

The National Guard

ON GUARD



VOLUME XX, NO. 7

April 1991

Welcome home...



Inside....

Operation Desert Storm pages 2 - 4
Special Feature ...Family Support ... pages 7 - 10
Drug Demand reduction pages 12 -14
Fuentes Caminos '91 page 16

In Memory of our Brothers and Sister fallen in Desert Storm

Army National Guard

SPC Cindy M. Beaudoin, 19
Plainfield, Conn.
142nd Medical Co.

SPC Bobby L. McKnight, 52
Dallas, N.C.,
1454th Trans Co.

SPC Wade E. Hector, 22
Newport, N.H.
744th Trans Co.

PFC Todd C. Ritch, 20
Charlston, N.H.
744th Transportation Co.

PFC Kenneth J. Jackson, 22
Concord, N.C.
1454th Trans Co.

Sgt. Lawrence N. Welch, 41
Chisholm, Minn.
109th Maintenance Co.

1st Sgt. Joe Murphy, 57
New York
102nd Maintenance Co.

Pfc. Pamela Y. Gay, 19
Surray County, Va.
183rd Personnel Services Co.

Air National Guard



Lt. Col. Stephen G.
Schramm, 43
Birthingam, Ala.
117th Tactical
Reconnaissance Wing



Maj. Barry K. Henderson, 40
Moulton, Ala.
117th Tactical
Reconnaissance Wing

National Defense Service Medal authorized for wear

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — The National Defense Service Medal can now be worn by all members of the Armed Forces including, with some exceptions, National Guard and Reserve members on active duty after August 2, The Pentagon said February 21.

Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney authorized wear of the ribbon by all people of Operation Desert Storm and Desert Shield. Regardless of whether they served in the Mideast or not.

This award is being made for special recognition of the "outstanding performance of our Armed Forces during

Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm," Cheney was quoted as saying in a Pentagon News Release.

The National Defense Service Medal is awarded to recognize credible service in a particular campaign, War, National Emergency or expedition. The medal has previously awarded for Honorable Service for the Korean War and Vietnam Conflict.

Those already permitted to wear the ribbon from a previous period should wear the Bronze Campaign Star on the award.

Editorial

Citizen soldiers...

by Maj. Les Stadig
National Guard Bureau Public Affairs

Remember the evening of Feb. 6 when nearly every home in America watched President Bush's victory address to a joint session of Congress?

If so, you probably remember that dramatic moment when he showed a battlefield scene to illustrate the caring and generous nature of Americans—he showed a National Guard soldier!

Tennessee 1st Sgt. Charles Sieberling of the 212th Engineer Company, Dunlap, Tenn. is the soldier referenced in the President's address when he said.

"I'm sure many of you saw on television the unforgettable scene of four terrified Iraqi soldiers surrendering," Bush said, not mentioning Sieberling by name.

"They emerged from their bunker broken, tears streaming from their eyes, fearing the worst. And then, there was the American soldier. Remember what he said? He said: 'It's OK. You're all right now. You're all right now,'" the President said.

"That scene says a lot about America, a lot about who we are. Americans are a caring people. We are a good people, a caring people. Let us always be caring and good and generous in all we do," he said.

Sieberling has been a member of the Army National Guard since 1975, and has pulled duty in Korea and South America. He and his wife Sandra have been married 23 years. He had served as a Metro Nashville councilman during the years from 1971-75, and also served as a cryptographer for President Kennedy.

Indeed, Sieberling is a citizen soldier. He, like many Guardsmen, has had the opportunity to hold an elective office, participate in the free enterprise system, study in an unmatched public educational system, and worship as he chooses.

It may be argued that citizen soldiers, civilians who have set aside their civilian endeavors to take arms in the interest of the common defense, are the people who made this land what it is.

So long as our armed forces have citizen soldiers in their ranks, men and women who understand the freedom found in the heart of America, this nation will be compassionate and victorious on the battlefield.

"On Guard" and its staff salute all Guardsmen who have served and who are now serving on active duty during Desert Shield/Desert Storm.



"On Guard" is published monthly using federal funds under provisions of AR360-81 and is intended for the use of units and members of the Army and Air National Guard. It is printed in 13,000 copies and is distributed to each unit of the Army and Air National Guard as well as major commands by the Command Information Team, National Guard Bureau Field Support Office, NGB-FSO-PAC, Skyline #6, Suite 401C, 5109 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041. The views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Department of Defense, Army or Air Force, or the National Guard Bureau.

"On Guard" is the registered trademark of this publication and may not be used without specific, written permission. Questions or comments concerning "On Guard" should be referred to the Editor or Associate Editor at the above address or by calling Defense Systems Network number 289-1923 or commercial (703) 756-1923.

Editor:
Capt. Phillip C. Blahut
Special Assistant:
Tech. Sgt. Rudy Anderson



Persian Gulf Vets await declaration from Congress

Reservists mobilized for Operation Desert Storm who complete their tour of duty will qualify for most federal veterans' benefits available to their active-duty counterparts.

The law generally grants basic benefits eligibility to those separated from enlisted service which began after Sept. 7, 1981, they must complete the shorter of either 2 months of continuous active duty or the full period for which they are activated.

Reservists activated for Desert Storm meet the basic eligibility criteria as "Peacetime" veterans, Department of Veterans Affairs official said, they will gain increased benefits eligibility if Congress declares the Persian Gulf War an official wartime period.

VA benefits include loans, education assistance, medical care, compensations, pensions, insurance and burial benefits.

Loan Guaranty — reservists called to active duty by the president are eligible for loan guaranty benefits under certain conditions. First, they must have served at least 181 continuous days or more of "peacetime" service (or 90 days during designated wartime periods), or have been discharged for a service-connected disability. Second, they must also have completed the lesser of 24 months of active-duty service or the full period for which called (with limited exceptions such as a disability or hardship discharge).

A reservist may receive a certificate of eligibility for loan guaranty benefits before completing the service, provided he or she has been on duty at least 181 days. However, the certificate is only good if the person has not been discharged or separated. In such cases, the individual must show he or she is still in the service before the loan can be guaranteed.

Education — Reservists remain eligible for the Montgomery GI bill for the selected reserve after they are called to active duty.

Non-prior service reservists do not become eligible for the expanded GI Bill program because of their active-duty service for Desert Storm. This program requires consecutive years of service to qualify.

Medical care — Reservists called to active duty may receive medical care at VA medical centers on the same basis as active-duty persons.

If one of these reservists is injured while on active duty and receives compensation. The person is eligible for medical care as a service-connected veteran. If the reservist is injured while on active duty and the condition is determined to be service-connected. But not compensable, the patient is eligible for care of this condition any at VA facilities.

Compensation — Service-connected disability compensation is payable to veterans who incur or aggravate a disability during a period of active duty. The same criteria apply to death benefits and for all ancillary benefits such as vocational rehabilitation, specially adapted housing, automobile allowance, clothing allowance and service-connected burial benefits.

Pension — Reservists are not eligible for non-service connected pension benefits unless they serve on active duty for at least 90 days and at least one day of which occurs during a period of war as defined by Congress.

Insurance — There are four VA-sponsored life insurance programs, they are the servicemen's group life insurance, veterans' group life insurance, service disabled veterans insurance and veterans mortgage life insurance.

SGLI is available in \$10,000 increments up to a maximum of \$50,000. Reservists are eligible for part-time or full-time insurance. Coverage is automatic (with the exception of retired reservists who must apply for coverage) upon entry into a period of active duty or reserve status and continues throughout such service and for certain specified periods after separation or release.

VGLI is primarily a post-separation insurance program which provides for the conversion of SGLI to a five-year term policy. It's designed to provide low-cost group insurance protection for newly released veterans during the transition period into civilian life, reservists

Lt. Gen. John B. Conaway sends...

DEPARTMENTS OF THE ARMY AND THE AIR FORCE
National Guard Bureau
Washington, D.C. 20310

March 13, 1991

Soldiers and airmen of the National Guard,

It is times such as these when words hardly seem adequate to convey the appreciation and admiration of a grateful nation. My heartfelt thanks and congratulations to the more than 75,000 members of the Army and Air National Guard federalized in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. In the spirit of the original Minuteman, guardmembers from all walks of life left families and civilian jobs to answer the call of the nation.


The professionalism and dedication that has been the hallmark of your service in the National Guard contributed immensely to the great military success of Desert Storm. In support and combat roles, Guard units performed vital missions.

To our fallen comrades in arms, we offer our prayers. To their loved ones, we offer our support and sympathy and the assurance that they will remain in our hearts and memories. To the families, it is important for them to know that the sacrifice of their loved ones was not in vain. And, to those who have returned it is forever important that we honor those who paid the ultimate price of victory.

Each and every Guard family played a critical role in Desert Shield and Storm. From providing support to deployed family members while waiting anxiously on the home front, to the countless hours helping and supporting the thousands of families in need of assistance during those trying times—the family, as always, provided the bedrock foundation for the spirit and winning attitude of the warriors.

The soldiers and airmen, know that you are forever changed, touched by what you have seen, shaped by what you have experienced, bonded with those whom with you have shared this trial. Know in your heart, most importantly, you were and forever will be equal to the challenge—you are Americans at their best.

God Bless you, the National Guard and the great nation we all serve proudly.


JOHN B. CONAWAY
Lieutenant General, USAF
Chief, National Guard Bureau

released from active duty of 31 days or more.

