



THE ON GUARD

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Kansas gets B-1 bomber

Former F-16 fliers become first bomber unit in Air Guard history

By Maj. Richard Stumpf
Kansas National Guard

The poster in the lumber yard showed a B-1 bomber in high flight. The caption read "Please excuse the noise. It's the sound of freedom."

On July 1, that sound of freedom came from a B-1 operated by a 184th Bomb Group crew, part of the first Air National Guard unit in history to operate a heavy bomber.

Well known as a fighter pilot training school, the 184th Fighter Group has a long history in fighter aircraft. Activated for duty in WWII only two months after being formed, the 184th flew several types of observation and fighter aircraft. Since that time, the 184th has transitioned through several different fighters, including the F80, F-84, F-100 and the F-105.

Beginning with the F-105, the 184th established its role as a fighter aircrew training school. Transitioning to the F-4, the unit was also tasked to set up a fighter weapons instructor course, a "Top Gun" course for the best F-4 aircrews in the country. They have trained active, Air Guard, Air Reserve and aircrews from many other countries.

Starting the conversion to the F-16 in 1985, the 184th began training its first

student class only two months after receiving its first aircraft. Because the F-16 is a one-seater, it left the backseaters from the F-4 out of a job. Now, with the B-1, the unit will have backseaters again.

The transition will mean the 184th will be going from a thousand sorties a month to less than that in a year's time. It also means converting from 64 fighters to only 10 bombers. Tactically speaking, the move will mean going from a face-to-face fighter mission to a long range force projection mission.

Maj. Eugene Martin, an F-4 Weapon Systems Operator, was excited to get back into the flying business after several years working in staff positions. The difference between a fighter mission (typically a 1 to 2 hour mission) to a B-1 mission (usually more than six hours, an occasionally lasting 10-12 hours) did not escape him. "With long, intercontinental

missions, fatigue can be an issue," he said.

Martin is now a Defensive Systems Operator (DSO), responsible for the aircraft's sophisticated electronic countermeasures equipment, which guards against

ground-based and airborne threats.

Paired with the DSO is the Offensive Systems Operator (OSO), who handles the navigation and weapons systems. Together with the pilot and co-pilot, they comprise the four person crew. "Before, I made the decisions concerning my F-16," said Maj. Randy Roebuck, aircraft commander. "Now, I take three other inputs before making a decision."

Crew coordination is a critical factor in mission completion. Mission completion



Photo by MSgt. David Saville

also rides heavily on the skills of the maintenance crew taking care of the aircraft. The B-1, with all its high tech capabilities, is a machine that gets put through some incredible stresses in doing the day's work. Keeping the equipment operational and safe falls on the shoulders of the 184th maintenance crews.

The members of the 184th believe one of the reasons they were chosen to receive the B-1 was the strength of the maintenance unit. Selected as the Air National Guard's Outstanding Aircraft Maintenance Unit in 1991 and 1992, the

HOME ON THE PRAIRIE - The 184th Bomb Group's B-1 Lancer taxis to a stop.

maintainers from the 184th have a proven track record. They are feeling the changes, though.

"The thought of moving to bombers after working your whole career on fighters was rather disheartening," stated MSgt. Bill Page, one of the two flight chiefs assigned to the B-1. "But, the B-1s will bring a certain enthusiasm and challenge that even a fighter fan will appreciate."

**DRUG USE
IS
LIFE ABUSE**



COMMENTARY

COUNTERDRUG UPDATE

• As of July 13, 3,316 Army National Guard and 1,261 Air National Guard personnel were on counter-drug support duty in all 54 states and territories.

• As of July 13, the total value of cash and drugs seized by police this fiscal year, with National Guard's assistance, is \$4.350 billion.

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I am the National Guard

By SSgt. Theresa M. Franklin
Texas National Guard

We the soldiers of the National Guard are witnessing a historical turning point for the National Guard as we know it. When historians look back upon this century, they will remember that the Guard was a vital part of the armed force's Total Force policy.

The National Guard has a long and prestigious history of service to our country both domestically and internationally.

Through the years our soldiers have been given the opportunity to meet people from many parts of the world. Although we all come from many different backgrounds, races, creeds and nationalities, together we form a proud family called the National Guard.

Our history in the National Guard stems from many years of military service starting before the revolution. The National Guard was there in New Orleans when General Packenham and Andrew Jackson made a series of attacks through the bayou swamps. We fought with swords in Chancellorsville and, then again, at Kettle Hill.

Through our history we have fought with decorated soldiers like Robert E. Lee, Grant and Bragg. Still, the National Guard remained a viable, well-trained force, essential to the support of our nation's security.

During World War II, the National Guard lost many soldiers who paid the

ultimate sacrifice for their country. The National Guard has been in Korea, Vietnam, Panama and Iraq. However, here in our country, the National Guard has in a sense been dishonored, denied and refused. Although we may be a little threadbare, we have managed to stay strong, despite the shape we are in. The Guard has been through the fire before, and I'm sure it can take a whole lot more.

From the Golden Gate Bridge in California to the Statue of Liberty in New York's harbor, we, the citizen soldier, have formed an organization that has been founded on the dedication, selflessness and commitment to freedom for all Americans.

The National Guard's history is a very important part of our lives that we should proudly share with our family, friends and unit members. Perhaps, more importantly during peacetime, because it enables the Guard to do what it does as well as any other organization in the world today - extend a helping hand to those in need.

I used to feel inferior about saying I was in the National Guard, but as I have learned more about the prestigious history, valor and dedication of my fellow citizen soldiers, I have gained the courage and pride to proudly say to anyone: "I am the National Guard."

Editor's Note: While attending the Readiness NCO/NCOIC Course at the National Guard's Professional Education Center in Little Rock, Ark., SSgt.

Theresa Franklin submitted a research paper titled: "History of the National Guard, An NCO's Perspective." The paper, according to Col. Richard Wilhelm, the school's commandant, was deemed outstanding among those submitted.

LETTERS

GETTING THEIR DUE

"In the June 1994 issue of *The On Guard* I authored an article about the Air National Guard's involvement in the Normandy invasion. Because of space constraints, some very important people who contributed photos and information to the article were not duly recognized. They were: Maj. Gen. (ret.) Alfred C. Schwab, director of the 109th Airlift Group Museum, Minneapolis, Minn.; Col. (ret.) Robert Stone, director of the 107th Fighter Squadron Museum, Selfridge ANGB, Mich.; and CMSgt. (ret.) E.L. Stephens, 153rd Air Refueling Group, Meridian, Miss."

Lt. Col. James E. Lightfoot
National Guard Bureau

FAX your Letters to the Editor to DSN 761-0732 or (703) 681-0732, or mail it: NGB-PAC, 2500 Army Pentagon, Washington, D.C., 20310-2500. Any questions can be directed to our editor, TSgt. John Malthaner, at DSN 761-0716 or (703) 681-0716.

GUARD TOONS

By Lyle Farquhar





IN THE NEWS

- Top Airmen
- UN Medal
- Short History

Carolina responds to plane crash

145th Airlift Group goes to scene of disaster that claims 37 lives

By MSgt. Tom Innes
North Carolina National Guard

Guardmembers from North Carolina's 145th Airlift Group based in Charlotte, responded to the worst airplane accident in two decades at Charlotte/Douglas International Airport July 2.

The crash of US Air flight 1016 killed 37 of the 52 passengers. The five-member flight crew survived.

On its second approach to the airport, the DC-9 veered right of the runway and crashed in a field, skidding through a wooded area and hitting two large oak trees, causing the plane to split into pieces. The cockpit ended up in the middle of the street. The tail section and wing plowed into an unoccupied house.

Air National Guard firefighters were at the scene assisting Charlotte firefighters and rescue workers. "It reminds me of some of the things I've seen in Vietnam," said MSgt. Roy Smith, North Carolina Air Guard Fire Chief at the scene. "I hope there will be more survivors than what I see."

"There were bodies everywhere," added Airport Aviation Director Jerry Orr.

The 145th Airlift Group's disaster preparedness, command post and communications teams arrived at their base 45 minutes after the disaster. They loaded trucks



Photo by Capt. Chris Rowzee

37 DEAD - North Carolina Guardmembers Capt. Sharon Hamrick (left front), SMSgt. Darryl Page, Capt. Kathy Groce (left rear) and TSgt. Rick Hergenreter remove a body from the crash site.

with communications equipment, generators, tents, tables and chairs. Light carts from the base were brought to the crash scene for night operations.

On the morning of July 3, Guardmembers from the 145th Civil Engineering and Aerial Port Squadrons and Communications Flight began erecting tents, starting generators and laying electrical cord and telephone lines. Within hours everything was ready. The four tents housed the Guard's on-site command post, the Red Cross, Salvation Army and City of Charlotte Public

■ See CRASH, Page 11

Army Guard selects top NCO, soldier

Virginia's Phillips, Michigan's Skeltis beat out competition

A Virginia Guard infantryman and a Michigan-based intelligence analyst were picked the Army Guard's NCO and Soldier of the Year respectively.

SSgt. David T. Phillips of the Lynchburg-based Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 116th Infantry was picked the Guard's top Non Commissioned Officer. Spc. Steven W. Skeltis of Michigan's Company F, 425th Infantry, based in Pontiac, was picked its top soldier.

Born in Bedford, Va. in 1963, Phillips graduated from Jefferson Forest High School in 1982.

He joined the Army that year and attended basic combat training. He pulled his advanced individual training at Fort Benning, Ga., where he was awarded the infantryman military occupational specialty. He served on active duty for 4 years

with one tour in Korea with the 2nd Infantry Division and at Fort Lewis, Wash., with the 9th Infantry Division. He enlisted in the Virginia Army National Guard in 1987.

