



THE ON GUARD

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Florida battles hurricane

*Erin strikes twice, but
Guard is out in force*

By Maj. Bob S. Stone
Florida National Guard

For the second time this year, the Florida National Guard responded to their state's call, putting 465 soldiers and airmen from Miami to Pensacola on active duty after Hurricane Erin struck inland the first week of August.

Erin came ashore near Vero Beach in the early morning hours of Wednesday, Aug. 2. By afternoon, it had crossed the central peninsula of Florida and entered the Gulf of Mexico near Tampa. In the gulf, Erin strengthened and returned to hit Pensacola, Fla., Thursday.

Erin travelled more than 700 miles from Miami to Pensacola.

The State's emergency operations center

(EOC) in Tallahassee was activated, along with the Florida National Guard's EOC, based in St. Augustine. After Governor Lawton Chiles issued an executive order, all five of the Florida Guard's area commands were activated. The Command's planning cells readied themselves for the storm's impact.

The 3rd Battalion, 26th Special Forces Group also alerted three teams to deploy with the state's Rapid Impact Assessment Team (RIAT).

Composed of 10 state agency field experts, RIATs are designed to augment county emergency management officials immediately after a storm or natural disaster. They provide fire, law enforcement, transportation, hazardous materials, energy, communications, medical and

search and rescue expertise.

All five teams were supported by the National Guard, with logistical and life support.

In order to have the RIAT out of the path of Erin, yet be in a position to respond rapidly after the hurricane passed, the EOC deployed three RIATs to Orlando.

The Florida National Guard also activated Staff Coordination and Assistance Teams (SCAT). SCATs provide contracting, personnel, logistics, operations and public affairs support.

RIATs SCAT in Orlando watched Erin churn ashore with winds of 75 miles-per-hour. By the time it had reached nearby Kissimmee, it had lost its strength.

Reduced to a Tropical Storm, Erin then dropped its most intense rain over Tampa.

In the Gulf of Mexico Erin became a hurricane again, taking aim at the Panhandle.

In June, Hurricane Allison had already exacted a toll on the area. Allison was the earliest hurricane of the season in 70

years. Erin became only the last hurricane in 20 years to strike both the peninsula and the panhandle of Florida. Erin had been only a "Category 1" hurricane.

At noon Aug. 3 Erin hit Pensacola with winds of 95 miles-per-hour. Causing 250,000 homes to lose electricity.

The Florida Air Guard's 202nd Red Horse Civil Engineering Squadron erected six rest sites for the America Red Cross where Floridians could get food and water, shower and sleep.

All totaled, Hurricane Erin had left nearly one-quarter million homes without power, yet because of the Florida Guard's involvement, there were no mass casualties or extensive homelessness reported.



Photo courtesy Florida National Guard

HURRICANE WATCH - Florida's MSgt. Roger Williams plots Hurricane Erin.



Photo by SFC George C. Mirabal

**'GRUB'
GRABBER**

Florida Army Guard's SFC Jason DuBose, a member of the 269th Engineer Company, clears brush at Camp Blanding, Fla. His unit did projects at the camp during their annual training recently.

DRUG USE IS LIFE ABUSE



COMMENTARY

COUNTERDRUG UPDATE

• As of Sept. 1, 7,000 counterdrug operations were conducted throughout the country.

• As of Sept. 1, the total value of cash and drugs seized this fiscal year by police with National Guard assistance is \$6.166 billion.

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LETTERS

MOUNTAINEER MISTAKE

I was pleased that you published TSgt. David Luster's story covering the 130th Civil Engineering Squadron as they competed in Readiness Challenge V.

I was not very pleased, however, by the omission of the West Virginia National Guard's Mountaineer Challenge Academy program from the youth programs feature story.

As you should be aware, West Virginia was selected as one of the very first states to participate in this special pilot program. That is why

I find it incredibly difficult to understand how the National Guard Bureau Public Affairs Office could leave our program out of this important story.

The West Virginia National Guard's Mountaineer Challenge Academy has graduated 113 cadets from three classes since it opened its doors in September, 1993. Our fourth class will graduate Aug. 11. Our cadets average nearly a four-grade leap in academics. Sixty-seven percent earn their General Equivalency Diploma.

The Mountaineer Challenge Academy was recently recognized by the USO, receiving the Metro Honors Award for their physical training program.

Our cadets were also recognized for

their efforts working on community projects. They have participated in American Red Cross blood drives, food drives, elderly patient services and assisted in construction during several Habitat for Humanity projects.

I feel that we have had a positive influence on the lives of each and every cadet, even on those who choose not to complete the course. We offer a "second chance" to West Virginia's high school dropouts by giving them the opportunity



Photo courtesy West Virginia National Guard

GRADUATES Members (above) of a recently graduating Challenge class from West Virginia pose proudly.

to seek self-improvement through a variety of special activities and instruction. Cadets have told me that without the help of the Mountaineer Challenge Academy, there would have been no hope for their future. They leave our academy better prepared to lead healthy, productive lives and with the ability to overcome the challenges that used to prevent them from obtaining success.

I thank you for this opportunity to address your readership and to share with them how the West Virginia National

Guard Mountaineer Challenge Academy is turning around young lives.

Maj. Gen. Joseph J. Skaff
West Virginia National Guard

OKLAHOMA SERVICE

The May 1995 issue of The On Guard had an excellent article about the rescue and relief effort after the Oklahoma City bombing and the important part played by the Oklahoma National Guard. However, there was one omission in your naming the units that participated in those relief and rescue efforts.

The 1st Battalion, 179th Infantry had 250 soldiers on the ground over a period of 12 days (April 24 - May 5). In that time, my soldiers pulled security duty alongside the MPs and SPs. My Bravo Company provided a detail of 65 soldiers who searched through rubble for three days.

The FBI said it should have taken seven to 10 days to complete such a task.

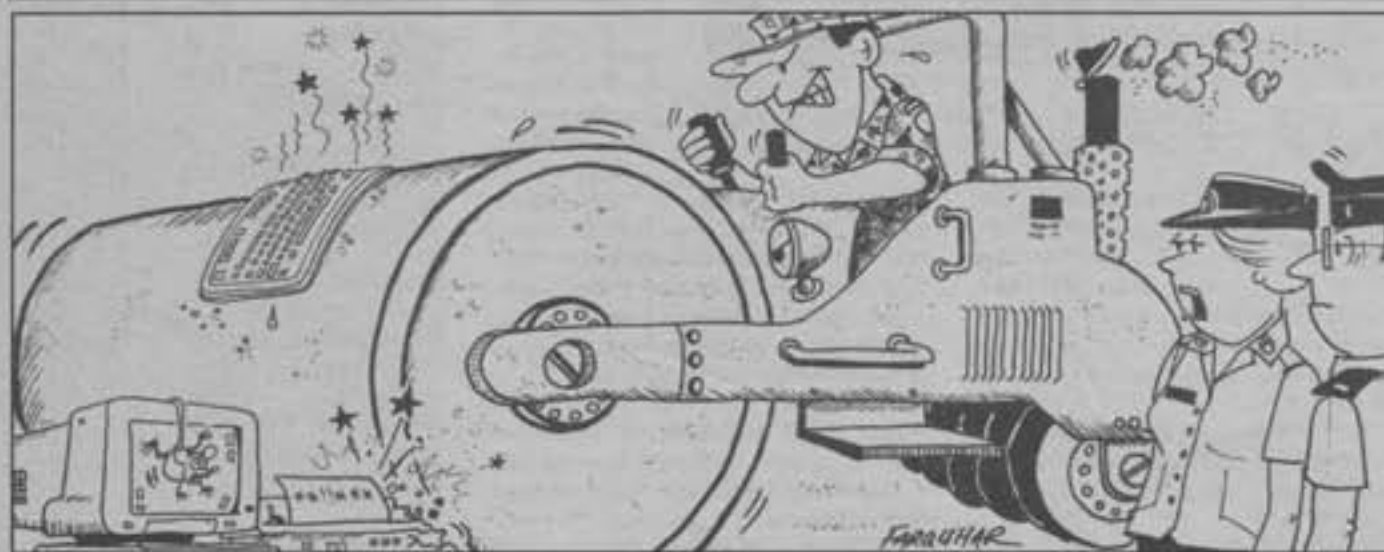
I would appreciate it if you would acknowledge the effort and dedication to duty displayed by the soldiers of the 1st 179th Infantry.

CSM Rowland C. Pogue Jr.
Oklahoma National Guard

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.

GUARD TOONS

By Lyle Farquhar



"Apparently Cpl. Capslock has his own concept of the Information Super Highway."



IN THE NEWS

- Pilot First
- Cleanup
- New President

Michigan honors fallen comrade

'It's not just a final good-bye. It's a promise that he won't be forgotten'

By SSgt. Tom Springer
Michigan National Guard

A monument erected near Michigan's Manistee River will provide a lasting tribute to a Guardsman who loved his family, fishing, bulldozers and the military.

Sgt. Larry Lapland died June 20, 1994, during annual training with the Michigan Army Guard's 1430th Engineer Company. Lapland was helping to build a public access site on the Manistee River near Manistee, Mich., when he suffered a heart attack. He was 34 years old.

Some 40 family members and 120 National Guard comrades gathered June 24 on that same riverbank to honor Lapland's memory.

"It's not just a final good-bye," said 1st Sgt. Brian L. Koeman, of the 1430th Engineers. "It's a promise that he won't be forgotten."

During a 45-minute ceremony, Guardsmen placed a boulder inset with a bronze plaque that commemorates Lapland's service. Unit members also fired a 21-gun salute, preceded by hymns and a brief service.

Family and friends also took time to reminisce afterwards. Several fellow Guardsmen remembered Lapland as a hard worker who always gave "more than 100 percent" to complete an assignment. "He loved to run heavy equipment and he never went to annual training without his fishing pole," Koeman said.

Members of the 1430th Engineers have maintained contact with the Lapland family since Larry's death.