Those who perform training of less than 31 days who suffer an injury or disability which renders them undesirable at standard premium rates, and members of the individual ready reserve are eligible for this coverage. VGLI is available in amounts up to \$50,000.

SDV-I is available in amounts up to \$10,000 to individuals released from active duty on or after April 25, 1951. Under other than dishonorable conditions, with a service-connected disability.

VMLI provides financial protection to cover an eligible veteran's outstanding mortgage in the event of his or her death. It's available to severely disabled veterans who have received specially adapted housing grants from the VA. The maximum amount of insurance available is \$40,000.

Burial Benefits — Reservists who die under honorable conditions while serving on active duty for training or performing full-time service are eligible for interment in a National Cemetery and to a Government Marker. They are also entitled to these benefits upon discharge if they meet one of these criteria: Completed the full-period for which called, completed 24 months of active-duty service. Received a hardship discharge or discharge because of service connected disability. Spouses of those eligible for burial in a National Cemetery are also eligible.

Reservists are entitled to burial and plot allowances if they were entitled to compensation or pension at the time of death.

Veterans should contact their regional VA office regarding their specific situation and how it applies to a benefit entitlement.

The Department of Veterans Affairs offers toll-free assistance local telephone directories list the number under United States Government.

Hometown heroes

Fast-acting pair saves lives in Gulf

by Jim Sanders and Richard Abrams

Two National Guardsmen from Sacramento, Calif. are among the Persian Gulf War's first heroes. Members of a tiny, non-combat unit, they risked their lives to save others in Saudi Arabia after 25 pound artillery canisters exploded aboard a burning truck.

SFC Claude "Mike" Rhey, 49, and Spec. Glenn Jones, 23, combined quick thinking of heroic action to help prevent injuries to at least eight others in the explosion, which showered the road with shrapnel and left the truck a burned out hulk.

The two are odd partners in heroism. Rhey is a Vietnam veteran who vows to remain in the war until it's over, and Jones is a homesick soldier who didn't want to join the war effort.

"He's mild mannered. He's calm before a storm. But I know that he would risk his life to save somebody," said Karleen Rhey, Claude's wife, upon hearing the news Friday. "He can think clearly when situations are happening."

"Then it started exploding. The cannisters were popping like fireworks, flying 100 feet into the air."

Vivian Jones, Glenn's wife, said she never expected her husband to face a life-or-death situation. He's assigned to transportation, not combat, and in past months, has handled clerical duties. But she's not surprised at his heroism.



Spec. Glenn T. Jones

"I knew that if he was put in that situation he would do it," she said. "I just never thought of him being in that situation."

The story of the fiery explosion on a main supply route serving the Saudi front lines was pieced together by reporters who drove to the scene without military escort. The military's information bureau had no account of the incident Friday.

Explosive charges were popping like Roman candles during the accident on a supply route in Saudi Arabia, but miraculously an air emergency medivac helicopter rushed to the scene minutes later was not needed. Nobody was injured, witnesses said.

Rhey was credited with saving at least one Army soldier from death or injury when he wheeled his unarmored panel truck to within 20 yards of the burning ammo truck to warn the soldier, who was hiding behind a dune, to move farther back.

Rhey gunned his motor and



SFC. Claude "Mike" Rhey

escaped about a minute before the artillery began exploding, leaving an acrid gunpowder smell and about 100 charred, twisted cylinders scattered around the area.

Canisters were sent flying from the burning truck and some landed 175 yards away, nearly the length of two football fields. Jones stood just down the road from the burning vehicle and forcibly stopped a carload of seven Saudis who were insisting on passing just before the explosion. They backed off only after he cocked his M-16 rifle.

Sgt. Charles Hicks, 39, a truck driver with the District of Columbia National Guard, saw the explosion from about 500 feet away. "The whole truck was on fire," he said. "Then it started exploding. The canisters were popping like fireworks, flying 100 feet into the air."

The commander of the ammunition convoy, Army Capt. Larry Pruitt, 29, of Berwick, Pa. said the two Sacramento Guardsmen may well have averted

a chain-reaction blast involving the trucks in his convoy, which were hauling troops to the Army's VII Corps near the front lines.

Rhey and Jones are members of the Army National Guard's 224th Transportation Detachment, a tiny four-member unit whose job is to control traffic along a two-lane highway serving as a main supply route in Saudi Arabia. The unit was one of the first in Saudi Arabia to be led by a woman, 1st Lt. Margarita Perez.

Rhey said the accident happened after gasoline started leaking from the ammo truck's fuel tank. "Fuel was dripping onto the exhaust," he said. "The driver saw the smoke and pulled over. He saw a pool of gasoline under the truck. We happened to come by and stopped the traffic at both ends. SPC. Jones and me."

Rhey said the young soldier was crouched behind a dune about 20 yards from the truck. "I've seen these things go-off in Vietnam and I knew that kid was too close to be safe," Rhey said. The gasoline fire was approaching the ammo canisters on the back of the flatbed when Rhey decided to take a gamble. He drove to the crouching soldier and ordered him to run for his life. Within a minute, the truck exploded.

Rhey said the explosion caused his mind to flash back to January 1967, when he took shrapnel in the back because his truck ran over a land mine.

The younger of the two heroes, Jones, 23, began working as a loan counselor shortly before leaving for Saudi Arabia.

Rhey, the father of eight children, is a licensed truck driver normally processes computer orders for the California National Guard.

Cheney seeks tuition refund for mobilized students

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney has written to the Nation's 50 State Governors asking for assistance in getting refunds for tuition and fees paid by National Guardsmen and reservists who could not finish school because they were called to active duty.

Federal law guarantees that members of the Guard and Reserve will have their jobs to go back to at the end of Persian Gulf War, however, no such legislation exists to protect those students called to duty.

These students are not guaranteed refunds of tuition and fees they have paid for a semester they have not completed, nor are they guaranteed the right to return to these colleges and universities upon completion of their active service.

"To show your support for the Youth of America summoned from the classroom to the battlefield, I ask you to use your good offices and authority under state law... To refund to student members of the Guard and Reserve tuition and fees they paid for the semester they cannot complete." Secretary Cheney wrote in the letter.

He also asked the governors to grant these students the right to return to the classroom when they complete their military service.

Accrued leave may now be taken in cash

Washington (AFRNS) — The Department of Defense has authorized a waiver on the number of unused accrued days of leave that can be sold for payment.

The waiver is the result of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and applies only to unused accrued leave from fiscal years 1990 and 1991.

Current law limits people to receiving payments for 60 days of unused leave during their military career. The National Defense Authorization Act for

1991 sets aside this 60-day limit for reserve component members, retired reserve members, retired regular members and fleet reserve or fleet marine corps reserve members ordered to active duty other than for training in support of Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

If released from active duty under honorable conditions, the member may receive payment for such leave on the basis of the basic pay to which he was entitled on the date of discharge.

129th ARS demonstrates training for media

by Maj. Bruce Roy
California Air National Guard

With the news of the first long-range rescue behind enemy lines in Operation Desert Storm in January, the media was hungry for details on the equipment and tactics used to accomplish such a harrowing mission. Unable to get much information on the type of helicopter equipment used to retrieve a downed pilot, reporters tried to piece together a plausible scenario by looking at realistic training profiles practiced by elements of the Air Rescue Service.

One such effort involved the 129th Air Rescue Squadron (ARS), California Air National Guard, based at Moffett Field. With the recent conversion from the venerable H-3 "Jolly Green Giant" to the new Sikorsky MH-60G "Pave Hawk", the 129th ARS caught the interest of local television producers looking to feature the latest in rotorcraft technology used to save lives around the world.

Unique because of its long-range rescue capability achieved through in-flight refueling from a Lockheed HC-130P Hercules rescue tanker, the 129th ARS has tremendous versatility in delivering lifesaving forces worldwide in the form of PJs, para-rescue specialist, who are trained to parachute into a sea or land incident site to administer medical attention and effect a rescue by various means, depending on the situation.

In January, media crews

representing CNN and KTVU Channel 2, Oakland, flew with the 129th on a day, low-level navigation mission in the Sierra Nevada, followed by an aerial refueling rendezvous between an MH-60 and an HC-130 over the San Joaquin Valley. With the extended range limited only by the endurance of the crew, and the fuel capacity of the tanker, the TV cameras got an "up close and personal" perspective on the challenge of linking two flying machines in mid air.

Led by mission commander, Lt. Col. Claude Roberts piloting the tanker, with navigator Lt. Col. Steve Speer, 129th ARS commander, and co-pilot Capt. Scott Michaelson, the C-130 crew intercepted the H-60 in the haze south of Nimitz at 6,000 feet above sea level.

Pave Hawk pilot Maj. Greg Bose joined up with the tanker "comm out," using only visual signals, simulating an actual combat environment where radio silence helps avoid detection.

The tremendous teamwork exercised among a number of crew members becomes apparent as the loadmaster in the C-130, Master Sgt. Stu Loux, insures the safety of the entire process from the aft cargo door and intercom coordination with the rest of the crew. From initial sighting of the chopper to successful contact refueling and subsequent disengagement, the loadmaster has the most crucial vantage point of the entire operation.

The synergy of helicopter and tanker combines to form a delivery system



A Sikorsky MH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter.

for highly trained PJs who can jump into virtually any environment, day or night, to rescue stricken aircrews far from friendly forces.

