right for him ...

"The Army-Navy game has taken on new meaning in our house," he added.

Mom has another theory.

"Jon is a lot like his mother; he loves to travel," Dottie said. "I thought that joining the Navy would give him the best opportunity to see the world."

While Jonathan is clearly a superior sailor, he's not the best communicator, claims Mom.

"He's a better caller than a writer," Dottie noted with a smile, adding that her son calls whenever the vessel is in port. They last heard from him when the *Washington* made a port call in the United Arab Emirates.

Navy Public Relations have committed to giving the Tipas the picture when the display comes down.





# BREATHING LIFE into OLD SOULS

Photos by SSgt. Diane Farrow

The Ohio Army Guard is helping to put old equipment back in business

By SSgt. Diane Farrow  
*Ohio National Guard*

Row after row of military vehicles, resembling an infantry division gathered for formation, stand at attention in an otherwise desolate lot at the uranium enrichment plant in Piketon, Ohio. After years of service in Europe, these survivors of the Cold War returned to the U.S. battered and worn, counting on a program coined "RETROEUR" to breathe new life into their tired souls.

Retrograde of material from Europe, or RETROEUR, began three years ago in response to the excess equipment remaining in Europe after the downsizing of the U.S. military. After bringing 11,000 vehicles back to the states by October 1994, RETROEUR is now focusing on repairing and redistributing the equipment to "America's Army" as quickly as possible. And with help from the National Guard, the Army is doing just that.

With its proposal to keep operating costs down to \$36.30 per man hour, Ohio was given the go-ahead to run one of five RETROEUR restoration facilities sponsored by the National Guard.

"We're able to conduct a maintenance program at a significantly lower cost than repairing the equipment at an active Army depot," said John A. Zulfer, superintendent of the Piketon site. He was hired along with Don Romine, equipment maintenance supervisor, and Philip S. Reese,

inventory supervisor, to start up Ohio's program in August 1993.

"This started out as a two-year project," Zulfer said. "The plan was to hire 40-50 people to fix 400-600 wheeled vehicles, but in late summer, early fall 1994, we started getting rail shipments loaded with equipment nearly every day." Ohio ended up receiving more than 1,600 items in need of repair, including 200 tracked vehicles, 1,100 wheeled vehicles and 300 pieces of non-rolling stock. "We're now programmed to run through December 1998 with an authorized staff of 69."

"This project has been an economical shot in the arm for the community," Romine said. "In fiscal year 1995 alone we purchased \$152,000 of supplies from local businesses and pumped a payroll of \$1.8 million into the region."

Piketon was selected for the RETROEUR site not only because of the availability of buildings and a storage lot but also because officials wanted to rejuvenate the economy in southeastern Ohio.

Though the program is administered by the Ohio Guard, Guard membership isn't a requirement for full-time employees.

"While planning this project there was a federal hiring freeze, so we hired state workers under the Adjutant General's Department," Zulfer said. While more than 80 percent of the employees have some military experience, only a handful are currently serving in the Guard.

But, Zulfer stressed, Guardmembers can and do support the program on drill weekends.

"Soldiers from the 737th Maintenance Battalion have been coming here every two or three months since January 1995," said Zulfer, who holds the rank of captain in the Guard and commands Company A,



**KNEE DEEP** - Spc. David Moore (left) and Spc. Mont Steele, members of Ohio's 211th Maintenance Company, work on a 2 1/2 ton truck engine. Military equipment (above) awaits repair at a RETROEUR site in Piketon, Ohio.

the effort," he recalled. "The weekend we drilled here, the crew worked until nine Saturday night. They loved it!"

"I wish more units realized they only need to provide fuel to get here, and that we take care of the rest," Reese said. "They get the training, and we reap the benefits. It's really a win-win situation." He added that his headquarters is now programming additional training for other soldiers in the battalion.

Mechanics aren't the only workers who can train at the RETROEUR site. "We can use technical inspectors and supply personnel, too," Zulfer said.

"We help inspect the vehicles so the mechanics know what needs to be done to the trucks," said MSgt. Don Lusk, non-commissioned officer in charge of the surface maintenance section from Headquarters, State Area Command. "We also identify shortages and order parts so the necessary materials are in when vehicles are scheduled for maintenance."

Lusk, who has supported the RETROEUR site frequently since July 1995, says all maintenance units should have the opportunity to train in Piketon. "This is their MOS. This is what they

107th Armor Battalion. "We work them in their MOSs (Military Occupational Specialties) and give them the opportunity to work on equipment that isn't available anywhere else in the state."

"This project offers soldiers viable training which enhances the readiness of the Ohio National Guard," said Romine who, having retired from the Guard in October 1993, speaks with over 40 years of military experience.

Reese used his knowledge of Piketon's workload to enhance the training of his unit, Detachment 1 of Company B, 237th Support Battalion, where he is the officer in charge.

"When I first arrived at the unit last November, soldiers told me they wanted more "hands-on" time in their MOSs. So I told them, 'If you want work, I've got work for you.'"

Since his battalion commander was unfamiliar with the RETROEUR project, Reese said it took some convincing to get his troops down there. "But it was worth





**BUSY BUCKEYES** - Ohio's SSgt. Laurel Crocker removes a blower from a D7 bulldozer engine.

want to learn."

"Working here is a plus for any Guardmember," agreed Spc. Dan H. Thomas, a full-time state employee for RETROEUR and a part-time generator repairman for the 211th Maintenance Company. "You get to work on equipment you trained on in school that's not in Ohio's inventory. I've worked on M88A1 tank recovery vehicles, the D7G bulldozer, the M919 concrete mixer, several models of the Humvee ... so many vehicles it's hard to keep track."

Thomas, like most of the employees of RETROEUR, takes great pride in the work that's been accomplished so far.

"We've met and exceeded production for the last 14 months," he said. While only 91 vehicles were programmed for repair in 1995, the team restored 163 -- most went to Army and Army National Guard units throughout the country.

"Our hope is to prove to the Department of the Army that we are a cost-effective, successful program," Zulfer said. "Ultimately, we'd like to become a permanent 'Retro-Fix' facility which would provide all levels of maintenance as needed."

*Editor's Note: The other Army Guard RETROEUR sites are located at Sante Fe, N.M.; Camp Shelby, Miss.; Fort Riley, Kan.; and Fort Indiantown Gap, Penn.*

# TOP KNIFE

## Oregon Governor experiences flight surgeon challenge first hand

By Capt. Mike Allegre  
Oregon National Guard

For two days, Oregon Gov. John Kitzhaber was one of the guys -- a member of the 173rd Fighter Wing at Kingsley Field in Klamath Falls. The state's chief executive accepted an invitation to complete an abridged version of the unit's nationally acclaimed Top Knife training for flight surgeons March 21-22.

In the self-proclaimed "Land of No Slack," Kitzhaber, an emergency room physician, reviewed course work and instruction to get a better understanding of the Air Guard's training program for flight surgeons. That training also meant three flights in the unit's F-16 Falcon.

Following a medical physical, Kitzhaber trained in the F-16 simulator to become acclimated to the aircraft he would later fly.

"Then we put him in the jet and did 'ring around the cockpit' so he is aware of the all the bells and whistles and knew what controls he could touch," said Lt. Col. Paul Wietlisbach, 173rd chief of academics.

The governor flew three missions during his two-day visit. He did not receive any of the basic continuing medical education normally dispensed during the 10-day course. "Because of his limited schedule, we could only familiarize him with the course syllabus and explain the training," added Wietlisbach. "He was tuned into everything we said and asked plenty of questions. So did Mrs. Kitzhaber."

Sharon Kitzhaber, a private pilot, caught up with her husband shortly before his first flight. While he trained in the southern Oregon skies, she spent time in the flight simulator.

"She knows aircraft and flying. I was impressed with the detailed and astute questions she asked," said Wietlisbach.

The next afternoon Gov. Kitzhaber sat in a debriefing room reviewing the in-flight video of his final flight. His instructor pilot, Capt. Dave Krause, reviewed what the two had just experienced an hour before high above the southern Oregon desert.

"The Governor's doing everything at this point -- the radar, weapons, speed controls, everything -- and he's doing well. Watch this."

Viewing the heads-up display (HUD) video, Krause

points out the aircraft they are pursuing for the kill.

"Here you're lining up behind the bogey," Krause tells Kitzhaber, who has leaned up on the edge of his chair.

From the aircraft's radio Kitzhaber exclaims, "Fox 1," as he simulates firing an Aim-7 missile at the target. Moments later Krause said, "You got him." Splash one for the Governor -- his first bogey.

Kitzhaber exhorts over the radio, "Kill at 19,000."

The training flight continues. Moments later, he would 'lock-up' another and score a second electronic kill.

"He really wasn't trying to escape too quickly," the Governor said chuckling with Krause.

"The Governor did very well. He's a quick-study and understands what's going on. I was proud to fly with him," said Krause. "Three more (kills) and he's an ace."

Reflecting on the two days of training, Kitzhaber had high praise and appreciation for the unit and the Air National Guard.

"I've always had very high regard for the National Guard and what they do, and now this experience extends that respect even further," Kitzhaber said. "This training has great value to me as a physician and as Governor. Now I've experienced some of the rigors and stresses placed on pilots in combat and I can better understand it."

"To be able to engage an enemy over the horizon with this fascinating technology is incredible," he added.

Established in 1990 by Lt. Col. William C. Fridinger, 173rd FW (formerly the 114th Fighter Squadron) Clinic commander, as the first military training school of its kind, Top Knife is designed to educate and familiarize physicians to understand the rigors of combat flight training.

Top Knife graduated its first class of flight surgeons in 1991. Since then more than 300 military flight physicians have graduated from the two-week course.

The course includes continuing medical education, patient care in the base clinic, training in egress and the flight simulator, pre-flight briefs with pilots and time in the cockpit.

In 1993, the 173rd also established Top Drill training for dentists and Top Eye for optometrists. To date, more than 20 have graduated from each course.

Also observing the final day of training was Brig. Gen. Bill Doctor, Oregon Air Guard's commander. Months earlier Kitzhaber had accepted the invitation from Doctor to participate in the abbreviated program overview. Two major state natural disasters a few months previous had already given the Governor a taste of what the Oregon National Guard could do.

