The Final Welcome Home
Season's Greetings

To All Members of the Ohio Army and Air National Guard
Christmas 1991

As we are reunited with family and friends during this holiday season, we can take pride in our many achievements of the past year. Once again, as we have throughout history, the Ohio National Guard responded to the call of our country to fight for freedom.

Patriotism and the will of a nation were never expressed so passionately as when 1,700 of our Army and Air National Guard members were called to duty for Operation Desert Shield/Storm. The people of Ohio were united in their support for our military members and their families. From causing community streetlights to colorful welcome home celebrations, that support never wavered.

As we keep the home fires burning in your absence are eminently proud of each and every one of you. Through your efforts, the bough of freedom shines brightly now in an area of the world where darkness and oppression once reigned.

Words can never express the heartfelt gratitude this State feels for its National Guard, especially for those who made the ultimate sacrifice in serving their country. In peace or war, you are truly twice the citizens and "Americans at their best."

From the Offices of the Governor and the Adjutant General, have a happy, safe and joyous holiday season. You've earned it!

George V. Voinovich
Governor
State of Ohio

Richard T. Alexander
Adjutant General

Michael DeWine
Lt. Governor
State of Ohio

Asst. Adj. Gen. for Army

John S. Martin
Brigadier General

Gordon H. Campbell
Brigadier General

At the Governor's Department

Asst. Adj. Gen. for Air

Lessons from the Gulf
Gunsmoke '91
Minuteman Triathlon
American Pride
Air Warrior
A Final Tribute
Welcome Home Ohio
A Farewell Salute
Family Assistance
Winter's Coming
Celebration '91

Ohio Governor George V. Voinovich and veterans organizations throughout the state hosted "Operation Welcome Home Ohio!", a Veteran's Day celebration featuring a statewide parade in honor of all Ohio veterans. (Photo by Spec. Brian Lepley.)

The Governor of Ohio and the Adjutant General's Department with all a safe and happy holiday season.

Margaret Schott, owner of the Cincinnati Reds pays tribute to the troops who served in Desert Storm. (Photo by Spec. Derek Almahy.)

Governor Voinovich addresses the crowd during "Operation Welcome Home Ohio." (Photo by Master Sg t. Jim Hall)

The Buckeye Guard welcomes Columbus

Vol. 15, No. 4

Buckeye Guard

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Contributors:
Air National Guard Photographers
Local Public Affairs Representatives

Vol. 15, No. 4

196th PRO Photographers
110' S/NRC, 10 Photographers
Lesson from the Gulf
One soldier's story

by Spec. James Sparrow
641st Quartermaster Det.

The books all say that war is supposed to make you wise. If you read the hundreds of books about enlisted men at war, you come away convinced that there gives one special insight. War veterans are wiser humans because they went to a harder school; they learned something from the military they could not have learned elsewhere.

I thought too many of those books. They were why I joined the National Guard at the advanced age of 28. I thought I could pick that wisdom up on the cheap. Six years of civilian soldiering and schooling; six years as anyone at Anzio. On Thanksgiving Day, 1991, I was performing the civilian function of watching football on television. During the halftime show, I interviewed from Saudi Arabia some of the early arrivals at Desert Shield. "You poor people," I thought, feeling wise, "we soldiers know how our comrades in the field suffer."

Exactly one month later, I climbed aboard a C-141 transport for transportation with my unit to Saudi Arabia so we could take our place with our comrades in the field. It was that quick I barely had time to realize that I was really in the Army before I was placed in a war zone where hostilities were imminent. The experience I thought could be had for so little was now demanding the full measure of my devotion.

My unit is the 641st Quartermaster Detachment, Ohio Army National Guard. We are one of the smallest units in the Army, only about 60 soldiers. We are Water Purification Specialists laboring in an old arroyo in a small town far from the maddening crowd. We do our job fairly well and because of that, and our obscurity, we are mostly left alone. We have only three full-time soldiers; our First Sergeant, our Supply Sergeant, and our clerk; the rest of us are civilians.

On December 1, when we arrived at Fort Knox, we realized that the impossible had occurred. In our hearts, we believed we would call out the Boy Scouts before you called us out. We joined because we wanted a college education, or some fun, or money, or in the case of the NCO's, the responsibility and the respect. We took an oath, and to the person, we were faithful to that oath—no AAVOs were numbered among our ranks—but we thought it would never happen.

"...We believed they would call the Boy Scouts before they called us out."

In that hectic month at Fort Knox we were outtilted, inoculated, indoctrinated, qualified, trained, tested, locked, and provided. A week of that time spent at Fort Lee, taking a crash course in the equipment we would be expected to operate. We got our families on Christmas, but on December 26th, we went home to Saudi Arabia destined in Army green.

We welcomed the New Year at Damman, sleeping under a big picnic shelter adjacent to the Persian Gulf. Two days after that we were aboard our trucks with five monitors in our pouches, heading north and west towards the Iraqi border. Twenty miles outside of the city the desert just swallowed us up, but we traveled on through its barren beauty to Log Base Alphi. There we met with our battalion.

We were there when Desert Storm started, far enough from the border to make a ground attack unlikely, but close enough to make a chemical attack a deadly possibility. NBC training gained new stature and authority. Guard duty and bunker digging received respect they had not previously enjoyed.

After a fortnight at Alpha, we jumped to Log Base Echo, about 30 miles from the Iraqi border. In the middle of the desert a mile off of Tapline Road (MSR Dodge), the Saudis had dug a well and erected a water tower. This was to be our home for the next four months.

We deployed quickly and with much skill. A month in Saudi Arabia had rubbed the rest of civilian off of us. In an Army war you are given orders that you must execute. Your opinion of those orders is of no consequence. Once we realized this, we stopped being civilians. We moved four times in that month, and with each move we got more efficient, more soldierly. Our energy and imagination was channeled towards doing our job better and making our lives more comfortable.

We were given $1,000,000 worth of water purification equipment and a mission. Though we had little training on this equipment, we had capable minds, good leadership, and a system that retrained those who proposed practical, common sense solutions. Our NCO's and enlisted men came from all walks of life and were able to use those skills to get us through it. We were provided with four million gallons of water, and we were as proud as any unit in Saudi when victory favored our side. We were civilians who had not become soldiers to do part of what had to be done. We pitched our tents and brains against the enemy and helped to win the war in our own small way.

Every hour that we spent there was a great hour in our lives. I don't think we appreciate it now, though we will later on, more and more. We were too busy adapting our environment so that it would conform to Army ideas of how a camp should be governed. Our camp equipment was as durable and practical as our water equipment. If anything, we were more ingenious in arranging our personal comfort. We never considered that we were living only a little above animal; in our minds the arrangements were homes.

After what seemed an intolerable wait, we arrived home at the end of May. The homecoming was very thrilling; how often in any lifetime is one permitted to receive the thanks of a grateful nation? We have been home now for as long as we were in Saudi. The parades are mostly over, and we have again taken up the occupations that we left about 11 months ago. Only since I have been back in the civilian world did I gain the special insight all the books spoke about.

