



THE ON GUARD

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Baca addresses key issues

'We have to guarantee that today's Guardmember is trained, equipped and ready to do the job'

By Lt. Col. David Super
National Guard Bureau

Less than one month after Senate confirmation, Lt. Gen. Edward D. Baca's E-ring Pentagon office is buzzing with activity.

While his staff copes with heavy demand, the General's calendar is packed with a body-numbing list of appointments. The 24th Chief of the National Guard Bureau is settling into his job.

In describing his impact on the New Mexico National Guard where he spent more than a decade as adjutant general, the state's CSM Tom Garcia issued a forecast of what the nation can expect from this ordnance officer, Vietnam War veteran and career Guardsman who has a personal best marathon time of 3:10. "We did things that we never thought were possible. He came to work with new ideas every day of the year."

Garcia, a four-decade Guard veteran, applauded Gen. Baca's early years as an NCO where he "understood how to get things accomplished. I saw (in him) an individual who was very much different, with a very likeable personality; he just stood out from everyone else. You knew he was going to do things that were important."

Gen. Baca, 55, takes over at the National Guard Bureau with the transition from the Cold War military to a much-changed Total Force well underway. In his first lengthy media interview since moving to Washington, D.C., he stated, "My vision for the National Guard is to see that we are the best equipped, the best



trained and the most highly motivated force possible. We have to maintain an organization that is capable of meeting national security needs, state and domestic missions."

A native of Santa Fe and the first Hispanic to be named Chief, Gen. Baca has been a participant in National Guard Bureau activities starting well before his years as adjutant general of the 5,300-member New Mexico Army and Air National Guard.

He began working full time for his home state in the late 1950s, and started coming to the Pentagon in 1971 to meet with his counterparts during a 20-year series of career advancements that included full-time duty as logistics director, state comptroller, state supervisory examiner, military personnel management officer and chief of staff.

During his career he also served as a "militia Guardsman" in various command and staff positions, to include commander of the State Area Command.

While adjutant general he also served on the Army Reserve Forces Policy Committee and the Reserve Components Coordinating Council, jobs that frequently brought him to the nation's capital.

Gen. Baca is tackling a complex agenda that is dominated on the federal level by the need to nurture adequate funding, manpower and equipment to ensure the National Guard's continued role in the Total Force. From the state mission side of the equation, the National Guard must continue its traditional support to citizens in the time of emergency while developing expanded duties with counterdrug missions and youth programs.

Gen. Baca said that he is studying the organization of the NGB to "capitalize on those good things we are doing and to determine if there are changes that need to be made. I have two outstanding directors of the Army and Air Guard. I don't intend to micro-manage their activities; I intend to give them the leadership and

CHIEF ADDRESS - Lt. Gen. Edward Baca discusses the National Guard's future.

See BACA, Page 13

Photo by MSgt. John Thornton

DRUG USE IS LIFE ABUSE



COMMENTARY

COUNTERDRUG UPDATE

• As of Nov. 2, 2,302 Army National Guard and 776 Air National Guard personnel were on counterdrug support duty in all 54 states and territories.

• The total value of cash and drugs seized by police with National Guard assistance in Fiscal Year 1994 was \$102 billion.

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LETTERS

SERGEANT SARGENT?

"RING! Charlie Battery, 2nd Battalion, 265th Air Defense Artillery. This is Sgt. Sargent speaking. Can I help you sir."

Pause..... "Who is this?"

"This is Sgt. Sargent speaking."

"Sgt. who?"

"My rank is sergeant, and my name is Sargent."

"Oh. OK."

Hardly a day goes by that this scenario doesn't play out. But after being a soldier for nine years you definitely get used to it.

It all started the day I arrived for basic training at Fort Knox. I was informed by my drill sergeant that my new name was Pvt. Private, because he and the other 'drills' were not willing to call a Private, Sergeant.

My name, however, has been more of an asset than a burden. Although I could never tell you the amount of times someone has said to me: "won't it be neat when you become Spc. Sargent, Sgt. Sargent or SGM Sargent."

I've taken it in stride because my name brings out the best in people. It either gives them a good laugh or starts them on stories of other soldier's they have known with odd names like Sgt. Major and Capt. America.

So remember, if you to have an unusual name don't get upset. Diversity such as ours, has and will, continue to make the Army and America strong."

Sgt. Jeffrey D. Sargent
Florida National Guard

SNIPER OVERSIGHT

"I'm writing in reference to the Sept. 1994 *The On Guard* article titled, 'Texans Take Shooting Titles' in the Sports section. I feel that with a little research it would have been written differently.

Looking back over the match bulletin of the 1994 U.S. Army Combat Arms Matches, I found the final scores tell a much different story than that of your recent article. It is true that SSgt. Edmund Becka finished first in the "Old Class" category at the Combat Sniper Individual Championships. This statement misleads readers into believing that SSgt. Becka performed above all other sniper competitors. He finished ninth among all snipers (young and old) in the individual championships.

I am not writing this to discredit SSgt. Becka's sniper skills, but to point out that SSgt. John Christ of the Nebraska Army Guard's 1st Battalion, 167th Long Range Surveillance Detachment, deserves the praise for winning the overall Individual Championship. Additionally, I feel that another article should mention that Nebraska's 1st Battalion, 167th LRSD won the Combat Sniper Team Championship. The team was comprised of SSgt. Christ and myself.

Enclosed are copies of the final scores. You'll notice that the National Guard and Reserve units did as well or better than the active Army units. This shows that Guardmembers and Reservists can compete with active Army soldiers.

I sincerely hope it will be reflected in an upcoming *On Guard* article."

SSgt. Richard A. Gray
Nebraska National Guard

Editor's note: Our sincerest apologies for the slight. It has always been the policy of The On Guard never to anger snipers, especially superior ones.

POETIC TRIBUTE

I'm enclosing a tribute to the National Guard. I served in the 26th Yankee Infantry Division for nine years, and later assigned to the Army Reserve as a second lieutenant. I also served in World War II as a captain in the quartermaster corps.

I am 94-years-old and resident in at the Steere House Nursing Facility in Providence, R.I.

As they drilled and
trained and marched,
They prayed that wars
on earth would cease.
Yet they knew they must be ready,
Even during times of peace.
While others were having fun
Going on summer vacation.
They went to camp to train
To defend our mighty Nation.
The war to end wars had ended,
In the forties another war was begun.
Our standing Army was ready
To battle until it was won.
Family men of peace left homes
To take their military stand.
The Guard, the first to go,
The silent heroes of our land.

William L. Delaney
Vermont National Guard retired

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ters to: NGB-PAC, 2500 Army Pen-
tagon, Washington, DC, 20310-2500

GUARD TOONS

By Lyle Farquhar



"Oh, that's just my dad ... He's in the National Guard. He says 1994 was so busy that he's gonna be READY for '95!"



IN THE NEWS

- William Tell winners
- New Carolina TAG
- Humanitarian efforts



Photo by Sgt. Mark Faram

ACTIVATED - 401 Guardmembers marched into history Nov. 4, when the 4/505 was made official.

Sinai peacekeepers activated

Army Guard volunteers march off for six-month mission in Egypt

By Capt. John Goheen
National Guard Bureau

Sp. James Hedges has a keen sense of history, and a bit of an adventuresome streak. Why else would a young man with a wife and a steady civilian job near his Baltimore home volunteer for six months of peacekeeping duty in the Sinai desert? "History. This mission will make history," said the member of the Maryland Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 175th Infantry. "I just couldn't pass it up."

"My wife and employer weren't crazy about it at first, but they're supportive now," Hedges added. "They know how badly I wanted to do this. Not too many people get a chance to go Egypt and Israel. And this is the first time the National Guard has been part of a peacekeeping mission. This is a chance to be part of history."

History.

The word rolls easily off the tongues of the 401 Army Guardmembers currently at Fort Bragg, N.C., preparing for the January start of their assignment with the Sinai Multinational Force and observers. And for good reason. Their arrival on the Sinai Peninsula will mark the National Guard's first participation in a peacekeeping mission.

For those involved, the mission is an opportunity, literally and figuratively, to leave footprints in the sand. "This is something that I'll someday be able to tell my kids and grand kids about. It's also a chance to make a name for the National Guard," said PFC Joseph Taylor, also of Baltimore and a member of the 2nd Battalion, 175th Infantry. "My son will be about two when I get back and I'm already looking forward to showing him pictures and telling him all about it."

The Sinai assignment is also an experiment. The U.S. Army will use this mission to determine the feasibility of using Reserve Component soldiers for peacekeeping duties, thereby freeing active duty units for other duties.

■ See PEACEKEEPERS, Page 11

North Dakota unit takes 'William Tell'

By SrA. Ryan C. Christiansen
North Dakota National Guard

Flying in lesser-equipped aircraft, pilots with the North Dakota Air Guard's 119th Fighter Group captured overall team honors at the 40th anniversary of the William Tell competition held at Tyndall AFB, Fla.

The worldwide weapons meet tested pilots and ground crews from the U.S. Air Force's top units in realistic, air-to-air combat situations.

Flying in the older model F-16A, the Fargo-based Happy Hooligans beat out units from the 9th Air Force,

U.S. Air Forces Europe, Pacific Air Forces, Air National Guard and Canadian Forces Air Command. The competition has been dominated in recent years by units that fly the F-15.

"We proved that with the proper maintenance and when flown properly, the F-16 does a good job in the air-superiority role," said Col. Mike Haugen, 119th Group commander.

It was only the second time that F-16s took part in the biennial dog-fighting competition.

"We definitely had the oldest

■ See HOOLIGANS, Page 4



A TEAM - A load crew from the 119th fixes a bomb in place.

NATIONAL BRIEFS

SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTS NEW ADJUTANT GENERAL

Brig. Gen. Stanhope C. Spears was elected by South Carolina voters to replace Maj. Gen. T. Eston Marchant as the state's Adjutant General. South Carolina is the only state that elects its TAG in a statewide election every four years.