In a second mission to round out the picture for our meager media spectators, the PJs were taken aloft at sunset for a night SCUBA jump over Monterey Bay of Santa Cruz. The CNN camera man skillfully captured the rush of excitement as jumpmaster Tech. Sgt. Sean Casey sent the team out the door of the C-130 (radio call sign "King") into the dark of night and murk below, guided by strobe lights on a raft set up by the safety crew in a recovery boat a safe distance away.

In a real world scenario, the pick-up would be made by a chopper (call sign "Jolly") with a rescue hoist. For the purpose of this training exercise,

boatmaster Tech. Sgt. Mark Allie and safety swimmer Tech. Sgt. Marc Angelo were in position to insure safe recovery of the night jumpers led by the Pararescue Operations non-commission officer, Master Sgt. Tim Williams. Also in the boat were a CNN reporter and cameraman, who recorded an unexpected twist to an already fascinating plot... the appearance of a great white shark, which was apparently attracted to the commotion caused by the airborne intruders disguised as aquatic critters.

Fortunately for the crew in the water, Jaws appeared to be looking for love and not dinner. All of the individuals were recovered without harm, but the remainder of the training was conducted closer to shore, within the protective confines of Santa Cruz Harbor, which is definitely not routine.

Lady with 'two hats' rescues, saves lives twice

by Lt. Col. David W. Lubbers
Michigan Air National Guard

Saving lives and assisting people in need is starting to become a habit for Staff Sgt. Joan A. Merriewether, an administrative specialist for the 127th Resource Management Squadron, located at the Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Mt. Clemens, Mich., is a lady with 'two hats'; one Guard, the other as a Detroit patrol officer.

Merriewether has also been a patrol officer for the Detroit Police Department for the past five years. She and her police partner were on routine patrol on last July when they were flagged down by frantic citizens. They were told that a nearby apartment building was on fire, with children trapped inside. They rushed to the building and saw flames shooting out the windows.

Merriewether reported, "The first thing we did was notify dispatch to contact the fire department and have them rush to the scene in Detroit. After the call was made, she and her partner went inside."

"Here we encountered heavy smoke. We heard people yelling and screaming. She and her partner then



LIFESAVER - Staff Sgt. Joan A. Merriewether was presented the National Guard Lifesaving Medal by Col. Allen Ness, deputy commander of operations, 127th Tactical Fighter Wing, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Richard McClung, Michigan Air National Guard).

helped lead five citizens to safety outside the building," explained the veteran.

But those people were the easy ones to rescue. Merriewether also had to assist another trapped victim. "I heard a person yelling in one apartment, but she

was very panic stricken and would not or could not open up the locked door. I then kicked down the door to get to her, and then led this older lady to safety."

Three months later Merriewether was one of the first people on the scene at

an afternoon fire at a senior citizen center in Detroit. The Detroit patrol officer entered the building, along with other rescue professionals, and carried out some disabled senior citizens.

This devoted Air Guard veteran joined the 191st Fighter Interceptor Group, also located at the Selfridge Air National Guard Base, in 1979, and transferred to the 127th Resource Management Squadron in 1983. She is presently 20 hours short of obtaining her single engine pilot's license, and would like to fly helicopters for the Detroit Police Department, aviation section.

For their complete disregard of their personal safety both Merriewether and her partner will receive a special lifesaving award from the Detroit Police Department later this year. She was also awarded the National Guard Lifesaving Medal for heroic efforts by Col. Allan Ness, deputy commander, operations. Ness said it best: "No one was killed or injured in the fire because of her quick and decisive heroics. The distinctive accomplishments of Sgt. Merriewether reflect credit upon herself, the Air National Guard and the United States Air Force".

Questions? Call family, employer support numbers

It is Department of Defense policy and long-standing military practice to provide personal notification to the next-of-kin of service members who are casualties. Families of servicemen and women participating in Operation Desert Storm may call one of the following 24-hour telephone numbers to obtain information of a general nature.

- * U.S. Army - General Information - 1-800-626-1440
- * U.S. Air Force - General Information - 1-800-253-9276
- * U.S. Navy - For Immediate Family Members - 1-800-255-3808
- * General Information - 1-800-732-1206
- * U.S. Marine Corps - For Immediate Family Members - 1-800-523-2694
- * U.S. Coast Guard - For Immediate Family Members - 1-800-283-8724 (After 8:00 a.m. January 17, 1991)
- * National Guard - General Information - 1-800-348-4991
- * General Information about Employer Support to the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) - 1-800-336-4590.

In addition, for each state National Guard, there are phone numbers to dial for family-support and employee-support information:

STATE	FAMILY SUPPORT IN-STATE	FAMILY SUPPORT OUT-STATE	ESGR
Alabama	1-800-392-1947	205-271-7283	205-332-1169
Alaska	None	907-249-1280	907-486-3101
Arizona	1-800-233-7758	602-267-2593	602-265-2674
Arkansas	1-800-446-4645	501-771-5102	501-371-7010
California	1-800-321-6824	916-854-3252	415-342-1782
Colorado	1-800-762-4504	303-397-3175	719-594-7240
Connecticut	None	203-524-4819	203-238-5024
Dist. of Columbia	None	202-433-6355	202-433-5115
Delaware	1-800-292-9608	302-324-7110	302-658-4217
Florida	1-800-638-7600	904-824-8461	716-845-7284
Georgia	1-800-282-4222	404-624-6561	404-331-2475
Guam	None	671-623-0341	671-472-6736
Hawaii	None	208-389-5067	808-533-7171
Idaho	None	208-389-5067	208-343-0084
Illinois	1-800-723-8868	217-785-3622	708-441-8727
Indiana	1-800-247-3192	317-247-3192	515-961-4618
Iowa	1-800-366-9149	515-242-5416	
Kansas	1-800-232-1265	913-266-1052	913-233-9203
Kentucky	1-800-372-7601	502-564-6360	502-459-1690
Louisiana	1-800-541-5860	504-278-6325	504-944-3371
Maine	1-800-462-3101	207-626-4324	207-989-7171
Maryland	1-800-492-2526	301-576-6019	202-662-4889
Massachusetts	1-800-362-4452	617-944-0500	413-786-3994
Michigan	None	517-483-5831	313-338-1870
Minnesota	1-800-652-9032	612-296-4481	612-733-0592
Mississippi	1-800-962-2443	601-973-6379	601-487-2650
Missouri	1-800-488-0096	314-751-9904	314-991-3666
Montana	None	406-444-7912	406-452-9533
N. Carolina	1-800-626-4325	919-664-6324	919-275-9711
N. Hampshire	1-800-322-9393	603-225-1306	603-623-7350
Nebraska	1-800-326-8482	702-887-7246	702-384-7162
New Jersey	None	609-530-2851	609-882-9010
New Mexico	1-800-432-1810	505-473-2587	505-293-3574
New York	1-800-342-8108	518-786-4312	716-862-9339
North Dakota	1-800-242-4940	701-244-5128	701-235-5323
Ohio	1-800-282-7310	614-889-7040	614-459-1889
Oklahoma	1-800-522-8335	405-425-8591	405-395-2371
Oregon	1-800-452-7500	503-378-4443	503-275-5781
Pennsylvania	1-800-634-1790	717-865-8841	215-632-3100
Puerto Rico	None	809-721-3131	809-782-6388
Rhode Island	None	401-457-4194	401-738-2700
S. Carolina	1-800-800-9503 (Florence)	803-748-4286	803-425-3558
	1-800-800-4503 (Columbia)		
South Dakota	1-800-734-8273	605-399-6728	605-584-3292
Tennessee	1-800-252-8032	615-780-5026	615-741-2354
Texas	1-800-252-8032	512-465-5000	915-646-6018
Utah	1-800-835-4576	801-524-3766	801-534-6175
Vermont	1-800-637-3000	802-864-1347	802-223-3443
Virgin Islands	None	809-788-4953	809-774-1340
Virginia	1-800-542-4028	804-783-2336	804-272-7498
Washington	1-800-562-8544	206-581-8927	206-786-7966
West Virginia	1-800-794-8273	304-341-6484	304-348-4710
Wisconsin	1-800-292-9464	608-241-7244	414-639-1479
Wyoming	1-800-635-4917	307-722-6208	307-362-3736

Although these are National Guard phone numbers, the families of Active and Reserve servicemembers are encouraged to use them, also.

Heroic receptions set for Gulf vets

A heroic reception of units demobilizing from Operation Desert Storm, is planned. The Army National Guard is very active in planning numerous receptions as units reconstitute back into a fully ready organization.

Each state adjutant general, through the direction of Maj. Gen. Donald Burdick, director, Army National Guard, was tasked to develop plans that encompass all the elements for making a proper welcome and reception.

Guidance was developed by state retention NCOs, state command sergeants major, National Guard Bureau staff personnel from public affairs, family programs, SIDPERS- ARNG, mobilization/readiness, personnel and the Army National Guard Recruiting and Retention Management Center. Guidance was published to successfully develop local plans that encompass the needs of returning soldiers and their families,

employers, non-deployed soldiers and their families, and their communities.

The scope of the plans is directed in several directions; to look at what can be done now, what can be done at the demobilization station, and what needs to be done upon return to home station and the succeeding months. Maintaining an awareness for the public affairs opportunities and incorporating all of the interested parties in the planning process are the biggest challenges.

