



# THE ON GUARD

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July 1995

## O'Grady rescue assisted

By Capt. John Goheen  
National Guard Bureau

New York Air Guard's Maj. Jeffrey Dishart had more than a passing interest in the fate of Capt. Scott O'Grady after the Air Force pilot's F-16 was shot down over Bosnia-Herzegovina June 2.

After all, the 107th Air Refueling Group member is a former F-16 pilot. The two also share some of the same friends and experiences. In addition, both were once members of the 80th Fighter Squadron based in South Korea.

Dishart was also one of the last to speak to O'Grady before a Serbian surface-to-air missile, or SAM, slammed into the active-duty captain's aircraft.

"We refueled O'Grady about 10 minutes before he was shot down," said Dishart from Istres, France, where the 107th was supporting planes enforcing the United Nations' no-fly zone over Bosnia. The Niagara, N.Y., unit was undergoing its first annual training since converting from F-16s to KC-135s Stratotankers.

"The F-16 has a unique hook-up that allowed us to speak to him on a secure line," he added. "We have some mutual friends and he knows my brother, who also flies F-16s. The last thing he said to me was the 80th's motto, which translated from Latin means, 'Fortune favors the bold.'"

Dishart didn't learn that O'Grady had been shot down until he landed in France.

"They said that no one saw a 'chute,'" recalled the San Francisco resident and full-time United Airlines pilot. "That's not a good sign. We thought the worst. It was a major bummer."

As it turned out, O'Grady ejected into heavy cloud cover. While not seen by

allied pilots in the area, his chute was clearly visible to those on the ground of the Bosnian Serb stronghold where he landed. Upon impact, he began what turned into a now well-chronicled six-day game of hide-and-seek.

In the days that followed, Dishart said he and his crew (co-pilot Capt. John Dabhy, navigator Capt. Rick Smith and boom operator SSgt. Jose Cruz) tried not to dwell on O'Grady's fate.

"It stayed in the back of our minds, though," he said. "We kept an eye on the news, trying to stay hopeful. But it didn't look good."

On the morning of June 8, Dishart's crew was preparing for a routine mission when they received a new assignment.



Photos by MSgt. Mike Daigle  
**RESCUERS - (top) Dishart, Dabhy, Smith and Cruz. (above) Swanson, Schwartz, Cuzzone and Gibb.**

refuel aircraft during the rescue mission. "We were excited," said Dishart. "We blasted off and flew as fast as we could to our position over the Adriatic Sea."

"Customers came almost immediately," he added. "After a while, we could hear communications from the Marine helicopters that picked up O'Grady. However, we didn't know how everything went until we returned to base. That's when we found out that we had him back."

"For us, it was great closure."



Photo by MSgt. Jerry Bratten

## FLOOD of SUPPORT

When the Illinois River flooded in May, members of the Missouri (above) and Illinois Guard were called in to help their neighbors. (See related story and photos on Pages 6-7.)

# DRUG USE IS LIFE ABUSE



# COMMENTARY

## COUNTERDRUG UPDATE

• As of July 5, 6,451 counterdrug operations were conducted throughout the nation.

• As of July 5, the total value of cash and drugs seized this fiscal year by police with National Guard assistance is \$6.623 billion.

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## LETTERS

### DIDN'T SEE THE HUMOR

*In the May 1995 issue I was disappointed that you printed a GUARDtoons by Lyle Farquhar that made a joke about Guard ethics. It was obviously out-of-step with the usual professional standards of The On Guard publication. We have been working hard to maintain a high image of the Guard in Montana. I showed this cartoon to the people in our headquarters and they share my opinion.*

Today, all Guard soldiers and activities are under the scrutiny of Congress and the American people. The May *On Guard* is filled with great accomplishments and success stories. Two full pages were devoted to ethics. Why place a shadow over all these good things?

Mr. Farquhar tends to pick on NCOs in his cartoons. However, in this case he is right-on in depicting the junior NCOs wanting to do the right thing.

Soldiers and airmen read *The On Guard* and develop perceptions from its contents, including the GUARDtoons. Let's not give the perception that we in any way make light of ethics in the Guard.

CSM Larry R. Westfall  
Montana National Guard

### UNETHICAL CARTOON

*Until now I have considered The On Guard to be a source of positive information about the Guard. The cartoon on the second page of the May 95 issue made me question my viewpoint. The message given was appalling.*

I have seen nothing but a high sense of

ethics in the Guard, especially compared to other reserve forces with whom I have had to associate. I can only speak from experience in the Air Guard, yet I know the Army Guard also holds to these high standards.

Your implication that we are a bunch of people who don't care about, nor have good ethics, was uncalled for and destructive. The Air Guard folks I have dealt with over the years have no problem working hard before playing hard.

In this time of economic crisis, it takes little provocation to reduce funding, thus reducing readiness. I hope very few people outside the Guard saw that issue. If the wrong people get your implied message, the consequences could be costly.

Please use *The On Guard* as a source to encourage and strengthen the values most of us hold important. Most of the good you have done in showing that Guardmembers are conscientious, caring, hardworking citizen-soldiers and airmen was washed away for the sake of a possible laugh.

SMSSgt. Scott D. Walston  
District of Columbia National Guard

### A 'STANDARD' ISSUE

*This letter is in response to a letter that appeared in the April 1995 issue of The On Guard. The letter was written by SFC Gregory Conrad and dealt with responding to MSgt. Judith Ackerman's letter that appeared in the January edition about the size of women's insignia.*

I can relate to SFC Conrad's statements that there is a double standard between male and females in the military. For example, the requirements for successful completion of the Army Physical Fitness Test, and the wearing of Class A

and Class B uniforms. However, as SFC Conrad stated, one must look at the whole issue.

SFC Conrad suggests that everything from the APFT requirements to Class B uniform be standardized within the Army Guard. I feel that the requirements are standardized more now than in the past 20 years. In my opinion, regulations are created to allow everyone the opportunity to serve their country and give an equal chance to obtain respect and leadership.

Physical strength in male and female soldiers differ. Luckily, the U.S. armed forces have recognized that and set physical standards to reflect that. Although there are some that don't agree with this, not to mention those who are against females being in the military, this is why the Equal Opportunity office was designed.

SpC. Twanalecia Ebenezer  
California National Guard

### MONEY-SAVING IDEAS

*I recently read in one of your issues where the Air National Guard has a program that rewards money-saving ideas. Does the Army National Guard have a similar program?*

Sgt. George Jennings  
South Carolina National Guard

**Editor's Note:** Yes. Contact your 1st Sgt. or State Headquarters for more information.

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

## GUARDTOONS

By Lyle Farquhar



"I guess we won't be needing this ... These Guard youth programs have progressed a little faster than I thought."





# IN THE NEWS

- Accidents Down
- Lottery Winner
- New Author

## West Virginia proves ready for 'Challenge'

By TSgt. David P. Lester  
West Virginia National Guard

The civil engineering squadron with the West Virginia Air Guard's 130th Airlift Group, based in Charleston, recently represented the Air National Guard in Readiness Challenge V at Tyndall AFB, Fla.

Readiness Challenge demonstrates each command's leadership, readiness, warfighting capabilities and the quality of their home-station training.

Participants were tested in more than 50 areas, including physical fitness, weapons proficiency, heavy equipment operation, crater repair, mobile kitchen set-up, structural fire response and airfield lighting. The actual areas of competition were not determined until the first day of the event.

Civil engineers, like many other military specialties, have different peacetime and wartime missions. In peacetime, engineers keep installations up and running. They pave roads, remove snow, trim trees, construct and maintain buildings and perform several other essential tasks.

During wartime, they support aircraft operations. This includes rapid runway repair, emergency equipment repairs, contract management, war damage repair and crash rescue/fire suppression.

All participants were notified of the competition on the same day, which ensured that all teams had the same amount of time to prepare for the event.

"We did some intensive training for this competition," said Capt. Joe Ulm, the West Virginia team's officer-in-charge. "The experience and lessons we gained from this competition will be with us for a long time to come."



Photo courtesy West Virginia National Guard

**READY** - West Virginia Air Guardmembers Capt. Joe Ulm (left) and SSgt. Pat Grimm put together a tent frame during competition at Readiness Challenge V.

After completing training at Camp Blanding with the Canadian Armed Forces team two weeks prior to the event, the 130th was ready to compete.

The ANG team beat 12 other teams to win the Canadian Trophy. This was given for taking first place in an event sponsored by the Canadians.

The ANG team also took a second place in the Mobile Aircraft Arresting System event. This event tests the capability of a unit to install an aircraft arresting system and then recover it after it has been activated.

New to the competition this year was the participation of each unit's public affairs office. In the two areas of PA competition -- "PA Professional Performer" and "PA Team Player" -- the 130th took third.

One of the goals of the competition states that through "intensive preparation and the spirited competition itself, tangible benefits are sought which will improve the readiness and responsiveness of engineer and services forces in their contribution to the Air Force mission."

"Best of the best" was the motto for this year's competition," said Lt. Col. Robert L. Wolfe II, 130th squadron commander. "I'm very proud of our team's accomplishments. They are definitely among the 'best of the best.'"

## Idahoan wins \$87 million lottery

When Sgt. Pam Hiatt, an Idaho Army National Guardmember, woke up June 4, she was a part-time waitress, bartender and soldier, and a full-time student.