Gen. Spears, a traditional Guardmember currently serving as South Carolina's assistant adjutant general, defeated former Guard officer Tom Hendrix Nov. 8, capturing 59 percent of the vote.

OREGON PROMOTES GENERALS

For the first time in the history of Oregon, two of its senior officers were promoted to general on the same day.

The Sept. 30 ceremony honored Maj. Gen. E.B. Ward, Air National Guard Special Assistant to the Commander in Chief of the U.S. Air Forces Europe and former Oregon Air Guard commander. Brig. Gen. William F. Doctor, the present ORANG commander, pinned on his first star.

HUMANITARIAN SERVICE MEDAL APPROVED

The Humanitarian Service Medal has been approved for the following operations:

- Combined Task Force Comfort: This operation provided care and survival of more than 500,000 Kurdish refugees in Northern Iraq who fled their homelands from June 15, 1991 to April 15, 1992.
- Guardmembers involved in operations during the Mississippi River flood. The following are the states and their particular inclusive periods:
Illinois: July 9 - Nov. 10, 1993
Iowa: July 9 - Dec. 31, 1993
Missouri: July 11 - Oct. 5, 1993
Nebraska: July 19 - Aug. 10, 1993
Wisconsin: June 7 - Sept. 25, 1993
Kansas: July 22 - Sept. 13, 1993
South Dakota: July 19 - Sept. 12, 1993
North Dakota: July 26 - Aug. 20, 1993

STROUD NAMED 'ROLE MODEL'

Maj. Gen. Ansel M. Stroud, Louisiana Adjutant General was honored as a "role model" by the New Orleans Youth Leadership Council during a recent awards ceremony.

The award recognized the numerous community projects the Louisiana Guard was involved in. Stroud was also instrumental in using National Guard engineers to demolish 50 crack houses in the New Orleans area.



FLYING HIGH - A 119th pilot prepares for flight.

HOOIGANS

From Page 3

truck on the block," confirmed Lt. Col. Tom Tolman, a 119th pilot. "But we have a bunch of common sense people who are willing to work their butts off."

Tolman also believes the small-town, North Dakota upbringing has something to do with the Hooligan's success. "You can't just exist in North Dakota and get by," he observed. "If you don't prepare for winter here, you'll die."

Being Guardmembers is also a plus, he says.

"The Guard had a tremendous advantage over active duty squadrons," Tolman added. "We have very little turn around, so it allows us to build team cohesion."

"Heck, the Guard has lots of units just as good as us."

Certainly the fliers and maintainers with Vermont's 158th Fighter Group might agree. The Burlington-based fliers finished third overall and can boast having the best maintenance and load teams in the world. By no coincidence, the 119th finished second in each of the above categories.

The competition took place Oct. 11-22 and was performed over the Gulf of Mexico. The teams earned up to 50,000 points in four areas: Operations (60 percent); weapons control (20 percent); maintenance (10 percent) and weapons loading (10 percent). Points were earned during four separate combat scenarios or "profiles." The four combat scenarios were:

- Firing heat-seeking and radar-guided missiles at drones.
- Firing 20mm cannon rounds at F-15-towed targets.
- Defending four ships against a mass raid of enemy aircraft.
- Shooting down four enemy planes in a dogfight in less than five minutes.

Named after the original William Tell, who rescued his homeland from a ruthless dictator some 650 years ago, the competition began in 1954. The Hooligans have qualified for Tell eight times, winning it four.

Louisiana helps dunk 'fish tanks'

By 1st Lt. David Barham
Louisiana National Guard

The U.S. military hopes that fish like to stay in tanks.

That's real tanks, not aquariums. In an effort to boost the fish population in the Gulf of Mexico, soldiers have been pushing old and unusable tanks into the gulf off the coast of Alabama. Officials hope that the tanks become breeding grounds for small fish.

Col. Thomas Ogles, commander of the joint task force that's heading the operation, said the small fish will surely bring big fish into the area. "Big fish bring fishermen who will likely buy goods and pay taxes in Alabama," he said.

The military gets training out of the deal. Alabama gets a not-so-natural resource and the fish get a long-lasting place to stay, Ogles noted.

"It's one of those rare win-win-win situations," he said. "It's a lot better return than (selling the tanks for) scrap metal."

Soldiers with the Louisiana National Guard helped load the tanks on a barge and push it out about 10 miles into the Gulf. When they arrived at the right spot, the tanks were pushed off the side, creating an artificial reef.

The Environmental Protection Agency had to sign off on the tanks, making sure that the tanks' doors were taken off or welded open for safety. Fluids were also drained from the tanks.

SSgt. Loney Felder, a platoon sergeant in the Louisiana National Guard's 2226th Transportation Terminal Service Company based in New Orleans, said many of the men in his unit are fishermen and were talking about coming back to Alabama in

several years to reap some of the benefits of their work.

"It doesn't make it easier work, but it gives you a good feeling inside," said Felder, 31, a pre-med student at the University of New Orleans.

The Army's 310th Theatre Army Area Command from Virginia, the Army Reserve's 1184th Terminal Transportation Battalion from Alabama and the Louisiana National Guard participated in the project. Since Sept. 25, the units have placed more than 36 tanks in the Alabama surf.

Felder's unit was created after Desert Storm for the purpose of loading such equipment for shipping. But few of the soldiers knew they'd be one day loading tanks to drop into the ocean.

Spc. Ryan Madere, 22, said he was surprised when he heard what the Army wanted to do with the tanks.

"When I got the call, I said, 'Putting tanks in the water?' Later, I thought it was a good idea," he said.

"About five years from now, I'm going to bring some scuba gear and see what it looks like," Madere added.



Photo by 1st Lt. David Barham

FISH TANKS? - Members of the Louisiana Army Guard help lower an unserviceable tank onto a barge headed for the Gulf of Mexico. Officials hope they become breeding grounds for fish.

Officials said the tanks, with their much thicker hull, will last longer than the cars and buses previously used in similar projects. The Army hopes to continue the project on other U.S. coastlines.



Photos by SSgt. Marianne Gultznicki



SILVER FLAG

A firefighter (left) with New Jersey's 177th Fighter Group rescues a dummy during Exercise Silver Flag at Tyndall AFB, Fla. Firefighters with Massachusetts's 102nd Airlift Wing (above) put out an aircraft fire during their final test for certification. Otis firefighters were given three minutes to put out the blaze ... they needed only 29 seconds.



PEOPLE

Training for TWO

By SSgt. Steve Markowski
Connecticut National Guard

The strength of Company C, 143rd Forward Support Battalion may not be accurate. According to one unit member, the official count is off by a fraction.

Spc. Sally Catena wrote "Catena + 1/2" on her helmet band, denoting that she is carrying a unit member who is not yet accounted for. She and her husband John (also a specialist in the unit) are expecting their first child shortly after the unit's December drill.

"I plan on being there, but I don't think I'll be able to fit into my Class A's," Sally said. The unit will be inside Connecticut's Meriden Armory for the December assembly, with the baby due Dec. 16. Since finding out she was pregnant (in May) her Guard responsibilities have not changed.

"I've had an easy pregnancy, so I've been able to go to the field as usual," she said. "My doctor told me there's really nothing I can do within my job expectations that will hurt the baby. But, I'm not going to do any rappelling."

Sally, 26, works full time as



Photo by Spc. Alan Gilman

an office manager/surgical assistant for two oral surgeons. John, 27, installs carpeting and linoleum, and is looking for a position as a police officer.

"The only way our lives have been effected is that Sally's plans to become a nurse have been delayed," John said.

In addition to the helmet band-inscription, there's been another adaptation for Sally's tactical uniform. She has an extended web belt for her load-bearing equipment. Her battle-dress uniform pants fit well, considering they have not been altered.

The members of the ambulance platoon will unofficially receive additional job titles, ac-

cording to SFC Gary Wyrebeck.

"We're all going to become Godparents," he said. Company C's platoon sergeant often reminds Sally that "she is eating for two..."

Although Wyrebeck jokes about the pregnancy, he is serious about making sure Sally maintains her health. "He's one of the many people who are always checking up on me," she said.

Sally and John met while studying to become combat medics at Fort Houston, Texas. They had spent much of their free time simply as two friends among a group of 12. Four weeks after the class started,

John Catena and Sally Gomez started going out together.

The fact that Sally is now a Catena shows how well they've gotten along since their first official date, on Sally's 19th birthday Oct. 18, 1987. After completing their medical training, the two became 9IBs, but went to very different duty stations.

John, a native of the U.S. Virgin Islands, went to Fort Riley, Kan., to serve three years in the active Army. Sally returned to Canton, Conn., and served part-time with the 141st Medical Company.

Their relationship, however, continued.

"Our phone bill was some-

CATENA CLAN - Spc. Sally Catena and husband John chat in the field.

thing to see," Sally said, adding that she had been sharing the phone with her mother. "The bill was anywhere from \$400 to \$1,000. We talked for five minutes every day."

"Well, almost every day," John said, pointing out that he often spent time in the field, including trips overseas. Every month I sent her \$600 for expenses, such as the phone bill and plane tickets from Kansas to Connecticut."

After completing three years in the Army, John relocated to Connecticut, and became a member of the National Guard.

"We were in the field during our April (1994) drill, I was really grumpy," Sally said, recalling the earliest indication that she was pregnant. "I'm always laughing, and I never get mad at people. But this time, I didn't feel well, and I couldn't figure out what was wrong. Within a month, I found out I was pregnant."

Those "grumpy" feelings were wiped out with "excitement and happiness."

The next step was picking a name for their baby. The next Catena in Company C will either be Gabrielle or Zachary.

Whether or not the baby ends up becoming a combat medic is yet to be determined, but one thing is certain, says Mom.

"When someone says, 'You're mother wears combat boots,' it will mean something," Sally said.

They call him 'Doc'

By Spc. Alex Montgomery
Kentucky National Guard

Why would a guy with a well-paying civilian job volunteer for military duty, leave his family and spend half of the year living a spartan life in a remote part of Central America?