An additional benefit of the unit reception and reconstitution plan is the positive impact made on recruiting and retention for these units. By successfully involving civic leaders, employers, families, veterans organizations, mayors, educators, and religious leaders in the reception process much can be done to overcome future obstacles to recruiting and retention.

Attention returns to civilian front

Across the nation thousands have cheered and waved flags since early March welcoming soldiers home.

"It's really a fabulous emotion being greeted like this because Vietnam veterans never had this kind of reception," said Master Sgt. Tony Porto, 43, after stepping off the plane. His 217th Evacuation Hospital of the Texas National Guard was among the first to be returned home.

More than 227 thousand "weekend warriors" from the Guard and Reserve were called to active service during the Gulf War. Army soldiers served with signal battalions, military police units, chemical units, artillery battalions, combat engineer units and infantry units, while Air Guard members pulled duty in troop transport, refueling, reconnaissance and tactical units, plus all the thousands of supporting roles required to keep planes in the air.

The call-up was the third largest since World War II. About 940 thousand were called during the Korean War and about 300 thousand were called during the Berlin Crisis.

While U.S. forces in Vietnam were largely conscripted, Guard soldiers dispatched to Desert Storm were volunteers representing a mix of middle American doctors and policemen, farmers and truckers. Forty-three percent of the people back home knew someone in the war zone.

Even though allies were

outnumbered in artillery, tanks and troops, they suffered just 149 combat deaths compared to an undetermined Iraqi loss of between 25 and 50 thousand.

Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf said the sweeping victory was due in part to the lack of dedication on the part of the Iraq's soldiers.

Now, the attention of Guard men and women turns to reentry into the civilian job market, recouping lost family time, and continuing interrupted educational endeavors. American businesses are showing gratitude with a host of special offers, price breaks and gifts for Desert Storm veterans.

Returning members of the 253rd Transportation Company of the New Jersey Army National Guard were offered another trip to the sands—this time for a free overnight stay and meal at the Sands Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City.

In many instances Guard members activated during the Gulf War suffered a drop in pay when they left the civilian sector. Veterans' organizations and others are examining special needs of Desert Storm veterans and their ability to pay for homes, cars, and health insurance.

Those who still have questions about rights as they return to civilian jobs, are invited to call the Labor Department toll free, 1-800-442-2VET. That hotline is staffed between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. EST.

Family assistance program fosters support, involvement



The Alabama Guardsman



Benefit Guide, Mississippi Army National Guard



Nebraska's Prairie Soldier

The National Guard Bureau in 1984 created a program that has positive impact on the Guard's ability to train, mobilize, and deploy in support of state and federal missions, it is called family support.

"In the early stages the perception with many in the Guard was that there was no real need for the program. Many members believed they could take care of themselves, they wouldn't be mobilized anyway," said Dorothy Ogilvey-Lee, program manager, Family Support. "We had to convince others that this was a worthwhile and necessary program," said Lee.

MISSION

The mission of the program is to establish and facilitate ongoing communication, involvement, support, and recognition between Guard families and the National Guard in a partnership that promotes the best in both. The program is designed to provide infrastructure that supports the process of identifying, addressing, and resolving issues that impact on a balance between Guard service and family stability.

The program is a decentralized, grass roots, self help program in which Guard unit family needs, interests, talents, and resources coordinate with those of the community to enhance the quality of life for all parties involved. The family program deals with issues like mobilization, separations, state emergencies, and natural disasters. It is becoming more and more involved in quality of life issues such as community action projects, drug demand reduction, and environmental awareness activities.

FULL TIME COORDINATOR

Each state and territory has a full time, federally funded, family program coordinator. In addition, each

Army and Air Guard unit is required to have a family assistance officer or other military point of contact to act as liaison. Because this is a commander's program, there is considerable diversity in how the program is actually implemented at the unit level.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are the heart of this program, and the unit level Family Support Group (FSG) volunteers provide program strength. The FSG is chartered by the command volunteers who are trained under the direction of the state coordinator. Many states have a State Family Program Council as a program advisory group and larger states have regional volunteer coordinators to facilitate program coordination with the unit FSG's. Funding for program support costs is provided directly to the states from the National Guard Bureau.

The program has been tested several times in state emergencies and natural disasters such as forest fires, hurricanes, earthquakes, floods, and tornadoes. During overseas military training, it has also been tested during "Just Cause" in Panama, in the case of training accident injuries and deaths. Annual mobilization exercises frequently include family briefings and processing of family members.

OPERATION DESERT STORM

Active duty installations are responsible for the families of its assigned soldiers and airmen. However, the vast majority of Guard members do not live near an active duty installation. When the need arises, as with Desert Shield/Desert Storm, National Guard family assistance centers activate to provide linkage between

the military and families in the civilian community.

Family assistance refers to the contractual obligation that the military has to its members and their families to provide military assistance primarily by uniformed members and civilian employees to families. The Family Assistance Center (FAC) serves the rear detachment function for Guard families.

Family support is the mutual help and emotional support that family members provide for each other. It brings out the volunteer side of the military/family partnership.

REFERRAL ASSISTANCE

A highlight of the Guard Family Assistance Centers has been our ability to offer information and referral assistance to extended family members of all services and all components. As of March 1, 1991, 3,008 personnel (including 1,196 volunteers), staffed a total of 453 family assistance centers to serve 186,693 family members and answer 317,670 telephone inquiries. 317 FACs are currently in operation.

We can all be very proud of the Guard's performance on the home front. Now that the cease fire has been initiated the family program will focus on reunion and homecomings. Guard family assistance centers will continue to provide assistance to families of personnel in the Persian Gulf as long as it is needed.

"Based on the Guard experience with Desert Shield and Desert Storm, we will take family issues identified in our lessons learned and adjust the program accordingly. We are very interested in the emotional and psychological impact that this experience has had on our Guard personnel and on their family members, and we are particularly concerned about its effect on our children," said Lee. "Desert Shield and Desert Storm have clearly highlighted the importance of family."



The family support group of the 1208th Quartermaster Co. Lineville Ala. was active prior to the units departure in September, 1990. (Photo by Alabama Army National Guard).



Christine Smith and her husband Sgt. Matthew Smith pose for just "one more" welcome home photo. Matt served with the 142nd Aeromedical Evacuation Flight, Delaware Air National Guard. (Photo by Frank Bryson, Delaware Army National Guard).



Above, Tennessee Army National Guard member with his family. (Tennessee Army National Guard photo).



Crowds greet arriving Ohio Air National Guardsmen as they land at Rickenbacker Air National Base, Columbus, Ohio coming home from duty in the Persian Gulf. (Photo by 121st Audio-Visual Support Section).



District of Columbia Guardsmen Private Ronald K. Merryweather, and Staff Sgt. James E. Williams stock the family support food closet as Mr. William E. Brown, technician, checks off the inventory list. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Craig Leaper, National Guard Bureau).



Family support volunteers and media provided a heroes welcome for the 190th Air Refueling Group, Topeka, Kans. as the unit arrived with 10 aircraft and 232 personnel from Saudi Arabia. (Kansas National Guard photo).

Family Support of the Guard

All across the nation families and the Guard came together in mutual support. The general public too responded with rallies and parades. "On Guard" dedicates this photo essay to our soldiers and airmen, their families, loved ones and friends, to those who volunteered, were called, served, fought, died and now proudly are coming home. Special thanks to unit and state public affairs staff, family support assistance coordinators and groups from Alabama, Arizona, District of Columbia, Maine, Kansas, Tennessee, Ohio and Delaware for their photo support depicted here.



First lady, Barbara Bush visited an Arizona National Guard family showing her support for family assistance. (Arizona National Guard photo).



Justin Russell, Maine Army National Guard, carries the flag in a rally in Maine. (Bangor Daily News photo).



A scene repeated in every state of the union, briefings for Guardsmen, women and their families were well attended.

Services prepare families for homecoming



Simone and Shannon Hall, daughters of Staff Sgt. Andre Hall, 274th Military Police Co., District of Columbia, Army National Guard, are pictured with Maj. Martha Smyth, the new Air National Guard Family Programs operations officer. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Craig Leaper, National Guard Bureau).

By Elliot Brenner

WASHINGTON (UPI) - Long before anyone ever thought the war would break out, the armed services were planning ways to help soldiers and families with the strains and pressures of their homecoming.

As joyous and emotional as coming home has been, Army officials said in interviews with United Press International that the adjustments soldiers and families will have to make must be dealt with.

While the men and women wait in the Saudi, Iraqi and Kuwait deserts for word on when their units will come home, they are getting counseling and advice from their chaplains on the changes they can expect in their lives.

And wives, husbands and other affected family members are hearing from officials of the Army Community Services agency and stateside chaplains about what they can expect.

The other branches of the armed forces have similar programs to ease the transition from a war footing to the calm of peacetime, but the Army's is the largest because of its sheer size.

"You have to be careful not to build up a fantasy of what's going to happen," said Maj. Linda Jellen, an official of the ACS program. "It's not what you fantasize. It's easy to get into 'I had it harder' arguments."

The problems are intensified

because so many in the Army are married. About 53 percent of the enlisted personnel are married compared with just 15 percent during the Vietnam War. Additionally, most soldiers were called individually during Vietnam, but the gulf war saw whole units dispatched.

The returning soldiers may have a far easier transition than their predecessors. Few will have spent more than a year away from home, and four days of combat on the ground after five months in the desert pines against the one-year tours in Vietnam and Korea. Some World War II vets were gone from home for five years and sometimes longer.