She was on her way to annual training when she stopped by a convenience store to check her lottery numbers, only to find she now had a new title -- multi-millionaire.

After the store clerk convinced the duty officer that Hiatt had won the Idaho state Powerball lottery, which after tax deductions is \$3.1 million a year for 20 years, he ar-

ranged for her to receive the day off at her Boise, Idaho, unit.

Hiatt, 26, has since had her name removed from the active rolls of the 1st Battalion, 183rd Aviation.

However, according to an *Army Times* interview, she is leaving her options open.

"I will go back to the Guard eventually, but it's because I love it, not because I have to," said Hiatt, an Apache helicopter repairman.

"I love my job," she added. "The Apache is an amazing helicopter. Just being able to touch it is pretty cool."

With her first check, received June 5, Hiatt went on a six-car shopping spree for her family, hardly something she could do a day prior with her previous paychecks.

In addition, she has hired an attorney, a former employer and friend. He put her in touch with an investment broker.

"I'm lucky to have people out there who I can trust," she said.

A store clerk where Hiatt purchased the ticket, Cory Felts, said she sees Hiatt a couple times a week.

"She's got a kid on the way," Felts said. "She really deserves this."

## NATIONAL BRIEFS

### GUARD PILOT AUTHORS BOOK

Maj. Alan Cockrell of the Mississippi Air Guard's 172nd Airlift Group has written an account about flying and the emotional and intellectual satisfactions of those who operate America's giant military transports.

The focus of his *Tail of the Storm*, published by the University of Alabama Press in 1995, is about the Air Guardmembers and Air Force Reservists who participated in the Persian Gulf crisis of 1990-1991 as "crew dogs" on C-141s.

"It is the only example I am aware of a published book-length personal account by an Air Guardsman about a pilot's world in an Air Guard flying unit," said Dr. Charles J. Gross, the National Guard Bureau's Air Guard Historian.

*Tail of the Storm* is available by writing The University of Alabama Press, P.O. Box 870380, Tuscaloosa, Ala. 35487-0380. The phone number is (205) 348-5180 and the FAX number is (205) 348-9201.

### ACCIDENT NUMBERS DROP

In fiscal year 1994, accidents claimed fewer military lives than nonaccidental causes for the first time.

Nonaccidental deaths include those from natural causes, homicides, diseases and suicides. Accidental military deaths dropped from 666 to 526, an all-time low. Aircraft accident rates dropped from 1.94 to 1.63 accidents per 100,000 flying hours (Army National Guard aviators had no serious accidents in 1994).

The dollar cost of major aircraft accidents dropped from \$1.6 billion to \$1.2 billion. Aviation fatalities fell from 119 to 68. The number of destroyed aircraft reached an all-time low of 84, down from 110.

### OUTSTANDING AIRMAN NAMED

The following individuals have been selected as the 1995 Air National Guard Outstanding Airmen of the Year:

MSgt. Roxann M. Splittstaezer, 133rd Airlift Wing, Minn.

MSgt. Ronald K. Vezina, 104th Fighter Wing, Mass.

TSgt. Eddie Henderson, 115 Air Control Squadron, Ala.

TSgt. Lori Gates, NGB, Washington D.C.

Sgt. Bruce Clements, 131st Airlift Wing, Minn.

SrA. Michael W. Bergquist, 141st Communications Flight, Wash.

SrA. Claudine M. Jaramillo, 150th Mission Support Squadron, N.M.

SrA. Katherine J. Barter, 152nd Security Police Squadron, Nev.

## 'On Guard' picked best in military

By Capt. John Goheen  
National Guard Bureau

**T**he *On Guard* is Number #1. Again.

For the second year in a row, a distinguished panel of media members and journalism professors selected NGB's official newspaper as the best "funded" newspaper in the U.S. military.

The judging was part of the Defense Department's annual military print and broadcast journalism contest. It featured competition in 28 categories between the top newspapers, magazines and radio/television broadcast products from each of the four services and the U.S. Coast Guard.

Results were announced June 1 by the Armed Force Information Service in Washington, D.C.

Winners will receive the Thomas Jefferson Award, the highest honor a military journalist, publication or broadcast program can receive.

"We'll get the plaque, and were thrilled," said Lt. Col. Fred S. Lydick, chief of NGB Command Information, "but every Guard journalist who contributed to *The On Guard* in 1994 shares in this award."

*The On Guard* was one of two Guard 1994 Thomas Jefferson Award winners. Sgt. William Gregersen-Morash, a member of the Washington Army Guard's 122nd Public Affairs Det., won first place in the "feature, news or sports picture stories" category.

In selecting *The On Guard* as the top funded (no advertisements) newspaper, the judges singled out the publication's reader-friendly layout and design, wide variety of stories and balance of text and photos or art.

Lydick credits editor TSgt. John Malthaner — whose resume includes three different DoD-winning publications — with the winning formula.

"It's no accident that *The On Guard* has won this award twice in the two years he's been here," Lydick said.

## Carolina launches another GuardCare

By 1st Lt. Jennifer Rokosz  
North Carolina National Guard

**N**early 200 Army and Air Guard members were in New Hanover County, N.C., recently getting hands-on training while providing dozens of free health care services to its residents.

Soldiers worked side-by-side with scores of local health care professionals from the New Hanover County Health Department, Cape Fear Memorial Hospital, University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Cape Fear Community College, New Hanover Regional Medical Center and other private physicians and dentists.

The largest GuardCare operation yet — coined "On Guard for Health" — offered services ranging from kindergarten assessments to prostate cancer screenings at three sites around the county.

GuardCare is a National Guard Bureau directed pilot program bringing together civilian and military health professionals to serve medically underserved populations. There are 22 states around the country with similar programs.

Adult services were available at the Health Department. Services for children were located at the First Baptist Church Activity Center, while adults and children received services at Trask Middle School.

"We have three times as many people working this weekend than at any of the other GuardCare missions," said Maj. Basil Haun, logistics coordinator of the New Hanover County operations.

"We're actually giving them free physicals, blood work, HIV screenings, eye exams," he added. "This is an excellent way for someone who has very little money



Photo courtesy North Carolina National Guard

**EYE EXAM - 2nd Lt. Randy Kirby checks a seven-year-old's eyes.**

to get a health assessment."

Bob Parker, public health director of the New Hanover County Health Department, says the idea is trendsetting.

"GuardCare is very unique and it's an idea that's on the cutting edge," said Parker, who's been with the health department for 12 years. "It's very forward thinking and customer-oriented."

Kimberly Holbrook stopped by the health department and the Trask Middle School sites for a diabetes evaluation.

"I think this is great. What a service for the community," she said.

Parker said services provided to the community over the weekend would be costly in the private sector.

"In my opinion, they would pay be-

tween \$500 and \$600. Here, they can get all the services free, and in one-tenth the time it would take," he said.

Free screenings included those for glaucoma, lung function, hearing, vision and dental problems, as well as prostate, colon, skin and oral cancers. Blood pressure, pulse and EKG monitoring was also offered.

This marks the third GuardCare mission in North Carolina following programs in Greene and Madison counties. Four other programs are being planned, said Maj. George Silver, officer-in-charge of GuardCare in the Tar Heel state.

## BACK in the SADDLE

Lt. Col. Peter W. J. Onoszko, the National Guard Bureau's assistant Inspector General, takes part in a dressage competition. He has Army authority to wear his uniform because dressage — the classic training of horse and rider — was originally a military Olympic event. Onoszko and his horse "Audaciex" have taken 12 first or second-place finishes in competition. Onoszko is founder of the Armed Forces Equestrian Club.



Photo by Rex Photo-Graphics





# PEOPLE

## The Tool LADY

By Sgt. Julie Geer  
U.S. Army Reserve

Some women get up in the morning and put on fashionable work attire, makeup and high heels. Not Spc. Kelly L. Clark of the Missouri Army National Guard's Company B, 203rd Combat Engineer Battalion. She dons combat boots and fatigues for her daily wardrobe.

Clark, a resident of Carthage, Mo., is a mechanic in the unit from Joplin, Mo. The unit deployed to Panama to support "Fuerter Caminos," a U.S. Southern Command-sponsored humanitarian engineer training exercise conducted from January to June. At the invitation of the Panamanian government, U.S. military from the Army Reserve, Army National Guard and active duty Air Force assigned to Task Force Mule, are working with Panamanian agencies and local citizens to improve public facilities and the infrastructure.

"I'm normally a housewife," said Clark. "I have a son, Cody, 11, and a daughter Billie, 7. However, I enjoy being in the National Guard. I'm the only female mechanic in my unit. I've been in the unit for two years and it has been fun. It's a great unit."

Citizen-soldiers of the Missouri Army National Guard, are supporting elements of the U.S. Army Reserve's 102nd Army Reserve Command based in St. Louis and the U.S. Air Force's 823rd Civil Engineering Squadron from Hurlburt Field, Fla.

Engineers working in the rural hill-country northwest



Photo by Sgt. Julie A. Geer

of La Chorrera, Panama, have repaired 14 schools and three medical clinics, drilled or repaired nine water wells and renovated five existing wells.

"This is my first time overseas and the weather is much hotter than at home," said Clark. "The scenery is intriguing, with the mountains and winding roads. When my unit got here, there were just paths out to the various villages and we have turned them into roads. We've done a tremendous amount of work here. The transformation is unreal."

