



The Buckeye Guard

Vol. 3, No. 1

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Cover Photo by Steven Stone

AG Speaks

Round Barns, Circular Formations Greeted the 1946 Guardsman



Having just completed 31 years of service in the National Guard (13 Jan 78) I stopped to look back. I thought some of you might like to know what it was like to be a Guardsman way back then.

In those days we had a small USPFO office and warehouse workforce, a few employees in eight service centers and a small group performing support maintenance from an old stove factory in Newark, Ohio.

Units did not have AST's, CAA's, Training Officers or Administrative Assistants. The 37th Division did have one state paid employee. The 80-man Urbana infantry company drilled in a round barn and formations were circular rather than straight, while the Lebanon artillery unit occupied a farmer's unused milking parlor complete with manure trenches.

The Ohio Air National Guard was just getting off the ground with a wing headquarters and one squadron located at what is now Rickenbacker Air Force Base.

Recruiting was a problem, facilities presented problems, supply was practically non-existent and administration was completed by unit officers, first sergeants or clerks and in many cases by the wives

of these soldiers.

An inspection trip from Columbus to Youngstown required departure from Columbus at 1:00 p.m. on a work day and staff officers whose civilian jobs precluded making a scheduled trip were asked to resign.

Despite all of these obstacles, the training was good and Army units called to duty in 1951 were prepared to fight as units, battalions or even as a division.

The 166th Air Guard Fighter Squadron served in combat as a unit in the Korean Conflict while about 65 per cent of the Army Guard personnel were sent to Korea, Japan or Germany as individual replacements where most received at least one promotion while in combat.

Now over 30 years later, our state and federal budgets have increased over 1000 per cent, the technician work-force has grown from less than 100 to 2100, counting state employees. Facilities, with few exceptions are excellent — particularly the Air Guard (now operating from six bases throughout Ohio). Only a few shortages exist that actually affect training and most of our reports and payrolls are processed in a timely fashion. Staffs

can normally reach units requiring assistance in an hour by sedan or helicopter. All this is tangible evidence of improvement. However, those big problems still exist — Recruiting, Retention, Training.

If we could overcome these problems during the 1947-1951 period, despite all the then existing deficiencies in physical plant, supply, limited drill time, full-time employees and administration, why can't we now? Could it be we as individuals are not meeting the same personal standards we set for ourselves in the post World War II period? Are we still observing the principles of dedication, hard work, professional knowledge, interest and concern for our members, personal recruiting effort, pride and a willingness to give freely of our time and talents without thought of compensation?

The start of a New Year is always a good time to look back and say, "What have I done poorly and what can I do better?" We all have areas in which we can improve. I personally resolve to strive for this improvement. I hope you will make a similar resolution and join me in working to make 1978 the best year ever for the Ohio National Guard.

Notes from the Asst. AG-Army

'Old Problems Follow us into the New Year'

A new year has begun and it appears that some of our problems have still not been resolved. We've made a great deal of progress in many respects but in some, we may have gone backwards. In this issue I would like to address a few things which should concern all members of the Ohio National Guard.

Probably all of the topics concern leadership. In most instances, there is usually a lack of effective leadership and a general void of awareness that responsibility exists at all levels in the chain of command. It's the assumption and acceptance of this responsibility that makes the chain of command work. Authority alone never has and never will bring about an effective chain of command but used in combination with assumption and understanding of responsibility, things will begin to happen. We're facing in the next three months, a tremendous potential loss of people. In January, February and March, a total of 1,997 individuals are scheduled for ETS. When we add unexpected losses to this, the figure could and will probably exceed 2,500. This is a potential disaster for the Ohio Army National Guard.

FOCUS ON RETENTION

Our focus and effort for the first three months of this year must be on retention. We're all responsible for retention and must make a genuine effort to do something about this.

Many individuals have told me, "No one has even asked me to stay". Let me say that if no one else has asked, I'm personally making a plea to you now because we need everyone that we now have in the Ohio National Guard. Everyone of you is vital to the needs of our country and our state and if no one else has said it, let me stress that this is the very firm conviction that Major General Clem and I both have. General Hoover who is the Assistant Adjutant General for the Air Guard shares our belief.

Let's now turn to recruiting. If every member of the Ohio National Guard just talked to 20 people during the year, think of what a tremendous public relations program we would have going. If just one out of every five of us brought in one person a year, we would have no strength shortages. Unfortunately, too many of us have acquired some rank and I'm talking about the chain of command now from top to bottom, and feel that recruiting is no longer a personal responsibility. There are a few who won't even mention that they're in the National Guard. I find

this unaccountable and these people are not welcome in our organization. But back to recruiting. I've set a personal goal for myself to enlist no less than forty people we have. They are vital and going to do this by taking a few evenings to contact young people in high schools. I've been talking to both students and parents so they understand what the National Guard is all about.

A CHALLENGE FOR YOU

I'm challenging each of you individually from recruits to generals to try to bring in someone during the months of January, February, and March. More importantly, all of you must try to keep the people that we have. They are vital and badly needed. You all know when emergencies occur only the Ohio National Guard is ready to help.

Finally, a personal challenge to our senior commanders to personally match the goal I've set for myself in recruiting. Remember, I'm not doing this on official time but on my own time. I'm doing it because I want and like to do it. The opportunity to challenge young people to do things they ordinarily might not want to do is too good an opportunity to turn down. The Ohio University program and those Guardsmen and women who we have in that program are living proof of what concerned leadership can do in the way of charging up our young people and getting them to want to tackle the whole world to make it a little bit better. Can we do less?

Those of you who take up this challenge and do a job will have the eternal gratitude of The Adjutant General, myself, country and state because we have

shown them what people do when they put their minds to it and decide the cause is worth the effort.

I'm proud and always have been to be a member of the Ohio National Guard. No one can ever accuse me of hiding that membership in any way, shape or form. If, at any time in my entire career I had felt any differently, I would not have remained in this fine organization.

BE PROUD

As I've said many times before, be proud to be a member of the Ohio National Guard. Stand tall and wear your uniform as a mark of achievement and concern for our country, our state, and our families.

I want to take just a moment to speak to the ladies. You can all be of tremendous help in our retention/recruiting effort which is so vital in the first three months of this year. You can help in the contacts and in explaining what it's like to be the spouse, mother, sister, etc. of a member of the Guard. You can help by showing the feeling of pride that you have when that member of your family goes out on emergency duty and provides such vital help for the people of the state of Ohio. Nothing has changed; you are the ones who have always made it possible for the Guardsmember to do the kind of job that is needed. It's your support, dedication and sacrifice that's always made this possible.

What you've done in the past is extremely appreciated, but we've got to make one additional effort if we are going to retain the viable organization we now have. You're a very important part of it and it can't exist without you.

Notes from the Asst. AG-Air

'Why Am I Not Getting Promoted?'

"I know I am doing a good job, so why am I not getting promoted?"

That is a question asked by many individuals in today's Air National Guard program and usually the answer is that in today's military world not only is performance necessary but so is a well-planned military educational program.

When an airman receives a promotion to Airman First Class he then starts to compete for every additional promotion through Chief Master Sergeant. This is the time he must start thinking and planning his military educational program. His question should be, "What courses are available that will enhance my chances of being selected for the next higher

grade and how soon can these be completed?" Here we find, though not too often used, real friends in our unit Career Control Specialists in the Training Section.

NCO PREP SCHOOL

These specialists can fully advise you when to start NCO prep school and if it fits you best to attend the resident course or complete it by correspondence. They can also advise you what requirements are necessary and what training is available to allow you to become most qualified for selection to Staff, Technical, Master, Senior, and Chief Master Sergeant positions.

For example, a Master Sergeant can

complete the Senior NCO Academy by correspondence as a Master Sergeant. Why should he do this? Because completion at this time makes him more competitive for Senior Master and then to attend this same course in residency as a Senior Master Sergeant, makes him more competitive for Chief Master Sergeant. Completion of all requirements at the earliest date possible will insure you are not caught in a situation where you have the military years required but not the military educational requirements to qualify for consideration and to adequately compete for promotions.

This same program applies, but (Continued on Page 3)

Asst. AG-Air (Continued from Page 2)

even more so, to the officer ranks. Competition is extremely keen and Air National Guard Regulation 53-03 provides excellent guidelines for a progressive military educational program. Remember again, the earlier the completion, the more competitive you become at the minimum consideration level.

PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS

Air National Guard Regulation 36-04 outlines requirements for promotion and paragraph 4c does provide for a commander to recommend individuals for promotion based on other justification when required professional military educational requirements

have not been completed. This justification must be other military or civilian education, which enhances an officer's military proficiency, and must be documented.

In the past, individuals have been submitted for unit vacancy promotions based solely on a good job performance. This does not meet the criteria and when returned serves only to embarrass and create individual disappointment.

Again we state, know your requirements and get them completed at the earliest date possible so you won't be asking, "why am I not getting promoted".

PX a Farce?

To the Editor:

What earthly good is the PX branch located in the Gen. Beightler Armory? It was put there to serve the troops. However, that is the last thing it does. Unless one feels that supplying cigarettes, junk food and magazines plus a few clothing items is really a service. Let's examine that service on just two points. (more could be found).

First, the place is closed on Sunday. That's when most Guardsmen and women drill. So if one doesn't get what is needed on Saturday they are out of luck for another month.

Secondly, the motivation for this letter came from my attempt to buy a bar to hold two ribbons. All the PX had was a set of bars to hold four or five rows of ribbons. The only Guardsmen I know with that many ribbons are generals. I have asked PX personnel in the past to order some smaller bars so that the specialists and officers in my unit can display their two or three ribbons properly rather than wearing them in a row on single bars.

A small point when one considers the major problems with which we must deal. The point is, however, that if we are going to claim to serve the troops and supply the PX with a room in which to operate then let's make them serve us or leave. We could certainly use that space for storage of equipment or for offices.

STEVEN C. STONE
196th Public Affairs Det.
Worthington

Thanks From Grayling

EDITOR'S NOTE: Lt. Daniel Elsass, commander of Det. 1, 213th Maint. C., Clyde, recently received this letter from the City of Grayling, Michigan. He'd like to share it with us.

Dear Lt. Elsass:

On behalf of the Grayling City and Township Fire Department, I would like to thank you and your men for a job well done in repairing our 6 x 6 fire truck.

If we can be of any assistance to you, do not hesitate to call upon our Department. Thank you again.

JOSEPH P. WHITE
Fire Chief, Grayling
Volunteer Fire Department

Too Much Army!