Among the things soldiers returning home will have to adjust to in many cases, said Jellen, is wives who are much more independent than they were before.

Young wives who never handled the checkbook before the war may be reluctant to give it up. Ones who could not drive or did not drive stick shifts have been taught by friends and have a new freedom to exercise. Months of self-reliance will have made once dependent wives far more assertive and willing to stand up for themselves.

And the soldiers with young children they have not seen are being warned that when they want to make love, their wives may be more interested in heeding the cry of the new baby, creating frustrations they will have to learn to deal with.

Guard Bureau Family Support staff

Ms. Dorothy Oglivy-Lee
Chief, Family Programs
National Guard Bureau

address:

NGB-PRF
4501 Ford Ave., Suite 310,
Alexandria, Va., 22302-1454

telephone:

(703) 756-4847
DSN 289-4847

Maj. Stanley R. Lawson

Maj. Stanley R. Lawson, a native of Beckley, W. V., graduated from Marshall University in 1972 with a bachelor of arts degree in education and a Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) commission. Lawson served on active duty from 1972 to 1975 as a psychological warfare officer in Okinawa, Japan, and an infantry platoon leader, with First Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

After receiving his master of arts in education at the University of Alabama in 1979, Lawson joined the Alabama

Army National Guard, 131 Public Affairs Detachment (PAD). While with the 131 PAD, he served as community relations officer, operations officer for five overseas annual training periods.

Lawson entered the AGR program in 1987 as an ROTC instructor at Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, N.C. then was assigned to National Guard Bureau, Family Programs as operations officer just three days before Iraq invaded Kuwait.

Maj. Martha Smyth

Maj. Martha V. Smyth is a member of the 161st Air Refueling Group, Phoenix, Ariz. Currently she holds the position as Family Support operation officer, Personnel Resources Family, in the National Guard Bureau, Washington D.C.

Smyth first came to the National Guard Bureau on special assignment in January 1990. Following her special assignment, she accepted the position as deputy chief, Historical Services, office of public affairs, where she headed up the Desert Storm historical documentation team. She served in this position for ten

months before she assumed her current responsibilities in Family Support Operations.

Smyth received her bachelor of science in education from Centenary College, Shreveport, La. After completing her education, she went into the airline industry and is presently on a military leave of absence from Southwest Airlines.

Maj. Dickie Carr

Maj. Dickie Carr, Mississippi Army National Guard was reassigned to the National Guard Bureau in December 1990, and latter became the Desert Shield Action officer for personnel resources, and family programs. He has served over three years as an assistant professor of military science at Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, N.C. and served over 17 years in armor units in Mississippi.

Carr earned his bachelor of science in finance from Mississippi State University, a masters in business administration from Delta State University, and has completed Command and General Staff College.

Law protects Guard family

President Bush signed a bill March 18th expanding financial and legal protections for members of the armed forces who served in the Persian Gulf.

Among other provisions, the measure eliminates any waiting period required for reinstatement of health insurance after the completion of active duty.

It also protects families of U.S. forces from eviction in cases where the rent does not exceed \$1,200 a month. Currently, the rent ceiling is \$150 a month, set in 1966.

The legislation also requires insurance companies to suspend malpractice coverage and premiums for doctors and other health care professionals while they are serving on active duty, and to reinstate coverage later at the individual's request.

137th Tactical Airlift Wing earns award



500,000TH HOUR - Maj. Gen. Donald Farrell (left) and Brig. Gen. Jerry Whitman fly the 500,000th hour achieving a major Oklahoma aviation milestone. (Oklahoma Air National Guard photo.)

by 2ndLt. Rory E. Polson
Oklahoma Air National Guard

On December 11, 1990, a C-130H aircraft taxied down the runway soon to be airborne. Making the briefest flight in the history of the Oklahoma Air National Guard the longest, representing over 30 years and one-half million mishap free flying hours. Upon landing, the 137th Tactical Airlift Wing (TAW) achieved a military aviation milestone and for the second time this year made Air Force history.

The Military Airlift Command (MAC) of the United States Air Force acknowledge this accomplishment by honoring the 137th TAW with the MAC 500,000 Hour Unit Flying Award. Even more impressive, after researching MAC records back nearly two decades, it appears the 137 TAW is the first Air National Guard unit in history to achieve this monumental milestone.

"In order to understand just how significant an accomplishment this is, imagine one aircraft remaining airborne... for 57 years and 14 days," explained Lt. Col. Jude R. Krejci, safety officer for the 137 TAW. To achieve one-half million accident free flying hours is truly remarkable. This places the 137th unit within a very small and elite group of MAC flying units all of which are active Air Force units," Krejci stated.

Krejci further explained the purpose of the unit flying hour award is to recognize a significant number of mishap free flying hours. "This award, as part of the Air Force safety program, recognizes flying units with outstanding safety records. It is the basic goal of the safety program to preserve Air Force combat capability. Mishap prevention is vital to keeping a combat ready posture," said Krejci.

"The safety record of the early military fliers was dismal, to say the least," commented Krejci. "In 1943, the Army Air Force had over 20,000 major aircraft mishaps alone. That's 56 major mishaps per day and we lost over 5,600 crew members that year

alone. Since the Air Force has developed its flight safety program and beginning in 1974 it has experienced less than 100 mishaps annually. Remarkably flight mishaps totaled only 50 during fiscal year 1990."

How does the Air National Guard compare to the active duty Air Force in flying safety? The Air Guard has just completed the safest year of flying in its history recording only 1.38 mishaps per 100,000 flight hours, well below the active Air Force's rate of 1.51. Furthermore, MAC gained units in the Air National Guard finished 1990 with no recorded mishaps. The 137 TAW leads other Air National Guard units into a new decade dispelling old myths that the Air Guard is poorly trained and ill equipped. The Air National Guard is proving itself a vital component of the total force concept and crucial to the national defense.

In light of Operation Desert Shield, mission readiness is of crucial concern to Guard and Reserve units. The 137 TAW is based at Will Rogers World Airport in Oklahoma City. It is comprised of 26 C-130H cargo aircraft dispersed among three flying units; the 185th Tactical Airlift Squadron in Oklahoma City, the 130th Tactical Airlift Group, in Charleston, W. Va., and the 165th Tactical Airlift Group in Savannah, Ga. The wartime mission of the 137 TAW would be providing close air combat support to U.S. ground troops and their allies. The flight crews are trained to fly into forward combat positions and deliver needed supplies, equipment and personnel by airdrop.

"This wing's accomplishments cannot be attributed merely to individual efforts but to the thousands of dedicated Air Guardsmen who have served this unit over the past three decades," stated Col. Ron McKinney, Air Commander of the 137th unit. "To keep these aircraft flying safely requires the combined efforts of aircrew members, maintenance and support personnel. Each guard member has contributed to the success of the 137th TAW," he concluded.

According to Brig. Gen. Jerry W. Whitman, commander of the 137th, "It's no coincidence the 137

TAW made Air Force history twice this year. This past summer our wing scored 99.5 percent on its Aircrew Standardization/Evaluation program (Stan/Eval) which is the heart of our aircrew training, the highest score ever recorded in MAC. The Stan/Eval aircrew training program was developed as a result of the Air Force safety program. I'd be willing to wager a strong correlation exists between having one of the best aircrew training programs in the Air Force and our history making flying safety award."

The General concluded "Throughout the past decades it has been the motto of the 137 TAW to fly safely, efficiently and be prepared to defend our country in the event of war."

Commanding the aircrew of the historic December flight was Brig. Gen. Jerry W. Whitman. Whitman has accumulated 5,637 hours of flying without a major accident. The other aircrew members participating were: Lt. Col. Robert L. Bordwine Jr., (co-pilot) with 10,029 hours; Lt. Col. Jean P. Blackard (navigator), with 10,556 hours; Senior Master Sgt. Jimmie H. Cornell (flight engineer), with 17,251 hours; and Chief Master Sgt. Daniel M. Mizial (loadmaster), with 13,314 hours. Collectively, this aircraft represents 56,517 hours of mishap free flying.

MAJESTIC WINGS

by Maj. Michael Tusoni
Rhode Island Air
National Guard

The eagle soars with
majestic wings,
O'er desert and
mountains high.
To assure that peace and
freedom rings,
Into the sunset he flies.

Thou one from the nest
for miles and days,
He endures the pains of
flight.
To grasp the breeze that
liberty pays,
He ventures throughout
the night.

As the sun burns through
the morning mist,
His senses are pure and
free,
To foster that goal which
can exist.
We call it democracy.

National Guard initiates demand reduction program

by Kathleen Jewell
National Guard Bureau Public
Affairs

As part of its ongoing counter-drug initiatives, the National Guard is exploring new ways it can direct resources and "know how" to help fight the demand front in the nation's drug war.

Although the Army and Air Guard have been supporting law enforcement in fighting the supply side of nation's drug problem for over a decade, focus on demand reduction through enhanced community involvement is a relatively new concept for the Department of Defense.

"The Guard, has, in many ways, served as a vanguard in DoD's counter-drug support efforts," said Lt. Col. Marty Stevens, from National Guard Bureau's Directorate of Military Support. "This latest initiative is just another way the Guard is being used to strengthen communities and 'adding value' to America," he said.

