

The National Guard ON GUARD



VOL. IX, NO.1 MARCH 1980

Ask reinstatement of national service for all Americans . . .

AGS VOICE SERIOUS MANPOWER CONCERNS

MAR
80



Survivors of the stricken schooner JOHN F. LEAVITT arriving at Suffolk County Air National Guard Base after being rescued Dec. 27, 1979, by the 106th ARRG. When launched (right) last August, she was the first commercial sailing ship built in the U.S. in 40 years. She was on her maiden voyage.

(Photos courtesy 106th ARRG)

24 SAVES FOR 106TH

The final 1979 report for the 106th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group, Westhampton Beach, New York, shows 24 lives saved, thus surpassing their 1978 record of 21 saves.

The year's last rescue occurred on December 27th when the 106th answered a distress call from the schooner JOHN F. LEAVITT as she was sinking in heavy seas 260 miles southeast of Montauk Point. Nine crewmen were plucked from the water.

How did 1980 begin? With a bilge pump airlifted to a foundering fishing boat. Saves: eight.



BASE FOILS "RAID"

Security at the 125th FIG base, Florida ANG, was tested recently by the 20th Special Forces Group, Florida ARNG. The outcome was ANG 1, ARNG 0, as the 125th defended its turf successfully and "wounded" two "intruders."

BRIEFLY NOTED

Sergeants Major Course. DA will conduct class 16 at Fort Bliss, Texas, 28 July 1980 to 23 January 1981. Spaces have been allocated for ARNG. Refer to AR 351-1. To apply, use NGB Form 64 and forward to ARNG Military Education Branch, Bldg E4430, Edgewood Area, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland 21010.

Foreign Area Officer Program. Openings exist in the FAO Program for ARNG officers qualified in their basic branch who possess detailed knowledge of a foreign region's people, language, etc. POC at NGB is Personnel Division, Officers Branch, LTC John Sarantakes, AUTOVON 225-0072. Refer to AR 135-11.

Leadership school ribbon. Graduates of certified Air Force leadership schools will be authorized to wear the NCO Professional Military Education Graduate Ribbon, which replaces the former NCO Academy Ribbon.

Wisconsin ARNG reorganized. The first major reorganization since 1967 has been announced. Authorized strength will be reduced by about 1,200 positions which are presently vacant. An obsolete infantry battalion will be converted to an anti-armor battalion equipped with TOW light anti-tank missiles, one of the U.S. Army's most modern weapons systems. These and other actions were effective February 1, 1980.

At a January meeting of the Adjutants General Association which was held in Tempe, Arizona, the chief officers of the 530,000-man National Guard voiced grave concerns about present-day military manpower.

Stating that the all-volunteer system was not working effectively to support national defense, the AGs called for immediate reinstatement of national service for all Americans. Gearing up now for registration and classification, they said, would enable the armed services to bring their strength to the levels needed to protect the U.S. and its interests in the hemisphere and the world.

The AGs were particularly concerned that without a national service program the personnel of Guard units they are responsible for training would not be mobilized and deployed with their units. Instead, they would be used to bring up to strength those active units now experiencing personnel shortfalls.

The AGs noted that in the absence of a national service requirement, the Individual Ready Reserve has effectively ceased to exist.

They cited the fact that their units, no less than those of the active forces, need quality enlistees capable of operating the increasingly complex technology of national defense.

Looking at present and future training requirements, and the worsening condition of energy and ammunition supplies, the AGs called for additional support for construction of armories and training centers, state field training areas, and effective aids for realistic home station training.

BLACK ROTC VISITS

Lt. Gen. LaVern E. Weber, the Chief, NGB, plans to visit black colleges with ROTC units to demonstrate support for MORE (Minority Officer Recruiting Effort). There are 21 such colleges.

During September, 1979 (latest figures available) minority officers in the ARNG increased by 66, bringing the total to 2,751.

MARCH IS
RED CROSS MONTH

NGB-80-1

GUARD UNITS ASSIST OLYMPICS

Members of the three New York ARNG medical units were on duty at the XIII Winter Olympic Games held last month at Lake Placid.

As early as September, 1979, the men and women of Det 1, 243 Clearing Co. (Glens Falls), 247 Medical Co., Ambulance (Saratoga) and the 646 Medical Co. (Glens Falls) met at the game site to simulate personal and mass casualty situations.

Meanwhile the Delaware National Guard and its friends acted as honor guards when runners carried the Olympic Torch through that state on its way from Langley AFB, Virginia.



NGB ASKS HALT TO VEHICLE MISUSE

Citing "an increasing number of civilian complaints concerning government vehicle misuse," the National Guard Bureau reminded states in December that such vehicles are to be used strictly for official purposes, and are to be operated in 100% accordance with state and local traffic laws.

The Bureau pointed out "If the National Guard is to receive support from the taxpayers, it must show itself worthy of that support" in its communities.



The Outstanding Young Women of America now number 1st. Lt. Marilyn (Mosser) Koon, Arizona ANG, as one of them. Lt. Koon was the Air Guard's first woman pilot. She originally joined the North Dakota ANG and will be included in the 1979 edition of "Outstanding Young Women of America."

(Photo by US Air Force)



Wartime medicine was practiced recently at Keesler AFB, Miss., during a recent "Medical Red Flag" exercise modeled on the highly successful USAF "Red Flag" program at Nellis AFB, Nevada. The idea is to simulate combat conditions as realistically as possible. Air Guard physicians and assistants took part.

(Photo by US Air Force)



Iran hostage support was expressed by more than 2500 Tennesseans recently who sent them a joint telegram. Spearheading the drive were men and women of the 228th Combat Communications Squadron, McGhee-Tyson ANG Base. Major Donald Martin (right), 228th CCSq commander, overseas telegram signing.