To the Editor:

After paging through the latest issue of BUCKEYE GUARD I felt compelled to write. Out of the 15 pages in that issue, not even one full page was devoted to the Air Guard. This has been brought to my attention by several Guardsmen and Technicians. Most of the issues sent to Air Guardsmen find their way to the trash can in short order because of this.

I feel that publicity is a big part of the recruiting and retention program. Guardsmen are like anyone else, they like to see their pictures and names in print. I find it hard to believe that the Air Guard never does anything worthwhile enough to print. Our unit's activities alone would fill 15 pages each month.

I feel that the ball is being dropped somewhere along the line on this. If the Information Office and Photo Lab can't provide the material, let me know and I'll try to contribute something myself.

Otherwise maybe you should rename the publication THE BUCKEYE ARMY GUARD.

TSgt JOE HARFMAN
179th TAG
Mansfield

Medicopter Thanks

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Specialist Fifth Class Mike Robeano, an Ohio National Guard paramedic with D troop, 238th Air Cav., recently received this letter from a family aided by one of our medicopters.

Dear Mr. Robeano,

I am writing this letter to you to let you know how much we appreciate you for what you did for us.

If it hadn't been for you and your helicopter, our baby may not have been alive today. He isn't improving very much but he still has a chance. He wouldn't have survived the car ride from Marietta to Columbus.

Well, that's about all I have to say. I just wanted you to know how we felt toward you. You can't be thanked enough. Keep up your good work. I think is the best thing that the National Guard has come up with. It is very much needed.

MR. AND MRS. ROBERT CAIN
Stockport, Ohio

LETTERS . . .

(Continued from Page 4)

Cots for Handicapped

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following letter was received by BG Abraham. He'd like to share it with members of the 200th Med. Co., Cleveland, who participated in this project.

Dear General Abraham:

I wish to express my personal deep appreciation for your expediting and clearing the way for The Hiram House's Camp Aowakiya Resident Program to receive and use the National Guard Army tents, cots, blankets, etc. which we had requested.

They arrived at the campsite in Newbury, Ohio, Sunday morning shortly after 9 a.m. and there was a good-size contingent of National Guard persons to unload the materials and equipment and erect the tents.

Lt. Lanzer and his men were most cordial and cooperative in carrying out their duties, especially in light of the fact that they had just returned from their own summer camping program and had not really had a chance to return to their homes.

We certainly appreciate the extra help and effort that these men and women gave and would like you to know what a fine outfit the 200th Medical Company is, in our opinion. This particular camping operation, serving mentally retarded in a primitive setting, could not have been operated this year without the help of the National Guard and the use of your equipment.

We welcome you to personally visit the site and see the way in which the Guard equipment and material is being used and the great service which is being performed for mentally retarded persons in this community. Should you feel inclined to send any personnel to take photographs and write articles about this program for publication in your magazine or other public information periodicals, please feel free to have this done at any time while the camp is in operation between July 4th and August 12, 1977.

KENNETH L. BONSELL
Executive Director

Let Us Know What's Happening

BUCKEYE GUARD Magazine would like to expand its coverage of wives' activities in future issues. Matter of fact, if you're a member of an Ohio National Guard Officers' or Enlisted Wives Club or Association, we'd like to hear about your activities.

Mail your article to: SSG Bob DeVoe, Editor, BUCKEYE GUARD Magazine, 2825 W. Granville Rd., Worthington, Oh. 43085. Please write the words "Other Half" in the left hand corner of your envelope.

The Buckeye Guard



JAMES A. RHODES
GOVERNOR

STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COLUMBUS 43215

January 4, 1978

Major General James C. Clem
The Adjutant General
2825 West Granville Road
Worthington, Ohio 43085

Dear General Clem:

I received the Annual Report of the Adjutant General for Fiscal Year 1977, submitted to me pursuant to Sections 149.01 and 5913.01, Ohio Revised Code.

The Annual Report is informative and reflects the important services of the Adjutant General's Office during the past fiscal year.

Please convey my appreciation to your staff and to all under your command who participated in aiding Ohio citizens during last winter's snow emergency and other natural disasters occurring in 1977.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. RHODES
Governor

The Governor Salutes Us!

Next Deadline is Feb. 28

Copy and photo deadline for the April, 1978 issue of BUCKEYE GUARD Magazine is Feb. 28, 1978. No stories or photos will be accepted after this date.

All submissions must be typewritten and double-spaced and should be sent to: SSG Bob DeVoe, Editor, BUCKEYE GUARD Magazine, 2825 W. Granville Rd., Worthington, Oh. 43085. Photographs should be accompanied by complete captions with proper identification of all individuals involved.

Those individuals credited with having a major article or photo-feature in the magazine will receive a handsome Certificate of Appreciation signed by the Adjutant General.

Articles and photos not used in a current issue of the magazine will automatically be considered for the following issue. So keep those stories and photos coming!

ONGA Offers Special Scholarships

The Ohio National Guard Association has announced that they are setting up a special scholarship program for all members of the ONG to include dependents. (This should not be confused with the present four-year Tuition Grant Program).

Applicants interested in the program should write to: Major William LaPrise, 3165 Swigert Road, Kettering, Ohio, 45440.

Applications for the scholarship program must be received no later than March 15, 1978.

The amount of the scholarship will vary from year to year according to Major William LaPrise, Scholarship Committee Chairman for the program.

"It is our intent to honor several deserving recipients rather than allocate all funding to one recipient," said LaPrise.

The Buckeye Guard

The Buckeye Guard

1977's TOP NATIONAL GUARD MAGAZINE

BUCKEYE GUARD MAGAZINE is an unofficial publication of the Ohio National Guard Association and is published in coordination with the Adjutant General's Department for the State of Ohio and the Ohio National Guard's 196th Public Affairs Detachment. It is a bi-monthly offset publication with a printing run of 23,000 copies.

ONGA OFFICERS

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Editorial Assistant	SP5 Nancy Witherspoon

Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Department of Defense and its agencies; the Adjutant General's Department of the State of Ohio; or the Ohio National Guard Association. The magazine is published under the provisions of AR 360-1.



Ombudsman Service Established

A limited ombudsman service for Reservists and Guardsmen has been established by the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, according to the Pentagon.

An official said the service is designed to help Reservists who are having difficulty getting military leave or who feel they are not getting a "fair shake" from the employer because of their Reserve of Guard service.

Guardsmen with employer problems pertaining to their Guard service may write: Employer Support, 1117 North 19th St., Arlington, Va. 22209. The phone number is (202) 697-6902.

The group will not handle recruiting cases, inspector general matters, or any problem not connected with the employer-Guard relationship (ARMY TIMES)

Space Available Flights O.K.

National Guardsmen can take space available flights on military aircraft.

To qualify, you need a current and valid DD Form 2A (red) Reserve identification card. In addition, you must have a DD Form 1853, Authentication of Reserve Status for Travel Eligibility, completed and signed by your unit commander verifying your reserve status.

You are allowed to fly space available flights anywhere in the Continental United States. You cannot fly space available flights to Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands or Guam.

On the scheduled flight day, you should report to the base operations counter of the Air Force Base or station you plan to depart from at least two hours before flight time.

A word of caution, you should carry enough money to cover any expenses resulting from aircraft delays. Unlike the commercial airlines, the military cannot provide overnight accommodations if any delays occur. (FORSCOM)

VA Benefits Without Documents

The VA reminds veterans and their dependents not to let lost documents prevent them from seeking veteran's benefits.

The VA will accept a certified statement in place of an original birth or marriage certificate when needed to establish eligibility, provided — in the case of a marriage — that it is the first for each partner and VA has no contradictory information on file.

Formal documents to support claims for compensation and education benefits for veterans, widows and orphaned children are no longer necessary.

VA will now accept a certified statement regarding the birth of a child or as proof of age and relationship in disability cases.

Veterans and their dependents with eligibility questions should contact the nearest VA regional office or a representative of one of the national veterans' service organizations (ARNEWS).

No ID Needed for Children at PX

Good news for Guardsmen!

Now you can take your dependent children into exchange facilities with you. Children of Guard members do not need identification cards to be admitted to these facilities. However, your spouse must still present appropriate identification such as a motor vehicle license or social security card, etc., to gain admission.

Only you, the Guard member, can make the purchases. To make a purchase you are still required to have a valid ID card and a valid Leave Earning Statement (LES). (FORSCOM).

CSM Comments

From
CSM CARL ARN
State Sergeant Major

ACCEPTING THE CHALLENGE AND BECOMING INVOLVED

As we approach the New Year some of us will be faced with problems, frustrations, and anxieties. The important thing is that we challenge each obstacle.

The National Guard has made great strides in improving the enlisted corps; and all signs point to continued improvement.

I urge each one of you to continue toward new challenges with a team effort. Try a new approach to the old problems, and seek new ideas and methods in accomplishing the task at hand.

Open your eyes and mind to new innovations which will help you to get the job done more efficiently and effectively. No matter how small the task, it is important. You may feel it is unimportant or unnecessary, but to the troops it could mean a lot. Being involved is caring for the troops; for the tasks ahead; for the unit; and the National Guard.

The past year has been a busy one for the enlisted association and from all indications, there is no relief in sight for the coming year. Your association is currently working on many benefits designed to provide incentives both to benefit retention and recruiting. In order to make a strong association and to achieve these goals, support is needed from each enlisted member of the Ohio National Guard. Each unit has membership applications, so if you are not a member, become one and become involved in your association.

This year's state conference will be held April 22, in Newark. Information will be forthcoming so plan to attend and give your support.

Important Dates...

April 22—Ohio National Guard Enlisted Association State Convention, Newark.

May 8-20—1978 Ohio National Guard Association Conference, Salt Fork.

*Complete details on both conferences should be in the mail to all association members in the near future.

Proud in Tradition

216th Engineers Say 'Can Do'

BY STAN FLAUGHER

Responding to a tough situation is old hat to the 216th Engineer Bn., comprised of Headquarters Company in Portsmouth and Ironton; Company A of Chillicothe; Company B of Manchester; Company C in Felicity; and Company D of Tarlton. The "Buckeye Beavers" are the Ohio National Guard's builders.

Need a road? Can do. Need a bridge? Can do. Need a dam? Can do. Or a hill leveled? Can do.

The Battalion has done all of this and more.

The 216th has been used as back up for law enforcement agencies and loaned a hand in natural disasters too.

The Officers and men of the 216th are proud to serve any capacity they are chosen to fill. These men are ordinary men, teachers, farmers, factory workers, supervisors, students, and many more professions that the heart of America is made of; and when called each man and woman will serve with distinction. Dedication and pride are a living memorial to the Guardsmen and Guardswomen of the past.