The Guard's new drug prevention and demand reduction program, hailed as ambitious by many Guard officials, was officially unveiled in spring, 1990, when Lt. Gen. John B. Conaway, chief, National Guard Bureau, invited all states to submit voluntary plans to help the



Maj. Gen. William Navas, Jr.

Bureau begin developing a comprehensive drug prevention and demand reduction program.

"The response from the states was overwhelmingly positive," Stevens said. "As of January, 1991, 35 states had provided input to the Bureau indicating that demand reduction activities were already taking place or are in the developmental stages. We also discovered that many of these programs, which are conducted by Guardmembers voluntarily and with existing resources, have been up and running for years," he said.

In a recent speech to the Border Interdiction Committee, an arm of the President's Drug Control Policy Council, Maj. Gen. William Navas, vice-chief, National Guard Bureau, outlined several key initiatives the Guard has undertaken to support local, state and federal law enforcement in combating illegal drugs in local communities across the United States.

"Many people don't realize that the Guard's involvement in the drug prevention war goes as far back as the seventies," Navas said. "As 'grassroots' America became increasingly concerned over drugs in our communities, more and more states indicated a desire to draw on Guard manpower and assets to help keep drugs from reaching our kids," he said.

Navas' 19 March speech also drew attention to the Guard's newest initiative in the drug prevention and demand reduction arena.

"We all recognize that an integral part of the president's anti-drug program is diminishing demand here at home," he said. "Although the Guard has, for over a decade, been a key player in limiting the flow of illegal drugs throughout the United States, we're now looking to expand our involvement as we look at how we can effectively direct

Guard resources to help solve the demand side of the drug problem," he said.

By working hand in hand with the myriad of community based organizations which have active demand reduction and awareness programs, Guard participation provides drug free role models while helping increase community awareness about the dangers of drug use, according to Frank Bray, deputy director for Military Support at National Guard Bureau.

Through a three-pronged approach which stresses awareness, prevention and mentoring through role models, Guard volunteers assist in targeting current and future drug users by educating them about the dangers of illicit drug use.

"Guard efforts, in many ways, serve as a 'force-multiplier'—bolstering existing programs with people, experience, resources, management and training skills," says Stevens, who has responsibility for evaluating state plans for the national demand reduction program at the National Guard Bureau.

"Although this new effort is still in its infancy, the potential for growth in the nineties is enormous," he said.

New study estimates costs of drug, alcohol and mental illness at \$273 billion annually

Results of a major study recently released by Frederick K. Goodwin, M.D., administrator of U.S. Department of Health and Human Service (HHS) Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration, exposed economic costs to the nation from alcohol and drug abuse and mental illness.

The study estimates total costs of these public health problems in the United States at \$273.3 billion in 1988, including \$129.3 billion for mental illness, \$85.8 billion for alcohol abuse and \$58.3 billion for drug abuse.

The base year of 1985—the most recent year for which reliable data sources are available—was used by the study to estimate economic costs of treatment, reduced productivity, mortality, criminal justice expenditures, and other related costs in each of the problem areas. These estimates were then projected to 1988 using inflation and other factors.

"This study represents a significant advance in analyzing the economic impact of mental and addictive disorders on the nation," said Assistant Secretary for Health, James O. Mason, M.D., D.P.H. "Clearly these public health problems place an enormous drain on the nation in dollar terms, as well as in personal pain and grief, and in lives disrupted and lost."

Overall, 36 percent of the total economic loss of \$273.3 billion was due

to lost and reduced productivity (morbidity), a measurement of lost earnings of those suffering from mental and addictive disorders; 24 percent went for treatment-related costs; and 16 percent for lost earnings due to premature death from an alcohol, drug or mental disorder. Other costs, such as law enforcement, auto crashes, fires, and lost productivity by crime victims and care givers, account for the other 24 percent.

The study shows that the types of costs vary dramatically among the three disorder categories:

- Of the total \$85.8 billion in 1988 projected costs for alcohol abuse, for example, reduced productivity accounts for \$33 billion, or 38 percent, and mortality losses of \$28.5 billion for 33 percent. Other alcohol abuse costs include treatment, \$8.7 billion, and non-health costs, \$13.8 billion.

- Of the total \$58.3 billion in 1988 for drug abuse, \$42.2 billion, or 72 percent, is for non-health costs related to crime, including law enforcement, private legal expenditures and property destruction. Lost productivity accounts for \$7.2 billion, treatment for \$2.7 billion and mortality for \$3.0 billion.

- Of the total \$129.3 billion in 1988 for mental illness, the major con-

tributors are lost productivity, \$57.0 billion or 44 percent, and treatment, \$55.4 billion or 43 percent. Mortality costs amount to \$11.0 billion and non-health costs to \$5.8 billion.

The study uses new data on prevalence of alcohol, drug and mental disorders provided by the recent "Epidemiologic Catchment Area" (ECA) survey. The ECA is the first diagnosis-based population survey on mental and addictive disorders. The study also provides the most complete estimates to date of the cost impact of mental problems in the work force, including the value of time lost to give care to mentally ill family members.

"This study reports very substantial costs, which represent imposing health and social problems," said Dr. Goodwin. "Yet, we know these totals are only rock bottom estimates. In fact, among health problems, the mental and addictive disorders in particular have been consistently underreported to avoid stigma to the patient. We have no way of knowing the magnitude of the underestimates—which clearly will vary among the three areas—but we believe them to be substantial, especially for costs associated with alcohol and drug abuse."

Gaps in the 1985 data also result from other causes, some of which relate to key problems that have arisen in recent years. For instance, the financial impact

on society from crack use is not included, because the crack epidemic hit the United States after 1985. Costs resulting from crack are recognized as considerable, as are other drug epidemic-related costs.

The costs of caring for drug-exposed babies, abused children, and certain victims of violence, including homicide, are large and growing. Also not reflected is any illicit drug use that did not lead to use of the treatment system, work absenteeism, or some other measurable economic loss.

In addition, because doctors often choose not to make a formal chart diagnosis of drug or alcohol abuse, data on numerous health problems that can be caused or exacerbated by alcohol or drug consumption, e.g., pancreas, esophageal cancer, hypertension, diabetes, hepatitis, endocrinologist, are clearly underestimation.

Dr. Goodwin emphasized that, in spite of these gaps, the study represents an important achievement that will help the nation recognize the tragic scope of addiction and mental problems. However, he stressed, "There remains an urgent need to develop more comprehensive national data bases on these disorders. Improving our knowledge of the costs of these disorders will help us to better measure the effectiveness of our treatment and prevention efforts."

N. Y. Guard praised for role in drug war

by 1st Lt. Gary W. Machinal
New York National Guard

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) came to the Headquarters of the New York National Guard to recognize the soldiers and airmen for what they called "one of the best kept secrets in New York."

Robert A. Bryden, special agent-in-charge of the DEA's New York field Division, publicly recognized the men and women of the New York National Guard for what he called the "domestic drug war."

After 20 months in the drug interdiction business the New York National Guard took a bow for their efforts in the direct seizure of what federal authorities estimate at \$264 million worth of illegal narcotics and contraband and \$7,768,998 in cash and travelers checks.

Additionally, the New York National Guard has "indirectly" assisted in the seizure of contraband by providing manpower and material support to the law enforcement community.

Bryden, presented two awards to the Guard. The first was to the entire New York National Guard family for their "significant contribution to the DEA and the National War on Drugs." The second one was to whom Bryden termed the "Top Guy", Maj. Gen. Lawrence Flynn, Adjutant General and commander, New York Army National Guard, for his "emphasis and direction" in counter narcotics support.

"I think the performance has been nothing less than extraordinary," Bryden said regarding the support his agencies receives from the Guard.

"This is a very critical part of our mission," Flynn remarked as he accepted

the awards from Agent Bryden.

The largest single seizure, was in May of 1989 when guardsmen and U.S. Customs agents put the squeeze on five drug haulers attempting to smuggle \$200 million dollars worth of cocaine found hidden in cans labeled orange slices at the Red Hook Ocean terminal in Brooklyn, New York.

"Our most recent significant seizure was back in September," said Counter-Narcotics Coordinator Lt. Col. Richard Buehler. "We along with U.S.

Customs agents found \$6.5 million in cash hidden in 26 metal containers marked 'Bull Seamen'.

"The New York National Guard brings a lot of experience, expertise, equipment and know how to the drug war," Bryden said.

Buehler stressed the application of the New York National Guard's resources within the context of their approved missions is limited only by the imagination and resourcefulness of the law enforcement community.

The DEA is becoming very dependent on the help provided by the National Guard Bryden noted, due to the relative small size of his agencies.

"We have to augment our resources and the National Guard has been a great way to do that," Bryden added.

As a closing remark to the 150 people gathered to witness the ceremony Bryden added, "I think we have the best National Guard unit in the country to work with and I thank all of you."



New York Guardsmen light up seized marijuana plants while participating in the domestic drug war.



Director, Air National Guard (ANG), Maj. Gen. Phillip G. Killey (right) presents the ANG drug abuse education poster to U.S. Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (D-MD), member of the House Appropriations Committee and co-chair of the Federal Employees Task Force. The community anti-drug program, in which Senior Master Sgt. Robert J. Bagstrom (left) participates, serves the Prince Georges County Hotline and Suicide Prevention Center in Rep. Hoyer's district. Bagstrom, past winner of the ANG's "Outstanding Airman of the Year" Award and a career Guardsman for 27 years, was featured in the January 1990 "On Guard" and August 1990 "Airman" in articles about his work in drug prevention and education. (National Guard Bureau photo.)