The wisdom consists in understanding that civilians, myself included, are like little redcoats and more than a little irresponsible. Many of them are unwilling to sacrifice personal gain for the good of their society. As a result, their world is rude, unfair, dangerous, dishonest, and not very clean. Civilians seem to spend a great deal of their time looking for someone else to blame for their problems. By contrast, the Army believes in personal responsibility. It teaches that the only strong societies are ones where the good of the many outweighs the good of the one. It could not function or perform any mission without this belief. The Army recognizes that its soldiers are responsible citizens because these soldiers have made a responsible decision: they have volunteered to put their lives between the United States and war's desolation. For the benefit of the body politic, soldiers willingly sacrifice a portion of their rights. In return, they have a society that is just, meritorious, relatively clean, and fairly safe and honest. This is how the social contract is supposed to function.

As an added bonus, the Army has proven to be one of the more efficient parts of society as a whole. Civilians poke endless fun at the clumsy Army, but they proceed quite adept at incorporating a small quartermaster unit into a mighty weapon of right.

I would not have acquired this insight without a tour of duty in the Gulf. I can take my place with countless other veterans who were rewarded for their services by learning something seminal about life and the world. When a man attained citizenship in ancient Rome, he was given a toga. Those who put on the uniform of the United States Army, whether for Desert Storm or not, have earned their toga of citizenship. As we all scatter from our homes, we should remember to wear it with care.
Gunsmoke '91

121st Maintenance World-wide Champs
by Master Sgt. Ned Martin
121st Tactical Fighter Wing

When someone or something is the best, they are unrivaled, supreme, and second to none. The 121st Tactical Fighter Wing returned from Gunsmoke '91 the best. The 121st walked away from the latest Air Force-wide bombing competition with the best maintenance title. This award winning maintenance team is the only Air Guard unit to ever win the trophy and the only Air Force team to win the coveted award more than once. The 121st won the maintenance award in 1983.

The 121st Tactical Fighter Wing is also the only Air Force unit, active or reserve, to compete in four Gunsmokes—1981, 1983, 1987, 1991.

This maintenance team had a first day deduction of eight points, followed by five perfect days of maintenance activity. Their final score was 3,592 points out of a possible 3,600; the closest competition was the 944th Tactical Fighter Group, Air Force Reserve, with 3,585 points.

The dedication and competitive spirit of the 121st Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron pulled us through," said Lt. Col. John Miller, chief of maintenance for the Ohio Air National Guard unit.

"There's no question about it," he stated. "We were notified just eight weeks before the start of Gunsmoke that we would be a player, and everyone, support players as well as team members, pitched in. Our level of competitive spirit allowed us to attain the levels of professionalism needed to win this competition."

It didn't hurt that six of the team members were on that 1983 winning team. Chief Master Sgt. Ron Dillon, Master Sgt. Bill Groves, Tech. Sgts. Jeff Ray and Jim Sayre, and Staff Sgts. Steve Green and Bill Killices brought not only their knowledge of the A7 aircraft weapons system to Nellis, but the experience of previous meets. In a highly competitive situation like Gunsmoke, pre-planning and home-base preparations are as important as the actual performance.

The 121st Weapons Load team of Master Sgt. Tom Guard and Tech. Sgts. Bob Derryberry and Doug Welsh finished third in their competition with 2,850 points out of a possible 3,000. The 442nd Tactical Fighter Wing, Air Force Reserve, finished first with 2,990 points.

In the bombing competition, the 121st, flying some of the oldest aircraft in the inventory, A7D Corsairs, against the newest high-tech weapons the Air Force has to offer, finished 12th in a field of 14. In 1987, the team finished fourth, a mere 100 points from first place, and ahead of three F-16 Fighting Falcon units.

Other team members included pilots Lt. Col. Tom Pape, Dan Wilson, and Jim Wenzell, and Capts. Bruce Johnson and Mark Cophin. Life Support was provided by Master Sgt. Denny Lambricht and supply was manned by Master Sgt. Gary Taylor.

Other maintenance team members included Chief Master Sgt. Jack Bishop; Senior Master Sgts. Neil Friddle and Dick McKibben; Master Sgts. Brent Friddle, Gary Pugh and Jeff Taylor; and Tech. Sgts. Dave Anderson, Kris Bickle, Doug Criswell, Larry Dishong, Paul Dortmund, Lib Malion, Charles Oclum, Sam Pollock, Jimmy Sprague and Jeff Zuer.

Staff Sgts. Jeff Cantrell, Bob Clark, Mickey Cooper, Todd Devore, Donnie Dotson, Kris Fannrough, John Gibson, Tim Golden, Phil Lopez, Rhet Martin, Mike McKinnon and Terry Vinson rounded out the maintenance team.

In all probability, this will be the unit's last Gunsmoke. Current Air Force plans call for the 121st to convert to the KC-135R Stratotanker before 1993. But the members of the 121st Tactical Fighter Wing left the airfield the only way they know how — they flew out winners.

What is Gunsmoke?

Gunsmoke is the Air Force-wide tactical gunnery and bombing competition held every two years at Nellis AFB, Nev., and sponsored by Tactical Air Command. Aircrews and ground support members represent units from the worldwide tactical air forces (TAF), including Tactical Air Command, U.S. Air Forces in Europe, Pacific Air Forces, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve.

Most Gunsmoke participants are already competition winners within their commands. Many of this year's players also deployed for Operation Desert Storm.

Gunsmoke is designed to demonstrate the skills and safety of Air Force air and ground crews on the air-to-ground ordnance delivery mission, and to further sharpen their capabilities through competition.

Aircrews are judged in basic bomb delivery, tactical bomb delivery and navigation/attack. Maintenance crews are scored on safety, maintenance effectiveness, maintenance management and sortie generation. Weapons load crews compete in munitions loading exercises where precision, technical expertise and safety count as much as speed.

OPPOSITE PAGE: 121st Maintenance Crews worked on their planes in the shade of Nevada Mountains. ABOVE: A judge looks on as Master Sgt. Tom Guard (R) and Tech. Sgt. Doug Welsh prepare to load a bomb. LEFT: Tech. Sgt. Bob Derryberry inspects one of the unit's A7s.
Minuteman Military Triathlon

Ohio National Guard Competes

by Maj. Christopher Cline
112th Medical Brigade

Throughout history, soldiers have competed in sports that mirrored military skills. In most such events, however, the elements of both fatigue and teamwork are lacking, making the sport abstract, rather than real. But now a new sport has been invented, the Minuteman Military Triathlon, and it appears to be a true test of the ski ll set within seconds, shoot accurately at distance pitted 5-person teams from 16 states at Camp Robinson this summer.

The teams were required to run a five kilometer (3.1 miles) foot race in combat boots and BDU’s, tackle a 14-event obstacle course, and then engage in three shooting events with service rifles.

Just about every soldier at one time or another has run in combat boots. Understandably, Ohio Capt. Phillip Bronsdon impressed many with his ability to run the foot race with a time of 17:20 — a pace few people can equal in running shoes. Spec. Tracy Deventer was not far behind. They finished, respectively, as the first male and female runners, sparking a first place win for Ohio in the run event.

It was a different story in the obstacle event, however, considering Ohio took only a mediocre 13th place. "We should have done better in the obstacle course," said team captain Maj. Christopher Cline, "but we just weren’t ready for the way the foot race affected us. We met surprises on obstacles that we never suspected would be problems. But in fairness to our team, we didn’t have a shot at the obstacle course until the day of the competition, so we were hitting it cold."

Ohio came back hard in the shooting events, taking a solid fifth place. The range work started out with 10 rounds from standard .45 caliber M-1911s at 300 yards. No sighter were allowed, and no sight adjustments were permitted. The hit or rotten shot arrived with what was used during the entire match.