PRIZED HERITAGE

Heritage is a prized inheritance to the men and women of the present.

The 216th can trace its history back to the beginning as the Headquarters Company, 14th Ordnance Battalion, back in 1943; and saw active service until December, 1945, when it was inactivated. The Battalion came into being at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. In addition to tracing its origins to the 14th and 38th Ordnance Battalions, the 216th Engineers have drawn on units of the original 112th Engineer Battalion, Ohio Army National Guard, and the 166th Infantry Regiment, Ohio Army National Guard. The Battalions' Federal Campaign credits are Normandy; Northern France; Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe; and also in the Pacific: New Guinea; Air Offensive, Japan; Guadalcanal; Northern Solomons; and Luzon.

The 216th Engineer Battalion, Ohio



Army National Guard, was born on September 1, 1959, with the Headquarters Company in Cincinnati; Company A in Portsmouth; Company B in Manchester; and Company C in Ironton.

SERVED WELL

As citizen-soldiers, the 216th Engineers have served often and well.

In 1959 the Battalion served in Flood Control and Rescue operations in Lucasville, Ohio.

In 1968 at Wheelersburg, Ohio, the unit was called out for security and rescue operations after a disastrous tornado, in April.

October 1969 to November 1970 saw the 216th construct an earthen airfield for Adams County. Once again the unit was called upon for security and crowd control at both Ohio State and Ohio University in Athens.

XENIA AIDED

Construction of a 2500 foot roadway and 700 car parking lot began in August, 1971 and was finished in September, 1973. The parking lot was of the Multi-tiered variety for the Sugarloaf Amphitheater, Chillicothe, Ohio. The 216th was on hand for the job of security and salvage operations at Xenia, Ohio, following the worst tornado in the state's history in April, 1974.

As for the present, the 216th Engineer Battalion is ready, willing and able to serve the people of Ohio, and the United States in whatever need arises. The officers, men and women are training hard to be ready, expecting the worst, but hoping for the best in the future. If an emergency comes about, you can count on the "Buckeye Beavers" of the 216th Engineer Battalion, Ohio Army National Guard.

'Destined to be in the Military'

First Female Band Leader Named For 122nd Army Band

BY BECKY MONEYSMITH

Warrant Officer Mary Jo Gaskalla, the new leader of the 122nd Army Band, is new to the Guard but feels a military career has always been in her future.

"I must have been destined to be in the military," she laughs, "because this is the second time I've been asked to lead a military band."

Gaskalla has the honor of being the first woman warrant bandmaster in the Army National Guard. To date there has never been a female warrant band leader in either the combined active or Reserve Army.

"In 1958 or 59", she explained, "the Army offered me a commission as a second lieutenant to become the band director at Ft. McClellan, Alabama."

WO Gaskalla said she actually traveled to the post to talk about the job, but eventually turned it down because she was still very interested in teaching.

The Ohio native has been interested in music nearly all her life. After graduating from Linden McKinley High School, she attended Ohio State University, earning a B.S. in education.

The teaching job market was wide open in 1956, the year WO Gaskalla graduated, and she began teaching immediately with the Pickaway County School system.

BAND TO CHOIR

During the nine years she spent teaching in Pickaway County, WO Gaskalla taught everything from high school band to choir.

On her summers off, Ms. Gaskalla attended VanderCook College of Music in Chicago, where she received a Masters Degree in music. She is currently working toward her doctorate in music education at Ohio State University.

In 1965 the young teacher moved to the Franklin County school system, and remained there for nine years.

In 1974, recalls Gaskalla, she felt the need for "a new challenge . . . a change of pace." For that reason she applied for and was awarded a job with State Auditor Ferguson's office as a state examiner.

MUSIC JUDGE

Though no longer teaching, WO Gaskalla retained her interest in music by directing the Worthington Civic Band.

She also serves as judge for the Ohio Music Education Association.

It was the band leader's job as state examiner that led her to the position of band leader for the 122nd Army Band.

During the past two years Gaskalla had the opportunity to meet several people who worked for the Adjutant General's Department through her office. One person, who made an impression on WO Gaskalla was Colonel Harold M. Finley, Assistant Quartermaster General.

Recently, he informed Ms. Gaskalla that the Guard was looking for a band director.

"I thought he was going to ask me if I knew of anyone who would want the job", she explained. Instead he asked her if she would be willing to come to the Beightler Armory to talk about taking the job herself.

Not long after that discussion, Mary Jo Gaskalla was sworn into the Ohio National Guard as director of the 122nd Army Band.

Although the band leader has only attended a few drills with the 122nd musicians, she has some definite impressions about their strengths and weaknesses.

NOT ENOUGH PEOPLE

"Our weakest group is the concert band", she said, "because we don't have all the instrumentation we need." (The 122nd contains a concert and state band, with the concert band requiring more people and different talents.) "However", she added with emphasis, "I think the band as a whole is doing as well as they can, considering our problem of not having enough people."

The personnel shortage problem won't last long, however, if WO Gaskalla has anything to say about it.

"Recruiting for the band should be a breeze", she smiled. "I know all the high school bandmasters, and I should be able to get some talented recruits from the high schools. After all", she added, "there must be some musicians out there who are willing to join the Guard to get a free education."

Some changes are in store for band members, according to Gaskalla, one of which will be a new rehearsal room. WO Gaskalla said she is working on getting a new room for the musicians, and hopes to see results soon.



WO GASKALLA

196th PAD Named Top NG Unit

The Ohio Army Guard's 196th Public Affairs Detachment, Worthington, has been selected by National Guard Bureau as one of the nation's top 26 public affairs detachments in the Army National Guard.

In a letter from Colonel Andrew G. Wolf Jr., Chief, Office of Public Affairs, NGB, it was emphasized "to be considered one of the best is indeed a high tribute".

The criteria upon which the annual evaluations are made are personnel strength, MOS qualification, training, equipment status, professional products and past performance.

Cpt. Steven Stone is the current detachment commander.

'Seize it if We Will'

'I Believe We Stand on the Threshold of a Tremendous Destiny'

This issue of BUCKEYE GUARD Magazine is dedicated to one of our nation's great military leaders, Major General (Ret.) Robert S. Beightler.

John W. Bricker, former Ohio Senator and Governor, summed up General Beightler's countless contributions to the state and nation in a recent article appearing in the 37th DIVISION VETERANS NEWS:

"When I was in Washington and often did go to New York, I never failed to go into the rooms of former President Hoover and General Douglas MacArthur. One time in a conversation with General MacArthur, of which I had several, I asked him if he remembered General Beightler. He replied 'General Beightler? You can be sure I do. He was the finest field general I have ever had in my command'."

Ohio Governor James A. Rhodes and former Governor Frank J. Lausche combined with the members of the 37th Div. Association in Columbus recently to salute General Beightler. During a formal banquet Beightler received a handsome bronze plaque which said, in part:

"The men of the association wish to express their everlasting gratitude and admiration to you. Our pride in you is beyond expression . . . War and victory have cast a lasting bond among us . . ."

Editor

BY BECKY MONEYSMITH

As a young boy growing up in Marysville, Ohio, Robert Beightler didn't have visions of becoming a celebrated general.

Actually, all the young boy really wanted to do was shoot a rifle, and that's what drew him into the Ohio National Guard.

It began in 1911 at Ohio State University, when Robert was asked to substitute for an enlisted member of the Marysville National Guard Company at Camp Perry, during their annual rifle matches.

Beightler's friend and co-student, John Paul Sellers was unable to make the trip, and the 19-year-old Beightler quickly agreed to travel to Camp Perry using Seller's name.

The day progressed according to plan, until a captain at the range spotted Beightler's excellence with the rifle and called, "Sellers . . . hey you, Sellers!"

Beightler recalls, "I didn't turn around because that chap was yelling for Sellers, and the name didn't mean anything to me."

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MG Robert S. Beightler



Comedy and Condemnation . . .

GEN. BEIGHTLER chatted with comedian Joe E. Brown during a drive up the Cagayen Valley in the last campaign in the Philippines and (bottom) accepted the surrender of Japanese General Tomoyuki Yamashita. The general's surrender climaxed a nearly three and one-half year battle against the Japanese in the South Pacific. Yamashita was later tried and executed for atrocities committed in Manila during the war.



'Seize it if You Will...'

(Continued from Page 9)

Finally, a buddy poked Beightler in the ribs and said "Hey, the captain is calling for you."

The officer, it seems, was so impressed with Beightler's performance at the range, he asked "Sellers" if he would be interested in trying out for the regimental rifle team.

Beightler knew he couldn't go on impersonating Sellers forever, so he agreed to the captain's request, and quickly joined Company E of the 4th Ohio Infantry, this time using his own name.

QUARTER PER DRILL

As the years passed, Private Beightler was rapidly promoted. In three years he was serving as his unit's first sergeant, a move up not only in rank but in pay as well. (In 1911 when Beightler first joined Company E, privates were paid 25 cents per drill.)

The commander of Co. E thought Beightler was good officer material, so in 1914, he was promoted to the rank of second lieutenant following a unanimous vote by the company, as was customary in those days. He also received a pay jump to almost \$2 per drill.

But even with his pay hike, Second Lieutenant Beightler still had to save to make ends meet. For example, the citizen-soldiers were expected to use their drill pay to buy their uniforms and weapon. "You didn't go into the Army to make money", he laughs.

NEVER GOT CLOSE

In 1916 Beightler served his first federal active duty tour supporting Pershing at the Mexican Border. There was a man

down there by the name of General Pancho Villa who many people wanted to see behind bars. But Beightler saw this experience as good for training, but little else. "We never got close."

After chasing Villa around the border, Second Lieutenant Beightler learned that he had been selected to "Try-out" in a school for the regular Army at Ft. Bliss, Texas. By doing this the Army could select the best of the soldiers, and the soldiers could in turn evaluate what the Army had to offer.

Soon after Beightler returned to Ohio from his active duty tour, the Army notified him he had been selected to serve as a second lieutenant in the Regular Army, and within a matter of months would report to Ft. Thomas, Kentucky. Beightler accepted their offer, and began making arrangements for the trip.

Before the young man could make his move, however, it became apparent that the U.S. was going to become involved in World War I. As the U. S. jumped into the fight, the Army immediately promoted all second lieutenants to first. If Beightler decided to stick with his course of action and become a member of the Regular Army, he would enjoy a promotion and be safely out of action for at least a few months training time.

Beightler faltered. He didn't want to be stuck in a training camp when all of his friends from Ohio might be called into action overseas. Then the word was out. The 4th Ohio Infantry was to become the 166th Infantry, 42nd (Rainbow) Division, and would be going overseas shortly.