"Self-torture," 1st Lt. Chuck Silcox said with a laugh. Silcox, a nurse with the South Carolina Army Guard's 300th Combat Support Hospital, based in Columbia, S.C., deployed to Pedasi, Panama recently to provide medical support for a group of about 55 South Carolina Army Guard engineers building a school.

The engineers are part of the 122nd Engineer Battalion, who were in Panama as part of an exercise called "Cosecha Amistad," Spanish for "harvest friendship."

Although he kids about his service with the Guard, Silcox wouldn't give up, at least not now.

"I enjoy working with the soldiers and I think I have something to offer."

Along with treating routine ailments that affect the soldiers, Silcox's military medical training gives him the tools he needs to provide adequate care in an



AT WORK - South Carolina's 1st Lt. Chuck Silcox replaces an eye dressing.

austere field setting.

Much of Silcox's overseas Guard duty has been in Latin America. An enlisted Army medic for 14 years, Silcox spent two years during the mid-1980s at Gorgas Army Community Hospital in Panama.

Since Pedasi is so remote, people who live there have very limited access to health care. Consequently, residents often show up at Silcox's door needing medical attention. And occasionally the "doc," as he is known by the troops, will make house calls.

Because of the intense heat and humidity in Panama and the possible injuries associated with construction work, Silcox must be ready at all times.

"You get people in an environment like this," he said, "where it's hot, they're sweating, you're just setting yourself up for something to happen. And it does happen. And we can take care of it."



YEAR IN REVIEW

The East coast snow and ice storms. The Winter Olympics. The Normandy 50th Anniversary. The Alabama tornado. The California earthquake. The Southeast floods. The West coast forest fires. Sarajevo. Rwanda. Guantanamo Bay. Haiti. Central and South America. The National Guard was there in '94.

Photo by SFC Jim Ober

ALABAMA

More than 1,200 Army and Air Guard personnel supported relief and recovery efforts following flooding after Hurricane Alberto. The Air Guard's 117th Reconnaissance Wing converted from RF-4C Phantoms to KC-135s and became the 117th Refueling Wing.

Strength: Army Guard: 18,076
Air Guard: 2,930
Federal Budget: \$185,587,121

ALASKA

NASA called on the National Guard's assistance when commercial helicopters capable of lifting the 1,700 pound Dante II exploration robot were committed to fighting forest fires. Eruption of Mt. Spurr endangered the Martian exploration prototype robot that was simulating extra terrestrial exploration on the volcano's rim.

Strength: Army Guard: 2,326
Air Guard: 1,785
Federal Budget: \$102,151,269

ARIZONA

The 161st Mission Support Squadron's TSgt. Kellie Walling was selected one of the Air Guard's Outstanding Airmen of the Year. The Grand Canyon State's Challenge program made news when one of its students graduated with a GED, despite entering the program with a third grade reading level.

Strength: Army Guard: 8,928
Air Guard: 2,742
Federal Budget: \$158,003,452

ARKANSAS

Three Army Guard aviation personnel volunteered for duty in Somalia to train Pakistani aviators from the UN peacekeeping mission

on the AH-1 Cobra helicopter. The three helped train nine pilots, 12 armament personnel and 26 maintenance personnel.

Strength: Army Guard: 8,928
Air Guard: 2,207
Federal Budget: \$128,410,335

CALIFORNIA

Thousands of citizen soldiers and airmen provided shelter, water, security and aviation support for victims of the Northridge earthquake in January. More than 3,500 L.A. Unified School District Outreach Program and STARBASE students explored math and science with the help of the Guard. Air Guard C-130 tankers and crews battled wildfires on the West Coast while Army Guard helicopters doused flames throughout the state.

Strength: Army Guard: 19,302
Air Guard: 5,227
Federal Budget: \$312,632,897

COLORADO

First Lady Hillary Clinton visited the GuardCare program. Guard units used their medical resources to reach out to the medically underserved. Since its first clinic in Denver in March 1994, the program has served more than 1,800 Coloradans.

Strength: Army Guard: 3,483
Air Guard: 1,519
Federal Budget: \$80,069,040

CONNECTICUT

The Guard's drug demand reduction program opened two new educational summer camps. Two rotations from the 103rd Fighter Group deployed to Europe to provide holiday relief to active forces in Bosnia.

Strength: Army Guard: 4,555
Air Guard: 1,220
Federal Budget: \$85,390,666

DELAWARE

The 261st Signal Command led the command and control functions of the largest ever peacetime Signal Corps exercise - "Grecian Firebolt '94." The 166th Airlift Group transported vital supplies and personnel to Somalia and Rwanda.

Strength: Army Guard: 1,903
Air Guard: 999
Federal Budget: \$37,210,300

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Eighteen District of Columbia Guardmembers assumed some law enforcement duties for the D.C. Metropolitan Police Department to allow uniformed police to get back out into the community. Three Guard volunteers raised more than \$10,000 for a children's hospital by bicycling more than 3,000 miles.

Strength: Army Guard: 1,417
Air Guard: 1,888
Federal Budget: \$53,995,166

FLORIDA

The 53rd Infantry Brigade became the first enhanced readiness brigade to undergo training at the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, La. The Sunshine State's Junior ROTC summer camp graduated 1,065 students from a one-week course of water safety, map reading, physical training and marksmanship.

Strength: Army Guard: 1,573
Air Guard: 11,237
Federal Budget: \$109,704,291

GEORGIA

More than 6,000 Peach State Guardmembers were called to state active duty when a record flood inundated the state. The 165th Airlift

Group flew humanitarian airlift missions to Bosnia, Uganda, and Zaire. More than 6,000 Guardmembers distributed drinking water when treatment plants were washed out by record flooding in July.

Strength: Army Guard: 9,656
Air Guard: 3,351
Federal Budget: \$150,862,170

GUAM

The territory celebrated the 50th anniversary of its liberation from foreign oppression. A monument, constructed by Guardmembers, to the Battle of Yigo was dedicated in July to memorialize Army veterans, particularly the 77th Infantry Division, who fought to liberate Guam in 1944.

Strength: Army Guard: 571
Air Guard: 178
Federal Budget: \$7,224,945

HAWAII

Adding four UH-60 "Blackhawk" helicopters and expecting seven CH-47 Chinooks this fiscal year, crews trained with active duty troops. The 203rd Air Refueling Squadron added four more KC-135R Stratotankers.

Strength: Army Guard: 3,499
Air Guard: 2,247
Federal Budget: \$112,411,530

IDAHO

CMSgt. Don Carlock, and his daughter SrA. Bonnie Carlock, of the 124th Fighter Group, saved the life of an elderly farmer. The two received the state's highest decoration for heroism. Susan J. Troyer became the first woman promoted to colonel in the history of the Idaho Air Guard.

Strength: Army Guard: 3,323
Air Guard: 1,285
Federal Budget: \$100,919,368



Photo by Ken Hackman

IN REVIEW - Members of the California National Guard (opposite page) escort WWII vets during a 50 year anniversary of the landing at Normandy. Spc. Laura Tavaras (left) competed on the U.S. Olympic biathlon team in Lillehammer, Norway.



Photo by Lt. Stephen Tompos

IN REVIEW - When snow storms crippled many East Coast states, Guardmembers (left) were called up. When President Richard Nixon died, the New York Air Guard's 105th Airlift Group (below) helped ship the body to California. Washington called a record number of Guardmembers to active duty (bottom photo) to help battle fires.



Photo by MSgt. Richard Euell



Photo by SSgt. William Kuhns

ILLINOIS

In May, Guardmembers from the 183rd Civil Engineering Squadron built a clinic in Pacara, Argentina. One-fifth of the community was diagnosed with cholera, and spread of the disease seemed inevitable to South America's largest cities. Thus far, the outbreak has been controlled.

Strength: Army Guard: 10,188
Air Guard: 3,542
Federal Budget: \$151,724,035

INDIANA

Fifteen members of the 112nd Civil Engineering Squadron deployed to Argentina to finish construction of a medical clinic. The 438th Chemical Company, in Terre Haute, was selected the best Army Guard chemical company for the fourth time in five years.

Strength: Army Guard: 13,592
Air Guard: 2,220
Federal Budget: \$132,644,126

IOWA

Five, seven-day STARBASE courses were conducted at Camp Dodge this summer. More than 400 sixth-graders completed this hands-on experience emphasizing math, science and substance abuse awareness. The 133rd Air Control Squadron received the 1994 National Guard Association Mission Support Award for its efforts to stop the flow of drugs.

Strength: Army Guard: 7,389
Air Guard: 2,102
Federal Budget: \$129,131,649

KANSAS

The 184th Bomber Group received its first B-1B bomber July 1, becoming the first group in the history of the Air National Guard to receive the \$200 million aircraft. Three Ro-

sian citizens came to Smoky Hill Air Guard range to learn about environmental issues.

Strength: Army Guard: 6,508
Air Guard: 2,290
Federal Budget: \$133,209,402

KENTUCKY

During a record snowfall in January, "Humvee" and "Blackhawk" became household words across the state as Guardmembers provided emergency transportation for doctors, nurses, kidney dialysis patients and critical supplies until roads were reopened. The 123rd Airlift Wing flew 1,029 relief missions into Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Strength: Army Guard: 6,998
Air Guard: 1,144
Federal Budget: \$71,812,696

LOUISIANA

In April, the Sportsmen state's counterdrug program assisted in the arrest of four interstate cocaine traffickers. More than \$4 million worth of drugs were seized. The second class of the youth Challenge program graduated 110 students; 108 received General Equivalency Diplomas.

Strength: Army Guard: 12,093
Air Guard: 1,574
Federal Budget: \$117,476,264

MAINE

The Pine Tree State's Guard provided the command and control element for a task force that constructed one medical clinic, seven school buildings, drilled seven water wells, treated more than 5,000 patients and rebuilt 12 miles of road near the central Guatemalan city of Salama.

Strength: Army Guard: 9,885
Air Guard: 1,306
Federal Budget: \$53,606,986

MARYLAND

The 175th Fighter Group flew more than 350 missions over the "no-fly zone" of Bosnia-Herzegovina during May, June and July. Volunteers from the 29th Infantry Division will take part in a major international peacekeeping operation in Sinai.

