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'Nor'easter' attacks eastern Coast

Above normal tides, winds gusting to more than 75 miles per hour and heavy rains created havoc for residents of coastal communities along the New Jersey shoreline.

Aside from the flooded roads and devastated homes, the most common sight was members of the New Jersey Army National Guard during the Dec. 11 storm.

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More than 530 Guard members and needed equipment were mobilized for active duty over a four-day period.

The winds whipped waves to heights of more than 20 feet smashing beaches, boardwalks and shorefront homes.

In at least two locations in the state, the Atlantic Ocean met bay areas leaving stranded residents in its wake.

Two 50-foot sea walls were breached in Sea Bright, N.J. and on Long Beach Island, N.J. The communities were separated from one another as a result of flooding.

Residents along the shore area said it was the fiercest "Nor'easter" in history.

While the eastern and southern portions of the state were flooded, the northwestern area of the state, because of freezing temperatures, received 24 inches of snow in less than 40 hours. The result was power outages and impassable roadways.

Soldiers from New Jersey's 50th Armored Division, Troop Command, and Headquarters, State Area Command worked around the clock assisting local emergency management personnel in the evacuation of stranded residents and establishing emergency operations centers.

Using HUMVEES, 2 1/2- and five-ton trucks, soldiers were tasked with helping state, county and local emergency operations center and law enforcement officials.

With water over vehicle wheel wells, Guard personnel transported residents to evacuation centers.

"The water was rushing across streets. Everywhere you looked water was flooding homes and businesses," Spc. Richard Loftus, of B Battery, 3-112th Field Artillery, who was one of many vehicle drivers along the Jersey coast.

Loftus, who was working the second shift of the operation said, between the two shifts the Guard had transported more than 250 Long Beach Island residents to safety, including 20 members of the

See **NEW JERSEY** on p. 5



HIGH TIDES - Members of the 42nd Support Battalion pile sandbags against the foundation of a house battered by the tide in Seagate,

N.Y. For a complete list of the units mobilized during the 100-year storm that hit in December, see p. 5.

118th AW joins African relief effort

By 2nd Lt. Ellen G. Lampkins
Associate Editor

MOMBASSA, Kenya - It was beginning to look a lot like Christmas in Africa.

Although, you couldn't tell by the temperature. It was about 95 degrees, when the second C-130 aircrew from the 118th Airlift Wing in Nashville, Tenn., arrived here at Moi International Airport on Dec. 19.

But that didn't stop them from wearing Santa Claus hats (with appropriate rank, of course) and yelling, "Ho, ho, ho" at unsuspecting passers-by.

Despite the fact that the six-man crew would be 9,000 miles from home on Christmas Day and New Year's Day, they were full of the holiday spirit.

"Delivering the things that these people really need makes you feel pretty good inside," said Staff Sgt. Mike Harris, a flight engineer with the 118th.

The hearts and minds of the Tennessee and Alaska National Guard aircrews deployed here were obviously with loved ones, but they never forgot that they had a job to do.

"I also volunteered for Desert Storm, but here we get the chance to help somebody who can't help their self," said Senior Master Sgt. Richard Guthrie,

See **SOMALIA** on p. 6



Photo by 2nd Lt. Ellen G. Lampkins
WAITING GAME - A young Somali boy waits for medical help at a Doctors Without Borders clinic in Xuddar.

National briefs

VA offers no special bonus ...

An ugly 1965 rumor is again with us and the answer is still, "No!"

The Veterans Administration is not paying World War II veterans a "special bonus."

The false information unnecessarily costs the VA a lot of money to answer the thousands of inquiries it receives. The VA automatically pays more than \$1 billion each year on the anniversary dates of G.I. life insurance policies and no application is necessary.

For answers to VA insurance questions, call toll-free 1-800-827-1000.

But airlines offer special fares

Several major airlines offer special fares for military members and their families traveling on emergency leave.

Delta, Continental, United, American and Northwest airlines and USAir, will waive advance-purchase restrictions on seven-day purchase fares for round-trip travel within the continental United States.

TransWorld Airlines has similar fare provisions. People on active duty must show their military identification card and emergency leave orders at the time of ticket purchase. Family members are eligible if traveling with their sponsor. More information is available from individual airlines.

30 percent uses commissary

Army Maj. Gen. John P. Dreska, the director of the Defense Commissary Agency at Fort Lee, Va., recently reported that only 30 percent of reservists use commissaries.

"We want service members to understand the commissaries are a benefit to them," he said. "They save at least 25 percent over what (service members) would pay if they shopped elsewhere."

"Surveys tell us the commissary is second only to health care as a valued benefit. Employees of the agency and shoppers must realize this and work to make it better."

Atwood approves reserve device

The establishment of a Reserve Component Mobilization Appurtenance to Reserve Medals has been approved by Donald Atwood, the deputy secretary of Defense.

"Members of the reserve components of the U.S. Armed Forces, who volunteer for and serve on active duty, or who are called or ordered to active duty, make special sacrifices in service to the nation that merit special recognition," he said.

The Mobilization Appurtenance will be in the form of a bronze "M" and will be a device on the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, the Naval Reserve Meritorious Service Medal, the Selected Marine Corps Reserve Medal, the Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal, the Naval Reserve Medal or the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal.

The Secretaries of the Military Departments will issue regulations for their respective departments to authorize reserve members to display the Mobilization Appurtenance on any of those medals stated above that the reservist has received or will receive for active duty.

Reader questions NAACP award

Dear Editor,

Concerning your latest article on "Equal Opportunity Groups Recognize NGB members." I fail to see the importance and purpose of a group of people, such as the NAACP, recognizing individuals for the sole purpose of promoting any individual because of their color instead of their quality and professionalism.

The military is an organization where one is promoted for knowing their job, doing their job and being a leader for your troops to follow. Your article is titled, "Equal Opportunity Group" The NAACP is not an equal opportunity group, it is for the "Advancement of Colored People."

The NAACP and "Affirmative Action" stand for nothing more than the promotion of blacks and minorities not for their ability and know how, but for their color of skin and minority status. The military is supposed to be color blind to all races.

To give awards or promotions to anyone because of color or minority status is doing nothing but down grading the military and its purpose for striving to achieve a better standard of leadership. Answer this question for all of the white Americans in the military, and the ones who are not. How would everyone else feel if a group of people gave awards to our leaders for advancing and promoting whites only because they are white?

-Sgt. Barry N. Gilliland
Alabama National Guard

Dear Sgt. Gilliland:

To understand why Lt. Gen. John B. Conaway, the chief, and other members of the National Guard Bureau are proud to receive an award from the NAACP is to understand something of the history of the National Guard and what color has meant to the Guard and to our society in general.

Sometimes it's hard to see that from where we are, in the early 90s. But the NAACP and many senior Guard members know it well. A generation ago, things were quite different.

In the National Guard in the early 60s, it was illegal - against state law - for a black person to be in the Alabama Guard and in the Guard of about a dozen other states. Period. No questions. It was illegal. No matter how good or talented they were.

Those laws, holdovers from the Jim Crow era, where repealed after the Civil Rights Act of 1954. But, old habits die hard and change has come slowly to the National Guard as well as to many others areas of our society.

Although there are now many blacks and other minority members in the lower half of the enlisted ranks, there are still small numbers of minority officers and senior NCOs across the ranks of the National Guard.

You spoke in your letter about ability, quality, professionalism, standards of leadership. We totally agree with your concern about these attributes. That's exactly what the equal opportunity thrust in the Guard is all about.

We're trying to reflect the best of our communities and states so we can tap the best talents, abilities, quality, professionalism and leadership from all parts of our society: whites, blacks, native Americans, Hispanics, Asian Americans, women and in some of our competitive technician positions - disabled Americans.

We're not in the business of recruiting, promoting or rewarding simply because of race - black or white. We cannot afford that kind of waste.

As America's community based national force, the National Guard is our community. We are only as good as the best we can attract and develop from our communities ... the best of all races and ethnic groups.

We can't afford to deprive ourselves of the talents of black Americans like: Gen. Colin Powell, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; or Maj. Gen. Russ Davis, the commanding general of the District of Columbia; Maj. Gen. Dick Alexander, the adjutant general of Ohio; Maj. Gen. Jim Whitehead, the

See **RESPONSE** on p. 9

DRUG USE IS LIFE ABUSE

Counterdrug Update

* As of Jan. 6, the National Guard has conducted 1,552 operations for a total of 340,148 mandays in fiscal year 1993.

* A total of 836 operations are currently being conducted by 51 states/territories. The personnel on duty include 2,514 Army National Guard members and 739 Air National Guard members for a total of 3,253.

* As of Jan. 6, a total of \$21,795,457 in cash has been confiscated by the National Guard.

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Reforger will never be the same, soldiers say

By Sgt. 1st Class Bob Dashman
Texas National Guard

Germany - Engaging in military maneuvers in Germany will not be the same.

That was the consensus of more than 115 members of the 111th Area Support Group, Texas Army National Guard after they returned from there, after successfully completing a seven-week mission as part of Reforger '92.

In September, the 111th sent its first group of soldiers to Germany, where they set up a Tactical Operations Center, and replaced the active-duty 29th Area Support Group by establishing command and control over reserve and active-duty American forces in Germany and Luxembourg.

The 111th was in Germany for Reforger '90, but things have changed. "We've participated in Reforger before," said Col. Bertus L. Sisco, the 111th's group commander, "but the great changes that have taken place in

Europe meant that this exercise would present a different scenario, we wouldn't be able to fall back on past experience."

Reforger, which stands for Return of Forces to Germany, has been conducted annually by NATO forces since 1969.

Reforger '92 was designed to demonstrate American resolve to honor NATO commitments by exercising rapid strategic reinforcement of Europe by active-duty and reserve component units. Some have called it "the National Training Center for the logistician."

An ASG is responsible for the movement and maintenance of personnel and their material through its area of responsibility.

The 111th's area started in Luxembourg and covered almost all of western Germany.

The 111th, through its subordinate units, had overall responsibility for airports, where troops arrived on

jumbo aircraft (747s, L-1011s) from the United States and were then transferred to buses for transport to the forward combat zone; marshalling areas where the troops rested during the mission; repair areas and rest stops for the troop convoys; and POMCUS sites where pre-positioned material is stored.

Some of these locations were only in operation for a few days, while others were active for the entire mission.

What made the exercise so valuable for the 111th was the fact that they were solving real world problems, doing the same thing they would do in the event of mobilization, rather than working with simulations.

If a problem occurred at one of the facilities, it was up to the men and women of the 111th to solve it.

If there wasn't enough food for a unit, the Texans had to find some. If there was a fuel spill at a marshalling area, they had to be sure that it was

cleaned up properly.

Any maintenance or life support problem that arose was given to the 111th to handle. None of this was a simulation; no one could ask that the computers be turned off while they tried to find a solution.

By early November, Reforger was over, and the 111th could return to Austin.

Lt. Gen. William G. Pagonis, the director of Logistics during Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and the commander of the 21st Theater Army Command in Germany, did not hide his pleasure with the Texans' performance.

"The 111th Area Support Group did a superb job in being integrated with the active duty forces, and accomplished its mission without missing a beat," he said.

"The 111th proved that it will be able to go into any area and rapidly set up command and control and life support. They did a fine job."

Army Guard mechanics gain 'Storm' vehicles

By Maj. Bob E. Mayfield
Army Logistics Directorate

A year after the U.S. withdrawal of forces from the Persian Gulf, Army National Guard mechanics continue to receive hands-on training in the repair of vehicles exposed to the rigors of desert warfare.