"This was his chance to see what else we do and to work with the high caliber people at Kingsley," Doctor said. "He learned more about our involvement in the Total Force and our mission."

Sharon Kitzhaber was a passenger in the contracted Lear jet the unit used as a flying adversary to train student pilots during the Top Knife training.

"It was interesting and gratifying to observe everyone do their part for the mission. People in the Guard really are dedicated and, in my opinion, are a cut above," she said.

The Governor said visits by state lawmakers to any National Guard unit is valuable.

"This entire operation is a huge resource for the nation, not just Oregon," said Kitzhaber.



Photo by MSgt. Bill Stine

**IN CONTROL** - Oregon Gov. John Kitzhaber (above) gets help from TSgt. Kim Long, an F-16 crew chief, before going airborne.



PHYSICAL FITNESS

# Marathon MAN

Puerto Rico's Ramon Colon-Malaue is in the Guard, running for the long haul

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

The Puerto Rican man who, at 31, is somewhere between young and middle aged would be just as happy running marathons or miles or just about any other distance for the Army's track team.

That is what Ramon Colon-Malaue said he had hoped to accomplish while he was on active duty and stationed twice in Korea and once at Fort Gordon, Ga. That goal, however, was not in the hand that the soldier was dealt.

So after five years on active duty, he returned to Puerto Rico and discovered the National Guard has a place for people who can run long distances in a relatively short time.



Sgt. Ramon Colon-Malaue

Five and a half years after becoming a switchboard operator for the Puerto Rico Army Guard's 92nd Signal Detachment, Sgt. Colon-Malaue has emerged as the National Guard's premier marathon runner and, perhaps, a marathoner to be reckoned with over the next few years.

He lives with his wife, Evelyn, and their three young children in Barranquitas, population 25,000, where he is a track and field coordinator for the city.

There appears to be some world-class potential in this runner who has reached the prime marathon age. He has shown that he grows stronger as the 26.2-mile racer grows older by winning the Lincoln Marathon and the National Guard Bureau Marathon Trials on Sunday, May 5, in Nebraska.

"I wanted to make the Army team. I'm showing them now what they missed," said Colon-Malaue in the flush of his victory. "The National Guard gave me the time to train. They made it possible for me to win today."

His time of 2 hours, 26 minutes, 37 seconds did not threaten the world record of 2:06:50 set by Ethiopia's Belayneh

Densimo in 1988. But significant milestones may be within Colon-Malaue's reach considering he set a pace of 5:36 per mile in Lincoln in his fourth marathon during the first year he has run that demanding distance.

He was within 15 minutes of the 2:11:41 that gave Spain's Martin Fiz the 1995 world championship last August in Sweden. He was 17 minutes off the Olympic record of 2:09:21 set in 1984.

He is within 6:37 of being considered a world-class contender in this country. And he is expected to be one of the top 10 runners in the Oct. 27 Marine Corps Marathon in Washington, D.C., said Gunnery Sgt. Bob Bieri.

Peeling minutes off marathon times comes hard. But Colon-Malaue chopped 8:07 off his previous year's time in Lincoln, and he seems driven to improve.

"I like this type of racing. You can separate a man from a child right here," said Colon-Malaue who trains 90 miles a week and who emphasized speed work in the mountains the month before Lincoln to avoid oxygen deficiency on the prairie.

His training has improved his confidence.

"Even though someone told me he was almost four minutes ahead of me, I had confidence I could close in," said Colon-Malaue of his determination to catch local favorite and two-time Lincoln champion Tim Dooling in May.

"He went out too fast," added the victor. "I knew if I was next to him on the last two miles, he was mine."

That confidence is also grounded in tradition. The Puerto Rican team takes a lot of pride in being a National Guard force in the Lincoln marathon that begins and ends in the shadow of the University of Nebraska football stadium, home of the 1994 and '95 national major college champions.

"They ought to name this the Lincoln and Puerto Rico Marathon," said retired Army Maj. Dave Cantrell who oversees the finish line timers. "The Guard pumps a lot of energy into this race and gives it a much larger audience. Otherwise it would be just another local marathon."

Puerto Rico has won the National Guard team title for seven of the past 11 years, and Sgt. Ramon Centeno-Ayala was the National Guard victor in 1994. He finished second to Colon-Malaue this year, after a back injury forced him to miss the '95 race. Sgt. Victor Cuevas-Cardona, 41, finished 10th overall to claim the masters prize.

"We are proud of our island. We are proud of the National Guard," said Cuevas-Cardona. "When we go out to participate in a race, we try to give a 100 percent effort because that is part of feeling proud of what we are doing."

Bureau Chief Lt. Gen. Edward Baca believes in physical fitness

# FIT to FIGHT

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

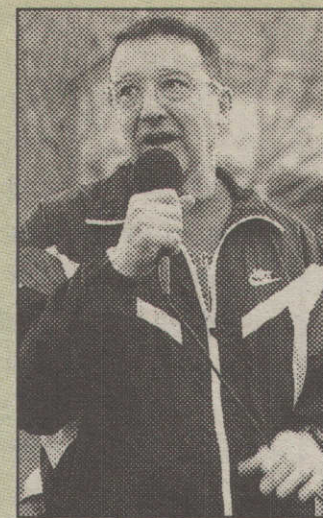
Lt. Gen. Edward Baca traveled 2,100 miles from Washington, D.C., to Lincoln, Neb., to be part of the 12th Annual National Guard Bureau Marathon Trials on the first Sunday in May.

What really torqued the Chief of the National Guard Bureau was that he couldn't run the 26 miles, 385 yards with many of America's citizen-soldiers whom he most admires.

Baca made it perfectly clear, however, that he believes such competitive events are critical for enhancing the image of the National Guard and that he will do everything possible to keep them alive.

"These kinds of events breed competition within the states, and they increase the awareness of physical fitness and weight control," said Baca of the marathon and the National Guard's biathlon championships held every winter in Vermont or Minnesota.

"They also have the tendency to increase the image of the entire organization -- within the organization itself and in the communities," Baca added. "We in the National Guard have come a long way from the old Guard with regard to physical fitness and weight control, not only meeting, but in many cases exceeding



Lt. Gen. Edward Baca

ing, the standards that are set by the active Army."

The marathon trials is actually a race within a race. The Guard marathoners compete in the Lincoln Marathon that celebrated its 19th birthday this year and that has drawn about 1,800 runners the past two times. The first 36 Guard finishers make the all-Guard team for the Marine Corps Marathon run in November in Washington.

Baca wanted to do more than pay lip service to the 282 Army and Air Guard men and women registered for this year's trials who he praised as "the best of the best of the National







Photo by MSgt. John Malthaner

**EYE ON FITNESS - The Army Guard's master fitness trainer, SFC Terry McKinzie (right), keeps an eye on form.**

congratulate them after the race was over while anticipating the day when he can try again to break that magic mark of three hours.

Meanwhile, Baca is searching for the funds to fuel the National Guard Bureau's Competitive Events Program that includes the marathon and biathlon and that is facing a 73 percent budget cut for next year.

That would represent an 84 percent cut since 1993, said Maj. Ray Matthews, the program's director.

"We're doing everything we possibly can with the funding available to keep these programs alive and to keep these programs open," said Baca who has directed Matthews, a marathoner himself, to organize a Guard Bureau team for next year's Lincoln race.

The marathon has certainly generated the kind of respect for the National Guard that the Chief is seeking.

Last year, for example, South Carolina Air Guard's 2nd Lt. Paul Laymon finished second overall in Lincoln, and 25 Guard runners finished among the top 45.

Since the 1995 trials, furthermore, the Guard team has won the Masters Military class and taken third in the Men and Mixed Military divisions in the Marine Corps Marathon. It has finished first, third and fourth in the Navy's Blue Angels Marathon. Guard runners have also won two age-group titles in that race and have finished second three times, third two

times, and fifth two more times.

Those efforts reinforce Baca's belief the National Guard benefits from the tough training that marathoners and other athletes endure while competing in events that test their military skills.

"Your body's going to adapt to whatever mileage you want it to run," said Baca who ran the half-mile and mile on his high school's track team in New Mexico and who broke into marathoning when he was 45.

"It takes a lot of determination, a lot of stamina, to run 26 miles," added the general who wants to keep that challenge alive for Guardmembers.

Guard" during a spaghetti feed the Saturday evening before race day.

He wanted to run in the race that is near and dear to his heart. He has run in four of these marathons, and his fastest time of 3 hours, 10 minutes, 52 seconds his last time out, when he was 54, is among the highlights of his life.

A skiing accident that damaged his left knee last Christmas, however, made that impossible. His son, Brian, a captain in the New Mexico Army Guard, ran a 3:15:22 to sustain the family's marathoning tradition.

