The 37th Armor Brigade Color Guard stands with honor during the reorganization ceremony at General Beightler Armory.

(Photo by Sgt. Gerald Wolfe, 196th PAD)
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ABOUT THE COVER: In May, the 178th Fighter Group gave a grand SLUF Salute to the Vought A-7 Corsair as it claimed its place in aviation history. (Photo by Master Sgt. Joseph R. Stahl, 178th Fighter Group)
Homosexual policy announced

President Bill Clinton eased the military's homosexual ban, saying that those who want to serve their country should be allowed the opportunity to do so. Clinton says conduct, not sexual orientation, should be the determining factor. DoD officials characterize the new homosexual policy as "don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue." The new policy went into effect Oct. 1. (AFIS)

Persian Gulf vets asked to register with VA

Guard soldiers who served in the Persian Gulf war should register with the Veterans Administration's Persian Gulf Registry. This will allow the VA to medically evaluate these soldiers. There is no charge for either the evaluation or the registry. Those Guard members who were exposed to radiation during the war should call 1-800-827-1000 to get an explanation of related benefits, services and medical research. (AFIS)

Kuwait medal update

Some National Guard soldiers may be wearing the wrong Kuwait Liberation Medal, according to service officials. A Kuwaiti version of the medal was presented by Kuwaiti government representatives to several soldiers. In February, the Acting Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs directed that soldiers may accept and keep the medals. But they are not authorized to wear the Kuwaiti version on the Army uniform, officials said. (On Guard)

Increased overseas annual training considered

Three-week annual field training tours may be on the way for members of the National Guard, according to Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan, Army chief of staff. The Army is turning over increasing numbers of missions to the reserves as it cuts back active duty strength. Sullivan says two weeks is "insufficient to transport, indoctrinate and train" the increasing number of reservists who will be performing their annual training overseas. (DoD)

Reserve Components and the 1994 budget

If approved by Congress, the fiscal 1994 DoD budget will go easier on the reserve components than the Bush administration proposed. The fiscal 1994 Clinton budget asks for 90,000 more reserve component end strength than the previous Bush proposal. Reserve components had been slated to be sliced to 930,000 in fiscal 1994. In the Selected Reserve, fiscal 1994 end strength will drop marginally to 1,019,500 from the fiscal 1993 end strength set at 1,079,900. (AFIS)

President's sports council offers fitness challenges

The President's Sports Award program, run by the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports and the Amateur Athletic Union, allows you to select a sport, obtain a personal fitness log, and, if you meet the requirements within four months, you will receive a sports award; the award includes a certificate of achievement from the president, a letter from council chairman Arnold Schwarzenegger and a blazer patch signifying the specific sport. For program information, call the presidential sports office at 1-317-872-2900. Or write to: Presidential Sports Award, P.O. Box 68207, Indianapolis, IN 46268-0207. (On Guard)

Aspin calls for more combat roles for women

Congress repealed the law that prohibited women from being assigned to combat aircraft two years ago, and Secretary of Defense Les Aspin says that "It is time to implement a personal fitness log and, if you meet the requirements within four months, you will receive a sports award; the award includes a certificate of achievement from the president, a letter from council chairman Arnold Schwarzenegger and a blazer patch signifying the specific sport. For program information, call the presidential sports office at 1-317-872-2900. Or write to: Presidential Sports Award, P.O. Box 68207, Indianapolis, IN 46268-0207. (On Guard)
Air National Guard:

The 160th Air Refueling Group merged with the 121st Air Refueling Wing, effective October 1, 1993. Concurrently, Deputy Commander positions were converted to Functional Group Commanders.

The 121st Air Refueling Wing Flying Wing Commander is Brig. Gen. John Smith and the Vice Commander is Col. Richard Seidt. The Operations Group Commander is Col. Charles Vaughn, the Support Group Commander is Col. William Howland and the Logistics Group Commander is Lt. Col. Ken Mathias.