"I didn't realize what the Guard was about until Larry was gone," said Lawrence Lapland of Marshall, Mich., Larry's father. "After he passed away, the Guard picked up where he left off. They (the Guard) have been just like



Photos by Sgt. Ron Raflik



PAYING RESPECTS - SSgt. Paul Racine (above) consoles a member of SSgt. Larry Lapland's family. Lawrence and Myona Lapland (left) stand behind a monument erected in honor of their son.

family to us. There isn't a soldier in the world who could ask for more than this."

After the ceremony, Myona Lapland still clutched

the red and white flag of the Army Engineers, presented by her son's former unit. It gave her cause to ponder how he might have spent a sunny summer day such as this one.

"If Larry were here right now," she said, "he'd probably be fishing."

Ohliger becomes Guard's first female Cobra pilot

By Spc. Matthew J. Peasant
North Carolina National Guard

North Carolina has become first in flight once again as 1st Lt. Kristin Ohliger of the 130th Aviation Battalion takes up her position alongside one of history's most memorable firsts - the Wright Brothers.

Ohliger has become the first National Guard woman to become qualified on the AH-64 Apache attack helicopter.

A Delaware native, Ohliger came to North Carolina to pursue a degree at North Carolina State University. There, she became interested in the military and joined the ROTC program, marrying that with a life-long



dream of becoming a pilot. She found herself flying a reconnaissance aircraft with the Carolina's 130th Aviation Battalion.

Shortly thereafter, the command at the 130th asked for helicopter pilots to transfer from the observa-

FEMALE FIRST - 1st Lt. Kristin Ohliger poses in front of a Cobra.

tion role to the attack role. Ohliger wasted no time.

"The (Cobra) training was tough," she said. "The guys in my class were great. They treated me like a peer."

Ohliger said everyone she has worked with has given her a chance to prove herself.

"I still have a lot to learn," she noted. "And I'll have to rely on my unit to teach me some of the finer details of aviation."

"I'm just glad to be doing what I'm doing," she added. "I love flying."

NATIONAL BRIEFS

MINNESOTA ARMY GUARD
CLEANS UP AFTER STORM

Minnesota National Guardmembers hauled more than 1,000 dump trucks full of wind-blown debris assisting citizens in Hawley, Sabin, Audobon and Lake Park, Minn., after storms swept through those communities recently.

"We worked side-by-side with the people from the community," said 1st Lt. Mike Linn, Company A, 682nd Engineer Battalion commander.



Minnesota Guardmembers (above) help their neighbors clean up after a storm hit in July.

The 39 soldiers were from Company C, 142nd Engineer Battalion, Camp Ripley, Minn., and Company A, 682nd Engineer Battalion, Litchfield, Minn.

"People were pretty much in shock, but they were really helpful," said SFC Roy Potter.

Soldiers worked from 6 a.m. until 10 p.m. to clear the debris and open the streets.

"It's nice to have you guys (the Guard) around," said Keith Rockwell, a Hawley, Minn., resident.

OSAC TRANSITIONS TO GUARD

Command of the active Army's Operational Support Airlift Command, or OSAC, has passed to its first Army National Guard commander. OSAC will remain a subordinate command to the Military District of Washington until the official Guard activation in October.

Col. Arthur W. Ries will be its commander.

Under the National Guard, OSAC as an acronym will change to OSACOM.

Its mission is to centralize command and control, operations and scheduling of the active-duty Army's fixed wing support airlift assets in the continental U.S.

AGAUS NAMES PRESIDENT

Maj. Gen. Warren G. Lawson, Adjutant General of the Iowa National Guard, was elected president of the Adjutant General Association of the United States (AGAUS) during the Association's recent conference in St. Paul, Minn.

Gen. Lawson was appointed Adjutant General of the 10,000-strong Iowa Army and Air Guard in 1985.

Cline graduates at top of class

By Maj. Karen M. Replogle
U.S. Air Force

Capt. Mary Ann Cline became the first National Guard officer in the 45-year history of the Squadron Officer School (SOS) to graduate at the top of her class.

Cline, an intelligence officer with the New York Air Guard's 106th Rescue Group based in West Hampton Beach, was selected from a class of 296 officers to receive the Commandant's Trophy. It was presented in a ceremony Aug. 4 at Maxwell AFB, Ala.

Cline was recognized for her demonstrated excellence in leadership, team building, academics and communication skills.



Capt. Cline

"This was not an individual effort," she said, quick to credit the other 11 members of her flight.

The four-week in-residence portion of SOS requires students to work six days a week, 12 hours a day.

During the class, officers attend lectures, conduct seminars, present briefings and complete writing assignments. They also participate in team problem-solving exercises and competitions. Included in the curriculum is a mock promotion board exercise that gives Guard and Reserve officers insight into the promotion processes of their respective components.

Cline's accomplishment was not the only unique aspect of this SOS class. More than 98 Guard officers graduated from the summer session as part of a new prototype "Total Force" class. In the past, only 30 National Guard captains were allowed to attend the school.

SOS Commandant, Col. Brian A. Arnold, said that the exchange between active and Guard components is an "added bonus."

If approved, the Total Force class will become an annual summer event.

New Hampshire helps its vets

'Stand down' assists those who have given

By 2nd Lt. Jerome Loring
New Hampshire National Guard

The military calls it a stand down, moving troops off the front lines to a safe place where their needs can be met. For a number of veterans, that's exactly what happened recently at the Veteran's Home in Tilton, N.H.

For these veterans, however, the front line was the street, and the enemy, despair.

Stand down '95, the second such operation in New Hampshire, was designed to meet the needs of homeless and "at-risk" veterans, explained Sharon Drake, executive director for the New Hampshire Coalition of the Homeless and a co-chair of the operation.

The veterans, who came from across the state, were transported to the site and given the opportunity to receive a variety of services, including medical screenings, employment assistance and help with applying for veterans' benefits.

"They're our brothers and sisters," said Ken Leidner, Stand down '95 coordinator. The operation involved dozens of organizations, including military, paramilitary, state, local and federal agencies.

"What we're trying to do here is to open the door of opportunity," added Leidner, a Vietnam veteran and the president of New Hampshire's State Council of Vietnam Veterans of America.

Troops from New Hampshire's Army and Air National Guard were responsible



Photo by 2nd Lt. Jerome Loring

for setting up and taking down the equipment needed for the event. They also were responsible transporting veterans throughout the state to the Tilton site, he said.

"Our motto is: 'Not a handout, but a hand up,'" Drake explained. "The goal is to give the veterans an advocate, so that there's always somebody there to help them."

The key to the success of the program will be the follow-up, explained Tom Norris, a veteran's employment representative with the New Hampshire Employment Security Office in Claremont. Norris, along with Henrietta Charest, were instrumental in bringing the operation to New Hampshire last year. The veterans were assigned an individual to escort them as an "advocate" during the operation. They were also linked to an organi-

PAST AND PRESENT - Ruth Merritt, a former WAVE, (above, left) reminisces with Spc. Kelly Dobens.

zation in their community to serve as their advocate for future concerns.

"This is very important to all of us," said Lt. Col. John Thibault, deputy director of logistics for the New Hampshire Army Guard's State Area Command. "This is community involvement at its best."

"It's wonderful," said 79-year-old Ruth Merritt, a former WAVE and a volunteer WAVE with the Granite State's Unit #33. "To be in an area where everyone is concerned about somebody else, not about themselves. It's a beautiful experience."

Merritt first joined the Women's Auxiliary Volunteer Emergency Services in May 1944.

LAST SHOT

Members of Minnesota's Battery D, 1st Battalion, 151st Field Artillery, fire the eight-inch howitzer for the last time July 26. The guns are being replaced in the Army's inventory by the Multiple Launching Rocket System. Battery D will transition to the M198 Howitzer. SSgt. Harry Hawkinson was given the honor of pulling the lanyard.



Photo by Capt. Kevin Gulknecht



PEOPLE

Discovering his ROOTS

By Deborah M.S. Murray
Hawaii National Guard

A funeral service recently at Arlington National Cemetery, Va., provided a bittersweet opportunity for one Hawaii Army National Guard soldier.

Amid the peaceful surroundings at Arlington, Sgt. Dennis Higa, 27, was able to come full-circle with his father's death and meet some relatives for the first time.

"For 26 years I never knew anything about the other side of me," said Higa, a member of the Hawaii Army National Guard's Company D, 1st Battalion, 299th Infantry.

"Although I did not get to meet my dad, I gained a family."

Higa's father, U.S. Air Force SSgt. Michael F. Dean, died June 30, 1970, when the helicopter he was riding in crashed during an attempted rescue mission in Laos.

From the time of the crash until early this year, he was officially listed as missing-in-action. Higa did not find out about his father's MIA status until four years ago when he contacted the American Red Cross.

Born out of wedlock, Higa said his parents were engaged to be married when his father went to Vietnam for another tour of duty.

When Higa, a Honolulu police officer, started search-



Photo by Deborah M.S. Murray

ing for his father, the only leads he had were a dog tag with a social security number and a picture of his mother, which revealed his father's portrait in the background. His mother gave him these items when he was eight years old. It was then that she informed him that the only father he had ever known was not his biological father.

It was this obscure image of Dean in the portrait that provided him with the impetus for his search.

When Higa turned 22 he went to the American Red Cross to initiate an official search for his father. All of his previous efforts had resulted in dead ends.

Hope of ever meeting his father was shattered when he was told Dean was MIA. This also explained why his mother, a former Okinawan citizen, never heard from Dean after Dennis' birth.

"At that point I gave up. I was very disappointed," he said, adding that the Red Cross counselor encouraged him to look out for newspaper reports of MIA remains returning from Vietnam.

HIS PAST - Sgt. Dennis Higa poses with a photo of the father he never knew, SSgt. Michael Dean. Dean's remains recently were discovered.

