Guardmembers reach out to communities in need

page 16

Above & beyond the call of duty . . .

Winter 92/93
To All Members of the Ohio Army and Air National Guard

Christmas 1992

Christmas is that special time of year when our thoughts turn to the warmth and togetherness of family gatherings and the shared laughter and memories of the year past. Know that our thoughts are with you this holiday season.

As a member of the Ohio National Guard, you are also part of a very special family. A family made up of exceptional individuals who share the kindred spirit of volunteerism for the good of the state and nation.

This year, our family pulled together on countless occasions to provide support and humanitarian aid both overseas and within the state. Local charities and non-profit organizations have come to count on the Guard as a viable resource to the success of their programs. Bold initiatives have been taken in the Drug Demand Reduction arena, with many of you committing yourselves to fighting the war on drugs -- doing whatever it takes to provide our youth with a drugfree Ohio.

Now, more than ever, during a year which showed us just a glimmer of the changes to come, we recognize that through continued dedication and sacrifice, the Ohio Guard will continue to meet the challenge of keeping peace in our world today.

From the Offices of the Governor and the Adjutant General, thank you for your contributions to the Ohio National Guard, our state, and the nation. To each of you and your loved ones, have a safe and happy holiday season.

George V. Voinovich
Commander-In-Chief
Governor, State of Ohio

Mike DeWine
Lt. Governor
State of Ohio

Richard C. Alexander
Major General
Adjutant General

John S. Martin
Brigadier General
Asst. Adj. Gen. for Army

Gordon M. Campbell
Brigadier General
Asst. Adj. Gen. for Air
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Vol. 16, No. 4

The Buckeye Guard staff always welcomes articles that cover interesting Guard personalities and unique unit training. Deadlines for Buckeye Guard submissions are:

- Winter: October 15
- Spring: January 15
- Summer: April 15
- Fall: July 15

The 178th Fighter Group, Springfield, supported Community Hospital’s “Rising Above it All,” just one display of Ohio Guard involvement in local communities. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Teresa Kinter-Buford)

The Offices of the Governor and the Adjutant General wish all a safe and happy holiday season.

On August 29, 1992, the 166th Infantry was the first unit deactivated under the proposed reorganization of the Ohio Army National Guard. (Illustration by Spec. Cameron Williams)

The 2/174th Missile Battalion and City of McConnelsville share in a dynamic relationship affectionately coined TEAM HAWK.

The views and opinions expressed in Buckeye Guard are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army or the Adjutant General of Ohio. Buckeye Guard is distributed free to members of the Ohio Army and Air National Guard and to other interested persons at their request. Circulation 24,000

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Congress OKs Authorization, Appropriation

Congress passed the DoD authorization bill and the DoD appropriations bill the first week of October and then adjourned for the election. President Bush signed both into law.

The $274.3 billion Defense Authorization Act, which added $695.6 million for Guard and Reserve equipment, provides for a force structure and end strength for the Army National Guard of 422,725. This compares with the strength Bush signed both into law.

prohibited the DoD from deactivating any Army Guard or Army Reserve unit in FY93 that was in existence in FY92. Unlike FY92, however, Congress did not provide DoD the downward "Flex" of 2 percent, which permitted DoD to cut the Army Guard an additional 9,000 last year. This year the flex is limited to half of one percent, or 2,100, downward and a full 2 percent upward.

The "freeze" was particularly sought by senators from the Northeastern United States, where a large number of the scheduled FY93 unit deactivations are located.

The bills also include initiatives from the chairmen of the two Armed Services Committees, Representative Les Aspin (D-Wisconsin) and Senator Sam Nunn (D-Georgia). Congressman Aspin's concepts are called the Army National Guard Combat Reform Initiatives. When taken all together, the concept is for Congress to ensure that the National Guard remains a viable combat-arms force, but with some changes in training and personnel policies. The combat-reform initiatives include:

Experience. The bill seeks to increase the percentage of Army Guard members with active duty by establishing goals for 65 percent of Army Guard members with active duty by setting goals for 65 percent of enlisted with two years prior service and 50 percent enlisted with two years active duty. The secretary of the Army would set interim goals between now and 1997. How close the Guard is complying with these goals depends on the definition of "active duty." If it is two years consecutive, then the numbers are in the middle 30-percents. If it is cumulative active, they are much closer to the goal. The secretary of the Army is charged with implementing the policy. It also encourages the Army to assign ROTC and military academy graduates to the Guard after they complete active duty.

Training. The bill provides for a training policy that focuses drill weekend and annual training at the squad, platoon and company level, leaving battalion and higher combined-arms maneuver training for after mobili-

zation. Battalion, brigade and division commanders and staffs would conduct multiechelon training annually.

Personnel Standards. The initiative provides for stricter medical and physical screening. If declared nondeployable, the member would have 90 days to meet the standard or be transferred to a nondeployable personnel pool.

Promotion. The bill requires all Army Guard promotions to be reviewed by either the unit's active Army affiliate commander, in the case of roundout or round up units, or an officer designated by the secretary of the Army for other units. The reviewer would be required to provide a recommendation within 60 days of the promotion decision.

Readiness Impediments. The Congress directed the secretary of the Army to develop a program to remove such impediments to readiness and mobilization as nonstandard personnel and logistics systems. For example, a lesson-learned from the mobilization of the roundout brigades was that although they had been considered among the highest priority units in the Guard, they had not been issued the computerized supply ordering system, called Unit Logistics System (ULS), which was standard in the active Army.

Report Cards. Declaring the Unit Status Report (USR) mode of reporting combat readiness broken, the committee created a new system of requiring all Guard units to be evaluated by an active Army entity that would evaluate personnel, equipment and members' qualifications.

Active Army Reform. "Operation DESERT SHIELD/STORM demonstrated that the active forces and their civilian leadership had not planned to use Guard forces effectively in a contingency short of World War III starting in Europe," the committee said. The authorization act requires the Army to plan for the use of the Army Guard in smaller contingencies and provide resources commensurate with that policy.

Senator Nunn and his committee focused on community programs...
Assistant Adjutant

where the Guard can play an integral role in improving society. These go beyond current drug interdiction and drug-demand reduction programs many states have implemented. The Senate initiatives:

One or more states will test a program during FY93 and 94 for Guardsmen to conduct training by providing health care to medically under served populations, such as in the inner cities. Some $5 million is provided to fund it.

A pilot program in 10 states for a National Guard Civilian Youth Opportunities Program. (Editor’s Note: The Ohio National Guard has submitted bids to the NGB for participation in both the medical and civilian youth opportunities programs.)

Enlarge the junior ROTC program from 1,600 high schools to 3,500.

Authorize a National Guard program of Science and Technology Academies Reinforcing Basic Aviation and Space Exploration (STARBASE). This is a joint private/government initiative to encourage disadvantaged youth in the areas of science, math, technology and personal achievement.

The DoD budget bills also provide $40 million for a Guard/Reserve transition program to assist members who are forced out of units that are deactivated. Secretary Cheney and General Powell had opposed such a program, which is already provided for active duty personnel, on the grounds it was too expensive and not needed because reservists already have civilian jobs.

Members of the Guard and Reserve now qualify for VA Home loans after six years service. The DoD budget bills also provide for a 3.7 percent pay raise for military personnel effective January 1, 1993.