Next came the sprint event. Starting from the prone position at the 300 yard line, the shooters, as a team, had 35 seconds to sprint to the 200 yard line, assume the prone position once again, charge the weapon loaded with a magazine of 10 rounds, and then engage ten 12-inch-square steel plates. Accuracy was important, but speed was too, because even the fastest runners only entered with less than ten seconds of actual shooting time.

The final event was another 100 yard sprint, this time to the 100 yard line and the offhand position, where ten pop-up targets (man sized) appeared for three seconds at a time. Between each snap shot, the shooter was required to place the rifle on safe and assume the ready position. Only when the target appeared could the safety be taken off and the rifle brought to the shoulder.

When the statistics were tabulated, Ohio had taken an overall 5th place — certainly something to be proud of, but the team felt it could have placed first, and is ready to try again.

The big laurel for Ohio was the award for top female competitor, which went to Spec. Tracy Van Deventer. Said Cline, "Tracy was easily the strongest and best balanced woman there. She is a tremendously fast runner, but she is also very strong in her upper body. She could climb the rope and do the horizontal ladder, which was a big plus for us."

Capt. Bronsdon ranked 3rd overall in the male individual classification.

The Arkansas National Guard plans to hold the event again next year. Ohio plans to field a team, and will hold tryouts next summer.

What will it take to make the team? If this year’s squad is any indication, a good starting point is a 300 m APIF, a record of foot race competition and a willingness to train as a precision marksman.

This year’s Ohio team members and their units were: Maj. Christopher Cline, HHC 112th Medical Brigade; Capt. Phillip Bronsdon, 1/226th Infantry, Company B; 2nd Lt. Michael Malloy, 1/147th Infantry, Company A; Master Sgt. William Pifer, 200th CES; Spec. Tracy Van Deventer, Det. 3 STARC (OMA). Team alternates were 1st Lt. Thom Haidet, 1407th Transportation Company; 1st Lt. Terry Devlin, HHD 1-137th Aviation; Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth Post, Det. 3 STARC (OMA).
Showing American Pride
Camp Perry holds public open house

by Ellen Tietjen

CAMP PERRY—The 645-acre National Guard Training Site five miles west of Port Clinton is known to shooters across the country as the home of National Pistol and Rifle Matches.

Many veterans, however, remember being received there as new recruits during World War II.

Others might recall it was a prisoner of war camp during that war; at one time housing approximately 2,500 German and 2,000 Italian POWs.

Today, servicemen and women stationed at Camp Perry are members of both Army and Air National Guard units.

On Saturday, Sept. 14, Camp Perry was all of the above and more. The Ohio National Guard Public Awareness Day and Open House hosted some 2,500 visitors, many of them families with children, to show off both the base and the Guard.

It was a time to view the latest technology used in the Persian Gulf War, a time to remember past wars, a patriotic time as music from the 122nd Ohio Army Guard Band wafted through the air, and a time for children to get a hands-on look at military equipment.

Popularized by the Gulf War, the HMMWV (High-Mobility Multiwheel Vehicle) or “Hummer” was there in several incarnations — as a passenger vehicle, a truck, a mount for TOW missiles, and even an ambulance.

Actor Arnold Schwarzenegger bought a Hummer for $450,000; visitors were told by one young guardian. With its four-wheel drive, it'll go anywhere and is much better than the outdated Army jeep, he stated.

Sgt. Michael Wollert, an accountant by trade, explained the TOW (Tube-Launched, Optically Controlled Wire-Guided) missile and let young and old peek through the infrared scope. With a range of 3,750 meters, the TOWs were used in Desert Storm, most of them mounted on Hummers and Bradleys, he said.

Other displays included a mobile MASH (Military Hospital) unit, a type used in the 122nd Army Guard Band.

Wollert's unit, the 107th Armored Calvary Regiment in Stow, are scouts whose main mission is reconnaissance and defense, he explained.

The 107th also brought helicopters to the open house. They, like the other military equipment on display, were open for all to climb aboard for a firsthand look.

Guardians displayed up-to-date decontamination apparatus and charcoal-lined chemical protective suits like those used in Saudi Arabia.

The 143rd Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH) unit, based in Camp Perry, proved to be one of the most popular exhibits. The mobile hospital takes 10 to 12 hours to set up, with everybody — doctors, nurses, support staff — pitching in. Visitors walked through the trailer and tent complex while the personnel eagerly explained their jobs and equipment.

Children got to try their hand at suturing, using a chicken leg instead of a real human one, for practice. In the hospital display area, children also had their faces painted with camouflage colors.

Outside the ward room sat the mobile washer and dryer, huge by household standards. It can process 178 pounds of bedding, towels, etc., in one hour.

The Camp Perry MASH unit trains at a local nursing home, and some members volunteered to work in Saudi during the war and to help out temporarily in poor countries like Honduras and Haiti. Others from the unit worked on rescue crews during the flooding at Shadyside.

"We take a lot of pride in being available to our state," said Ruth Wilcox, chief nurse.

Camp Perry is also the home to the RED HORSE (Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operations Repair Squadrons, Engineer) division of the Ohio National Guard. RED HORSE units are the Air Force equivalent of combat engineers, formed in 1965 to meet heavy repair and troop construction requirements of the Air Force.

Most of the open house displays were temporary, but some will be back for another showing next year.

After spending only one day at Camp Perry, the historical significance of this training site is clearly evident: the camp was named after Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry, the victorious American commander who defeated the British in the Battle of Lake Erie; the first 300 acres were purchased by the State Legislature in 1906 for a state
The 180th locks and loads...

Air Warrior '91

by Mai, Nancy August
180th Tactical Fighter Group

TOLEDO—The 180th Tactical Fighter Group is engaged in the conversion from the A-7 Corsair II to the F-16 Fighting Falcon. But even while the pilots and maintenance personnel are immersed in the conversion, training for the Total Force mission never ends.

The last scheduled exercise mission for the A-7s of the 180th was one of the most realistic combat training assignments available to the Air Guard—"Air Warrior" held at the National Training Center (NTC) at Fort Irwin, CA. During Air Warrior, pilots, maintenance crews, and munitions handlers were deployed into a simulated wartime environment to work side-by-side with their active duty counterparts.

The overall scenario was simple. The Red Force, supported by the 180th, was dug in, the Blue Force was attacking. The actual missions were far from simple.

"Our pilots, under fire from ground forces, practiced live weapons deliveries," said Lt. Col. Dave Pifer, project officer for the 180th. "We attacked with cluster bombs, general purpose bombs and Maverick missiles. Maverick's were the weapon of choice in Iraq and can hit a tank five to six miles away."

Air Warrior also gave munitions storage and load crew an opportunity to become familiar with handling the "real thing."

"Repetitious activity utilizing inert training items at home station cannot compare to the apprehension developed with 'live' munitions," Mai. Richard Brazeau of the 180th Consolidated Combat Maintenance Squadron said. "Exercises like Air Warrior help eliminate this apprehension. Crews gain confidence in the handling, fusing and loading of live ordnance."

The munitions crews also gained experience in aircraft maintenance. A real teamwork effort was required to maintain the quick sortie turn-around times.

In addition to using live ammunition, the 180th pilots were also exposed to something new, mountains. "This is a real benefit for us," Pifer said, "to train in a new environment—mountains versus the flatland of the Midwest."