Strength: Army Guard: 6,919
Air Guard: 1,903
Federal Budget: \$84,418,422

MASSACHUSETTS

Eighty-one percent of students completing the Youth Conservation Corps program passed their GED examinations. Fifty-three Guardmembers were called to state active duty Sept. 15 to assist the city of Springfield when a major water line exploded.

Strength: Army Guard: 9,885
Air Guard: 2,782
Federal Budget: \$137,666,747

MICHIGAN

Company F (Long Range Surveillance) 425th Infantry became the Guard's first unit to participate in the Bone Marrow Donor Program, setting a DoD record.

Strength: Army Guard: 10,424
Air Guard: 2,802
Federal Budget: \$172,461,578

MINNESOTA

More than 10,000 Boy Scouts were hosted by more than 7,000 Gopher State troops at Camp Ripley for a weekend of fun and education dubbed "Ripley Rendezvous-Believe it or Not." It was the largest scouting event held in North America this year.

Strength: Army Guard: 9,134
Air Guard: 1,306
Federal Budget: \$123,874,414

MISSISSIPPI

Camp Shelby is an Army National Guard Repair Site for the European Retrograde program, where military equipment is brought from Europe to Camp Shelby for refurbishment before being sent to a Guard or Reserve unit for use.

Strength: Army Guard: 11,901
Air Guard: 2,659
Federal Budget: \$230,173,576

MISSOURI

Army and Air medical teams brought GuardCare to 2,500 people in the Ozarks. C-130 crews from the 139th Airlift Group flew missions into Sarajevo, Rwanda, and Port-au-Prince, Haiti. The 135th Army Band deployed to England and France for D-Day 50th Anniversary celebrations on three days notice.

Strength: Army Guard: 7,999
Air Guard: 2,709
Federal Budget: \$164,644,975

MONTANA

Citizen-soldiers from Company C, 495th Support Battalion based in Billings gave firefighter physicals and helped with paperwork on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation. This summer 600 Treasure State Air Guardmembers fought fires.

Strength: Army Guard: 2,997
Air Guard: 1,029
Federal Budget: \$63,022,497

NEBRASKA

The 155th Air Refueling Group completed its transition to the KC-135R aircraft. Members of the 134th Infantry, 35th Division travelled to France to participate in D-Day ceremonies. The 110th Medical Company and

YEAR IN REVIEW

IN REVIEW - The Guard was involved in many youth programs in '94 like Challenge, STARBASE. Not to mention Ohio's (below) youth camp. When an earthquake rocked California, the Guard (right) brought help.



Photo courtesy California National Guard



Photo courtesy Ohio National Guard

24th Medical Company flew to Fort Polk for a Joint Readiness Training Center mass casualty exercise.

Strength: Army Guard: 3,817
Air Guard: 1,005
Federal Budget: \$62,407,781

NEVADA

The 150th Maintenance Company deployed to Germany to assist the active Army with maintenance on equipment returning to the U.S. Chinook helicopters dropped more than 769,000 gallons of water on range fires this summer. In early fall, Chinook and UH-1 "Huey" crews helped civilian authorities capture a North Carolina prison escapee accused of shooting a Nevada Highway Patrol Trooper.

Strength: Army Guard: 1,598
Air Guard: 1,062
Federal Budget: \$44,746,048

NEW HAMPSHIRE

The 210th Engineer Detachment constructed shelter complexes for the 400-acre Camp Chenoa in Antrim. The 157th Air Refueling Group accepted the Sparta Trophy as the best overall Air Guard KC-135 unit.

Strength: Army Guard: 1,824
Air Guard: 932
Federal Budget: \$41,674,600

NEW JERSEY

The Garden State's Challenge program began in September with 110 youths. The program is centered around a voluntary five-month residential phase where students live in

a military environment while studying for a GED.

Strength: Army Guard: 7,653
Air Guard: 2,667
Federal Budget: \$133,101,576

NEW MEXICO

The Land of Enchantment State developed a new campaign "Operation Don't Let Your Guard Down," to address the problem of alcohol abuse. The Guard hosted four family festivals, designed to promote positive alternatives to alcohol abuse across the state.

Strength: Army Guard: 3,798
Air Guard: 1,079
Federal Budget: \$66,312,932

NEW YORK

The Empire State's Guard spanned the globe with missions ranging from month-long searches for two kidnapped girls in upstate New York to combat air rescue duties in Southeast Asia. The counterdrug program supported seizures of more than \$20 million in cash.

Strength: Army Guard: 11,940
Air Guard: 5,982
Federal Budget: \$238,875,881

NORTH CAROLINA

Through Operation GuardCare, the 230th Support Battalion provided immunizations, kindergarten assessments, mammograms, dental treatment and physicals. A six-member team from the 118th Combat Communications Squadron won Combat Challenge '94,

recognizing them as the best combat communication unit in the "blue suit" world.

Strength: Army Guard: 11,315
Air Guard: 1,584
Federal Budget: \$100,038,610

NORTH DAKOTA

The 119th Fighter Group captured the overall team title at the annual William Tell competition that recognizes the country's best fliers. The 957th Engineer Company built an assault bridge crossing the Missouri River as part of the Prairie Rose State Games.

Strength: Army Guard: 3,496
Air Guard: 1,081
Federal Budget: \$90,952,836

OHIO

Ohio's 612th Engineer Battalion demolished several abandoned homes in Toledo's inner-city, safeguarding residents from the threat of fire and crime. Medical personnel from the Air and Army National Guard participated in "GuardCare," providing basic health services to medically underserved communities around the state.

Strength: Army Guard: 10,661
Air Guard: 5,286
Federal Budget: \$216,960,221

OKLAHOMA

The Sooner State Guard was mobilized to state active duty 12 times over the last two years due to floods, tornados, water supply emergencies, missing children searches and escaped fugitives, to name a few.

Strength: Army Guard: 7,591
Air Guard: 2,325
Federal Budget: \$84,206,912

OREGON

More than 900 Guardmembers fought fires in eastern and southern Oregon. Camp Rosenbaum completed its 25th year of operation at Camp Rilea. The 41st Separate Infantry was selected as an "enhanced brigade."

Strength: Army Guard: 6,724
Air Guard: 1,931
Federal Budget: \$121,276,690

PENNSYLVANIA

The Keystone State's Army Guard added M1 tanks, Cobra helicopters and self-propelled howitzers and the title of "Mechanized" to their banner. The 171st Air Refueling Wing's tankers refueled 193rd Special Operations Group EC-130s as they broadcast messages to the Haitian populace.

Strength: Army Guard: 18,465
Air Guard: 4,526
Federal Budget: \$179,235,939

PUERTO RICO

The 219th Quartermaster Detachment and the 892nd Engineer Company responded to a drought that affected 1.8 million residents in 27 cities. More than 400 Guardmembers supported the local police patrolling housing projects in an effort to arrest drug dealers.

Strength: Army Guard: 8,871
Air Guard: 1,382
Federal Budget: \$79,657,435



Photo by SrA. Stuart Camp

RHODE ISLAND

The 143rd Airlift Group flew supplies to Bosnia-Herzegovina for nearly six months. Ocean State Guardmembers trucked nearly 8 million gallons of potable water and built a 3.5 mile pipeline to ensure safe water supplies to Warwick, Westerly and the island of Jamestown.

Strength: Army Guard: 2,512
Air Guard: 1,463
Federal Budget: \$47,100,999

SOUTH CAROLINA

Charlie Battery, 1st Battalion, 263 Air Defense Artillery Brigade, fired its first Homing All The Way Killer missile into the New Mexico desert this summer. Adjutant General T. Eston Marchant announced his retirement after 16 years of service. It is the nation's only elected TAG position.

Strength: Army Guard: 12,386
Air Guard: 1,336
Federal Budget: \$106,419,672

SOUTH DAKOTA

Forty Air Guard members supported Operation Provide Comfort for 45 days, helping to patrol the no-fly zone over Iraq. In June, the Army Guard conducted its 10th Golden Coyote exercise involving 3,000 soldiers from 15 states training in the Black Hills. Soldiers created a duck pond on an Indian reservation to increase the fowl population.

Strength: Army Guard: 3,548
Air Guard: 998
Federal Budget: \$54,541,263

IN REVIEW - Air Guard cargo loaders (left) from Kentucky's 123rd Airlift Wing flew more than 1,000 relief missions to Sarajevo. Guardmembers like Sgt. Mike Dent (below) built schools and medical facilities in underprivileged countries like Belize, Panama, Costa Rica and Guatemala.



Photo by Capt. Philip Thornton

TENNESSEE

Volunteer State Guardmembers helped dig out Kentucky when record snow and ice crippled that state. The Air National Guard's Maj. Gen. Roberta Mills became the first female in the history of the Guard to attain two stars.

Strength: Army Guard: 12,619
Air Guard: 3,758
Federal Budget: \$166,789,877

TEXAS

C-130s from the 136th Airlift Wing participated in relief missions to Bosnia and Rwanda. The 217th Medical Evacuation Hospital participated in programs to immunize students in several Texas communities. The 141st Infantry deployed to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif.

Strength: Army Guard: 17,769
Air Guard: 3,623
Federal Budget: \$209,856,221

UTAH

The Army Guard finished first in the annual Army Communities of Excellence competition, taking a prize of \$200,000. The program recognizes states that have improved the quality of life for their members. Twenty Boeinge State cyclists pedaled across the state, covering nearly 800 miles, to educate teenagers about the dangers of drug use. Along the way, the Guardmembers visited 75 high schools.

Strength: Army Guard: 5,465
Air Guard: 1,573
Federal Budget: \$88,375,087



Photo by Sandra Robinson

IN REVIEW - When floods swamped the Southeast, Guardmembers (left) helped their neighbors. Many communities (below) in Alabama received free medical care via the GUARDCARE program.