In March, he was reading the newspaper and found out that his father's remains were positively identified at the Army's Central Identification Lab.

"If I had not come home and read the paper, I would not have known about my dad," Higa said.

After reading the article, he said he made some calls to find out where his father's remains were and when his funeral was scheduled. The trail eventually led to his uncle, James Dean, whom he met for the first time on April 21.

Higa described the meeting with his uncle as emotional and informative, because it supplied the missing pieces to his puzzle. To Higa's surprise, his uncle gave him his father's other dog tag, which was found at the crash site, and supplied him with pictures of his father. Some photos showed his mother and father posing together.

Ironically, his uncle was unaware that the woman in the pictures was Higa's mother.

"I must have looked at these pictures a thousand times that night," he said after spreading out the pictures on the living room floor.

Letting his mind drift back to the funeral, Higa described it as sad, but dignified. His father's coffin was carried by a horse-drawn caisson with members of the U.S. Air Force Honor Guard and the Presidential Honor Guard officiating in the ceremony. Dean also was honored with an Air Force fly-over and 21-gun salute. He was presented with the flag that draped his father's casket, along with a collection of his father's awards and decorations.

After the service, he spent some time with a few veterans who served with his father in Vietnam.

Higa was grateful to the members of his Hawaii Army National Guard unit and the Veterans of Foreign Wars for helping fund the trip to Arlington for him and his family. He was accompanied by his wife, Sharon, and son, Shane.

By Pvt. Robert W. Bishop
Maryland National Guard

Seeking his flock

Chaplain Ernest Harrison does not wait for his flock to come to him in his hometown of McAlister, Okla., where he is a Baptist preacher. The same was true during his recent two-week annual training in Panama.

Capt. Harrison is the chaplain for the Oklahoma Army National Guard's 120th Supply and Service Battalion, in Ada, Okla. While in Central America, he spent most of his time seeking out the 30 members of the unit performing their annual training.

The 120th performed a variety of functions, from typing and filing to repairing vehicles and loading military transport boats.

Harrison says that a chaplain plays an important role.

"A chaplain is a vital part of a soldier's equipment," said the 10-year Guard veteran. "He helps get them ready if there's going to be combat in the future, and he's very important to their family life."

Helping soldiers requires Harrison to wear many hats. In Panama, among other things, he was part crisis counselor, part tour director.

Spec. Charles York, a Sulpher, Okla., resident and member of the 1120th Maintenance Company, one of the 120th's subordinate units, lost some of his money and asked his chaplain for assistance. Harrison knew

what to do -- arrange for a quick money wire. Problem solved; York went back to work.

After helping a soldier return home following a death in the family, he arranged off-time trips to local beaches for his troops.

Harrison said being a friend and advisor is part of the job.

"I try to give them the wisest counsel I can," he said. "I usually draw from my own experience as much as possible."

Experience has taught him many things about being a chaplain. Harrison said he learned some hard lessons while assisting with the cleanup after the Oklahoma City bombing.

"I was down at the bomb site, next to the morgue," he said.



Photo by Pvt. Robert Bishop

"My job was to support those troops who were pulling people out of the rubble. I tried to just be there and bring it some dignity."

"Thinking of those children

A PASSAGE - Chaplain (Capt.) Ernest Harrison consults his bible.

who died still brings tears."

But in the end, he said, he was stronger for the experience.

"I learned about the fragility of life," he said. "And I learned that death is part of soldiering because freedom always has a high price."

Harrison says he is as much of a soldier as any infantryman.

"A chaplain doesn't just put on the 'camo.' He learns the same skills that other soldiers do," he said. "He also goes into combat with them to support them at the front of the line."

But still, a chaplain's main job is serving soldiers.

"I feel like I really serve from the heart, not just with the hands," Harrison said. "Ministry is from the heart."

Seven Guard engineering installation squadrons join forces at Empire Endeavor

CONNECTING EUROPE

By TSgt. Kelly Lovely
Minnesota Air National Guard

More than 250 people from seven Air Guard engineering installation squadrons (EIS) convened in Europe in July to participate in Empire Endeavor '95.

It was the largest Air Guard deployment of its kind ever.

The exercise combined 57 real-world communications projects with wartime readiness training, according to Lt. Col. David Borjes, New York Air Guard's 213th EIS commander.

"The objective is to cover a lot of the training we have to do every year," Borjes said. "We're doing a mobility exercise, a scenario exercise, wartime training, plus a real-life workload."

EISs from Minnesota (210th), Pennsylvania (211th and 270th), Massachusetts (212th), Illinois (217th) and Ohio (220th) joined their New York counterparts overseas.

Multiple-unit teams completed projects in the United Kingdom, Spain, Italy, Belgium, Turkey and Germany.

Teams erected radio antenna towers at Spangdahlem and Bitburg AB, Germany. The towers were removed last year from Sembach, where they were no longer in use, said Spangdahlem team chief TSgt. Frederick Doscher, 213th EIS.

"They're going to be used for radio relay systems for the ambulance rescue and fire department service," he said.

Another tall project, upgrading underground phone lines, required 1,700 feet of trenching at Ramstein AB, Germany. The project was not without its challenges. EIS pros had to overcome 20,000 volt power lines, 3,000 volt low power lines, German telephone lines, steam pipes, water pipes, sewer lines, existing base communication cables and compressed air lines. These obstacles required that the majority of the trenching be dug by hand.

Despite the steamy 90-plus degree weather, enthusiasm did not evaporate.

"We had people from [the project at] Ramstein volunteer to work at Sembach because they knew they were running behind," Borjes said. "Team spirit goes a long way."

"There's really no one who has stopped working," added MSgt. John Russell, 213th EIS. "If you put down a shovel at one location, there's something else to be



Photos by TSgt. Kelly Lovely

done somewhere else."

Fiber optics and copper cables were installed connecting several buildings at Spangdahlem. Teams installed copper cables improving telephone capabilities in the housing area, chapel day-care center and NCO spouses club, explained CMSgt. Victor Velez-Torres, 213th EIS.

Safety was a primary concern, especially in the housing area, according to Velez-Torres. "We had to do the job in stages so there were no open trenches that kids could fall



in," he said. "Not everybody is skilled in fiber optics, so we have all learned something on this job."

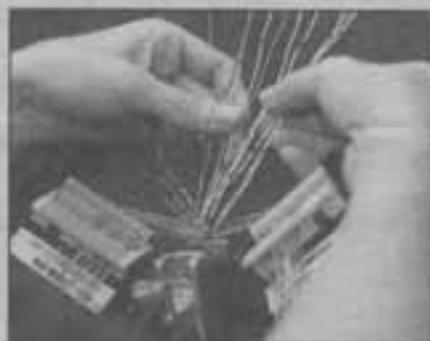
Other teams gained valuable training during the deployment.

"The guys who work for the phone company get to teach us the stuff they learn on their job," said SSgt. Travis Smith, 213th EIS, who worked on a copper cable project at Sembach. "This is good hands-on training."

Multiple-unit teams also offered experiences with new people. "It's the first time most of us have met," Russell said. "But after a couple of days, it's like we



DIGGING IN - Pennsylvania's TSgt. Curtis Stover (left) digs a trench. New York's SSgt. Patrick West (above) drives in a grounding rod.



WIRED IN - Empire Endeavor produced many busy hands (above). New York's MSgt. Donald Bergano (below, left) and Minnesota's MSgt. Paul Bixler unroll copper cable.

were all next-door neighbors."

"Diversity was the key here," Doscher added. "Each team member brought a special skill. It all worked together for a successful completion of the job."

"Successful" doesn't adequately express the satisfaction of the customers, however.

"They did an outstanding job," said TSgt. Thomas Bishop Jr., chief of planning and implementations, 786th CS, Ramstein. "Everyone has been very impressed and very pleased with what the Air National Guard folks have done for us."

His counterpart at headquarters, U.S. Air Forces in Europe, TSgt. Johnnie Webster, shared Bishop's enthusiasm.

"All I can say is, they're the right people for the right mission," he said.

Because of drawdowns, EI resources

Hawaii MPs go to the U.S.-Mexico border and seize more than half million in drugs

Working the BORDER

By Sgt. Lance Kamisugi
Hawaii National Guard

Twenty military police from Hawaii's 29th Infantry Brigade spent two weeks at the U.S.-Mexico border helping to curtail illegal immigration and drug smuggling.

While on border patrol at the Otay Mesa Border Inspection Station and Cargo Inspection Facility in San Diego, Calif., the Guardsmen worked with members of the California National Guard's counterdrug program and various federal agencies, including the Department of Treasury, Department of Justice and the Department of Agriculture.

The Hawaii MP's mission was to beef-up manpower at the port of entry (POE) facilities, according to SFC Michael Hubbard.

"The Hawaii Guardsmen did a great job here and were responsible for making many seizures," said the five-year POE facility veteran.

They accounted for six seizures that produced an estimated 800 to 1,000 pounds of marijuana, according to 1st Lt. Misty Heath, an Alea resident and the platoon leader for the Hawaii contingent. The estimated value of the marijuana is \$640,000 to \$800,000.

"The training here really works well with our mission-essential tasks since we're regulating main supply routes, or checkpoints," said Heath. "The guys are learning where to look and what to look for," she added, "and they were assisted by high-tech devices and some not so high-tech, but equally effective, narcotic-detecting dogs."

One device is the Cargo Search X-Ray located at the inspection facility. This x-ray system is designed to inspect large trucks and tractor-trailer vehicles in a rapid and efficient manner. With 2,000 cargo vehicles passing through the facility daily, random referrals are initiated for a secondary inspection that includes an up-close check of the vehicle using a density perception device called the Buster.

The Hawaii Guardsmen also inspected cars at the Otay Mesa Border Inspection Station using the Buster and other techniques taught by the U.S. Customs in-



HOOKED UP - Ohio's TSgt. Terri Alston (above) splices phone lines at Rhein Main AB, Germany.

are virtually nonexistent outside the U.S., explained Empire Endeavor's exercise director Maj. George Igarua, 213th EIS. He added that the Air Guard has 19 EI units able to "directly support EI needs anywhere in the world."