"Another real advantage is the opportunity to train with the Army," Pifer added. "We get the feel for Army maneuvers and the Army gets an appreciation of the practical application of air power in combination with ground power."

NTC evaluations were constantly monitored.

Camp Perry hosts weekend activities

Camp Perry had a busy weekend in mid-September.

In addition to the crowds who showed up for Public Awareness Day on Saturday, Sept. 14, battalion commanders and higher from across the state also met at the training site to attend the annual Commanders Conference for the Ohio National Guard.

During the morning meetings, the two services broke off into their respective groups for instruction and discussion on topics such as community relations, leadership skills, management techniques and methods of motivation.

The afternoon agenda entailed a joint seminar, with both Air and Army National Guard commanders meeting together to discuss our state's role in Operations Desert Shield/Storm as well as future expectations for the Ohio National Guard. With opening remarks by Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander, Ohio Adjutant General, the joint conference was designed to bring together the leadership of the two elements of the Guard.

The weekend was open to spouses, and the evening provided an opportunity for entertainment and socializing.

Camp Perry also hosted the National Guard Retired Officers/Retired reunion which proved to be quite successful as well. The partipants were especially excitied to have their meeting coincide with the open house, giving them an opportunity to see firsthand the military equipment which played an instrumental role in the success of Desert Storm.
A Final

OHIO NATIONAL GUARD
Desert Shield/Storm Honor Roll

Army National Guard Mobilized: 1,050

Unit: Deployed To:
323rd Military Police Germany
324th Military Police Saudi Arabia
337th Personnel Service Company Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.
641st Quartermaster Detachment Saudi Arabia
838th Military Police
1485th Transportation Company Saudi Arabia
1486th Transportation Company Saudi Arabia
1487th Transportation Company Saudi Arabia
5694th Engineer Detachment (FTTC) Saudi Arabia

Air National Guard Mobilized: 594

Unit: Deployed To:
121st Security Police Flight Bahrain
121st Services Flight MacDill AFB, Fla.
160th Air Refueling Group Saudi Arabia, UAE
160th Security Police Flight Canwell AFB, Texas/
160th Services Flight Home Station/Minot AFB, N.D
160th SAC Clinic Minot AFB, N.D./
178th Civil Engineering Squadron Grand Forks AFB, N.D./
178th Tactical Hospital Ellsworth AFB, N.D./
178th Services Flight Fairchild AFB, Wash.
179th Services Flight Cannon AFB, N.M.
179th Medical Services Squadron Holloman AFB, N.M.
180th Civil Engineering Squadron United Kingdom/Andrews AFB, Md.
180th Services Flight Home Station

Many individuals from the Ohio National Guard also volunteered and served during Operations Desert Shield/Storm.

Tribute

The last Ohio unit returns home

Story by Spec. J.D. Biros
Photos by Sgt. Lori King
196th Public Affairs Detachment

After seven months in Saudi Arabia, the 838th Military Police Company is home at last.

More than 3,000 cheering family members, friends and Ohioans greeted the returning 838th MPs at the Vienna Air Force Reserve Base in Youngstown. The welcome home ceremony even caught the attention of the network news media, being broad- cast across the country on ABC.

Many of the returning MPs, like Sgt. Cheryl Hornyak, weren't expecting such a large turnout. "It was pure excitement," she said.

When Hornyak stepped off the C-130 aircraft and into the waiting arms of her husband, 5-year-old child and set of 3-year- old twins, she received a "love bonus." Her father, who was under extensive medical care, was brought by ambulance and stretcher to welcome home. He said he had to be there when she returned.

First Sergeant Michael Kupiza also wasn't anticipating the number of people at the air base. "I dropped off the plane and I was really surprised," he said. "I was proud that all the people came out to celebrate our homecoming!"

While in the Middle East, the Youngstown unit performed tasks that stretched the personnel across three countries and hundreds of miles. The 838th provided area security for military posts, battled circulation control for supply routes, safety checks on the highways and customs inspections in the airport. The unit personnel also investigated vehicular accidents and were involved in first aid administration and emergency assistance.

Although the 330 soldiers of the 838th MP Company who served in Operation Desert Storm returned in early September, it wasn't until two months later that the unit was considered "officially" home.

Stateside, the personnel of the 838th were attached to a sister MP unit in Youngstown, the unit did not resume its role as the 838th MP Company until their equipment was shipped back to the United States in November.

Now that Operation Desert Storm is over and soldiers are back home with their families, the unit's first sergeant said that the 838th would like to thank the family support group for the love and support rendered to the troops overseas. "They were a good, solid pull for us back here."

Editor's Note: The 838th MP Company was activated on Jan. 7 and deployed to Saudi Arabia on Feb. 10. Arriving in Youngstown, Ohio, on Sept. 7, the 838th was the last of 23 Ohio National Guard units to return to the United States after service in Operation Desert Storm. It was also the last of all Ohio reserve components to return.

ABOVE: Crowd shed tears of joy for returning MPs. BELOW LEFT: Not even the weight of two duffle bags can wipe the grin off Spec. Thomas Varmouth's face. BELOW: The parents of Sgt. Cheryl Hornyak overcome every obstacle to welcome their daughter home. RIGHT: The Bill Starr family with his son Benjamin, offers a thumbs up to the returning Youngstown troops.
Welcome Home Ohio

by Sgt. Diane Farrow
State Public Affairs Office

COLUMBUS—Brisk winds greeted the record crowds who gathered on that chilly Saturday morning; crowds who cheered loudly for Ohio troops and waved flags proudly for all to see.

On November 9, people from all across the Buckeye State met in Columbus for "Operation Welcome Home Ohio," a daylong celebration to honor our 13,600 Desert Storm veterans from all branches of the armed forces.

Undeniably, the highlight of the day's activities was the military parade. Spectators sported eye-catching combinations of red, white and blue, which contrasted sharply with the woodland and desert camouflage worn by Ohio troops; the visual impact clearly indicated that patriotism reached an all-time high.

Ohioans were given the opportunity to view military equipment and aircraft that figured prominently in our success in the Persian Gulf War. The M-1 Abrams, the M-4 Bradley, and the Patriot missile dominated the parade route on the ground, while the KC-135 Stratotanker of the Air National Guard impressed all with their flyovers in the sky.

Hosted by Ohio Governor George V. Voinovich and veterans organizations throughout the state, the day's festivities were historically significant in that no statewide celebration had ever been conducted for Ohio's veterans of all wars. Marching with Desert Storm units were veteran elements of Vietnam, Korea, World War I and World War II.

"Operation Welcome: Home Ohio" certainly succeeded in revitalizing the meaning of Veteran's Day. One can only hope that cities throughout Ohio will follow the State's lead and continue the tradition of honoring our state's veterans each year on November 11th.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: The Ohio Air National Guard offered the crowd an up-close view of an A-70 fighter jet. Despite the morning chill, record crowds turned out for the celebration. Representatives from this century's five wars participated in this statewide event. Young and old alike were thrilled with the day's activities.
January 13, 22 years ago. He joined the 324th Military Police Company in September 1986. He was a young specialist when his unit headed for their mobilization station, Ft. Bragg, before being deployed to Saudi Arabia in early January.

At such a young age, it was assumed that Brian was in great physical shape. His mother Patricia, described him as a strong, healthy kid. After all, he was a black belt in Tae Kwan Do and an avid sportsman.