"I wanted to go overseas with my unit", Beightler said, so he asked the War Department for reconsideration of his acceptance of a regular Army Commission in order to serve with the Ohio 166th Infantry. The request was approved and soon he was overseas, as a second lieutenant, fighting alongside his friends.

CHIEF ENGINEER

Thankfully, the war ended and Beightler, now a captain, returned to Ohio to take a job with the State Highway Department as a Division Engineer. In later years Beightler also served as Chief Engineer for the Bureau of Construction and later Chief Engineer of the State Highway Department.

In 1930 Beightler decided it was time to quit his state job and begin his own contract engineering firm. After taking on a partner, his dream saw realization, and the firm of Stellhorn and Beightler was formed.

As his business began to flourish, the Army began offering him selected short tours. He turned down the offers several times until he learned there was a six month tour open with the War Plans Divi-

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The Buckeye Guard

(Continued from Page 10)

sion, of the War Department General Staff in Washington, D.C.

Taking a temporary leave of absence from his business, Beightler moved to Washington. He found the job so challenging that the six months turned into four years. It was customary in those days for one National Guard officer to serve on the General Staff.

At some time during these years (Beightler won't say exactly when) he met his wife.

There was an inn right near his apartment building, he recalled, where they had excellent food. Beightler ate there regularly, and remembers seeing a group of young women who also seemed to favor the place. But one woman in that group caught his attention.

"She was always reading one of those *Time* magazines or a Harvard classic", he said.

On his way out one night he stopped and asked if she always read while she ate. The woman, Claire Springer, said "No." Soon after that, they began sharing a table and eventually a home. Beightler later set his business aside to serve as the Ohio State Highway Director.

PALMIST PREDICTION

One evening, Beightler and his wife were enjoying dinner at the Neil House when Mrs. Beightler saw that a palm reader was plying his trade in an adjoining room. Mrs. Beightler decided to give it a try, and soon the reader was telling her she would not be living in the same house a year from now, and that her husband would be going on a long voyage.

When his turn came, Beightler was told the same story. The couple laughed about the predictions. But, the "long voyage" was a 52 month training and overseas tour commanding the 37th Buckeye Division during World War II.

The second world war is what made the name Beightler well known in Ohio and throughout the country.

Word of his victories seeped back to his home state, along with the names of faraway places like Fiji, Guadalcanal, Bougainville and Manila.

LAST BATTLE

When Major General Robert Beightler returned once again to Ohio, he knew his last battle had been fought. He told Ohioans, "Beneath the palms of New Georgia and Bougainville, and in

. . . And With Famed Eddie Rickenbacker

FAMED OHIOAN Eddie Rickenbacker (center) visited the Fiji Islands in 1942 where he met Beightler (right). Eddie was brought to the local hospital to bolster spirits.

The Buckeye Guard



A Moment With Hope . . .

BOB HOPE visited with General Beightler, then Commanding General of the 5th Armor Division, at Camp Chaffee in 1949. He still gets a Christmas card from Hope each year.

cemeteries on Luzon, sleep our comrades whom we had to leave behind in the hallowed soil of heroes' graves. This was the highest of the costs to us; yet in view of the long years of bitter fighting we did, and in view of the fact that well over 40,000 soldiers have marched in the 37th's ranks, we have reason to thank God that He was so merciful, and forever stand in gratitude and reverence before the memory of these brave men, whose unselfish sacrifice helped make possible our return home in victory and readiness to carry on new responsibilities as citizen Veterans."

During the war Maj. Gen. Beightler retained his National Guard Division command, and in August of 1945 he was commissioned a Major General in the Regular Army upon the recommendation of President Truman and General Eisenhower to the U. S. Congress.

Maj. Gen. Beightler retired from the Army in 1953, for physical reasons, and in 1965 the Worthington Armory was named after him.

Now at 85, and after seven heart attacks, the general's body doesn't serve him as it once did in the battles of Baguio,

(Continued on Page 12)



Gen. Beightler . . .

(Continued from Page 11)

Balete Pass and the Cagayan Valley. Beightler jokes that his doctor is keeping him together with "bailing wire and hooks".

But the inner visions and strength of Robert Sprague Beightler have not diminished.

In a report given in 1945 on the activities of the 37th Infantry Division after WW II, Beightler wrote, "I believe we stand on the threshold of a tremendous destiny. From what I have seen our young men achieve on the battlefields, and our people achieve on the home front that supported them, I am thrilled not only by the prospect of that destiny, but of the way in which we can seize it if we will."

Major General Robert S. Beightler has seized his destiny.



A Grand Couple

GENERAL BEIGHTLER met his wife Claire at an inn, which was one of his favorite eating places in Washington. "She was always reading those TIME Magazines or a HARVARD CLASSICS," he said. He asked her if she always read while she ate. She said "No." Soon after that they began sharing a table and eventually a home. They were apart for 52 months while the general trained and served overseas during the war. They enjoy their flower gardens and spacious home in Worthington, within a stone's throw of the Ohio National Guard Armory that bears his name. (PHOTO BY BOB DEVOE).

Guard Shooters Honored

Few people in Ohio realize the Ohio National Guard boasts some of the top rifle and pistol marksmen in the nation.

Top Ohio Guard shooters were honored during the Annual Shooters' Dinner recently at the Jai Lai Restaurant, Columbus.

Ohio shooters, both individually, and as members of national teams, have captured three national championships in 1976 alone including the National Rifle Championship, Camp Perry; the U.S. Army Rifle Championship (for the first time since 1903); and the U.S. Army Individual Championship (Rifle) for the first time in history. An Ohio marksman was also a member of the 1976 champion U.S. Army Rifle Team.

According to LTC Frank Ladd, State Marksmanship Coordinator for the Guard, the Buckeye Guard currently holds both the National Guard Rifle and Pistol Championships for the nation; and has smashed nearly 18 individual records this year.

Buckeye Bits

Greenland Mission

The 109th Tactical Airlift Group, Schenectady, New York, put out the call for help and seven members of Mansfield's 179th Maintenance Squadron responded for a volunteer mission to Greenland.

Using their maintenance skills 179th personnel directly supported the DYE-3 Site Life Extension mission in Greenland. Manpower demands of the mission severely strained the limited resources of the 109th. However, the willingness of the volunteers for this difficult remote assignment made it possible for the unit to perform this essential mission without placing excessive demands on unit resources.

Mansfield airmen received letters of appreciation from Col. S. W. Hemstreet, Commander of the 109th TAG. "Their ability to perform their duties in a highly professional manner immediately upon their arrival reflects favorably upon themselves and the 179th. It is only through the efforts and dedication of in-

dividuals like them that the Guard will continue to be a strong and effective part of the total force," stated Col. Hemstreet.

Reaction of the 179ers who made the trip was "beautiful." Mansfield Guardsmen have already volunteered to make the trip again in the future.

Flight Attendants

Co. C., 237th S & T Bn., Oxford, helped transfer handicapped from ground transportation to and from aircraft and provided free food and beverages at Blue Ash Airport when handicapped individuals from Kentucky and Indiana were treated to free airplane rides by the Regional Chapter of the National Paraplegic Foundation.

Have You Renewed?

To obtain membership and renewals in the Ohio National Guard Enlisted Association the new address is: Ohio EANGUS, 855 S. Collett St. Lima, Oh 45804. The membership fee is \$5.00 per year. A

check or money order should be made payable to the Enlisted Association.

An Association Workshop is scheduled for Sunday, February 26, at Beightler Armory, 2815 West Granville Road, Worthington. The workshop's purpose is for state committee chairmen to assemble their committees prior to the state convention and organize their committee reports for presentation. The workshop will be conducted from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

A Board of Directors meeting will be held Saturday afternoon at the Armory at 3 p.m.

Triple Nickle

The Northwestern Ohio Chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation sponsored the Golden Harvest Charity Ball to raise money for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation recently. The 555th United States Air Force Band of the Toledo Express Airport-based Ohio Air National Guard provided the music for the benefit dance which netted over \$1,700.

'My Most Priceless Possession'

BY DAVE GALLAGHER

I hold in my hand a little scrap of paper about 2½ x 3¾ inches in size. It is of no intrinsic worth; not a bond, not a check, nor a receipt for valuables. Yet, it is my most priceless possession. It is my membership card in the armed forces of the United States . . . The National Guard.

It tells me that I have entered into the greatest "Esprit De Corps" the world has ever known; a kinship with my fellow guardsmen as close as any family could be.

It tells me that we together have stood shoulder to shoulder for over 200 years as civilian in peace, soldier in war.

It tells me, I was with Washington at the birth of my nation, for I stood at Concord's bridge. It tells me that I fired the fateful shot heard round the world.

It tells me my fellow guardsmen bled on Bunker Hill, put their footprints in the snow at Valley Forge, pulled the oars on the barge that bridged the icy Delaware.

It tells me we stood together with Washington at Yorktown; we saw the sword surrendered. Yes . . . This little card tells me.

It tells me I saw both sides of the war between the States, saw the hill at San Juan, the plains and mountains of the Philippines, stood on the Mexican border, the dark forest of the Argonne and Chateau.

It tells me we marched in legion under the arch of victory. Yes . . . This little card tells me.

It tells I was on grim Corregidor with a promise to return . . . and return I did.

I took this little card through the

jungle and on the beaches to a flag raising on Okinawa, and across the 38th parallel. In my pocket . . . It flew Mig Alley. Yes, this little card tells me.

It tells me of the floods, earthquakes, flames and smoke where I have taken it. It tells me how I have comforted the stricken, fed the starving beast, plowed through towering drifts to rescue the marooned, faced the tornados, typhoons, hurricanes, cradled the crying child in my arms and dried the tears of a weeping woman.

Finally, it tells me that when my final exit from the stage of life has been made, there will be another just like "me" to step up and take this little card.

Yes, it tells me this and a great deal more — this little scrap of paper — my National Guard I. D. card.

RECRUITING ROUND-UP



The latest news on recruiting and retention including kudos for our go-getters!



Canton Cinema Connection

DURING THE SHOWING of the film *MacArthur* at the Imperial Cinema in Canton recently 2nd Squadron, 107th AC erected a maintenance tent at the entrance to the theatre. Recruiters from HHT, Troops E, F, G and Company H, and the Howitzer Battery manned the tent on a rotating basis, according to 1LT Timothy Phillips. 1SG Guy Gennett, Station Commander for the Akron-Canton Recruiting Office, coordinated the event.