In addition, he has completed the Primary Leadership Development Course, the Jumpmaster Course and the Basic Airborne Course. He has also completed the Basic NCO Course (Reserve Component) and the Battle Focus Instructor Course.

He has completed the Central Virginia Police Academy Basic Course and the Virginia Beach Sniper Basic Course in connection with his civilian employment as a Game Warden for the Virginia Department of Game and Fisheries.

He and wife Christine reside Farmville, Va., with their children Brian and Corie.

Skeltis was born in 1955 in Bay City, Mich. He graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1973.

He joined the Michigan Army



Phillips



Skeltis

Guard in February 1990. He attended basic training at Fort Dix, N.J., and advanced individual training as an intelligence analyst at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

In addition, he has completed the Army Basic Airborne Course and the Long Range Surveillance Leaders Course, both at Fort Benning, Ga.

Skeltis is employed as a journeyman tool and die maker at Resistance Welder Corporation in Bay City, Mich. He also is pursuing a degree in nursing at Delta College.

He and his wife Frances reside in Bay City.

NATIONAL BRIEFS

OUTSTANDING AIRMEN PICKED

The 1994 Air National Guard Outstanding Airmen of the Year have been selected. They represented the Air Guard in the 1994 USAF Outstanding Airmen of the Year competition.

"These airmen epitomize the concept of citizen-soldier and are role models for peers and subordinates alike," said Maj. Gen. Donald W. Shepperd, Air National Guard director.

The notable nine are:
CMSgt. Angel Bouet, 156th Mission Support Squadron, Puerto Rico
SMSgt. Billy Quinn, 142nd Mission Support Squadron, Oregon
MSgt. Patricia Daniels, 132nd Security Police Flight, Iowa
TSgt. Kelle Walling, 161st Mission Support Squadron, Arizona
TSgt. Barry Nalley, 124th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Idaho
SSgt. Scott Duncan, 139th Civil Engineering Squadron, Missouri
SrA. Karrie Patterson, 124th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Idaho
SrA. Steven Callender, 135th Civil Engineering Squadron, Maryland
SrA. Leathia Howard, ANGR Staff Management Directorate, Maryland

UNITED NATIONS MEDAL AUTHORIZED

The United Nations Medal has been authorized for any Guardmember directly involved in one or more of the following U.N. operations: transitional authority in Cambodia; advance mission in Cambodia; protection force in Yugoslavia; mission for the referendum in Western Sahara; Iraq/Kuwait Observation Group; operation in Somalia, to include U.S. quick reaction force members.

SHORT HISTORY PRODUCED

"The Air National Guard: A Short History," a 36-page magazine-formatted publication written by Dr. Charles J. Gross, NGB Air Guard historian, was recently published and distributed to the field.

Already being triumphed "the quintessential short history of the Air Guard," Guardmembers can get a copy of Gross' revealing and informative effort by calling the National Guard Advertising Distribution Center at 1 (800) 638-1802. Send written requests to: NGB-ADA, PO Box 1776, E5026, Edgewood, MD 21040-1776.

Soldiers snakebitten at Roving Sands

'My whole leg went numb. I felt like I had been electrocuted'

By SSgt. Danny Brazell
South Carolina National Guard

South Carolina Army National Guard Spc. Chris Surrett moved cautiously in the desert night as he helped place camouflage netting around a berm. Suddenly, he felt the strike.

A diamondback rattlesnake, maybe a foot long, had hit him just above his boot top. Surrett jumped back. Though the snake's attack was sudden and surprising, he wasn't overly alarmed at first. He wasn't sure the bite had penetrated his trousers.

"I started to walk a bit," said Surrett, 21, a member of the Palmetto State's 263rd Air Defense Artillery Battalion. "Then my whole leg went numb. I felt like I had been electrocuted. I hollered to Sgt. (Billy) Snow that there was a snake over here. Sgt. Snow killed it."

Surrett was the first member of the 263rd's C Battery, based in Hodges, to be bitten by a snake while training in the Fort Bliss, Texas, desert. Two others soon experienced the same fate.

Shortly after Surrett was bitten, one of his friends and fellow C Battery member, Spc. Dennis Reynolds, had an encounter.



Photo by MSgt. Phillip H. Jones

SNAKE CHARM - Spc. Chris Surrett (left) and Spc. Dennis Reynolds show a sense of humor after being bitten by snakes by paying homage to their slithering friends on their Kelvar helmets.

"I knew I had been bitten," said Reynolds, a generator mechanic for the unit, "so I tied a bandanna around my leg. We had just had a class for that, so I knew a little of what to do."

Both Reynolds and Surrett were taking part in the Army's biggest desert training exercise called, "Roving Sands."

"It scared the hell out of me," said Reynolds, 29, also a Greenwood native. "I thought I was a dead man. But I stayed pretty calm, just like they told us to do if this happened. They told me at the hospital the snake had not injected the venom."

Reynolds and Surrett escaped serious injury because rattlesnakes often will use the first strike as a warning to an intruder. In many cases, the second strike carries the snake's venom.

Their friends in C Battery began to call Surrett "Snakeman I" and Reynolds "Snakeman II." Taking the ribbing in stride, they decorated their helmets with some fancy snake art.

"We got some measure of revenge," said Surrett, a radio operator for C Battery, "We killed maybe 10 snakes. But I bet we saw about 40 of them."

Reynolds was less forgiving. "I didn't like 'em before, and I like 'em even less now," he added.



LAST HURRAH - The 372nd Engineer Battalion lines up for an inactivation ceremony.

Ohio battalion retires colors

By SSgt. Bob Mullins
Ohio National Guard

The Ohio Army National Guard's 372nd Engineer Battalion recently completed its last mission. The unit retired its colors in answer to the call for downsizing.

Lt. Col. Glenn Hammond, the commander of the 372nd until its inactivation, said the members of the battalion were able to transfer into another unit. "Most of the soldiers were able to find a position with the newly created Second Squadron, 107th Armored Cavalry." The 2/107th came on-line in April and, like the 372nd, is headquartered in Kettering.

SSgt. Craig Herald, a member of the 372nd for 10 years, said "I really enjoyed being in the engineers, but I'm sure the 'Cav' unit will offer new challenges."

In their 33 year existence, the citizen-soldiers of the 372nd have faced their share of challenges.

The battalion has supported the state on many occasions, including the trucker's strike in 1972; Xenia's tornado in 1974; the blizzards of 1977 and 1978; the Shadyside flood in 1990; the Massieville flood in 1992; and, most recently, the Lucasville prison riot in 1993. In support of training and humanitarian efforts, the unit deployed to Honduras in 1989 and Panama in 1993.

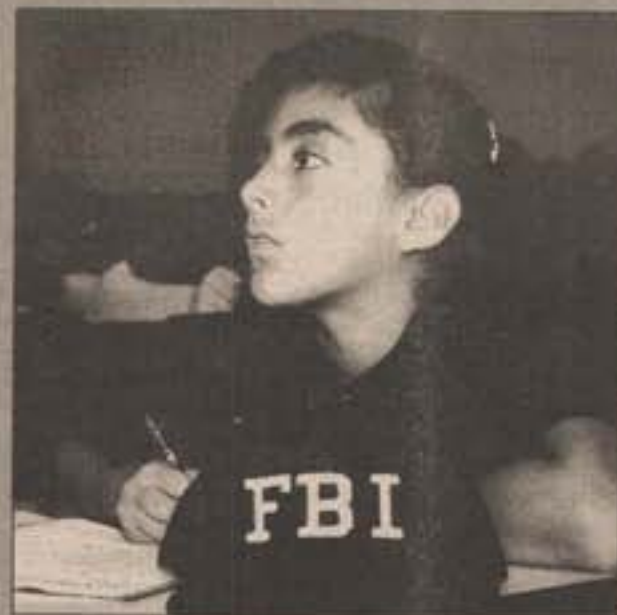
The battalion was federally recognized Sept. 1, 1959 as the 1st Gun Battalion, 174th Artillery. It was reorganized and redesignated in April 1962 as the 1st Automatic Weapons Battalion, 174th Artillery. In February 1968, the battalion was reorganized and redesignated as the 1st Battalion, 174th Artillery, and it was assigned its final designation as the 372nd Engineer Battalion in February 1972.

TEAMWORK - Students help each other across boards (right) and learned how to fingerprint (below).



'STARBASE' ALLIANCE

The National Guard forged a unique partnership recently with the Federal Bureau of Investigation when STARBASE students from eight states visited the FBI Academy in Quantico, Va. For five days students received instruction in aero-dynamics, acoustics, physics and hydrology. STARBASE aims to take "at-risk" fifth and sixth graders and expose them to math and science. "Of all the programs the FBI is involved in," said Les Davis, FBI Academy spokesman, "STARBASE has the most potential of reaching children and making a difference."



LEARNING - A student (above) listens closely in class, while others (left) learn the value of teamwork.

Photos by TSgt. John Mattheiser



PEOPLE

"When Doug was deployed to Desert Storm, I was so jealous. I really wanted to go"



Maj. Ashenhurst

By Sgt. Diane Farrow
Ohio National Guard

No one can make you feel inferior without your consent," Eleanor Roosevelt once said. Though a sense of inferiority can often deter great women from becoming great leaders in male-dominated societies, such a concept was never considered by two women who recently made Ohio Army National Guard history.