Besides providing citizen-soldiers and airmen with real-world training opportunities in an austere environment, "Fuerter Caminos" is a humanitarian and civic-assistance exercise designed to promote democracy and improve infrastructure for the people of Panama.

Clark believes the military treats women equal to their male counterparts.

"I think women are treated as well as the men in the military. I'm one of the guys. I haven't had a hard time out here," said Clark.

**MRS. FIX IT** - Missouri Army Guard's Spc. Kelly Clark makes a repair to a five-ton dump truck with the help of Spc. David Thompson.

Clark hasn't had a difficult time at her unit because she is such a diligent worker, according to SFC Larry D. Johnson, a resident of Washburn, Mo., and a senior-engineer equipment repairman with the 203rd Combat Engineers.

"She's a hard-charger and a good worker," Johnson said. "Having women in the unit is not a problem."

The company commander said that Clark was working and training hard.

"She fits in well with the unit. She's been doing her job and training hard. Kelly picks up new tasks quickly," said Capt. William A. Ward, company commander, from Lawton, Okla. "She's a good soldier in all aspects."

Clark is also respected by her co-workers. "She's a good trooper," said Spc. Brent Thomas, from Carthage, Mo., a heavy equipment operator with the 203rd. "I've seen her do her job, and I think she can hang tough with this unit. Like the 203rd's motto says, 'If you can't run with the big dogs, stay on the porch.' She is up to the challenge."

Soon Clark will have to make the decision whether to stay in the service or move on to other endeavors.

"I think I will re-enlist in 1996 when my contract is up," she said. "I like the National Guard because it has made me a stronger person. I know that I've accomplished things. I've been there, done it, and know I can do it again. I've learned teamwork is important for success."

"I've made good friends here and I think I will stay in."

## CLEARING CUSTOMS

By SSgt. Michael P. McCord  
Alabama National Guard

1st Lt. Terri Roth has spent the past six months in the Republic of Panama doing a big job.

Roth, a transportation platoon leader with Company B, 735th Maintenance Support Battalion, Missouri Army National Guard, Sedalia, Mo., is responsible for overseeing the cleaning and departure of hundreds of vehicles

used during a joint humanitarian assistance exercise in rural Panama.

As the officer-in-charge of the Albrook marshalling area, she is responsible for ensuring that about 350 vehicles are clean enough to pass customs inspections before they are loaded on barges or ships for the trip home.

"Fuerter Caminos '95, (a Spanish phrase meaning "strong roads") was a joint effort between National Guard, Army Reserve and active components and the Panamanians to build or refurbish schools, clinics, roads and water wells.

The exercise not only helped build the infrastructure of Panama, but also helped train



Photo by SSgt. Michael McCord

U.S. reserve component units.

This year's exercise is coming to a close and hundreds of mud-caked trucks and other vehicles must be thoroughly cleaned before the long trip home.

"We're working around the clock, Roth said. "The trucks go through three separate washes before final shipping."

A 1990 graduate of Central Missouri State in Warrensburg, the citizen-soldier said she enjoyed her second short tour in the Central American nation.

**PANAMA TRAINING** - 1st Lt. Terri Roth secures an oil boom over a drainage ditch.

She is working full time in Panama as part of the exercise's start-to-finish staff.

During her six-month tour, she had many opportunities to meet the local Panamanians.

"I love the children of Panama," Roth said. "The people in the villages were very receptive to us and I hope I get to come back."

Roth also works with trucks in civilian life. She is a computer operator and dispatcher with Ditzfeld Transfer Company, a trucking firm in Sedalia, Mo.



Photo by Lt. Col. Robert Arnett

Missouri, Illinois answer their states' call for help. Again

# FLOOD of SUPPORT

By Lt. Col. Robert Arnett  
Illinois National Guard

**M**other Nature once again overloaded Illinois' rivers forcing the evacuation of thousands of acres of prime agriculture land and many small communities.

And one more time, the Illinois and Missouri National Guard stepped in.

In Illinois, community officials and levee drainage district commissioners requested the Guard's help to protect their communities and levee districts from rising flood waters after the state's emer-



Photo by Lt. Col. Robert Arnett

gency management agencies determined additional help was needed.

Gov. Jim Edgar mobilized 160 Illinois Army Guardmembers to state active duty. They were assigned to the Big Swan Drainage Levee District and the Scott County Levee District.

"Their mission would be to build and shore up levees and assist flood victims," said Edgar.

The Governor met with members of his cabinet to assure that the state's resources would be deployed for the flood fight and

**DIGGING IN** - Members of the Illinois Army Guard's Company A, 1st Battalion 123rd Infantry (above) toss sand bags to resupply a levee. Illinois' Lt. Col. John Prickett (left photo, left) and CSM Allen Kirkpatrick work to fill a sand bag.

the recovery after the waters recede.

"To communities and residents in that area, the threat is major and all too real. We are going to do everything we can to help," the Governor said.

Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 123rd Infantry worked successfully to keep the Illinois River on the right side

of the levee. They built up the levee by installing splash boards, plastic sheeting and sand bags.

"My unit just returned from annual training exercises at the National Training Center at Ft. Irwin, Calif.," said 2nd Lt. John Sabin, Company A, 1-123rd Infantry platoon leader. "No sooner had we gotten back when we received notice of flood duty here in Scott County. Many of our soldiers are experienced flood fighters. We fought the high water during the 'Great Flood of '93.'

Edward Frost, Big Swan Levee District commissioner, said his citizenry is "indebted" to the Guard.

"We couldn't do it with out them," he said. "This levee protects over 14,500 acres of prime agriculture land. If the levee goes, agriculture land will be flooded, a major central Illinois asphalt company could be destroyed, and Illinois river barge traffic will be affected as well. The levee also protects the Central Illinois Expressway," he added.

Frost predicted the Illinois River would crest eight-tenths above the high water mark of the 1993 flood.

Illinois Guardmembers were expected to stay on duty until the river crested. As it turned out, the threat of flooding lessened to the point where they were no longer needed.

Lessons learned during the great flood of '93, said Illinois officials from the civilian and guard sectors, were immeasurable.

In Missouri, National Guard soldiers finished their work in Ste. Genevieve May 29. However, approximately 100





Photo by Lt. Col. Robert Arnett



Photo by MSgt. Jerry Bratten

**SAFE BOATING** - Missouri's Spc. Kirk Junker (above) assists a Portage Des Sioux girl with her life vest before the 1438th Engineer Company hauls a raft-load of kids to school. Illinois Guardmembers (top photo) cover a splash board and levee top with plastic.

soldiers remained at other locations in eastern Missouri.

Soldiers provided security and levee patrol missions in West Alton, Festus/Crystal City, Sulphur Springs and Scott County.

Troops also provided rafting operations using a military floating bridge in St. Charles County to and from Portage Des Sioux.

The Ste. Genevieve mission ended after soldiers of southeast Missouri's 1140th Engineer Battalion hauled and spread approximately 7,000 tons of rock to reinforce levees. Soldiers of the 1140th served in a similar capacity in Ste. Genevieve in 1993.

Guard soldiers put in approximately 1,350 workdays during the operation that began May 18, at a cost of approximately \$169,500.

# Linked SEAS

Pennsylvania's 112th Air Control Squadron helps keep sea routes open during Iberian peninsula exercise

By SSgt. Janis C. Spangiel  
Pennsylvania National Guard

**W**ithout free sea routes to transport commodities and resources, nations could suffer economically.

That is one of the reasons members of the Pennsylvania Air Guard's 112th Air Control Squadron took part in the joint service NATO exercise "Linked Seas '95" from May 21 to June 5.

Lt. Col. Walter D. Douthitt, 112th ACS commander described the mission as a live maritime exercise designed to train a multinational force to react to regional crises or conflicts in that area.

The mission's objective, he added, was to maintain free world sea lines of communication for routes around

the Iberian peninsula — comprised of Spain and Portugal — that are vital for transporting oil and other economic supplies throughout Europe.

To ensure a ready NATO force in case such sea lanes are closed off, the Iberian Atlantic Area Command coordinated "Linked Seas," an exercise that simulated various air attacks on ships passing through these sea lanes.

The 112th provided radar communications and air control over the area for aircraft used to simulate NATO and "opposing force" planes.

Unlike air traffic controllers whose job is to keep planes from colliding, the 112th radar operators brought planes together for everything from simulated attacks to air-to-air refueling.

In addition, the controllers handled vessels.

"This is the first mission this unit has had where there are ships involved," Douthitt said.

With ships and aircraft from Spain and Portugal interacting with a British ship and American controllers, language differences seemed to be the biggest obstacle.

"Anytime you get involved in an exercise like this, you fight language barriers. That in itself is never easy to deal with," said Maj. Edward J. Huff, 112th director of operations.

To help deal with the language and cultural differences, the units exchanged liaison officers to provide face-to-face verbal communication.

This was especially crucial for the radar controllers.

"The biggest problem is deciphering what they are saying and making sure we don't interpret it the wrong way," said radar operator MSgt. Jerry E. Winn.

Added radar operator TSgt. Edward J. Zuech, "If you misunderstand, you can give them wrong directions, causing safety hazards."

While the radar operators were the heart of the operational phase of the exercise, they made up only a small percentage of the more than 100 personnel on site in Portugal. Other squadron members made it possible for the controllers to operate by transporting, setting up and bringing on-line all the equipment necessary for the communications site.