The general had to be content to watch the Guard runners and then

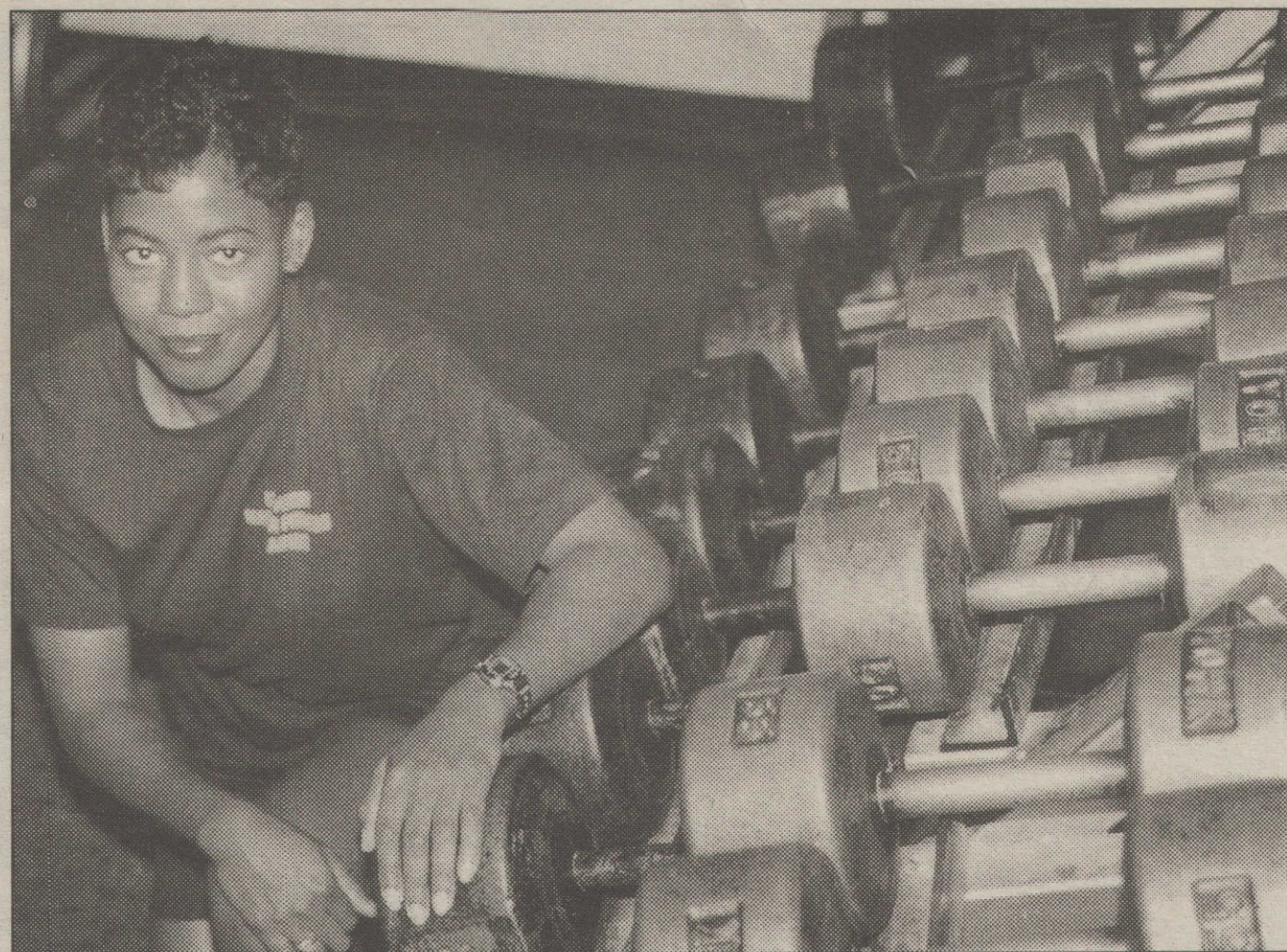


Photo by MSgt. John Malthaner

## Pumping

SFC Terry McKinzie says exercise is more than just passing a test

PT

By MSgt. John Malthaner  
National Guard Bureau

SFC Terry McKinzie loves to exercise. She has made it a lifestyle.

She has also made it a job.

That's right, the lady many in the Guard Bureau hand their Army Physical Fitness Test evaluation cards to wants to mix business with pleasure.

However keeping her fingers on the pulse of Army Guard fitness can be disheartening at times.

"There was a time," she recalled, "when I could stroll through a mall and be able to tell the soldiers from the civilians." And it wasn't just the high-and-tight hair cut or the socially-suicidal combination of Army-issue low quarters and blue jeans. No, soldiers just looked more physically fit.

Those days are gone, she says.

"Now the people in the mall eating corn dogs are soldiers in the military.

"The newer troops are just so unfit," she added, between repetitions during a recent weight lifting workout.

"I think that our recruiters need to be more selective in turning away unfit civilians. We (the Army Guard) must be more choosy, especially because of all the downsizing going on."

Although McKinzie grew up in Maryland and excelled in basketball,

**PUMPED UP - SFC Terry McKinzie (above) kneels next to a rack of dumbbells during a recent workout.**

track and softball, many of her fitness beliefs were honed at the U.S. Army's Fitness School at Fort Benning, Ga., where she taught the Master Fitness Trainer Course for three years. It's a place where PT is king and a push-up executed with a butt arched skyward could cause a trainer to palpitate.

It was there she learned the beauty of variety. Run one day. Lift weights the next. And none of it had anything to do with passing a PT test.

"My focus is on a person's overall health," she said. "Passing a PT test is not going to tell you a whole lot about your health, other than to let you know you can do push-ups, sit-ups and run two miles."

McKinzie encourages cholesterol checks and a balanced diet. She also points to studies that indicate a fit soldier is a more productive soldier.

While good health is important to many, some soldiers facing elimination because they can't run two miles fast enough could care less about their resting heart rate. They just want to pass the PT test.

McKinzie has some advice.

While lifting weights will help with the push-up event, she says doing plain old push-ups is key. She recommends doing 45 seconds of regular push-ups. Take a short rest, and do 40 seconds of wide-armed push-ups, followed by 30 seconds of the diamond (hands together) variety.

As for the two-mile run, McKinzie recommends Fartlek training, not distance. Fartlek training is a Swedish form of interval training in which a soldier varies the intensity and speed of the running during the workout.

"If you're running down a road, sprint to a spot (between 200-400 yards) down the road, then jog until you get your wind back," she said. "Then pick another spot down the road, and sprint to it."

"You'll improve your time," she added.

For the record, McKinzie routinely scores more than 300 on her APFT.

It's something that comes with the lifestyle.





## SPORTS

## Colon-Malaue takes Guard marathon

*Florida's Kelly Wild wins women's title for third straight year*

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

**S**gt. Ramon Colon-Malaue has run many miles in the heat and in the mountains of his native Puerto Rico while training for the marathon.

On the first Sunday in May, however, the spindly Army National Guard sergeant made himself right at home in Lincoln, Neb., where the course was tight and flat and where a cold wind made it seem an ice age from home.

Colon-Malaue, 31, came on strong during the final half of the race, as the wind was growing stronger and colder, to upset two-time champion Tim Dooling of Omaha and win the 19th annual Lincoln Marathon and, at the same time, the 13th National Guard Bureau Marathon Trials.

He also spearheaded an assault on this marathon that became the envy of everyone who knows the rigors of running long distances. The Puerto Rican team ran away with the National Guard team title and Sgt. Victor Cuevas-Cardona, 41, won the overall masters championship by finishing 10th in 2:29:34.

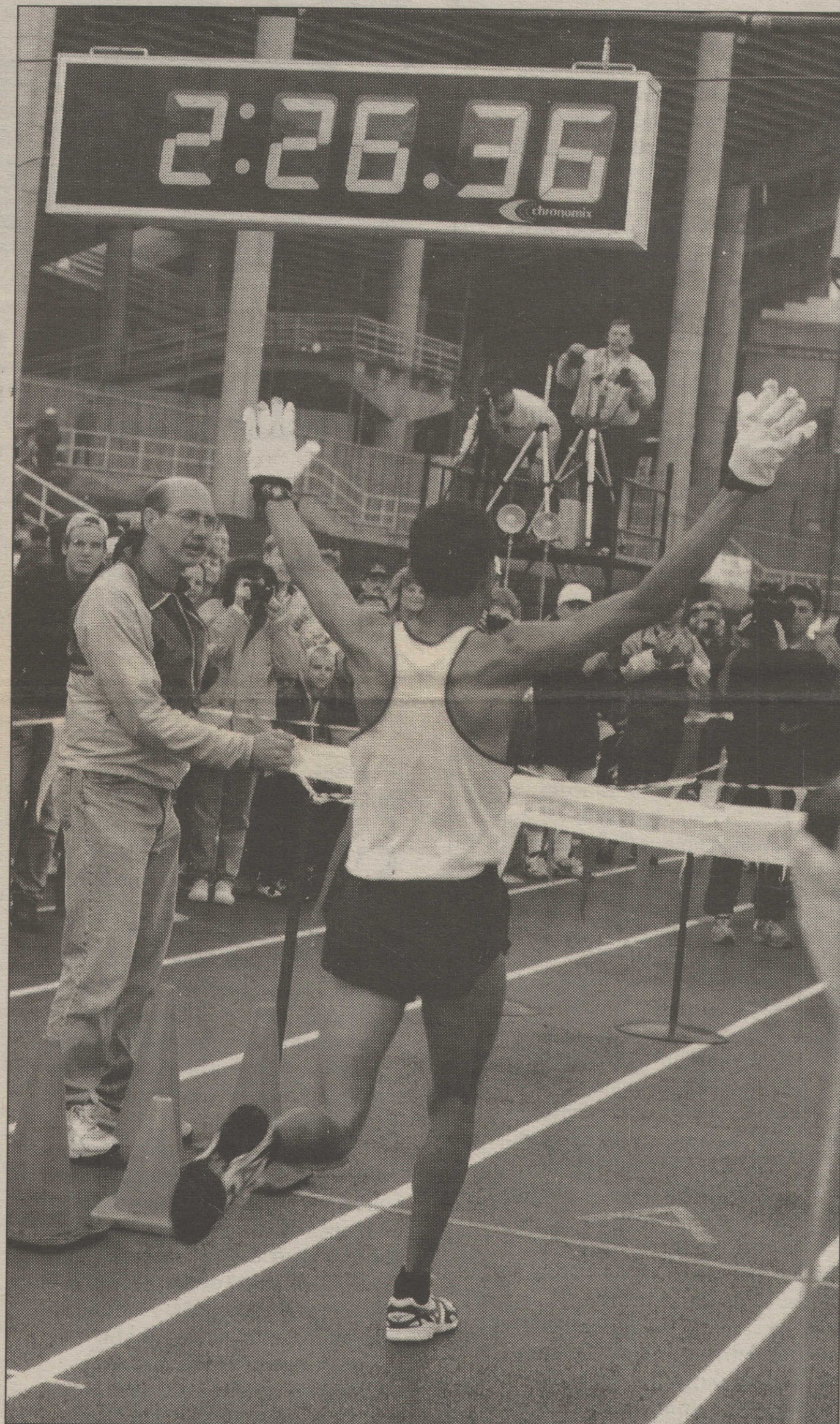
Although Dooling started fast and led for nearly 25 miles, the determined Colon-Malaue, from Barranquitas, caught the local favorite a mile and a quarter from the end and won the 26.2-mile endurance test in 2 hours, 26 minutes, 37 seconds.

Dooling, the Lincoln Marathon champion in 1993 and '94, did not conceal his disappointment while finishing second outside the University of Nebraska's football stadium, nearly two minutes behind the jubilant Colon-Malaue in 2:28:31.