The first to assume command, Maj. Christine Cook took over Toledo's 137th Supply and Service Battalion on March 1, 1994. It is the largest battalion in the Ohio National Guard. Maj. Deborah Ashenhurst will be taking the top slot at the 237th Personnel Services Command in Columbus when it comes on-line Sept. 1.

"Being named battalion commander for the 137th was just like coming home," Cook said. "You could almost say I grew up there."

Although the Wisconsin native began her military career in 1974 as an enlisted soldier on active duty, Cook was first assigned to the Toledo unit in 1981. As it turns out, it was there she achieved many other "female firsts" in the Ohio National Guard. She was the first female unit commander, battalion administrative officer and training officer.

"No one in the unit even mentioned my being the first female," Cook recalled. "It (the assignment) was very natural, especially considering the amount of time I had in the battalion."

Both are full-time technicians at Beightler Armory,

SHATTERING Glass Ceilings

Ohio Majors Christine Cook and Deborah Ashenhurst become state's first female battalion commanders

Headquarters for the Ohio Guard.

Ashenhurst sees the recent movement of women into the military's "upper management" positions as consistent with the natural progression of things.

"In the 1960s, women usually joined the military, completed their tour and got out. Not many aspired to stay in," she said. "For the most part, it's only been since the mid 1970s, early 1980s that women have considered the military as a place to make a career." Joining the Guard was an easy decision for Ashenhurst, who enlisted as a clarinet player at 19. In fact, she calls belonging to the Guard a "family affair."

Her father, her brother, her husband and her stepson all are members. When asked whether there was any rivalry between her and her brother, Capt. Doug Green, Ashenhurst responded with a resounding "Absolutely!"

The siblings seem to see-saw back and forth as far as career advancement. The major's older brother became company commander first, running the 1487th Transportation Company from Dec. 1988 though Oct. 1992. "When Doug was deployed for Desert Storm, I was so jealous," she confessed. "I really wanted to go."

Though the assignment as PSC commander has tipped



Maj. Cook

"As a parent you can identify with Guardmembers who face conflicts at home"

the scales in her favor, Ashenhurst says the competition is all in fun. "We really enjoy each other's success."

Another family member who enjoys their successes is proud father, CWO Robert Green. Ashenhurst said that her father has mentored her throughout her years in the Guard, and that she has followed closely in his footsteps.

Cook named a number of senior officers who have been guiding influences for her career.

"I have been very fortunate to have male supervisors who have shared their training and experience with me, with no regard to my gender," Cook said. But, she added, she owes most of her gratitude to her husband, Michael Cook, who recently retired from the Guard as a major.

"Michael is very supportive; he makes it easy to spend time with the 137th," Cook said. "When I head off for drill, I don't have to worry about what's going on at home." She and her husband are raising two children, Zachary, 7, and Carl, 9.

Cook feels that her experience as a mother will make her a better leader. "As a parent, you understand the importance of discipline and teaching, and you can identify with Guardmembers who face conflicts at home."

While the new commanders are pleased with the advances they've made in the Army Guard's chain of command, they are optimistic about breaking more barriers as their careers progress. Both women want to be general officers, with Ashenhurst aspiring for the seat of adjutant general. Cook and Ashenhurst agree that the opportunities are broadening everyday for young Guardswomen.

According to Ashenhurst, "The door is wide open."



Photo by Pvt. Brian Hennon

BUSY FLIERS - Lt. Col. William Hooper Jones (left), Coronet Oak mission commander, and MSgt. David Fink, 123rd first sergeant, discuss the flight schedule.

Staying busy in Kentucky

By Pvt. Brian D. Hennon
Pennsylvania National Guard

A group of Kentuckians recently ran an overnight delivery service in Central and South America.

"Whatever they need, we deliver," said MSgt. David M. Fink, Kentucky Air Guard's 123rd Airlift Wing first sergeant.

Fink, a full-time military technician in Louisville, and about

200 other Kentuckians were in Panama for their two-week annual training as part of Coronet Oak.

Coronet Oak tasks Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve with continuously providing C-130 "Hercules" transport aircraft, air crews and support teams for ongoing supply and transportation missions throughout Central and South America.

"Using C-130 'Hercules' transport planes, we airlift items such as mail, food and other household goods to radar sites and embassies," said Lt. Col. William Hooper Jones, mission commander.

"We also resupply the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency and

aid them with drug interdiction missions and transport personnel," he added.

While training at home, the 123rd's missions are limited mostly to simulating.

"The pilots and crew are in a real-world situation here. We've flown earthquake-relief missions and search-and-rescue missions. We directly affect many people," said Fink.

The 123rd does more than fly military operations. It also flies humanitarian missions all over the world. Over the last several years, its crews have flown relief missions in support of Hurricanes Hugo (Puerto Rico) and Andrew (Florida), Bosnia and Somalia.

BABY EXAM - Lt. Col. Mark Vanderwalker (below) examines six-month-old Sarah Brawley while Mom looks on.



Photo by MSgt. Jerry Bratten

Missouri Guard converges on Van Buren to provide medical care for their neighbors who can't afford it

By Maj. Ken MacNevin
Missouri National Guard

An old soldier stands guard on the courthouse square in Van Buren, Mo. Few people ever see him.

On summer weekends canoeists clog the Current River that runs on the west side of town. Except for then, Van Buren is quiet. A new highway bypass takes most vehicles off main street, a business district just five blocks long with only a handful of stores on adjoining streets. The official state highway map generously lists a population of 850. On June 3, that changed.

The old soldier, a bronze World War I Doughboy statue, got plenty of comrades in arms when close to 150 Missouri National Guardsmen and women arrived to deliver health care in Van Buren and towns in four neighboring counties. When they left two weeks later they had served more than 2,500 people and made Angela Culpepper very happy.

"Purplecare" is the nickname Missouri folks gave the joint Army-Air Guard domestic medical care program, because it was a joint Army (green) and Air (blue) operation. Nationally, it's known as Guardcare. It is new - only in the states. Guard medical people, after all, have been helping people in other nations as part of their training for years.

From the San Bias Islands off Panama to remote African villages, Army and Air Guard medical people have done everything from deliver babies by flashlight to treat the village livestock.

Guardcare in Missouri offered a full range of diagnostic services, including specialized exams for male and female health needs. There was dental care for children, treatment or medication for some problems, and referrals into the community health system for serious or ongoing problems.

The program operated in Carter, Oregon, Reynolds, Ripley and Shannon Counties in the Missouri Ozarks near the Arkansas border. The area is largely



Photo by SSgt. Jim Corrigan



Photo by MSgt. Jerry Bratten



Photo by MSgt. Jerry Bratten



Photo by SSgt. John Viessman

SERVICE PROVIDERS - A1C Jason Vannaman (far left photo) takes Cody Jones's blood pressure. TSgt. Albert Nigh (center photo) checks a youngster's weight. Missouri Guardmembers (above) set up a medical tent in the small town of Van Buren.

The 'Show Me (CARE) State'

wooded, and much is National Forest land. There are just 42,000 people in all five counties. To qualify as project sites, the counties had to meet a formal designation of "medically underserved." That has nothing to do with quality of care. It means there are not enough medical people to take care of the people in the counties. Beyond that measure - income and employment in the area are low.

State health officials pinpointed the

area as a possible Guardcare site last year. Beyond meeting the "underserved" requirement, using a large area fit how a MASH might serve in a tactical situation.

Things got going on a Friday as a convoy rolled into Van Buren, hauling the equipment of the 135th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH) of Kansas City. It provided most of the people for the program, joined by members of the 131st and 139th Medical Squadrons, Air

Guard units from St. Louis and St. Joseph Mo., and members of the Army Guard State Surgeon section from Jefferson City, Mo.

The MASH brought doctors, nurses, enlisted medical people, mechanics that keep the unit mobile, men and women who keep up communications and support people. They spent their first weekend setting up treatment sites, using MASH equipment at Van Buren and in schools in the four other counties. They also had a tactical training area to set up.

A 30,000-acre state-owned wildlife area near Van Buren offered a good site for LANES training, the method of working on special tasks until everyone does them

ALL SMILES - Lt. Col. Mike Hayek (left, opposite page) shares a smile with Jessy Gates while checking the youngster's heart. MSgt. Paul Tobias (below, rear) gives Jessica Tylar a hearing test.



Photo by SSgt. Jim Corrigan

to standard. The MASH used the training to practice decontaminating patients under nuclear, biological, chemical (NBC) warfare conditions.

To build realism and avoid unwarranted public concern, they wanted that training isolated from their public work. Soldiers rotated from real patient care to the tactical area throughout the operation.

Patient care began June 6 at the five sites. Most of the first patients were people who had made appointments for physicals or other tests through local health departments or clinics. Some simply arrived, ready for help. Angela Culpepper was one. "She can tell you all you need to know about Guardcare."

Her husband was thrown from a horse "and he was having a lot of trouble breathing and we didn't have the money to really go to the doctor and somebody told us about the Purplecare unit being here."

After an interview about their needs and some paperwork, her husband headed for treatment. Medics suggested she get a physical, "so I went ahead and got a physical and they did X-rays on Darrell (her husband) and prescribed him medicine. It was great, 'cause we didn't have money to go to a doctor or get the medicine, either one. It really helped, it's been a big help to us."

The Culpeppers have two daughters. They got physicals. "The little one," Mrs. Culpepper continued, "had a spot on her leg, a little ringworm that I'd treated for two weeks and couldn't get rid of. The doctor prescribed a medicated powder for it. It's already gone and that's just in two days. So that's been great."