(Photo by Master Sgt. Ray Taylor)

WHAT IS GOOD IN THE GUARD?

by Captain Robert B. Robeson

A portion of the goodness of the National Guard comes from its recognition of the age-old yearnings of free men and women for liberty and dignity. It is a part of the system of guarantees for the protection of individual rights against ancient abuses.

The Guard is Americans responding to the call to act like responsible free persons—to repay some of the inestimable privileges which so many predecessors have striven and died for.

One of the greatest virtues of the Guard, since it first began in 1636, has been the ability of its soldiers to improvise and adapt. For longer than any one of us can remember, it has been on call to keep the weeds from choking out the flowers of this country and the world.

Some Americans have been inclined to take the combination of material prog-

ress and of personal liberty in this country for granted, while others have been known to shirk responsibility to any cause larger than themselves. And there have always been dissidents chopping away at our multitude of freedoms on this continent. But regardless of all this, the Guard must declare its independence from the hackneyed, pessimistic, and uncommitted who would attempt to intimidate its worthy efforts to continue this freedom.

Year after year, Guard members have shown a consistent compassion toward others by their involvement during moments of crisis. Tornadoes, floods, blizzards and other natural disasters of every scope and dimension have seen the Guard prove itself again and again. It has maximized its potential with intelligence and stamina, as well as guts.

The Guard is developing modern men and women equal to modern times and its patriotic spirit still burns in these United States. We know that doesn't always sell newspapers or make the six

o'clock news, but it's true, nevertheless.

Guard members are provided a chance to serve both their country and the community in which they live. And they have proven by their personal experiences that humanity can achieve its high destiny in this regard. Through the centuries, they have overcome their environment and have created our national heritage.

To be a patriot means to believe—not blindly, but honestly in what you care about. To be in the Guard is to believe. Guard members are courageous enough to face life, discipline and often dangerous situations without whining. And the Guard provides an opportunity to advance, to become better than one is, to lead, and to be a part of something bigger than oneself.

As Patrick Henry so aptly stated, "The battle, sir, is not to the strong alone; it is to the vigilant, the active, the brave." That's a perfect description of what the Guard is all about.

YOUR VOTE COUNTS; MAKE SURE IT'S COUNTED



Hanging in there. Louisiana ARNG officer candidate Paula Smith of Arabi uses a rope to cross an obsta-

cle during recent training at the Louisiana Military Academy at Camp Beauregard.

When most of us think of presidential election years such as 1980, we think in terms of going to the polls in November.

But Election Year 1980 is already underway as states hold their primaries. The following states and territories, for example, will have presidential primaries in March:

- Massachusetts:* March 4.
- Vermont:* March 4.
- South Carolina:* March 8 (Republican Party only).
- Alabama:* March 11.
- Florida:* March 11.
- Georgia:* March 11.
- Puerto Rico:* March 16 (Democratic Party only).
- Illinois:* March 18.
- Connecticut:* March 25.

Guard members for whom voter registration presents problems should be aware of the new, improved Federal Post Card Application (FPCA). In most states the FPCA, when properly completed and submitted, will serve as an application for registration and also as a request for an absentee ballot.

Unit voting officers and counselors have full details on what information may be included on the application.

Most states have time limits for registering to vote. Guard members who are not registered should find out the requirements for their states. Voting is every citizen's community service.

NGB ANNOUNCES REVISED OCS PROGRAM

At the request of a majority of the states, the National Guard Bureau has revised the Officer Candidate Program to include a second annual training period in each course.

Phase I of OCS now consists of a 15-week AT period, Phase II of approximately 12 MUTA-4s, Phase III of the second annual training period, and Phase IV of the regular Officer Basic Courses (OBC) or the abbreviated Officer Basic Courses—Reserve Component (OBC-

RC) conducted by the active Army branch schools: Signal, Engineer, Armor, Field Artillery and Infantry.

The Bureau urges states to join together in establishing annual training for officer candidates. Integrated staffs and facilities will materially reduce costs. Larger groups of students will add to the versatility of tactical training.

Consolidations will also foster competition among individual state groups and thus enhance the training received by all.

INCOME TAX BREAK

At tax time each year, National Guard members get a break that is unique to their kind of part-time work.

Their expenses for personal travel that is beyond fifty miles one way, and other expenses associated with Guard duties, are deductible in adjusting gross income to establish taxable income.

Actual automobile expenses, uniform costs, long distance telephone and mail charges, meals and lodging, and a number of other related expenses are also deductible according to current federal tax rules. An alternative fixed mileage formula allowing 17 cents per mile for the first 15,000 miles, and 10 cents per mile thereafter, may be used in place of itemizing actual automobile expenses.

Schedule A and B (Form 1040) may be used singly, or Form 2106 may be

attached to Form 1040. Form 2106 has the advantage of reducing adjusted gross income. Members should check the IRS instructions.

WRITING CONTEST

The Military Airlift Command's flying safety magazine, *The MAC Flyer*, has announced the 1980 MAC Flying Safety Writing Contest.

Rules are simple and the contest is open to all. Entries may be prose or poetry, based on fact, fiction or philosophy, and should contain some sort of message about flying safety. Keep length under 3000 words. All entrants will get a free T-shirt. Desk sets go to winners, plaques to runners-up.

NEW RESERVE BONUS

The Army plans to ask Congress soon for authority to pay enlistment and reenlistment bonuses to people in low-priority ARNG and Army Reserve units, beginning on October 1.

A Pentagon official points out that at present the program pays only people joining high-priority units. The Army wants authority to extend bonus programs to low-priority infantry, armor, field artillery, combat engineer, military police and medical units.

Bonuses may also be increased, but by how much and when is still undecided. The tuition aid program is also under review.

ST PATRICK'S DAY
MARCH 17