Events:

- Pharmacists at the 102nd Airlift Wing, Columbus, Ohio, provide health care to the many elderly residents of nursing homes as well as direct support to the wing.

Changes:

- The 121st Fighter Wing was officially redesignated as the 121st Air Refueling Wing on January 14, 1993.

Organizations:

**The 73rd Infantry Brigade** was officially redesignated as the 37th Infantry Brigade on September 6, 1992.

**The 121st Fighter Wing** was officially redesignated as the 121st Air Refueling Wing on January 14, 1993.

**Adjutant General’s Dept:**

- **Ohio Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander** was federally recognized in this rank on October 6, 1992.

- **Assistant Adjutant General for Army Brig. Gen. John S. Martin** was federally recognized in this rank on October 6, 1992.

**Army National Guard:**

- **Col. Charles O. Dillard** replaced Brigadier General Jackie D. Stephenson as 112th Medical Brigade commander on November 1, 1992.

- **Col. Chet Lewis** replaced Col. Lynn Coriell as 134th Engineer Group commander on October 1, 1992. Coriell was promoted to Deputy Commander of the 16th Engineer Brigade.

- **Lt. Col. Bill H. Hall** replaced Col. David Hering as 416th Engineer Group commander on October 1, 1992. Hering is now the 16th Engineer Brigade Staff Engineer Officer.

**Air National Guard:**

- **Col. Thomas Powers** was appointed Chief of Staff, Hqs Ohio ANG, on July 1, 1992. Col. Powers replaces Maj. Gen. Ray Moorman, who retired. Powers was formerly Director of Operations for the Ohio ANG.

- **Brig. Gen. John H. Smith**, commander of the 121st Air Refueling Wing, was promoted to this rank on August 12, 1992. General Smith has served as wing commander since April, 1991.

Col. Harry “A.J.” Feucht was named commander of the 180th Fighter Group, Toledo, in November, 1992. Col. Feucht previously served as Director of Operations for the 121st FW.


Lt. Col. Stephen Koper was appointed Director of Support Services, Hqs Ohio ANG, in August, 1992. Lt. Col. Koper formerly served as Deputy Commander for Support Services, 178th FG.

Lt. Col. Mike Green was appointed Director of Resources, Hqs Ohio ANG, in August, 1992. Lt. Col. Green formerly served as Director of Operations, 251st CCG.

Lt. Col. Charlie Vaughn has been named Director of Operations for the 121st Air Refueling Wing. Lt. Col. Vaughn came from the 180th FG, where he served as Standardization/Evaluation Officer.

Lt. Col. Robert Meyer has been named Air Commander for the 251st/269th CCGs in Springfield. Lt. Col. Meyer assumed his duties in August. Meyer previously served on the Hqs Ohio ANG as Director of Combat Communications.

Lt. Col. Dennis Ferriel has been appointed Deputy Commander for Resources, 121st ARW. Lt. Col. Ferriel was the commander, 121st Resources Squadron.
Restructuring; Modernization Planned

Smaller, high-tech force characterize Air Guard of the future

by Capt. James T. Boling
State Public Affairs Officer

As of this writing, the face of the Air National Guard across the nation will have changed. In a move to realign itself with the new Air Force structure, Air Guard flying units adopted the tri-deputy command model in October, 1992.

Air Guard units formerly maintained one or more flying operations squadrons, a maintenance squadron, a support squadron and a resources squadron. The new structure consolidates maintenance and resources into one organization and provides operations with a flight-line maintenance capability. The change, engineered by Air Force Chief of Staff General Merrill McPeak, is designed to streamline command and control and increase responsiveness of all components to mission requirements.

The restructuring is the latest in a series of moves initiated by the Air Force to cope with declining defense dollars while maintaining the operational philosophy of "global reach, global power." Long praised for its integration of reserve components into the Total Force, the Air Force is now taking a hard and fast approach to ensure its ability to live up to this vision in the post Cold War environment. The end result by the turn of the century will be a leaner, meaner Air Force that can do more with less. Restructuring is the first step, followed by consolidations, equipment modernizations and "capacity utilization" of installations not claimed in the base closure commissions of 1991, '93 and '95.

The Ohio Air National Guard is a microcosm of the Air Force move to the future. By the end of 1994, Ohio's five flying units will complete a fast-paced aircraft conversion timetable that puts them on equal footing with the active Air Force. The A-7D Corsair fighter bomber, a mainstay of Air Guard combat units since the early '70s, will disappear from the fleet. Replacing it in Ohio is the late model F-16C/D Fighting Falcon. The multi-mission fighter will be flown by the 180th Fighter Group in Toledo and the 178th Fighter Group, Springfield.

Mansfield's 179th Airlift Group has already completed its modernization, transitioning from the C-130B Hercules to factory fresh C-130H models. The "H" model Hercules provides the 179th with more lift capacity and longer range. Recent humanitarian airlift missions to Bosnia, Yugoslavia, and Africa emphasize the unit's global airlift support role and the C-130H's capabilities.

The major changes affecting the Ohio Air Guard involve the two flying units at Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base, Columbus. Both the 121st Fighter Wing and 160th Air Refueling Group will field the re-engined KC-135R Stratotanker. The "R" model tankers sport four powerful CFM-56 engines, increasing takeoff weight capacity for the refuelers while affording the capability to launch from shorter airfields. The 121st traded its A-7 fighters in transitioning to tankers and the 160th upgraded from the smaller-engined KC-135E model.
As co-located units, the 121st and 160th have been tabbed for consolidation as well as conversion. The flags of both units will be brought under one banner within the next year, resulting in the loss of approximately 300 positions, most associated with the fighter mission. Designated as the 121st Air Refueling Wing, the unit is slated to retain two flying squadrons of ten tankers each.

Conversion and consolidation are just two of the changes facing the Rickenbacker-based units. When Rickenbacker fell victim to the base closure commission in 1991, the Air Force decided to relocate the new wing to Wright Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton within the next three years, fulfilling its promise to maximize available space on defense installations. The Governor, congressional representatives, Ohio National Guard leaders and local officials objected to the Air Force decision as not cost effective and damaging to the Air Guard’s ability to recruit and maintain readiness. While the Air Force is reviewing its recommendation in the 1993 base closure process, the 121st continues preparations for the move.

Brigadier General Gordon Campbell, Assistant Adjutant General for Air, views the changes unfolding in Ohio as a mixed bag. “I agree with the direction the Air Force is taking in streamlining operations, modernization, consolidation, maximum utilization...it’s the difference between survival and extinction in this budget climate. However, while Ohio has benefited in the short term, tough times are ahead,” the general stated.

“These initiatives are just the beginning of a new Air Force being built from the ground up. The radical changes being made now will result in a smaller, more effective force, but further reductions loom on the horizon if the force structure question is not settled within the next few years,” Campbell noted.

Advanced technology and more efficient organizational structures are expected to replace some positions in the Air Guard of the future, according to Campbell. If more reductions are in the offing once the restructuring is completed, the Air National Guard will be expected to take its share, but not, he says, in the method currently being used by the Army to reduce the Army National Guard.