New survey shows decline in illicit drug use

Health and Human Services, (HHS) Secretary Louis W. Sullivan, M.D., recently released results of the department's 1990 National Household Survey on drug abuse, which continues to show declining use of most illicit drugs by Americans, including a dramatic 45 percent drop in "current" (used at least once in the past month) cocaine use since the last survey in 1988.

"We are seeing the fruits of our long-standing efforts to rid this country of the devastating hold of illicit drugs," Sullivan said. Dr. James O. Mason, assistant secretary for health said, "The news is encouraging and will provide reinforcement to the millions of people who have been working to eliminate the drug abuse problems that have affected so many of us."

During the past five years, current cocaine use has decreased a total of 72 percent. The number of current cocaine users dropping from 5.8 million (2.9 percent of the population age 12 and older) in 1985 to 2.9 million (1.5 percent) in 1988, to 1.6 million (0.8 percent) in 1990.

The 1990 survey also found a 44 percent reduction in current use of any illicit drug in the past five years, down from 23 million in 1985, to 14.5 million in 1988, to 12.9 million in 1990. The overall rate for current use was 6.4 percent, down from 7.3 percent in 1988.

Youth are one of the major concerns, and the number of adolescents using drugs fell by 13 percent from 1.8 million in 1988 to 1.6 million in 1990. In addition, adolescents currently using cocaine fell by 49 percent from 225,000 in 1988 to 115,000 in 1990.

"Despite this impressive good news about our progress in reversing our nation's drug using habits, however, many pockets of serious drug problems remain..."

"Despite this impressive good news about our progress in reversing our nation's drug using habits, however, many pockets of serious drug problems remain," Sullivan said.

Among the continuing severe problems, Sullivan cited the fact that among the 6.2 million past-year cocaine users in 1990, 662,000 (10.6 percent) used the drug once a week or more. However, even the 662,000 represented a decline in the total number from 862,000 in 1988. In addition, 336,000 (5.4 percent) used cocaine daily or almost daily throughout the year, compared with 292,000 in 1988.

"We must reach out more vigorously to this core of persons who are heavy drug users."

The survey also found that while

individuals in large metropolitan areas (7.3 percent); those living in the West region (7.3 percent); and the unemployed population (14.0 percent).

Marijuana remains the most commonly used illicit drug in the United States. Approximately 66.5 million Americans (33.1 percent) have tried marijuana at least once in their lifetime, and 20.5 million people had used marijuana at least once in the past year. Of these past-year users, 5.5 million used marijuana once a week or more and 3.3 million used the drug daily or almost daily. "Current" use of marijuana has been decreasing since 1979, when there were 22.5 million (12.7 percent) users. In 1990, there were 10.2 million (5.1 percent) current users.

Current alcohol and cigarette use

the 60.1 million women 15-44 years of age (the childbearing years), have used an illicit drug in the past month. Slightly over 500,000 (0.9 percent) used cocaine and 3.9 million (6.5 percent) used marijuana in the past month.

— Among 18-34 year old full-time employed Americans, 24.4 percent used an illicit drug in the past year, and 10.5 percent used an illicit drug in the past month. Of these full-time workers, 9.2 percent used marijuana, and 2.1 percent used cocaine in the past month.

— Among 20-34 year old's who have not completed high school, 15.6 percent were current marijuana users and 2.9 percent were current cocaine users. The rates are higher than rates for high school graduates of the same age (9.3 percent and 1.8 percent).

The National Household Survey is a probability-based sample of 9,259 people representative of the U.S. household population age 12 and over.

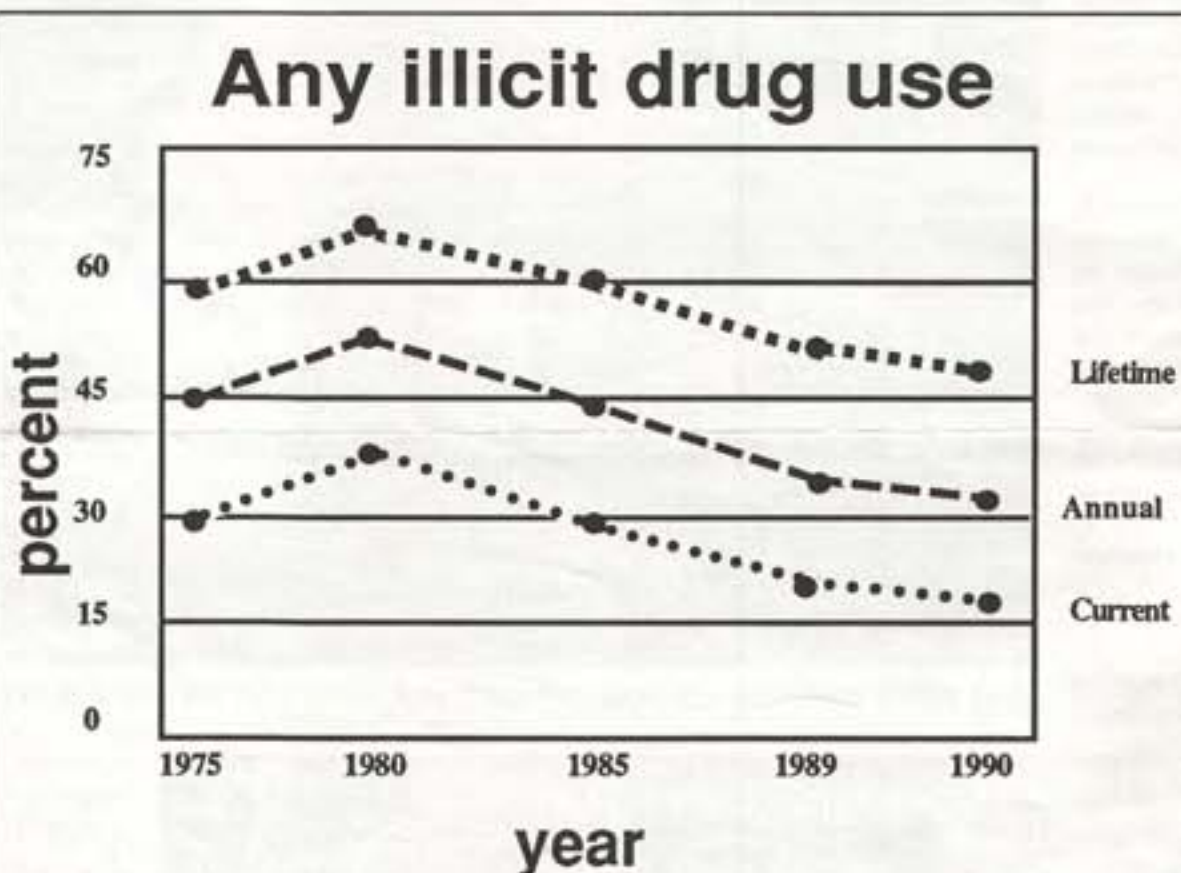
Not included in the survey are those who live in military installations, nursing homes, dormitories, hospitals, jails, prisons, or the homeless.

The 1990 survey, conducted in March-June this year, represents the 10th in a series of surveys conducted every two to three years since 1972 by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). In order to monitor changes in drug use closely, data collection will now be conducted every year in response to the National Drug Control Strategy.

Sullivan announced the results of another NIDA survey, the latest quarter results of the Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN). DAWN gives an indication of drug related emergencies in the nation's emergency rooms.

Cocaine mentions decreased significantly from the first quarter of 1990 (8,323 mentions) by 9.5 percent (to 7,532 mentions) in the second quarter of 1990. Since the third quarter of 1989, there has been a 30 percent decrease in emergency room cocaine mentions. Since the second quarter of 1988, all drug mentions, including cocaine, decreased from 40,002 mentions to 32,985 mentions in the second quarter of 1990.

The secretary noted that this reflected a system wide trend, and agrees with the declining prevalence observed in the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse and the High School Senior Survey.



Source: National Institute on Drug Abuse, monitoring the future, 1990

the number of current cocaine users decreased in 1990, the number of current crack users remained stable. There were nearly half a million current crack users among the 1.6 million current cocaine users.

"We must reach out more vigorously to this core of persons who are heavy drug users. They no doubt account for a significant portion of the violence, crime, child abuse and other destructive behaviors associated with drug use," Sullivan said.

The secretary also noted that in spite of the overall decline to 6.4 percent in any current illicit drug use, demographic subgroups with higher rates included young adults age 18-25 years old (14.9 percent); blacks (8.6 percent);

continued to decline in 1990 as it did from 1985 to 1988. There were 102.9 million current drinkers of alcoholic beverages in 1990 compared with 113.1 million in 1985 and 105.8 million in 1988. Weekly alcohol drinkers decreased from 54.6 million in 1985, to 47.3 million in 1988, to 41.7 million in 1990.

Current cigarette use during this period dropped from 60.3 million (32 percent) in 1985, to 57.1 million (29 percent) in 1988, to 53.6 million (27 percent) in 1990. Secretary Sullivan said, "This represents a decrease of 6.7 million persons smoking cigarettes in the past five years. I view this as a remarkable achievement as more and more people start taking responsibility for their own health."