"Setting up the equipment is most of what we do here," said TSgt. Robert J. Peters, general purpose mechanic. "In turn, once the site is torn down they help us load up the equipment. It's a real team effort."

Despite downsizing and force reductions threatening the readiness of military organizations nationwide, the 112th overcame difficulties, performed their designated jobs and learned how to operate at an international level.

"This is a very realistic exercise," Douthitt said. "This is important. If we were tasked, it would probably be in this area. The exercise gives us experience in the area with the other nations here."

**LINKED UP** - MSgt. John Graham of the Pennsylvania Air Guard's 112th Aviation Control Squadron receives a radio transmission during the exercise "Linked Seas '95" in Foia, Portugal.



Photo courtesy Pennsylvania National Guard

## YOUTH PROGRAMS

## Giving youths an alternative

STARBASE, ChalleNGe  
have turned around youth

By Lt. Col. David J. Super  
National Guard Bureau

For some youngsters in America, the danger signs are all too familiar: problems with parents, truancy, gang membership, low self-esteem, drugs, eventually trouble with the law.

But before serious problems develop, before these at-risk youth make choices they regret, the National Guard offers hope in the form of state-tailored programs to meet the needs of a growing number of kids.

Most visible is the Civilian Youth Opportunities Program, called "ChalleNGe," with capital letters N and G to identify the National Guard's role. High school dropouts, often hard-luck kids who are just short of getting into serious trouble, volunteer for the five-month residential program that is taught on Guard installations in 15 states.

Supervised by Guardmembers and education professionals, 16-to-18-year-old students work at lessons on life-coping skills, community involvement, health and hygiene, leadership, physical training and completing their G.E.D.

As with all of the Guard-sponsored youth programs, a strong anti-drug message is carried throughout the course.

To enroll in ChalleNGe, a teenager must be drug free, not in legal trouble, pass a basic sports physical and be nominated by a member of his or her community. Students receive \$15 per week for expenses and a \$2,200 stipend upon graduation to use for education expenses or to get started in a career.

The National Guard's STARBASE program is aimed at younger at-risk kids and

their teachers. They spend a week visiting a National Guard installation to learn real world applications of math and science. In a day camp atmosphere, with Guardmembers and volunteers serving as instructors and role models, the participants learn the connection between their science and math studies and careers in aviation and aviation-related fields.

STARBASE is a partnership with educators and corporate America. Guard role models (aviators and aircraft mechanics) and high-tech equipment (jet aircraft and base facilities) are a key ingredient in capturing the kids' attention.

Launched in Michigan for just 200 pupils, STARBASE is now operated in 13 states and is projected to assist 250,000 elementary-grade youths nationwide by 2002.

A highlight of the 1994 STARBASE program was a special one-week camp at the FBI Academy for select graduates. Living on the Quantico, Va., campus, they learned modern crime-fighting and how their studies can pay off in the future.

Capt. Susan Minkema, a counselor at the FBI STARBASE and deputy director for California's STARBASE, related how the FBI STARBASE Academy enriched the students' lives.

"The students were exposed to real people in real jobs," she said. "They were shown that goals are attainable. They also had the opportunity to use prob-

lem-solving skills and teamwork to achieve objectives."

Makaela Sweeney of Oregon echoed this sentiment with a thank you letter to the National Guard. In part, it read:

"I would like to come back, but other kids need a chance to have as much fun and learn as much as we did at the STARBASE Academy. I would like to thank you for a once in a lifetime offer -- and believing in me."

## ChalleNGe states

Alaska  
Arkansas  
Arizona  
Georgia  
Hawaii  
Illinois  
Louisiana  
Maryland  
Mississippi  
New Jersey  
New York  
North Carolina  
Oklahoma  
Virginia

## STARBASE states

California  
Florida  
Iowa  
Kansas  
Michigan  
Minnesota  
North Carolina  
Oklahoma  
Oregon  
South Dakota  
Texas  
Vermont  
Wyoming

Some teens credit the  
Guard's youth program  
with saving their lives

Life after  
ChalleNGe

By Capt. John Goheen  
National Guard Bureau

Two years ago Shawn Buchanan could have been the poster child for "at-risk" youth.

The then 16-year-old Aberdeen, Md., resident was out of school, out of work and, virtually, out of options. He ran the streets until dawn and slept until dusk. His only allegiance was to the "Crips," the notorious nationwide street gang based in Los Angeles and Colorado.

Even Buchanan's mother -- convinced there was no stopping his descent to jail -- had given up on him.

That was before he attended ChalleNGe, the National Guard-sponsored program that gives recent high school dropouts a second chance at an education and a brighter future.

Today, Buchanan has a high school equivalency diploma, a full-time job and a wife. He has patched up his relationship with his family. He is also a mechanic with the Army National Guard in North Carolina, where he now lives.

"Before ChalleNGe, I was knucklehead," said the now Pvt. Buchanan. "School just wasn't my thing. I didn't like my teachers and they didn't like me. My family didn't like me much either. All I wanted to do was hang out with my gang. At the time, I thought that was cool."

"When Buchanan arrived here he was a typical gang member," recalled Michell Graff, Buchanan's counselor at the Maryland Guard's FreeState ChalleNGe Program at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. "The bandanna, the colors, the tattoos, the lingo -- he had the whole act down; but that's all he had. He thought he was stupid. That was actually his word for himself. He didn't think he had a future."

"But, in time, he let go of all of that," added Graff. "Today, he

doesn't look the same, sound the same or act the same."

"It's hard to believe the difference in him," said his mother, Debra Bailey. "Before I had no control over him; he did as he pleased and respected no one. It got so bad I didn't want him around anymore. Now I'm so proud of him it brings tears to my eyes."

"After I got out of ChalleNGe," added Buchanan, "I went back to my old neighborhood and hung out with my old friends for a while. (After a







Photo by Spec. Rick Roth

**MENTORING** - Baltimore resident Miles Thomas (right) has a brighter outlook thanks to the National Guard and ChalleNGe.

will complete ChalleNGe, now offered in 15 states.

In addition to preparing students to pass the G.E.D. test, the program provides a "life skills" curriculum designed to help members in the work place. Students learn to create resumes, interview for jobs and interact with authority figures. Health, hygiene, physical fitness, drug/alcohol awareness and community service are also stressed. Graduates earn a \$2,200 stipend toward future education or job-training.

Some in Congress say salvaging at-risk youth is not the Guard's battle. They believe federal dollars should be spent exclusively on combat readiness. As a result, ChalleNGe's future funding is in jeopardy.

National Guard Bureau officials, who conceived and now oversee the program, counter that the nation faces no greater domestic threat than the growing number of high school dropouts. They cite statistics that show about 80 percent of the prison population lack a high school education.

And graduates, along with their parents and guardians, say that it's the military touch that makes ChalleNGe succeed where most youth programs fail.

The program is conducted on Guard installations. Students live in barracks, wear distinctive uniforms, follow a strict daily training schedule, and stand formations. They are also under the supervision of a uniformed cadre, mostly Guardmembers working in a contractual status. Even some of the academic instructors are citizen-soldiers.

"They made it fun to learn," said Buchanan. "They didn't make you feel stupid. They respected you. The cadre was the same way. You still had to do what they said and they let you know when you did something wrong. But if you had a problem they always had time to talk to you — from the specialist up to (Brig.) Gen. (Thomas) Johnson (Maryland's program director). It wasn't like that at home."

"The program works because it offers caring structure," said Dr. Harry Galoob of Admore, Okla. Galoob, his wife, Linda, and another couple share guardianship of 18-year-old Shannon Red Horse, a recent graduate of the Oklahoma National Guard's Thunderbird ChalleNGe Program in Pryor, Okla.

"The ChalleNGe staff builds up the kids' confidence and self-esteem," said Galoob, who has worked with at-

risk youth for several years. "But they also expect them to achieve. And the kids aren't babied. If they mess up, there are consequences. If they don't want to be there, they can leave. That's the only way to do it."

"Some of these kids really do want to survive," he added, "and ChalleNGe is the only place I've seen where some of them can."

Like Buchanan, Red Horse almost certainly faced a bleak future without ChalleNGe. She spent most of her childhood bouncing from foster home to foster home. As a refuge, she turned to drugs and alcohol. Early, she can remember being exposed to marijuana at five. By 13, she said she was doing "anything that would alter my mind."

Aged beyond her years, Red Horse felt out of place with her peers in high school. When her grades began to

**"I would probably be locked up ... or worse."**

suffer as a result, she quit school.

The Galoobs entered the picture about two years ago. Their former foster daughter and Red Horse were friends. Where others had seen only problems, they saw promise. Red Horse became interested in ChalleNGe after Linda Galoob passed along an article about the program.

"I saw ChalleNGe as an opportunity to get through high school without putting up with the high school scene," she said.

But there was a problem: the program requires applicants to be drug-free.

"Drug testing at ChalleNGe wasn't the only reason I quit doing drugs, but it was certainly part of the reason," said Red Horse. "I started seeing what drugs were doing to me and I didn't like it."

Sober and determined to remain so, she began ChalleNGe last fall after attending a 28-day residential drug and alcohol program. She says she's been clean since April 14, 1994.