“If we are forced to take cuts in the Air National Guard after 1995, and many speculate we will, the Air Guard leadership is planning for reductions through general downsizing of all flying units...what they have coined as “de-busting,”’’ Campbell said. “Instead of wiping out an entire flying unit, we will reduce our primary authorized aircraft. In a tanker unit, we may go from 10 to eight...in a fighter unit, we may reduce from 18 to 15 or even 12. As the aircraft are the focal points for any Air Guard unit, when you reduce the number of weapons systems, you reduce the number of personnel required to fly, support and maintain them. It certainly isn’t desirable to lose people, but this method of reduction is better than the alternative,” the general asserted.
Reader asks Guard to practice what they preach

Dear Editor:

I am writing this letter in reference to an article I read in the Fall, Buckeye Guard magazine. The title of the article was, "Citizen-Soldiers Declaring War on Drugs."

I would like to commend the National Guard on their efforts to educate and support our youth in the War against Drugs. But, I am concerned about the use of alcohol at many Guard activities. It seems that this could be misleading or confusing to our youth. We are educating against the use of drugs, but, condoning the use of alcohol. I consider alcohol to be a drug. There have been many Guard activities in which families are welcome and alcohol is available. Many of children from these families then see some Guardmembers leaving intoxicated. What is the message that we are giving these children? I believe that members of the National Guard should consider themselves role-models for the youth of our Nation. If this happens, then I do believe the positive interaction the article speaks about would be successful. But, to say one thing and then condone another will only confuse our youth more, on a already confusing subject.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. I agree with the National Guard, it is time, We declare War on Drugs.

Janet Orr
Columbus, Ohio

Dear Ms. Orr:

Thank you for your response to the "Citizen-Soldiers Declaring War on Drugs" article that appeared in the fall issue of Buckeye Guard. The Drug Demand Reduction Program has two main focuses: raising the level of awareness among our community youth, and among the membership of the Ohio National Guard. As citizen-soldiers, we are not immune to the problems that exist in our communities today. After all, the term "citizen-soldier" implies that we come from the community. And as a citizen-soldier, it is our duty to exemplify the responsible, drug free life-style that membership in the Guard entails.

The Ohio National Guard does not condone the abuse of alcoholic beverages. It is the policy of the Adjutant General that the use of alcoholic beverages be "deglamorized" at any and all National Guard functions. If alcoholic beverages are made available, commanders are to limit quantities, ensure that proper restraint and behavior is observed, and make alternative non-alcoholic beverages available. Alcohol is an illegal drug for those persons under the age of 21. However, when Guardmembers who can legally drink alcoholic beverages choose to do so, it is expected that they will act responsibly.

The purpose of the Guard's internal drug prevention and awareness campaign is to educate our members and their families about the perils of using illegal drugs as well as alcohol. As you have stated, the effects of its use can have a negative impact on family members. It is our intention to make our personnel aware of these effects and how they influence our youth, and how they, as concerned parents, can educate their children.

I hope that you will continue to support the Ohio National Guard. The Drug Demand Reduction Program is a new program designed to address the issues you have raised. If I can be of any assistance, please contact me at (614) 889-7261.

2nd Lt. Neal E. O'Brien
Drug Demand Reduction Administrator
Office of Military Support
Counterdrug Division

20 Year Board Questioned

The era of the Viet Nam veteran is rapidly coming to a close.

After leaving active duty it took me ten years to consider rejoining the military. Fortunately I have a friend who is servicing in the Ohio Army National Guard, and he convinced me to come in on the "Try One Program."

I've found many soldiers with whom I can relate. Most of us still have no idea what Viet Nam was about, most of us are still trying to understand what went wrong with glory in serving our nation, and we are looking for ways to make it right in our own minds and with our country.

Each time I put on my National Guard uniform it helps. Each snow emergency, each flood, every tornado, even the collections (food, clothes, money) that we take up at Christmas time, gives me a chance to do something positive, and it pushes Viet Nam a little farther back in my mind.

Recently I realized that the Viet Nam veteran is under attack from yet another unseen enemy, THE TWENTY YEAR BOARD. This enemy is deciding with alarming regularity that the Viet Nam Veteran is no longer fit to...
serve. This decision seems to have nothing to do with the soldiers’ mental or physical condition, our contribution, nor does our need or willingness to serve seem to enter into the Twenty Year Board’s decision-making process.

To those who serve on Twenty Year Boards, I would remind you that the Viet Nam veteran was shamelessly used and cast aside. For a precious few of us, the Guard and Reserves are going a long way toward making it right.

Please consider us before you eliminate us.

1st Sgt. Calvin E. Bankhead
HHC, 112th Engineer Battalion
Youngstown, Ohio

Dear 1st Sgt. Bankhead:

As a fellow Viet Nam veteran, I was extremely concerned about your perceptions that Viet Nam veterans are under attack. I hope my response will alleviate your fears.

The objective of the Qualitative Retention Board for enlisted soldiers and the Selective Retention Board for officers/warrant officers is to evaluate the potential of each individual to favorably impact upon the future of the Ohio National Guard.

The members of the board, an unbiased group of officers from Ohio and other states, look at the total performance of soldiers based on their OERs/NCOERs, military/civilian education levels and physical fitness/weight control. There is no discussion of records among the board members so that one member does not influence another’s vote. The boards are conducted by secret ballot, and board members themselves are not aware of how each member voted.

In an environment of force structure changes and authorized strength reduction, more soldiers are not retained due to competitive physical readiness standards or a lack of meeting the required military and civilian education standards.

First Sgt. Bankhead, I can assure you that the Qualitative Retention Boards do not discriminate against Viet Nam veterans, Desert Storm veterans, or veterans of any other war or conflict. Board members conduct an impartial evaluation of the records provided and unfortunately, selection of the most qualified soldiers from the total records reviewed result in some officer, warrant officer and enlisted soldiers not being retained.

Steve Martin
Brigadier General
Asst. Adj. Gen. for Army

FROM THE EDITOR
Retiring?

If you are retiring soon, and wish to continue receiving the Buckeye Guard, a written request must be sent to the State Public Affairs Office; addresses are not automatically transferred from the SIDPERS mailing list to the retiree mailing list. Send your request to:
State Public Affairs Office
2825 W. Dublin Granville Rd.
Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789
ATTN: Buckeye Guard/Retiree Mailing List

Correction

The Fall 1992 Buckeye Guard incorrectly stated that with the advent of the Self-Development Test (SDT), Army Guardmembers ranked E-4 and below are the only individuals still required to take the Skill Qualification Test (SQT). This is not the case. In fact, the SQT has been eliminated completely, which means the Common Tasks Test is the only exam required of the lower enlisted.

Workshop declared success

The Ohio Volunteer Family Assistance Council (OVFAC) has a new way of training its volunteers.

Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base hosted a seminar in August which offered attendees university-style training. Volunteers from throughout the state had the option of choosing classes dealing with specific issues, as well as a basic course which covered fundamental family support concerns.

"A key part of the program is the education of spouses, relating to military benefits and concerns," newly elected Chairperson of OVFAC, Mrs. Barbara Carlson, said. The Air Guard and Army Guard are incorporated into the education process.

Using the services of Family Assistance creates a chain of concern which compliments the chain of command, and has become a top priority across the state.

Although the Council was formed during Operation Desert Storm, its focus has since shifted to ongoing unit and community-based issues. Notably, group leaders are working with community leaders across the state in the drug demand reduction program.