The 179th Airlift Group Commander is Col. Fred Larson and the Vice Commander is Col. Warren Drouhard. The Operations Group Commander is Lt. Col. Donald Eby, the Support Group Commander is Maj. Charles Daugherty, and the Logistics Group Commander is Col. Stephen Kramarich.


Army National Guard:


Brig. Gen. Herbert B. Eagon retired on October 31, 1993 as his command, the 37th (Separate) Infantry Brigade, was reorganized.

Col. Mark V. Ryan was assigned to State Area Command. He formerly commanded the 107th Armored Cavalry Regiment, which deactivated September 30, 1993.


Col. Lynn V. Coriell retired as Deputy 16th Engineer Brigade Commander on September 30, 1993.

Col. Chester Lewis replaced Col. Lynn V. Coriell as Deputy 16th Engineer Brigade Commander on September 30, 1993.


Lt. Col. Larry M. Hott was selected as commander of 2nd Squadron, 107th Divisional Cavalry.

Lt. Col. James S. Hauenschchild was named commander for the 112th Transportation Battalion.

Lt. Col. Larry K. Honsberger was appointed commander for the 137th Support and Service Battalion.

Lt. Col. Norman L. Widman was selected as commander for the 737th Maintenance Battalion.

Lt. Col. Dennis R. Kraft was named commander for 1st Battalion, 134th Field Artillery.

Maj. Kenneth R. Warner was appointed commander for 1st Battalion, 107th Armor.

Maj. John G. King was selected as commander for the 512th Engineer Battalion.

Maj. James J. Pettit was named commander for the 216th Engineer Battalion.

Command Profile

Col. David T. Hartley
37th Armor Brigade

Occupation: Retail Food Store Manager
Age: 53
Life has taught me: An individual does not deserve anything; you earn it through hard work!
If I could have just one day to myself, I would: Visit New York City with my wife.
The one film I would like to have starred in: Gone with the Wind.
When no one's looking, I: Sit, relax and think.
When I was little I wanted to be: A professional basketball player.
The best advice I ever received was: Trust me!
The best advice I ever received was: Prepare yourself for the future.
If I could dine with anyone, past or present, I would invite: Napoleon.
The best moment in my life happened when I: married Judy.
My favorite movie: Any James Bond 007 movie, especially "Thunderball."
If I could leave today's guardmembers with one piece of advice it would be: Be open-minded, be flexible, keep a positive attitude, and prepare yourself for the uncertainty of the future.
Giving a Grand SLUF

Story by 2nd Lt. Carol Thompson
National Guard Magazine

Affectionately known as the "short, little ugly flyer," the Vought A-7 Corsair II is the unsung hero of air combat. Loved by the pilots who flew it and the crews that maintained it, the A-7 will always have a special place in the hearts of those who knew the SLUF so well.

As the A-7 retires and claims its place in aviation history, it is only right that America pays tribute to the combat veteran and bid her an appreciative and fond farewell. Springfield's 178th Fighter Group (FG) did just that.

The 178th FG, commanded by Col. Robert P. Meyer, is the last unit to say goodbye to the A-7 Corsair and convert to the F-16 Fighting Falcon. In being the last to say goodbye, the 178th wanted to ensure that the Air Guard, the Air Force and the Navy had an opportunity to bid farewell with a final SLUF Salute.

"The A-7 has been a major contributor and has served this country in a venerable fashion. In DESERT STORM, the A-7 flew more than 700 sorties. These last combat missions for the A-7 totaled over 3,100 hours," Meyer said. "These combat missions were at the cost of no A-7 losses. Battle proven and always vigilant, the A-7, although not flying, will still go on to help its country. The Air National Guard is distributing its A-7s to the U.S. Army to support weapons testing programs."

The 178th FG members share the sentiment of their commander and paid their respects during the SLUF salute hosted last May. Guests included personnel from the Air Guard, the Air Force, the Navy and the Marines.

The A-7 was born from a study released by the U.S. Navy in May 1963 that was initiated because the Department of Defense (DoD) believed there was a need for a light attack strike aircraft to be developed. Upon completion of the DoD competition, Vought Corporation aircraft was declared the winner, and thus, the A-7 was created. Just four years later, the A-7 became a combat veteran on December 3, 1967, in an aerial attack on the Vinh area of Vietnam.