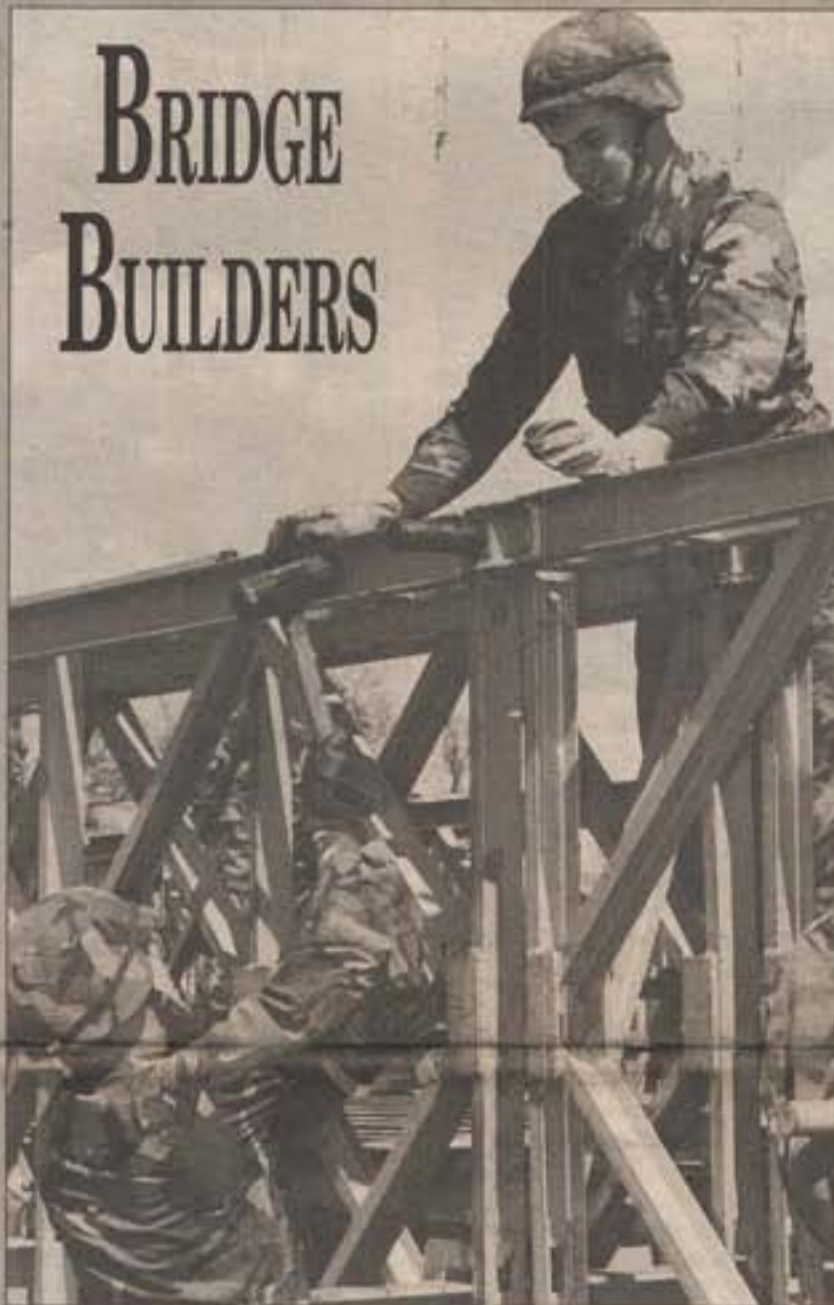
"Then we brought 'em back today to go to the dentist, and the oldest one had a..."

"Tooth pulled," smiles the girl, opening wide and removing some cotton to show the gap.

"A baby tooth we could not get out" Mrs. Culpepper said, "'cause her other teeth were growing in behind it and we couldn't get it out. And he (the dentist) just reached in and got that baby tooth right out. And that was great 'cause we just couldn't afford it otherwise."

"We hope this can continue every year for people like us who need it."

BRIDGE BUILDERS



HEAVY HITTER - 2nd Lt. Chad Lalor (left photo) drives in a metal pin joining two sections of a Bailey bridge while Sgt. Brian Reitzel looks on. Both are members of the Wisconsin Army Guard's 724th Engineer Battalion. Spc. Tim Bytnar (below, foreground) fits a plank into place with help from fellow 724th Engineer Battalion engineers.



Wisconsin engineers construct 100-foot bridge in town of Grantsburg

By Larry Sommers
Wisconsin National Guard

Wisconsin Army National Guard engineers, using military methods, constructed a 100-foot bridge recently to link the north and south banks of the Wood River in Grantsburg, Wis.

The village of some 1,200 people requested the Guard's assistance because of a planned summer-long reconstruction of the village's only bridge.

"Lots of people work in businesses on the north side of the river, but live on the south side," explained Rodney Meyer, Grantsburg director of public works. "If it weren't for this project, everybody would have to drive seven or eight miles out of their way." Emergency medical services based on the south side of the river would also have to take the long way around, he said.

The only other path across the river is a service road that runs across a dam in the middle of the village's scenic park. The dam and its abutments, however, were judged not strong enough to carry heavy traffic.

"That's where we come in," said 1st Lt. James



Photos by Larry Sommers

BIG PUSH - Wisconsin engineers push a Bailey bridge into place across the Wood River.

Sandomierski. Sandomierski headed the project for Detachment 1, Company B, 724th Engineer Battalion. "The plan is to put a Bailey bridge right across the top of the dam. We're making it about 24 feet longer on each end than we normally would, to compensate for the weak abutments."

Some engineers saw the project as an opportunity to bring the Guard closer to its neighbors. "In addition to being a great training opportunity, it's good for the community," said SFC David L. Dorriott, who lives in nearby Webster.

Lt. Col. Robert E. Harris, 724th commander agreed. "Our soldiers are pleased with the opportunity to support Wisconsin communities," he said.

READINESS



Photos by Spc. James W. Wilson

Lean, Mean and Green

By Spc. Deborah L. Welch
Delaware National Guard

Lean, mean and green. That's today's Army, with its increasing focus on the fitness, readiness and overall quality of forces. To help soldiers become better, stronger, faster, an increased number of fitness trainers are constantly being educated, and motivated.

For the first time, a Master Fitness Trainer course was held recently at Delaware's Bethany Beach Training Site, strictly for National Guard and Reservists.

A mobile training team from the Army Physical Fitness School at Fort Benning, Ga., taught the course.

Students quickly learned the course would not be easy. "We started with 54 students and we're down to 41," said Capt. Jeff Graber, instructor and officer in charge. "We've got six days left with a couple of tough exams. We might lose some more students, but when they graduate, they're going to be able to write a safe, sound program for each soldier in their company."

Students said they were especially surprised by the difficulty of the classroom

phase of the course. "The academic portion has been the most challenging," said SSgt. Fred Hall of Delaware's Company D, 150th Aviation. "Learning about the body, understanding its functions, and the effects of diet and nutrition, balanced with exercise, are things I'll be able to take back and use right away."

Graber said academics are stressed because students are expected to become instructors or trainers. They must become well-versed in five facets of fitness: Cardio-respiratory endurance, muscular strength, durability, flexibility and body composition.

During the body composition section, which dealt with weight control and body fat, students focussed on individual body make up differences. For instance, although a 5-foot-10-inch man might weigh more than 200 pounds, he may not be as out of shape as a weight table would

indicate. This is why the Army and Air Guard now require body fat measurements.

There are several ways to measure fat, according to Graber. Most popular is the tape method, the one the Army and Air National Guard uses.

By the end of the course each student

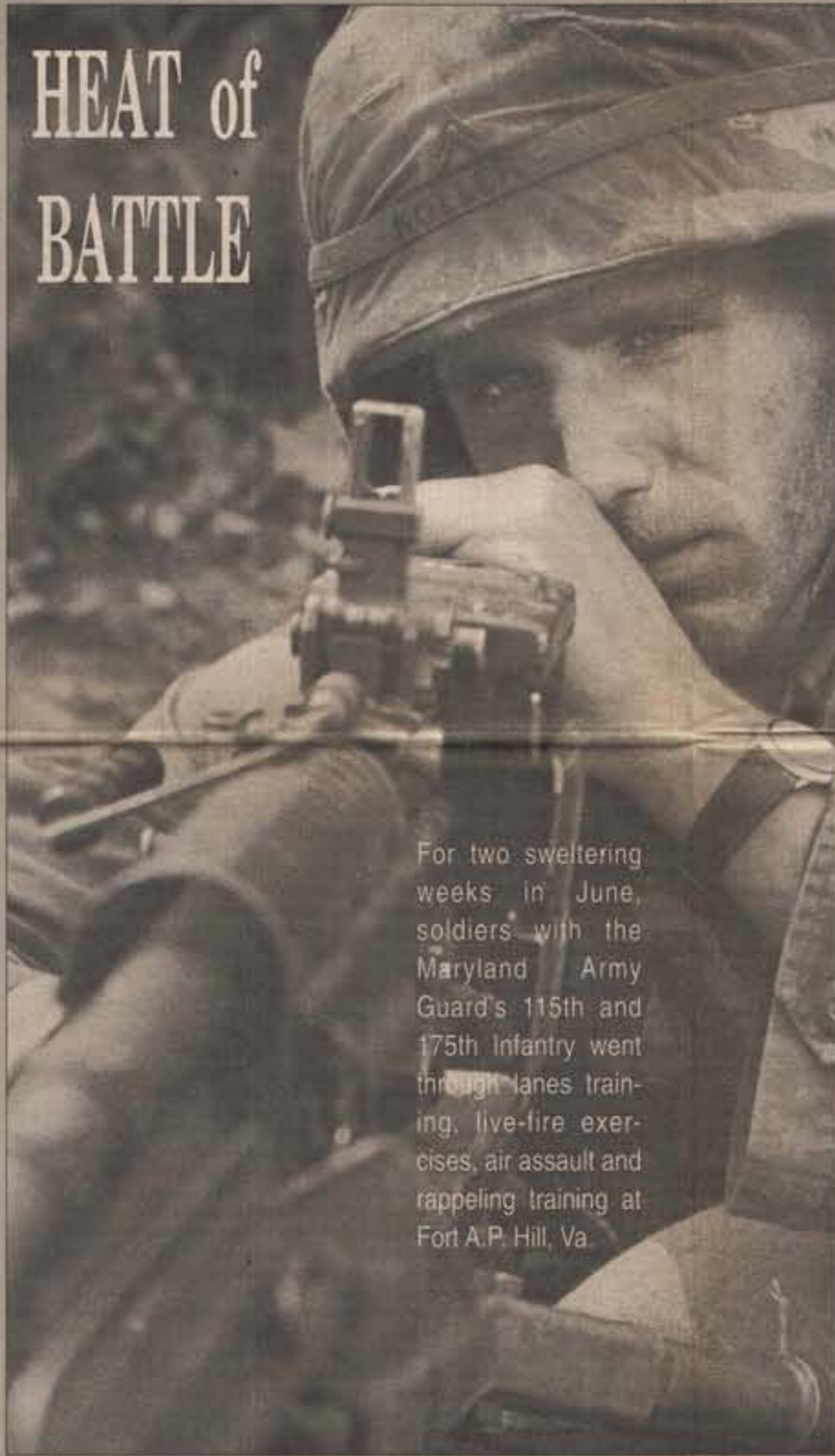
must put all of their training to use by developing their own unit fitness program. The program also must be presented to the rest of the class.