As of December, 654 National Guard men and women are participating in a unique program to repair trucks declared excess to the active Army in Southwest Asia and add them to the Army National Guard fleet.

The program was conceived in 1991, when the Army offered 2,500 Commercial Utility Combat Vehicles to the National Guard to fill shortages in the light vehicle fleet.

The Army Logistics Directorate of the National Guard Bureau authorized nine sites at existing National Guard facilities to receive, inspect, repair to Training Manual 10/20 standards and distribute them.

As the active Army drawdown progressed, it became apparent to the Army and the U.S. Army Tank-Automotive Command that an opportunity had developed for the Guard to modernize its fleet by displacing a number of its 13,000 M151 and M880 series vehicles.

In addition, National Guard shortages in the 2 1/2 and 5 ton fleet (2,500 and 7,100 respectively) could be addressed.

By December 1991 the number of vehicles offered by Headquarters, Department of the Army increased to 4,400 with the addition of 2 1/2- and five-ton assets.

An additional site was opened at Camp Roberts, Calif.

Army requirements for High Mobility Multipurpose heeled Vehicles decreased, so Headquarters, Department of the Army began to authorize their shipment to the National Guard sites. A total of 1,152 have been received.

Because Army regulations mandate repair prior

Guard officers to receive joint-duty credit by law

Some officers who served in the desert war can now receive joint-duty credit thanks to a law enacted in October.

The new law authorizes the secretary of defense to grant credit on a case-by-case basis for a joint-duty assignment to officers who served in the Persian Gulf combat zone in a position that provided experience in joint matters.

Joint-tour credit may be granted, even if the duty didn't fall within the definition of "joint duty assignment" under current law, said officials from the office of the deputy chief of staff for personnel.

Qualifying officers must have received their joint experience during service in the Persian Gulf combat zone any time between Aug. 2, 1990 and Feb. 28, 1991.

The new law provides the credit only to those officers, who "truly gained significant experience in joint matters involving the

integrated employment of land, sea and air forces that took place during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm," officials said.

The Secretary of Defense has not yet set the specific criteria to grant the credit, but officials said a message to the field will announce such criteria when it is settled.

DCSPER officials expect officers to have 30 days to submit requests for joint-duty credit, once the criteria are published.

Requests will require the following data: name, grade/rank, social security number, branch/occupational speciality, dates of service in the combat zone, positions duty title during that service, type of credit requested (full or partial) and justification supported by factual evidence such as letters of recommendation, awards and evaluation reports.

For more information, call DSN 224-5811 or commercial 703-614-5811.

to transfer by the losing command, the Southwest Asia excess repair sites are funded for parts and labor by the Army.

Parts and contracts cost \$35 million in fiscal year 92, and labor consumed \$9.6 million of \$12.1 million requested.

Mass production techniques, use of contractors for painting and rustproofing, and other innovations developed by the sites kept labor costs down.

The average National Guard labor rate has been

\$35 per hour, compared to \$65 for depots.

Through this effort, the ARNG will increase and modernize its tactical wheeled vehicle fleet with about 6,000 diesel powered trucks at 1/3 the cost of new vehicles.

This program is slated for completion this August. It has served as a demonstration model upon which the ARNG hopes to develop future proposals to repair equipment excess to the Army in the future.



Top Troop

Spc. Joseph A. Cooke, Jr., recently was chosen as the 1992 Soldier of the Year for the Delaware Army National Guard.

A member of company A, 280th Signal Battalion, Cooke competed for two years before winning this award.

He is a full-time physics major at Delaware State College.

Martin: Best educator in state, National Guard

Undisputably he is the best - the best National Guard education officer in the nation.

So says the National Guard Bureau about Maj. Henry Martin, the full-time education services officer for the Kansas Army National Guard.

Martin was recently awarded the Minuteman Award for his exceptional service and outstanding performance of duty in education services, where he served as the chairman for the Education Services Advisory Panel at the national level.

He also designed a plan to implement the Concurrent Admissions Program and the Computer Assisted Guardians Information Supplement for the entire Army National Guard nationwide.

Over the years, Martin has initiated many unique programs. "I'm the only guy brave enough to test the new programs and come up with a system of implementation for the rest of the country," Martin said. "Any system that needs to be tested that makes our soldiers a better citizen and a more productive soldier is worth the risk."

Military offers new educational programs to Guard, spouses

In an effort to provide ARNG officers an opportunity to improve their professional and personal development, and to increase their combat readiness, a new tuition assistance (TA) program is being launched.

At this time, only commissioned officers working on a baccalaureate degree are eligible for TA, which is authorized for up to 75 percent of established post-secondary course tuition, including laboratory and shop fees specifically required as a condition of enrollment.

In no case will the tuition assistance amount

exceed \$80 per semester hour or equivalent at the undergraduate level. The assistance is authorized for only one course at a time.

To apply for TA, interested officers must process their request using DA Form 2171. More details are available through your state Education Services officer.

DANTES or Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support recently contracted with "The College Board" to authorize the administration of the CLEP General and Subject examinations

to spouses of ARNG members.

Testing will be provided until Sep. 30, and results will be evaluated for continuation of this program beyond the first year.

Army Guard spouses are the only family members eligible for this funded CLEP testing program.

To be eligible for testing, an ARNG spouse must present a current military spouse identification card, and be tested through an ARNG DANTES Test Center.

ARNG and Air Guard members may contact their State Education Services officer for more details.

Language skills essential in new world

With the demise of the Cold War, the Army will confront an increasingly complex international environment.

Language skills will, therefore, become more important than ever.

The chief of the Army Reserve is resolved to meet this challenge by emphasizing USAR language readiness.

Units with language-dependent billets and soldiers requiring language classes can achieve their training needs through the Defense Language Institute's Foreign Language Center located at The Presidio of Monterey, Calif., the best language training institution in the world.

By a Department of Defense directive, the DIFLC must conduct almost all basic, intermediate and advance language training for the DoD.

Most resident training is pursued at SLIFLC, however, certain personnel are trained in the Na-

tional Capital Region under the auspices of the DLI Washington Office. The institute teaches 43 languages and dialects.

Reservists must take the Defense Language Aptitude Battery.

The minimum requirements for training are: 85 for Category I (Dutch, French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish); 90 for Category II (German); 95 for Category III (Czechoslovakia, Greek, Hebrew, Persian-Farsi, Polish, Russian, Tagalog, Thai, Turkish and Vietnamese); 100 for Category IV (Arabic, Chinese, Japanese and Korean).

Contact your unit administrator or training officer for details on scheduled classes. Applicants also must submit NGB Form 64 through their training chain of command to secure a seat reservation.

A 47-week course could earn the participant up to 21 semesters of college credit, depending on the criteria established by each college or university.

ANG sets second CCAF graduate record

MAXWELL AFB, Ala - For the second year in a row, the Air National Guard set a record by graduating 377 members in the October class here at the Community College of the Air Force.

The Air Guard total for the entire year of 1992 was 695 graduates.

The top ANG units for October 1992 were: the 186th Air Refueling Group of Mississippi with 24 graduates; the 181st Fighter Group of Indiana, 11; the 125th Fighter Group of Florida and the 155th

Reconnaissance Group of Nebraska, both with 10 graduates each; and the 177th Reconnaissance Wing of Alabama and the 134th ARG of Tennessee, both with nine each.

Units with eight graduates each were: the 187th Fighter Group of Alabama; the 140th Fighter Wing of Colorado; the 116th Fighter Wing of Georgia; the 101st ARW of Maine; the 131st Fighter Wing of Missouri; the 152nd Reconnaissance Group of Nevada; and the 164th Airlift Group of Tennessee.

G.I. Bill increases

WASHINGTON - The Montgomery GI Bill has increased its benefits and enrollment opportunities, allowing more education options for military people, GI Bill program officials said.

Beginning April 1, GI bill rates will increase from \$350 to \$400 per month for up to 36 months for full-time students. Reserve members will receive an increase of \$20, up to \$190 per month.

People who left the service by accepting one of the voluntary separation incentives or are planning to accept one of the options in the future, can enroll in the new GI Bill program.

Active duty people who initially obligated for two years of service, but actually served more, are now eligible for the same GI Bill benefits as those who obligated for three years. Previously, benefits were paid on a members initial obligation only.

GI Bill participants, who left the service because of hardship, disability or reduction in force before completing 12-months of active service, and later came back on active duty, will be considered to have served with no break in service for GI Bill purposes. Previously, benefits were paid for each month of service during the first enlistment only.

In addition, officials said people may now be entitled to full benefits if they successfully complete their second enlistment.



Guard mobilizes to battle east's 100-year storm

By Maj. Paul Fanning
and 1st Lt. Yarema Hutsaliuk
New York National Guard

BROOKLYN, N.Y. — Surging tide waters poured through gaping holes in the seawall, occasionally spraying soldiers working nearby.

The line of troops passing sand bags wound around the remains of 4310 Beach, 43rd Street to a great pile of bags in the street.

High tide was building but troops of Company A, 1st Battalion, 71st Infantry in Bayshore were determined to continue their work.

Two homes had collapsed into the sea.

In the words of their commander, the damage was going to end there. "This is not what we've been training for," said Capt. Geoffrey Slack. "It's different though, and the troops are enjoying the change. More importantly, they feel they're making a difference."

From Dec. 11-15, more than 400 New York National Guard members from Long Island and New York City performed numerous support missions aiding residents victimized by the worst storm to hit the Northeast in almost a century.

From filling and placing sandbags to evacuating stranded families from flooded homes, soldiers worked round-the-clock helping their battered neighbors.

The Northeaster ran up the coast from Virginia to Massachusetts, slashing the shores with gale force winds and waves, dumping up to three feet of snow on certain inland areas.

In New York City, rising tides submerged Manhattan's East Side Drive and subways, trapping motorists and commuters.

Coastal communities were flooded and homes collapsed. Others lost heat, light and telephone services.

With the storm still approaching, Gov. Mario Cuomo declared a state of emergency and activated select units to aid in recovery efforts.

Within hours, the first soldiers arrived from the 42nd Infantry Division's 42nd Support Battalion. They set to work immediately alongside employees of New York City's Police, Parks and Recreation, Sanitation and Building departments.

Working in shifts through the night, soldiers of Headquarters Company, Companies A and B from Brooklyn and Company D from Riverhead filled sandbags, placed them to shore up weakening seawall's and filled holes created by raging seas.

"I was called at my home about 10:30 Friday night," said Sgt. George Green of headquarters company. "By 1:30 (Saturday morning) I was at Seagate with 11 other guys. It was pretty chaotic — the seawall was just coming down."

Green and comrades filled more than 500 sandbags during heavy rains and winds as 50-60 foot waves broke over the shore. "We had shifts every 40 minutes for soup and coffee to warm up," he said.

Meanwhile, soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 71st Infantry and the 242nd Signal Battalion from Long Island communities rushed to Freeport and South Bayville to help evacuate displaced residents. Blankets were distributed and a generator was installed restoring power at a nursing home.

On Monday, these sites were stabilized and the infantry was sent to Seagate for a maximum effort to aid this threatened community.

With three daily shifts of more than 100 soldiers



Photo by 1st Lt. Ronald Kopp

FILL 'ER UP - Members of the 42nd Support Battalion and the 1st Battalion, 71st Infantry fill

sandbags needed to rebuild the sea wall at Seagate, N.Y.