But on January 14, just one day after his birthday, Brian suffered a fatal heart attack during a physical training test at Ft. Bragg. His death came as a shock to both his unit and his parents — there were no warning signs, no known physical ailments, simply no reason.

The day before Brian died, his mother spoke with him on the phone. It was about 5 p.m. and he was in high spirits. He told his mother about the candy his fellow soldiers gave him for his birthday and talked about how everybody was keeping each other's morale up.

"He said they (the 324th MPs) didn't have a television so they weren't as down as we were. President Bush's deadline (Jan. 15) was fast approaching." His mother recalled.

"Then he said he'd call me next week after the firing range."

But the call never came.

The following Monday morning, January 14, the Spackmans learned of their son's death.

Since that tragic day, Brian's parents, Keith and Patricia, have been honored at a parade in their hometown of Niles, and have shared with caring listeners the many loves of their son.

Brian is not remembered for only one specific passion. Well, maybe one — food. Not because of how much he liked to eat it, but rather for how much he liked to cook it. He was even a qualified food inspector for the State of Ohio.

"He was always cooking, taking over someone's kitchen. He'd tell them what to get and held prepare it. David, his brother, didn't even know how to turn on a stove."

His brother's death, David has taken on the legacy of Brian's culinary duties. In fact, since Brian had been a student at the University of Akron before deployment, the school awarded him an honorary Associates Degree in the Culinary Arts to Brian in May 1991.

Memories of Brian began to flood the minds of Keith and Patricia as they recalled the antics of typical family outings. They said the family always went camping together. They always swam together in the neighbor's pool. They enjoyed staying up until early morning hours, Brian cooking for all of them.

Brian also loved the military. In 1988 he earned the unit's first Sergeant's Award and in 1989 he was a contributor when the unit won the Eisenhower Award for being the best National Guard unit in Ohio. The 324th also chose him to represent the unit as a security guard during a West Point football game last year.

"Brian felt you should live each day to the fullest because you don't know what's happening tomorrow," his mother said.

"We've always said that our kids always thought that Brian did enjoy life off his friends."

"Anybody who was even remotely involved in Operation Desert Storm knows the hardship endured. Separation of family and friends, uncomfortable overseas travel, lost jobs, lower incomes. Most of the Ohio National Guard soldiers survived it all and were welcomed home with parades and parties. Most of them.

This is a special tribute to the two military policemen who didn't make it home."

Lt. Tony King
Niles High Public Affairs Detachment


Alliance—Sgt. Mark J. Gologram wrote a paper about his personal visit to the Vietnam War Memorial. Mark, who was a first semester freshman at the University of Akron last fall, initially wrote the paper for his English class, but decided against turning it in and submitted something else instead.

His mother recently found the paper when she was going through some of his personal items. She could hardly believe what she was reading.

"...we will probably end up in war with Iraq, and I may fall victim to the harsh realities of that war..."

Mark J. Gologram fulfilled his own prophecy. On the morning of March 18, Mark was driving his military vehicle down Dodge Highway—a narrow, heavily traveled road in Saudi Arabia—when he collided with another military vehicle. He was killed instantly.

His father believed that Mark wasn't afraid to die. In one conversation prior to his death, Mark had mentioned that if he were to fall, he'd be joining another Army, God's Army.

At only 23, Mark had already made several requests in case he were to "fall"—his expression for dying for your country. According to his parents, Eleanor and Harry Lee, all of his requests were honored.

One of the requests was to have a military funeral in his hometown of Alliance.

He also requested that if he or his best friend, Marine Cpl. Dennis Beet, should fall in war, they would wear each other's dog tags for eternity. Ironically, Dennis also lost his life while serving in the Marines. Mark was one of his pallbearers.

In death, they are wearing each other's dog tags.

Mark was an active Army military policeman from July 1986 to July 1989. After a year of being away from the military, he decided to resume serving his country and joined the 838th MP Company in May 1990. Before deployment, Mark planned to go active duty again, making the Army a career as an officer.

"Mark loved the military. It was in his blood," his mother said. "When he was in high school, he and his friends would play "soldier" in the woods. They'd use camouflage, flashlights, everything."

"He also liked rifles and pistols, and spent a lot of time target practicing at ranges," she continued. "He was a ranger when he was at the University of Akron, but he wasn't in ROTC. He was one of a few ranger who weren't in ROTC; since he had prior Army training, they let him join. "Even though he wasn't in ROTC, they still had a ceremony for his death."

Just four months prior to Mark's death, when the 838th was at Fort Dix for deployment, he was promoted to sergeant. He was made team leader three weeks before he died.

For his tour of duty in the Persian Gulf and his overall contribution to military life, the U.S. Army posthumously honored Mark with the Southeast Asia Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, an Army Accommodation Medal and a Good Conduct Medal.

Mark's father refers to Mark as "a child sent from heaven." "He was the kind of son that every parent would want to raise—respectful, helpful. If I had a ditch to dig, a fence to move, a roof to put on, he was there."

The Gologrums say they will never get over their son's death.

Nobody ever does.

"We've talked to people who have been dealing with this for more than ten years," Harry Lee said, "and they say it still hurts."

"It's a victory for those parents who welcomed their children back. We pray that other parents will never have to go through this. You just can't imagine this kind of pain. We didn't."

"It changes your life. You'll never be the same!"
**Family Assistance after the STORM**

by Kelli D. Blackwell  
HQ STARC (Oct 1-5)

The Army used to have an old saying: "If the Army wanted you to have a spouse, it would have hired one," said Col. Williams, Columbus resident and chairperson of the Ohio Volunteer Family Assistance Council (OVFAC).

In the past, when a service member was mobilized, the spouse, children and/or parents were often left behind, uninsured and unaware of what help and services were available to them. And all too often, it was unhappy families who influenced their service member to leave the military.

The Ohio Volunteer Family Assistance Council initially organized in January 1991, during Operation Desert Shield/Storm, "...but not solely for that purpose," Williams emphasized. "Our group was formed out of necessity because state family assistance didn't have the staff to do it all by themselves."

Even though the war has ended, OVFAC continues to provide support and information to families of military members.

Region VI Representative Sherry Parsley of Cincinnati said the mission of OVFAC is to ensure the development and maintenance of a state family support program for both the Army and the Air National Guard.

According to Maj. Christine Harmon, chief of Plans and Actions Branch, the mission of the National Guard Family Assistance Program in Ohio is to establish and facilitate communication, involvement, support and recognition between the National Guard and its members’ families.

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**Ohio campaign receives national attention**

Although the National Guard Family Assistance Program and OVFAC both work together and deal with military families, their focus varies.

William said, "An easy way to distinguish between the two is that the National Guard family assistance is done through the military chain of command, whereas volunteer family support is accomplished through a 'chain of concern.'"

Harmon said, "The volunteers are truly the heart of this program. They make up the unit level family support groups. They receive volunteer training under the direction of the State Family Assistance Office."

"But they are also keeping the families informed and involved. OVFAC is developing a bi-monthly newsletter called the Purple Patches. Copies of the newsletter will be provided to regional support group leaders.