The benefits of attending the Master Fitness Course are obvious. But, more importantly, these fitness experts will go home advocating, what one soldier called, "lifestyle enhancement"... allowing each trainer to positively affect hundreds of lives.



FITNESS TRAINING - PFC Ed Williams (top photo) does straight leg rises. The team carry (above) was part of the Master Fitness Olympics.

HEAT of BATTLE



For two sweltering weeks in June, soldiers with the Maryland Army Guard's 115th and 175th Infantry went through lanes training, live-fire exercises, air assault and rappelling training at Fort A.P. Hill, Va.



EYEING THE ENEMY - Cpl. Joseph Koller (opposite page), a member of Maryland's Company C, 2/175th Infantry mans an M-60 machine gun during a live-fire exercise. Spc. Gary Hess of Company B, 1/115th gets in some reading while waiting for the action to resume.



Photos by Sgt. Mark Faram

RAPPELLING - SFC Al Parton (above, right) gives some instruction to Spc. Frank Jewell before a rappelling exercise at Fort A.P. Hill, Va. Both are members of HHC, 2/115th Infantry. Maryland soldiers (left) rappel from a Huey.



Photo by MSgt. Billy Varn

DISTURBANCE - Members of South Carolina's 133rd Military Police Company push back rioters during a recent training exercise.

South Carolina MP's learn to handle rioters

By SSgt. Danny Brazell
South Carolina National Guard

June 19, 8:55 a.m. - An "unruly crowd" gathers on Screven Street, just in front of the Georgetown, S.C., courthouse. The crowd of about 30 people is there to protest cutbacks in social services and other acts of injustice. They are angry, they are shouting and they are carrying bricks and bottles.

9 a.m. - Members of the South Carolina Army National Guard's 133rd Military Police Company, based in Timmonsville, arrive at the intersection of Prince and Screven Streets, near the courthouse. They quickly dismount from their Humvee military vehicles and hurry into formation. They are wearing riot gear and carrying heavy batons. The unit's leader barks an order and they move in formation to face the crowd. Another order and the military police move to form a skirmish line.

The crowd is yelling louder now, openly defying the Guardmembers. Bricks and bottles are thrown, striking some of the MPs.

"Forward, move," yells the MP leader. Taking short steps that cause their boots to sound off in rhythm, the MPs jab at the protestors with their batons. The crowd, though still defiant, falls back. It is apparent the strategy for the military police is to place themselves between the courthouse and the angry citizens. Their plan allows only a few rioters to reach the courthouse steps.

Things, however, aren't quite as they seem. The members of this "angry mob" are fellow South Carolina Guardmembers. The protestors' bricks and bottles are made of rubber.

The civil disturbance exercise in Georgetown was just a small part of a larger disaster preparedness drill that took

place from June 17-20 called "Operation Overlord II."

Overlord II was designed to test the cooperative effort between civilian and military personnel in a natural or man-made disaster in South Carolina.

The Guardmembers role-playing as the angry mob actually trained for two days for this exercise, practicing various methods of antagonizing and demoralizing the MPs. The drill was designed to be as realistic as possible, short of actually bearing up on each other.

"This is actually like it would happen," said Sgt. Janet Washington, a member of the angry mob. "This is as close as you get to realism. There was lots of cussing, lots of pushing. I think we all are finding out how hard it would be to control an angry crowd. It would be very difficult for them (MPs) not to use force."

But the MPs are not here to learn to use force. They are here to learn self-discipline and restraint when facing citizens out of control.

10:10 a.m. - The angry mob once again attacks Georgetown's courthouse. The MPs have reformed in a parking lot a block away.

"These premises are off limits," the platoon leader barks through a voice amplifier. "We direct that you leave these premises at once."

Again, there is a confrontation as the troops close with the protestors. The soldiers are tired and hot, and you can see the stress of the training on their faces. Suddenly, one Guardsman goes down, accidentally hit in the groin by the baton of a fellow soldier as they try to push back the angry people. The training is very real.

An ambulance arrives to give aid to the soldier. Fortunately, his injuries, while painful, are not serious.

11 a.m. - The attack on the courthouse is over. The MPs have endured the name-calling, pushing, bricks and bottles.

"The situation is out there," said Spc. Craig Neal, a 133rd MP. "You already see it in major cities, such as L.A., where there are lots of emotional issues. What we learn out here, is how to use that self-discipline and group integrity to keep a borderline situation from developing into a violent one. You train for this event in peacetime so you can handle it when it becomes real-world."



SPORTS

- Body builder
- Bikes for Tykes
- Sharpshooters

SPORTS SHORTS

COULBOURNE HAS BEST BODY

TSgt. Mark Coulbourne outmuscled the competition to capture the Mr. Armed Forces body-building championship title recently.

Coulbourne, a jet engine mechanic with the Hawaii Air Guard's 154th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, beat out 21 of the buffest military men.

BIKES FOR TYKES

Eight members of the District of Columbia National Guard left Andrews AFB, Md., on their bicycles July 17 in an effort to raise money for the Hospital for Sick Children. Their destination is McChord AFB, Wash.

Bikes for Tykes coordinator, Maj. Pat Harris, says the team hopes to raise \$10,000.

Harris said the team expects to cover the 3,000-plus mile trek in 45 days.

RHODE ISLAND SHOOTERS TOPS

The Rhode Island National Guard's Area Command Pistol Team won the Chief, National Guard Bureau Air Pistol competition held in Bismarck, N.D.

The team consisted of Capt. Raymond Sabetta, SSgt. Edward Carroll, SSgt. Wayne Farrington and SSgt. (ret.) Everett Vanasse.

FLORIDA SHOOTERS WIN FOR FIFTH TIME

The Florida Air Guard's 125th Fighter Group pistol team won the Maj. Gen. I. Thord Gray Trophy for the fifth consecutive year.

The team consisted of MSgt. David Mullis, Maj. William Baisden III, TSgt. Michael Hicks and TSgt. Glen Smith.

VanDeventer eyes Olympic berth

By Sgt. Lori King
Ohio National Guard

A full scholarship to graduate school wasn't strong enough to lure Sgt. Tracy VanDeventer away from the Ohio Army National Guard.

Her family and friends probably considered her crazy for turning down such an enticing offer, but VanDeventer prefers to think of herself as a dreamer. One day, she hopes, she'll be vying for a medal in the Olympics.

"I'm not getting any younger. I had to make a choice and take a chance," she said.

Her choice of turning down a full scholarship wasn't easy, but after learning of this young woman's background, it made sense that she chose athletic training over education.

VanDeventer, an administrative NCO for the Ohio Military Academy in Columbus, is an athlete who represents the Ohio National Guard and the U.S. Army in sporting events. Not only is she on the Ohio Guard biathlon and triathlon teams, she also placed second in the 3,000 and 5,000 meter runs at the All-Armed Forces Track and Field competition. She is also a member of the National Guard Bureau Development Team, which provides equipment and personal training to promising biathletes.

While many Americans are totally unaware that sports are an important part of the military, VanDeventer has dedicated her life to them. Because she is on the road for weeks at a time competing or training with the Developmental Team, she is unable to hold down a full-time job.

Her athletic ability became apparent when she was runner-up for the national karate championship at the age of 12, only two years after she tried her first karate kick. A year later she became the champion.

Then, in 7th grade, she decided to run track. She took second place her first race with a time of 6 minutes, 30 seconds in

Ohio Guard woman shows promise in biathlon and distance running

the mile. And in high school she went to state three times for cross country and track.

Although she probably could have obtained an athletic scholarship to college, VanDeventer opted to abandon organized sports so she could concentrate on her major, exercise physiology.

"I wanted a solid education," she explained. "I still trained, but I didn't try out for any teams. Coaches tried talking me



Photos by Sgt. Lori King

into it, but I didn't want to be distracted.