Photo courtesy the Alabama National Guard

VERMONT

Seventy-five members of the Air and Army National Guard were activated on New Years Day in response to a major propane tank fire at the Grand Isle Fish Hatchery. The 158th Fighter Group finished third at the annual William Tell competition.

Strength: Army Guard: 3,446
Air Guard: 1,032
Federal Budget: \$62,479,124

VIRGINIA

The Virginia National Guard began its youth Challenge program on Sept. 10, enrolling 139 students for the five-month program. The program is being conducted at the state military reservation at Virginia Beach.

Strength: Army Guard: 8,362
Air Guard: 1,261
Federal Budget: \$83,620,245

VIRGIN ISLANDS

More than 80 Island youths enrolled in the six-week Youth Conservation Corps. The 631st and 652nd Engineer Detachments deployed to Honduras where they built an addition to a gymnasium.

Strength: Army Guard: 811
Air Guard: 37
Federal Budget: \$10,074,400

WASHINGTON

The Air and Army Guard supported "Fire Storm 1994" for 37 days. At its peak, more than 2,800 personnel and 680 vehicles were

employed to fight the record fires.
Strength: Army Guard: 6,356
Air Guard: 2,624
Federal Budget: \$101,384,443

WEST VIRGINIA

The National Guard teamed with the Drug Enforcement Administration in Operation "Triple Play" this summer. The federally funded marijuana eradication project lasted 10 days and resulted in the elimination of nearly 20,000 plants.

Strength: Army Guard: 3,472
Air Guard: 2,051
Federal Budget: \$68,511,782

WISCONSIN

The Guard's Youth Conservation Corps, or "Badger Challenge," began its first class in July and graduated 22 students. The 128th Refueling Group, based in Milwaukee, supported relief efforts in Somalia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Haiti.

Strength: Army Guard: 8,478
Air Guard: 2,182
Federal Budget: \$125,790,311

WYOMING

The 153rd Airlift Group has taken delivery of eight C-130H3 aircraft from Lockheed Aeronautical Systems Company. The planes replace the unit's B models and are the most advanced C-130's in the Air Force inventory.

Strength: Army Guard: 1,590
Air Guard: 995
Federal Budget: \$39,906,788



SPORTS

- Skill-at-arms
- Field dedicated
- Lifting records

SPORTS SHORTS

SKILL-AT-ARMS MATCH HELD

Military shooters from around the world converged on Camp Robinson, Ark. recently to compete in the Armed Forces Skill-at-Arms Meeting.

Shooters from the U.S., National Guard, Reserves, Britain, Australia, Germany, France, Belgium and Canada competed.

In the pistol competition, National Guard shooters placed first and third. The team of Sgt. Charles Allen, Capt. Michael Michie, CWO Lawrence Grace and TSgt. Kenneth Strohm finished first.

Strohm was presented the Grant R. Bacon trophy. Bacon was a prolific shooter and first coach of the All-Guard pistol team in 1968. The award is given to the shooter with the highest combined score from the rifle and pistol matches.

FOOTBALL FIELD DEDICATED

What started as a dream has ended up as a sports complex for the community of Vienna, W.V.

The West Virginia Army Guard's Company B, 1092nd Engineer Battalion cleared trees and moved 130,000 cubic yards of dirt to a six-acre site, now used as a football field and track.

BARLEEN CLAIMS LIFTING RECORDS

Those who follow powerlifting in Alaska know SSgt. Denny Barleen, a member of Alaska Air Guard's 176th Maintenance Squadron.

Barleen holds four state records. They include: Squats - 380 pounds; Bench Press - 250 pounds; Deadlift - 450 pounds; and Combination - 1,080 pounds.

By Capt. Sherri Daniels
Arkansas National Guard

The sound of gunfire echoed through the air as the red flag fluttered in the wind. Soldiers and airmen in camouflage and combat gear covered the range, some engaged in the action, some adjusting their sights and waiting their turn on the line. And the rain came down.

These were the sights and sounds at Camp Joseph T. Robinson recently as the best combat shooters in the Army and Air National Guard gathered for the Winston P. Wilson Rifle, Pistol, Sniper and Light Machine gun Championships.

The match is named for Maj. Gen. Winston P. Wilson, former chief of the National Guard Bureau.

Approximately 650 shooters representing 47 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands competed for honors in the week-long event.

For the second straight year, the Pennsylvania Guard claimed the title for Overall State Champions.



Photo by MSgt. Fred Harker

HOT SHOT - Capt. Charles Felty, a member of the winning rifle team, awaits tower instructions.

"It's an honor to represent the state," said Sgt. Eugene Rossi. "I take it very seriously." Rossi has been competing at the Wilson matches for six years and was the individual machinegun champion in 1993.

He and teammate, SSgt. Michael DiFrango won the machine gun team championship with a score of 1,772. Tennessee and Utah gunners finished second and third respectively.

This was DiFrango's (an Air Guardmember) first year competing in machine gun. It was also his first year on a team with an Army Guardmember.

"You learn a lot about the way the Army does things," DiFrango said. "I think that's good to work close with an-

other service."

Washington machine gunner, SSgt. Aubrey Shirley won the individual title, setting a record in the process. Michigan's SSgt. James Cadieux took second while Utah's SSgt. Neil Mellor earned third.

The Pennsylvania rifle team that included, Capt. Charles Felty, Jr., TSgt. Ronald Miller, SFC Gregory Neiderhiser, SFC George Morgan, SSgt. David Kerin and Sgt. Scott Zinn won the Service Rifle Team Championship.

Kerin also won the individual rifle title, beating Vermont's Sgt. Ralph Young and Texas' Sgt. Charles Blackwell.

The Vermont pistol team swept the field in team and individual matches. SSgt. Millard W. Butler, a veteran pistol shooter, led a team that included his son Sgt. Ben Butler, TSgt. Steven Fillion, TSgt. Bruce Beauregard, CWO Lawrence Grace, SSgt. Ronald Fagans, Sgt. Herbert Germain and Sgt. Russel Lary.

This was the third consecutive year Butler won the individual pistol champion.

"Most of the time, I coach on weekends instead of shooting," he said. "I don't seem to need the practice anymore."

Fagans and Grace finished behind him.

The Ohio Combat Sniper team of 1st Sgt. Michael Young and Spc. Jeffrey Schlecty took first place in the sniper team category, setting a new record.

Virginia came in second and New York placed third.

New York's SSgt. Joseph Dee won the individual sniper champion-

ship, setting a new record. He bested Schlecty and Colorado's Sgt. Darrel Brooks.

In a special Chief-of-Staff Championship shoot-off where competitors shoot all four weapons (M24, M60, M16, and .45/9mm) to determine the "Top Gun," SFC Gregory Neiderhiser emerged victorious. Butler and Fagans came in second and third respectively.

LT Gen. Edward Baca was also on hand to present badges to the "Chief's 50," a honor bestowed on the Guard's top shooters.

"It doesn't make a hill of beans to be the most physically fit and best trained soldier in the Guard if you can't shoot well," Baca said.

CHIEF'S 50

COMBAT RIFLE

SSgt. David Kerin, Pa.
Sgt. Ralph Young, Vt.
Sgt. Charles Blackwell, Texas
SFC Gregory Neiderhiser, Pa.
Maj. Jerry Penn, Okla.
Capt. Harold Walker, S.D.
Sgt. Jeffrey Sumrell, N.C.
Sgt. Michael Bougor, Vt.
MSgt. Glenn Bowles, Mich.
SSgt. Raymond Baker, Conn.
SFC George Mayer, Del.
Sgt. Gary Qualls, Texas
Cpl. Daren Pfander, Ore.
Sgt. Scott Zinn, Pa.
Sgt. Henry Bunk, N.Y.
1st Sgt. Scott Haworth, Kan.
SSgt. Larry Reynolds, Vt.
SFC Kay Anderson, N.Y.
SSgt. Gary Varberg, N.D.
SFC George Morgan, Pa.

COMBAT PISTOL

SSgt. Millard Butler, Vt.
SSgt. Ronald Fagans, Vt.
CWO Lawrence Grace, Vt.
Capt. Michael Michie, Va.
Lt. Col. John Berheim, S.D.
SFC Carl Nichols, Ind.
SSgt. Charles Allen, Conn.
SSgt. Mark Volchko, Pa.
Sgt. Herbert Germain, Vt.
Lt. Col. Ray Thompson, N.D.
SSgt. Michael Fetch, N.D.
TSgt. Bruce Beauregard, Vt.
SFC Timothy Delgrosso, Ore.
Sgt. Larry Levesque, Conn.
MSgt. William Rundquist, Pa.
Maj. Steve Nelson, N.C.
Sgt. Gualberto Gonzalez, P.R.
SMSgt. Michael Ward, Miss.
Sgt. Joseph Chapman, Ga.
SSgt. John Brinkley, N.C.

LIGHT MACHINE GUN

SSgt. Aubrey Shirley, Wash.
SSgt. James Cadieux, Mich.
SSgt. Neil Mellor, Utah
Sgt. Eugene Rossi, Pa.
SSgt. Michael DiFrango, Pa.
Sgt. Gordon Bjorman, Neb.

SNIPER

SSgt. Joseph Dee, N.Y.
Spc. Jeffrey Schlecty, Ohio
Sgt. Darrel Brooks, Colo.
SSgt. Edmund Becka Jr., Texas

Eagle eye on the Olympics

Wyoming's A1C Deena Wigger is one of the country's best rifle shooters

By 1st Lt. Ellen G. Lampkins
National Guard Bureau

A1C Deena Wigger of the 153rd Airlift Group in Cheyenne, Wyo., recently was one of five rifle shooters chosen for the U.S. Pan-American team.

The competition will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in March. "It will be the highlight of the year," Wigger said.

This will be the 28-year-old's third trip to the Pan Am Games. She was a gold medalist in the individual and team prone competition at the 1983 Pan Am Games in Caracas, Venezuela. And four years later, she won a gold medal in the prone and a bronze in the air rifle competition in Indianapolis, Ind.

The Pan Am tryout completes a grueling nine-month shooting season for Wigger. "I really want to take a break," she said. "I have been hitting it hard."