"People started telling me he was falling apart about the 24th mile," said Colon-Malaue, clutching the bouquet of roses presented to the winner. "I wasn't sure it was him. Then I saw him falling apart. He stopped twice, and I went in for the kill. I had to run by him strong and convince him he couldn't catch me. And did."

Others also needed convincing. Most people, including the race announcer, did not know the unknown runner had passed Dooling or won the race until Colon-Malaue had crossed the finish line and was surrounded by reporters and photographers.

Dooling, 36, later said the backs of his



Photos by MSgt. Bob Haskell

calves and his thighs began tightening at mile 17 because he had not been doing enough speed work.

"I still thought I would be able to pick it up," he said, "but it just wasn't there."

The compact Puerto Ricans, meanwhile, had power to spare. Colon-Malaue was running in his fourth marathon since finishing sixth in Lincoln last year. Sgt.

Ramon Centeno-Ayala, 35, was back in the field after winning the Guard title in 1994 and sitting out last year's race with a back injury. And the durable Cuevas-Cardona was running in Lincoln for the 11th straight year and in his 21st marathon.

"Once Centeno was ready, we knew nobody was going to beat us," said Co-



**WINNING EFFORT** - Marathon winner, Sgt. Ramon Colon-Malaue (left) raises his victorious arms at the finish line. Colon-Malaue (above, left) mugs with fellow Puerto Rican marathoners Sgt. Ramon Centeno-Ayala (center), the Guard's second fastest runner, and Sgt. Victor Cuevas-Cardona, the Master's champ.

lon-Malaue after he and his teammates repeated as team champions. The three Puerto Ricans' combined time of 7:38:23 easily beat the 8:11:27 that gave the Indiana team a mild upset over Utah's 8:14:23.

Colon-Malaue became the first National Guardsman to win the Lincoln Marathon since Utah runners Jay Woods and Gordon Hyde scored back-to-back victories in 1989 and '90.

"What a great day this is. The National Guard kicked butt today," marveled Maj Gen. Stanley Heng, the Nebraska Adjutant General, after the first 58 Guard runners had blistered the course with paces under seven minutes a mile and after the first 50 had finished in under three hours.

Nearly 1,800 National Guard and civilian runners registered for the marathon and 199 Guard men and women finished.

Kansas Air Guard's SrA. Curt Rogers finished third, in 2:33:12, among this year's National Guard marathoners. South Carolina's 2nd Lt. Paul Laymon, the '95 Guard champion, finished fourth in 2:34:17, and Oregon's Sgt. Timothy Vandervlugt came home fifth in 2:34:59.

Florida Army Guard's Sgt. Kelly Wild won the Guard women's title for the third straight year, finishing the trials 64th overall in 3:05:18. That was her personal record for the Lincoln course, said Wild who was the fourth woman finisher.

"I went out too fast, and I hit the wall at 22 1/2 miles," said Wild who nonetheless surpassed her goal of 3:10. "When you're struggling and the wind's blowing too fast, it makes it even harder," she observed.

Utah's SFC Deanne Trauba, (3:13:39) and Delaware's 1st Lt. Holly Scott, (3:25:37) were the next two women.



# Honduran Helpers

By SSgt. Suzanne Chaillot  
Louisiana National Guard

Crowing roosters and the smell of breakfast fires filled the chilly morning air as medics moved about tree-filtered sunlight preparing for another work day in Honduras.

One-by-one they boarded battered trucks that took them up bumpy, dusty roads high into the sierra where hundreds of villagers awaited their arrival.

Once there, the medics administered much needed medical care to people who would not ordinarily receive it.

More than 35 members of the Louisiana Air Guard's 159th Fighter Wing Medical Squadron traveled to Soto Cano AB recently for a two-week Medical Readiness Training Exercise.

During the two-week span more than 2,770 patients received medical attention.

"The villagers would come dressed up in their Sunday finest," remarked SSgt. Susan Stelly, 159th medical technician. "It was touching to see the long lines of people waiting for us."

In the village of Gualcince a record number of patients were seen in a mere eight hours. More than 620 patients received dental, optometry and primary care. Near the end of the day, a woman was seen walking up to the makeshift clinic carrying a baby in her arms. The child had suffered burns over 20 percent of its body from boiling water. Doctors tended to the burns by covering them with ointment and clean dressings.

The mother had walked 12 kilometers to reach the clinic.

Another incident involved a man with a severe upper chest laceration caused by a machete. The wound was gaping and the clavicle severed. The wound was

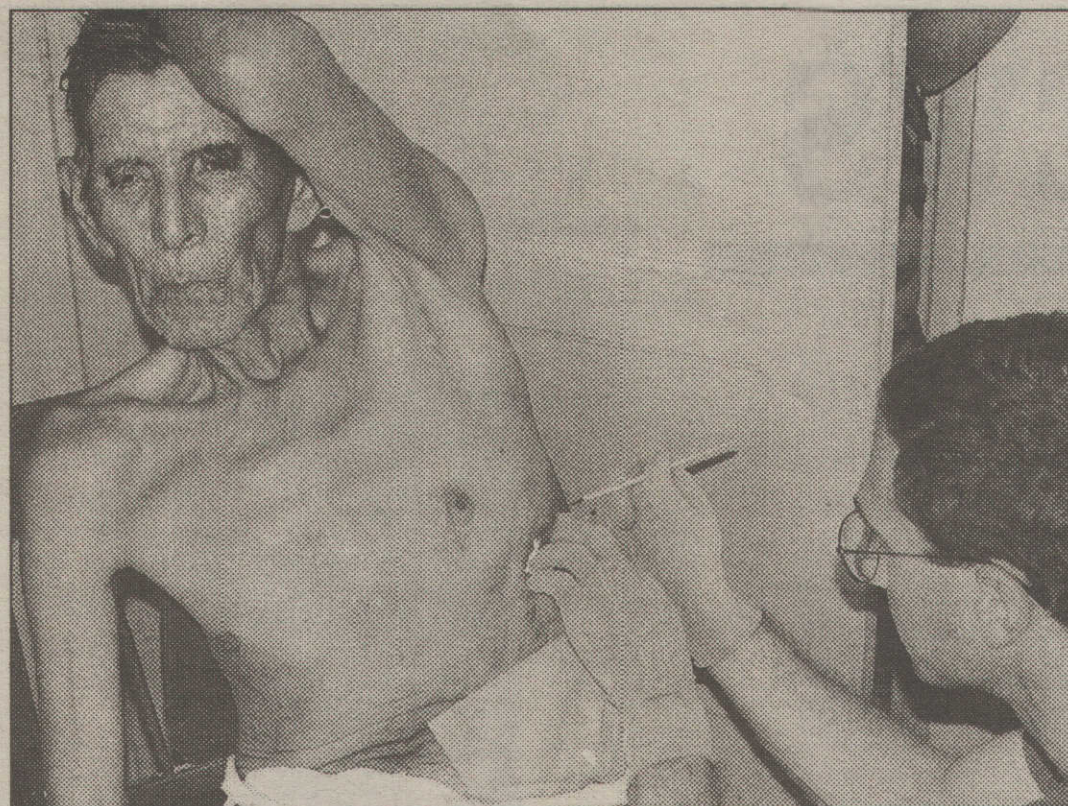


Photo courtesy Louisiana National Guard

repaired under general anesthesia by Louisiana flight surgeons.

"I was very proud of our flight surgeons," said 2nd Lt. Elizabeth Valentine, 159th medical nurse. "Unexpected emergencies occurred and our doctors were able to take care of them in such a primitive environment."

The risk of infection and disease has always been a concern in areas that do not practice

proper sanitation procedures.

The 159th medics came in contact with a missionary who had been in the area for 20 years. Known only as "Mr. Shaw," he had constructed an operating room, complete with autoclave, oxygen tanks and an extensive set of instruments. In addition to setting up this clinic, he was also instrumental in teaching proper sanitation.

**CARING HANDS** - Louisiana's Capt. Sleiman Salibi attends to an elderly Honduran man.

"I think Mr. Shaw deserves a medal," said Capt. Sleiman Salibi, 159th flight surgeon. "We have just completed a two week humanitarian mission. This has been his life for 20 years."

The 159th also adopted an orphanage in Gualcince. More than a ton of supplies were delivered to the children.

"We delivered clothes, books and toys that the 159th Fighter Wing collected for us," said Capt. Lisa Babin, 159th medical nurse. "These items were received with joy and deeply appreciated."

SSgt. Viki Shelton, a medical technician, recalled an exchange with an Honduran woman that left a lasting impression.

"She took my hand into her own and spoke to me in Spanish," she said. "Although I could not understand her, the gesture was of genuine kindness."

"No words needed to be spoken."

## OLYMPICS

From Page 1

people in a city with a large population and in very hot weather," Ramsey added. Any number of things, from demonstrations to civil disturbances, are possible.

There will be much to watch. Eleven million tickets have been printed for the events that range from shooting to swimming, from track and field to fencing. 361,000 people are expected to visit Atlanta each day.

The situation gives the 38th Division a unique opportunity "to practice the strategic defense of the Continental United States during wartime," Ramsey said. "They get to do all of the people-handling things they would do in a wartime situation if you had refugees."

The \$14.5 million Guard operation is necessary this year, officials explained, to support the 7,000 Georgia law enforcement agents available for these games.

More than 20,000 lawmen were reportedly available in Los Angeles County alone to work the 1984 Summer Games. They did not need nearly so much help from the National Guard.

Intense security has been a mainstay for the Summer and Winter Olympics since 1972, when the pro-Palestinian group Black September murdered 11 members of the Israeli team in Munich. It forced future Olympic organizers "to turn the athletes' village and the competition venues into heavily secured armed camps," reported *Sports Illustrated*.

That security was evident four years later in Montreal to Jim Barrineau, a high jumper on the U.S. team who is now a lieutenant colonel at the Army Guard's Readiness Center in Arlington, Va.

"The Canadian Army was out in force," recalled Barrineau. "The Olympic village was surrounded by a high fence, and there were only three entrances. Helicopters were always in the air."

Did that detract from the glamour of the Games?

"It enhanced it," said Barrineau who finished 11th in the high jump finals. "We felt like we were rock stars or something."