"Instead, I learned how the body worked and how to enhance my performance. College helped me to evaluate and to get a realistic look at myself," she added.

She graduated cum laude from Ohio State with a grade point average of 3.65.

At 24, VanDeventer has spent nearly her entire life preparing for her Olympic dream. Though she didn't take up organized sports again until three years ago, she said she has always been running and weight lifting, but without a coach or a chance ... until now.

Although she excels in the triathlon, earning first place trophies in the women's category both times she competed, it's track and the biathlon she hopes will take her to the 1996 and 1998 summer and



IN TRAINING Ohio Army Guard's Sgt. Tracy VanDeventer receives her weapon during biathlon training in Vermont (above) and cleans it (left).

winter games, respectively. She admits she has a lot of work ahead of her, but is eager to accept the challenge.

"I never before considered a biathlon to be real important to me because I didn't see how I could train for it in Ohio, which is a non-snow state. So I didn't have high expectations," she said.

"But this year I've put a lot of time into training. The Development Team has promised to get me on snow and give me a lot of instruction. I think I have a good chance, otherwise I wouldn't have given up all I did."

VanDeventer said she loves the Guard and appreciates the support it has given her in all of her endeavors. It has also helped her become a little less shy and a lot stronger.

"I feel better about myself and more confident, and I hope someday to repay the Ohio Guard for everything it's done for me. If I go to the Olympics and am asked to make a few remarks, I'll mention the Guard and all the help everyone has given me."

If you're wondering if VanDeventer will desert the Guard after the Olympics for more prosperous opportunities, like Nike or McDonalds, rest assured that she'll remain true to the hand that fed her.

"Until they kick me out, I'll probably still be here," she said.

Kansas Guard troops learn to communicate the Army way

By Lt. Col. Joy D. Moser
Kansas National Guard

Authentic. X-ray. Foxtrot," the voice said, clearly.

"I authenticate. Kilo," came the reply.

"Set. November. India."

Again, the reply, "I set. Hotel."

While this is just so much gibberish to many people in the world, it is a simple method of communication to soldiers.

It was part of the classes held recently at the Kansas Guard's Ottawa Armory when the 1st Battalion, 127th Field Artillery conducted a communications school for nearly 35 soldiers.

Those attending were communications chiefs, wire specialists and radio telephone operators brushing up on their communications skills.

"The communications school is important because a big piece of annual training is communications, so we must be prepared," said Lt. Col. Frank Wright, battalion commander.

In a segment on encoding and decoding, where soldiers learned to send messages unreadable to an enemy and easily translated by an ally, SSgt. Mark Mille, the battalion's wire sergeant, stated: "to encode or decode can be life or death."

"It's real easy to make a mistake," added Sgt. Daniel Thompson, the instructor. His remark brought laughter from the class, as they looked through a small, bright yellow book containing several codes. There is much to remember in using these books. Message senders must

Soldier talk

know which direction to go, which sets to use, to remember about the plusses, and many other things in order to get the message right.

For training, students were asked to encode: "Armored convoy to our front." Realizing it was the group's first attempt to encode during the session, 1st Lt. Ron Rousser quipped, "The convoy will be to our rear before you get done." Again, laughter ensued.

Students quickly learned that communication is a vital part of the field artillery mission. It is essential for soldiers to understand, and to be understood, if they are to succeed at their mission.

"This annual school is to discuss any problems that we may have before we go to the field during annual training," said Rousser, "and to brush up on and learn new information about communications. The whole mission is dependent upon communications."

Part of that new technology is the Mobile Subscriber Equipment (MSE), a communications system the unit has had only one year.

The MSE was mounted on two Humvees, allowing soldiers an opportunity for hands-on training.

Spc. David Burgoon Jr. taught the class on the MSE. Class members gathered around the vehicles and tried their hand at making the equipment work for them. Burgoon offered this tip: "Put the batteries in backward. The flat one is positive. It's an accountable item so don't throw it away."

By the time annual training comes, many of these Kansas communicators feel their time spent at the com-



Photo by Lt. Col. Joy Moser

SOLID CONNECTION
Kansas Army Guard's Spc. David Burgoon Jr. demonstrates how to connect Mobile Subscriber Equipment.

munications school will make a difference. "It's been a real big help," said SSgt. Robert Foye Jr., a communication chief with Detachment 1, Battery C, based in Lawrence. "I've never done this before. This is all new"

Sgt. Loren Mead, a communications chief with Service Battery, agreed. "I learned a lot about the MSE equipment that I didn't know. I feel more comfortable operating it and setting it up now," he said.

Mille says the message the school sends is clear. "It pretty much gets them ready for camp, since they don't use this too often while training at the armory," he said. "If we didn't do this, we'd all go in different directions."

CRASH

From Page 3

Affairs.

The Air National Guard was asked also for help in removing the victims of the crash. A search and recovery team was assembled, and within hours 50 Guardmembers were assisting in locating and extricating victims. Guardsmen and women recorded data, marked locations of bodies, tagged bodies, bagged bodies and collected personal items.

"I imagined that they were mannequins and that this was a training exercise. I don't think I could handle this if I knew them," said Capt. Jeannette Long, a 156th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron flight nurse.

Other Guardsmen were equally affected. "I will never forget this Independence Day; the odor of death is everywhere," stated an exhausted TSgt. Barney Barnett, a 156th Airlift Squadron life support member.

Members from the 145th Services Flight and 156th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron used flags and wooden stakes to mark where bodies were found. After they were released by the medical examiner, the bodies were carried on litters to a refrigerated tractor trailer truck. After working 10 hours in 90 degree heat, 36 of the 37 bodies were located.

After most of the bodies were found,



Photos by MSgt. Tom Innes

145th Aerial Port Squadron personnel used forklifts and cables to remove a wing where the final body was discovered.

"They (the Guard) accomplished in one day what could have taken three days," said Don Bryant, Mecklenburg County medical examiner.

Members of Disaster Preparedness and Civil Engineering began work on a crash site grid map. The information would be used to provide a detailed layout of the crash site, which would be used by the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) and Mecklenburg County Medical Examiner in their investigation.

On July 4, removal of the DC-9 from the crash site began. The North Carolina Air Guard volunteered personnel and equipment for the task. Part of a hangar was also offered as a place to store the cockpit and two engines for further investigation.

The 145th's efforts were not lost on Jerry Orr, Charlotte Airport's aviation director.

"The Air Guard handled a large amount

WRECKAGE - Federal Aviation Authority investigators (left) direct the loading of the cockpit by 145th Airlift Group aerial port personnel. North Carolina Air Guard's 1st Lt. Barbara Doncaster (below, left) and Lt. Col. Dan Beck plot body markers on a crash scene grid map.

of the difficult and unpleasant tasks associated with an air crash recovery effort," he said. "Their expertise and training in disaster response was truly exemplified at this accident.

"I know how important the dual roles of the military are for our country," Orr added, "and how the Guard can help a community face disaster."

The Guard's role was not limited to the crash site. Five members were tasked to the Mecklenburg County Medical Examiners office in Charlotte. For four days, Guardsmembers unloaded and processed bodies at the morgue.

"More than 100 of our men and women responded to this disaster," said Lt. Col. Sam Coleman, air commander for the North Carolina Air Guard. "No one can imagine the horror they faced, yet they worked tirelessly and unselfishly to help others. They were, without a doubt, the silent angels of this horrible incident."

Last November, the North Carolina Air Guard and local Charlotte emergency personnel practiced a simulated aircraft accident. Ironically, the simulated exercise was conducted less than a quarter-mile from the July 2 crash.

NEWS MAKERS

Compiled by Gina McLaughlin
National Guard Bureau

Sp. Dean Kai of the Hawaii Army Guard's Company B, 29th Support Battalion, was recently honored as the 1993 Hawaii Army National Guard Soldier of the Year, and the U.S. Army of the Pacific's Outstanding Soldier of the Year. Since enlisting in 1992, Kai has been awarded the Distinguished Soldier Gauntlet Award in basic training, a letter of commendation for Distinguished Soldier and the Battalion Coin for outstanding performance during Annual Training '93.

The New Jersey Air Guard's MSgt. Sharyne Albertson has been named the 1994 Career and Education Manager of the Year. According to Lt. Col. Lynn Robinson, 177th Fighter Group vice commander, "She is highly deserving of special recognition." Due to Albertson's extra efforts, last year's retention rate for the 177th FG was 96 percent.

Oregon Air Guardmember Maj. Bruce Prunk was recently named the Portland Police Bureau's Police Commander. Prunk, a social actions officer with the 142nd Fighter Group based in Portland, will be captain of the newly formed Northeast Community Policing Center. He is only the second Air Guardmember to hold a position in the police bureau's hierarchy.

Col. Gene Riley, South Carolina National Guard's chief of staff recently accepted the Army Communities of Excellence Award for "Most Improved" on behalf of his state. With the honor came a check for \$10,000. The purpose of Army Communities of Excellence is to improve services and quality of life for Guard soldiers while enhancing the communities in which they live and work.

Maj. Chris W. Small has ended his command of the B Battery, 2nd Battalion, 263rd Air Defense Artillery, South Carolina Army National Guard. The commander stands out because he's also an AGR member who works at the National Guard Bureau in Washington, D.C. He has juggled several hats and long distances for some time and is now ready to join his wife and begin a new job with the Bureau.

A group of employers from Acadiana and South Louisiana recently got a chance to see what their full-time employees do part time with the Louisiana National Guard's 256th Infantry Brigade. Under a program called "Boss Lift," employers were invited to Fort Polk while the 256th conducted its annual training. "I never knew they had to do so much training in so little time," remarked Stephen Lane, a member of the Jefferson Parish sewage board.