For additional information, contact the Family Assistance Office, 2025 West Grove Road, Columbus, OH 43225 at (614) 889-7912 or 1-800-589-9914.
Winter driving safety tips

American Forces Information Services

Control and common sense are the keys to safer winter driving, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Kent Milton of the highway safety agency suggests keeping the following points in mind when heading toward winter weather or conditions:

First, make sure the car is equipped to handle the colder weather. This includes getting a tune-up, checking the antifreeze and ensuring the heating system and wiper system work, he said.

The car's traction on ice and snow is also important. But Milton suggests checking local laws before putting on snow, all-weather or studded tires, or throwing chains in the truck. "For example, various jurisdictions prohibit studded tires, while others require both snow tires and chains," Milton said.

Every driver should consider having a winter survival kit-easily put together in the car during cold weather. Milton said items for the kit could include a shovel, whisk broom, ice scraper, sand or other abrasive material to provide traction, blanket, first aid kit, flashlight, safety triangles for the road, boxes, antifreeze, booster cables, and warm, dry clothes.

The traffic safety official said that drivers might also want to put some high-energy snacks, such as peanuts and granola bars, in their glove compartments in case they become stranded or stuck in the snow or ice.

During winter, people tend to drive as they normally do the rest of the year, he said. Last-minute stops and lane changes, and driving the speed limit are all common mistakes during the snowy season, he added.

**First, make sure the car is equipped to handle the colder weather.**

To help prevent accidents, slow down, use common sense and don't overdrive. Allow more time for traffic-control devices, stops and lane changes, and anticipate the other driver's actions, he added.

"Remember that bridges and overpasses ice up first, so drivers should slow down as they approach them," Milton said.

Skids can occur by going too fast for conditions, sudden braking or other quick movements. "You have to know how to handle your car in a skid," he noted. "It's not an instinctive action. You want to slam on the brakes, but that's the worst thing you can do."

A simple way to explain it is to steer the car in the direction of the skid until you find traction, easing up on the accelerator. Don't use the brakes. Once you've got traction, steer the car in the direction that you want to go.

"Don't jam on the brakes, and stay cool and calm," he said.

- **Don't park on a snow route during a snowfall or the car may be towed away or buried.**
- **Clean all snow and ice from the car's windows, hood, roof and rear deck.**
- **Make sure all outside rearview mirrors are clear.**
- **Be sure to wear seat belts.**

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**HERE'S ONE FOR THE ROAD**

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**U.S. Army Soldier Show visits Ohio**

**Celebration '91**

**Story by Spec. J.D. Biros, 196th Public Affairs Det.**

**Photos by Spec. Pam Gilmore, 16th Engineer Brigade**

They sing, they dance—heck, they even play music—but what's most unique about the cast and crew of "Celebration '91" is that they are all soldiers.

For the eighth consecutive year, 40 active Army soldiers have left their positions as cooks, technicians and mechanics to be driving ministrers.

They are the United States Army Soldier Show, presenting "Celebration '91—a potpourri of country, rock, rap, blues and gospel music. They traverse the country by convoys bearing their name proudly as they travel up and down the U.S. interstate, performing at military posts throughout the country. What brought their musical abilities to Ohio was the performance they delivered in September at Veterans Memorial in Columbus.

This year's show set the stage for a dazzling display of pride for our nation's military and their victory in the Persian Gulf. The U.S. National Guard supported the show with generators, tents, and logistical assistance.

Launched in 1984, the current Army Soldier Show has developed into a dynamic and dazzling extravaganza which carries on the tradition of entertainment "For the Soldier, By the Soldier." established by Irving Berlin in World War I. The show usually only tours for four months, but it was extended to six to express appreciation to Army Reserve and National Guard units who serve as part of the Total Army Family, said Edwin Ridenour, artistic director for the show. Ridenour, from Springfield, Ohio, became involved with the show while on active duty and now continues his involvement as a civilian.

"The cast of Celebration '91 thrilled the audience with "The Barber," moved them with soulful renditions of popular songs, and inspired them with a moving ensemble of patriotic tunes.

To become a member of the cast or crew, each soldier must audition at their station of assignment. Six thousand try out annually, but only 1,500 are chosen for final selection. Of the finalists, 40 soldiers are selected, receiving a six-month temporary assignment to imitate acts such as the Blues Brothers and the Simpsons (Do the Bart), while also performing hits like "Wishes That Can't.""Not a note of the show is written before the performers arrive (for duty)," Ridenour said. "We write the show around the talent." Describing this year's show as "fast-paced variety show," Ridenour said, "In a little more than an hour, Celebration '91 packs in enough songs to tantalize every musical taste and to raise the audience to their feet with cheers and applause.

Though each performer has a specialized musical talent, each is assigned additional duties as stage hands and sound technicians. For each performance, they unload and assemble 35,000 pounds of theatrical stage equipment, perform the show and then disassemble the equipment for the next tour stop.

After the curtain dropped, the singers, dancers, and musicians relaxed briefly before tearing down the equipment and packing it up for their show the following night in Wisconsin.

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"For the Soldier, By the Soldier."
News you can use
Catalog Offers Hundreds of Money-Saving Tips

American Forces Information Service

Looking for ways to save money on your car insurance or to organize your finances?

Car insurance and personal finance are subjects of two new pamphlets available from the Consumer Information Center. Part of the General Services Administration, the center publishes a quarterly catalog listing more than 200 free and low-cost brochures on safety, federal benefits, health and more.

Nine Ways to Lower Your Auto Insurance Costs, Item 503X, is published jointly by the U.S. Office of Consumer Affairs and the Insurance Information Institute. Information Center officials said the free booklet will help a shopper buy the best auto insurance at the best price. One of many tips in the booklet is how to compare shop for insurance.

Parts About Financial Planners, Item 434X, is a new 30-cent booklet jointly published by the Federal Trade Commission and the American Association of Retired Persons. It explains what financial planners do and how to determine if you need one to help with investments.

The Consumer Information Center and the National Consumer's League have published two free booklets on medicines. A Guide to Warning Labels on Non-prescription Medicines, Item S98X, explains what the warning labels on over-the-counter drugs mean and what can happen if they are ignored. When Medications Don't Mix, Item 513X, tells what happens when certain drugs interact and how to avoid possible problems.

You can also learn about the U.S. government plans to help finance education costs by sending for a free copy of Federal Student Aid Fact Sheet, Item 578W. Published by the U.S. Department of Education, the fact sheet answers questions about grants, low interest loans, and work-study opportunities sponsored by the federal government.

For copies of the booklets and a free copy of The Consumer Information Catalog, send your name, address and booklet costs, if any, to Consumer Information Center, Department Item 438, Pueblo, Colo. 81009 or call 719-948-4000. Center officials stress the call is not toll-free.

VA updates benefits book for military families

One of the federal government's all-time best selling publications, Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents, has been updated for 1991 and is available from the U.S. Government Printing Office.

Compiled by the Department of Veterans Affairs, the 92-page handbook describes such benefits as medical care, education, compensation, life insurance, home loan guarantees, vocational rehabilitation, and burial assistance. It also explains the eligibility requirements for each program and outlines claims procedures.

The handbook would be of value to Guardians who were mobilized for Desert Storm.


VA advises consumers that the handbook is sometimes reprinted with few or no changes, and sold by private companies for considerably higher prices.

TO THE EDITOR:

Dear Editor,

In regard to Brig. Gen. Gordon Campbell's Profile: Bob who?

Brig. Gen. John Martin
Assistant Adjutant General
Ohio Army National Guard

FROM THE EDITOR:

The staff of the Buckeye Guard has received several inquiries recently about what seems to be a recurring problem: National Guard members not receiving the Buckeye Guard Magazine.