CONSOLIDATION

In case you haven't noticed, there's a whole new concept of recruiting for the Ohio Army National Guard called "Regionalized Recruiting". Essentially, it involves two key concepts: first, consolidating our recruiting assets in the major population centers where we have a high troop concentration; and secondly, training unit-level recruiters so each unit will have a professional, year-round recruiting program.

All full-time and CETA recruiters fall under the direct jurisdiction of the State Recruiting and Retention Manager, Captain Dennis M. Jankowski through five recruiting station NCO's. For the information of all guardmembers interested in getting our Ohio Guard up to strength, these five locations are:

AKRON-CANTON AREA: 1SG Guy Gennett, Commander, 700 Schroyer Ave. S.W. Canton, Ohio 44707, phone (216) 453-7382/7386.

COLUMBUS AREA: SFC Thomas Lutes, Commander, (AGOH-PA-RR-COL), 2825 W. Granville Road, Worthington, Ohio,

43085, phone (614) 889-7195/7196.

CINCINNATI AREA: CSM William Pewther, Commander, 4100 Reading Road, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45229, phone (513) 861-2659.

CLEVELAND AREA: SFC James Haynes, Commander, 4303 Green Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44128, phone (216) 464-8009/3791.

TOLEDO AREA: SFC Richard Newman, Commander, 28846 Tracey Road, Walbridge, Ohio, 43465, phone (419) 666-533/5382.

Any readers who have any questions about recruiting, the tuition assistance program for college or vocational school, recruiting bonus dollars for seniors, or stripes for buddies (Army) are more than welcome to call or visit any station for further information.

RECRUITERS NEEDED!

In addition to the federal, fulltime recruiters, Ohio also has CETA recruiting specialist positions. These personnel are state employees and generally work in a limited recruiting territory.

Volunteer unit recruiters are still

needed. All units are required to have two recruiters and one person to handle the administration of the prospect's enlistment records.

Another valuable asset in regionalized recruiting, especially in suburban and rural areas, are the AST's. Remember, all GS-7 AST's have "recruiting" as part of their job description. If they can't answer your questions about recruiting, they know how to get the answers.

KUDOS!

Hat's off to SP5 GARY DOTSON from the AKRON-CANTON area, the October FTTD recruiter of the month. SP5 Dotson brought in six non-prior and seven prior enlistees for a total of 64 points (1 point per enlistee, 1 point per year obligated) a whopping 29 points over quota!

During November, the FTTD recruiter of the month was SGT LAWRENCE JONES from the CLEVELAND area. Larry recruited a total of thirteen people for 65 points.

Leading the way in December was Sgt James McCune from the Cleveland area with 12 enlistments for 77 points.

Recruiting Station-wise during October, COLUMBUS was number one followed by Cleveland and Cincinnati. In November, CLEVELAND edged out Cincinnati in points — 242 to 238, but CINCINNATI had more accessions 51 to 45.

During December Cincinnati led the state in accessions with 52.

Unit-wise, Congratulations to the following units who have made notable double digit enlistment gains during October and November:*

Co C (S&T) 237th Spt Bn	13
26 Engr Co	13
838 MP Co	12
Det 1, 1/148 Inf Bn	11
135 MP Co	11
HHT 2/107 ACR	11
Co C 612 Engr Bn	10
Trp K 3/107 ACR	10
HHT 3/107 ACR	10

*Statistics for December were not available by press time. Units must remember, that to receive R & R Kudos, they must report their accessions monthly to the main recruiting stations.

Special recognition goes to CPT ED HALL, Adjutant General Liaison Staff Officer to the 372nd Engineer Battalion, for his newsletter "Cut the Tape."

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Also, hats off to CPT JOHN B. CUNNINGHAM, Training Officer for the 416th Engineer Group, in getting the ball really rolling on Pre-IADT Recruit Training in the Toledo Area. Other commands would do well to read the 416th Group's letter, "Letter of Understanding, Pre-IADT Training" dated January 5, 1978.

STATE-WIDE . . .

State-wide, Ohio's accession rate is picking up steam.

According to Cpt. Jankowski, "The shift to a production point quota (1 point per accession, one point per year obligated) rather than just a body count has already made a significant impact. During October and November the new enlistee was coming in for an average of 3.7 years. This not only helps us today, but also for the next few years to come as well," he added.

"Unfortunately, our losses are still exceeding our recruiting gains," he continued, "and losses and retention are the nuts and bolts of the commander's job," he said.

"We find that those units with the higher retention rates are doing three key things: first, they view retention as a year round concern and not relegated to a 9 mos., 6 mos., 3 mos., interview system

alone. Retention starts with a strong sponsor program and never lets up. Secondly, a good retention program requires constant attention to communication. Does each unit member understand how he or she can take advantage of the tuition assistance program? How about correspondence courses, career progression, and job satisfaction? Thirdly, and most importantly, successful units make an honest effort to ask the member to stay in the Guard. Simple as it sounds, too many people leave our organization because they weren't asked to stay," he added.

"On the positive side, I believe that our tuition assistance program is definitely one of our most important incentives because historically, many young people entered the active military service to obtain GI Bill educational benefits," Jankowski said.

"With the change in federal GI Bill benefits, the Ohio National Guard has an even better educational assistance program in some respects, than any other active or reserve component", he added.

"In fact, the young veteran who is contemplating either college or vocational school can receive tuition assistance from the Ohio National Guard plus whatever GI Bill educational benefits to which

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Shooter Recruiter

SSG JOSEPH PASCARELLA, a qualified recruiter and one of the top pistol shooters in the entire nation, is now heading a special Ohio National Guard marksmanship-recruiting project called "Operation Matchup". Interested units, or any junior marksmanship club in Ohio interested in working with Sergeant Pascarella should call toll-free 1-800-282-7310 and the message will be relayed to him.

2/107th Takes Tank to Church

BY TIMOTHY PHILLIPS

It was a cold, snowy morning in Canton. Automobile traffic negotiated the slick and icy highways with caution. But the 2/107th Armored Cavalry found a better way — come to church in a tank.

Reverend Ray Rogers, Pastor of the Central Baptist Church, 4736 West Tuscarawas Street, requested the 2/107th to attend services, which centered on the theme, "Thank you for our Freedom." The pastor also asked that the unit provide a M-60 tank as a static display in front of the church facing Tuscarawas Street, the major east-west highway between Canton and Massillon.

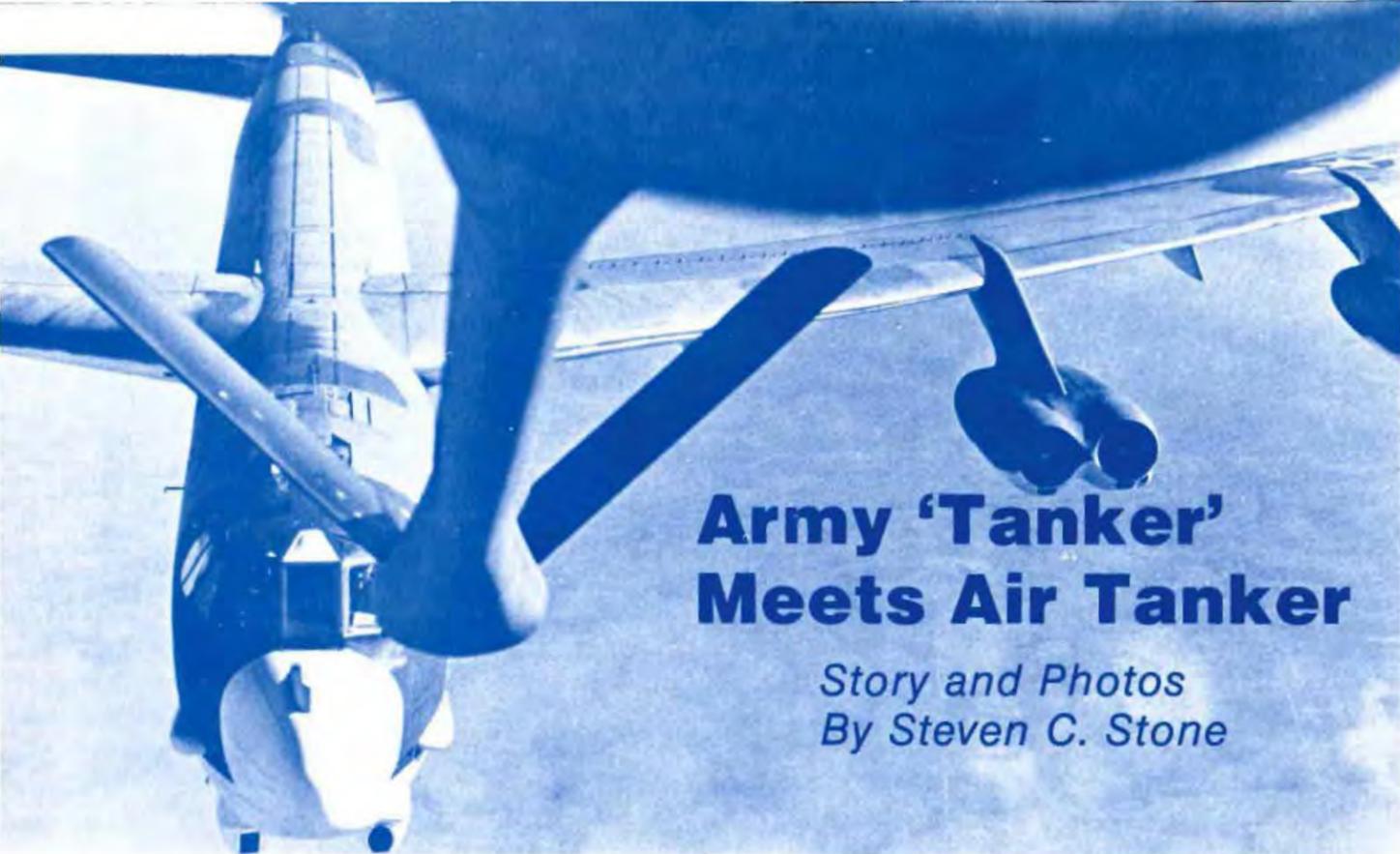
F Troop of the 2/107th responded immediately. With PSG H. D. Ellys on serving as tank commander and SSG Parnell Traylor as driver, the tank rolled out of the Massillon Armory toward the church. Massillon and Canton area residents were treated to an early morning special

event of watching a tank plow through the snow and ice on its four mile Sunday morning journey.

After the services, church attendees were given the opportunity of going in-

side the M-60 tank. The invitation was well-received by both adults and children. Despite the cold weather, it was a warm reception for members of the 2/107th.