Besides offering exceptional service, the National Guard provides immeasurable savings, according to Lt. Col. Thomas McCown, C4 Reserve Forces advisor, Headquarters USAF.

McCown, an ANG member, estimates that by using the National Guard people it costs 1/16 to 1/17 of what it would have cost to contract the same services.

"Plus our people tend to work 10 hours a day to get the project done," he added.

The exercise also offered some realism. Scenarios included chemical attacks, bombed dormitories, equipment breakdowns, personnel problems, stolen identification cards, contaminated water, a burned dining hall and closed autobahns.

"In other exercises, you'd have strike planes coming in. Scud missiles," said Maj. William Gahr, a member of Minnesota's 133rd Airlift Wing. "But that wouldn't be realistic in Germany these days. As we've seen in Tokyo, terrorist threats are such that we can credibly put in a gas attack and have things blow up."

In mixing the real world work with the exercise scenarios, Igarua said there was some confusion and stress.

"That's what would happen in a real contingency," he noted. "We now have a good base of knowledge to work from for future exercises."



Photos by Sgt. Lance Kamisugi

ON PATROL - Sgt. Jeffrey Murtins (above) inspect the wheel of a truck crossing the border. SSgt. Kevin Tuttle (left) discovers a hidden compartment under a car seat.

spectors. A typical inspection would see 30 to 40 cars entering the U.S. pulled to the side. Drivers are told to shut off their engines, while inspectors check the vehicles and run narcotic-detecting dogs around them. This random action, known as "blocks," is needed to keep traffic flowing.

It also doesn't jeopardize the enforcement efforts, according to Bobbie Cassidy, the Southern California Customs Management Center's public affairs officer.

After one week at the Otay Mesa facilities, the MPs had the opportunity to work at the San Ysidro Border Inspection Station at the south end of the Interstate 5 freeway. This is the most active POE in the U.S., and interdictions made there can be dangerous. MPs were required to wear body armor.

Danger was also present at the Otay Mesa facility, according to PFC Wayland Woodward, a Salt Lake resident.

"I discovered a fake panel on the bed of a pick-up truck, and when I lifted it up, this face just stared at me," said Woodward, a security employee at First Hawaiian Bank. "I was surprised and just stared back at him, but it could easily have been a dangerous situation."



EQUIPMENT

An investment against drugs

The Guard's drug fighters now have high-tech Light Armored Vehicles to help

By TSgt. John Malthaner
National Guard Bureau

Sgt. Russell Vanzant jokingly describes himself as "computer illiterate," but that hasn't slowed the former Arkansas infantryman from operating one of the most sophisticated pieces of equipment in the National Guard's inventory.

Recently, the National Guard's Joint Counterdrug Task Force (JCTF) purchased 12 General Motors Light Armored Vehicles, or LAV's — at \$650,000 a piece — to support law enforcement agencies in their fight against drugs. Currently, Vanzant and eight other Army Guardmembers from various state counterdrug programs are at the Defense Evaluation Support Activity (DESA) in Albuquerque, N.M., training on the LAV. Much of their seven week training is being spent in the field.

Driving the LAV, says Vanzant, is the easy part.

"It's an automatic (transmission), so the actual operation is pretty straightforward," he explained.

As he and others have discovered, it's the high-tech gadgetry attached to the LAV that gives cause for potential head-scratching.

According to Lt. Col. David Pollard, a member of the Guard Bureau's JCTF and LAV project officer, the Guard's LAVs will be equipped with state-of-the-art communications, thermal imaging, a global positioning system, digital mapping and video.

The modified LAVs, and requisite training, were bought with a \$12 million Congressional appropriation.

Pollard said that the counterdrug programs in Arkansas, California, Louisiana, Michigan, New Mexico, Oregon and Tennessee will get the LAVs.

"The vehicles possess excellent on and off road mobility and protection from weapons most likely to be encountered by law enforcement agencies," he said. "The sensor and communication equipment will enhance their counterdrug operational ability."

The Guard's new vehicles are similar

to the ones the U.S. Marines use — they have nearly 800 in their inventory — with one major exception.

"Ours will not be equipped with weapons," Pollard said.

LAVs bound for border states California and New Mexico will also incorporate ground surveillance radar systems.

"They (radars) can monitor a wide area of open country," Pollard noted. "They are capable of detecting people up to four kilometers away and vehicles up to 15 kilometers."

While the LAV offers those in the drug-elimination business many technological and safety advantages, it has other appeals, according to Pollard.

"The LAV has a lot of parts common with other military vehicles, so it is fairly easy to maintain," he added.

SSgt. Doug Penfield, a member of the Michigan Guards' counterdrug Reconnaissance and Interdiction Detachment (RAID), is no stranger to maintenance. Before joining the Wolverine State's counterdrug team he repaired OH-58 Kiowa helicopters. Since joining the RAID, he has been involved in several missions where their specially-equipped helicopters have helped locate marijuana "grow rooms."

It has helped him figure out the LAV.

"I've had some familiarity with the radios being used in the LAV. I've also worked with digital mapping and the global positioning system, but here (in New Mexico), the instructors go into much more detail," Penfield noted.

According to June Defibaugh, LAV project leader, the Guardmembers they are training will return to their states to teach others.

"The people training here are some of the best the Guard has to offer," she said.

Defibaugh added that despite the breadth of knowledge and skills citizen-soldiers receive at DESA (computer, video, radar, communications and driving training), becoming LAV-qualified is not a Military Occupational Specialty.

"Nobody has ever done this before, so we had to come up with some kind of certificate to give them when they complete their training," she said, amused. "It's something they can add to their military driver's license."

To Vanzant and Penfield, being involved in the Guard's counterdrug effort is reward enough.

"If we can make it harder for kids to get their hands on drugs," Penfield said. "Then it's all worthwhile."

INSIDE the LAV

- Digital mapping
- Video display recorder
- Latest military communications
- Global Positioning System
- Lane Ranger

Guard doctors have found a way to save more lives

MERLIN's ON CALL

By SrA. Karen Cooper
National Guard Bureau

The "Golden Hour." It's what doctors call the first 60 minutes after a person is wounded. Often the patient's survival rests on the quality of medical care given during that time.

"Lesson's learned in the Gulf War, as well as other wars, demonstrated that many of the doctors didn't have experience dealing with trauma patients," stated Lt. Gen. Edward D. Baca, National Guard Bureau Chief.

He added that 75 percent of the military medical community consists of Guardmembers and Reservists. Most medical units, he noted, are required to focus their "drills" on such things as immunizations and safety briefings.

"This support is often dissimilar to the skills used in wartime medical response," Baca said.

To combat this, medical professionals joined forces to produce MERLIN, (Medical Readiness Learning Initiative) demonstrated recently during Operation Arch Angel in St. Louis.

Currently a pilot computer program, MERLIN allows users to interact with talking, animated digital patients.

"The multi-media interaction helps students to experience medical scenarios that are more realistic than those accomplished through more traditional schoolhouse training," said Chris D. Bayer, with the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for military medical research.

The student uses a computer mouse to activate parts of MERLIN's touch screen. In doing so, Bayer notes, the digital patients come to life by demonstrating medical symptoms, such as hearing loss or hemorrhaging.

"Challenged to make quick, life-saving decisions, the student must prioritize and categorize the patients for treatment," Bayer said.

The program is based on military training standards.

At the end of the tutorials (stored



on laser or compact disc), the student's work is recorded and then evaluated based on speed and quality of decisions.

MERLIN was developed by the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS), and the Henry M. Jackson Foundation.

"Because MERLIN uses off-the-shelf computer component systems, it is affordable, flexible for upgrade and familiar to the public," said Dr. L. Warren Morrison, a Jackson Foundation consultant.

In addition to tutorials, MERLIN also uses the worldwide Internet web. That gives users the ability to



ON CALL - Medical professions (far left photo) relay patient information during Operation Arch Angel. SSgt. Michael Nabholz (left) places a disc into a computer to run a tutorial program with MERLIN. Doctors and nurses (below) treat a simulated patient.



Photos by SRA Karin Cooper

download software at home, in armories or hospitals, said Morrison.

"This means 'distant learning.' It allows Guard units from different states the chance to train together on a drill weekend," he said.

MERLIN has a two-fold use, noted Capt. Bob P. Fry, a member of the Missouri Air Guard's 131st Tactical Fighter Wing, as he walked among some of the 1,000 "moulaged" patients that participated in the week-long, civil-military exercise.

Medics from five National Guard units (Missouri, Tennessee, South Carolina, California and Alaska) were busy recording information about the

patients to send to a centrally-located medical center.

"A terminal placed in the field has the capability to transmit 64 'kilo-bytes' of data which updates the medical center on the patient's status," said Fry.

Bayet sees MERLIN as an invaluable asset to the medical community.

"We think that some nice audio and visual images are all you need," said Bayet, loading another laser disc into his computer. "We want this training to be so effective that anyone on the battlefield will be able to do the initial steps of lifesaving."



BRADLEY BOYS - SPC. Harold Copple (above) prepares to move out. Sgt. Paul Siegfried (below) breaks down the bolt on a 25mm chaingun.

Big Sky Bradleys

Montana joins short list of Guard units to welcome Bradley Fighting Vehicles

By SPC. Jerry Brunt
Montana National Guard

There is a new National Guard unit training under the big sky of Montana and perhaps it's only fitting that its members are spending 1995 learning about one of the Army's newest vehicles.

Soldiers with 1st Battalion, 163rd Infantry, established last February and headquartered in Bozeman, Mont., are using this year's training time for a high-speed course on the M2A2 Bradley Fighting Vehicle.

The training is being conducted by a New Equipment Training (NET) team from the 29th Infantry Regiment out of Fort Benning, Ga.