## Five-time Olympian has seen changes

By MSgt. Bob Haskell  
National Guard Bureau

Lt. Col. Willie Davenport can gauge the security surrounding the Olympic Games by his medals.

It was almost nonexistent when he won the gold medal in the 110-meter high hurdles in Mexico City in 1968. It was everywhere when he took the bronze medal in the same event in Montreal eight years later.

Davenport, now 53, is among the world's premier Olympians. He competed in five Olympics -- from the 1964 Summer Games in Tokyo to the 1980 Winter Games in Lake Placid, N.Y., where he finished 12th on the U.S. four-man bobsled team. That made him the second man in Olympic history to compete in both the Summer and Winter Games.

He was in the right place at the right time -- Munich in September 1972 -- to know exactly when Olympic security became a major concern.

Davenport, nearing the end of a tour as a National Guard Bureau community relations officer, remembers his Olympic experiences vividly.

"You didn't see any security in Tokyo. The Olympic village was like an open campus," he recalled. "It was a little tighter in Mexico City because you needed an ID badge. Munich was similar to Mexico ...

"Until the massacre."

The murder of 11 Israeli Olympians by Black September terrorists during the first week of the '72 Summer Games changed the Olympics immediately and forever.

"The second week the security was very tight,"

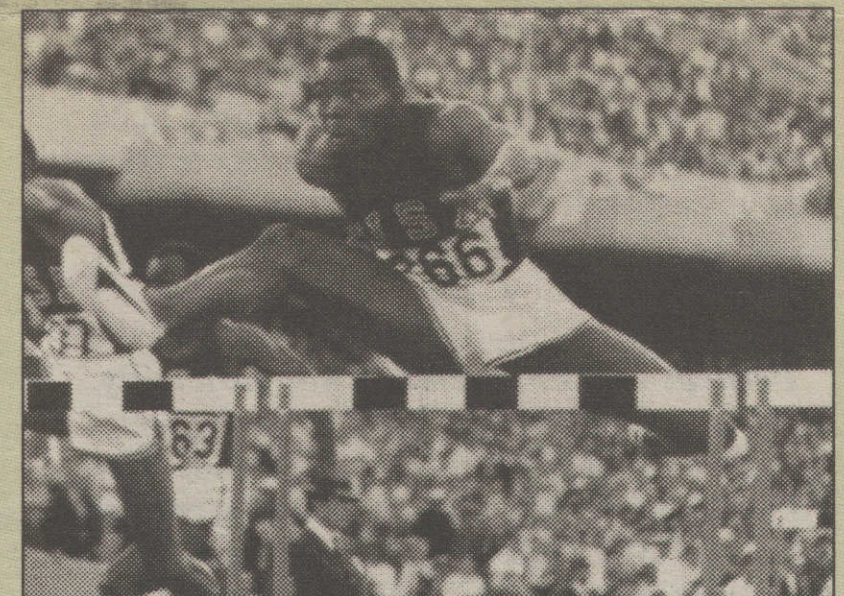


Photo courtesy Lt. Col. Willie Davenport

**GOLD MEDALIST** - Lt. Col. Willie Davenport (above), a National Guard Bureau officer and five-time Olympian, in action.

said Davenport, who lived about 100 yards from where the terrorists captured the Israelis in the Olympic village before taking them to the airport and killing them.

Security has been the Olympic watchword ever since.

"There were soldiers and tanks and dogs in Montreal, around the village and the cafeteria and the practice areas," said Davenport. "It was very tight at Lake Placid in 1980, especially around the sleeping areas."

But you haven't seen anything yet, said Davenport, who has already seen the security system for Atlanta.

"Cameras are everywhere," he said. "Security people can watch from every conceivable vantage point. It is so sophisticated it's unbelievable."



# NEWS

# MAKERS

Compiled by MSgt. John Malthaner  
National Guard Bureau

**The Hawaii Air Guard's 199th Fighter Squadron** has been nominated for the 1995 Hughes Achievement Award. The award is given annually to the most outstanding air defense/air superiority squadron in the U.S. Air Force. The 199th was selected to represent the Air Guard for its involvement in Operation Provide Comfort II, supporting the no-fly zone over Iraq, and Operation Coronet Nighthawk, a drug interdiction mission based in Panama.

**SFC Lon Myhre, a retention NCO with the North Dakota Army Guard's 164th Engineer Battalion**, was picked the top retainer in the Army Guard. Despite being responsible for an area that covers 6,100 square miles, Myhre is credited with cutting his unit's losses by 60 percent. Also active in his community, Myhre belongs to nearly a dozen organizations.

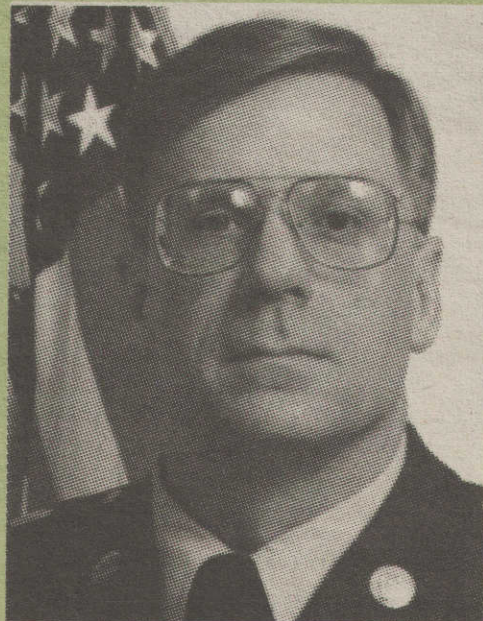
**Oregon Army Guard's SFC Samuel Ely** was recently picked as the Army Guard's Recruiter of the Year. A former UH-1H helicopter mechanic, Ely became a recruiter in 1994 in Hermiston, Ore. Ely recruited 33 soldiers during the rating period, nearly 200 percent of amount required. Through his efforts his unit went from nearly 89 percent strength to almost 98 percent. Ely is also active in his community as a fire chief for a volunteer fire department and is in the chamber of commerce.

**MSgt. Jack Gibson, a member of the Wyoming Air Guard's 153rd Airlift Wing**, was recognized in his civilian job as the Wyoming State Photographer of the Year during a recent competition in Caspar. It is the second time Gibson has won. He displayed his winning photos at the 153rd dining facility.

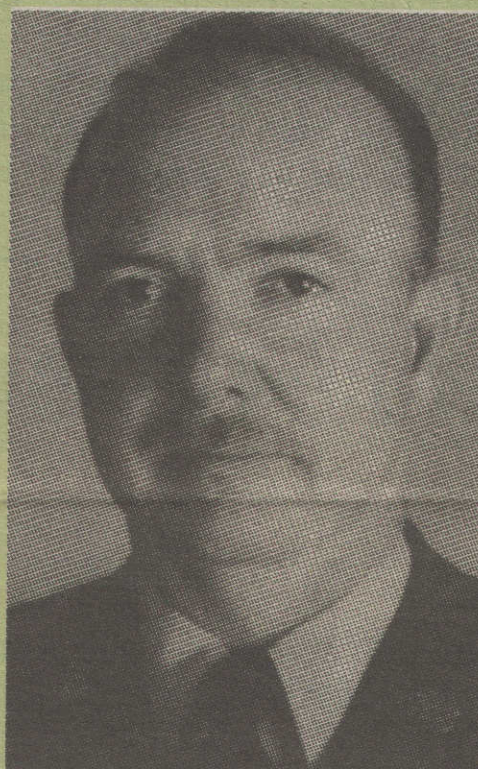
**Perhaps Col. Phil Leventis was born to fly.** The South Carolina Air Guard 169th Fighter Wing's newly appointed vice commander has piloted more than 60 different aircraft; everything from a T-38 to a hot air balloon. He was the last baby ever born at the Columbia Army Air Base Hospital (an airport). Leventis also entered pilot training at Moody AFB in July 1969, the same week American astronauts walked on the moon.

**Texas Army Guard helicopters and crews** have flown hundreds of missions since February helping states and federal firefighters battle wild fires across the state. In April a crew was credited with saving several homes and a 93-year-old woman in Rusk County. As of mid-April, more than 4,375 fires have charred a half-million acres in the Lone-Star State. Two dozen Army Guardmembers and six Blackhawks were placed on active duty to battle the blazes.

**Members of Illinois Air Guard's 183rd Airlift Wing** presented Erin Elzea with the Young Hero Award. Elzea was born with Hurler's Syndrome, a degenerative disease that damages all organs. Although legally blind, hearing impaired, arthritic and wheel-chair bound, Elzea attends the eight grade where she won a science award.



SFC Lon Myhre, the Army Guard's top retainer.



SFC Samuel Ely, the Army Guard's top recruiter.



Sgt. Kenneth Castaldo (left) is thanked by SrA. John Tejral.



Alabama's SSgt. Tony Ennis retires.

**SMSgt. Dennis Murray, a member of the California Air Guard's 163rd Air Refueling Wing**, saved the Air Guard \$3 million with an idea. Murray, the unit's propulsion section supervisor, got the Guard Bureau to buy off on his proposal to replace "high-time" KC-135E aircraft engines being flown by Air Guard units around the country with "low time" engines. The replaced engines will be sent to a rebuild program.

**Alabama Army Guard's SSgt. Leslie Kennedy and SSgt. Lin White**, members of the 20th Special Forces Group, received the Dalton Evan Diamond MD Group Surgeon Award as distinguished honor graduates of the annual Special Forces Medical NCO Advanced Trauma Life Support Course.

**The Pennsylvania Air Guard's 193rd Special Operations Wing** raised more than \$11,500 to help fight multiple sclerosis after many unit members supported and got pledges for its annual walk fund-raiser.

**Martinsburg or Bust. It is a motto TSgt. Edward Reede**, a chapel manager with the West Virginia Air Guard's 167th Airlift Wing, could use as a battle cry when he travels more than 800 miles, one way, to attend drill. Recently Reede's civilian employer moved to Iowa. Although he has looked into other units, he has been unable to find a new unit with the same qualities he found with the 167th. Reede says it takes him about 13 hours each way and only stops for gas. How does he stay awake? "That's not a problem. I listen to the radio and Larry King tapes."