Units activated for December storms

W.V. - 119th Engineer Company
Conn. - 2-192 Field Artillery, B/242 Engineer
Mass. - 26th and 972nd Military Police Companies
Va. - STARC; HHC 3-116th Infantry
N.Y. - 101st Cavalry, 1-71st Infantry and the 42nd Support Battalion
Ala. - HHD, 127th Medical Group and the 151st Engineer Company
Calif. - 49th Military Police Company

each, sandbags were filled and emplaced to fill holes at the waters edge, reinforce foundations and shore up weakened seawall.

High tides swept away many 30 to 40 pound bags, and rushing waves occasionally tossed them back at the troops. Guard members diligently piled sandbags high enough for officials of the Building Department to rule that the immediate danger was over.

"When we first arrived at Seagate, we had no tools," said Command Sgt. Major Samuel Campbell of the battalion. "We got our entrenching tools and

began filling sandbags, and it all got done."

While the world focused on Operation Restore Hope in Somalia, soldiers of the 42nd went to work to provide help at home. "Some soldiers are in Somalia helping the starving," Campbell said. "We are here helping our neighbors. We sure don't do this for the money."

"It makes me feel good to help those less fortunate than myself," said Pvt. 1st Class Sonya Roberts of B Company. "This is definitely a positive experience."

"We are no strangers to humanitarian relief," said Lt. Col. Richard Rhodes, military task force commander at Seagate.

The 42nd has participated in other missions in the past, including 1991's Haitian Relief and the transport of food and medical supplies destined for the states of the former Soviet Union.

"We have a long tradition in the National Guard of neighbors helping neighbors," said Brig. Gen. Mike Hall, adjutant general for New York's military forces. "Operation Garland Plow is simply the most recent example of how important it is to have a community based force ready in time of need."

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visiting Ukraine Donetsk Ballet Company.

In the Atlantic Highlands, residents also were overwhelmed by the storm. Soldiers in that area evacuated many of the 400 residents to Henry Hudson High School, located at the top of a bluff.

Once power was restored to the gymnasium being used as a shelter, the generator was transported for use at the local police department to restore communications.

In less than 24 hours, Maj. Gen. Vito Morgano, the adjutant general, and Gov. Jim Florio conducted a ground level inspection of many of the devastated communities amidst rain and snow.

"The Guard will do all it can to make sure our citizens are safe," Morgano told residents.

Maj. Charles Kishbaugh, who manned the Troop Command Emergency Operations Center and coordinated

troop and equipment movements into ocean-front municipalities like Cape May, Atlantic City, Wildwood, and Ocean City, said soldiers were eager and enthusiastic during the mission.

"The troops, whether Guard veterans or new to the Guard, were highly motivated," said Staff Sgt. Howard Tams. "They all operated with determination and reason. They were motivated toward one common goal ... helping people."

Overall, the soldiers completed over 61 missions in 26 communities. More than 109 pieces of military equipment, including trucks and cots and blankets, were used in the operation.

(Information for this article was compiled by Staff Sgts. Frank Lawlor and Roman T. Martyniuk and Spc. David F. Moore, all of the New Jersey National Guard.)

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a loadmaster with the 118th. "If it hadn't been the type of (humanitarian) mission that it is, I probably would not have volunteered at Christmas."

Guthrie left a wife, three daughters and four granddaughters in Nashville. "This is my first Christmas away from home, but I'm away from home a lot (during the year)," said the traditional Guard member with almost 9,500 flying hours.

Other crew members from Tennessee include: 2nd Lt. Kevin J. Blaser, co-pilot; Staff Sgt. John J. Garrett, IV, flight engineer; 1st Lt. James C. Gibson, Jr., co-pilot; Sgt. Lester B. Goodman, Jr., loadmaster; Capt. Thomas L. Herbert, a navigator; Staff Sgt. Dennis P. Jungman, crew chief; Staff Sgt. Thomas M. McAuley, loadmaster; Lt. Col. James W. McKinney, pilot; Maj. Charles L. Smith, pilot; Lt. Col. John R. Taylor, navigator; Staff Sgt. Robert F. Ussery, Jr., crew chief; Staff Sgt. John C. Ward, flight engineer, and Airman 1st Class Trenton R. Williams, loadmaster.

Mombassa will be the crew's home away from home for the next six weeks. From this staging area, they will airlift food and supplies into Somalia in support of Operation Provide Relief, which began in August.

Since that time, Guard aircrews from Minnesota, Maryland and Alaska have flown along with the Air Force Reserves and the active Air Force delivering more than 4,000 metric tons into Somalia as of Dec. 20.

"We're making a difference," said Col. Jon Matthews, who briefed a group of reporters and photographers from Tennessee. "And the National Guard has fully integrated itself into this joint operation. 'Of course, we're all airlifters at heart.'"

Guthrie isn't sure how long this mission will last, but "we will probably move a lot more stuff than they can imagine," he said. "We intend to get the job done."

Capt. Catherine O'Brien will complete her job as an intelligence officer in 60 days.

A member of the 176th Mobile Aerial Port Flight in Anchorage, Alaska, she will be responsible for keeping up with "where the threats are" for the U.S. aircrews flying into Somalia.

Despite the drastic change of temperature between Alaska and Kenya, O'Brien looks forward to her work. "This will be the first time that I have been able to do my job for real since I have been in the Guard," she said. "It will be great experience, and I will get the chance to help someone."

However, O'Brien does feel a little guilty about leaving home on the holidays. She and her husband, Timothy,



LOOKING FOR RELIEF - A young Somali boy and an older adult, who may or may not be

his father, walk across the compound at a Doctors Without Borders clinic in Xuddar.

Operation Provide Relief

The following is a list of the Air National Guard units that have flown into Somalia:

1. 133rd Airlift Wing, Minnesota
2. 135th Airlift Group, Maryland
3. 176th Composite Grp, Alaska
4. 118th Airlift Wing, Tennessee
5. 179th Airlift Group, Ohio
6. 123rd Airlift Group, Kentucky

a full-time helicopter pilot with the 176th Composite Group in Anchorage, have been married for only two months.

"But he understands," she said. "If he had the chance, he would go without me in a heart beat. Maybe he will get a chance to go later."

For 1st Lt. O'Brien, Christmas will take place as scheduled. "I left him to open all his presents at Christmas," she said. "I will have to open mine when I get home."

About 16 aircrew members from the 144th Airlift Squadron in Anchorage also have been deployed to this area. "We won't have a Christmas, so

See **SOMALIA** on p. 7



SUSTENANCE - Lt. Col. Randy Taylor, a navigator with the 118th, holds two items essential for surviving in Somalia, cards from home and bottled water.



BUBBLES THE CLOWN - A young Somali boy blows bubbles while waiting to help off-load a C-130 from the 118th Airlift Wing in Nashville, Tenn.



HEARING AID - An older Somali woman protects her ears from the roar of the C-130 engines, which were left running during the off-load.



SKY CAP! - Staff Sgt. Les Goodman, a loadmaster with the 118th Airlift Wing in Nashville, Tenn., surveys the damage after unloading the aircrew's luggage.

Photos by
2nd Lt. Ellen G. Lampkins



EASY DOES IT - Master Sgt. Mike Dwyer, a loadmaster with the



118th Airlift Wing of Nashville, Tenn., guides a Somali driver in



Xuddar to the back of the C-130 loaded with food and supplies.

Guard forms tanker bridge across Atlantic

Since Dec. 5, the Air National Guard has hosted the largest air refueling operation in support of a humanitarian mission in military history.

KC-135 aircraft from around the country have supplied fuel to all Somalia-bound relief flights from Moron Air Base in Spain.

As of the middle of January, the Moron Tanker Task Force had off-loaded more than 33 million pounds of fuel, which is enough gas to send the average economy car around the earth's equator about 3,000 times.

With more than 20 active-duty, Air Force Reserve and Air Guard aircraft, the task force has a tanker in the air virtually every moment of the day, seven days a week.

The KC-135s meet relief flights over the Atlantic Ocean about 350 miles off of Spain's west coast.

"If there has been an east-bound plan in need of fuel, there's been a

Moron tanker there to meet it," said 1st Lt. Michael J. Paoli, a spokesman for the task force.

The multi-component force averages 17 sorties a day for a total of 317 and more than 1,650 flying hours as of January.

About 400 Air Guard members in a variety of aircrew and maintenance jobs have participated in the humanitarian effort.

Air Guard units involved in Operation Restore Hope include: the 101st Air Refueling Wing of Bangor, Maine; the 108th ARW and 170th ARG, both of Trenton, N.J.; the 112th Air Refueling Group and 171 ARW, both of Pittsburgh, Pa.; the 126th ARW of Chicago; the 128th ARG of Milwaukee, Wisc.; the 134th ARG of Knoxville, Tenn.; the 141st ARW of Spokane, Wash.; the 151st ARG of Salt Lake City, Utah; the 155th ARG of Lincoln, Neb.; the 157th ARG of

Portsmouth, N.H.; the 160th ARW of Columbus, Ohio; the 161st ARG of Phoenix; the 168th ARG of Fairbanks, Alaska; the 186th ARG of Meridian, Miss.; and the 190th ARG of Topeka, Kan.

SOMALIA from p. 6

that (the Somalis) can," said Maj. David W. Hargett, an aircraft commander with the unit.

His six-man crew arrived here on Dec. 1. That is when the first Tennessee aircrew flew their first mission.

"Everything went real smooth," Capt. Brad Sexton, an aircraft commander with the 118th, said about their short tour.

"It got a little hectic when the Marines did their thing, but hopefully it will get back to normal.

"Anytime I get a chance to do some-

thing like this, I do."

Harris said the National Guard is "more involved" in the operation than he expected. "I thought we would only be flying a couple of times mixing it up with the active duty people."

As it turns out, the two aircrews from each unit fly every other day and the aircraft is used every day.

Sexton estimates that the Tennessee aircraft records about 80 hours a week during this mission.

In addition to the flying time and experience, these aircrews will leave Mombassa with a deep sense of satisfaction in their work ... because it is hard work.

In Xuddar (pronounced Hoddur), the C-130 crews landed on a dirt airstrip, which is "what this airplane is made to do," said Staff Sgt. Gary B. Caudell, a flight engineer with the 144th.

Once on the ground, the pilot keeps the engines running, while the loadmasters coordinate the off-load.

"Directions were mainly given to the truck driver," said Master Sgt. Mike Dwyer, a loadmaster from the 118th. "They were extremely anxious to do the job ... and as you saw today there were several starts and stops to make sure that they got it in there."

"Sometimes the truck driver was a little out of control," said Tech. Sgt. Jay Lyons, also of the 118th. "But once he was in control, the off-load went pretty smooth."

Dwyer said the language barrier was the biggest "challenge," but "we managed to get (the truck) in there safely every time."

"In their own way, they are very efficient," Lyons said. "Because they were off-loading by hand, it took longer ... about 20 to 30 minutes."

"That is pretty good especially considering the size of the people."

Despite their lack of bulk, Lyons said the Somalis were amazingly strong. "I've heard stories about one guy trying to carry three bags at a time," he said. "They surprised me."

Each trip, the Somali workers would unload about 22,000 pounds of food and supplies from four pallets.

(When the same amount of cargo is off-loaded by a forklift or K-loader, the job takes about five or 10 minutes.)

Lyons said once the Somali workers got into a groove, they would begin to sing. They also had races between the two lines of men unloading the cargo.