According to SSgt. Lance Sibley, NET team member, the 17-member contingent will remain in Montana until July 1996, teaching Guardmembers to operate all facets of the Bradley. They will also show Big Skyers how to work "together as a unit," he said.

The soldiers of the 1-163rd are working

hard to reach the goals their instructors have set. They toiled long hours during their two-week annual training to develop driving and weapons skills.

The instructors and students agree that training on the sophisticated vehicles can be difficult, but the NET's NCOIC SFC Michael Harris notes, Guardmembers are "hungry to learn."

SPC. Darin Gaub, a member of Company A, 1-163rd, enjoys the hands-on aspect of the training.

"You've got to start doing it to learn it," he said.

Capt. Clay Creek, Company A commander, is pleased with his company's progress. He says he's particularly proud of his soldier's high level of motivation.

"They've been going after it with a lot of exuberance and are enjoying themselves," he said.

Battalion commander, Maj. Tom Harrington, also expressed pride in the enthusiasm his troops have shown.

"The morale and motivation have just been unbelievable," he said. "The soldiers are really pumped up about getting new equipment and having the opportunity to be in a high-speed unit."

According to Karen Peterman, U.S. Army's Bradley program management office, 10 Guard units have the Bradley.



Photos by SPC. Jerry Brunt



SPORTS

- New York bikers
- Courageous athlete
- World record

SPORTS SHORTS

N.Y. BIKERS PEDAL FOR DIABETES

In an effort to help combat Diabetes, six members from the New York Air Guard's 107th Air Refueling Group formed a bicycle team to raise \$1,452 for the American Diabetes Association's Tour-de-Cure.

Along with 800 other riders, Emery Au, Nancy and John Kirsh, Richard and Thomas McGuire and Florian Rzepka, pedaled for dollars.

The 107th ARG also provided transportation and communication assistance.

TOLLEY BATTLES ATHLETES, CANCER

CWO Iris Tolley of the Utah National Guard recently won five golds, three silvers and a bronze medal in Utah's version of the Summer Olympic games. However, her real battle took place the day before when she had surgery for breast cancer.

"I've been hurting. The surgery made it so I can't breathe; I get tired ... But I'm thankful I'm here," she said at the finish line.

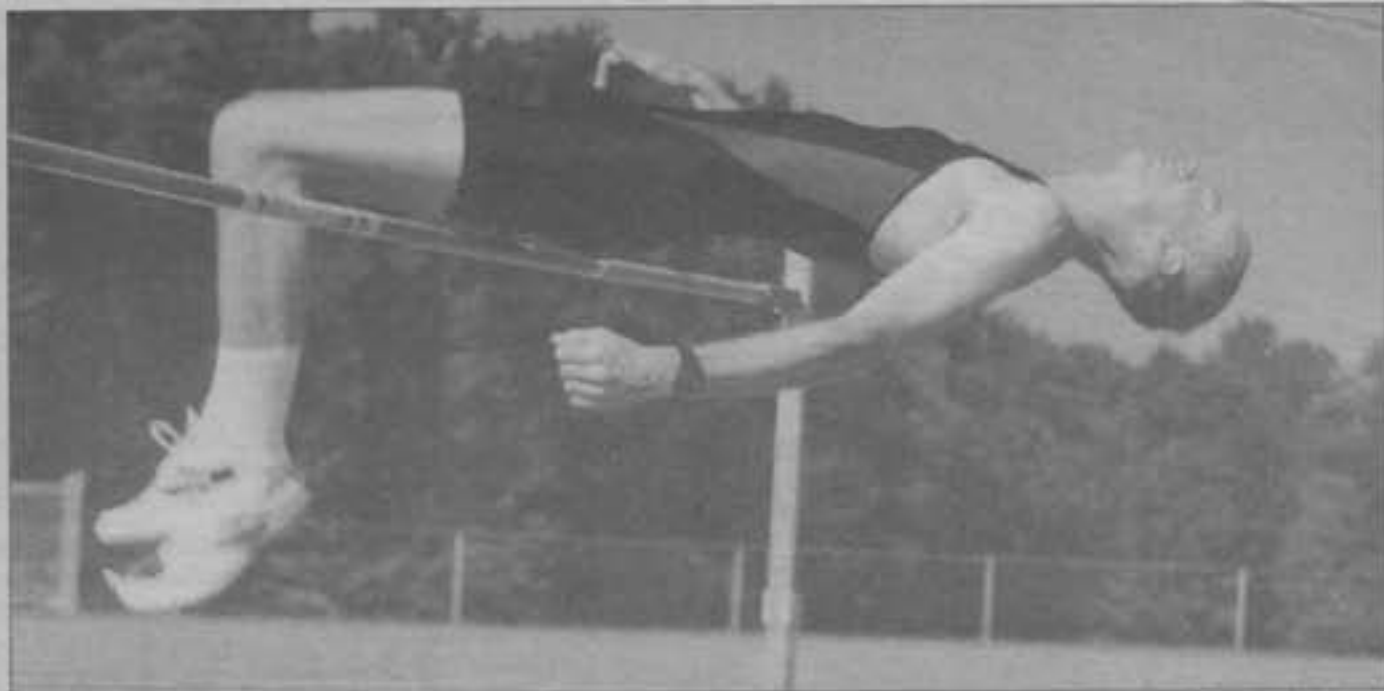
In addition to running, jumping and riding, Tolley was the first female journeyman mechanic in the nation and the first female maintenance warrant officer in the Army.

AIR CLUBS ARMY IN SOFTBALL GAME

For the first time in five years, the "Victory Cup" trophy, signifying the winner of the annual Air National Guard/Army National Guard softball game, belongs to the men in blue.

The victors from Andrews AFB, Md., staved off a late seventh inning Army charge to claim a 14-13 victory.

The next contest is scheduled for summer of 1996.



Photos by TSgt. John Malthaner

Barrineau shatters world record

High jumper clears 6-11, beats Dwight Stones at world championships

By TSgt. John Malthaner
National Guard Bureau

Lt. Col. Jim Barrineau had cause to raise a brow after receiving a call at his home on his 40th birthday. It was fellow high jumper and two-time Olympic bronze medalist Dwight Stones, wondering if he was ready to compete in the World Veterans Athletic Championships in Buffalo, N.Y.

"He's (Stones) hardly given me the time of day in the 20 years that I've known him," Barrineau recalled, smiling. "Obviously he was concerned. He tipped his hand."

And, as it turns out, the bar. Against the world's top 40 to 44-year-olds, Barrineau cleared 6-feet-11 to take a gold medal in Buffalo. Stones took silver at 6-9 3/4.

Barrineau raised more than a brow at the championship meet, his gold medal leap was also a world age-group record. The old mark was set by Hungary's Ispan Major at 6-9 1/2. If not enough, Barrineau narrowly missed an attempt to clear 7 feet and become the first 40-year-old in the history of the sport to do so. His career-best jump was 7-6 1/2 in 1983.

"A lot will depend on the competition," Barrineau says of the 7-foot leap. "I need to be pushed."

Paging Mr. Stones.

A member of the 1976 Olympic team that competed in Montreal, Barrineau has come a long way from the days of starring in the foam-rubber pits at Woodham, High School in Pensacola, Fla. Truth be told, it wasn't until his sophomore year before he was able to land on foam-rubber.

Like many jumpers of his day, he was eager to try the Fosbury Flop -- revolutionized in the 1968 Olympics by gold medalist Dick Fosbury. Until Fosbury showed the world that high jumping could be accomplished leaping with your back to the bar, most straddle-jumped.

"Without the foam-rubber pits, you'd break your neck," Barrineau noted with a smile.

With the "flop," the National Guard Bureau's Chief of Current Force Integration soared to new heights. In his freshman year at the University of Georgia, Barrineau captured the U.S. National Junior Outdoor championship, leaping 7-2. Two years later, he was jumping in the Olympics.

He recalls the experience as "anti-climactic."

"I was too young, too inexperienced," he said. "It was my first international



LEAPS AND BOUNDS - Lt. Col. Jim Barrineau (above) practices his craft, and stands (left) beneath the mythical 7-foot bar no 40-year-old has yet to clear.

competition and I think my head was still in the clouds over making the team." Even more disappointing to Barrineau than his 11th place finish, was the fact that he had previously cleared the height that won the gold medal.

Barrineau's 6-feet-2-inch -- he says he has shrunk one inch -- angular, 160-pound frame is ideal for high jumping, he says. The fact that he has kept his weight in check over the years also matters.

"High jumping is like riding a bike," he observed. "However, if you lose some speed, strength or gain weight, you're going to ride that bike a little differently." He added that many European jumpers smoke to keep their weight down.

"You don't need to breathe to jump," added Barrineau, a non-smoker.

Although Barrineau routinely "maxes" the two-mile run on his annual physical readiness test, he says he rarely runs distances because of the toll it would exact on his fast-twitch fiber muscles -- critical to world-class sprinters and jumpers. He said one of the reasons he left the active Army, after four years as an infantry officer, was because he never attended airborne school -- a career enhancer for many infantry officers.

"I didn't want to risk a leg injury during the peak of my career," he said.

Clearly, to those who saw him in Buffalo, he's not afraid of heights.

The AIR GUARD'S LONG RANGE PLAN

Working on the FUNDAMENTALS

This is part four of a continuing series of articles on the Long Range Plan for the Air National Guard as shared by Maj. Gen. Donald W. Shepperd, the Air National Guard's Director. The Air National Guard, like poet Robert Frost wrote in "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening," has "miles to go before I (we) sleep."

To accomplish the changing role of the Air National Guard we must focus on a few fundamentals.

First, the basis of our business is sending young men and women into combat; there is no more awesome, sobering responsibility. Accordingly, we must focus on integrity and leadership. We must also focus on organizing, training and properly equipping our citizen-airmen. We must approach our business with a seriousness and professionalism that transcends a mere job.