Red Horse earned her G.E.D. within a few weeks and spent the rest of her time in the program taking college courses.

She now plans to get a master's degree in psychology.

"I want to be help people who have been through the same things I've been through," she said.

"ChalleNGe wasn't anything like high school," Red Horse said. "Peo-

ple understood where I was coming from. The cadre believed in me and trusted me. That made me feel good."

"If it wasn't for this program," she added, "I would be probably be drunk right now pushing everybody that loves me into the gutter."

The Oklahoman is now in the 12-month post-residential phase of ChalleNGe. Here, staffers attempt to match graduates with an adult mentor from their community to assist with career goals. NGB officials say that the first few months are critical to ensuring graduates stay on target after leaving the residential phase.

Red Horse has four mentors: her four guardians. Others have family friends or community leaders. Some have local Guardmembers.

Staffers at the Georgia Guard's Youth ChalleNGe at Fort Stewart, Ga., matched 19-year-old recent grad Acacia Daniels with fellow Waynesboro resident and part-time member of the 235th Engineer Group, CWO3 Larry Cox.

"It's great to have someone to talk to and give you advice," she said. "He's like a big brother. He introduces me to people and helps me make decisions. He helped me find a job. He's just a very nice man who listens and helps. He's like having a little piece of ChalleNGe with me here at home."

Not every ChalleNGe graduate received a mentor. Since the start of the program, demand has exceeded supply. Without mentors, some graduates frequently call, write or visit cadre and counselors.

Miles Thomas, an 18-year-old Baltimore resident and graduate of the FreeState ChalleNGe Program's first class, is a regular at "Alumni Day," held at the start of each cycle in Maryland.

"ChalleNGe changed me," he said. "Before I was lazy. I didn't like to get up early. I didn't want to go to work or school. I always depended on someone else. Now I take care of myself."

"I sent a boy and got back a man," said James Thomas, Miles' father.

Today, Thomas is up at 5:30 a.m. five days a week to go to his food preparation job at an upscale restaurant along Baltimore's Inner Harbor. He says he owes his position to the workplace skills he learned at ChalleNGe.

"When I went for my interview last year, I did everything they taught me," he said. "I put together a resume, dressed nice and looked the man right in the eyes. They were real impressed with what I told them about the program."

Thomas paints a grim picture of his life had he not attended ChalleNGe.

"I know I wouldn't be working," he said. "To tell you the truth I probably would be locked up...or worse."

short time) I was bored. It just wasn't me anymore."

Buchanan is one of 3,141 former dropouts to complete the 22-week resident program since it was first offered in 10 states nearly two years ago. Three out of four graduated with a high school equivalency diploma, commonly referred to as a "G.E.D."

The majority of graduates go on to higher education, employment or the military; opportunities not previously available to most attendees.

Later this summer, another 1,500



# SPORTS

- Lifting Title
- Orienteers
- 'Hall' selection

## SPORTS SHORTS

### GOODIN IN 'HALL'

Michigan's TSgt. John Goodin, a member of the 110th Fighter Group, has been inducted into the High School Football Coaches Hall of Fame.

His 28-year record of 148 wins, 92 losses and 6 ties easily surpassed the Hall's requirement of 100 wins over 20 years.

Goodin -- head coach at TriCounty High School in Newago, Mich. -- has won numerous "Coach of the Year" awards.

He is a base operations specialist with the 110th.

### PERKINS WINS LIFTING TITLE

Spc. Bridget Perkins, South Dakota Army National Guard, has never maxed her PT test, but she's not losing sleep over it.

The South Dakotan holds powerlifting records for her weight class -- 260 pounds in the squat lift and 330 pounds in the deadlift. She can also bench press 145 pounds.

The 34-year-old, 122-pounder recently captured her third straight title at the South Dakota American Drug Free Powerlifting Association finals held in Rapid City.

### ORIENTEERING TEAM BOASTS GUARDSMEN

Lt. Col. Robert F. Turbyfill, program manager for the National Guard Bureau's Army Community of Excellence program, will coach the U.S. team at next month's World Orienteering Championships (WOC) '95 in Germany.

This year's U.S. team also includes a Guard participant.

Tim Derrick of the Vermont Army National Guard, earned an alternate slot on the squad at selection races held last month.

Derrick will participate in the WOC because of the absence of a primary team member.

## Butler gets 'the Chair' down under

*U.S. shooter wins coveted title for first time*

By Capt. Sherri Daniels  
Arkansas National Guard

For the first time in history, an American was carried in on "the chair" and heralded as the international individual-weapons grand champion.

Beaming with pride, SSgt. Millard Butler of the Vermont Army National Guard was lifted and carried into the awards ceremony at the Australian Army Skill-at-Arms Meeting. This combat oriented shooting competition takes place annually in Brisbane, Australia.

Butler won with a score of 719 and 49 bull's eyes. The championship was determined from the combined service rifle, pistol and close-quarter battle match scores; a possible total of 800 points.

"The best part was that my teammates wanted to carry me in," Butler said. "I've seen a lot of people carried in on that chair and thought, 'that's where I'd like to be.' It felt great."

Ironically, Butler also won the service rifle championship. He has been the National Guard pistol champion for three straight years.

Butler spends much of his time coaching shooters in the Vermont National Guard.

"My experiences are passed on to shooters at home," he said. "Over here, you see what other countries use as far as weaponry. We get a better understanding of the overall picture."

The 1995 skill-at-arms meet was the largest ever, with more than 150 participants. Teams came from the Tongan Defense Services, Australian Army, Royal Thai Army, Indonesian Defense Force, New Zealand Army, Papua New Guinea Defense Force, Royal Brunei Armed Forces, Royal Malaysian Armed Forces, Singapore Armed Forces, Canadian Armed Forces, U.S. Army and U.S. National Guard.

"The camaraderie between countries was the same as the camaraderie between our own teammates," said Connecticut Army Guard's SSgt. Raymond Baker. "There were no barriers. Where the language was different, communication was through smiles and gestures."

Sgt. Ralph Young, also a Vermont Army Guardmember, placed second in the individual grand championship with a score of 716 and 51 bull's eyes.



Photo by Capt. Sherri Daniels

"The competition was well run, with interesting and challenging matches," Young said.

Young says participation in international competition benefits the Guard.

"People who have never heard of the Guard learn about us," he said. "People see that we're not just weekend warriors."

The Guard team was the only team that was not on active duty.

Young was also a member of the team that won the service rifle team championship. He, along with Oklahoma's Maj. Jerry Penn, Oregon's MSgt. J. Nelson Shew and Arizona's Sgt. Derrick Martin, earned the title.

Martin won the 200-yard snap sitting match, placed third in the individual weapons grand championship and fourth in the service-rifle championship.

The American team could not be beat in the machine gun matches either. Nebraska's 1st Sgt. Michael Strasburger teamed with Texas' Sgt. Charles Blackwell to win both the machine gun team and falling plates matches.

During the machine gun falling plates match, the two ran from the 300-yard firing line, carrying their machine guns to the 200-yard firing line, adopted the prone position and proceeded to knock down the ten metal plates. A resounding cheer went up among the American contingent when the team accomplished this in 36 1/2 seconds, nine seconds ahead of the second place Malaysian squad.

"I will take back to my battalion the training skills I learned from the other shooters," Strasburger said. "The Guard, as a whole, has never implemented fire

**GRAND CHAMP** - Vermont's SSgt. Millard Butler gets a lift from teammates after winning the individual grand championship.

and movement techniques in marksmanship training like we did here. It is essential to war-time skills."

Penn, Butler, Blackwell and Martin also won the rifle team snap competition in which targets are exposed ten times in random order at intervals of five to 20 seconds. Shooters are allowed to fire from the standing, kneeling, or squatting position.

The American team became the talk of the competition after firing the match entirely from the standing unsupported

position, considered by many the most difficult position.

Maj. Michael Clites, operations officer at the Marksmanship Training Center and officer-in-charge of the international squad, was proud of the team.

"It's the best we've ever done down here," he stated. "We had seven of the top ten positions in the service rifle championship."

Guardmembers also brought home medals in individual and team competitions.

Pennsylvania's Sgt. Gregory Neiderhiser won a first place medal in the 200-meter rapid fire match. Neiderhiser also placed third in the 200-meter snap, third in the service rifle championship and was sixth in the individual weapons grand championship.

Baker medalled in the 300-meter timed deliberate match with a score of 49 and five bull's eyes.

South Dakota's Lt. Col. John Berheim medalled in the 300-to-200-to-100-meter run down match with a score of 43 and four bull's eyes.

The Guard also placed third in the coveted Commander-in-Chief Service Rifle Teams Match with a total score of 2,536 and 209 bull's eyes. Australia and the Royal Thailand Army finished first and second, respectively.

Competition Director, Lt. Col. Rex Wigney of the Australian Reserves, said a strong friendship has developed between the Guard and his country.

"Through this meet and AFSAM (Armed Forces Skill-at-Arms Meeting held in Arkansas), we are able to share training information, skills and technology for the betterment of both countries."



## The AIR GUARD'S LONG RANGE PLAN

### A foundation for the future

*Editor's Note: This is part two in a continuing series of articles on the Long Range Plan for the Air National Guard, as shared by Maj. Gen. Donald W. Shepperd, the ANG Director.*

The following are the underpinnings of the Air Guard that depict the way we see ourselves and the way we want others to see us. They form the foundation of the Air Guard's approach to the future.