Carlson said that individuals wishing to volunteer should contact their local Guard unit.

by Staff Sgt. Bob Mullins
HQ STARC, (-Det 1-5)
The 166th Infantry: First in, First out

by Sgt. 1st Class Candace J. Kline
Det 1 HHC 237th Spt Bn

The 166th Infantry, Ohio's oldest unit dating back to 1846, sadly retired its colors on September 1, 1992, a victim of the first round of force structure cuts in the military.

The 166th Infantry began its history as the 2nd Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry in 1846, organized from units in south and central Ohio. It was mustered into federal service at Camp Washington, Cincinnati, to fight in the campaign of Buena Vista in the War with Mexico.

A dirt road ran from San Luis Potosi and wound through the center of the ranch called Buena Vista. Along the American outpost line, officers gave the Feb. 22, 1847 password to sentinels: "Memory of Washington." Leading the attack, Gen. Zachary Taylor ordered, "Double-shot your guns and give 'em hell!" Although the Americans lost 740 in killed, wounded and missing, General Antonio Lopez de Santa Ana's forces lost between 1,500 and 2,000 in killed and wounded. The Americans resisted an enemy three times their size, and Santa Ana was defeated.

After a year in federal service, the 2nd Regiment was mustered out June 23, 1847 at New Orleans. They were reorganized and mustered in Sept. 1, 1847 at Camp Wool, Fulton, Ohio, and again mustered out July 26, 1848 at Cincinnati.

The 2nd Regiment was reorganized into separate companies between 1855 and 1861, including the Columbus Videttes, organized in 1857. In 1861, they were consolidated and reorganized as the 3rd and 4th Regiments, Ohio Volunteer Infantry at Camp Jackson, Columbus. They were mustered into federal service for the Civil War April 27 and May 2, 1861, respectively. During this tour, they fought in the following campaigns: Antietam, Fredericksburg, Murfreesboro, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, The Wilderness, Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor and Petersburg.

Eleven days after Confederate forces fired on Fort Sumter, George B. McClellan accepted a commission as major general of the Ohio Volunteers. Gen. McClellan took command of the Department of Ohio which included volunteer forces from Ohio, Indiana and Illinois.

Gen. Robert E. Lee led his Army of Northern Virginia across the Potomac River into Maryland in early September 1862. Gen. McClellan's Army of the Potomac met them in battle along Antietam Creek at Sharpsburg, Md. The battle, which began at first light Sept. 17 and ended the next day, is considered by historians to be one of the turning points of the Civil War. It ended Lee's invasion of the North. Although McClellan didn't win a decisive military victory, consequences were enough to convince President Abraham Lincoln to issue the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation.

Gettysburg is considered by many to be the greatest battle of the Civil War and one of the most crucial events in America's history. The Army of the Potomac, led by Maj. Gen. George G. Meade July 1-3, 1863, won a decisive victory, and Gen. Lee was never able to launch another major offensive. President Lincoln gave his Gettysburg Address November 19 on the battlefield at a dedication of its cemetery for the Union dead.

The battle at the Wilderness May 5-6, 1864 was the first encounter of Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, commanding all the U.S. armies from a headquarters in the field with the Army of the Potomac, and Gen. Robert E. Lee, commanding the Army of Northern Virginia. Nearly the full force of both armies was engaged. According to Civil War historians, this battle marked the beginning of the end for the Army of Northern Virginia and the Confederacy.

On the night of May 7-8, the Union Fifth Corps and Confederate First Corps led marches toward the village of Spotsylvania Court House. The battle was over May 19, and Lee was successful at holding the line and delaying Grant for two weeks while his army prepared at Richmond.
Cold Harbor was a dusty intersection where five roads met - one led east to White House Landing and another northwest to Bethesda Church. These two routes were vital links connecting Grant's army with its supply base and giving Grant a way to extend his left flank. Both Grant and Lee considered the crossroads of Cold Harbor to be of great tactical importance. It was in Grant's hands, but Lee was determined to retake it.

Maj. Gen. Winfield S. Hancock's II Corps, including the 4th Ohio, were to have joined a massive dawn offensive launched June 2 by all five Union army corps. Hancock's corps encountered many difficulties during the nine-mile march June 1 to the left of the federal line.

Hancock later recalled, "The night was dark, the heat and dust oppressive, and the roads unknown."

Because of the lack of adequate maps, they took a wrong turn, marched six miles more than they should have, and did not reach their destination until 6:30 a.m. An attack was then out of the question.

"We were in a condition of utter physical exhaustion," remembered a soldier of the 4th Ohio.

When the buglers finally sounded the advance June 3 at 4:30 a.m., 5,600 to 7,000 Union men fell - the majority in the first quarter hour. According to Lt. Col. Martin J. McMahon, chief of staff of Brig. Gen. Horatio G. Wright's VI Corps, there had not been a faster rate of killing yet in the War. With Confederate losses of less than 1,500, the Army of the Potomac had suffered a major defeat.

With Grant's fourth major thrust toward Richmond halted, he withdrew to swing to the southeast and cross the James River. This would put him in position to strike at the Confederate rail hub of Petersburg, Va., 22 miles south of Richmond. Most of the major supply lines into Richmond converged at Petersburg into one line, the Richmond and Petersberg Railroad. If Petersburg were captured, only the Richmond and Danville Railroad would remain to supply the city of Richmond.

The Petersburg campaign began June 15, 1864 and lasted more than nine months. It was spread over 176 square miles. It included six major battles, 11 engagements, 44 skirmishes, six assaults, nine actions and three expeditions.

After their gallant service in these battles of the Civil War, the 3rd Regiment was mustered out of federal service June 23, 1864 at Camp Dennison, and the 4th Regiment was mustered out July 12, 1865 at Jeffersonville, Ind.

They were reorganized from 1870 to 1877 as independent companies located in Columbus, Westerville, West Jefferson, Marysville and Richwood. These companies consolidated in 1877 and reorganized as the 5th, 6th and 14th Infantry Regiments of the Ohio National Guard. The 5th and 6th consolidated Aug. 13, 1878 and reorganized as the 6th Infantry Regiment. The 6th and 14th were consolidated in 1890 and redesignated as the 14th Infantry Regiment.

The 14th Infantry Regiment was redesignated April 25, 1898 as the 4th Infantry, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered into federal service May 9, 1898 for duty in the Spanish American War. They participated in the campaign of Puerto Rico.

With the war in Cuba nearly over, Gen. Nelson A. Miles received permission July 18, 1898 to invade Puerto Rico and "raise the United States flag." He took a force of 3,300 volunteers ashore at Guanico July 25. Three days later, more U. S. troops departed transports near Ponce. Both landings were unopposed; the Puerto Ricans hailed the Americans as liberators (from the Spanish). On Friday, Aug. 12, 1898 at 4:30 p.m., less than four months after war was declared, a peace protocol was signed ending all hostilities.

The 4th Regiment was again mustered out Jan. 20, 1899 at Columbus. It was disbanded April 14, 1899 and reorganized July 14, 1899 as the 4th Regiment of Infantry in the Ohio National Guard. The regiment was again activated July 11, 1916 and sent to the Mexican border near El Paso, Texas to assist federal troops. It was then mustered out March 3, 1917 at Fort Wayne, Mich.