The second fundamental is that the Air Guard is a "world class" organization. We must keep it that way. You will not find an organization like it in industry or in the military.

Third, we need to "slow down." That does not mean do less, but instead, decide what we want to focus on before we go running off in too many different directions. We need to develop sound long-range plans.

A key to being a world class organization is our ability to communicate.

- Very simply, we will:
- Talk Straight
 - Talk Plain
 - Talk Simple
 - Talk Often

In conclusion, we must focus on issues and never lose sight of our most important responsibility: Sending our young men and women into combat.

Several Guard states have lent their facilities and expertise to children.

YOUTHFUL CAMPERS

By SSgt. Danny Brazell
and Spc. Amy Szpara
South Carolina National Guard

Left. Left, left, right, left," a man's voice chanted as he marched a platoon down the road and around the corner. "Dress-right, dress!" he belatedly to his troopers as they straightened into a perfect line and replied with a hearty, "Sir, Yes, Sir!"

This was the scene at the Leesburg Training site in South Carolina as 89 graduates received their diplomas. However, there was something very unique about these graduates — they were all children between the ages of nine and 14.

Having spent a week at the South Carolina National Guard's "first" youth camp program, children participated in activities designed to teach country appreciation, military bearing, teamwork and leadership skills.

"We wanted to teach the kids a little bit about what their parents do as Guard members and to give them a taste of what their parents experienced in boot camp," said Jeremy Williams, a volunteer camp counselor and a member of the Army Guard's 178th Field Artillery unit.

Still, some of the kids had their own idea of what was fun.

"I don't really like the PT (physical training)," said William Foster, 10, of Aiken, "but the food is really good and you can go back for seconds."

While the military experience was a theme of the camp, the idea was to show the kids a good time.

Youth camp gave them a chance to unwind and relax by participating in arts and crafts activities, swimming, canoeing and other events.

In addition, "Gator," a drug-sniffing German police dog, made an official visit to the camp accompanied by his handler, Cpl. Ernest Blackwell of the Columbia Police Department.



Photos courtesy Illinois National Guard

CAMPERS - Maj. Gen. Richard Austin (left), Illinois' Adjutant General, discusses a science project with Michael Rantis. SFC Vic Gifford (below) uses camper Brittany Spialek to demonstrate a point. South Carolina campers (bottom photo) practice rolling in canoe.



Photo by Sgt. Tripp Hutto

The idea behind the camp was to have the kids leaving with a new-found feeling of accomplishment.

Campers went hiking to a bivouac area. Along the way, campers were ambushed, forcing them to be on the lookout for the "enemy."

"I was really surprised at the great learning ability of these children," said SSgt. Kim Clegg, mother of camper Kacey and a military technician for Headquarters Company, 218th Heavy Separate Brigade in Newberry. "In three days time they had the marching down."

South Carolina's Guard wasn't the only unit to promote learning and sponsor a youth camp this summer. Illinois played host to 99 children of Air and Army Guardmembers at Camp Lincoln.

"The week was full of positive energy and kids doing fun activities with educational value," said Janice Cherry, camp director.

For example, campers studied weather and matter, designed machines and built an oven sparked by solar energy, to roast hot dogs.

Sponsored by the Family Readiness Program and the National Science Cen-

ter, Fort Gordon, Ga., the camp included visits to the Mobile Discovery Center and the Illinois State Museum.

Children also received an orientation flight on a CH-47 Chinook helicopter while visiting the Air Guard's 183rd Fighter Group at Capital Airport.

While campers from Illinois navigated by air, Pennsylvania National Guard-sponsored campers navigated by land, using skills learned at the camp in Fort Indiantown Gap.

Experts in wildlife and wild flowers led campers through nature trails for an exploration of the environment.

Now in its eighth year, the camp also had classes in drug education, taught by the Pennsylvania National Guard Drug Demand Reduction members.

While the events at the various Guard Camps differed, the camps did have a common focus.

"The children learned to get along with one another and work as a team," said SFC Boyce Brannon, a retired South Carolina Guardmember.

Pennsylvania's Sgt. Ann Everest and Illinois' Jodie O'Dell and Meagan Roe contributed to this story.

NEWS

MAKERS

Compiled by Maj. Robin F. Carrington
National Guard Bureau

A member of the 187th Fighter Group, Alabama Air National Guard, recently used the basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training he had received at two previous Air Training Command schools.

After receiving an emergency call from his father, SSgt. Ted F. Stettler rushed to his parent's house to administer CPR to his lifeless mother, until an ambulance arrived. Medics credited Stettler for saving his mother's life, citing his timeliness and correct application of CPR.

His family was grateful, but not surprised, by Stettler's quick response. He had already saved two lives in the past two years by being able to react appropriately to a medical crisis.

In the summer of 1993, a car crashed near his home and Stettler administered first aid until paramedics arrived.

In 1994, he saved the life and limb of a fellow employee at a power company who had become caught between two large trucks. Stettler, first on the scene, applied CPR and first aid, saving the co-worker's life and severed leg. The leg was later reattached.

During a recent drill, the soldiers of Troop B, 5th Squadron, 117th Cavalry, New Jersey Army National Guard, took some time from their field exercises to commemorate their 100th anniversary of service.

"It was only fitting," said Capt. James A. Lantz, Troop B commander, "that we honored our past and present soldiers of Troop B with a field ceremony."

1st Lt. Michael Tank, an Alabama National Guard communications expert assigned to Headquarters Company, 142nd Signal Brigade, kept quiet about his recent heroic actions.

Tank was driving to the airport one morning to leave for a year-long tour with the California Army National Guard when he came upon a burning two-car accident.

Ignoring the threat of an impending explosion, Tank pulled an unconscious woman from her overturned car seconds before it was engulfed in flames.

Tank remained at the scene of the accident rendering first aid until relieved by medical and firefighting personnel.

CMSgt. Deborah L. Faunce is the first woman in the Maryland National Guard to reach E-9. She is a health systems specialist for the 135th Medical Squadron at the Warfield Air National Guard Base in Middle River, Md.

A recent promotion at the 185th Fighter Group in Sioux City has resulted in the first female chief master sergeant in the Iowa Guard. CMSgt. Vicki McCulley, who has prior service in the Army and has been in her unit for 16 years, is the 185th's superintendent of military personnel.

In South Dakota, Marlene K. Nyman, while assigned to state headquarters, was recently promoted to the rank of senior master sergeant in the Air National Guard. With this promotion, Nyman became the first woman in the South Dakota Air Guard to attain the rank of E-8.



Alabama's SSgt. Ted Stettler has saved many lives.



Maryland's CMSgt. Deborah Faunce.



Wisconsin's CSM Mary Carrigan.



Nebraska's CWOS Larry Barry.

CSM Mary B. Carrigan will step up to the position of command sergeant major of the 64th Troop Command, Wisconsin Army National Guard, Sept. 1. She became the first woman command sergeant major in the Wisconsin Guard when she was chosen for her previous position with the 13th Combat Support Hospital. She now becomes the top enlisted person in the Troop Command, an organization of more than 1,500 citizen-soldiers.

A Nebraska Army National Guard flight instructor was recently promoted to Chief Warrant Officer Five, the Army's highest warrant officer rank. CWO5 Larry Barry's promotion July 22 doubled the number of CWO5s in the Nebraska Guard. Nebraska's first Guardmember to reach the rank was CWO5 Merlyn Schuster. In the entire Army Guard there are only 32 chief warrant officer fives.

Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Bruce Jacobs, the National Guard's historian-emeritus, was recently honored by the National Guard Professional Education Center, Camp Robinson, Ark., for his contributions toward preserving the history of the National Guard. A permanent exhibit was dedicated which details Maj. Gen. Jacobs' 40-year career as a Guardsman, author and historian.

Edward L. Correa, Jr., the Hawaii Army National Guard's 29th Infantry Brigade commander, was promoted to the rank of brigadier general July 28. The 29th Infantry Brigade is one of 15 National Guard Enhanced Readiness Brigades throughout the nation.