"It was interesting to watch them work and see how they do it," he said.

On the 118th's first mission into Baidoa, the load that they delivered was hijacked and the workers were killed by a local gang.

"It's sad when (everyone) works so hard, and there isn't any way to protect it," Sexton said.



Alaskan scouts: The eyes and ears of the tundra

They are distinct images that nonetheless form an unforgettable whole. A squad of infantrymen, clad in white camouflage suits, slogs through knee-deep snow on patrol far above the Arctic Circle.

A gunmetal-gray landing craft moves slowly through a choppy, wind-whipped fjord set between heavily forested slopes.

And as a small, twin-engine airplane soars over a pass between two towering, snow-capped mountain peaks, a vast, iceberg-dotted bay suddenly becomes visible ahead.

Distinct images, yes, but with two things in common. The infantrymen, boat crewmen and pilots are all soldiers in the Army National Guard. And the beautiful and demanding land in which they serve is Alaska, America's last great frontier.

Though a comparatively young force - it was formed only in 1949 - the 3,200-member Alaska Army National Guard has a reputation for professionalism and military expertise. These characteristics come in handy in Alaska, for it is both a vitally important piece of real estate and an incredibly challenging theater of military operations.

Perched almost literally at the top of the world, Alaska is at the crossroads between northern Europe, Asia and North America.

Set apart from the rest of the continental United States ("the lower 48"), Alaska's closest neighbors are the Soviet Union and Canada. The largest state in the union, Alaska is nearly 600,000 square miles in area and has some 33,000 miles of coastline, yet it has only about 540,000 people and just 2,600 miles of paved roads. It is a land blessed with almost untold natural wealth including oil, fish, timber and precious metals, yet its climate and geography make it as daunting - and as unforgiving - as the surface of the moon.

Soldiers must be ready to operate in terrain ranging from marshlands to alpine forests to arctic deserts and in temperatures that can plunge to 60 degrees below zero in the dead of winter and hit more than 90 degrees in the summer.

Such conditions help explain the Guard's regionally based, light infantry orientation.

One of the primary Army Guard units in Alaska is the 207th Infantry Scout Group, the famed Alaska Scouts. The 207th is headquartered in Fort Richardson and has battalions in Nome, Bethel and Kotzebue.

Perhaps the best known of the Alaska Guard's assets, the scouts of the 207th, are broken into small village-based units made up almost exclusively of the Alaskan Indians and Eskimos.

Famed for their reconnaissance and tracking skills, the Scouts use their knowledge of Alaska's "bush" to serve as the eyes and ears of the more conventional Guard and active Army units.

For many years, they worked as border patrols, but their new mission is "light infantry."

Like most Alaska Army Guard units, the scouts' drill schedule is somewhat unorthodox. Rather than meeting one weekend a month and two weeks in the summer, the unit - like many in Alaska - holds most of its drills between September and June, with no drills during the summer months.

The reasons are simple: many Guard members in Alaska work in seasonal jobs and must be free to work during the peak season.

Winter and wilderness survival techniques are an ongoing training subject, said Sgt. 1st Class Kelly Kohnen, the unit's readiness NCO.



WHERE THE ESKIMOS ROAM - An unidentified Eskimo Scout looks out over the frozen tundra.

"We get a lot of people who have never dealt with the cold before, and we have to keep an eye on each other while we're out there," Kohnen said. "If it's 40 or 50 degrees below zero and you don't know what you're doing, you can grab a piece of exposed metal with your bare hand and leave a piece of skin behind."

The Eskimo scout's mission in Little Diomedes was to keep their eyes open for Soviet activity and to be prepared to defend remote regions of their state is one they've carried since World War II.

Back then, the Japanese occupied two islands in the Aleutian chain and actively charted the territory's coast. Fearing that he wouldn't be able to repel an invasion, Alaska's governor got permission to form

a territorial guard of Eskimo scout units. Those units officially became a part of the Army Guard in 1949 and 1950. Today, three of the state's five scout battalions cover some 335,000 square miles of western Alaska.

Little Diomedes's scouts knew that they had an important job, and it was one that gave them a lot of pride. The Eskimo scouts were among the few U.S. military units that monitored Soviet activities on a daily basis, said Staff Sgt. Orville Akhinga, the NCOIC of Little Diomedes's 14-member Eskimo Scout detachment, and his soldiers know their cold-weather scouting skills make them special.

He added that the Eskimo's scout tradition, patriotism and the chance to earn extra money while doing something challenging, motivates young Eskimos to join the Guard.

"Sometimes we talk how we'd live if our island belonged to the Soviet Union," Akhinga said. "We realize we wouldn't have nearly as much freedom, and our lives would be much harder. We were born in a good country, and we feel patriotic, even way out here. I can remember seeing my relatives putting on their territorial guard uniforms and how proud they felt to be doing their part. I guess we still feel that way today."

Two of the detachment's newer members, Private 1st Class Edward Soolook and his cousin, Spc. Thomas Soolook, both said their fathers and older brothers did tours in the scouts and that they encouraged them to do the same. "It sort of runs in the family," Edward said proudly.

Being young, both scouts said that getting off Little Diomedes for their battalion's two-week annual training period is one of the best things about being in the Guard. "Winter field exercises are my favorite," Thomas said. "Sometimes, we go against Ranger and Special Forces units. The weather usually slows them down, but it doesn't bother us, because we're used to it."

"We're always walking around with lots of blanks looking for a fight. But sometimes, no one shows up because of the weather."

(This article was compiled from two stories published by Soldier's Magazine.)



EYES AND EARS - The Alaskan scouts at Little Diomedes were one of the few U.S. military

units to monitor Soviet activities on a daily basis.



Woodson: The father of Afro-American history

With Black History Month approaching, it seems appropriate to review the amazing story of this great movement in education and pay tribute to its founder.

Black History celebrations have done much to preserve and point out the contributions and achievements of the African American in our history.

Too much praise cannot be given to Dr. Carter G. Woodson, who organized the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History and originated the Celebration of Negro History Week.

Educator, author, editor, administrator and historian Woodson was born in Buckingham County, Va., but came to Huntington, W.V., as a teenager to pursue his education.

He graduated from Douglas High School in 1890 and returned there as principal from 1900-33. He continued his education at Berea College and the University of Chicago earning a Ph.D. from Harvard University.

Woodson's book, "The Negro in our History," first published in 1922 was for many years the most popular and valued book on the subject.

His essays, "The Mis-education of the Negro," first published in 1933 continue to provide challenge and stimulus for black Americans.

Singlehandedly, Woodson, through

these writings and his organizational ability, promoted and insured the viability of black history in schools and colleges of this country.

This was his first direct approach to mass education, designed to replace mis-education of the African American with documented fact.

He was convinced that if a race had no recorded history, its achievements would be forgotten or ignored and eventually claimed by others.

In February 1926 through ASALH, Woodson launched a campaign for "Negro History Week."

It was his second direct approach to securing for the African American a firm basis for self-confidence and for a revision of public opinion.

The new observation was built to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, on Feb. 12th and 14th.

Circulars of information and suggestions for commemorative activities were sent to educational institutions, public libraries, religious, fraternal and labor organizations and social welfare and literary societies. Everywhere the call was answered with enthusiasm. Book displays were mounted, lectures and speakers called in, and successful personalities presented as "living examples" of black accomplishment.

From the beginning, news stories

and editorials were printed and numerous pamphlets were published.

The first "Negro History Week" was a definite success and the movement was off the ground and flying. For 65 years, it has continued to fly, more popular, more effective and more needed than ever.

Woodson devoted his life to the mission of researching and documenting African American history.

He believed that an accurate understanding of Afro-American history would promote pride within the black community. He also believed the greater understanding would foster greater respect for the black community within the broader society.

Woodson brought to the forefront a critically important aspect of the nation's past that most historians had distorted or ignored altogether.

Stately in appearance and reserved in manner but with a fervor in his commitment, Woodson is universally acknowledged as the "Father of Afro-American History."

He said, "We should emphasize not Negro History, but the negro in history. What we need is not a history of selected races or nations, but the history of the world, void of national bias, race hate and religious prejudice. There should be no indulgence in undue eulogy of the Negro."

The case of the Negro is well taken

care of when it is shown how he has influenced the development of civilization.

In 1976, the observation was expanded to National Afro-American History Month in honor of the nation's bicentennial.

Since then, U.S. presidents have praised the mission of ASALH and urged Americans to celebrate Afro-American History Month.

ASALH has established the national theme for the Black History month celebration each year since 1926. This year ASALH has chosen "African American Scholars: Leaders, Activists and Writers" as the national theme.

The African American has played a vital part in the building of America's economic strength, as a fighting man in all of his country's wars, as a contributor to national culture, as a figure of importance in sports, and as a participant in all of the varied activities of American life.

During Black History Month, only brief glimpses into limited areas of African American life are possible.

However, each celebration of Black History Month insures continuing attention to this vital component of American history and culture.

Until African American History is taught everyday, there will continue to be a need for Black History month celebrations.

Minorities in the Guard

	Army National Guard	Air National Guard
Black	65,198 (15.7%)	9,499 (8.0%)
Hispanic	25,559 (6.1%)	5,202 (4.4%)
Asian/Pacific Region	4,950 (1.2%)	2,183 (1.8%)
Native American	2,945 (.7%)	949 (.8%)
Females	31,111 (7.5%)	15,829 (13.4%)
Total Strength	416,374	118,534

RESPONSE from p. 2

special assistant to the director of the Air National Guard; and thousands of other talented black Americans, who are contributing daily and who know that their efforts will be weighed and judged fairly in the U.S. military and in the National Guard. This is quite different than the opportunities their parents and grandparents had.

Gen. Conaway, the NGB staff and the NAACP are not insisting that minorities be promoted or rewarded solely because of the color of their skin or their minority status. On the contrary, their wish is that they have the fair and honest opportunity to "show their stuff" - to compete, succeed and rise to the top based solely on their ability, quality, professional-

ism and leadership.

Their minority status simply adds another dimension and helps assure us that we're looking to every corner of our society for the best America has to offer.

Given the ever-changing demands of a diverse and challenging future and the requirement to do more with less, we can no longer afford to entrust the future security of our nation only to our best white males. To ensure the highest state of readiness and national security we must entrust our future to our best people.

(This response was written by Jack E. Broderick, the chief of equal opportunity programs for the National Guard Bureau.)

Native Americans continue history of service in Montana

The proud heritage of the Montana National Guard has been carried forward from the Montana Volunteers of 1867 to the soldier of today's 163rd Armored Brigade.

The 75th anniversary of the brigade was celebrated last August.

It was on Sept. 19, 1917 that the official designation of the Second Montana Infantry was changed to the 163rd Infantry Regiment, 41st Division.

Members of this fighting unit served in World War I and were among the first to be called for service prior to World War II.

On Sept. 16, 1941, they were activated for one year of training.

On Dec. 7, 1941, that one year of training became nearly five years of combat in the Pacific Theatre ranging from New Guinea to Japan itself.

This Montana unit was comprised of men from every walk of life.

Of specific note was Company B, 163rd Infantry Regiment.

Company B was organized after World War I and federally recognized Feb. 12, 1922 at Poplar, Mont., which is located on the Fort Peck

Indian Reservation in eastern Montana.

Native Americans were a large part of the 163rd's units that came from the eastern end of Montana.

Company B was known as the "Indian Company."

This unit earned a reputation throughout their years of service.