The 4th Regiment was called into federal service July 11, 1916, and drafted Aug. 5, 1917 for foreign service in World War I. It was redesignated Aug. 20, 1917 as the 166th Infantry Regiment and assigned to the 42nd (Rainbow) Division, commanded by Col. Benson W. Hough. The Division chief of staff was Col. Douglas MacArthur, who became a general as brigade commander and 42nd Division commander.

During World War I, the 166th Infantry Regiment fought in the following campaigns: Champagne-Marne, Aisne-Marne, St. Mihiel, Meuse-Argonne, Lorraine and Champagne.

Gen. John J. "Black Jack" Pershing commanded the American First Army Europe. The American 2nd, 26th "Yankee" and 42nd "Rainbow" Divisions had arrived in Europe with an average strength of 28,000 each. During early spring 1918, the Rainbow Division was the first American unit to experience a deadly gas attack.

(continued)
On the front, November 1, 1918, an American line more than 15 miles long stretched from Argonne Forest to the Meuse. The American forces advanced November 2 to the village of Fosse, seven miles into enemy territory. The German forces withdrew to Sedan.

On November 5, Pershing, aware that the Germans were defeated, was concerned with battle honors. Focusing his attention on Sedan, he sent a request to the commander of the French Fourth Army to allow the American First Army to move north to that important city. The 42nd and 77th Divisions lay closest to Sedan and would have been the logical choice, but the 1st Division - the senior unit and always a favorite of Pershing - was ordered to move.

The 1st Division was weary, so during the quick march north to the rear of the 77th and 42nd, rumors began to circulate that a German counterattack had broken through and the 1st was to fill the gap. In the resulting confusion, units of the 1st Division stumbled on the headquarters of the 42nd and captured the division's staff. According to historians, Gen. Douglas MacArthur, now commander of the 42nd, never forgave Col. George Marshall, First Army operations officer, for the indignity. MacArthur added that, while he could understand the confusion which created the incident, he could not bear the accusation that he was a German.

After holding defensive sectors in Lorraine and Champagne from Feb. 21 to Nov. 10, 1918, the 166th Infantry was later quartered in Germany as part of the Army of Occupation.

The 166th Infantry was demobilized May 17, 1919 at Camp Sherman, Ohio and reorganized again as the 4th Infantry on May 21, 1920 by consolidation of the reorganized elements of the former 4th and 7th Infantry Regiments.

The Regiment received its wartime designation July 1, 1921 as the 166th Infantry, and was assigned to the 74th Brigade, 37th Infantry Division.

The unit was again inducted into federal service Oct. 15, 1940. On Jan. 16, 1942, the 166th Infantry was relieved from assignment to the 37th Division and used to round out other units during World War II. Company C, Bellefontaine, received the following honors and decorations: World War II - AP, Northern Solomons, Luzon (with arrowhead), and the Philippine Presidential Citation Streamer embroidered Oct. 17, 1944 to July 4, 1945.

The 166th Infantry Regiment, less the 2nd and 3rd Battalions, was inactivated Feb. 1, 1944 at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. The 2nd Battalion was inactivated Feb. 22, 1944 at Camp Hood, Texas and the 3rd Battalion Feb. 12, 1945 at Fort Sill.

The 166th Infantry was reorganized Nov. 11, 1946 and federally recognized as a Regimental Combat Team with headquarters in Columbus. It was again reorganized Sept. 1, 1959 as the 166th Infantry, a parent regiment under the Combat Arms Regimental System, to form the 1st Battle Group 166th Infantry, and was assigned to the 37th Division.

The 166th was reorganized April 1, 1963 as the 1st Battalion, 166th Infantry, an element of the 3rd Brigade, 37th Division. It was relieved in 1965 from assignment to the 37th Division and assigned to the 28th Infantry Division whose combat brigades were formed with units from Ohio, Pennsylvania and Maryland.

The 1st Battalion 166th Infantry was relieved Feb. 15, 1968 from assignment to the 28th Division and was assigned to the 38th Infantry Division made up of combat brigades from Ohio, Indiana and Michigan. The 73rd Infantry Brigade from Ohio was reorganized March 1, 1977 as the 73rd Infantry Brigade (Separate). The 1st Battalion 166th Infantry was assigned to the 73rd until its deactivation Sept. 1, 1992.

At the time of its deactivation, the 1st Battalion 166th Infantry had elements in Bellefontaine, Columbus, Delaware, London, Marysville, Urbana, Washington Court House and Xenia.

To preserve the lineage of the 166th Infantry, it has been combined with the 1st Battalion 148th Infantry with active units remaining at Bellefontaine, Delaware, Urbana and Xenia.

To say goodbye to the 166th, two formal ceremonies were held. One was held Aug. 6 at Camp Grayling, Mich. during the 73rd Infantry Brigade’s final annual training as an entire brigade. The ceremony included a parade and pass in review. A formal deactivation ceremony was held Aug. 29 at the Ohio Historical Society in Columbus.

The 166th Infantry has had a long and heralded history, and it is sad to see Ohio’s oldest unit become the first to go.


Buckeye Guard
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For more information, your commanders may write to AAFES Catalog sales MK-C/D, P.O. Box 660211, Dallas, TX 65266-0211.

Army Families, Summer 1992

SCHOLARSHIPS

To further assist sons and daughters of members of the uniformed services in obtaining a college degree, The Retired Officers Association (TROA) has increased its Educational Assistance Program to provide $2,000 annual, no-interest loans. The loans, increased by $500 over the last two years, are awarded for up to five years of undergraduate study to unmarried undergraduate students, under the age of 24, who are dependent children of active, reserve, and retired service personnel and their widows/ers.

Educational Assistance applications for the 1993-94 school year will be available after November 1, 1992. Applications should be requested by February 15, 1993, and the completed application must be postmarked on or before March 1, 1993. For applications and more information, write to TROA Educational Assistance Program Administrator (09D), 201 N. Washington St., Alexandria, VA 22314-2539.

The Ohio War Orphan’s Scholarship is available for both natural and adopted children of deceased or disabled War Era Ohio Veterans.

To be eligible, the parent must have entered the armed services of the United States as a resident of Ohio.

Generally, a veteran must have 90 days wartime service or discharged earlier due to disability incurred while in the military. Children of guardmembers are also eligible if the veteran was killed or disabled while at a scheduled training assembly.

The child must be between the ages of 16 and 21, have resided in Ohio for one year, be in financial need, and be recommended by their high school principal. Deadline for application is July 1 of each year.

Additional information regarding the Ohio War Orphan’s Scholarship may be obtained from the County Veterans Service Office, from a high school guidance counselor, or from Sue Minturn, Assistant Administrator, Ohio Board of Regents, 3600 State Office Tower, 30 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215, (614) 466-7420.

Winter 92/93

Child Care tax credit overlooked

According to the Internal Revenue Service, one tax deduction often overlooked by members of the Guard and Reserve is child-care credit. This applies if you have to pay someone to care for your children so you can drill or go to annual training.

For you married soldiers, your spouse must be working or attending school full-time during your drill or AT period, and your dependent children must be younger than 15 or disabled. A disabled spouse may also qualify for this deduction.

Don’t overlook this on your 1992 tax return. If you’ve missed this deduction in the past, it’s not too late to get a refund. You may file an amended federal or state income tax return for up to three years after the regular due date of that return. For example, you have until April 15, 1995 to file an amended return for taxes that were due on April 15, 1992.