Our purpose is to protect and defend the vital interest of our community, state, and nation.

Our values reflect an organization of volunteers dedicated to protecting the basic values that we all cherish, as embodied in the U.S. Constitution.

Our vision for the future is a "world class" organization of dedicated Americans:

- Recognized as the world's most effective Reserve Force.
- A full partner in the Total Force.
- Eager and competent to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Our mission is to provide ready units and personnel to the state and nation by:

- Support national security objectives - our national role
- Protect life and property and preserve peace, order and public safety - our state role, and
- Participate in local, state, and national programs that add value to America - our community role.

Our changing role is to gain more responsibility for national defense as our active military forces continue to downsize.

Air National Guard forces will be required in all but the smallest of contingencies.

Day-to-day, the role of the reserve components will also increase.

## Several Air Guard units play major role in biggest U.S. airdrop since eve of D-Day

By Maj. Jean Marie Beall  
and Maj. Edmund Meml  
Maryland National Guard

Nearly a year ago, a fleet of C-130s and C-141s prepared to airdrop paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne Division into Haiti at midnight for Operation Uphold Democracy. Last minute diplomatic efforts prevailed. The mission was aborted.

Lessons were learned from the aborted missions. The bottom line, according to planners, was that more joint operations between the Army and Air Force were needed.

Big Drop II was born.

Staging the largest airdrop exercise since D-Day was necessary, said Lt. Col. Dan Watkins, the exercise's deputy mission commander and the vice commander for the Maryland Air National Guard's 135th Airlift Group.

"The reason we're doing this is to perfect our joint operations in real-world scenarios," he explained.

Members of the 314th Airlift Wing, based at Little Rock AFB, Ark., began planning the 60-plus aircraft package last November.

Big Drop II included a wide variety of personnel, heavy equipment and container-delivery-system airdrops under all weather conditions at several drop zones at Fort Bragg. Maryland's 135th Airlift Group helped plan the logistics and transportation for the exercise.

According to Capt. Bryant Qualls, a logistics planner for Big Drop II and a member of the 135th, 19 C-130s came from the Air National Guard, 10 C-130s came from the Air Force Reserve and 21 C-130s came from the active Air Force. In addition, 20 C-141s came from the active Air Force.

Other participating Air National Guard units were: 146th AW (Calif.), 166th AG (Del.), 123rd AW (Ky.), 133rd AW (Minn.), 145th AG (N.C.), 179th AG (Ohio), 118th AW (Tenn.), 136th AW (Texas), 167th AG (W. Va.) and the 130th AG (W. Va.).

At midnight May 5, 62 C-130s and C-141s from the Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve and active Air Force dropped more than 2,500 paratroopers from the Army's 82nd Airborne Division

# BIG DROP

and equipment from the 82nd's two brigades and its Aviation Brigade Task Force onto the Normandy, Holland and Sicily drop zones at Fort Bragg.

Shortly after daybreak, the Air Force also conducted a wave of six air assault landings, including an aeromedical evacuation conducted by the 135th.

Visitors to the Holland drop zone, where the air assault landings took place, were greeted by two senior Army officers in

"It was so well-planned and so well executed," said 1st Lt. Lee Fishpaw, a 135th co-pilot. "The planners paid attention to detail, that's what impressed me so much, especially with the size and complexity of the exercise."

"It was nice to be a part of it all."

Maj. Cory Lunt, a 135th pilot who flies for C.J. Langenfelder in his civilian job, said he had 28 1/2 seconds to airdrop his load of 55 paratroopers.

"It's always more hazardous at night, but also a more survivable time to drop both for the aircraft and paratroopers."

Heading up the maintenance was Maryland's SMSgt. Jim Bomberg, a 135th flight chief and the Big Drop II Air Reserve Component's maintenance supervisor. He said 86 Guard and reserve crew members were responsible for 29 C-130s, some old, some new.

"My biggest concern was that all 29 planes started and flew missions, and that most of the airplanes flew at the same time," Bomberg said. "One of the things that made our job easy was that the planes were well-maintained, so we didn't have any problems to fix."

So what impressed Bomberg the most about Big Drop II?

"You have active duty troops from five different bases, seven reserve bases and 11 National Guard bases and they all interacted like they had been working together for years," he said. "The Total Force policy was alive."



Photo by A1C Jerome Susan

the 82nd Airborne Division with smiles that stretched facial muscles several degrees horizontally.

"The Army was really happy," said Brig. Gen. Donald Streater, Big Drop's Air Forces' exercise commander and commander of the 314th Airlift Wing. "There were some minor injuries sustained by some of the jumpers, and one C-141 had to abort before takeoff, but that was it. The Army couldn't believe it, only one aborted C-141."

Maryland Guardmembers who participated were also pleased with the flow of the exercise.

**OFFLOAD - Big Drop loadmaster guides an Army HUMVEE off the back of an Air Guard C-141.**

But perhaps the most telling remark came from the customer, the 82nd Airborne Division.

Maj. Gen. George Crocker, division commander and Big Drop commander, was "absolutely pleased," with the overall results of the operation, said Maj. Jim Kinnant, a unit spokesman.

"This was a huge undertaking and it went off without a hitch," he added.

# NEWS MAKERS

Compiled by Lt. Col. Fred S. Lydick  
National Guard Bureau

The North Dakota Air National Guard's 119th Fighter Group has been selected to receive the 1994 Hughes Trophy as the most outstanding air-to-air unit in the United States Air Force. The Hughes Achievement Award (Hughes Trophy) is presented annually to the fighter unit which has best performed the air defense/air superiority mission during the previous year. Units are nominated by the National Guard Bureau, Air Combat Command, Pacific Air Forces, and United States Air Forces Europe. Units are graded on air defense/air superiority mission performance, operational mission performance, organizational readiness inspection results, training exercise participation, unit achievements and awards, individual achievements and awards and unit incentive programs.

Members of the 117th Air Control Squadron, Georgia Air National Guard, supported the Savannah area Special Olympics held in April. The Guardmembers provided help with set-up, event control, awards and cleanup. More than 600 children with special needs participated in the event.

Retired Maj. Gen. Elmer Stephens, Texas Army National Guard, was presented with the Gold Medallion of the Order of St. George recently. The award is part of a U. S. Armor Association program to recognize the best of America's tankers and troopers and those who support the Army through various activities. In 1984, after 33 years in the service, Stephens retired. He continued to serve the armor community through educating the public, industry leaders and elected officials on the importance of armor in the Guard and active forces.

MSgt. Patricia G. Gilman, 256th Combat Communications Squadron, Maine Air National Guard, and SSgt. Jill M. Kelly, 193rd Special Operations Group, Pennsylvania Air National Guard, have been selected as the Air National Guard Outstanding Senior Enlisted Information Manager and Enlisted Information Manager, respectively, for 1994. Both Guardmembers will now compete at the Air Force level competition.

1st Lt. William W. Petit, 105th Airlift Squadron, Tennessee Air National Guard, graduated at the top of his 22-member class at Pilot Training School at Laughlin AFB, Texas. Petit won the Air Education Training Command (AETC) Commanders Trophy, the 47th Flying Training Award and was named the Distinguished Graduate at the school. The AETC Commander's Trophy is the top award given to a class member. Petit next attended C-130 pilot training at Little Rock AFB, Ark.

MSgt. Larry Ruffin, 131st Fighter Wing, Missouri Air National Guard, has been named Top Prior Service Production Recruiter for the Air National Guard's Region III, which covers the greater midwestern United States. The 1995 award was presented to Ruffin by the Recruiting and Retention Superintendents at the Regional Recruiting Conference. Ruffin's average number of recruits per month was nearly twice the national average.



Maj. Gen. (ret.) Elmer Stephens (center) presented award.



Members of the 212th Install systems in Europe.



Heroism award winner, Ronald Collins.



Foster Award winner, SMSgt. Loretta Charleston.

The 193rd Special Operations Group, Pennsylvania Air National Guard, recently garnered the top two Air National Guard flying awards for the period covering 1994. The Air Force Association named the 193rd the Outstanding Air National Guard Flying Unit and the National Guard Association of the United States awarded its Spaatz Trophy to the 193rd. The award submission highlighted the positive results of the unit's involvement in "Operation Sea Signal/Restore Democracy/Uphold Democracy," the Maintenance Squadron's winning the Air Guard Daedalian Aircraft Maintenance Award and their successful Operational Readiness Inspection.

SSgt. Ronald Collins, Company A, 1st Battalion, 134th Infantry, Nebraska Army National Guard, has been awarded the AK-SAR-BEN Heroism Award at the State Volunteer Firefighters Association meeting. Collins was cited for actions "above and beyond the call of duty" when he attempted to rescue a woman trapped in the wreckage of a car. The unconscious woman was pinned in the car and passers-by could not free her. Collins entered the vehicle through the rear window and worked to free the woman. The vehicle burst into flames forcing him to retreat. The woman died in the resulting fire. Collins is a member of the Emerson, Neb., Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad.

The 212th Engineering Installation Squadron, Massachusetts Air National Guard, recently completed the installation of 16 Global Positioning System receivers in Germany and Belgium to support the USAF communications mission. The unit logged over 15,000 miles in a two-week period to complete the project.