Army 'Tanker' Meets Air Tanker

Story and Photos
By Steven C. Stone

'Traumatic, Shuddering' Ride Ends on Confident Note

They were a light-hearted bunch. So sure of themselves; so much in control of the situation. They reminded me of the Army doctor who took out my appendix years ago at three in the morning.

"Nothing to it," he had said. "I need the practice."

For him it was practice, for me it was my only body.

Now there I was again, a ground-loving armor soldier, placing myself at the mercy of complete strangers. This time it was a KC 135 refueling tanker pilot and his crew instead of a doctor; but the implications were the same; they were both able to put me into a situation over which I had no control.

It all started simply enough with a cup of coffee and a mission briefing at the headquarters of the 145th Air Refueling Squadron, Ohio Air National Guard. There were to be two aircraft on this mission. They were to refuel a B-52 bomber somewhere out over the western states. Both crews and I sat down for the standard flight briefing. Everything sounded just the way I imagined it should. There was lots of airplane talk designed to inspire a proper state of awe and reverence from lowly mortals confined to a lifetime of shuffling about on the ground. Then came the part about emergency procedures.

"SHARP PAINS"

"If the plane should lose cabin pressure you will pass out from the lack of oxygen . . . you'll feel sharp pains in your stomach," the briefer stated matter of factly.

Hey, I never heard any of that stuff on TWA or United! He went on with the briefing.

"If we have to abort the flight for any reason," he said, "you'll hear an alarm bell . . . that will be the signal to exit the airplane. The exits are located . . ."

Wait a minute. Doesn't abort mean crash? Yeah, something like that. Anyone who watches the six o'clock news knows that no one ever exits from a crashed airplane; in one piece anyway.

"Parachutes are located . . ."

Hold it! Not being an airborne troop I told one of the crew members that I would need some instruction on how to jump out and how to wear a parachute.

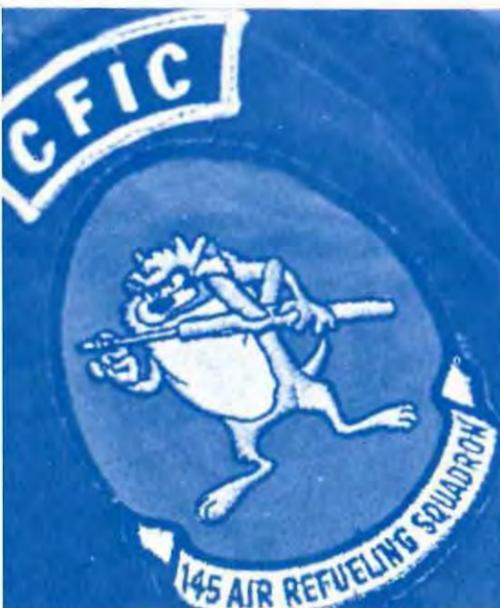
"Don't worry about it," he said with a smile. "There's no way you can jump out of one of these planes and survive anyway."

In a short while I found myself strapped into my seat and at the end of the runway. The plane started forward at an ever-increasing rate of speed. Suddenly a strange thing happened. I'd been here before. I'd had the same feeling. Was it psychic phenomenon?

Then I remembered. I'd had the same queasy feeling going up the first hill of

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The Buckeye Guard



THE HAND OF THE NAVIGATOR puts the flying fuel tank on station after a flight of hundreds of miles. That two specks in the western sky can find each other is truly amazing.

(Continued from Page 16)

the King's Island roller coaster. Just before going over the top I had asked myself why I was doing this crazy thing.

Why was I doing *this* crazy thing?

BOW AND ARROW

The pilot pulled back the throttle and the plane shot forward. Not just started to go faster, or pick up speed or any other word that we earthlings might use to describe speed. The word was shot. I felt as if I were riding on the end of a big arrow that had just been released from a bow.

As suddenly as it started, the sensation of speed ceased. Someone was letting the air out of the earth; it was shrinking.

We were wobbling in the air. A wing dipped. There was a thump. A slight shudder went through the plane. I knew we were going to smack back down on the runway like an egg.

We didn't.

We just went up and up. It's amazing

how religious I became at the point of lift-off.

REAL PROS

From then on the flight seemed less traumatic. These men were professionals. They were part of the Strategic Air Command. The mission was to support

'Hey, That's My Airplane Out There'

the active Air Force. In between answering about a thousand questions about what this or that noise or bump was, they did the refueling.

"Amazing" I said over and over. No, just another day, they answered. Modesty somehow doesn't fit in a job like this, I thought.

As I watched that bomber getting its



WITH ALL OF MODERN technology at his disposal it's the human mind and steady eye that makes the impossible feat possible.

lunch from the other tanker I saw the words "Ohio Air Guard" written on the side of the plane.

Hey, that's my airplane out there. I had a lot of different feelings that day. But at that moment the feeling was pride.

Recruiting Round-up . . .

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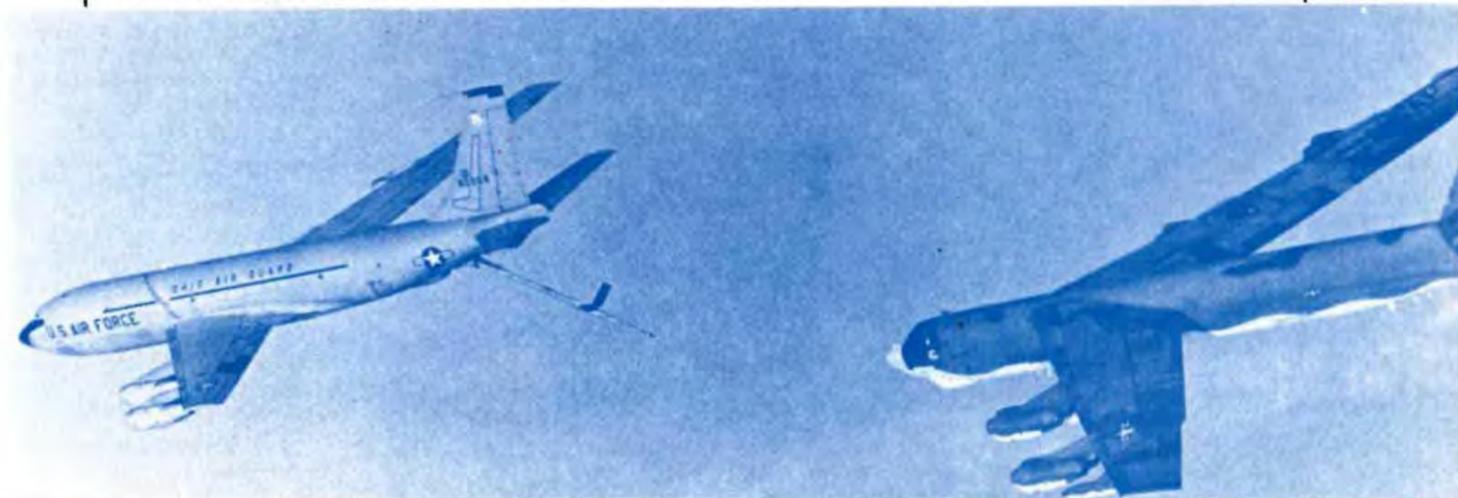
he or she may be entitled", he said. (Incidentally, money received from the federal GI Bill is tax free).

"When you take a look at our program, it's really hard to beat."

"I encourage all commanders and unit members to spread the word, generate leads, and get these prospects into the recruiters' and AST's hands. With good cooperation, we can and will succeed", he stated.

Closing the Gap

TO THE UNTRAINED OBSERVER the task of hooking two huge aircraft together, both traveling over 400 mph and pumping hundreds of gallons of flammable jet fuel through a pipe into a hole a few inches wide seems impossible. Also, a little frightening. (PHOTO BY RICK LEWIS, 196TH PAD)



All About People-

COLONEL JOHN P. SIEMER (Ret) received the Ohio National Guard's highest award recently when **MAJOR GENERAL JAMES C. CLEM**, The Adjutant General for Ohio, presented him the Ohio Distinguished Service Medal. The narration accompanying the award cited Colonel Siemer for his outstanding efforts on behalf of House Bill 228 (which provides tuition assistance to members of the Ohio National Guard); and for his work as a legislative liaison with the Ohio General Assembly. **COLONEL SIEMER** is currently Chief of the Soldiers' Claims Division for the Adjutant General's Department.

SGT RICHARD H. GRAVES and his bride **CAROL** (Morone) were treated to a spectacular military wedding recently by members of Headquarters Company, 73rd Infantry Bde. (Sep), Columbus. **MRS. EVELYN BRANDT**, wife of **1SG THOMAS BRANDT**, provided organ music for the affair. **PFC SUE WESTENDORF** was the Maid of Honor and **SGT DONALD VANGUNDY** was Best Man. **CHAPLAIN (MAJOR) JAMES E. VINCENT** officiated the ceremony. The bride's parents, **MR. and MRS. PETE LUSIGNOLA**, were also present, along with the groom's mother, **MRS. PAULINE GRAVES**. The brigade cooks prepared refreshments for the reception.

SGT. ROY YANCEY, a member of the 838th Military Police Company, Youngstown, has been elected president of the Black Broadcasting Coalition.

MSGT. JERRY E. STEEL, 179th Communications Flight, Mansfield Lahm Airport, is

the most recent member of the unit to be honored at the Air National Guard's NCO Academy by being named a Distinguished Student for academic and leadership excellence.

DENIS M. MEHIGAN of Akron, Ohio, has been promoted from major to lieutenant colonel at Fifth Army headquarters, Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Tex. **Col. James B. Reed**, Fifth Army public affairs officer, pinned the silver oak leaf to Mehigan's uniform signifying his new rank. Recently named chief of the command information section in the public affairs office, Mehigan had served as chief of the community relations section of that office the last 10 months.

DAVID L. DUNAWAY, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Dunaway, 737 Gardenwood Drive, Greenville, has been awarded a four year scholarship at Ohio University upon enlisting in the Ohio National Guard's Company B, 372nd Engineer Bn., in Greenville.

SSG WILBUR F. JOHNSON JR. a member of Det 1, Btry B(-) 2/174th ADA, Zanesville, was presented the Army Commendation Medal for his outstanding service to the Ohio National Guard and to his local unit. The award was presented by **MAJOR JAMES LEE** of HQ 2/174th ADA Staff, Athens.