For more information, contact your local IRS or your unit’s legal assistance officer. Army Families, Spring 1992
Warden conducts discipline, music

Story and photos by Sgt. Lori King
HQ, STARC (-Det 1-5)

CHILlicothe—Razor-sharp barbed wire wraps around 59 acres of secluded land. Nobody can escape it and certainly nobody wants to invade it. To be trapped inside the vast confines of the Ross Correctional Institute (RCI) means being one of its 2,000 prisoners.

The prison does not fit the typical image of the infamous Alcatraz. Farmland surrounds the institute, and the facilities are very modern. In fact, RCI is practically a city within itself—with its own hospital, high school and college programs, a maintenance department and even retail stores.

Like a mayor who watches over a city, Sgt. 1st Class Ron Edwards oversees the prison. Chillicothe is his current warden assignment, and his inmates aren’t complaining. Instead of treating inmates like second-class citizens, he views his position like he views the National Guard—an opportunity to watch people grow.

Edwards graduated from college with a Bachelor of Arts degree in criminal justice in 1982 because, he said, he needed the kind of job which would always put food on the table. It has. But Edwards admits wardenship is not his first love.

“It’s music. I enjoy it so much it probably would have been my real vocation in life if I hadn’t also been interested in corrections. Music is my first love, but you have to eat,” he said.
So Edwards joined the 122nd Army National Guard Band to satisfy his musical appetite. He's been one of its drummers since 1974, after serving in Vietnam. As percussion section leader, he thoroughly enjoys “banging on his drum set” during monthly drills.

Last January, he celebrated his 20th year in the military. A few months later, he earned the Employer Support Award for his longstanding support of the Ohio National Guard and its citizen-soldiers, several of whom are employed by RCI.

Though some people believe you can’t have your cake and eat it too, Edwards could be dubbed as having his own bakery, with Fred Bailey being one of his favorite customers. Bailey is a member of a rhythm and blues band founded by Edwards. And he’s also a prisoner.

Bailey, who plays guitar for the prison band, first entered the Dayton Correction Facility in 1989 for aggravated burglary. At that time, Edwards was the warden in Dayton and he offered Bailey a slot in his prison band. When Edwards was transferred to RCI, Bailey went with him, guitar and all. And another band was formed.

“This has definitely been a confidence booster for me,” Bailey said. “When I was on the streets, I didn’t take music seriously. I played heavy metal. Now I’m into everything: jazz, rhythm and blues, country.

“The warden made me the guitar player I am today,” he continued. “I’m a different person — confident, career-oriented — instead of just out there surviving. He has given everybody in this band something we can take back with us.”

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

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

“I know first-hand the benefits of music, and, especially in this environment, the band contributes greatly to the morale of the prison population,” he explained. “The inmates really enjoy having this band; its like their hometown-favorite.”

And Edwards is like their town mayor. □
GUARDING THE ENVIRONMENT: CAVALRY SOLDIERS PITCH IN

When the City of Stow needed help collecting litter for recycling, Capt. Richard T. Curry and fourteen members of 3rd Squadron, 107th Armored Cavalry Regiment quickly volunteered. Although the city has experienced continuous growth since 1804, parcels of undeveloped land became dumping areas for discarded machinery and oil tanks; cleaning up these areas now opens additional space for developing recreational parks and playgrounds.

DESIGNED BY CHILDREN, FUNDED AND BUILT BY THE COMMUNITY

Dublin residents raised over $70,000 to build "The Discovery Playground," an 11,000 square-foot wooden structure which features a tree house, pirate ship, a castle, climbing spider web ropes, a haunted house, and much more in its handicapped-accessible design. In the tradition of an old fashioned barn-raising, over 1,200 construction volunteers including Tech. Sgt. Jenkins, 160th Civil Engineer Squadron, worked together for five days to complete the project.
"RISING ABOVE IT ALL" Springfield Air National Guard Base played host to Community Hospital's first annual hot-air balloon festival, which raised over $25,000 for its Independent Endowment Fund. The weekend festivities proved to tempt visitors with tethered balloon rides, fascinate them with ascension and balloon competitions, educate them with a health carnival, and amuse them with sights such as the bright green, tongue-flapping "SLICK" — all in an effort to support the area's mobile mammography and hospice programs.

ENGINEERING FOR DRUG-FREE NEIGHBORHOODS In support of the Ohio National Guard Drug Demand Reduction program, the 112th Engineer Battalion is assisting the city of Cleveland in its neighborhood beautification projects. The engineer support they provide will help convert vacant lots into community parks, giving inner-city kids an area that they can safely use for drug-free recreational activities. Many residents are thankful, saying that just the presence of the Guard cuts down the drug traffic going on in the neighborhoods.
H-A-W-K spells hometown pride in McConnelsville, Ohio

Story by Spec. J.D. Biros
196th Public Affairs Detachment

Ask anyone in the small southeastern Ohio town of McConnelsville how to get to the “HAWK Nest” and everyone knows the way.

Depending on which way you drive into town, you’ll be instructed to hang a right, hang a left, or just pass by the memorial statue in the middle of the town square. Then you’ll come to a hill and you’ll want to veer right. Take that road out until you come to a water tower that reads “McConnelsville — Home of the HAWK Battalion.”

McConnelsville is small town America with a long tradition of patriotism and military support. Since the town was founded, it has sent many of its sons and daughters to defend democracy in foreign lands. Monuments commemorating each U.S. war remind the citizens of McConnelsville not only of the town’s young people who fought for their country, but of all those who faithfully served our nation’s military.

The town has not forgotten the soldiers who once lived within its boundaries, nor does it forget the soldiers who train there today.

Photo by Spec. J.D. Biros

Positioned on hilly terrain just outside downtown, lies the 2/174th Air Defense Artillery HAWK Missile Battalion, one of the newer additions to the Ohio Army National Guard.

Ever since the HAWK Battalion built its nest in southeast Ohio in early 1991, McConnelsville has more than welcomed the unit into the community. A new water tower went up to serve the training area, electric lines were strung through the rolling hills, and the city made every effort to make the members of the battalion feel at home. Numerous parades have heralded the Ohio Guard, and whenever the unit needs something, like smoother roads, the city doesn’t hesitate to straighten things out.

Mayor Dave Bailey thinks of it as “helping out a neighbor.” Whatever the City of McConnelsville can do now for the HAWK Battalion, Bailey said he feels the unit will, “without a doubt,” repay the city should an emergency arise or special assistance be needed.

“Team HAWK enjoys a very special relationship with the citizens of McConnelsville and Morgan County,”
Command Sgt. Major Stephen D. Paver Sr. said, “These people go all out in supporting us and we take every opportunity to assist in community activities.”

Like the mayor, Bill Allen, local businessman and regional director of Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) Committee, thinks the Guard unit not only makes a great neighbor, but will succeed in strengthening the area’s economy and raising interest in the area.

“The HAWK Battalion has been a welcome addition to our community,” Allen said. Although the town anticipates that the water tower will be used for future development in the area, “...it wouldn’t be there if not for the HAWK Battalion.”

For several years now, the southeast part of Ohio has often been overlooked by new or expanding industries. Morgan County has fought long and hard to encourage companies to move into its borders, but development in the area has remained somewhat limited.