SMSgt. Loretta Charleston, 131st Military Personnel Flight, Missouri Air National Guard, helped her unit win the Gerrit D. Foster Award recognizing them as the top consolidated base personnel office in the Air National Guard. Her service to community, state and country has also earned her a prestigious civic honor. She was one of 42 African-American achievers recognized recently at the "Yes I Can" awards banquet sponsored by the St. Louis Sentinel newspaper. The event honors African-American special achievers and showcases them as role models because of their personal success. Charleston has been with the Missouri Air National Guard for 15 years and is active in community volunteer service.

The Alaska Army National Guard is the first military recipient of the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce's Green Star Award. The Green Star Program is a voluntary program whose main thrust is to encourage and assist business, schools and governmental agencies in meeting environmentally responsible standards. The Alaska Army Guard was recognized for its efforts during 1994 in improving waste reduction and recycling programs, not only in the Anchorage area, but in striving to do the same in the 90 National Guard facilities throughout the state.



**PITCHING GOODWILL** - Kansas Guardmember SSgt. Shaun West (right) pitches to a Panamanian child during a lunch break. SSgt. Troy Shaffer (below) mixes stucco for a school wall. Both are members of the Kansas Army Guard's 891st Engineer Battalion.



Photos by Capt. Philip Thornton

Kansas engineers join list of Guard units that have left something behind in Panama

## BUILDING Da future

By Capt. Philip Thornton  
Kansas National Guard

**M**embers of the Army National Guard, many of them from Kansas, are completing four months of work in central Panama.

They are upgrading public facilities -- such as schools, roads and health clinics -- as a gesture of goodwill between the countries.

In early February, the first group of engineers and mechanics began their two-week portion of the project. In eight such rotations, the soldiers will have drilled or improved 15 wells, upgraded 17 schools and hospitals, and smoothed and widened almost 10 miles of the steep and twisting country roads that connect them.

Everyone seems to benefit. Guard troops are able to practice deploying overseas, which is no small administrative



**BUILDERS** - Sgt. Troy Rogers (above) paints a school. Sgt. Leland Underwood (right) places brick along a wall in Panama.

feat. They also get to experience an adventure in another culture, while the U.S. and Panamanian governments make good use of the citizen-soldiers' unique skills.

"The active duty may be better trained in some areas, but the National Guard has its advantages," said Capt. Mark Zinser, commander of Kansas' Company D, 891st Engineers. "In the active Army, as in the National Guard, there are a lot of other requirements on your time. You can't train in your MOS (Military Occupational Skill) all the time."

"Whereas here in the National Guard, some of these guys are carpenters, bricklayers, and everything else. They do it every day."



Zinser works as a contract specialist for the Department of Veteran Affairs at Fort Leavenworth in his civilian job, organizing bids for construction and supplies.

CWO Lloyd E. Arnold, of the 714th Maintenance Company, based in Topeka, was in charge of a group of mechanics that kept the engineers' equipment rolling.

"The benefit to the Guard is actual on-the-job training," he said. "If we went into battle, we would be doing similar things to this."

"My mechanics can crawl under a truck anywhere," Arnold continued. "The

bricklayer can lay bricks, the carpenters can cut boards, that doesn't change that much, but the location and being able to use the materials available to you, separates the men from the boys."

Arnold works for the state of Kansas, helping complete the administrative details of 1993's disastrous floods.

SSgt. Shaun West, a police officer in Fort Scott, Kan., and a member of Company C, 891st Engineers, feels another benefit is also important.

"Not only have we accomplished good training," he observed, "we've left something behind."



# STATES

- New pallets
- Team Palmetto
- Hangar haulers

## PENNSYLVANIA

The 171st Air Refueling Wing recently became the first unit in the nation to purchase specially designed pallet containers for KC-135s.

The pallets will cut processing and loading time from 8-14 hours down to about two hours.

The old pallet system was cumbersome, not very weather resistant and, once loaded, required straps to hold everything together.

This new system has more space, fits the fuselage better, has 6 doors to work out of and carries 30 percent more equipment. Forklift holes are built into the containers making it easier to move around than the old system.

## KENTUCKY

Civil engineers from the Kentucky Air National Guard's 123rd Airlift Wing, based in Louisville, moved the unit's "clamshell" aircraft maintenance hangar to a new location almost 1.5 miles from the old location.

It is believed to be the largest structure in history to be moved intact. The "clamshell," valued at more than \$750,000, is 162.5 feet long by 152 feet wide and stands 53 feet high at the center. It weighs more than 40 tons. The move took nearly 15 hours.

Moving the structure instead of disassembling it saved taxpayers about 60 percent of the final cost. Projections indicate that 2,400 mandays were saved in labor costs.

## 'Show-Me' Know-How

Missouri Army National Guard PFC Eric Webb (left) and Catalino Chiru Munoz, leader of the Panamanian work crews, work together stacking cinder blocks. Webb spent his annual training participating in a joint engineer exercise called "Fuerzas Caminos-Americanas," Spanish meaning "strong roads."



Photo by Dan McLarin

## ALASKA

An Alaska Air National Guard C-130 Hercules recently carried a team of 25 civil engineers from the 23rd Engineer Brigade, Fort Richardson, to Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia's capital.

The aircrew from the 176th Group remained in Mongolia for two days before returning to Alaska.

"Baker Mongoose II" is an Army Pacific-sponsored mission and is part of the State Department's expanded relations program.

The engineers will work on civic projects while in Mongolia. An Alaska Air Guard C-130 will return to Ulaanbaatar in August to retrieve the engineers.

This only the second time U.S. military members outside of embassy staff have visited Mongolia.

## FLORIDA

In an attempt to address the needs of veterans who seem unable to cope with the rigors of life after combat, Florida sent two units, the 131st Mobile Army Surgical Hospital and the Headquarters, 53rd Infantry Brigade, to help staff "Stand Down Tampa Bay."

The "stand down," conducted last fall, offered the veterans (some of whom are homeless, in ill-health and involved in substance abuse) hot food, clothing, rest, health care and veterans administrative services. Vets were able to receive physicals, hearing exams, and eye exams, including having glasses made on the spot, while attending the stand down.

## SOUTH CAROLINA

Operations Other Than War (OOTW) have become an important mission for the U.S. military. However, the South Carolina National Guard is not a new-comer to OOTW missions. The 122nd Engineer Battalion has performed construction missions in Ecuador, Honduras, Panama and most recently Belize.

Organized as Team Palmetto, the 122nd was tasked to build a school that would accommodate 100 students in the village of Double Head Cabbage. Team Palmetto consisted of 13 personnel assigned for the project's duration and 200 soldiers serving four, two-week rotations. The "duration" team cleared the site. The first rotation dug the footing and poured concrete. The second rotation finished the block work, began to set the trusses and

completed the latrine. The third rotation did the roof, electrical wiring and completed the painting.

The school was 90 percent complete two weeks ahead of schedule. This allowed the fourth rotation to work on other projects in Belize.

The dedication ceremony recently marked the conclusion of Team Palmetto's hard work. The U.S. Ambassador to Belize, George Bruno, dedicated the school.

"We are helping to build the infrastructure of Belize, we are cultivating the young minds of this democracy," he said.

**BUILDERS** - Carolina soldiers (right) construct a building for the U.S. Embassy.



Photo courtesy South Carolina National Guard





## The National Guard in World War II

Had the atomic bombs not been dropped, the Allies had another plan

## Downfall in Japan

July 1945 found the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff planning the largest amphibious operation of World War II, the invasion of Japan.

The overall concept for the invasion was code-named Operation Downfall. It was divided into two phases: Operations Olympic and Coronet. The JCS assigned the planning and preparation of Downfall to Gen. Douglas MacArthur and Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz.

Operation Olympic was scheduled for Nov. 1, 1945. It was designed to secure the lower half of Kyushu, the southern most island of the four Japanese home islands. From Kyushu, the blockade of Japan would be tightened and bombardment against the main islands intensified to force Japan to accept the terms of unconditional surrender dictated in the Potsdam declaration of July 1945.

If Japan refused to unconditional surrender, Kyushu would then be used as jump-off point to invade the island of Honshu, the base of Japanese industrial war production.

Operation Olympic was designed to land nine divisions on Kyushu, with two divisions in reserve. Four of the 11 divisions scheduled to invade the island were National Guard infantry divisions; the 33rd (Illinois),

40th (California, Utah, Nevada), 41st (Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana), and the 43rd (Connecticut, Maine, Vermont, Rhode Island). Other National Guard units scheduled to play a major role were the 112th Cavalry Regimental Combat Team (Texas) and the 158th Infantry Regimental Combat Team (Arizona).

The concept of the operation called for I Corp's 33rd, 41st and 25th Infantry Divisions to land on the east coast of Kyushu at Miyazaki City. Further south, the 43rd Infantry Division along with the 1st Cavalry and Americal Divisions and the 112th Cavalry RCT all assigned to XI Corps would land at Ariake Bay. On the west coast, the Marines would land the 2nd, 3rd, and 5th divisions near Kushikino City. The three amphibious landing forces would then advance inland to destroy Japanese troop concentrations and secure areas for future offensive operations against the main Japanese island of Honshu.