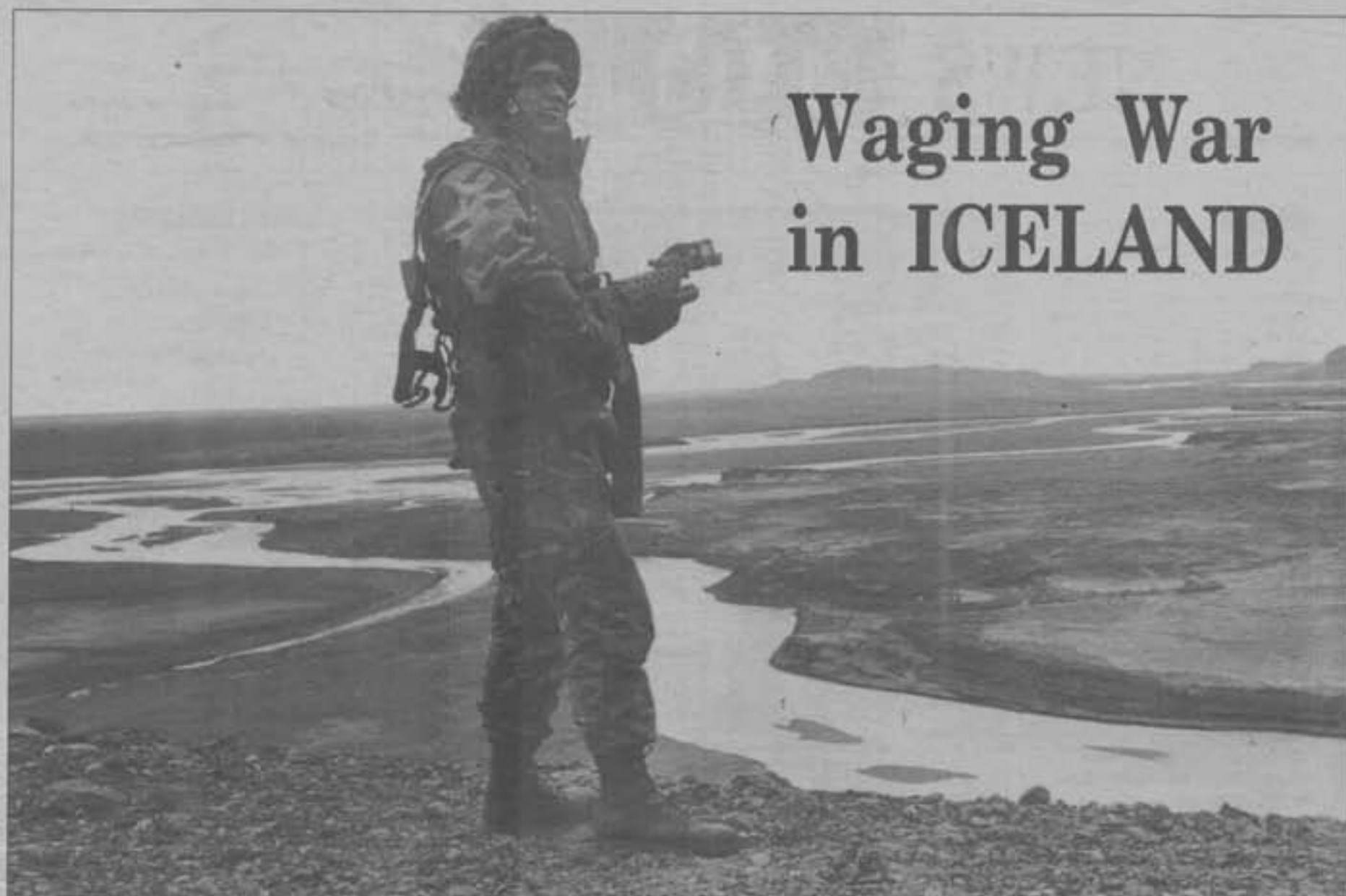
A Louisiana Air Guard pilot was awarded the Air Medal during a recent ceremony held at the Belle Chase Naval Air Station, Joint Reserve Base.

Maj. Michael D. Gregory was flying a routine training mission when his wingman, Capt. Ken Duke, developed flight control problems. After Duke was injured ejecting from his aircraft, Gregory assumed duties as the on-the-scene rescue commander. He marked the position of the parachute, called back the situation to the tower and coordinated the rescue and recovery effort.

SFC Paul Booth has recruited his 600th Guardmember for the Iowa National Guard. He was honored for his record-breaking achievement with the Meritorious Service Medal. Booth began his recruiting career in March 1982, after joining the Guard in 1978.

The Missouri Air Guard's 139th Maintenance Squadron received the National Guard Bureau's Maintenance Effectiveness Award for FY94. Members competed against units operating C-130s, FB-111s and KC-135 aircraft.

This feat probably looked unattainable to them in the summer of 1993 as they recovered from the "great flood." With 12 feet of the Missouri River covering their base in St. Joseph, the 139th was faced with repairing a C-130 aircraft left inside the hangar when the flood arrived. The aircraft contained nearly eight feet of water. The unit rebuilt the aircraft and had it flying within 120 days.



Waging War in ICELAND

Photo by Sgt. Jo A. Hoots

Northern Viking offers Guard troops training, chance to help Icelandic people

By Sgt. Jo A. Hoots
Virginia National Guard

Waging war across boulder-strewn landscapes with snow-covered mountains towering in the distance is how soldiers with Maryland and Virginia's 29th Infantry Division will remember Northern Viking.

Conducted in Iceland every two years, the exercise allows more than 1,200 participants from all branches of the U.S. military to get training not possible during weekend drills. They also worked with Norwegian Special Forces.

"Training with the other services and with the Norwegian Special Forces adds a dimension of realism we can't always achieve with home station deployments," said Capt. Mike E. Bellamy, the 29th Infantry Division's operations officer.

Burfell, one of three hydroelectric power stations that supply Iceland, was one location for testing Guardmembers' abilities to deploy ground forces and op-



Photo by Sgt. Barry Ciccocioppo

erate in a rugged environment.

At Iceland's request, Norway sent 35 of their Special Forces soldiers to act as the opposing force during the exercise.

While heavy rains and bitterly cold winds lashed the area most nights, U.S. soldiers skirmished with Norwegian forces probing the perimeters.

"The major difference is we have trees (in New York). These mountains have no trees; there's no cover, no concealment,"

SCENIC ICELAND - A troop (above) watched over a barren landscape in Iceland. Pennsylvania Guardmembers (left) help remove communication equipment.

help the Icelandic people complete eight community-service missions.

"The biggest mission we did was to haul 150 sacks of gravel, weighing 1,600 pounds each, into an area that is totally inaccessible to vehicles," said Fridthor Eydal, the Icelandic Defense Force's deputy public affairs officer and liaison for Northern Neighbor.

The gravel will be used to rebuild hiking paths in Iceland's most popular national park, Eydal said.

Another valuable project was moving a large concentration of jasper, a rare mineral, from a steep mountain on the northeast side of the country to a nearby town where the mineral would be more accessible to the public.

"Thanks to G Company, this bit of Iceland's natural history can be enjoyed by the public and tourists," Eydal said.

"These projects are extremely well received by the Icelanders," he added. "It creates a lot of goodwill between our two countries."

Pennsylvania's SSgt. Barry Ciccocioppo contributed to this story.

said CSM John Hoetker from the 27th Infantry Brigade.

While the 29th was taking on Norway's Special Forces, Pennsylvania National Guardmembers worked on building friendships with the people of the North Atlantic island country, through Operation Northern Neighbor.

Sixty members of Company G, 104th Aviation, based in Phillipsburg, Pa., used CH-47 Chinook helicopters to



STATES

- China visit
- Prison duty
- Education pact

OREGON

More than 60 Oregon Air National Guardmembers trained in Iceland recently. A total of almost 180 Guardmembers, from Massachusetts and Oregon, conducted two-week rotations on the volcanic Atlantic Island. As a result of force restructuring and military drawdowns, the Guard is being tasked to pick up more of these missions.

The mission was established during the Cold War, when there was a need to track movements of the Soviet Union's military in the Atlantic region. The U.S. Naval Air Station in Keflavik was equipped with radar sites for this purpose.

HAWAII

Not since World War II has a U.S. military aircraft flown between locations inside the People's Republic of China.

However, the Aloha State Air Guard's 203rd Air Refueling Squadron, recently transported a delegation of U.S. military flag officers to the PRC, to include parts of Korea and Hong Kong.

NEVADA

Nevada Air National Guard hosted a salute to the last operational RF-4Cs in the U.S. Air Force, with ceremonies scheduled for Sept. 26-27.

The 152nd Reconnaissance Group will then begin the conversion process to C-130 transports. A final fly-by was flown.

COBRA CREW

New Jersey Army National Guard mechanics with 1st Battalion, 150th Aviation (right) keep Cobra helicopters airborne during recent annual training at Fort Dix. With rotors turning, the crew refueled and rearmed the Cobras.



Photo by SFC Kryn Westhoven

NORTH CAROLINA

Soldiers of HHC, 167th Military Police Battalion, completed their second year of annual training at the Naval Consolidated Brig in Charleston, S.C.

Besides custody and control, soldiers provided physical security, medical and mental health services.

The Battalion was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal.

The unit is scheduled for deactivation in September 1996.

ALASKA

The Alaska National Guard Armory Complex at Camp Denali is the new home of the Rescue Coordination Center.

The Center is responsible for coordinating search and rescue efforts in Alaska.

Still an 11th Air Force mission, daily round-the-clock operations are conducted entirely by Guardmembers, averaging a rescue each day.

NEW YORK

Patriot Medstar, the largest test of Guard, Reserve and active-duty aero-medical evacuation forces held in the United States this year, was conducted in late July.

Stratton Air National Guard Base, home of the 109th Airlift Group, was one of Medstar's three hosts.

One of Medstar's goals was to test the participants' ability to treat and evacuate injured people from the front line.

MARYLAND

Members of the Maryland National Guard now have the opportunity to advance their technical and academic skills needed to make them better citizen-soldiers.

Maryland's Bowie State University and the Maryland National Guard brought their missions together in June for a Partners in Education Charter.

"One of the top questions that our Guardmembers ask is 'How is the Guard going to help me with my education?'" said Brig. Gen. Thomas Baker, a member of the Guard for more than 37 years.

The partnership includes mutual recruiting opportunities. The Maryland Guard will provide a full-time Army

Guard Reserve Officer to work with BSU's Reserve Officer Training Candidacy Program, and BSU will be invited to recruit Maryland Guardmembers and their families as students.

With 9,000 soldiers stationed throughout Maryland, Bowie State emphasizes the importance of producing well-educated graduates who, in turn, support national, state and local communities.

"We offer classes at several off-campus learning sites, including Fort Meade and Andrews Air Force Base," said Dr. Ida Brandon, Dean of Bowie State's Graduate School and Continuing Education.



Photo courtesy Bowie State University

A PACT - Members of the Maryland National Guard (above) and a Bowie State University administrator stand behind their agreement.



HISTORY

SMALL, but SIGNIFICANT

It's how many historians have referred to the Air Guard's role in Vietnam

On Aug. 5 1995, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher exchanged documents with Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam in Hanoi formally establishing diplomatic relations. Toasting the event with champagne, Christopher noted, "with the stroke of a pen, our two peoples have pledged to write a new chapter in relations between our two countries."

For the United States, the ceremony represented the culmination of a long and often painful effort to write the final chapter of one of the most controversial wars in American history which had ended some 20 years earlier with the fall of Saigon.

Air Guardmembers had played a small, but significant role in the Vietnam War. The Air National Guard's combat role in Vietnam had been sparked by the North Korean seizure of the American intelligence vessel, the *U.S.S. Pueblo* in January 1968.