Recently the graduating class of Officers at Ft. Benning, Georgia, had among the top honor students an Ohio man. **SSG GEORGE D. KINNEY** finished fourth in his class as Honor graduate of the Reserve Component course 2-77. Making the



A 'Phonee'

SP5 BONNIE ROGGE manned the field phone during annual weapons fire qualification at Camp Sherman for her unit, the 684th Medical Co., Westerville. (PHOTO BY HARRY A SCHUTTE).

Commandant's List in the same class was **2LT MICHAEL L. CORSON**, also of Ohio.

Also graduating from the Officer Candidate (Reserve Component) Course 2-77 were Ohio Guardsmen: **2LT DUANE T. BATTERSHELL**, **2LT STEPHEN E. BOERSHLER**, **2LT ALBERT E. MAYNARD**, **2LT JAMES McCALL, JR.**, **2LT GREGORY H. SHAW** and **2LT MICHAEL D. VANMETER**.

1LT ALLEN GILDERSLEEVE, Executive Officer for Co B (Med), 237th Support Bn. Worthington, has an inside track on new recruits for the Buckeye Guard. Gildersleeve is a full-time vocational counselor for Whitehall High School and never misses an opportunity to stress the importance of educational opportunities available to students through the Ohio National Guard. He recently enlisted one Whitehall student at Ohio University under the Tuition Grant Program and another into the Licensed Practical Nurse program.

FIRST LIEUTENANT STEVE FRIED, Reynoldsburg, received the Ohio National Guard's Certificate of Recognition from **COLONEL EDWARD J. POWER**, Commander, 160th Air Refueling Group. The award cited Lt. Fried for "continuous excellence in public relations" on behalf of the Guard.

The Buckeye Guard

Guard Tuition Bill Creates Inquiries

The recent signing, by Governor James A. Rhodes, of Ohio Bill 228, has created a large number of inquiries at state recruiting headquarters in Worthington.

Numerous requests for information, by both colleges and individuals, have been received concerning the four-year scholarships that will be available to all enlisted Ohio National Guard men and women beginning January 31, 1978.

College students may receive free tuition at any state college and tuition assistance at private universities recognized by the Ohio Board of Regents, provided that they have enlisted or re-enlisted in the Ohio National Guard for a period of six years after September 1, 1977.

State Recruiting and Retention Manager, Captain Dennis M. Jankowski, reports that his office is averaging approximately 50 calls per week regarding the program.

Persons wanting additional information on the Ohio National Guard College Tuition should call toll free 1-800-282-7310.

State Activation Policy Clarified For Units

The Adjutant General's Department has received numerous inquiries concerning activation of Ohio National Guardsmen for local emergencies.

During a recent heavy snowfall in northwestern Ohio, Guardsmen voluntarily reported to their armories to help with snow removal.

However, because they had not been called to state active duty Guard assistance could not be provided to the local community.

"While we are extremely proud of Guardsmen who are ready to respond to emergencies at a moments notice," said Colonel Curt Seffens, State Training Officer, "official orders from the Governor's Office are required before any personnel or equipment can be utilized."

Seffens advises all unit commanders to refer local officials directly to the Governor's Office for assistance and guidance.

416th Engineers Commended For West Point Support

At services held in Brookpark recently the 416th Engineer Group was commended by the United States Military Academy for its support of the West Point Admissions Program.

According to LTC George F. Qua, U. S. Army Admissions Coordinator for West Point in Northern Ohio, "this represents the country's Reserve Components at its very best. The National Guard administered this very important physical aptitude test to candidates from throughout the Northern Ohio area. Fourteen Reserve Officers and I used this same opportunity for personal interviews with each prospective candidate for West Point. The medical examinations for our candidates were given by the 256th General Hospital United States Army Reserve Unit located here in Cleveland.

"Additionally, one of the things that assisted us in running an outstanding physical aptitude test was the use of the Brookpark Recreational facilities which we obtained through the efforts of LTC James Latronica, Executive Officer for the 416th Engineer Group. His close association with the city of Brookpark and its Mayor, the Honorable Angelo Wedo, gave us the facilities second to none. Our statistics tell the story. Prior to 1972 we were admitting no more than a dozen or so young men from the 16 county area for which I was responsible. With the concentrated efforts of units like the 416th Engineer Group we were able to increase that number to 35 and 40 each year."

LTC Qua also hastened to add "Admission to the Military Academy can be obtained from the ranks of the National Guard and more information on it can be obtained from unit leaders or by contacting his successor COL Constantine Lambros, Terminal Tower, Cleveland, Ohio 44113."

The Buckeye Guard

Beightler Holds Annual Party

Approximately 100 Columbus mentally handicapped children were treated to lunch and Santa by employees of the Ohio National Guard Beightler Armory, Worthington.

The children, students of the First Avenue School located in the Thurber Village area of Columbus, ranged in age from six to 16 years.

Guard employees raised almost \$1500 through dances and raffles throughout the year to pay for individual presents and decorations for their Eleventh Annual Children's Christmas Party.

A yearly highlight of the Yuletide party was the arrival of Santa with a team of huskies supplied by the Columbus Siberian Husky Club.

Food for the occasion was donated by Wendy's Hamburgers, Doran's Restaurant, Linworth Gateway Supermarket, and Warner's Farm Market, all Worthington area merchants.

Artillery Exercise

Approximately 25 Ohio National Guardsmen conducted simulated artillery exercises at the Howey Road Armory, Columbus, recently.

The training was part of a year round program to keep members of 1st Battalion, 136th Artillery, in shape and to improve their readiness in case of an actual call-up.

Guardsmen used overlay maps, artillery plotting boards, and sophisticated communication equipment to simulate an Alaskan command post.

"Although everything we did here was simulated," said Major Daniel L. Arnett, "the only items missing were the actual artillery equipment and live rounds."

Ohio AG Supports 5th Army Policy

Maj. Gen. James C. Clem, the Adjutant General for Ohio, heartily endorses the following Fifth Army Philosophy recently expressed by Lt. Gen. Allen Burdette Jr., Commander of the Fifth U.S. Army:

1. Take care of the little guy.
2. Integrity above all.
3. Never do stupid things because of regulations or orders from 'they'.
4. Chain of command is primary.
5. Community life is everybody's business.
6. Build for the long term.
7. Positive development to insure equal opportunity.
8. Seek a better way.
9. Admit mistakes.
10. All acts rewarded or corrected as deserved.
11. Work friendly.

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WCLT Radio Honored

RAY McCALL of radio station WCLT in Newark, is presented a plaque citing the station for outstanding contributions to the Ohio Air National Guard recruiting by Col. Donald Q. Griffith, deputy commander of the 121st Tactical Fighter Wing, Rickenbacker AFB. Looking on is SSGT. Stephen Butcher of the 121st Recruiting Office. The station, ran a wide variety of public service announcements touting Guard benefits. (PHOTO BY SSGT TOM FOLEY)

Hawkeye, Hot Lips Aided by Ohio's 684th Medical Company

BY CHRISTINE CLARK

Lancaster High School, Lancaster, was invaded recently by the 684th Medical Company (Clr), Westerville.

The main courtyard in front of the school was turned into a surgical hospital, equipped and ready to receive its first patient.

No, there was no natural disaster or illness among the students, but just a helping hand for the High School's M.A.S.H. presentation that was to be shown the nights of the 18th and 19th of November.

Students from Lancaster High performed the play in a superb manner, wearing the Army green and showing the sadness and humor of a war situation.

The Director, Mr. Loran Peterson and the Coordinator, Miss Paulette Maravich, called on assistance from different facets of the Armed Forces.

The variety of displays included: The Air Force with their air-sea rescue and survival display; the Navy with the Navy's Birthday exhibit; the Marine Corps with their Marc 110-Trac Communication's Vehicle and the Ohio Army National Guard (684th Med. Co.) with their O/R tent and vehicles. All displays were viewed by the public with a great deal of interest and a bundle of questions.

The 684th Med. Co. held a small play of their own. Members working on the weekend site support and the positions they played were; SP4 Christine L. Clark, NCOIC and organizer; SSG James R. Marshall, Hawkeye; SSG Russell Elder, Litterbearer; SP6 James Glier, Radar; SP5 Bonnie Rogge, injured patient; SP5 Bobbie Sexton, Litterbearer; SP4 Phyllis Wynn, Litterbearer; SP4 Brian Judd, Litterbearer; SP4 Dow Sexton, Electrical and Maintenance; SP4 Pete Scott, CPT Klinger; PV1 Sheila Sanders, Hot Lips.

The key players in the High School performance were, Keith Harris, Hawkeye; Tammy Kynion, Hot Lips; Ron Edington, Trapper John and their Lynn Landis as Klinger.

The play was a smash, with a full house both nights. A note was sent to all helping components saying, "The director and production staff of M.A.S.H. would like to take this opportunity to say how appreciative we are of all the many gestures of good will and kindness the military has bestowed upon Lancaster High School. The production of M.A.S.H. is dedicated to the good will of our United States Armed Services."



Learning the 'Fundamentals'

SP4 CRISS CLARK introduces actor Keith Harris (Hawkeye) to one of the first fundamentals of patient care. (PHOTO BY BOB DEVOE).

People Programs Rate High

The commander of U.S. Army Forces Command (FORSCOM) has provided a list of his areas of special interest. These areas will be given special attention by the FORSCOM Inspector General. They will become areas of special attention for the Fifth Army Inspector General as well: read-

iness; integrity; people programs and concern for the welfare and well-being of soldiers, officers, civilian employees and dependents; attitudes, perceptions, job satisfaction and confidence among junior officers; and physical training and weight control.

Debbie's One of the Gang . . .

Imagine 100 Big Brothers At Annual Summer Camp!

BY DALE SCHERFLING

Forty-seven-year-old SFC Paul Miller enjoys his duty with the 838th Military Police Company because of the men he serves with.

His son Eddie, an SSG with the same company, likes it for the same reason.

"So do I," laughs Paul's niece, 26-year-old Debbie Miller, a Spec 4 Company Clerk in the same outfit. "I like all the guys."

"They're all nice guys," she explained. "It's like having a lot of big brothers around all the time. They're all considerate, have respect and watch their language around me, even though it wouldn't really bother me if they didn't."

The Ohio National Guard has been a family affair for the Millers for years, Debbie points out.

"My father (Joseph) is retired now but he put 26 years in the Guard," she said. "My uncle Ken retired a couple of years back and I sort of grew up with the Guard all around me. To me, they couldn't do anything wrong and it made my father just that much more special."

JUST ANOTHER GIRL

"But, I didn't get into the guard because of them," she laughed. "To them, I was just another girl. I enlisted because one of my girlfriends talked me into it. She didn't want to go in alone, with all those guys."