When the Ohio Adjutant General’s Department put the word out in 1987 that the Ohio Army Guard would be establishing a HAWK Missile Battalion, Bill Allen knew this might be the key to drawing attention to McConnelsville and Morgan County.

Allen had a history with the HAWK System. In 1960, he was part of the 183rd Ordnance Detachment of the 3/7th ADA, the first HAWK unit deployed to Germany. Allen’s military background and knowledge of HAWK systems played a significant role in convincing the Ohio Guard to set up shop in McConnelsville.

Each county was given the opportunity to make a presentation to the AG’s Department to vie for the setting of the HAWK Nest. Allen, Bailey and many other members of McConnelsville and Morgan County put considerable research into their presentation. The research effort, their understanding of the battalion’s needs and the committed community support won Morgan County the right to host the HAWK Battalion.

The town celebrated its triumph with parades and ceremonies which honored the U.S. Armed Services and especially the Ohio National Guard. The people of McConnelsville vowed their support and haven’t relinquished that commitment.

Maj. Thomas A. Grandstaff, battalion executive officer, explained that “TEAM HAWK is larger than just the battalion; team members include civic and business organizations, veterans groups and friends.

The land, donated by the American Electric Power Company, is also an ideal training setting for such theaters as Europe. Last year, the NATO HAWK commander inspected the facility and said the area would serve well as a training ground for NATO HAWK teams. The Ohio Guard and the City of McConnelsville hope that possibility becomes a reality.

For McConnelsville and Morgan County, the presence of the HAWK Battalion means future opportunities to rebuild the economy and establish industries in the area. Highly-trained National Guard members can serve as an employee base for companies in high tech industries, and as the training facilities expand, more jobs become available for the community.

Lt. Col. Robin C. Timmons, who recently replaced Lt. Col. James Wilder as battalion commander, believes the excellent cooperation that exists between McConnelsville/Morgan County and the HAWK battalion creates endless opportunities for them both. “It’s a win-win situation,” he said. “Whatever is good for the battalion is also good for southeastern Ohio.”

Today, the City of McConnelsville and the HAWK Battalion are both proud of their accomplishments. The area has provided such high quality training for the Ohio Guard that last summer when the unit went to Fort Bliss, Texas to fire three live missiles, the unit achieved all three kills.

Even if McConnelsville becomes an international training facility and big industries move into the area, it is highly unlikely that the community will ever neglect its support of the Ohio National Guard.
We waited, but soldiers are accustomed to and often do wait. It was quiet on the desert except for the sounds of the generators providing power to the radars and the Platoon Command Post (PCP). The soldiers spoke in quiet tones as we waited in the bunker 300 yards from the missile launchers. Battery A, 2nd Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery was about to be “First to Fire.”

The hot sun beat down on McGregor Range in the New Mexico desert north of Fort Bliss, Texas. Nobody seemed to mind the heat because anticipation was high, and the battery had completed a tough certification process to be able to live fire.

Radar searched, and the target drone was launched. Kevlar-topped heads strained to see beyond the bunker wall, with all eyes glued upon the quietly moving radar antennae.

This was the setting for one phase of Annual Training 1992 (AT92) for the 2/174th ADA, commanded by Lt. Col. Jim Wilder. Missile firing!! The first time, ahead of schedule, with outstanding soldiers.

After overcoming hardships in transportation involving a rail strike and a long convoy to Fort Bliss, 169 battalion soldiers began training in temperatures of over 100 degrees for the entire first week. Maintenance problems were tackled and solved by 997th Ordnance Company’s highly qualified personnel, while excellent support was provided by the U.S. Army Air Defense Artillery Center and the 2nd Battalion, 1st ADA.

With great effort shown by all, the training proceeded, enabling the fire unit to become operational and earning them the honor to bake in the hot sun with the live missiles on the rails.

Now as the heat intensified the HAWK radar moved, adjusted, locked, and pulses quickened. The target could not be seen by our eyes, but the trained Tactical Control Officer (TCO) and radar operator had taken the first steps to destroy the hostile invader.

The missile launcher suddenly moved to alert, assumed its glide angle and, in response to the TCO, ignited in a large ball of flame. The missile flew from the rail into the sky tracking toward the invisible target. We could no longer see the vapor trail when our searching eyes saw a fireball as the Homing All the Way Killer (HAWK) missile delivered a fateful end to the attacker.

HAWK personnel were not alone in this great training experience. The battalion’s Stinger missile personnel, which includes members of the 107th Armored Cavalry Regiment and 37th Infantry Brigade who are assigned to the 2/174th for training, also endured rigorous training at Fort Bliss. Preparation for firing the shoulder-mounted missile included working with the Redeye air defense weapon, which uses infrared technology to acquire and hit the target.

Train-up ended with one gunner/observer team winning the right to track and destroy a target with an actual missile.

A loud blast marked the target’s departure from its rail as it headed downrange, simulating a high-performance aircraft climbing out of an attack pass.

The gunner patiently tracked his target, choosing his moment to fire with calculated precision.

Everyone felt the surge of adrenalin watching him fire and following the Stinger’s vapor trail to its culmination . . . a direct hit and kill of the hostile invader.

Fellow Stinger personnel joined in a rousing cheer, indicative of the enthusiasm and pleasure they all felt.

Great training, high morale and additional steps closer to a great future for the Air Defense capability of the Ohio Army National Guard.
FORT CLAYTON, Panama—Soldiers from the 37th Infantry Brigade Military Police Platoon spent their annual training enforcing law and order in the tropics of Panama.

The theft rate at their assigned training site — Fort Clayton — is unusually high due to poverty faced by many local inhabitants. At the time of the MPs' deployment, the unemployment rate in Panama was approximately 77 percent.

The platoon's mission was to assist the fort's military police battalion in their efforts to reduce the number of crimes occurring on post. The platoon was assigned to walking and bicycle patrols in high crime areas of Fort Clayton and the surrounding housing areas, such as Cocoli and Kobbe. Walking patrols are a highly visible deterrent to crime, and the use of bicycles allows military police to cover a larger area than possible on foot.

The platoon was also tasked to operate access control points and provide an animal control office. Access control points limit access to authorized personnel which, in theory, should keep criminals off post. The animal control officer's mission was to round up stray domestic animals and to remove potentially dangerous wild animals from the housing areas.

Platoon Sergeant Wade Johnson noted that "Nothing provides better training than 'hands-on' missions under real life conditions."

Members of the platoon also had the opportunity to venture off-post and experience the culture of a foreign country; an opportunity many of the soldiers never had before.

"After seeing the problems and poverty that exists in Panama, one suddenly realizes how successful and lucky America has been over the years," said Lt. Steve Schwartz.

An indication of the platoon accomplishing their mission was the number of blotter entries being reduced from 20 pages to seven pages during their training.

Remarking on this success, Fort Clayton's Lt. Col. Miles Lehmenn stated, "Crimes in the housing areas during the platoon's annual training were held to their lowest number in recent memory."

"All of the platoon felt a great deal of satisfaction from their experience in Panama," concluded Johnson, "and we would certainly welcome another opportunity to train there in the future."