Today, the 163rd Infantry and Cavalry are assigned to the 163rd Armored Brigade and native Americans are still a part of this unit.

Master Sgt. Perci Denetdeed, a member of the Navajo Tribe, has been appointed by the adjutant general as the Native American Program Manager for the Arizona Air National Guard.

In this assignment, Denetdeed assists the State Equal Opportunity Office in implementing the National Guard Bureau's policy for ensuring native Americans receive equal treatment in recruitment, appointment, promotion, training and career development.

She is a member of the 161st Air Refueling Group in Phoenix.



Missouri conducts nation's largest earthquake drill

CAPE GIRARDEAU, Mo. - A mock earthquake struck the Cape Girardeau area in October, launching a massive two-day emergency medical response exercise involving about 2,000 civilian and military personnel.

In all, about 1,000 "casualties" were handled in the drill.

The emergency response exercise involving local, state and federal authorities had been billed as the largest in the nation's history.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency, however, had to basically pull out of the exercise because it was too busy dealing with the aftermath of the hurricanes in Florida, Louisiana and Hawaii.

Still, the drill called Operation Steel Cure II - a reference to surgical tools - was enormous by any standards.

"It's the largest medical evacuation exercise the Missouri Air National Guard has ever done," said Maj. Ken McNevin, A Guard spokesman.

Cape Girardeau Municipal Airport resembled a military base with hundreds of Air and Army National Guard troops participating in the evacuation of earthquake "victims."

Maj. Jim Mohan of the Missouri Air National Guard said, "For all intents and purposes they let us come in a take over the airport."

More than 600 Air National Guard troops were involved, with about half of them from Missouri units and the rest from units in West Virginia, Oklahoma, Texas and Mississippi.

Also involved in the exercise were units of the Army Reserve, Air Force, Air Force Reserve, Navy Reserve,

Civil Air Patrol, the U.S. Public Health Service and about 160 doctors, nurses and other emergency response personnel from the National Disaster Medical System.

In addition, State Emergency Management Agency officials participated in the weekend exercise.

Rows of military tents were set up at the airport to house hundreds of troops.

An airport hangar housed injured earthquake victims.

Communications equipment, including a large satellite dish, was set up on the airport grounds.

Even real construction work taking place at the Camp Girardeau airport terminal helped promote the earthquake scenario, giving the look of a damaged building.

Of course, there were signs it was still a drill. For example, the local cable television service provided cable hookup in the tents.

Giant military transport planes, C-130s and C-141s, thundered in and out of the airport evacuating the injured to airports in St. Louis, Kansas City and Columbia, Mo., as well as to out-of-state sites in Jackson, Miss., and Lincoln, Neb.

About 500 military and Civil Air Patrol personnel, depicting earthquake victims were evacuated in flights that began at 5 a.m. and continued throughout the day, Mohan said.

In all, the operation involved nearly 30 flights, the last departing around 11 p.m.

- Mark Bliss

Southeast Missouri News Service

Six steps to clean returns

If you take a little extra time when you work on your federal tax return and follow six easy steps from the Internal Revenue Service, your tax return should be error-free.

Don't wait until the last minute to gather the tax forms and schedules and to start looking for your finance records, said IRS officials.

The six IRS-recommended steps are:

- Get all the records together for the 1992 filing season, including W-2 wage earning statements, interest earning statements and those for deductions and tax credits.

- Before you sit down and actually begin filling out the tax forms, make sure you have all the necessary forms, schedules and publications.

- Complete the tax forms by following the instructions in the tax package.

- In addition to checking for common errors, double check your return to make sure you have taken every deduction you are entitled to, that the math is correct and that items are on the correct lines.

- Make sure the forms are signed and dated, and that your spouse also signs and dates the return, if you are filing a joint return.

- Ensure that all forms, schedules and payments are properly attached to your Form 1040.

If you have questions concerning your federal income tax, check with your installation tax assistance office or the nearest IRS office, either option is to call the IRS's telephone tax assistance office toll free at 1-800-829-1040.

If you live overseas, call the IRS's international assistance office in Washington, D.C., 202-874-1460.



Free trade

About 40 members of the 119th Civil Engineering Squadron of North Dakota recently fulfilled a U.S.-Canadian trade agreement in Bagotville, Quebec.

They offered one of the United States' most sought after commodities, themselves.

Civil engineers, firefighters and services personnel deployed to the city as part of an exchange program between the two countries that allows each country to send civil engineering units to train at the other nation's military installations, said Maj. Mark Ugelstad, the staff officer for the 119th.

The engineers were assigned four major projects including remodeling three shelters, connecting water pipe from the main line to a hydrant, replacing an old wooden catwalk and landscaping.

Photo by Maj. Mark Ugelstad

Airman 1st Class Jody Saatoff of the 119th Civil Engineering Squadron rewires some lighting in a remodeled building in Bagotville, Quebec.

IRS offers free information on taxes

More than 100 free publications are available from the Internal Revenue Service to answer questions about your federal income tax.

Each pamphlet covers one tax subject in depth and provides step-by-step instructions, where necessary, said IRS officials.

Just a few topics handled include filing status, selling a house, small businesses and farming.

Some pamphlets are available in Spanish.

IRS officials said "best selling" pamphlets include:

- Publication 1, Your Rights as a Taxpayer

- Publication 3, Tax Information for Military Personnel

- Publication 17, Your Federal Income Tax

- Publication 334, Tax Guide for Small Business

- Publication 501, Exemptions, Standard Deduction and Filing Information

- Publication 504, Tax Information for Divorced or Separated Individuals

- Publication 521, Moving Expenses

- Publication 523, Tax Information on Selling Your Home

- Publication 547, Non-business Disasters, Casualties and Thefts

- Publication 554, Tax Information for Older Americans

- Publication 583, Taxpayers Starting a Business

- Publication 584, Non-business Disaster, Casualty and Theft Loss Workbook

- Publication 587, Business Use of Your Home

- Publication 596, Earned Income Credit

- Publication 910, Guide to Free Tax Services

- Publication 919, Is My Withholding Correct for 1993?

- Publication 936, Home Mortgage Interest Deduction

- Publication 945, Tax Information for Those Affected by Operation Desert Storm

Check local libraries, post offices, installation tax assistance offices and banks for some IRS publications.

For all IRS publications and forms, call toll free 1-800-829-3676 or write to: Internal Revenue Service, Forms Distribution Center, P.O. Box 25866, Richmond, Va. 23289

Gunnery program proves a hit with tankers

By Maj. Paul Fanning
New York National Guard

FORT DRUM, N.Y. - A deafening "crack" and a bright flash tore open the darkness. The tracer and a tearing sound ripped down range, along with the armor piercing projectile.

It was near midnight and tankers of Troop A, 1st Squadron, 101st Cavalry were hard at work at night gunnery.

Range 48 was a very busy place. The soldiers from Staten Island had been waiting more than a year for a chance on the range.

"Tank gunnery is a perishable skill that needs to be practiced," said Lt. Col. Ed Klein, the squadron commander. "This is the last time we fire with the M60 series. In '93, we get the H.I."

Annual Training '92 challenged tankers assigned to the 42nd Infantry Division's armor units with demanding tank gunnery courses called "Tank Tables" here at Fort Drum.

For more than a year, crews from the 127th and 210th Armor and 101st Cavalry had rehearsed and practiced on armory based simulators and studied manuals. Once on the range itself, they put all energies into quickly and precisely engaging targets by day and night, at ranges exceeding a mile.

"The division goal was to meet STRAC standards," said Sgt. Maj. Gregg Schwartz, the Division Operations NCO. He was referring to the U.S. Army's Standards in Training Commission or "STRAC" outlined in DA Pamphlet 350-38, which prescribes readiness standards, ammunition consumption and details effecting weapons training and qualification.

Success in tank gunnery was the division commander's first priority. With the 42nd converting to armor from an infantry structure in 1993, the division needed to prove to the Department of the Army and to themselves that they could plan, conduct and succeed with a program in strict adherence to Army standards. They did.

The 42nd stabilized tank crews during weekend training so that four men became an effective team; insured that adequate ammunition was available at Fort Drum, the electronic targets and range limit markers were operational, the tanks were physically ready for gunnery from the equipment site at Fort Drum, the maintenance personnel and equipment were available on-site to repair breakdowns and that an adequate number of certified Tank Crew Evaluators were on hand to accurately and correctly score engagements and critique crews.



Photo by Maj. Paul Fanning

An M60A3 from the 101st Cavalry gets range time at Fort Drum, N.Y.

When the main body of troops arrived, crews went to their tanks, performed their own checks and got ready for the field.

Tanks drove downrange along a course, the firing tank in one lane and a nonfiring tank rehearsing the course alongside in a separate lane. In timed sequence, firing crews engaged a variety of threat targets including tanks, infantry and armored personnel carriers.

Crews won high scores by rapidly identifying targets, engaging them through proper performance of crew duties with correct fire commands, and by hitting the target with the first round.

Second round hits earned passing scores provided there had been a quick re-engagement. Failing scores resulted from misses or even from hits that took too long.

Each engagement began with a tactical scenario presented to the crew from the TCE. Crews buttoned up, put on chemical protective masks for at least one engagement, and followed a safety vehicle. Each tank communication system was hot wired with extra microphones enabling the range tower to listen and record crew fire commands and provide a detailed critique during the after action review.

"Gunner, Sabot (Say-bo), Tank..." yelled the tank commander as he simultaneously grasped his turret override control and swung the turret towards the enemy he had spotted.

"Up!" yelled the loader signaling a round was loaded and the safety on the 105 millimeter main gun was in the firing position.

"Identified ... lasing," said the gunner when the target came into view in his sights, allowing him to fire an invisible beam from the laser rangefinder which reflected off the target, automatically indexing the range into the fire control system. He adjusted his sight picture with the

reticle center-mass on target. The M60A3's stabilization system and automatic lead compensated for the rocking over uneven ground as the tank closed on the target.

"Fire!" yelled the TC. A moment later the gunner responded: "On the

wa-a-y" With a belching roar and a fiery flash the full size of the tank, the armor-piercing and discarding sabot round was hurled forward.

Inside the turret, a mechanical clanking sound followed by the clang of the aluminum case on the metal floor of the turret signaled the breech was open, and waiting for another round. The loader obliged

Small wisps of smoke hung in the air. The grinding of the tracks meshed with the sound of the turret as it swung left, then right, tracking the target. The pneumatic replenisher whined, restoring pressure in the recoil mechanism. "Target, cease fire," announced the TC. The engagement had lasted 12 seconds.

"We were challenged," said Maj. Arnold Soeder, the 3rd Brigade trainer appointed to coordinate the gunnery program. "We had trouble with laser rangefinders, tank thermal sights and other problems. The equipment is old and worn out. But the logistics chain and our people were up to the challenge."



Girl Scouts Care for the Earth

Girl Scouts have a tradition of caring for the earth. For 80 years we've been recycling, planting trees and cleaning beaches.

This year, millions of Girl Scouts nationwide are working to help care for our environment.

Won't you join us? Call your local Girl Scout council to find out how.



Guard gets Patriot, Avenger units

The National Guard Bureau recently announced the activation of the first Patriot and Avenger anti-aircraft missile battalions.

The Patriot unit will be headquartered at the 1st Battalion, 203rd Air Defense Artillery in Huntsville, Ala., while the Avenger unit goes to the 1st Battalion, 204th Air Defense Artil-

lery in Newton, Miss.