Wigger said 1996 will be her last year of shooting "seriously."

"I've been doing it for 16 years," she said. "I'm 28-years-old. I've got a college degree, and I want to get out and do something with it."

The shooting season takes its toll on even the toughest competitor. "I finally realized that I'm really tired," Wigger said. "I will probably never be this involved in shooting again after '96."

Wigger decided to call it quits in 1996, because it is an Olympic year. In 1988, she finished ninth in the air rifle competition at the Olympics in Seoul, South Korea.

In Atlanta, Wigger hopes to top that mark, but her first priority is to make the team. "That is a difficult goal to reach in itself," she said.

As a 16-year veteran of the sport, Wigger knows her way around the shooting range, but the competition doesn't get any easier. "You would think so, but there is still so much pressure. You have so much more to lose. That and the fact that I'm almost at the end of my career. So, I really want to do well."

The pressure is increased when your family is involved in the sport. Wigger, who trains at the U.S.



A1C Deena Wigger

shooters competing for five slots. Four for the Olympics. There are going to be a lot of good shooters who don't make the team."

Olympic Shooting Center, started shooting at the age of 12 with her father, Lones, who is a double Olympic gold medalist.

Her brother, Ronnie, is a former member of the U.S. rifle team. He currently is an operations officer at the National Guard Marksmanship Training Unit at Camp Joseph T. Robinson in North Little Rock, Ark.

What are the qualities of a good shooter?

"Mental toughness is the most important ingredient," Wigger said.

"Even if you have that ... there is so much competition out there now.

There are 10 to 12

PEACEKEEPERS

From Page 3

Army Guardmembers deploying to the Sinai are assigned to the 4th Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, which belongs to the 82nd Airborne Division.

As such, they are wearing the 82nd's distinctive "AA" shoulder patch.

"I like it (the 82nd patch), but it's not mine," offered Hedges, who added that he and several others from the 29th Infantry Division (Light) plan to sew their blue and gray divisional patches inside their burnt-orange MFO berets.

"You never want to forget where you came from," he said.

Task Force 4/505 -- which was created specifically for this mission--also includes active-duty soldiers and Army Reservists. All 548 unit members are volunteers.

Unit commander, Lt. Col. James N. Morris IV, is thus far impressed with his "hybrid" unit.

"The Reserve Components gave us very good people," said Morris, who will be making his second Sinai tour. "The Guardmembers are a little older, but they are more self-confident. They also bring a variety of special skills that complement our peacekeeping duties."

"The unit is really coming together," he added. "You really can't tell the Guard from the active soldiers. This (experiment) is going to work."



Photo by Sgt. Mark Faram

Of the 401 Guardmembers (about 72 percent of the outfit), 278 are from Maryland and Virginia, the states that comprise the 29th Infantry Division (Light), whose headquarters coordinated much of the Army Guard participation in the mission. The remaining Guardmembers come from units in 21 states.

"This is not your typical infantry battalion," quipped Capt. Mike Stewart, a member of Maryland's 158th Cavalry Squadron, who is taking a year away from graduate school at Frostburg State University to serve as Task Force 4/505's sig-

nal officer. "It's a unique unit with a unique mission."

Beginning in January, members of the Task Force 4/505 will staff a series of observation posts along the Gulf Aqaba, the narrow waterway that touches parts of Egypt, Israel, Jordan and Saudi Arabia and empties into the Red Sea. Their assignment will be to see, observe, verify and report violations of the 1979 Israeli-Egyptian peace accord.

Unlike other peacekeeping forces, the MFO does not act as a human buffer. Rather, it works closely with the two nations to support a permanent peace.

Currently, the MFO is composed of 11 nations, including the U.S.

Planning for this mission began in the bowels of the Pentagon more than a year ago. The unit began to take shape in the spring when the battalion staff and its senior leadership arrived at Fort Bragg. They immediately began preparing for the phased arrival of troops that began in August. The entire unit has been together since early October.

"We literally built a unit from scratch," said Maj. Myles E. Altimus, Task Force 4/505's executive officer, a Virginian who

INSPECTION: 82nd Airborne Division's SSgt. Tommy Hakney inspects the Guard color guard, Spc. Donald Henderson (2nd from left), Spc. Matthew Brown, Spc. Travis Hoffa, Spc. Tim Cook, Spc. James Hedges and PFC Ronnie Griffith before a recent activation ceremony at Fort Bragg, N.C.

is the unit's highest ranking Guardmember. "We had no buildings, no furniture; it was a real staff challenge. The hard part is really over."

Unit members have also undergone a rigorous training program. The curriculum included the Infantry Leader's Course at Fort Benning, Ga., weapons qualification, individual task training and special peacekeeping training.

Mission preparations hit a high point Nov. 4 when the unit was formally activated.

On an Indian Summer afternoon in front of a group of dignitaries that included Gen. Dennis J. Reimer, the Army Forces Command commander, Task Force 4/505 ceremonially became a part of the U.S. Army.

The new unit, said Reimer during his remarks, "represents America's Army ... a seamless blend of Active, National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve."

The 401 Army National Guardmembers in Task Force 4/505 have a much simpler way to describe their unit and this opportunity.

History.

NEWS MAKERS

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

The Education Office of the 181st Fighter Group, Terre Haute, Ind., recently celebrated the graduation of 39 students from the Community College of the Air Force. This represents the largest class in the history of the Air National Guard to graduate from the CCAF. The 181st accomplished another unprecedented goal in 1994 as the unit went the entire year without a lost time injury. As of Oct. 1 the unit has a streak of 722 consecutive days.

SMSgt. Christi Beaver has been selected as Wisconsin Air Guard senior enlisted advisor. She is one of the few females in the country to hold such a position. Beaver will represent the Air Guard's enlisted personnel to the senior leadership of both the Air and Army Guard. The senior enlisted advisor is comparable to the Army Guard's state command sergeant major. "Christi had the right mix of personal and professional qualities to do an outstanding job in this position," said Brig. Gen. Al Wilkening, Deputy Adjutant General for Air.

Students from St. Joseph's School in Maumee, Ohio were inspired recently by a visit from Lt. Col. Thomas Criqui, a C-130 pilot from the 179th Airlift Group of Mansfield who has flown air-land and air-drop missions to Bosnia. Speaking to his daughter's class, Criqui told the students of the hardships school children in Bosnia face, especially the lack of school supplies. The children began a drive with the support of church and community groups and collected 1,000 pounds of school supplies and \$2,000 in cash donations.

Maine Army Guardsman MSgt. Robert L. Haskell has written an historical novel, "Yankee Warrior," concerning the heroic career of Walter G. Morrill, an officer in the 20th Maine Infantry Regiment and Medal of Honor winner in the Civil War. Morrill was one of the heroes of the 20th Maine's defense of Little Round Top in the battle of Gettysburg. Haskell is a public affairs NCO with the state headquarters in Augusta. He is also the sports editor for the Bangor Daily News. The book has been well received by critics.

CMSgt. Ray Spradling of the West Virginia Air Guard achieved a milestone recently when he surpassed 10,000 hours logged in military aircraft. This marks the first time any member of the WVANG has gone over the 10,000 hour mark. Spradling began flying in 1954 in a C-119. Chief Spradling says he will keep flying until they force him to stop.

Seven volunteers from Idaho's 124th Medical Squadron joined with health care providers from Boise's Veterans Administration Medical Center, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and Naval Reserve units last month to support a local program known as "Homeless Stand Down," offering free health screening services to more than 200 homeless veterans and their families.

Later in the month the Squadron hosted 150 Head Start pre-schoolers, giving free physical examinations to the children from low income families throughout southwestern Idaho. The 124th has worked with Head Start for the past seven years.



New Mexico's drug-free approach.



Frequent flier CMSgt. Ray Spradling.



Author MSgt. Robert Haskell.



Wisconsin's first female senior enlisted advisor and E-8, SMSgt. Christi Beaver.

The 135th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital of Kansas City, Mo., has been awarded the Group Merit Award for 1994 by the Missouri Public Health Association. The statewide association of public health officials selected the 135th because of the unit's leadership during the 1994 "Guardcare" medical outreach program in southern Missouri. During Guardcare the MASH was joined by Missouri Air Guard medical elements and other Army Guard medical personnel in a two week operation that provided medical help to people in five counties.

Soldiers of the 7th Battalion, 200th Air Defense Artillery, New Mexico Army Guard, support the New Mexico State Fair each year on Armed Forces Day. This year the battalion's main focus was a counterdrug message "Drug Free-It's a State of Mind." The unit displayed equipment to attract attention and handed out red ribbons symbolizing the anti-drug message to more than 500 children.

Lt. Col. Loren W. Flossman of Delaware's 142 Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron was selected to receive the Brig. Gen. Donald P. Wagner Administrative Excellence Award for 1994. The award recognizes the air reserve component medical service corps officer who epitomizes the highest level of administrative excellence in contributing to the Air Force medical service.

The 184th Medical Squadron, Kansas Air Na- tional Guard, was selected to receive the 1994 Air National Guard Health Promotion Program Award. The award recognizes installations that make significant contributions (enhancement of well-being through self care, health maintenance and avoidance of health risks thereby promoting combat readiness) to their military populations.

Sgt. Michael McGaan of Company F, Long Range Surveillance, 425th Infantry of Pontiac, Mich., recently graduated from the Jumpmaster Course at the 82nd Airborne Division's Advanced Airborne School. He was also named honor graduate and is the only Michigan Guardmember to ever earn that distinction. Jumpmaster school teaches paratroopers to plan, inspect and conduct parachute operations. It is a grueling, hands-on course with a less than 50 percent graduation rate.

SMSgt. Ralph R. Monfreda, 212th Engineering Installation Squadron, Massachusetts Air National Guard, displayed total disregard for his own safety on Sept. 17 when he pulled 86-year-old Nellie Plante and her friends from their burning car. Plante's car struck another vehicle and a gas pump causing a fuel spill and fire. Monfreda, noticing Plante and a passenger in the car, ran over to get them out and escorted them away. Looking back he noticed another passenger stuck in the burning car. He rushed back to assist her and noticed she was dazed and struggling. "I felt the heat on my legs that was coming from under the car," Monfreda said. "I knew I didn't have time to mess around, so I just reached in and pulled her out." Seconds after guiding the woman to safety the cars burst into flames and were totally destroyed.