**TSgt. Rodney Collison, a member of the Maryland Air Guard's 135th Aircraft Generation Squadron**, was selected as the 1996 Air National Guard Crew Chief of the Year.

**Iowa Air Guard's Sgt. Kenneth Castaldo** was credited with saving the life of fellow 185th Fighter Group member SrA. John Tejral when Castaldo performed the Heimlich maneuver on Tejral. Tejral was choking on a piece of salad in his unit's dining facility when the incident occurred.

**After nearly 40 years of service, Alabama Army Guard's SSgt. Tony Ennis** retired. The 60-year-old, a member of Company A, 1st Battalion, 20th Special Forces, joined a Bama Guard artillery unit in 1956. During his career Ennis has been a light weapons leader, a combat engineer and a vehicle mechanic.

**For the last seven years, residents of Buffalo, N.Y.**, have made a point of purchasing a copy of the *Buffalo News'* special Kid's Day edition from members of the New York Air Guard's 107th Air Refueling Wing. The paper-hawking effort is one of the ways the unit raises money for the Children's Hospital in Buffalo. This year the 107th sold 810 papers at several area intersections, raising \$851.



# Tearful REUNION

Vietnam Huey pilot runs into old friend

By MSgt. Nate Crawford  
Tennessee National Guard

Throughout history, bonds of friendship forged between men on the field of battle are bonds that can never be severed.

In this instance, that's never been more true.

If a decoration for performance above and beyond the call of duty could be awarded, one Vietnam veteran believes "659" deserves it. For while the friendships on the battlefield are normally between men, this one was between man and machine.

The relationship is just as strong now as it was almost 26 years ago when they first became acquainted.

"659" is not its full name, but that's getting ahead of the story.

Back then, Matt McKnight was a young, hard-nosed captain in Vietnam assigned as the platoon leader of an aero-rifle platoon with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment. Under his command was a complete rifle platoon transported by five UH-1H "Huey" helicopters.

Their job was to "develop the situation" on the ground once the aerial scouts and attack helicopters made contact with the enemy. It was mean, dirty, dangerous work. That was in 1969.

Today the captain is Col. Matt McKnight, a member of the Tennessee Army Guard, and although he's not flying choppers any more, he's still hard-core.

McKnight commands 5,200 troops of the Tennessee National Guard's 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment. Headquartered in Knoxville, their units stretch from Bristol to Millington.

Now in his 50s, McKnight is still as hard-nosed as ever, but admits that he can get misty-eyed when he starts thinking about old "659." There's one heck of a story. One for the books.

To put it all into perspective,

you have to back up to June 1969 when McKnight arrived in Vietnam to take over 11th ACR's aero-rifle platoon.

As a new chopper pilot, he soon found out that flying helicopters in combat was just as hard as fighting tanks and armored personnel carriers on the ground; something he had done on his first tour.

He was logging about 100 hours a month in the air, and seldom flew a mission without being fired on. They were operating from an old French rubber plantation called Quan Loi and employed along the Cambodian border.

One black, moonless night in August '69, McKnight and his rifle platoon were called in to rescue his troop commander and crew after their chopper was shot down. Making matters worse, they had crashed inside North Vietnamese Army (NVA) territory.

Several were wounded and the door gunner was killed. The helicopter exploded and burned. The exploding ammunition and remaining air crewmen kept the NVA at bay until they could be rescued by the regimental commander and McKnight's aero-rifle platoon.

But even with the successful rescue of the air crew, the regiment was now short one command and control helicopter.

A few days later McKnight and a crew were sent to Vung Tau to pick up a new UH-1H "Huey" to replace it. The chopper's tail number was 68-15659.

"It had only nine hours on it when we signed for it," recalled McKnight. "From the very beginning it seemed to have more



Photo courtesy Tennessee National Guard

power than the other birds. We initially chalked this up to it being a new helicopter.

"However, as we continued to fly it, 659 just kept performing better than the rest," he added. "I don't know how to explain it, but we could load it down to the point where others in the Troop couldn't lift off, but 659 always managed to do it."

McKnight can tell story after story about virtual miracles pulled off by 659. The most dramatic, though, may have been in April 1970 near the Cambodian border.

As they were taking off from a field pick-up zone, an NVA Regular emptied 20 rounds from his AK-47 into the belly of the helicopter. One soldier was shot through the chin and killed instantly. Two others were seriously wounded when the bullets came up through the floor.

McKnight was unhurt, and after returning they patched up the holes in the cargo compartment. As the weeks passed, other pilots and other crews would suffer wounds while flying 659, but they always returned.

The Air Cav Troop was soon ordered into Cambodia, and by this time McKnight's chopper had logged more than 700 hours. 659's good fortune finally was

tested late one night when its engine failed at about 8,000 feet.

"The luck ran thin, but it didn't run out," McKnight said. "In complete darkness, with the pilots totally unable to see obstructions coming up at them, they landed in the middle of a Vietnamese village. The nose was about seven feet from a house and the main rotors had just cleared the roof. The tail boom was stuck through a hedge. There was no damage to the house or to the chopper, and nobody was hurt," the colonel recalled, chuckling.

Eventually it was transported to the village's soccer field. It was the last time McKnight saw 659 as it was lifted off by a CH-47 Chinook and disappeared over the trees to Bien Hoi for an engine change.

Man and machine would meet again, almost 20 years later.

It was an afternoon in 1987. Then commander of Tennessee's 4th Squadron, 278th ACR, McKnight was at the their Smyrna-based flight facility checking tail numbers for the chopper he was supposed to fly.

"As I went down the line of parked Hueys, I noticed the last three numbers on one of them was 659.

"Can't be," he thought to himself. "When I got close I saw the number was 0-15659. I looked on the side and saw the original number was 68-15659. Still disbelieving, I looked on the floor of the cargo compartment and there were the holes we'd patched in 1970.

"There was old 659, my faithful friend who'd pulled me

**REUNION - Col. Matt McKnight points out some bullet holes that penetrated his Huey in 1970.**

through so many tough situations, sitting in Smyrna, Tennessee 17 years later, just a few miles from my home town of Murfreesboro. It was like finding someone you thought was long dead ...

"I cried."

Since that unforgettable day in 1987 McKnight has flown 659 several times.

"It still has more power than the rest, everything still always seems to be working."

In June 1994, 24 years after the rice paddies of Vietnam, 659 was flown from Tennessee to Fort Knox, Ky., for a reunion of the 11th ACR's Air Cavalry Troop.

"There were a lot of grown men crying as they ran their hands over the scars of the bullet holes," McKnight said. "The original crew chief climbed all over it looking in the different compartments and checking the engine. In the 'hell hole' he found his initials he'd scratched on the frame in 1970.

"He, too, broke down and cried."

As 659 lifted off and flew south for Smyrna, the former Air Cav Troopers stood in respectful silence under a tree.

"We were remembering those pilots and soldiers who didn't make it home," he said softly. "Every time I look at old 659, I remember.

"I will never forget. None of us will."

"I will never forget. None of us will."





# STATES

- Utah Visitors
- Idaho Warthogs
- Florida's Unit

## UTAH

*The National Guard hosted the visit of Kenneth S. Yalowitz, United States Ambassador to Belarus, and Serguie Martynov, Belarus Ambassador to the United States.*

The Ambassadors visited Salt Lake City in April to meet the Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. James Miller, and sign a sister-state proclamation. While in Salt Lake City the Ambassadors received a roles and missions briefing from Guard officials and visited the Headquarters of the Utah National Guard.

## GEORGIA

*The Peach State's 129th Air Control Squadron, located at McCollum Airport in Kennesaw, was inactivated recently. In the same announcement, officials said that the 283rd Combat Communication Squadron located in Savannah will be relocated to Dobbins Air Reserve Base in Marietta.*

A reduction of five full-time military, 239 traditional Guardsmen, and 41 civilian employees is anticipated with the 129th's inactivation.

Guardmembers holding positions at the 283rd in Savannah will retain these positions when they move with the unit to Dobbins ARB.

More than 1,200 positions in the Georgia Army and Air National Guard have been eliminated since 1993 when military force reductions began. However, most Guardmembers affected by the inactivation have found new units in the state.

## PAVING A FUTURE

**Spc. Chris Altman, a member of the North Dakota Army Guard's 142nd Engineer Battalion, backs up a five-ton truck loaded with rocks. The 142nd was in Panama for two weeks helping to build a seven-mile road as part of the New Horizons exercise.**