Mailings for the Ohio Army National Guard are handled by the SPODEP automated personnel system. Labels for Ohio Army National Guard members are provided by the CPPO of the major Guard command.

Every Ohio National Guard member should receive one magazine at their home address.

If you are not receiving a magazine on a quarterly basis, it indicates that your unit personnel records do not contain your correct mailing address. You should review your records to ensure the correct mailing address has been entered into the SPODEP or CPPO files.

State Public Affairs Office staff or Buckeye Guard staff can not change a change of mailing address. This must be accomplished by you, through your unit administrator.

Infantry soldier receives highest state award

Story by Capt. Sandra J. Wilson
73rd Infantry Brigade (Separate)

Spec. John E. Piatt of the 73rd Infantry Brigade (Sep), Ohio Army National Guard, was recently awarded the Ohio Cross for the heroism he displayed earlier this year. During a multi-alarm fire, he saved the life of Scott Gircis at Apelexis Apartments in Columbus, Ohio.

On the evening of March 24th, 1991, John and his brother, Steve, were entertaining friends in their apartment. Through the parallel doors, they noticed flashing lights across the courtyard of the complex. When Steve Piatt ran to the apartment in question, he opened the door to discover flames in the downstairs living room. Because of the intense heat and flames, Steve shut the door and returned to his apartment to call 911. During this time, Piatt's guests started banging on doors, cautioning the residents of nearby apartments.

John Piatt, however, decided to risk entering the burning apartment in order to warn his friend who lived there. Avoiding the flames, he went through the smoke, up the stairs, and into the bedroom where he found Scott asleep. John began shaking him, yelling, "GET UP GET UP THE APARTMENT S ON FIRE!" Walking from a sound asleep and feeling the affects of the smoke, Scott, assisted by Piatt, headed down the stairs and out of the door of the apartment. Fortunately, Piatt received only minor injuries and was treated and released at the scene. Scott, however, was sent to Riverside Hospital and treated for smoke inhalation.

Spec. Piatt not only received the Ohio Cross for his heroic efforts, he also received the 73rd Infantry Brigade's Humanitarian Service Award. This honor is awarded to an individual in the brigade for a single act of humane service that results in saving a human life or substantially improving the quality of life for others through his or her actions.

Although one can only speculate what could have resulted from this fire, the base actions of Spec. John Piatt undoubtedly affected the life of at least one very, very grateful friend.

CoA, 237th Support responds to water emergency

Story and photo by Sgt. Sandra Pinkerton
Company A (S&T) 237th Sgt Bn

When guard members return from two weeks of annual training, most go straight home, lug off their combat boots, and simply reenter their support for a water emergency in Woodside, Ohio, only hours after returning home from AF.

"I started my after-AF laundry when the phone rang," said Pvt. Mike Hacker. "Eight hours later, I was back in a tractor trailer hauling water pipe.

"I was sent to Riverside to the pumping station. When the water arrived at Rickenbacker, the 73rd Infantry Brigade (Sep) personnel were there loading water and making the necessary arrangements. We had no problem driving to the pumping station and loading the water," said Hacker.

"The scene was well established, with water standing 10 feet deep in the pumping station. A half-century old water engine was running on its last legs, and then it died. We were able to use our water pipe to supply water to the fire fighters. When we arrived, there were a couple of tractor trailer trucks parked beside the pump engine," said Hacker.

"Four 5-ton tractor trailers, one blazer, and nine men were sent to Rickenbacker from the Ohio National Guard Base (OSANG) to load as much pipe as possible and to drive it to E. Monroe Lake in Woodside. When the trucks arrived at RAGB, members of the 136th Field Artillery Battery operated cranes to stack the pipe on the beds of 12-ton trailers, while the 16th Engineer Brigade provided the logistical support necessary to coordinate this mission.

"Many local citizens met the soldiers at the lake, calling the crew "a welcomed sight" and volunteering to help unload the equipment. By this time, the community was left with only a few days' supply of water, so everyone immediately began laying pipe from the lake to the pumping station. Four 18-hour days and three trips later, the Company A team had successfully hauled 200 pieces of pipe, together with other miscellaneous items such as pumps and hoses.

Overall, the mission went very well and I was pleased as a growth experience for seasoned troops and new reenlistees. "I'd do it all over again, no matter how tired I was," said Pvt. 2 Jody Bowes. "You can say that you went about the "system", but this is what really makes the difference!"
ONGA requests Hall of Fame Nominations

Distinguished Service Award

Criteria for Distinguished Service Awards are as follows:
1. Any person, military or civilian, is eligible.
2. A person is eligible for nomination at any time.
3. This award may be given for a single act or for performance over an extended period of time.
4. a. An individual must have accomplished an outstanding achievement on behalf of the Ohio National Guard.
   b. Outstanding performance by the individual must have been such as to clearly identify the person as having played a key role in the accomplishment for which the award is to be given. Superior performance of duties normal to the grade, branch, specialty, or assignment experience of an individual are not considered adequate basis.
   c. Although a single accomplishment may be deemed qualifiable for this award if it is of sufficient significance and character, particular consideration should be given to those individuals who have contributed outstanding service on a sustained basis. Personal dedication and self-sacrifice may be regarded as factors deserving consideration.
   d. Civilians who assist the Ohio National Guard by their actions and support may be considered for this award.

Nominees

The proposed citation should not exceed 800 words for the Hall of Fame and 500 words for the Distinguished Service Award. The language used should be such as will be readily understood by the news media and the general public. Anonymity and military jargon are to be avoided. Citations used in connection with the awards previously made to the nominee may be quoted. The full text of these and other supporting documents may be attached for the consideration of the Awards Committee. A suggested outline follows:

1. Date and place of birth.
2. Date and circumstance into military service.
3. Chronological listing of career highlights to include: duty assignments, promotions, noteworthy actions or accomplishments excepts from previous citations.
4. Conclusion

Award of Merit

Over the past year the Awards Committee has received a number of award nominees who have made a contribution which did not meet the criteria for the present awards but whose contribution has been such as to merit the recognition of this Association.

Upon the recommendation of the Awards Committee, the Board of Officers and Trustees of the Association approved a third award called the Ohio National Guard Association Award of Merit.

Personnel considered for this award would be those who have made a contribution which did not meet the criteria for the present awards, but whose contribution has deserved recognition.

This award is to be based on such areas as leadership, longevity, a meritorious act or deed, a project or activity which has contributed significantly to the benefit of the Ohio National Guard, military service performed at a level above the norm, or to an individual who has served the Ohio National Guard Association over and above what is reasonably expected from the member.

Anyone may submit nominations for the awards. Nominations along with proposed award citation text and a synopsis (brief summary) of no more than two pages should be submitted to The Ohio National Guard Association, ATTN: Awards Committee, 577 West Second Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43215. Deadline for the submission is March 1, 1992.
Recruiters escort pageant contestants

Six members of the Akron/Canton Regional Recruiting Force took part in the Annual Alliance Carnation Week Queen Pageant. The recruiting force opened the event by posting the colors, and later served as escorts during the formal wear competition. Aliso, Sgt. 1st Class Lawrence Sampson accompanies a contestant down the runway.