A new beginning

New York unveils its versatile mix of tankers

By Maj. Paul Fanning
New York National Guard

What do you get when you combine the remnants of a cavalry squadron, two tank battalions and about 60 M1 tanks?

The 1994 version of a National Guard armor battalion, in this case the New York Army Guard's 1st Battalion, 101st Cavalry. It's been rocking and rolling with changes in equipment, locations and names for years.

The unit returned to Fort Drum recently for annual training. It was the first AT for the squadron since formally completing the transition from M-60 series tanks to the M-1.

The unit formed from the remnants of three separate organizations that were deactivated or saw its structure removed during forced cuts. The resulting unit is an armor battalion with a

cavalry name and units spread out across the state from Staten Island to Albany.

"We have more than 400 troops on the ground," said Capt. David Sheridan, battalion adjutant. The 101st, with an authorized strength of more than 550, boasts a 90 percent assigned strength, and fields 41 crews.

"We also had about 50 members from the 342nd Forward Support Battalion and 40 from the New Jersey-based Division Support," Sheridan added.

With reorganizing done, the 101st is to the business of tanking. "We'll put 41 crews through (Tank) Table VI," said Maj. Paul Genereau, battalion executive officer, adding that only 23 crews will actually go on to Table VIII.

Table VIII is the qualification and sustainment range for all tankers in the Army," explained Genereau. "You are not qualified as a crew until you pass Table VIII."

During the year, tankers went to Fort Drum for long weekends (Friday through Sunday) to train.

"We had about five of those months in a row," stated SSgt.



Photo by Maj. Paul Fanning

TUNE UP - CWO3 Gordon Jacobs (left) makes repairs to a tank's machinegun.

Paul O'Malley Company C, wincing with fatigue. "They came January through May and the strain from travel and lost training time was affecting everyone."

"The joy of having M1s was muted by the fact that none (of the tanks) had gotten to their home armories, except in Staten Island," he added. "It was the only place with the proper facilities to receive and store the Abrams. Other tankers had to come to Fort Drum to train."

Despite some hardships, the tankers are happy with the tanks.

"The stabilization system in the M1 is so much better than in the M-60," said Spc. Bruce Washington, the battalion commander's gunner. "It's much easier to track and hit targets."

Lt. Col. Ed Klein gave up command of the 101st in October. For eight years he has been the commander, when it was a cavalry squadron and now as an armor battalion. His successor is Maj. Jim Coyne.

"It will be the end of an era," said Genereau. "But, for the 101st, it will be just the beginning."

BACA

From Front Page

guidance they need."

His early analysis as Chief is tempered by a strong belief "in not fixing something if it doesn't need fixing. If we are into a program that is working then we are going to continue; we're just going to make it work better. Likewise, those items that need fixing we're going to tackle head on, as soon as possible. We're not going to let them linger."

A 1962 graduate of his state's Military Academy who volunteered for active duty in Vietnam as a first lieutenant, Gen. Baca put great stock in the members of the National Guard as "the most important ingredient." In expressing his understanding of why people join the Guard he remarked, "When you talk to a young person about joining the Guard you don't talk about retirement. You don't talk about benefits. What you talk to them about, is joining the Guard family."

"As leaders, we have to produce the kinds of units that these youngsters want to join. It is that feeling of belonging that makes the difference. The incentives like the Montgomery GI Bill help, and we're able to produce better citizens, but people join the Guard because of what it is."

As the tempo of National Guard unit activity increases and demands placed on

individual members go up, Gen. Baca believes the Guard can only grow stronger. "Guardmembers bring a new meaning to the word dedication. It is our responsibility as leaders to ensure that we take proper care of these militiamen and women."

To that end Gen. Baca underscores his belief in strong employer support and family programs. "Supporting these programs will be one of my top priorities." He continued by recounting a story from a sergeant major who explained how morale in his unit turned around when

the work accomplished by troops generates high morale and solid recruiting and retention numbers.

"It enhances readiness," he asserted. "It enhances the abilities of young officers and NCOs to run programs. These are the qualities that we bring to the citizens and the community. We know how to plan, organize and we know how to execute."

On the issue of equal opportunity in the military, Gen. Baca is straightforward in stating that the strength of this nation and its military is based on diversity. While

'When you talk to a young person about joining the Guard, you don't talk about retirement ... benefits ... you talk to them about joining the Guard family.'

communication improved. "These soldiers will do anything for you," the top NCO told Gen. Baca who was visiting the unit after some internal communication problems had been corrected. "They (the soldiers) will help you solve your problems."

Gen. Baca also believes that extra benefits come to the National Guard from all the recent counterdrug and youth program missions. He claims that whether the new programs are federally funded and very visible or something done only by local Guardmembers in one commu-

praising the National Guard's current efforts to promote racial and gender diversity, he said that more can be done. "I'm a proponent of removing obstacles to equal opportunity. That's the first step. It allows the best people to rise to the top regardless of their background. By eliminating obstacles you provide true equal opportunity and eliminate the problems of any backlash."

Gen. Baca remembers that the National Guard he joined in 1956 was largely equipped with hand-me-down gear and training policies that kept units clearly as

a force in reserve. While he is quick to praise the bravery and dedication of Guardmembers before him, especially those who were called to duty for World War II, Korea and Vietnam, he regrets that high prices were extracted for a lack of readiness.

In today's much-changed National Guard, Gen. Baca points to dramatic improvements in the way that units are trained and equipped. He also emphasizes the importance of physical fitness as a critical ingredient of readiness. "I want to make it clear that I don't believe that everyone needs to run marathons or that everybody needs to max their PT test, but I do believe that everybody should meet the standards. Physically fit soldiers or airmen can perform their mission much better than those who are not."

"We have a highly professional force," Gen. Baca boasted about the status of today's Guardmember. "It doesn't only have to do with physical fitness, but it has to do with how we are outfitted with modern equipment. Our troops are technically and tactically proficient. Guardsmen of old weren't as ready and they paid the price. The country paid an extreme price for them not being prepared."

"You can't blame it on them. They did it on spirit and guts alone. We as Americans, not only as Guard leaders, have the responsibility to guarantee that today's Guardmember, in whatever mission they have, is trained, equipped and ready to do the job."



STATES

- Clean up
- Corps of Cadets
- Storm vets

LOUISIANA

Guardmembers held a massive GI party at Pierre Part Primary school in September after a janitor incorrectly applied a pesticide to classrooms to get rid of fleas and ticks.

Amidst community alarm, the classrooms were shut down, but the cost of clean-up proved more than the school could afford. State Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Ansel Stroud saw an opportunity for the Guard to help the school and give troops decontamination training.

Volunteers stepped forward to scrub every inch of surface and all furniture in the affected classrooms. Even the cleaning supplies were disposed of as hazardous waste.

Outdoors, a GP medium tent was set up to use as an assembly line to wipe down books, computers, file cabinets and other pieces of equipment. The Guardmembers saved the school an estimated \$50,000 and received valuable training.

IOWA

World renowned opera singer Simon Estes, a former Iowa Guardsman, returned home to film public service announcements and aid minority recruiting for the Iowa Guard. Estes, a Centerville resident, served with Co. B, 168th Infantry and later was involved in ROTC while a student at the University of Iowa. He went on to New York's Julliard School of Music, and in 1965 travelled to Europe to make his operatic debut.

BUFFALO SOLDIERS

The Buffalo Soldier Re-enactment Group of Atlanta rode from Ohio to Washington, D.C., to re-capture the legacy of an original Buffalo soldier, Col. Charles Young. He was the third black to graduate from West Point. He was involuntarily retired, after a distinguished career, for medical reasons. Perceiving prejudice, Young rode the journey to prove his fitness and was reinstated.



Photo by Sgt. Diana Farrow

HAWAII

The Hawaii Air National Guard recently dedicated its newest aircraft, the C-130H-3 Hercules Transport. The 154th Group received the aircraft in early September after a flight from the Lockheed Assembly line in Marietta, Ga., to Cheyenne, Wyo., where the aircraft received an acceptance inspection, and then on to Hawaii.

The C-130H-3 was piloted by Lt. Col. Ed Miyahira. The aviator also piloted the C-130A and C-130H models when the unit received its first of those aircraft.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

The Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Boston hosted 65 New Hampshire veterans of Operation Desert Storm for a clinic in which each veteran received a medical examination and screening and were enrolled in the Persian Gulf Registry.

The Persian Gulf Registry is a national databank which allows the VA and DoD to cross-reference medical data collected to obtain information about a variety of symptoms.

The New Hampshire National Guard provided transportation support to the effort. Officers from the National Guard Bureau's medical staff were on hand to observe the clinic and discuss Gulf War Syndrome with the medical center staff and researchers.

NEW YORK

Perched on a wooden catwalk 30 feet above the earth, 14 year-old Bill Anderson barely hesitated before stepping off the log and sliding slowly to the ground. At the other end of the rope was Spc. Greg Lobalbo, of HHC 1st Battalion, 105th Infantry based in Schenectady, N.Y.

"Everything we've done today has been about teamwork," said Spc. Lobalbo, when the Schenectady Corps of Cadets member was safely on the ground. "Teamwork that builds individual self-confidence for the kids, but also teamwork that depends on trust."

Bill Anderson was only one of 13 cadets to take part in the Challenge Ropes Course, part of the TEAM project (Together Each Accomplishes More) at Siena College. Built outside among the trees, the course is made up of low and high elements that are specifically designed to present individual and group challenges that can only be overcome when a group

works together, according to TEAM project coordinator James R. Hamel.

The TEAM project course is most often used by college students and corporate groups, Hamel said. But the Schenectady cadets "took the adventure in stride," according to 2nd Lt. Alec Lange of HHC 1st Battalion, 105th Infantry.