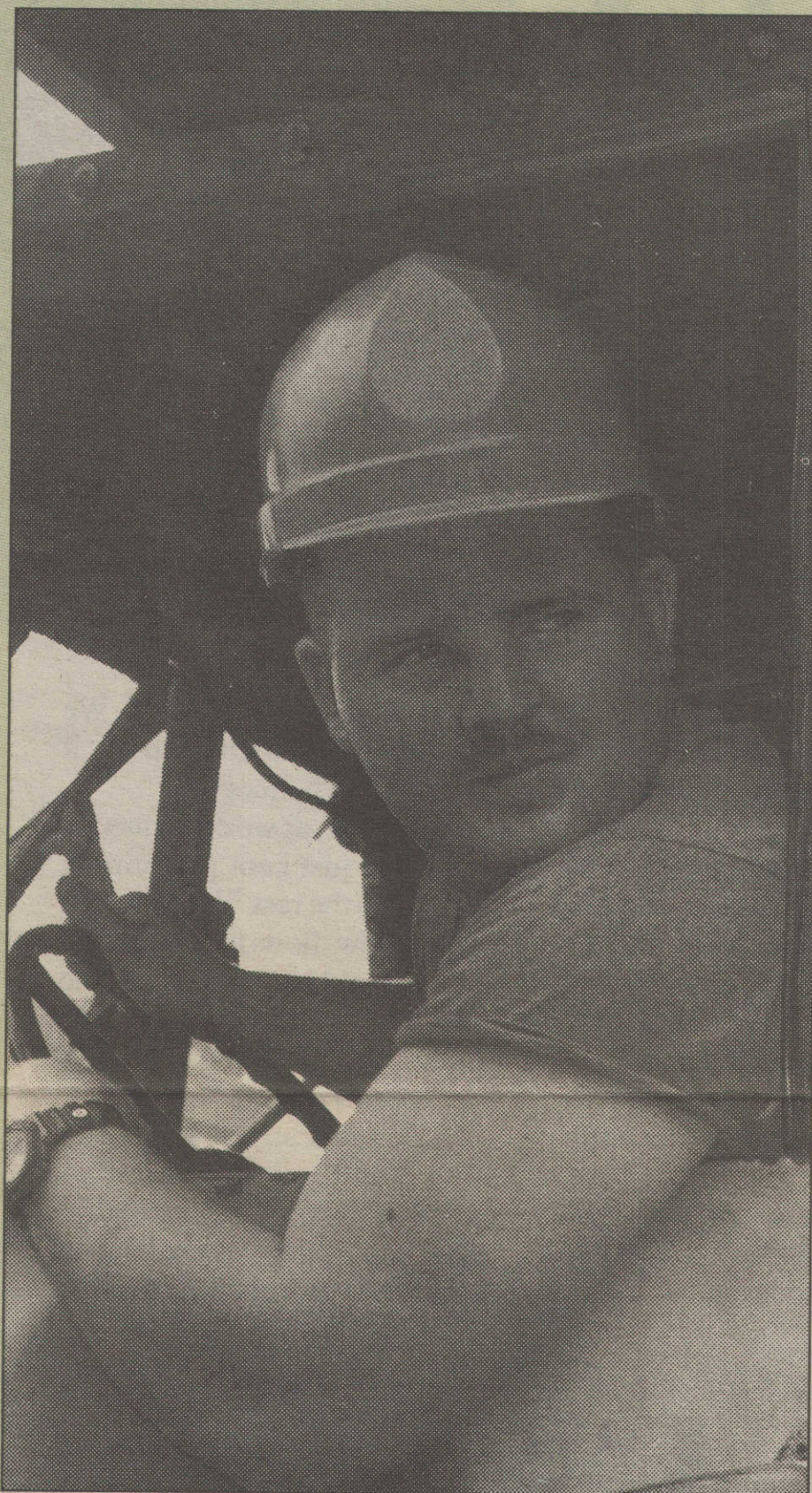


Photo by 1st Lt. Heather Kinning

## IDAHO

*The first A-10 Thunderbolt II attack jets, better known as Warthogs, have arrived to open yet another chapter in the history of the Air Guard. It also prompted a suggested new name for Gowen Field's flightline -- "Hog Heaven."*

Capt. Glen Eberle, a member of the 190th Fighter Squadron, flew the first Warthog. The 124th Fighter Wing will eventually receive 17 A-10s -- 12 attack jets and five OA-10 reconnaissance models.

Eberle admits that he will miss the Phantom jet, but he looks forward to flying the Warthog.

"The Phantom is one of the all-time great military aircraft," he said. "There aren't many planes that fly faster than Mach 2."

The A-10 is quieter, slower and carries the punch of a 30mm gatling gun that fires 4,000 rounds per minute. The gun has a recoil force greater than that of the Warthog's twin turbofan engines, causing the jet to stop in midair when the gun fires. The A-10 also carries air-to-ground missiles and bombs.

## ALASKA

*Nearly 70 members of the Air Guard's 176th Airlift Wing just finished several rotations in Southwest Asia supporting a total force effort.*

"It was an interesting experience," said Lt. Col Bob Gastorck, an Alaska Air Guard pilot. "It was a different rotation due to the location and the local culture."

## FLORIDA

*While National Guard units around the state search for new ways to support their communities, officials recently gathered in a South Florida farm town to celebrate a shining example of what happens when a community supports the National Guard.*

The dedication of a new \$2 million armory in this town of 3,300 was the culmination of an 11-year-old dream and a long relationship between the Florida National Guard and its supporters in Wauchula.

"The ordinary person in this county doesn't know the work and energy that's been put into this armory," said Henry Graham, city mayor.

In May 1984 a small group developed the idea that Wauchula should have a National Guard unit. The original supporters were told they would first have to recruit enough members.

"I heard people tell me back then that Wauchula didn't need something like this," Graham said. "That's for cities like Tampa or Jacksonville, they told me."

The recognized father of Wauchula's Battery C, 3rd Battalion, 116th Field Artillery is Gary Roberts who took up the recruiting challenge.

The community got behind the idea. The county volunteered room at the schools and fairgrounds for events to help raise the funds.

Battery C was activated about six months later and based temporarily out of an existing armory. The unit was moved into a vacant car dealership a year later.

Today the new 26,328-square-foot armory with its own indoor rifle range, kitchen, education center and maintenance training area is a source of pride.

"This is not something the government gave us," Graham said. "This is something this county has worked hard for."

Florida Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Ronald Harrison cut the ribbon on the new armory.

"You have made history in the way you have conducted yourself as a community."



Photo by Capt. John Daigle

**RIBBON CUTTING - Florida Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Ronald Harrison cuts the ribbon that officially opened Battery C, 3-116th Field Artillery in Wauchula, Fla.**





# HISTORY



Celebrating the Air Force's  
50TH ANNIVERSARY

50 years ago, the Air Guard was unwanted and unappreciated

## STEPCHILD of the Air Force

**A**lthough the Air National Guard and the Air Force both celebrate Sept. 18, 1947 as their birthdays, the Guard began forming postwar air units well before that.

On June 30, 1946, the Colorado's National Guard's 120th Fighter Squadron became the first of those units to gain federal recognition. The unit initially consisted of just 12 officers and 13 enlisted men. It had no equipment and no permanent home.

Its initial drills were conducted at an armory in Denver. It moved to temporary space at Buckley Field east of Denver in August 1946. On July 13, the first "caretakers" or technicians were authorized and within a few days several had been hired.

The 120th's earliest days reflected both the difficulty of forming a new military organization during the busy post World War II demobilization period and the fact that the senior leaders of the wartime Army Air Forces (AAF) had been strongly opposed to the creation of the Air Guard.

To them, it remained an unwanted stepchild. They had fought for a separate postwar Air Force during World War II and placed little faith in reserve forces, especially the state-oriented National Guard.

Led by Gen. Henry H. "Hap" Arnold, AAF commanding general, they were determined to build the largest and most modern postwar Air Force possible. They were convinced that Guardmembers and Reservists could not operate complex modern weapons without extensive post-mobilization training.

But Gen. George C. Marshall, the Army's Chief of Staff, disagreed.

Marshall believed Americans would not tolerate a large standing military force once the Axis powers had been defeated and peace restored. Marshall knew that Americans had historically distrusted large peacetime military forces and preferred to place their security in the hands of citizen-soldiers as they had done throughout their history. He also believed that peacetime military weakness invited future wars.

The initial answer to Marshall's dilemma had emerged from his advisors in 1943. It was a proposal for a citizen Army trained in peacetime by professionals under a system of universal military training (UMT) for able-bodied young males. The Army would develop a large federal reserve force supplied by UMT graduates. The National Guard would be stripped of its federal role and funds.

AAF had planners tried to build the best possible case for a large standing force held in a high state of readiness for combat. They proposed an approximately 1-million-man Air Force that could defend the U.S. with little help from the Army and Navy. Neither the Guard nor UMT played any role in that initial vision of the postwar Air Force.

Gen. Marshall compelled the AAF to alter its approach. He directed it to include UMT, reserve forces and a smaller active duty establishment in subsequent plans.

Meanwhile, National Guard officers had become incensed by rumors that the Army had secret plans for excluding them altogether from the nation's postwar federal military structure. They believed that the regular Army was trying to destroy the National Guard. Guard leaders flexed their considerable political muscle during the war to assure that did not happen.

Senior Guardsmen turned to Maj. Gen. Ellard A. Walsh of Minnesota. Walsh was president of the Na-



### GUARD HISTORY

By Dr. Charles J. Gross  
AIR GUARD HISTORIAN

Staff Committee on the postwar National Guard composed of regular Army and Guard officers which would participate in the planning process.

Marshall shattered the postwar planners' proposal for a large standing force of more than 1 million professionals in November 1944. Instead, he directed plans be formulated for a small professional force backed by a large contingent of UMT trainees.

Arnold strongly disagreed with that approach.

His planners had already rejected the idea of a postwar National Guard air contingent. But, to appease Marshall and avoid a political fight with the NGAUS that might weaken the AAF's case for a separate postwar Air Force, Arnold modified his position. He agreed to the creation of the ANG

as a matter of political expediency.

But AAF planners balked at giving important missions to the Guard. They suggested that some 90 percent of its air component should consist of anti-aircraft artillery troops. In return for the War Department's decision to retain the National Guard's established role as the first line combat reserve, the NGAUS endorsed UMT and dropped its threat to oppose the creation of a separate Air Force.

Although it lacked a clear and compelling state mission, the ANG retained the National Guard's dual state/federal status. The Air Staff saw the new Air Guard as primarily an air defense force. They believed that role was a logical extension of the militia and National Guard's historic defensive role.

CWO Sam McGrew recalled the hectic early days of Colorado's 120th Fighter Squadron.

"On July the 13th (1946) all the caretakers were loaded on a borrowed truck from the Armory whereupon we drove to Buckley and inquired where the Guard would be located," he said. "Obviously no one knew, not the Base Provost Marshal, not the Base Adjutant, not even the Base Commander."

For two weeks, the Guardmembers drove out there and returned at night with little accomplished since they did not even have a place to hang their hats. Finally, by Aug. 1, they had acquired a small room in the old pre-war Na-

tional Guard hangar. A month later they were given a small area on the hangar's floor. That fall, their first airplanes arrived, a C-47 and then two T-6s. Shortly before Thanksgiving, three P-51s were delivered to the Guard at Lowry Field.

Maj. Herbert G. Kolb, the 120th's Air Force advisor, decided to shuttle the aircraft to Buckley because he was the only pilot checked out in P-51s. While taking off from Lowry Nov. 28 he crashed and died.

The Air Guard's difficult postwar beginnings in Colorado and other states underscored its initial status as a stepchild of the active force. AAF leaders had bowed to the political realities. They remained skeptical of the ANG's ability to fulfill its mobilization-day mission primarily because they believed that part-time airmen would never be able to operate and maintain complex modern weapons, especially larger aircraft like bombers and transports. Only gradually did the Air Force and the Air Guard overcome those attitudes, building a professional relationship.