Paul, a 27-year veteran with the Guard and Eddie, in 11 years, kid Debbie about her two-year service, calling

her "just a youngster."

Debbie's not sure if she'll be around as long as the rest of the family though.

"I'll have to decide to re-up or not pretty soon," she said. "My enlistment is up in November, 1978. I haven't made up my mind yet. If I don't, I know I'll miss it, it would leave a big void in my life."

"I enjoyed the summer camps the most, almost like a vacation for me."

Captain Conrad A. Bollo, Adjutant of the 437th MP Battalion, hopes Debbie decides to stay around.

"The Millers have been a part of the Battalion around here for years," he pointed out. "In fact, Paul Miller is without a doubt the best platoon sergeant I've been associated with in my career. He's turned down promotions to stay here with us."

A lot of people are hoping Debbie stays too.



A Family Affair

THE MILLERS ENJOY THE GUARD. SFC Paul Miller (left), his son SSG Eddie Miller, and niece SP4 Debbie Miller are all members of the 838th Military Police Company, Ohio Army National Guard. Debbie thinks the other members of her unit are "all nice guys". She compares them to "a lot of big brothers around all the time". And she enjoys summer camp "best of all". (PHOTO BY DALE SCHERFLING).

New NCO Leadership Course to Begin

A new NCO Leadership Course will start next April at the Ohio National Guard Military Academy in Worthington, consisting of six weekend assemblies through November, 1978, and a two week annual training period conducted at Camp Perry.

The course dates in the IDT weekend phase are 29-30 Apr 78; 29-30 July; 26-27 Aug; 23-24 Sep; 28-29 Oct; and 25-26 Nov 78.

The Annual Training Phase will be held June 10-24 at Camp Perry.

This 160 hour leadership course has been accredited by the Chief, National Guard Bureau, and graduates will be awarded 30 promotion points.

NCO Candidates can earn two days' extra pay, plus travel allowances, while attending the six weekend sessions in addition to drill pay. Or, if they wish, they can attend these weekend training periods in place of drill weekends in an equivalent training status if their unit commander approves.

If you want to lead and believe you have what it takes to accept the responsibilities of leadership and are interested in your own upward mobility — and promotional potential — tell your unit commander you want to apply for NCO school.

Enrollment forms (AGOH Form 351-3),

along with further details on applying, can be obtained from your orderly room. Ask your AST to see a copy of a letter published by the Adjutant General of Ohio on 15 October 1977, subject "Applications for Ohio ARNG Noncommissioned Officer School."

The deadline is March 1, 1978, for applications to reach the Adjutant General's Department. Only 97 students will be accepted.

If further information is needed, call or write: Commandant, Ohio National Guard Military Academy, 2825 West Granville Road, Worthington, Ohio 43085; or call (614) 889-7107.

Air Guard Info Officer

LTC James Mollica Named Historical Society President

Lt. Colonel James J. Mollica has been elected president of the Board of Trustees of the Ohio Historical Society for the coming year.

Colonel Mollica is Air National Guard Information Officer for Ohio with the Ohio Air National Guard at the Beightler Army in Worthington.

He is pleased to have been elected president of the Society at this particular time. "It seems that at this time in our nation's history with 200 years of development behind us, Americans are beginning to pause and reflect on our past and are experiencing a greater awareness and interest in our nation's history," Mollica said.

"The history of the Guard is interwoven with the history of Ohio and America. I believe most guardsmen are interested in their heritage and the Ohio Historical Society is an excellent vehicle for guard members to get a good background in Ohio history," he also stated.

Colonel Mollica began his military career in the Army Air Corps in 1943. He left the military at the end of World

War II and returned to civilian life. Mollica joined the Ohio Air National Guard as a Captain with the 160th Air Refueling Squadron at Clinton County Air Force Base in 1962 where he served as Administrative Officer.

In 1973 Colonel Mollica was assigned as Head of Administration with the State Staff where he directed the campaign for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserves.

In his current assignment Colonel Mollica coordinates with 11 Information Officers in the Ohio Air National Guard.

Colonel Mollica is vice-president for Business Development for Banc Ohio/Ohio National Bank in Columbus.

He received his AB degree from Ohio University. He is a past president of the Worthington Historical Society and a member of the Columbus Charity Newsies.

He and his wife, June, and son, Tracy, live in Worthington.

Prior to his election as president of the Ohio Historical Society Board of



LTC JAMES MOLLICA

Trustees, Mollica served as treasurer of the Society for the past 18 months.

New VHA-FHA Down Payments Can Make Your House Buying Easier

BY DON VAQUERA

Has the high cost of a down payment kept you from buying a home? It shouldn't.

A new minimum down payment schedule recently initiated by the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) makes buying a home much more affordable for eligible Guardsmen and Reservists.

Guard members with 90 days continuous active duty are eligible for this program known as the "FHA-VA Home Loan Insurance Program."

Presently, a new lower down payment program is in effect that simply requires Guardsmen to provide a downpayment of \$200 on the first \$25,000 of a mortgage.

According to Steve Stoecklin, Loan Officer for Citizens Mortgage in Columbus, "closing costs will be almost standard

from lender to lender."

Stoecklin mentioned such items as loan origination fee, credit check, title insurance, recording and closing fees which must be paid when closing on a home.

"These items can be paid by either the buyer or the seller," said Stoecklin.

Stoecklin estimated that a \$45,000



home with a \$1200 down payment would require about \$900 in closing costs and prepaid items.

Interested Guard members should submit a copy of their DD214 along with VA form 26-8261a to: Veteran's Administration, Veteran's Service Division, 1240 East Ninth Street, Cleveland, Oh., 44199. A letter must accompany this request stating that you are applying for the "FHA-VA Home Insurance Program."

The Ohio National Guard State Public Affairs Office has produced a new booklet titled "VA-FHA Loan Information Packet".

Booklets can be obtained from any one of the Ohio Army Guard's five regional recruiting offices or by writing to: State Public Affairs Office, 2825 W. Granville Road, Worthington, 43085.

The Buckeye Guard

Wives Club News

THE OTHER HALF

BY SUSAN BROWN

The new year is under way by this time, and the Ohio National Guard Officers' Wives Club is well into the 1978 program. The meetings, thus far, have been entertaining, informative, and very well attended. This last is especially gratifying to those who work so hard planning the programs and acting as hostesses.

Crazy Bridge proved to be quite a lot of fun in January. It is surely a good way to relax, talk with some new people, and just have a good time, three of Guard wives' favorite pastimes!

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Do you know your rights? Are you, as a consumer, sure of yourself when you feel you have a complaint? Do you know how, and to whom to voice a complaint? If the answers to the above are, "no", or even, "sometimes", be sure to attend the OWC meeting February 28. We will have with us Dorothy Teater, for an informative program on "Your Consumer Rights", a subject concerning us all.

SPRING FASHIONS

March brings thoughts of Spring, and Spring turns our minds to, what else, Spring fashions. We have been most fortunate to secure, for the March 28 program, a lady who has long been involved in the fashion scene in Columbus. Mrs. Nell Scott, owner of House of Fashion in Tremont Center, will be with us to talk about a favorite aspect of her business, "Fabrics and Fashions". She will discuss the newest fabrics and show some of the styles we will be seeing this year. Mrs. Scott is a lady much in demand, and we were so happy that she agreed to join us.

So let's show our appreciation by having a large turnout in March. This is a great time to invite a guest!

Remember, meetings, unless otherwise noted, are at the DCSC Officers' Club, social hour at 11:30 and luncheon at 12:30. Nursery services are available.

SHARING TALENT

As you know, the National Guard is composed of people with many occupations, professions, and interests. Thus, of course, the OWC membership reflects this marvelous blend of interests and abilities.

The club is extraordinarily lucky, this year, that four of the monthly programs are being conducted by members of the group. This speaks very well for the wives of Guardsmen. Their skills and varied areas of competence are resources which the OWC has been happy to utilize this year, as in preceding years.

In October, Mary Ann Doane gave floral demonstrations. November brought the auction, the most successful ever, with Mary Snyder doing the honors.

February's meeting will feature Dorothy Teater, speaking on Consumer Rights, as previously mentioned.

Finally, in April, Meryl Abraham will present a program on "The Total (?) Woman". It goes without saying that OWC is grateful to these ladies for sharing their time and talents. Further, however, some thought should be given to the caliber of an organization which can draw, from within its membership, such a range of ideas and information. There are many Guard wives, all over Ohio, who also



Blanket Deal

ELINOR DURFEY, wife of Air Guard LTC Mile Durfey, auctioned off a colorful crocheted comforter at the Annual Officers' Wives Club Christmas auction (PHOTO BY DON VAQUERA).

have much to contribute. OWC again urges any and all eligible ladies to join us this month for lunch.

Base Tours Now Available

The 160th Air Refueling Group, Ohio Air National Guard, has implemented a base tour program. Youth, civic and educational groups, by making proper arrangements, can now tour Rickenbacker Air Force Base, Columbus, during the unit's weekend training drill.

The tour includes visits to the fire/crash station, flight simulator, control tower and through a KC-135 "Strato Tanker", the plane used by the 160th to refuel other aircraft in mid-air. Transportation and tour guides while on the Base, will be provided to the group by Ohio Air Guardsmen.

The 160th Air Refueling Group was the The Buckeye Guard

first Air Guard unit in the country to be assigned to the Strategic Air Command (SAC). Its primary purpose is to maintain mission readiness for the protection and security of the United States.

To make arrangements for your group's tour, write to: 160th AREGp, Ohio Air National Guard, Group Tour/IO, Rickenbacker AFB, Ohio 43217, giving your group's name, the person to contact and phone number.

If you wish, you may contact First Lieutenant Steve Fried, Group Information Officer, at (614) 864-2358 between 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.

'78 Reunion Set

The Ohio National Guard's Third Annual Officers Reunion will be held at Camp Perry this year on Sept. 23 and 24.

Retired officers and their wives are cordially invited to attend the affair.

The 555th Air Force Band, from Toledo, will provide music for the affair.

Additional information on the reunion will be published in future issues of this magazine.

COLLEGE GRANTS NOW AVAILABLE!

Recent passage of Ohio House Bill 228 could mean the difference for you if you're planning to attend college in Ohio! (or are already in college!)

The grants are now available to enlisted men in the Ohio National Guard or those willing to enlist for a period of six years. You may qualify for this unique tuition assistance program . . .

For additional information call . . .

Akron-Canton.....(216) 453-7382
Cincinnati.....(513) 861-2659
Cleveland.....(216) 464-8009
Columbus.....(614) 889-7195
Toledo.....(419) 666-5533
or toll-free 1-800-282-7310



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