Four days prior to the invasion, the 40th Infantry Division would land on the smaller islands west of Kushikino and the 158th Infantry RCT would invade at Yaku and Tanega to establish radar facilities, emergency sea anchorages and air bases. The two National Guard units would then be ready to reinforce actions on Kyushu. Once Kyushu was secure, airfields and seaports would

Maj. JEFF POPE  
NGB Historian



be built or upgraded to conduct the second phase of Downfall: Operation Coronet, which would have begun on March 1, 1946.

In the final planning for Coronet, two armies — consisting of 23 divisions were to land on each side of Tokyo Bay. They would establish beachheads and move on and secure Tokyo in a pincer movement. Planners hoped that Japan's ability to conduct war would be destroyed at this point.

National Guard divisions allocated to participate in the final invasion were the 27th Infantry Division (New York), 37th Infantry Division (Ohio), 31st Infantry Division (Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana), 32d Infantry Division (Michigan, Wisconsin), and the 38th Infantry Division (Indiana, Kentucky, Wisconsin).

Operation Downfall would have been bloody. Planners expected up to 1 million casualties. During the first 30 days of Operation Olympic alone, Adm. Nimitz projected 49,000 casualties while Gen. MacArthur projected 50,800 casualties. Japanese losses would have been far greater, with Olympic alone estimated at 250,000 Japanese casualties.

On Aug. 6, a B-29 "Superfortress" dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima. On Aug. 9, a second atomic bomb was dropped from a B-29 on Nagasaki. Emperor Hirohito immediately sued for peace under the Potsdam declaration for unconditional surrender. The war with Japan was over.

Operations Downfall, Olympic and Coronet, which were in the final phases of planning and implementation, were no longer needed. The soldiers of the National Guard divisions and RCTs — who were preparing for the invasion of Japan — now moved into occupation duty on the sovereign soil of Japan.

## INVOLVED from above

By Charles J. Gross, Ph.D.  
Air Guard Historian

During 1940-1941, about 4,800 experienced National Guard aviation personnel in 29 observation squadrons were mobilized. They augmented the Army's rapidly-expanding air arm at a critical point before the U.S. declared war on the Axis powers.

The Army Air Forces grew from some 23,000 personnel in 1939 to a peak strength of nearly 2.4 million in June 1944. Guard air units were stripped of many key personnel, especially pilots. Gradually, they gave up their obsolete O-38s and O-47s and were re-equipped with more modern aircraft.

Some of the early deploying squadrons maintained a degree of unit integrity.

They included the 107th (Mich.), 109th (Minn.), and 153rd (Miss.) that formed the organizational core of the AAF's 67th Observation Group. It deployed to the United Kingdom in summer of the 1942. The 68th Observation Group — organized around three National Guard squadrons:



Photo courtesy NGB Historical Services Division

the 111th (Texas), 122nd (La.), and the 154th (Ark.) — was sent to the Mediterranean theater in the fall of 1942.

While some National Guard squadrons retained their numerical designations, most lost their identity as Guard organizations. Many key people were used by the AAF as cadres or individual fillers to build new units.

Before V-J Day, the AAF disbanded or inactivated nine Guard units. The survivors were transformed from observation units into reconnaissance, liaison, fighter, and bombardment squadrons. They served in every theater during the conflict.

California's 115th Observation Squadron (redesignated the 115th Liaison Squadron) provided an extreme example of what happened to Guard air units dur-

ing the war. It was mobilized in March 1941. By the time the 115th deployed from the U.S. to the China-Burma-India theater in 1944, not a single original member of the unit remained. Instead, the California Guardsmen had helped form the nucleus of new fighting units throughout the AAF.

One of the most tragic examples of their fates belonged to Jack Sewell, who left the 115th in September 1941 to command an A-24 group. His unit was sent to the Philippines just before the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. Sewell's airplanes never reached the islands. Instead, his unit fought as infantry. Captured by the Japanese, Sewell and other survivors were placed on an unmarked prison ship on way to Japan. All were killed when the

### ENGINE WORK - Guard pilots flew the Stinson L-1A in World War II.

vessel was sunk by U.S. Navy aircraft.

Other Guard aviators distinguished themselves as individual leaders during World War II.

Lt. Col. Addison E. Baker of Ohio was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions as commander of the 93rd Bomb Group during its attack on the oil refineries at Ploesti, Rumania on Aug. 1, 1943.

Enlisted members like Master Sergeant Howard W. Belles and Wayne Carlton found themselves in Europe flying L-5s after their unit, Colorado's 120th Observation Squadron, was disbanded in 1943.

2nd Lt. Earl T. Rick's of Arkansas' 154th Observation Squadron enjoyed a meteoric rise in a series of AAF assignments. Col. Rick's ended the war in command of the Air Transport Command wing in the Southwest Pacific. In 1950, now Maj. Gen. Rick's was federalized to head of the ANG. He served in that assignment until his death in 1954.

Today, unfortunately little is known about the exploits of Guard air units during World War II. That is primarily because, like their counterparts in World War I, most served as individuals in non-Guard units.

These were disturbing precedents for postwar ANG leaders.



# TRAINING

## Washington Guard keeps Thailand exercise connected

# COBRA GOLD

By SSgt. Rich Bartell  
Washington National Guard

Customer service is what counts for the men and women who handled all official radio, satellite and telephone communications during the military exercise Cobra Gold '95 in Koat, Thailand.

"When a troop picks up a phone to make a call or send a fax, they expect it to work — and that's why we're here," said Lt. Col. William Canavan, commander of Washington Air National Guard combat communicators in Thailand. Canavan also commands the 143rd Combat Communication Squadron at Boeing Field.

Military communicators are riding the wave of computer chip technology enabling them to reach around the globe. The size and scope of message traffic is staggering during the exercise due to the advent of digital and satellite communications.

"In one three-hour block, we processed more than 12,000 phone calls. That's averaging 4,000 calls per hour," said Canavan.

More than 26,000 Thai and U.S. military troops participate in the exercise, designed to bolster Thai defense capability. The U.S. contingent numbers more than 17,000 service members, representing all branches of the active and reserves.

According to CMSgt. Lawrence D. Taylor of Headquarters Pacific Air Force, the business of managing a huge electronic communications network during the exercise is a joint effort.

"We work with the Air National Guard a lot," said Taylor. "Exercises like Cobra Gold give us a chance to use our equipment in a joint combined military scenario. Both active and Guard get pointers from each other when we work together like this."

The equipment, locations and missions of military communicators in Thailand for Cobra Gold are as varied as the people supporting them.

Scattered in various locations throughout this hot, humid southeast Asian country, known for its friendly people and spicy cuisine, 450 military communicators keep the official network up and alive. Some work in steamy remote vil-

lages. Womack, 44, is an electrical maintenance technician with the Washington's 242nd Combat Communications Squadron.

"Traffic-wise it's been busy, repairs slow and maintenance steady," he said. "We've learned that good maintenance keeps us out of the repair business."

For SSgt. Gregory P. Denton and the 17-member crew of U.S. Space Command (SPACECOM), Colorado Springs, Colo., it was business as usual setting

**LINKED -** Washington's MSgt. Buck Littlefield (left) works the phone lines. TSgt. Larry Thielen (below) operates a switchboard.



Photos by SSgt. Rich Bartell

**JOINT VISION -** Hawaii Air Guard's SSgt. Kozo Ide (above), a satellite communications technician, participated in Cobra Gold in Thailand.

lage venues linking civil-affairs medical teams with higher headquarters via radio and portable satellite devices.

Other communicators, like TSgt. Rob Womack, can be found near the exercise

satellite links for weather forecasting. Denton and fellow SPACECOM team member SSgt. Neal F. Payne used their expertise to assist in a cutting-edge medical imaging exercise.

"Thanks to these gentlemen from SPACECOM, we're able to send still images back to Tripler Army Hospital in Hawaii," said Capt. Jeff Gaylord, I Corp Surgeon's office. "This emerging technology is known as tele-medicine."

In the future, said Gaylord, medical personnel in remote sites will be able use this technology to perform consultations without having to resort to costly and time-consuming medical evacuations. Jerry Gray is a civilian and three-year veteran of previous Cobra Gold exercises. He is a communications troubleshooter working for a contractor.

"I'm responsible for making sure tactical communications equipment is up and running," said Gray. "We've have more than four specialty tactical systems in country this year. Three years ago, we only had one. There have been a few glitches this year, but overall the tactical communications has run very smoothly."

"The Air Guard has done a wonderful job here," he added.

Air Force SSgt. Shawn C. Watson is one of the troops in the trenches. As a communicator with 15th Communications Squadron Enhanced Crisis Management Capability based at Hickam AFB, Hawaii,

Watson is a shift supervisor for one of the large satellite dishes known as a PSC 100A. Watson and his crew of two Air Guardmembers work 12-hour shifts ensuring a smooth, constant flow of message traffic through their satellite dish.

"Our main shot is back to Hickam, linking other satellite bands here in Thailand," said Watson. An Army dish was located some 75 feet from Watson's. Staffing the dish were soldiers from the 29th Signal Battalion, Fort Lewis, Wash.

"We've done some information sharing and consultation with each other. I think both of our crews have learned something from the other," said Watson.

Telephone and fax customers made more than 100,000 successful calls during Cobra Gold '95 — a testament to joint and combined military operations.

"For communications and military operations in the future, combined operations is the way to succeed," said Lt. Col. Thomas E. Albrecht, exercise deputy chief of communications.