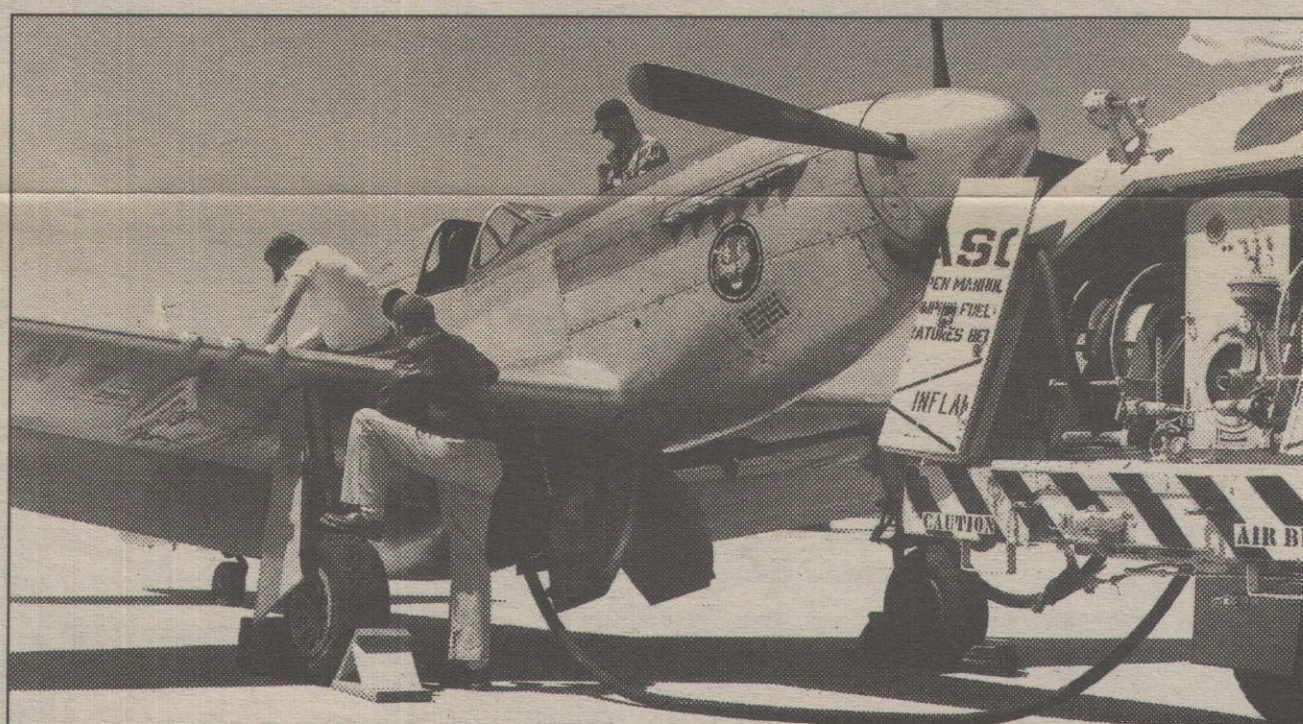


Photo courtesy of the National Air and Space Museum

### ROCKY MOUNTAIN MAINTAINERS - Members of the Colorado Guard's 120th Fighter Squadron gas up a P-51 Mustang aircraft.

tional Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) and the Adjutants General Association. He established a permanent headquarters in Washington, D.C., and prepared a political campaign to save the Guard. In meetings with Army officers early in 1944, he made it clear that the National Guard would accept nothing less than full participation in the postwar planning process and retention of its historic role as the service's first-line combat reserve while retaining its dual state-federal status.

Aviation, which had become a permanent part of the Guard's force structure in the early 1920s, was a key element of the National Guard's postwar objectives. Colorado's 120th Observation Squadron, which had been extended federal recognition in June 1923, was part of the Guard's well-established aviation structure.

Marshall's key advisors were concerned that the Guard's strong opposition could derail congressional enactment of the Army's postwar military legislation on Capitol Hill. The pressure worked. Secretary of War, Henry L. Stimson, approved the creation of a General





# TRAINING

Nevada soldiers take to the mountains to train

## COOL Confidence

Lt. Col. John H. Sutton  
Nevada National Guard

For two years the Sierra Mountain range of Nevada and California has experienced above normal snowfalls. Coming out of seven years of drought, the snow has brought needed relief to the thirsty states. But this bounty provides both a blessing and a danger.

"Looking at 150 to 200 percent of normal snow levels is exciting," warned John James, Nevada state climatologist, "but the excess depths at the higher altitudes pose their own dangers. Spring flooding, if it comes down too fast, and more immediate, survival concerns for those who venture into the mountains."

It's what 39 soldiers with the Nevada Army Guard's Headquarters, State Area Command, wanted.

Invited to the prestigious Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center in Pickle Meadows, Calif., Nevada soldiers conducted winter common task training and winter survival training.

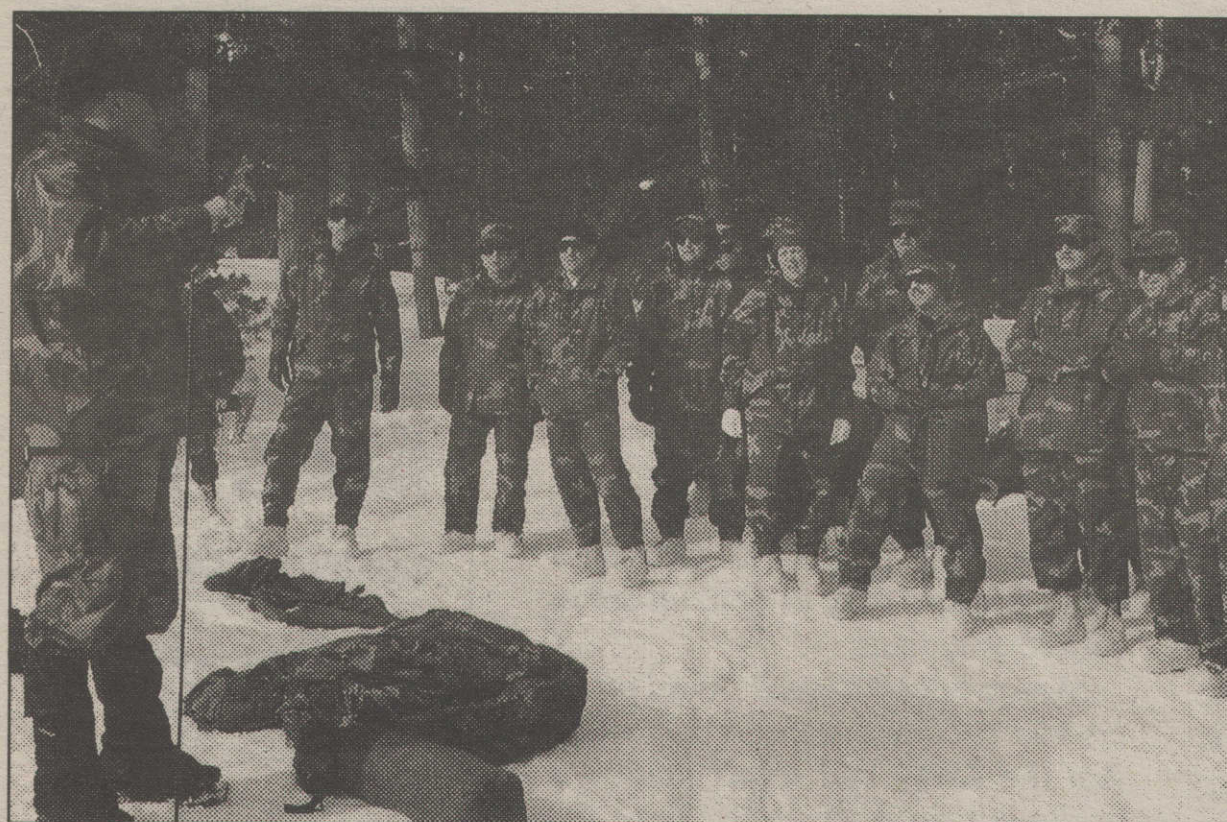
"Training of this sort is important not only because we are soldiers, but also because we live near these mountains," said Lt. Col. Daniel Carpenter, senior evaluator for training. "Anybody who comes up here must understand how unforgiving nature can be."

Unforgiving indeed.

The training began only a week after three winter recreationalists died in the Sierra; one from injuries, and two from exposure in the wilderness.

"We want to give our soldiers the confidence to not only survive in the winter mountains, but to excel in their military training. Even though safety was emphasized, we challenged all soldiers to go beyond their comfort level," Carpenter said.

During the five-day exercise, weather conditions were cold, snowy and windy. An additional foot of snow piled up on the already 10-to-20-feet of snow the soldiers camped on. After moving gear into the mountains by sled and snowshoe, home became the caves soldiers carved



**SNOW SCHOOL** - Nevada Army Guardmembers (left) listen to an instructor at the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center. Troops (below) get practice using snowshoes.



Photos by CSM Walter W. Wilson

into the snow -- just large enough to sleep two or three people.

"The buddy system worked well. You really rely on the people out there. It's a team effort," said Sgt. Shirley Conroy.

"When we looked for avalanche victims," she added, "we'd line up at the bottom of a slope and use our ski poles to probe the snow, looking for anything solid. One of the Marine trainers called out instructions. He would have everybody on line pick up and push their poles into the snow at the same time. If we found something, it was flagged for digging."

The rest of the training was also a success.

"The soldiers were put in a very stressful situation throughout and they responded positively to all challenges," Carpenter reported. "The most essential element of combat power is competent and confident leadership. These soldiers developed more than just the mandatory common task training."

Over five days soldiers practiced night snowshoe marches, survival shelter construction, night arctic sentry duty and search and rescue.

"I would not have missed this for the world. It's colder than all heck up there, but it's the best training I've ever done," said Sgt. Robert Chandler. "We gained

**HOME SWEET HOME** - Nevada's Sgt. Robert Chandler (above, left) and Sgt. Jeff Heffner make shelter in a dug-out snow cave.

respect from the Marine trainers, and more importantly, from ourselves."

The Sierra snows will stay on top of the mountains into July; some places never melt. But regardless of the time of year, Nevada troops say they can handle themselves in any conditions.

"That's important," Carpenter noted, "knowing your people can survive in the snows of the Sierra."