CWO4 (ret.) Wayne E. Davis has been selected as a Distinguished Member of the Quartermaster Regiment of the U.S. Army. Davis' 25 years in the Corps is an accomplishment that will "serve as a shining example for those who follow in his footsteps," said Maj. Gen. Robert K. Guest, Commanding General of the Quartermaster Corps. Davis retired from the Colorado Army Guard in 1993.



Heroic Florida crew battled storm to save fallen comrades.



Maj. Chris Small (left) gives up his commute and command.



Maryland TAG, Maj. Gen. James Fretterd is selected the 1994 APEX Man of the Year.



MacArthur award winner, Capt. Mario Lijois from Florida.

TSgt. Elizabeth M. Christiansen, 128th USAF Clinic, Wisconsin Air National Guard, is this year's recipient of the Outstanding ANG Medical Administration Award. Winning this award allows Christiansen to now compete for the Air Force-level award. The award is established by the Chief of the Medical Services Corps to recognize outstanding contributions to Air Force medical administration by enlisted personnel.

2nd Lt. Michelle Rocco is the first female pilot in the Vermont Air Guard. She recently joined the 158th Fighter Group, based in Burlington. "The Vermont Air National Guard (has) treated me as a professional and made me feel truly welcome," she said. Rocco and her husband Mark reside in Burlington.

SFC Nancy F. Wroblewski has been selected as the Arkansas National Guard Employee of the Year. Wroblewski runs the Arkansas Guard's day-to-day operations for personnel, supply, maintenance and training.

The Toledo Air National Guard's 180th Fighter Group was this year's winner of the Tappan Memorial Trophy. The trophy recognizes Ohio's most outstanding Air National Guard unit.

Col. Douglas S. Thomblum, the Texas National Guard's inspector general, was recently awarded the Spanish Cross of Military Merit, First Class. Thomblum assisted the Spanish Army while on assignment at the American embassy in Madrid as an Army attache.

Maj. Gen. James F. Fretterd, Maryland Adjutant General, received the 1994 APEX Man of the Year award for "boldness in hiring and promoting women to significant positions." Fretterd, who directs more than 9,300 Army and Air Guard personnel, is the first military person to receive the award.

Siblings Nora Lonergan and Henry Spradlin, both with the Illinois Air National Guard's 183rd Fighter Group, were recently promoted to second lieutenant during a Unit Training Assembly. The two were pinned by their recruiter and brother, TSgt. Joe Spradlin of the 183rd Maintenance Squadron.

Capt. Mario V. Lijois, a member of the Florida National Guard, has been awarded the General MacArthur Award for leadership excellence. A programmer/systems analyst in civilian life, Lijois was one of only five Guard officers recognized for the prestigious honor.

Eight soldiers with the Florida Guard's 199th Medical Company were recognized for "flawless efforts during extreme weather conditions" while evacuating 10 Florida Guardmembers struck by lightning. The soldiers are: Sgt. William Allison, SSgt. Daniel Lux, SSgt. Claude Franklin, Sgt. Frederick Radford, CWO2 Albert Lewis, CWO3 Dale Vasco, CWO4 John Klotz and CWO4 James Donohoe.

JUCO TRES

Eight Air Guard states respond to massive airlift

By Maj Jean Marie Beall
Maryland National Guard

Five years ago a swarm of birds descended into Carolina pine country in preparation for a trip south.

But warm weather wasn't the motive then. Operation Just Cause was about to begin. Dozens of "birds," including C-130 Hercules planes, were moving into Pope AFB, N.C., preparing to transport troops from the 82nd Airborne Division to the Republic of Panama.

Recently, eight Air Guard states attempted to repeat the performance at the third Juco Tres exercise.

Juco stands for Joint Unit Coordinated Operation and Tres is the number three in Spanish.

The third Juco exercise's purpose, according to Lt. Col. Dan Watkins, Juco's planner and a pilot with the Maryland Air National Guard's 135th Airlift Group, was to train numerous Air Guard C-130 units to be able to respond to a massive airlift requirement.

Watkins recalls when he was training in Frankfort, Germany, when the Army suddenly needed 10 C-130s to move troops. It took some coordinating, but it came off.

"I told my boss, 'Hey, we need to start doing more of these formally,'" he recalled.

Seven states sent C-130s, including California's 146th Airlift Wing; Kentucky's 123rd AW; Missouri's 139th Airlift Group; Ohio's 179th AG; Oklahoma's 137th AW; Rhode Island's 143rd AG; and Maryland's 135th AG. Connecticut's 103rd Fighter Group provided A-10s.

One of the features of the exercise was that it was geared toward traditional Guardmembers. The exercise began on a Friday and ended Sunday.



Photos by Maj. Jean Marie Beall

Serving as deputy coordinator was Capt. William Schneider, a member of the 135th AG. "I worked on this (the planning) three to four months prior to the

exercise," Schneider said. "We had to coordinate all the training requirements with with crews' experience."

Schneider said there were four

airdropping artillery and tanks during two different sorties was Capt. Craig Spence, a C-130 pilot in the 135th and director of security for Dulles International Airport in Washington, D.C.

After a couple hours of planning, Spence and his crew walked out to the flight line and waiting bird.

Explaining to a bystander how the airdropping would work, Spence began: "See that chute up there? That's the extraction chute. When the green light goes on, that lets the chute out the back."

Spence noted that the first load consisted of two pallets of artillery equipment at 4,984 pounds per pallet. "We don't want the second load to go out until the first is cleared," he added. Each pallet drop takes from one to three seconds.

Each airdrop went well, while in the distance, the A-10s provided cover.

TSgt. Parry Jones, a flight engineer said a multiple ship formation was not a first for him. While in Italy, he was involved in a 10-ship formation.

Spence said he really enjoyed the trip because of the experience it gave him. Besides the load challenges (airdropping a tank is not common for C-130s), the change in terrain is good.

"You get used to flying around the local routes," he said. "This gives you a chance to fly other routes and work with other units."

For loadmaster SSgt. Joseph Nosler, working with uncommon loads was good training. "I have never loaded a tank before," said the traditional Guardmember. "It was fun. It weighs so much, 35,000 pounds, it affects the center of gravity of the aircraft."

Members from the other states also gained a lot from the exercise.

"This is the first time I've dropped actual loads of this type," commented SSgt. Dean Cook, a loadmaster for Rhode Island's 143rd Airlift Group.

For SMSgt. Harold Moore, a flight engineer with Oklahoma's 137th AW, the only disappointment came when the crews could not actually airdrop the tanks.

"But we did make different types of airdrops," he said.

Watkins is already planning the next airlift exercise for the fall that would simulate providing airlift for the Army's Airfield Seizure (Light). With an estimated 27 C-130s, the Guard could airlift 3,500 people in a Division-Ready Brigade "in less than 15 minutes."

OFFLOAD - Maryland's SSgt. Joseph Nosler (above) guides an emergency vehicle off a C-130. Members of the 82nd Airborne (left) march on to a Maryland C-130.

A-10s, 15 C-130s and a total of 156 persons involved in the exercise. In total, C-130s airdropped 353,000 pounds of supplies and delivered 56 passengers and 13 vehicles.

Early Saturday morning, after several briefings from various players, including the A-10 crews from Connecticut who would provide cover for the C-130s, the crews broke-but into planning groups.

Drawing the assignment of



STATES

- Hawaii Bill passed
- Wisconsin 'MASHers'
- Colorado honored

NEW YORK

The 107th Air Refueling Group, based in Niagara, adopted a 3.3 mile stretch of the Robert Moses Parkway.

Armed with plastic bags and litter sticks, a crew of 18 volunteers began their quarterly task of "litter sweep."

FLORIDA

The 125th Fighter Group is involved in a program called "Partners in Education" at the Callahan Intermediate School and Brentwood Elementary School in Jacksonville.

Through the Guard, the school now has a successful physical education program (the school had no PE teachers).

KENTUCKY

The construction of a new airbase for the Kentucky Air National Guard is underway at Standiford Field in Louisville. The project began in May and is expected to be completed by January 1995. The base is the home of the 123rd Airlift Wing, a C-130 unit involved in many airlift missions to Somalia and the former Yugoslavia.

WISCONSIN

The Wisconsin Army Guard's 13th Combat Support Hospital aided the local chapter of the Red Cross by hosting a MASH Bash fundraiser. Party goers were asked to dress like the TV characters.

SNIPER ATTACK

Spc. Scott King, a member of the South Carolina National Guard's 133rd Military Police Company, takes aim at a sniper during a mock civil disturbance exercise held June 17-20. The action was part of a State Area Command Disaster Readiness Exercise.



Photo by Spt. Van Hope

HAWAII

Two house bills were passed by the Hawaii State Legislature at the end of the 1994 session.

Gov. John Waihee signed a bill that will allow Hawaii Guardmembers to use tuition waivers with Montgomery GI Bill benefits at any University of Hawaii campus. The bill also provides UH tuition waivers for family members of the Hawaii Guardmembers killed or permanently disabled while on federal or state active duty.

Another bill passed, but awaiting Waihee's signature, will provide members relief from civil burdens at the time when they are least able to respond. Prior to this bill, Hawaii's citizen-soldiers on extended active duty, like Hurricane Iniki, were not protected from the enforcement of certain civil liabilities.

COLORADO

Because of the high profile message to youth to stay drug-free, Colorado's National Guard was recently honored by the National Family Partnership with its 1993 Special Event Award of Excellence.