The Patriot is the anti-missile missile system used by the allies in Operation Desert Storm against Iraqi Scuds.

The Avenger is a STINGER missile system mounted on a HMMWV and designed to defend against low-flying, high speed jet aircraft.



Newsmakers

In July, the **190th Refueling Group** of Kansas was awarded first place in the "Pride through Recognition" program sponsored by the national chapter of the NCO Academy Graduates Association.

This award is presented to the chapter, whose unit best recognizes their personnel through the awards and decorations program.

In addition to this award, Chapter 69 was awarded Best Chapter in Region 2. In 1991, it was recognized as the most improved chapter.

The **141st Civil Engineering Squadron** of Washington took a "Walk on the Wild Side" during their October UTA training.

Unit members widened the Walk in the Wild Zoo paths to permit emergency access to all areas of the park in Spokane, Wa.

The squadron responded to the zoo's needs as part of a continuing commitment to training and the local community.

Armed with front loader tractors and chain saws, unit members cleared boulders and more than 75 dead trees from the path.

Col. Dale K. Snider, Jr., of the 181st Fighter Group in Indiana will receive the Pilot Safety Award of Distinction, formerly known as the TAC Aircrew of Distinction Award.

His superior flying skills and judgement during a series of engine compressor stalls resulting in engine stagnation saved a valuable combat aircraft.

Staff Sgt. Ricky A. Kaarstad of the 155th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron in Nebraska has been selected to receive a Crew Chief Excellence Award.

Kaarstad's thorough end-of-runway inspection and sound judgement prevented the potential loss of aircraft and crew.

Both airmen were recognized in the November 1992 issue of "The Combat Edge."

The **184th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron** of Kansas has received the 1992 ANG Outstanding Aircraft Maintenance Award, while the 1992 ANG Maintenance Effectiveness Award was presented to the **210th CAMS** of Alaska.

Recipients of the ANG Maintenance Effective Award, Large Communication-Electronics (CE) Activities category was the **224th Joint Combat Communications Support Squadron** of Georgia.

Shooting bull's-eyes is nothing new to **Master Sgt. Richard Adkins**, the Weapons Safety NCO with the 117th Reconnaissance Wing in Alabama. Earning the nickname "Possum Cop" because of his civilian job as a state conservation officer, Adkins has been a competitive rifle shooter for many years.

Most recently competing in the International Law Enforcement Olympics in Washington, D.C., Adkins garnered 10 medals in the rifle shooting competition.

During three courses, Adkins received three gold, four silver and four bronze medals compet-

ing at distances from 200-1,000 yards and in both rapid and slow fire categories.

Technical Sgt. James D. Hill, a graphic arts specialist with the 183rd Fighter Group in Illinois, got the idea for his "Best of Show" painting during annual training at Volk Field, Wisc.

His pastel titled, "Wisconsin Pines" was awarded the ribbon by the Springfield Area Arts Council. The program helps local businesses, industry and government agencies identify talents of people in their employment.

Recipients of the 1992 Air National Guard Safety Award in their respective categories are: Individual Safety Award, **Master Sgt. Hugh J. Downing**, 102nd Fighter Wing of Massachusetts; and Safety Career Professional of the Year, **Senior Master Sgt. James R. Bryant**, also from the 102nd.

Flight Safety plaques were awarded to: the **130th Airlift Group** of West Virginia; the **139th AG** of Missouri; the **101st Refueling Wing** of Maine; the **153rd AG** of Wyoming; the **102nd FW** of Massachusetts; the **125th FG** of Florida; the **155th Reconnaissance Group** of Nebraska; the **189th AG** of Arkansas; the **126th ARW** of Illinois; **128th FW** of Wisconsin; the **187th FG** of Alabama; and the **163rd RG** of California.

Missile Safety and Explosive Safety plaques were awarded to the **125th FG** of Florida; the **113th FW** of the District of Columbia; and the **102nd**.

Explosive Safety plaques were presented to the **102nd**, the **113th** and the **125th**.

Safety award recipients will compete with their U.S. Air Force and Air Force Reserve counterparts in the U.S. Air Force Safety Awards Program.

Maj. Gen. David W. Gay, the adjutant general of Connecticut, recently received the Eagle Award from Lt. Gen. John B. Conaway, the chief of the National Guard Bureau.

It is the second highest award the National Guard Bureau can bestow on an individual.

Gay was cited for his "exceptionally meritorious service" while serving as Connecticut's U.S. Property and Fiscal officer.

He was appointed adjutant general on March 12, 1992.

Col. Albert E. VanPelt, the commander of the aviation support facility at Camp Joseph T. Robinson in North Little Rock, Ark., recently completed his last flight along with his two sons, Capt. Albert and Kirk Van Pelt.

In 1953, Col. VanPelt joined the Air National Guard as a jet engine mechanic. In 1958, he transferred to the Army Guard, where he was commissioned as a second lieutenant and selected for flight school.

VanPelt has recorded more than 10,000 accident-free hours in eight different aircraft.

An Iowa Army National Guard member recently became the first direct appointee to the Army Medical Specialist Corps as a physician's assistant.

2nd Lt. Mark Davis, who had six years of prior service on active duty and in the U.S. Army Reserve, joined the Iowa Guard in 1991 and entered

the warrant officer candidate program.

Capt. Gregory Terpstra also became Iowa's first warrant officer to be converted from a commissioned warrant officer to captain.

He has more than 10 years of experience as a military physician's assistant and more than 17 years of professional civilian experience in the field.

Terpstra is the officer in charge of the medical section of the 1st Battalion, 194th Field Artillery.

The Nebraska National Guard's "**Prairie Soldier**" newspaper recently received the Army's 1992 Keith L. Ware Print Media award for Army-funded, large tabloid newspapers.

The primary contributor is **Master Sgt. Victoria Cerino**, the former editor of the newspaper.

Staff Sgt. John Viessman of the 70th Public Affairs Detachment in Missouri won third place in the Cartoon Art category for his work published in "Bear Facts."

Sgt. Cecilia Ellis of the 120th Public Affairs Detachment of Indiana received honorable mention in feature articles.

Staff Sgt. Gary LaBounty of the 158th Security Police Flight in Vermont realized a dream last September.

LaBounty won a ride in a Ukrainian MIG-29 in a raffle.

He was flown for 20 minutes at 10,000 feet experiencing four "Gs" in the specially painted gold and blue aircraft.

The 1992 annual Outstanding Air National Guard Information Management Awards and their respective categories are: Field Grade Officer Information Manager, **Maj. Richard L. Frymire, III** of the 123rd Mission Support Flight in Kentucky; Enlisted Senior Information Manager, **Senior Master Sgt. Teresa J. Brown**, Headquarters in California; Enlisted Technician Information manager, **Staff Sgt. Frank A. Elgaen** of the 215th Engineering Installation Squadron in Washington; and Base Level Information Management Organization is the **123rd**.

DARE support medals recently were awarded to **Lt. Col. Calvin Washispack**, superintendent of the Louisiana Military Academy and his wife, Jan, for their efforts in the drug resistance program.

The awards were presented by Pineville Police Capt. Jay Barter.

Tech. Sgt. Bonnie Gamary, the Food Service supervisor of the 220th Engineering Installation Squadron in Zanesville, Ohio, has been named the "National Home Economics Teacher of the Year." Gamary, who teaches at Springfield South High School, was presented the award in December in Los Angeles by the National President of Vocational Education.

"At first I couldn't believe that I'd won," she said. "But after it sunk in, I was really excited!"

In August, she was selected as the "1991 Ohio Home Economics Teacher, New Professional of the Year" for her state.

Guard member conducts discipline, music within prison walls in Ohio

By Sgt. Lori King
Ohio National Guard

CHILLICOTHE, Ohio—Razor-sharp barbed wire wraps around 59 acres of secluded land.

Nobody can escape it and certainly nobody wants to invade it.

To be trapped inside the vast confines of the Ross Correctional Institute means being one of its 2,000 prisoners.

The prison does not fit the typical image of the infamous Alcatraz. Farmland surrounds the institute, and the facilities are very modern.

In fact, RCI is practically a city within itself—with its own hospital, high school and college programs, a maintenance department and even retail stores.

Like a mayor who watches over a city, Sgt. 1st Class Ron Edwards oversees the prison.

Chillicothe is his current warden assignment, and his inmates aren't complaining.

Instead of treating inmates like second-class citizens, he views his position like he views the National Guard—an opportunity to watch people grow.

Edwards graduated from college with a Bachelor of Arts degree in criminal justice in 1982 because, he said, he needed the kind of job which would always put food on the table.

It has. But Edwards admits wardenship is not his first love.

It's music. "I enjoy it so much it probably would have been my real vocation in life if I hadn't also been interested in corrections," he said. "Music is my first love, but you have to eat."

So Edwards joined 122nd Army Band of the Ohio National Guard to satisfy his musical appetite. He's been one of its drummers since 1974, after serving in Vietnam.

As percussion section leader, he thoroughly enjoys "banging on his drum set" during monthly drills.

Last January, he celebrated his 20th year in the military.

A few months later, he earned the Employer Support Award for his longstanding support of the Ohio National Guard and its citizen-soldiers, several whom are employed by RCI.

Though some people believe you can't have your cake and eat it too, Edwards could be dubbed as having his own bakery, with Fred Bailey being one of his favorite customers.

Bailey is a member of a rhythm and blues band founded by Edwards. And he's also a prisoner.

Bailey, who plays guitar for the prison band, first entered the Dayton Correction Facility in 1989 for aggravated burglary.

At that time, Edwards was the warden in Dayton and he offered Bailey a slot in his prison band. When Edwards was transferred to RCI, Bailey went with him, guitar and all. And another band was formed.

This has definitely been a confidence booster for me," Bailey said. "When I was on the streets, I didn't take music seriously. I was in a few bands but it was nothing like it is now. I played heavy metal. Now I'm into everything: jazz, rhythm and blues, country.

The warden made me the guitar player I am today," he continued. "I'm a different person—confident, career-oriented—instead of just out there



STANDING GUARD - Sgt. 1st Class Ron Edwards stands outside the Ross Correctional Institute, where he is warden. He is a member of the 122nd Army Band of the Ohio National Guard.

surviving.

He has given everybody in this band something we can take back with us."

Bailey has since seen a parole board, and when he's finally set free, he assures everyone it will be to seek a career in music, not crime.

As far as Edwards knows, his seven-member band is the only prison band in the state. And as long as it remains enjoyable for the prisoners, he sees no reason why it shouldn't exist.

Boys & Girls Club offers memberships to vets' kids

For the past 14 months, local Boys & Girls Clubs throughout the country have provided free club memberships to the dependents of military families, residing off-base, who were involved in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

To date, more than 6,000 girls and boys have taken advantage of this opportunity. As a result of continued interest, the offer has been extended through May 31, 1993.

Interested families should contact their state family coordinator or call the Boys & Girls Clubs of America toll-free at 1(800)-854-CLUB.

Boys & Girls Clubs of America is a nationwide, non-profit, youth organization with a network of more than 1,300 clubs serving about 1.8 million girls and boys ages six to 18.

Clubs nurture and enrich young lives by providing opportunities for personal growth and achievement. A typical Boys & Girls Club has a gymnasium, gamesroom, library, arts and crafts area and multi-purpose room.

Some have swimming pools, music departments, computer centers and summer camps. All Boys & Girls Clubs are staffed by trained, caring, youth development professionals.