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Ohio Military Reserve trains at Camp Perry

PORT CLINTON—Camp Perry played host to the Ohio Military Reserve (OMR) during its annual training period, Sept. 24-27. The OMR is recognized as part of the state militia, standing ready to assist the state when the Ohio National Guard is called to federal service.

In a combined command post and field training exercise (FTX), this year’s training entailed scenarios which simulated natural disasters. A mock earthquake disaster incident based on actual Ohio geological data and risk assessments, along with a hazardous spills exercise tested the readiness of OMR soldiers.

Medical teams efficiently evacuated casualties on the scene, using doors, cots, and mattresses upon the unavailability of stretchers. Brigades maintained accurate radio logs and military police blotters; documents which prove crucial in times of crisis.

In a letter to Adjutant General Richard C. Alexander, Lt. Gen. John B. Conaway, Chief, National Guard Bureau, expressed his appreciation to members of the OMR, saying that “the success of this FTX demonstrates their total commitment and dedication as part of Ohio’s state response force for natural disasters.”

He added that this type of training was “right on the mark.”


During the closing ceremony, OMR Commander Maj. Gen. Fred Lick congratulated everyone on a job well done, remarking that this was the most arduous and ambitious OMR tasking to date.
Medics perform Gallant Service in Central America

Story by Major Christopher Cline
112th Medical Brigade

In late August, 45 soldiers from the 112th Medical Brigade traveled to the Central American country of Guatemala for a MEDRETE (Medical Readiness Training Exercise). The soldiers were primarily from the 383rd Medical Company (Clearing) but also included attachments from other 112th Medical Brigade units as well as several health professionals from other states.

Touching both the Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea, Guatemala rests along Mexico’s southern border. Guatemala is not a wealthy country, and basic medical services for the populace are lacking, particularly in remote areas.

The exercise, code named Task Force Gallant Service, took place about 100 kilometers west of Guatemala City. Returning to a base camp each evening, the medics worked at four field sites, where basic medical care and evaluation were performed. Treatment operations took place for eight days of the annual training period. The treatment sites ranged from hot coastal plains to cooler elevations in the volcanic foothills.

Indigenous Quetzal Indians provided the patient base in the most northern site, while the southern areas had more of a Spanish background. Language was a major challenge, particularly for the Indian patients which required additional translation from one of three distinct dialects into Spanish, and thence to English.

The task force soldiers worked hard. During the exercise 8,672 medical patients were seen, 1,625 dental patients received tooth extraction services, and 3,439 animals of various types (including one tiger and a monkey) received veterinary care.

The volume of patients seen, and the high rate of unusual medical problems present, gave the soldiers experience that would have taken many years to accumulate in the United States. The challenge of working in an austere environment with extreme workloads also provided valuable military training.

Although the civil situation in Guatemala remains unsettled, the soldiers’ biggest safety concern was the medical threat. A number of diseases, including cholera, are consistently present and the soldiers needed to rigidly practice preventative medicine techniques to remain healthy.

Transport for the main body to and from Guatemala was via C-130, and the task force performed its own convoy operations while in country.

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The Triple Nickel
1993 Schedule

January 31............ North Baltimore
High School
North Baltimore, Ohio

February 28........... Oak Shade Grove
Oregon, Ohio

June 26.............. Tiffin Mall
Tiffin, Ohio

June 27.............. West Park Place
Toledo, Ohio

August 29............. German American Festival
Oregon, Ohio

September 11....... 180th Fighter Group
Air Show
Swanton, Ohio

September 19....... Waterville, Festival
Waterville, Ohio

Any questions regarding availability of the 555th Air Force Band for additional community performances may be directed to Staff Sgt. Lee A. Trompeter (419) 478-6135 or the Toledo Air National Guard at (419) 868-4149.

TRIPLE NICKEL ATTRACTS SIZABLE ATTENTION The 555th Air Force Band of the Ohio Air National Guard performed next to the world’s largest aircraft during the Rickenbacker 50th Anniversary Air Show. With the wingspan of a football field, the Soviet-built AN-225 was built to carry the Buran space shuttle orbiter. At the concert’s end, the Ukrainian crew invited the band aboard for a tour.
Discipline, not harassment shapes leaders, boosts confidence

Story and photos by Sgt. Lori King
HQ STARC (-Det 1-5)

Turning 50 can be a frightening experience.

Although the hair gradually turns grey and the muscles somewhat soft­en, a half-a-century birthday might make it seem like a body ages overnight. Add NCOEs to the stress and an ulcer could develop . . .

When Sgt. 1st Class Carl Surtman was informed in May he would be attending Phase I of the Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course (ANCOC), he admitted being concerned about facing such a demanding course. He wasn’t as young and fit as he used to be. After all, he had just turned 50. But he knew if he was to remain in the National Guard, he would have to pass through those looming doors of the Ohio Military Academy and become a student once again.

Surtman, a supply specialist in the 137th Supply and Service Battalion, now considers himself to be an advocate of the Ohio Military Academy. Not only did it secure his career, the course also helped him earn back respect that was slipping away from his soldiers.

"Before (ANCOC), us old-timers would rely on troops right out of basic to help us out during CTT classes. They saw right through us, and would laugh at us because they knew we weren’t as knowledgeable as them on the subjects we were teaching," Surtman recalled. "Today I can compete with them. Even if I had to wing a class right now, it would be decent. And with a little preparation, it would be good."

With enough books to fill a footlocker, Surtman became armed with knowledge, regaining the confidence he was beginning to lose in himself.

Sgt. 1st Class Carl Surtman

Surtman’s story of fear turned success is not an uncommon NCO tale. As he describes it, many senior NCOs are behind the times in common core training, which is a primary focus of ANCOC Phase I. With the constant modernization of today’s military, policies and regulations are always in a state of change, and it’s essential for NCOs to be aware of those changes.

Although his age was one reason he wanted to avoid ANCOC, he now believes it’s the primary reason why older NCOs should face the challenge. "It’s definitely a good refresher on common core leadership skills for older troops like myself who haven’t had that kind of instruction in many years," Surtman said.

"It was challenging both mentally and physically, and there were times when I didn’t think I was going to make it. Being one of the oldest ones in the class, it certainly tested my stamina and discipline. But now that it’s behind me, I see how it’s made me stronger."

Surtman explained that the course is designed to be difficult on purpose because the instructors want to keep the Guard strong, no matter what age an NCO is.

The course is geared to prepare NCOs for platoon sergeant positions. Students receive a high level of learning, which includes instruction on theories, philosophies, different types of conflicts and their intensities (war), and the roles the U.S. plays in those conflicts.

Surtman credits his respect for the course to the instructors who guided him through it. He describes them as real professionals.

"The camaraderie between the students and instructors was super. We respected the instructors, who were stern and insisted that everything be done according to the schedule. Yet, if someone was falling behind, they would counsel them. They didn’t just let us fail."

"I now believe this course is what all NCOs need, and that it’s the best way to keep up with today’s Army," Surtman concluded.

Another self-proclaimed advocate of OMA said she was pleasantly surprised when she went through Phase I of the Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course (BNOC) last June.

Readiness NCO Staff Sgt. Jane Krueger, of the 323rd Military Police Company said she had taken the one-week course in 1985 but because she missed the cut-off deadline, she reluctantly found herself forced to take the course a second time.

"I thought I wasn’t going to learn anything because I already went through it. I took the Army Reserve course and it was stale, the same old

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