Other survey findings include:
— Over 4.8 million (8 percent) of

National Guard Kudos

The 141st Mission Support Flight (ANG), customer Support Section, Fairchild AFB, Wash. has been selected as the Air Reserve Forces recipient of the Outstanding Air Force Information Management Award presented for their contribution to information management in support of the Air Force mission during the year 1990.

The following individuals and units have been selected as recipients of the 1990 Air National Guard Clarence W. Long Awards for Outstanding Military Logistics:

Individuals

Plans & Programs Senior Manager

Maj. William D. Bryan, Jr.

116th Tactical Fighter Wing, Dobbins Air Force Base, Marietta, Ga.

Plans & Programs Manager

Capt. Oscar J. Copenhaver

117th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing, Birmingham Municipal Airport, Birmingham, Ala.

Plans & Programs Superintendent/Manager

Master Sgt. Gail M. Tuttle

132nd Tactical Fighter Wing, Des Moines, Iowa.

Plans & Programs Technician

Technical Sgt. Christopher J. Dates

217th Engineering Installation Squadron, O'Hare Air Reserve Forces Facility, Chicago, Ill.

Outstanding Military Logistics Plans & Programs Units

180th Tactical Fighter Group

Toledo Express Airport, Swanton, Ohio.

281st Combat Communications Group,

Coventry Air National Guard Station, Coventry, R.I.

Fourth Army Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) and Soldier of the Year board are as follows:

Spc. Elizabeth A. Lewis, Wisconsin - Army National Guard Soldier of the Year.

Cpl. Thomas G. Hogan, Iowa - Army National Guard NCO of the Year.

Nebraska firemen train for real thing in Panama

By Cadet Gail Mendes 110th Public Affairs Detachment
Rhode Island Army National Guard

HOWARD AIR FORCE BASE, Panama — Alarm! The siren blared the firefighters to duty. The deserted fire station was now filled with men quickly donning their protective gear. The airmen of the 155th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron, Fire Department Branch, Nebraska Air National Guard, launched their fire trucks and raced to their destination.

But there was something very different about this mission. They were not plowing through a snow covered runway in Lincoln. In fact, they were sweating heavily in the heat. Their bright yellow fire trucks gleamed in the tropical sun. This was a training exercise at Howard Air Force Base, Panama, where the airmen were stationed this year for two weeks of annual training.

The 12-man team is attached to the 155th Civil Engineering Squadron, Nebraska Air National Guard, also from Lincoln, who were in Panama, recently, completing several construction projects.

The firefighters are routinely deployed with the engineers for annual training, where the guardsmen get training that they can't get at home.

Fire Chief Robert Siemsen, a Senior Master Sgt. for the 155th, believes this annual training is invaluable. It provides an opportunity to train on equipment they don't have at their unit and they also learn how to handle emergencies with different kinds of

aircraft.

"This kind of efficiency training keeps us ready for all types of situations. It's a challenge. If the balloon goes up, such as it has in Operation Desert Storm, we are prepared," he said.

Siemsen and his crew enjoyed their duty in Panama as a welcome relief from the below-freezing temperatures of the harsh Nebraska winter.

Because they are short handed, the active Air Force of the 24th Civil Engineering Squadron's Fire Department Branch looks forward to visits from units like the 155th.

Sgt. Guillermo Torres-Luna is a crew chief at the 24th's fire station. "We are working with only the minimum number of active duty personnel here," he said. "Many have not taken leave for months. When the Air Guard comes in, we see a chance to get our time off."

Master Sgt. John Ware, assistant chief of operations for the 155th, believes that assisting a short-handed fire department and keeping familiarized with the latest equipment is only part of the reason why the guardsmen came to Panama.

"We can do more than train here," he said. "We respond to actual emergencies, and in that capacity we can make a real difference."

As it happened, the only actual emergencies for the airmen were a few small brush fires and there were more opportunities to train. Ware, a 10-year unit veteran said, "When the sirens aren't blaring for real emergencies... that's good."



Maj. Gen. Donald B. Burdick presents the Command Sergeants Major Plaque to Staff Sgt. Michael G. Crowley, Co B 2nd Battalion, 20th Special Forces Group (ABN) in a recent ceremony in the Pentagon. Staff Sgt. Crowley was selected as the Army National Guard Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year in 1990, but was unable to attend the original awards ceremony held during the EANGUS Conference in Minneapolis, Minn. Staff Sgt. Crowley is a member of Maryland Army National Guard. Picture left to right, Command Sgt. Maj. Steve Blackwood, Maj. Gen. Donald Burdick, Staff Sgt. Mike Crowley and Command Sgt. Maj. Wilson Thornton, State Command Sgt. Maj., Maryland ARNG.

Task Force 354 opens roads to Panama's 2nd largest city

by Capt. Mary E. Collins
110th Public Affairs Detachment
Rhode Island Army National Guard

NOMBRE DE DIOS, Panama — To people in an isolated village, a road is a link to the outside world. We may take for granted our hometown ambulance service, hopping on the highway to get to work, or getting our shopping done at a conveniently located mall. But residents of villages such as Nombre de Dios have to walk miles, sometimes over a period of days, to get the most basic services or goods. Through Exercise Puertes Caminos '91 - Panama, the National Guard is helping people in rural Panama and getting valuable training at the same time.

"We're opening up the road to Colon," said Task Force 354 executive officer Lt. Col. Clarence Dawkins. "And in doing so we're helping provide a means of enhancing these people's lives." Colon, Panama's second largest city, is the main business center for the region. It is located on Panama's Caribbean coast.

According to Dawkins, the task force operates on a rotation system that is "complex but efficient." The "duration staff" stays for either the entire eight-month deployment or for four months, when Missouri Guard soldiers "hand off" the operation to the Alabama National Guard.

By the end of the tenth rotation, more than 5,000 men and women of the Army and Air National Guard will have dedicated their annual training to the exercise. In addition to road construction projects, they will have worked on humanitarian services such as renovating schools and providing medical care, for five isolated villages. These villages, with between 200 and 5,000 inhabitants, dot this country's Caribbean coast.

The existing road, not much more than a trail, shows the damage of many eight-month rainy seasons here. "Even horses couldn't travel these roads during the rainy season," said Sgt. 1st Class Michael Phillips, task force operations sergeant. "We have to build the road above the waterline. Otherwise, the road will end up as nothing more than a ditch."

Dawkins, an Alabama Army National Guard officer, said, "The first units here did a hasty upgrade as they went along toward the new base camp. The equipment which could traverse the roads at that point just filled in potholes and did some grading."

Extremely heavy equipment, such as cranes and bulldozers, were delivered to Nombre de Dios by sea to avoid damaging the fragile road surface.

"This is real-life training,"



PENCILING - Staff Sgt. Pat Hayek, a power production technician, 133rd Civil Engineering Squadron, Minnesota Air National Guard, lends a hand as 22-year-old Carmelo Rodriguez marks roof rafters on a school. The Air Guard squadron spent their two week annual training restoring the schoolhouse, with volunteer help from many of the villagers. (Photo by SPC. Bill Kelley, 110th Public Affairs Detachment).

Dawkins said. "We get to do work here that we normally wouldn't get in the United States."

The soldiers and airmen have to live as well as work in these isolated areas. Their temporary home is Camp Thomas, task force base camp near the small village of Nombre de Dios. Dawkins called it the best base camp setup he's ever seen.

Part of an engineer unit's mission calls for constructing base camps during wartime, and these soldiers put in extra effort building Camp Thomas. "They do this not only for their comfort, but for the practical training opportunity," said Dawkins.

"We just can't work the troops from dark to dark and then have them sleep on the ground and say that's all we can do for them," said Dawkins when asked why the task force encouraged the engineers to put so much effort into building the camp.

They use gravel from a local river to make cement for bridge pilings, scrounge scrap wood to make simple furniture for their work areas, and devise special tools for jobs they don't normally do. "Attitude accounts for 75 percent of what we accomplish," said Dawkins, "and we have accomplished a great deal."

Missouri Army National Guard Lt. Col. Clyde A. Vaughn, Task Force 354 commander, has extensive experience with similar engineering operations in the U.S. Southern Command, including exercises in Honduras, Panama and Ecuador.

"It gets in your blood," Vaughn said of the engineering projects in Central and South America. "The soldiers here are serving real-world, missions.



BIG SCOOP - Sgt. Karen Seibert, a heavy equipment operator with 220th Engineer Company, Missouri Army National Guard, operates a front end loader at a road construction site during her two week annual training near Nombre de Dios, Panama. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Wendell Graham, 110th Public Affairs Detachment).

And the National Guard has come a long way," he explained. "We're doing more complex work now than we could five years ago."

Although the troops participating in this exercise are primarily engineers, many other specialties also train here. "We have a large military police, translator, medical, and aviation presence here," said Vaughn. "We also have an extensive headquarters command and support activity."

"About half of the people working on this project have participated in similar assignments in Central and South America before," Vaughn said. "You can pick them out right away, because they feel comfortable working in this

type of environment where they get to work closely with the local population."

"It's important for a Guard unit to go through a real mobilization process," said Vaughn. "The more training that a unit gets like this, the more prepared they are." According to Vaughn, units that participate in overseas deployments like this are much more likely to make an easier transition to active duty status when they are mobilized.

The Guard engineers not only provide a service to the Panamanians, but they receive realistic training at the same time. "The troops find this work personally rewarding," said Vaughn. "They feel a sense of urgency to complete the project on time and do their job well."