State briefs

DELAWARE

The First Delaware Regiment of the Army National Guard helped to bring a piece of military history to life during the "Olde Iron Hill Day" festival in Newark.

Members in their colonial garb represented the historical regiment.

The regiment needs new members to keep the heritage alive. If you are interested, call Chief Warrant Officer Charlie Glenn at 302-324-7409.

WISCONSIN

About 40 new and experienced unit volunteers attended the semi-annual Family Program Workshop, which was held in October in Wausau by the National Guard.

The primary focus of the workshop was to initiate volunteers on the three phases of their new training system.

Mini workshops included: "The Mystery of Military Courtesy," "Taking the Fear out of Public Speaking," "Newsletters, the Painless Way," "Making Sponsorship Programs Work," "Forming a Team with your Military Liaison," and "Volunteer Recognition - The Secret to your Success."

OKLAHOMA

Operation Red River executed mainly in Oklahoma resulted in the largest cultivated eradication operation ever conducted in the United States.

The result was 18 arrests with more expected and the confiscation of 35,000 ready-to-harvest marijuana plants.

Drug officials issued a conservative street value estimate of \$52 million.

The operation included more than 100 federal and state law enforcement agents and 150 Oklahoma Army and Air National Guard personnel daily for 21 days in August.

KANSAS

About 20 Kansas Army National Guard members were called to duty when up to one foot of blowing, drifting snow covered western Kansas in November.

In five Kansas communities, they battled snow reaching 17 inches in some places with 30 mph winds and drifts as high as seven feet.

"This help ranged from assisting stranded motorists to providing transportation for hospital emergencies," said Maj. Gen. James F. Rueger, the state adjutant general.

"It was an early storm. The soldiers proved to be well prepared," said Col. Robert Dalton, the Plans, Operations and Military Support officer. "And they were very willing to work for the good of the community."

Guard members transported emergency and medical personnel, conducted search and rescue missions and opened the armories for stranded motorists.

HAWAII

Hawaii National Guard members who spent weeks cleaning up after Hurricane Iniki returned to Kauai on Jan. 4 for a ceremony in their honor.

More than 700 Guard members will get a free three-day cruise on the Constitution, an American Hawaii Cruises ship, enroute to the Garden Island.



State briefs

MAINE

Army National Guard members from this state received some positive news in December from the Army National Guard's Command Sgt. Maj. G. Steven Blackwood.

The Bangor-based 262nd Engineer Battalion probably will not be phased out during fiscal year 1993, he said.

The 262nd, which originally was targeted to be phased out last Oct. 1, is a good example of how hard this country's Army Guard units are working to stay alive, Blackwood said.

ILLINOIS

How often have you purchased a raffle ticket and considered it simply a donation to a worthy cause?

Master Sgt. Mark Miesse's \$1 turned out to be much more than a simple donation. He considers it a pleasant shock!

Miesse, a contracting specialist for the 121st Fighter Wing in Columbus, Ohio and a guest enjoyed a four-day, three-night trip to the 1992 Holiday Bowl in San Diego, Calif.

Miesse is a big football fan. "I'm looking forward to this trip. Maybe I can root for the team playing against Michigan in the Holiday Bowl and get home in time to cheer for Ohio State in the Rose Bowl," Miesse said.

The prize package, which includes airfare, hotel, rental car and tickets to both the Holiday Bowl and San Diego Zoo, is courtesy of Thrifty Rental Car of Columbus and the Ohio National Guard Enlisted Association.

The two organizations paired up as sponsors of the trip, drawing the winning raffle ticket at the 1992 Enlisted Association of the United States of America national conference in Roanoke, Va.

FLORIDA

Starting Dec. 6, Lindsay Cameron was just another motorist using Interstate 295.

The 58-year-old Westside, Fla., man hung up his camouflage fatigues and went back to being a retired civilian.

"Operation Overpass" ended for Cameron and other members of the Florida National Guard, who have watched over that troubled highway since Nov. 6.

Sheriff Jim McMillan announced in December that the soldiers - called out because of a series of shootings and rock-throwing incidents - had completed their mission. I-295 has been violence-free for almost a month.

NEVADA

The state National Guard Drug Demand Reduction Program has developed a pin representing the Guard's support in the fight against drug and alcohol use.

The pin denotes a youth with uplifted arms as a symbolic gesture of being drug-free.

Maj. Gen. Tony Clark, the adjutant general of Nevada, has authorized the immediate optional wear of the pin on all Class B and battle dress uniforms.

The pin will be worn on center and above the right breast pocket when on duty within the state.

"Several states have developed similar pins as a pictorial representation of their emphasis and dedication to their Drug Demand Reduction Program," he said.

Infantry training makes OMA history

By Sgt. Lori King
Ohio National Guard

CAMP GRAYLING, Mich. - Sgt. John Schultz only has 16 more years to go....

While his goal to become a lifer might sound a bit premature, this National Guard soldier's self prophecy is believable.

After all, when a mortarman describes 11 Charlie Basic Non-commissioned Officer Course (BNCOC) Phase II training as "goin' camping," plan to attend his retirement party in 30 years.

Schultz is one of more than 60 infantrymen from the 37th Infantry Brigade (formerly the 73rd Infantry Brigade) who participated in a new training effort by the Ohio Military Academy (OMA) this summer.

For the first time in its history, OMA offered a Phase II course. In fact, the academy took three separate infantry BNCOC, and offered Phase II for all three (11B, 11C, 11H) during the same two-week time-frame.

The tough demands of Phase II training sent a few soldiers packing, but they left Schultz wanting more. He considers the National Guard a hobby, and he has found a new gem: career enhancement.

With the new requirement of attending BNCOC and Advanced NCO Course prior to promotion to E-6/E-7 respectively, there is no course dodging in the NCO Corps.

In response to these mandatory prerequisites, the Ohio Military Academy decided to take care of soldiers like Schultz.

Thus, 27 instructors, from OMA and the 37th Infantry Brigade, joined forces to ensure that soldiers like Schultz had the final BNCOC phase required for promotion.

The training initially began with a weekend in OMA's classrooms at Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base in Columbus.

Together, students in all three courses covered about 16 hours of common core subjects, including NBC (Nuclear, Biological, Chemical warfare), communications and forward observer procedures. An exam followed.

"It takes one hell of an NCO to pull (11 Charlies and the mortar section) together"

One week later, the students convoyed to Camp Grayling and the true test began.

For most of the training, soldiers remained within their own Military Occupational Specialty:

- 11 Bravos (Infantrymen) concentrated on weapons familiarization, squad defensive/offensive drills, patrol and raid techniques, reacting to ambushes and conducting reconnaissance missions.

- 11 Charlies (Indirect Fire Infantrymen) spent most of their time at the Fire Direction Center (FDC) behind mortar ballistic computers. Other tasks included fire planning and M-16 plotting.

- 11 Hotels (Heavy Anti-armor Weapons Infantrymen) underwent training in TOW refreshing (Tube-Launched, Optically-Tracked, Wire-Guided, anti-tank missile), gunnery training and coaching, aeromedical evacuation and employment of an Anti-armor pit.

To most of the Phase II students, it was no camping trip. They endured rainy, sleepless nights and long, tedious days. But that's what it takes to



SETTING SIGHTS - Sgt. Rex Thompson lays in a section with his mortar squad during an infantry BNCOC course at Camp Grayling, Mich. The course was one of three Phase II classes offered by the Ohio Military Academy for the first time in its history.

advance in today's Army, believes Master Sgt. Mike Foxx, operations NCO for OMA.

"Infantrymen have the reputation of not being smart guys. I disagree with that because today's battlefield is a highly technical environment. Desert Storm proved that with the Patriot missiles and the TOW system," Foxx explained.

"These guys have to analyze a lot of information to properly put a mortar round on target, to know where their observers and guns are. These tasks... require a lot of thought."

One mortar crewman joked at graduation about what the "C" stood for in 11 Charlie.

"What the heck does C stand for?" Staff Sgt. Jeff Deprise quipped. "The first week it stood for computers. For five days we were on them non-stop. By the third day we felt fully qualified to work for IBM. The second week it stood for camel and camping."

"By the end of the training, we learned as NCOs that 11 Charlies and the mortar section are two completely different teams (FDC and gun section)," Deprise explained. "It takes one hell of an NCO to pull those two together, especially since it's all NCOs filling those slots."

"We really learned a lot these past two weeks and will always have the best mortar section in the entire United States Army."

As the weary soldiers were ready to receive their diplomas, they were challenged once again. This time to make today's Ohio National Guard an even better organization.

"Good luck to you, and use your newly-polished leadership skills well," said Assistant Adjutant General Steve Martin. "The future of Ohio National Guard is in your hands. It'll be exactly what you make it."



The National Guard in World War II

34th Division faces 'great disaster' in sands of Tunisia

By Maj. Bruce Conard
National Guard Historian

February, 1941, the 34th Division was mobilized. National Guard members from Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota flocked to the colors. These citizen-soldiers were not aware that in almost exactly two years, part of this division, the 168th Infantry and attached units, would be embroiled in one of the great disasters of American military history on the sands of Tunisia, North Africa.

The 34th Division mobilized with little more than 12,000 troops out of a wartime strength of over 22,000. The Guard members had been trained to standard up to company level. Battalions, regiments and above had no training on how to maneuver.

To make things worse, there was an influx of men needed to bring the division up to wartime strength. These new soldiers had no training, and therefore, the training level of the 34th dropped from company level to individual.

Supplies were scarce, the mortar sections had little ammunition, there was no combined arms training with tanks and artillery. In other words, the 34th was little more than a conglomeration of 20,000 men.

Staff officers required to implement quality training were themselves being trained, reducing the abilities of company and battalion commanders to effectively train their teams.

Months after mobilization the division commander was replaced due to poor health. This was only a small example of officer turbulence inside the division. Platoon leaders needed to go to Fort Benning Ga., or Fort Sill, Okla., for branch training.