"We've done a lot of different things this summer," said Crystal Pratt, 13. "We've had horseback riding and climbing as well." Asked what her favorite activity in the Corps of Cadets is, Crystal shout: "push-ups!"

"The one thing the Corps of Cadets needs most at this time is for more parents to get involved in the program," said George Rickson, Schenectady chapter parents' committee. "We need more parents to come down and see what their kids are actually doing, and we need more effective ways of reaching families outside of the Guard community."



Photo courtesy of the New York National Guard

AWARDED - A cadet receives an award from Lt. Col. Frank Riggo, Corps commandant.



The National Guard in World War II

Warring during the holidays

As Christmas approached in 1944 the 18 National Guard Divisions mobilized into Federal service for World War II and the Americal Division, comprised of National Guard units, found themselves a valuable player in the defeat of the Axis powers.

In the European Theater nine infantry divisions were conducting combat operations in Germany and Italy while in the Pacific Theater 10 other divisions were island hopping to Tokyo.

December 1944 found the Guard divisions engaged in the following operations:

26th Infantry Division (Massachusetts): Assigned to Third Army the "Yankee Division" played a major role in the Ardennes campaign. Rushed from Metz to the Ardennes on Dec. 14, the 26th was ordered to hit the south flank of the German salient in Belgium. On Christmas Day the 26th was engaged in brutal fighting in the successful effort to relieve Bastogne during the German winter offensive.

27th Infantry Division (New York): Wintertime found the 27th refitting and under going specialized training for future operations on Okinawa after a brutal six months of fighting on Saipan.

28th Infantry Division (Pennsylvania): The "Keystone Division" was reeling from the forceful blow of nine German divisions during the German winter offensive. Though initially overwhelmed, the 28th regrouped and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy. One war correspondent termed the Division's defense as "one of the greatest feats in the history of the American Army."

29th Infantry Division (Virginia, Maryland and District of Columbia): The "Blue and Gray Division" crossed the Roer River into Germany in early December and assumed defensive positions along the Roer.

30th Infantry Division (North Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee): "Old Hickory" was rushed to the Malmedy-Stavelot area during the December German winter offensive. There the 30th brought such destruction against the German Army the Germans named the 30th "Roosevelt's SS Troops."

31st Infantry Division (Alabama, Mississippi and Florida): The "Dixie Division" continued operations in the Pacific by maintaining the perimeter defense of Morotai and conducting patrolling missions into its rugged interior.

32nd Infantry Division (Michigan and Wisconsin): During the holiday season the "Red Arrow Division" was on Leyte slugging it out with the Japanese 1st Division. With every inch of ground contested the 32d ultimately broke through the Yamashita line and pushed to the coast at Tabango Bay clearing the Japanese from northern Leyte.

33rd Infantry Division (Illinois): On Christmas Eve the 33rd was found jumping off for the second battle of Morotai.

34th Infantry Division (South Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa): The "Red Bull Division" was digging into defensive positions south of Bologna, Italy.

35th Infantry Division (Kansas and Nebraska): Early December found the "Santa Fe Division" advancing across Germany taking Saargemines and crossing the Saar River. By the 27th the 35th was heavily involved in the Battle of the Bulge repulsing attacks by four German divisions and securing the right flank of the Bastogne highway. The division then moved south and helped hold the critical point at the threatened German breakthrough.

36th Infantry Division (Texas): After months of heavy fighting on the Italian peninsula and in Southern France, the "Texas Division" assisted in the liberation of

Maj. JEFF POPE
NGB Historian



Saarbourg in late December.

37th Infantry Division (Ohio): Fighting gallantly in the Pacific, December found the "Buckeye Division" on Bougainville. The "Buckies" had relieved the Marines, extended the island perimeter, and held off vicious Japanese assaults by the Japanese 6th Division.

38th Infantry Division (Indiana and Kentucky): Nicknamed the "Cyclone Division," the 38th Division was baptized in battle on Leyte in December.

40th Infantry Division (California, Utah, and New York): The holiday season found the "Sunshine Division" preparing for the invasion of Luzon.

41st Infantry Division (Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana): The "Jungleers" were on Biak in December where they had liquidated more than 8,000 Japanese soldiers.

43rd Infantry Division (Maine, Vermont, Connecticut and Rhode Island): Before landing at Luzon in January 1945 the "Winged Victory Division" had fought valiantly at Aitape and New Guinea participating in the bloody battle of Drinimur River.

44th Infantry Division (New Jersey and New York): The 44th was conducting operations in the Vosges Mountains countering enemy thrusts into the area.

45th Infantry Division (Colorado, New Mexico and Oklahoma): The "Thunderbird" Division crossed the Zintzel River in early December 1944 and found itself facing the Maginot Line. The division marked its 365th day of combat on Dec. 13, and spent the remainder of December repelling bitter German opposition in the Lembach-Wingen Valley.

Americal Division: The Americal Division was constituted from National Guard units from the states of Massachusetts, Illinois and North Dakota. The holiday season found the Americal on Bougainville after a major battle against the 6th Imperial Japanese Division (Reinforced). After shattering the offensive strength of the Japanese 6th Division, the Americal remained on line pursuing and destroying the remnants of the 6th Division.

December 1944 closed with National Guard Divisions heavily involved in combat operations in both the European and Pacific Theaters. From island-hopping toward Tokyo in the Pacific to the Battle of the Bulge in Europe, the National Guard continued its exemplary performance into 1945 as the end of world's greatest conflict rapidly approached.

'I SHALL RETURN' COMMEMORATION

Members of the Washington National Guard's 133rd Army Band (far right) played at an October commemoration marking Gen. Douglas MacArthur's return to the Philippines 50 years ago. "I will never forget the tears in the eyes of the Filipinos when the U.S. national anthem was played," remarked Capt. Carlene Salazar, band commander. The trumpets blared (right) near the spot of MacArthur's return.



Photos courtesy the Washington National Guard



TRAINING

Caring HANDS

Buckeye Guard helps medically disadvantaged

By Sgt. Diane Farrow
Ohio National Guard

One-year-old Heather, eyes wide with fear, clutches her mother and lets out a scream as the needle pierces her thigh. Across the table, another mother comforts her young son, rocking him back and forth, murmuring "It's all right, you'll be OK."

A familiar scene to many parents, this immunization clinic was quite different than most. One of the nurses giving shots was dressed in camouflage and combat boots.

Capt. Sally Moward, a registered nurse with the 121st Air Refueling Wing Medical Squadron, is just one member of the Ohio National Guard to take part in "Operation GuardCare," a pilot program authorized by Congress which uses National Guard personnel in medically underserved communities. The National Guard in 15 other states are also participating in this program.

"Historically, our medical personnel have provided a variety of services in countries like Jamaica, Guatemala and Honduras," said Maj. Charles Stockton, medical regulating officer for the Army Guard's 112th Medical Brigade. "People always ask why we can't help out here in the states. It's been only since last year that the federal law was changed to allow National Guard forces to provide health care to U.S. citizens." The key is we can only supplement or enhance services that already exist. We're not out there to replace or compete with local health practitioners," Stockton said. The 112th, which is responsible for coordinating both Air and Army Guard medical support, only sends Guardmembers to locations defined as "medically underserved" by the Ohio Department of Health.

According to studies, only 52 percent of children under age two are fully immunized in the state of Ohio, and the rates among poor, inner-city children and Ohio's Appalachian region are even worse. As a result, Ohio Guardmembers primarily have been supporting free im-



munization clinics set up in Franklin, Perry and Lawrence Counties.

"I'm very comfortable doing this," said Moward, who spent part of her September drill administering second dose MMR (Mumps, Measles, Rubella) shots to children from central Ohio. "This is what I do in my full-time job," she added, explaining that as a civilian, she also works as a nurse for the Cambridge School District.

Though the emphasis of the program has been placed on basic childhood immunizations, at least one clinic so far has expanded its treatment to include overall wellness assessments for children and adults.

Rural Opportunities, a non-profit community development corporation that serves as an advocate for migrant and seasonal farmworkers, was contacted by the 112th Medical Brigade. The Brigade's chiefs wanted to find out how GuardCare could meet their needs. Because north-west Ohio has the greatest population of migrant workers, this area was targeted for a clinic that would offer a wide range

of medical assistance.

"We usually pick up the kids at their migrant camps and bus them to clinics we've contracted for treatment," said Charlotte Villarreal, deputy director of Migrant Headstart, which provides education centers for the children while their parents work in the fields.

But, Villarreal emphasized, it isn't easy to coordinate the locations, transportation or health care providers for such clinics. "Often, local physicians won't accommodate the dollar amount Medicare is willing to pay. Others just don't have the time because their own practices keeps them very busy. And certainly none of the doctors have offered to bring the necessary equipment on location, as the GuardCare folks did."

Primarily made up of members of the 145th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital, the 14-member medical team set up a make-shift doctor/dentist office at the Headstart Center in Helena, Ohio. There, the Guardmembers administered immunizations, checked height and weight,

SAY AHH - Ohio's Col. Claude Beiliter (left) examines a young girl's dental work. Col. Elmer Horman (below) checks a baby for an ear infection. Spc. Eronaele Schaffer (bottom) plays with a child as he is weighed.



Photos courtesy of the Ohio National Guard and provided vision, hearing and dental screenings.

Commander of the 145th MASH, Maj. Stephen Ulrich, was pleased with the training aspect of the GuardCare mission. "This was a chance for dollar value of their services alone was about \$11,000. But, because of the way things were set up, this was an ideal situation that's otherwise not available — regardless of the price." "We're very optimistic about receiving additional services, even earlier, during the next program period, which runs June through October," Villarreal added.

According to Stockton, members of the 112th Medical Brigade are also sharing in that enthusiasm as they head into training year 1995. "Operation GuardCare helped put us back in the 'Ohioans serving Ohio' mode — which is the epitome of the citizen-soldier."

"It feels good to help people in your own backyard," agreed Spc. Lori Purny, member of the 145th MASH. "I'd do it again in a minute."