The award recognized the state for its conduct last fall of the Red Ribbon Fly-in -- a statewide activity that involved the Guard's Drug Demand Reduction Program.

Over a 10-day period, Colorado Guard helicopters landed at schools and spread the message about staying drug-free.

OHIO

By SSgt. David Risher
Ohio National Guard

Guardmembers were spotted giving the old "heave-ho" to the Loveland School District. No, they weren't throwing students and staff out on the streets, just the opposite. Annual training for 23 Cincinnati-based soldiers meant shuffling school supplies and equipment from school to school, to school, to school ...

The once sleepy community is now "bursting at the seams" with Cincinnati commuters looking for suburban living. Sitting about 20 minutes northeast of downtown, Loveland offers good schools, lots of land and plenty of community spirit.

With all these advantages, a new high school was built to accommodate the rush of families

moving into the area.

In order to move into the new buildings, Loveland had to shift elementary and middle school grades among five buildings. Branch Hill Kindergarten moved to Lloyd Mann Elementary; Lloyd Mann Elementary to Loveland Miami School; Loveland Miami to Loveland Middle School; Loveland Middle School to Loveland Hurst; and Loveland Hurst to the new high school.

Learning the plight of the local school district, the 147th Infantry Battalion offered five two-and-a-half ton trucks and 23 soldiers. In all, they moved over 200 loads of desks, chairs, cabinets and boxes.

"I've never ached so much or had so many bruises, and still felt so good," said Sgt. Bryan McWhorter.



BACK TO SCHOOL - Members of the Ohio Army Guard load athletic equipment.

The National Guard in World War I



The LOST Battalion

Two months after the Normandy landings, the Allied Armies believed they had clear sailing to the German border. However, there were still many battles to be fought and won. One such battle was to take place in a sleepy little town in France known as Mortain.

A German counterattack known as "Operation Lutich" was designed by Hitler to strike with lightning speed to the coast-cutting off American forward units. Then a force of eight panzer divisions would turn north and roll up the entire Allied beachhead in Normandy. Hitler envisioned that the Allies would be thrown back into the sea.

Unaware the Germans were planing such a daring counterthrust, the U.S. VII Corps, commanded by Maj. Gen. Lawton Collins, continued its exploitation of recent successes. On Aug. 6, the 30th Infantry Division -- a National Guard division consisting of units from North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee -- commanded by Maj. Gen. Leland Hobbs, relieved the 1st Infantry Division in the vicinity of Mortain. Moving into the 1st Division's hastily prepared positions, the 120th Infantry occupied positions in and around Mortain. The 117th Infantry moved into positions in the vicinity of St. Barthelemy while the 119th Infantry Regiment, assigned as division reserve, assembled near Juvigny. As these units dug in, little did they know that four panzer divisions were already rolling at full speed toward them.

The German counterattack kicked off at approximately 1 a.m., Aug. 7, and would last five days. During the first few hours of the attack the 30th came under intense fire all along its seven-mile front. Although the initial enemy penetration was halted on the first day, the 30th could not dislodge the enemy. The fighting at Mortain developed into close-range, small unit combat.

While the entire 30th Division fought gallantly, the soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 120th Infantry literally fought for their existence on

Hill 314. Hill 314, known to the French as La Suisse Normande, was a rocky mass whose western edge was a sheer drop known as the Cliffs of Montjoie. Those who occupied this key piece of terrain controlled operations for as far as the eye could see. On a clear day, the provinces of Maine, Brittany and Normandy were visible along with the road networks running from Mortain to the coast. For now the 2nd Battalion, 120th Infantry occupied the hill, but the Germans wanted it back.

During the initial German penetration on Aug. 7, Hill 314 was surrounded and bypassed. On it the 2nd Battalion found itself isolated and cut off from the rest of the division. While the 117th and 119th Infantry Regiments fought to stop the German advance, efforts shifted to relieving the men on Hill 314. The 2nd Battalion became known to history as the "Lost Battalion."

Commanding the battalion on La Suisse Normande was Capt. Reynold C. Erichson. Erichson gained command when the battalion's commander was captured and taken prisoner. For more than five days, he refused to surrender and denied the enemy this key terrain feature. During the siege, Capt. Erichson consistently thought of innovative ways to sustain the battalion until it could be relieved.

The 230th and 113th Field Artillery Battalions directed fire missions onto the hill with medical supplies

Maj. Jeffrey Pope
NGB Historian



and ammunition encased in shell casings. Soldiers dug potatoes out of the ground and ate green apples off trees within their perimeter. Additional food was provided by local French farmers. Meanwhile, riflemen kept up an around-the-clock effort, repulsing each attack, despite a constant air bombardment and artillery fire.

On the evening of Aug. 9 the situation on Hill 314 was desperate. Under a flag of truce, a German SS officer made his way to the top of the hill requesting the 2nd Battalion's surrender. Offering good treatment in lieu of total annihilation, the SS officer's surrender ultimatum was turned down by Erichson.

Later that evening, as German Panzers reached Company E's perimeter, the SS officer's promise seemed to be coming true. However, massed artillery fire called in on their own positions, and the gallant stand made by the 120th's soldiers turned the tide. Just before dawn the German panzers withdrew.

As the sun rose on Aug. 11, the men on Hill 314 detected Germans moving east away from Mortain. Relief, however, was slow in coming to the besieged 2nd Battalion. Artillery and sniper fire from dug in panzer grenadiers rang down on them all day and night.

Shortly before noon on Aug. 12, elements of the 1st Battalion, 119th Infantry and the 35th Infantry Division finally made contact with the "Lost Battalion." The siege was over.

From their superior position, the 2nd Battalion had paralyzed German efforts in the area. While the 30th Division was fighting for its life, Lt. Gen. Omar Bradley, commanding general 12th U.S. Army Group, envisioned the opportunity to crush the German Army. "[This is the] greatest tactical blunder I've ever heard of," Bradley said of the German attack. Probably won't happen again in a thousand years." Bradley was referring to Hitler's leaving himself open to a short envelopment by throwing so much of his armor forward. Taking advantage, Bradley countered successfully over the next several days. The 30th Infantry Division had kept the Germans occupied long enough for Gen. Bradley to execute his plan.

During the siege of Hill 314, more than 300 2nd Battalion soldiers were killed or wounded. The "Old Hickory" Division had lost more than 3,000 soldiers in the six-day battle.

After the battle at Mortain, the German Armies began a mass exodus back toward Germany. For the Germans the battle of France was lost.

Today, the 30th Infantry Division is made up of the North Carolina Army Guard's 30th Infantry Brigade, where the 119th and 120th Infantry Regiments, and the 113th Field Artillery are active units within the brigade. The 117th Infantry Regiment continues to serve proudly in the Tennessee Army National Guard.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Maj. Jeffrey Pope is a former enlisted soldier in the 1st Battalion, 119th Infantry. A National Guard Heritage Painting print of this epic battle titled, "The Battle of Mortain," is available from National Guard Bureau, ATTN: NGB-PAH.

'OLD HICKORY' - 30th Infantry Division soldiers (left) take cover behind a hedgerow.





TRAINING

SOUNDING OFF - Spc. Kevin Williams (below) shouts as he pulls the lanyard. Cpl. Owen Powell (right) passes the charge to PFC Melvin Vargas.



'TANKS' A LOT - An M109A4 Self-Propelled Howitzer (bottom photo) fires its 155 millimeter gun during live-fire training. Spc. Robert Trzaska (below, left) gives the go-ahead to an M1 Abrams at a road crossing.



BLAST into HISTORY

New York's 258th Field Artillery gets new howitzer

By Maj. Paul Fanning
New York National Guard

With a sharp tug on the lanyard the M109's 155-millimeter gun gave a mighty bark, sending the first projectile hurtling into the impact area. Cheers went forth from the gathered crowd of battalion staff and crews waiting to go on-line.

It was a milestone for New York's 1st Battalion, 258th Field Artillery. "It's phenomenal the distance we've come," said Maj. Charles Donaghey, battalion executive officer. "Nine months ago we reorganized from M101A1 towed howitzers to M109A4 self-propelled 155s. The troops are really pumped."

It has been a difficult period for New York cannoneers. Force cuts have eliminated three of four artillery battalions and the New York-based division artillery brigade headquarters over the last four years. The historic 1st Battalion, 258th Field Artillery is an amalgamation of units from Queens, Brooklyn and Rochester.



Photos by Maj. Paul Fanning

Battalion commander, Lt. Col. Martin Gidansky, got the ceremonial privilege of pulling the lanyard for the first round. He said he is proud of the hard work his troop's expended to make the transition a success. "The bottom line is we took different people from around the state, who all have different backgrounds, ethnicity, jobs, etcetera... and we built a cohesive unit," he said. "I call this the battalion of the 21st Century."

But the training and reorganizing had

to be done by soldiers of the 258th themselves. Ordinarily, special new equipment training would have been provided, but in times when funds are nonexistent, the cannoneers were left to their own devices.

Last year at Fort Drum, the 258th used borrowed M109s and M548 ammunition carriers from the New Jersey National Guard to familiarize the sections. During the rest of the year, enlisted soldiers spent their drills at the High-tech Center at Fort

Dix, N.J. This year, gun crews went through lanes training, performed dry-fire drills and became 'Table II' certified. Their reward was to fire 10 rounds per gun. Battalion leaders boasted of low sick calls during the tour, and a 100 percent reenlistment rate for soldiers eligible for separation.

"The troops are psyched," declared CSM Art Murfitt. "They're here to be a part of this training. It's why they joined and why they are staying."