Pedaling for pledges, Part II

Story by Pvt. 2 Nicole Smith

19th Public Affairs Detachment

COLUMBUS—Pedaling with a purpose, Sgt. 1st Class Jim D. Hull represented the Ohio Adjutant General's Department in the Annual State of Ohio Bike-A-Thon, which supports the Ohio Hunger Task Force. For the second year in a row, the supply sergeant from Headquarters State Area Command met with 57 other participants down at the Statehouse lawn for the annual fundraiser. There they were instructed to ride on a stationary bike for 15 minutes trying to clock as many kilometers as possible.

Hull pedaled 26.5 kilometers (16.4 miles), five kilometers more than last year. With the assistance of his coordinator, Michelle Noel, Hull also collected over $500 more in donations than last year—with a grand total of $850 in pledges. "I know I did better this year," Hull said, "and I had a fun time doing it!" It wasn’t all fun and games, though. Hull began training one month prior to the event, pedaling every day for 40 minutes in addition to his regular PT schedule.

Retired general honored

Excerpts from the Bowling Green Sentinel-Tribune, by Emily Vosburg

BOWLING GREEN—During a dedication ceremony on Aug. 31, the Ohio National Guard Armory in Bowling Green was named in honor of one of Ohio’s most prestigious soldiers, Brig. Gen. George F. Graf.

Graf said of the honor, "It’s just out of this world. I was surprised." Graf, now a Findlay resident, is originally from Bowling Green. First enlisting in 1937, he joined Company F, 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry as a private at the same armory which now bears his name. Graf received several awards and honors in the military, to include the Combat Infantry Badge, Silver Star, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star with second and third Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with first Oak Leaf Cluster, Purple Heart, Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal with three Bronze Stars and one Arrowhead, American Defense Service Medal, World War II Victory Medal, Army Occupational Medal, Philippine Liberation Medal with one Bronze Star, and the Armed Forces Reserve Medal.

He retired as brigadier general in December 1970. The general was inducted into the Ohio National Guard Hall of Fame in 1983.

Beighler Open House

by Spec. Derek R. Almasy

HQ STAR (Det 1-5)

COLUMBUS—On Sunday, Sep. 8, the Adjutant General’s Department held an Open House at Beighler Armory which featured the largest display of military equipment in central Ohio.

Over 15 Ohio Army National Guard units participated, to include elements of the 166 INF BN, 137th ACR BN, 107th ACR PA BN, 174th ADA, 684th MEC CO, 261st EN BN, and 275th MEC BN. Traffic in and out of the open house was directed by military police from 73rd INF BDE HQ. Over $600 people attended throughout the day, viewing captured tank weapons as well as static displays of air and ground equipment.

The public was also given the opportunity to witness our soldiers in action. The 166th demonstrated their marksmanship skills and simulated air-inserted assaults on an enemy position. Additionally, free entertainment, blood pressure checks, and face painting was available, and door prizes were given away.

Football Hall of Fame offers free admission

National Guard soldiers, airmen, and their families have until the end of the year to take advantage of free admission to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio. The 50,000-square foot museum contains memorabilia from football’s early days to recent times. Founded in 1962, the museum includes exhibits, bronze busts of football greats, and hourly full-color football action movies in a 350-seat theater.

Guardsmen can present their pink ID cards for admission of themselves and dependents. This offer is an expression of appreciation for the Guard’s military role in the Persian Gulf; however, a Guardmember need not have been to the Gulf to take advantage of the offer.

Buckeye Briefs

Fellow NCOs, we are at the forefront of a golden opportunity. The Ohio Military Academy will begin its 40th Officer Candidate Class in May 1992, and we are looking for prospective candidates. However, we want only the cream of the crop. Our problem is that we don’t know who the cream of the crop—but you do.

Talk to your most dynamic, enthusiastic, and motivated soldier about the benefits of being an officer. If they are interested or qualified, now is the time to start putting their application package together.

I realize that new lieutenants rarely return to their unit of origin, but if every NCO practices this career counseling, each unit will get some other NCO’s most dynamic, enthusiastic, and motivated soldier. Everyone wins.

By Sgt. 1st Class Larry Runyan

Ohio Military Academy, Training NCO

Attention All Campers!

The Ohio Department of National Resources (ODNR) Division of Parks and Recreation is issuing three-day free-camping certificates to personnel of the Ohio National Guard who were members during Desert Shield/Desert Storm.

To obtain your passes, submit a request with the name of your unit, your name, address, branch of service, and service dates to ODNR, Ohio State Parks Information Center, 1952 Belcher Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43224-1386.

The certificates can also be used for the Rent-A-Camp program if you don’t have camping gear but would like to try it. You will receive three certificates from ODNR and plenty of information to plan your camping trip. The certificates are good through December 31, 1992. For more information, call (614) 265-7000.
SHOOTERS CORNER
by Maj. Vincent Jiga
State Marksmanship Coordinator

Since the last Shooters Corner, a number of shooting events have occurred. The pistol and machinegun portions of the state outdoor championships were conducted on June 23 and Aug. 24-25. We had a good turnout at each of these matches, 38 shooters and four teams at the pistol match, 29 shooters and seven teams at the machinegun match. The results of these matches are listed below. I also had a rewarding experience attending the high power rifle portion of the national matches at Camp Perry in August.

Additionally, I was able to work with the junior team sponsored by the Ohio Rifle and Pistol Association. It was a pleasure to work with young men and women who show a dedication and enthusiasm seldom seen in individuals of their age (15-18).

The National Guard Championship matches were at Camp Robinson, Ark., during the last two weeks of October. We sent six different teams to shoot in these matches. We brought home a number of individual and team trophies. All the results are not in, so these matches will be covered in the next magazine.

Combat Pistol Match Results

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<tr>
<td>First Open</td>
<td>Sgt. Don Murray, Co C, 612th Engr Bn</td>
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<td>First Novice</td>
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<td>Second Novice</td>
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<td>Fifth Novice</td>
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Machinegun Match Results

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<td>Second Open</td>
<td>SPC Patrick Cooney, Tp T, 4107th ACR</td>
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<td>Third Open</td>
<td>SPC Frank L. Motini, HHT, 4107th ACR</td>
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<td>First Novice</td>
<td>SPC Michael R. Konbes, 237th Maint Co</td>
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<td>Second Novice</td>
<td>SPC Stephen A. Shumaker, 237th PSC</td>
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<td>SPC Larry S. Lang, 237th PSC</td>
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<td>Fourth Novice</td>
<td>Sgt. Todd W. Frederich, Co D, 612th Engr Bn</td>
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<td>Fifth Novice</td>
<td>SPC Sidney B. Follick, 54th RAOC</td>
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Team

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<tr>
<th>First Place</th>
<th>200th RHCES</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Co C, 612th Engr Bde</td>
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<tr>
<td>Third Place</td>
<td>HHC 73rd Inf Bde</td>
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We are putting the schedules together for the indoor championships now. Look for the bulletins at your unit. If you need further information on the marksmanship program, Contact Maj. Vincent Jiga (614) 889-3242 days or (614) 855-1304 evenings.

In appreciation... I want to thank all of the individuals who participated and everyone who helped make the matches possible by giving their support to me and the shooters. It takes support at the unit level to send a team out. Someone must be there to issue weapons and transportation when the teams are going out and they must be there when the teams get home to take in the equipment. You are the people who make all the programs in the Guard work. Keep up the good work.[]
"Operation Welcome Home Ohio"