With American forces heavily engaged in Southeast Asia, President Lyndon B. Johnson did not want the United States to be drawn into a separate war in Korea. But the jittery South Korean government threatened to withdraw its forces from South Vietnam unless the President took strong measures. He had resisted calls from his senior military leaders for a general reserve mobilization and had relied instead upon the draft to provide the bulk of the war's manpower.

Primarily to placate the North Koreans, Johnson ordered the mobilization of 14,000 air and naval reservists. The Communists' Tet offensive in South Vietnam the following month caused Johnson to mobilize an additional 22,200 -- primarily Army National Guardmembers and Reservists -- in March 1968.

The Air Guard mobilized 9,343 people Jan. 25, 1968 in response to the President's initial order. Within 36 hours, approximately 95 percent of the Air Guardsmen had reported to their units. Those included eight tactical fighter groups, three tactical reconnaissance groups, and three wing headquarters.

The fighter units, which had been beneficiaries of additional resources under the "Combat Beef" program, were rated "combat ready" when called into federal service. They could have deployed overseas within a matter of days.

The reconnaissance units were not so fortunate. Primarily because of equipment shortages, it took about a month to prepare them for overseas service.

However, the mobilized Guardmembers remained in limbo for almost three months. The *Pueblo* crisis died down and the Johnson administration frantically searched for new uses for the mobilized Air Guardmembers.

Stuck at their home stations and uncertain of their futures, Guardmembers grumbled publicly.

The second mobilization went much smoother. More than 1,300 Air Guardmembers were ordered into federal service May 13. Unneeded personnel were not mobilized.

The Air Guard units that mobilized in May included two tactical fighter groups and a medical evacuation unit. The former, equipped with F-86Hs, were sent to Cannon AFB, N.M., to train Air Force pilots as forward air controllers and combat crewmen. The latter transported military patients in the continental U.S. and the Caribbean. All of the units called up in May were returned to the states the following December.

The fate of the initial increment of mobilized Air Guardmembers was finally clarified in late April when four fighter squadrons were alerted for deployment to Vietnam. On May 3, F-100s from the 120th Tactical Fighter Squadron (Colorado) arrived at Phan Rang Air Base. By June 1, all of the 120th's pilots were flying combat missions.

In the meantime, the 174th (Iowa), 188th (New Mexico), and the 136th (New York) had all deployed to Vietnam with their F-100s. In addition, 85 percent of the 355th

Dr. Charles J. Gross
Air Guard Historian



Photo by Norm Taylor

Tactical Fighter Squadron -- on paper a regular Air Force unit -- were Air Guardmembers.

The Air Guard fighter units were quickly integrated into Air Force combat operations in Southeast Asia. Prior to their return home in April 1969, they flew 24,124 sorties and 38,614 combat hours. Those numbers rose to approximately 30,000 sorties and 50,000 combat hours when the 355th was included. During that combat tour, seven ANG pilots and one intelligence officer were killed by enemy fire.

The units won high praise from Gen. George S. Brown, Air Force commander in Vietnam.

"(They) were the five best F-100 squadrons in the field. The aircrews were a little older, but they were more experienced, and the maintenance people were more experienced than the regular units. They had done the same work on the same weapons for years, and they had the stability that a regular unit doesn't have."

To help stabilize the situation in Korea, two ANG fighter squadrons and their F-100Cs were dispatched to that peninsula during the summer of 1968 to replace the Air Force units that had been rushed there during the

Pueblo crisis. However, those units--the 166th (Ohio) and the 127th (Kansas)--had a much more difficult assignment than their counterparts in Vietnam.

They were formed into the 354th Tactical Fighter Wing. Except for the two flying squadrons, the wing consisted of individual Guardmembers and Air Force Reservists from other units. Morale was low and it took a long time to organize the new wing. The terrible living conditions and uncertain nature of their mission generated many public complaints. The wing lost four aircraft and had one pilot killed in early 1969. It also failed an operational readiness inspection.

In the meantime, the Air Force had belatedly rediscovered that the F-100C was poorly-suited to its announced air defense mission. The 354th's mission was then shifted to supporting the ground forces in Korea. Once the *Pueblo*'s crew was returned, the Air Guardmembers prepared to return home from Korea. The unit passed an ORI and both of its fighter squadrons were rated combat-ready. They returned to the U.S. and left federal service in May and June of 1969.

The 123rd Tactical Reconnaissance Wing (Kentucky) also experienced a rocky tour of active duty. The wing had not been rated combat-ready when mobilized Jan. 26, 1968, primarily due to equipment shortages. It also received an unsatisfactory ORI rating in October 1968. Despite those problems, the 123rd made a significant contribution to active force operations. Flying RF-101s, it began functioning as the primary Air Force tactical reconnaissance unit in the continental U.S. Elements of its squadrons rotated temporary-duty assignments in Japan and Korea, from July 1968 until April 1969, providing photo reconnaissance support to American forces in those areas. Altogether, the wing flew 19,715 tactical hours and processed over 841,000 feet of film. Its units were demobilized in December 1968 and June 1969.

Air Guard volunteers had also quietly supported Air Force airlift operations to SE Asia beginning in the mid 1960s.

The first sizeable ANG airlift involvement came during November-December 1965 when Guardmembers flew Christmas gifts to military personnel in the region. Beginning in January 1966, they flew 75 missions per month in C-97s, C-121s, and C-124s with airlift for the Military Airlift Command, rather than training, being their primary mission. In July 1967, the Defense Department abruptly halted the ANG's flights on the grounds that they could be accomplished more economically by converting to commercial jets. The flights resumed in August 1967 at a reduced level of 25 per month as part of the Guard airlifters' normal overwater training requirements. They continued until 1972.

In July 1970, two EC-121 "Super Constellations" from Pennsylvania's 193rd Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron departed their home station for Korat, Thailand. During the next six months, about 60 Guardmembers were rotated through the latter installation for 30-60 day tours in Operation "Commando Buzz."

Although not part of a popular war, Air Guardmembers had reasons to be proud. Their units and individuals performed with skill and valor. Buoyed by better equipment and training, they displayed capabilities markedly superior to those of units mobilized during the Korean War and the Berlin Crisis of 1961-1962.

OVER 'NAM - A New Mexico Air Guard F-100C (above) sees action in South East Asia in 1968.



TRAINING

Vermont musicians perform
and perspire in Panama

And the BAND Played on

By Pvt. 2 Robert W. Bishop
Maryland Army National Guard

While most New Englanders sweltered under recent record high temperatures, a group of Vermont Army National Guardmembers ventured to an even hotter place — the Tropics.

"The heat here is tremendous," said SFC Peter Young, the drum major for the 40th Army Band. "Thank God we had a heat wave in Vermont to prepare us."

Young's views were shared by his fellow band members.

"In Vermont it's usually about 80 degrees," added Spc. Carol Goodrich, a flautist who lives in St. Albans, Vt., and attends the University of Vermont. "Here it feels like 200."

The Vermont Guard musicians were in Panama to give an active-duty Army band a two-week break. The 42 band members, based in Colchester, are among thousands of Reserve Component soldiers and airmen who train in Central America each year.

To combat the heat, the Guardmembers drank water, and lots of it.

"We're trying to force down twice what you would normally drink," added Young, an industrial water purifier for IBM in Essex Junction, Vt. "Every time we get a chance we have a glass of water, sometimes two or three."

The assignment here was also a change of pace for the Vermont Guardmembers.

"We're doing a lot more military ceremonies than we normally do," said band commander, CWO4 Verne Colburn, music director for the Bellows Free Academy in St. Albans, Vt. "In Vermont, we're more like ambassadors for the Vermont National Guard. We spend most of our time out in the community playing



ON TOUR - SFC Peter Young (left) guides Vermont's band (below), while CWO4 Vern Colburn (right) conducts. Trumpeter SSgt. Mike McGovern (bottom photo) performs.



Photos by Pvt. 2 Robert Bishop



parades and concerts.

"It's been a real good experience," he added. "The ceremonies have been great practice."

The band was put to work early on its first full day in Panama. Their assignment was a morning change-of-command ceremony.

For more than an hour the musicians stood and performed on a steamy parade field, as sweat rolled down their faces. By the end of the event, most uniforms were moist, some drenched. More than one band member wobbled under the sauna-like conditions.

Welcome to July in the tropics.

"For people who had been in Vermont the day before, it was a real challenge," said Young. "We were all trying to think of things to take our minds off the heat, so we would still be standing in the end."

The New Englanders were here as part of a National Guard Bureau program that provides brief overseas missions for se-

lected National Guard bands. Most assignments result from diplomatic requests.

In 1991, Vermont's band toured and performed for two weeks in Italy. Colburn requested the mission in Panama because the dates accommodated the band's many teachers schedule.

"We were just looking for a trip," he said. "I really wanted another trip before I retire next year."

The band received its assignment earlier in the year. Some band members say they had mixed emotions about the trip initially. Concerns over heat and safety were tempered by excitement over the opportunity to see and perform in an exotic land.

"We really didn't know what to expect," added Colburn. "We heard some horror stories about crime, but they proved to be false. There are places to avoid in Panama City (the nation's largest city and capital), but that's true of any city."

The commander sent Young to Pana-

ma a week ahead of the rest of the band to complete housing arrangements, performance schedules and music selections. It was a move that quite possibly prevented an embarrassing diplomatic gaffe. After hearing the 79th Army Band play the Panamanian national anthem, Young hurried to a phone.

"We had never heard the song before I came down here," he explained. "We had interpreted the music wrong. There's a portion that calls for a trumpet solo and we were practicing it in unison. When I heard the true version, I quickly called back so we could pick a solo trumpeter and get it right."

The Vermont Guardmembers' experience in Panama consisted more of performing than of perspiring.

Appreciation for Panama's tropical beauty eventually replaced the anxiety over tropical temperatures.

"It is hot," noted Goodrich. "But it's also very beautiful."