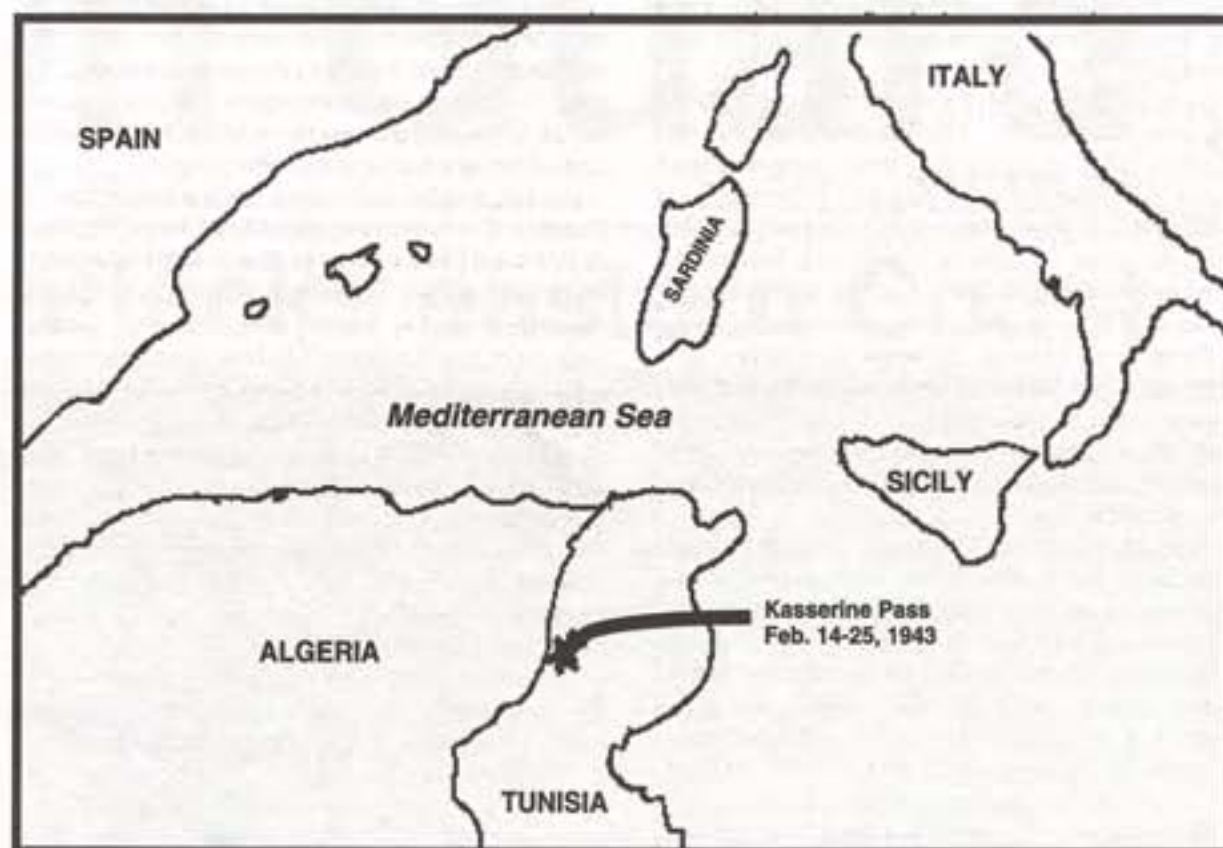
Many lieutenants were over age and needed to be reassigned out of the division. Much work needed to be done.

Only weeks after Pearl Harbor, the division was alerted for overseas service. Units of the 34th began movement to Fort Dix, N.J., for ultimate assignment to Northern Ireland.

In the midst of the chaos of the move, the War Department made a radical change to the division organization by removing the brigade headquarters and their staffs, and reassigning one of the four infantry regiments away from the division. At this time, the division had nine months' training.

Northern Ireland offered little in opportunities for a large-scale maneuver. Ammunition was still in short supply, ranges were unavailable for the division's heavy weapons, and a large-scale replacement of the "old" National Guard senior officers with "new" regular officers took place.

At the junior officers and NCO level, an even worse disaster occurred. William O. Darby, a division staff officer, received permission to form a Ranger battalion, which would be made up of all volun-



teers. The 34th Division provided a large proportion of those volunteers. The effect of Darby's recruiting meant that a large number of the most aggressive young enlisted men and junior officers left the division, just months prior to the division going to combat.

After intensive training, the 34th took part in the Allied landing in North Africa - "Operation Torch." With the success of "Torch," the division temporarily lost one of its regiments, the 168th Infantry, from Iowa.

Commanders of the 168th Infantry changed rapidly in the year that preceded the regiments' experiences in North Africa and Tunisia. There were three commanders prior to the "torch" landings in November 1942 in North Africa, and immediately after the landings, their commander was replaced and Col. Drake took the reins of command for the regiment.

The 168th hailed from Southwest Iowa. Many of the members of the regiment were farm boys from Corning, Villisca, Red Oak, Glenwood, Council Bluffs, and other towns that exemplified the heart of America.

While the rest of the 34th Division was given some time for retraining after the "Torch" invasion, the 168th was attached to the 1st Armored Division. The task of the 1st Armored Division was to guard the Allies' right flank.

German forces massed in a rough arc north to south to hold as much of Tunisia as possible. Rommel's Afrika Korps and its Italian partners were slowly falling back as the British 8th Army (Montgomery) pushed them back from the Egyptian frontier. The latch to the door between these two German armies was in the hands of the 1st Armored division, and the National Guardsmen of the 168th Infantry.

American positions in the 1st Armored Division sector were spread thin, with the 168th's frontage extending over 15 miles. For comparison, a

division's defensive zone was supposed to be half that distance. American anti-tank guns (the 37mm) were effective at approximately 500 meters. Mines were in short supply, and barbed wire was nearly nonexistent in theater.

Rommel struck the 168th's lines on Feb. 14, 1943. German medium tanks cut through the thinly spread, poorly-armed soldiers from southwest Iowa.

One officer said later, "I just stood there and counted 85 German tanks go around our positions, we didn't have anything that could stop them."

One of the shortcomings of the regiment's training was that for some of the men, the first tanks they saw in the war were German tanks.

Counterattacks by the First Armored Division and other II Corps units were too small and unorganized.

At least one American tank company went into action with practice ammunition, which merely bounced off the frontal armor of the German tanks. Rumors of numerous German "Tiger" heavy tanks were rife throughout the II Corps area.

Major portions of the 168th Infantry was cut off by the German attack. Surrounded, out of the range of radios, and with no telephone communications, the 168th was on its own.

As it became clear that no counterattacks would reach them, Drake decided to break out. The planned move towards friendly lines soon broke down, and small groups filtered out.

Most of the regimental headquarters and 2nd Battalion were netted by the Germans. Of the 3rd Battalion only a handful of men got to friendly lines, hungry, thirsty and exhausted.

Kasserine Pass was a shock to those soldiers who participated in it. There was a thorough shake-up of II Corps headquarters, with Maj. Gen. George Patton, Jr. brought in to restore the situation.

The 168th Infantry would be reorganized, reformed, and would fight again. Victory was many battles away.



Panama: 'Best therapy' for Post Traumatic Stress

LAGARTER A GRANDE, Panama - He stops, crouches, listens apprehensively. Did he hear something? Was someone or something there? No, nothing. Not this time. He trudges on, forcing his way through the thick underbrush.

He stops at the sight of a monstrous insect like he has never seen before. The insects are not like this at home. Nothing is like this. He is a long way from home in the impenetrable jungles of Vietnam.

When Capt. Paolo Isnardi left the bush of Vietnam, he never thought he would step foot on the familiar mushy ground of decaying leaves again.

But then he never thought he would end up in the wilderness of Panama 25 years later either, as a sergeant in the Maine Army National Guard. That was before the 133rd Engineer Battalion (Combat Heavy) from South Portland, Maine, became part of "Cosecha Amistad '93," which is Spanish for "Harvesting Friendship."

The U.S. Southern Command project includes the repair of 19 schools in the Panama, Cocle, Chiriqui, Herrera and Los Santos Provinces.

Ever since Vietnam, Isnardi has struggled with Post Traumatic Stress. He found a way to fight his personal battle with this condition though working in the roll of carpenter and mason in the engineer unit during Cosecha Amistad '93.

"This is the best therapy for me," he said.

On the island of Lagarter a Grande, in the Republic of Panama, the tall slender Isnardi worked side by side with native villagers, repairing the community school.

The proud fathers of the schoolchildren painted

the school, while Isnardi used his carpentry skills to install new doors on the outside of the school.

The compassionate veteran was changed by the experience. "This is the first time our company gets a chance to travel overseas for annual training," he said. "I think it's a fantastic opportunity to combine our skills to help the people here, the local inhabitants. They are really wonderful people."

Isnardi, a Latin descendant, feels a connection to Panama. His father, a diplomat in Colon, Panama, in 1939 and 1940, met his mother, a Red Cross nurse there from Maine. The couple married in Colon but because of World War II, they moved to Genoa, Italy, to be near his father's family. Isnardi was born

three days before Pearl Harbor.

The warmhearted villagers of Lagarter a Grande also feel a connection to Isnardi. He was an invaluable translator between the soldiers and the people of the village. He spoke both Spanish and English with a slight Italian accent but was able to help the two different groups grow closer.

Isnardi captured the spirit of the new found friendships in his final words before leaving. "We have touched hands and touched spirits, mind and soul with these people while we're here," he said. "The time is short, but the hearts are big."

"We've done as much as we can and at the same time we tried to enjoy the experience a little bit."



Photo by Spc. Steven B. Petibone

HARVESTING TEAMWORK - Spc. Steven Stoner and a resident of La Chorrera, Panama, unload steel beams for a new roof on the La Represa School. Stoner's unit, the 204th

Engineer Battalion of the New York Army National Guard, recently deployed to Panama for two weeks of annual training in support of Cosecha Amistad '93.

Sooner MPs rid Panama of 'pests'

FORT CLAYTON, Panama - When the Oklahoma Army National Guard's 445th Military Police Company arrived in Panama for its annual training, the unit expected routine duties of traffic control and walking patrols.

But plans have a way of changing once crossing the Bridge of the Americas.

Along with their usual police duties, the McAlester, Okla., unit found itself operating a nuisance control team.

"Back home, people call the wildlife down here 'exotic animals,'" said Staff Sgt. Wallace G. Hollan, who volunteered for the Nuisance Control Team "In Panama, the creatures coming out of the jungles into somebody's yard are called pests."

Although Hollan and his partner, Staff Sgt. James Owens, had no formal training on handling tropical species, the two were confident they could complete the mission without any bites, gouges or scratches.

During the first week of their new assignment, they caught two three-toed sloths and a fer-de-lance snake, one of Central America's more deadly pit vipers.

"The 'wild' animals we catch are returned to the jungle and the domestic animals like dogs and cats are taken to the veterinary clinic," Owens said.

"Cuz' and me," said Hollan referring to his lifelong friend Owens, "have been hunting and trapping all our lives. We grew up in Bengal, the wildest part of Oklahoma."

"We know the animals and snakes in the Winding Stair and Blue Mountains, but down here we treat everything as if it were dangerous or poisonous."

Vest delivers for 167th, Panamanians

By Spc. Brian Lepley
83rd Army Reserve Command

HOWARD AFB, Panama - West Virginia Air National Guard Lt. Col. Mike Vest is in the delivery business — in the military as well as civilian life.

The Wexford, Pa., resident flies United Parcel Service planes for a living.

For two weeks of annual training in November, he delivered military supplies and passengers throughout Central and South America.

"We're here flying military support missions throughout the region," Vest said. "We supply all of the various units and embassies."

He and several other officers and airmen from the 167th Airlift Group in Martinsburg, W. Va., supported Operation Phoenix Oak, the air transportation operation of U.S. Southern Command.

The Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve supply all airlift operations for SOUTHCOM.

Units rotate every two weeks on annual training, bringing C-130 aircraft from the United States for the mission.

"It serves a many-fold purpose," said Lt. Col. Rick Pitts. "We are doing something that benefits

SOUTHCOM ... around the clock airlifts 365 days a year."

Pitts, a mission commander from the 94th Airlift Wing in Marietta, Ga., has been to Panama three times in the last 18 months for the mission and is a strong supporter.

"It is also excellent training for our Reserve and Guard crews," he said. "We land on austere fields, practice overwater and mountain navigation and have good loadmaster training."

"Phoenix Oak gives us a chance to do different things like troop drops, emergency medical evacuations and to be on alert to fly on quick notice."

The operation began in 1977 as Operation Volant Oak.

Vest appreciates the combination of training and real-life missions. "It's very rewarding training," he said.

"It's more of a real-world environment, doing things the way we may be called on to do them."

"It's challenging to fly throughout South America with the terrain, the unimproved airports and short runways."

Flying in different conditions sharpens his abilities, he said.