By the 1990s, the A-7 was growing old and had seen America through some challenging times. The Corsair served America well in Vietnam, Lebanon, Libya, Grenada, Panama and in the...
Salute

Persian Gulf, which was the final combat action it was to see. The A-7 squadrons were 98 percent mission capable through DESERT STORM. As the war in the Persian Gulf ended, so did the glory days of the A-7 Corsair.

In 1991, the Navy respectfully retired the A-7 from active duty flying. But 1993 marks the end of operational flying for the A-7 in the Air National Guard and the Air Force. The 178th FG is proud to be the last unit to operate the A-7 in the United States of America.

“We are the last unit in the U.S. armed forces to fly the A-7,” said Capt. John DeNezza, an A-7 pilot in the 162nd Tactical Fighter Squadron. “The Corsair is a tremendous airplane that warrants this kind of farewell. And we are ensuring that it gets it. The Corsair is the unsung hero of aviation. It is tough, honest and it has served its country proudly.”

Although the farewell marks the ending of one era, it also cites the beginning of another: that of the F-16 Fighting Falcon. It is true that the conversion requires a lot of planning, coordination and hard work. But members of the 178th welcome the challenge.

“We are very proud of our accomplishments in the A-7,” said Lt. Col. Ralph P. Anderson, deputy commander of operations. “But we are ready to make the transition to the F-16. The 178th anticipates playing an even larger role in the total force as a result of the conversion. We expect that the F-16 Fighting Falcon will prove to be a reliable, effective and solid performer.”

Some similarities exist between the A-7 and the F-16. But the challenge lies in learning the differences and adapting accordingly. One of the major differences exists in the maintenance of the aircraft. The maintenance of the F-16 is less time intensive and the turnaround for the F-16 is several times quicker than that of the A-7.

Another major adjustment is made by the pilots. “The A-7 is a pilot's airplane” DeNezza said. “The SLUF is guided and controlled by the pilot. It is almost as if the A-7 were an extension of the pilot.”

Conversely, the F-16 with its state-of-the-art computer technology has more input as to how the aircraft handles. Three different computer systems in the F-16 handle some 500,000 operations per second and work in conjunction with the pilot to fly the F-16.

Even though the arrival of new technology heralds the retirement of older, outdated knowledge and skills, the contributions made in the past will never be forgotten.

“Technologically advanced for its age, the combat ability of the A-7 is still impressive. The Corsair is strong and sturdy. The A-7 brought home many a pilot in a crippled air frame.” Meyer said. “No greater tribute can be given to an aircraft by the pilots who flew it, than to be there to say good-bye. That is why we are here.”

To the A-7, we salute you.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Reprinted, with permission, from the August 1993 edition of National Guard Magazine.
The Ohio Army National Guard is taking on a new look as it prepares to enter the 21st Century.

Following a year of transition and reorganization, the Guard welcomed a new command to its ranks, the 37th Armor Brigade, on Sept. 1.

The new brigade will be made up of two of the finest units to serve both Ohio and the country — the 107th Armored Cavalry Regiment and the 37th Infantry Brigade.

Combining these two units has been a major undertaking for the Ohio Army National Guard, said Brig. Gen. J. Steve Martin, assistant adjutant general.

“Our objective over the last year,” Martin said, “has been to form the new armored brigade in the most ready status we can make it.”

The new 37th Armor Brigade will be commanded by David T. Hartley, with Sgt. Maj. Jeffery N. Carter as the command sergeant major.

Col. Hartley sees the 37th Armor Brigade as a total quality organization which is the “benchmark” in the Ohio National Guard.

“What we accomplish as a brigade... will set the pace for our continued success in the future, and the success of the Ohio Army National Guard,” Hartley said.

Tasked with the transition mission, the State Training Office lead by Col. Dennis C. Tomek set about creating the most efficient plan possible to meet the Sept. 1 deadline.

“A lot of effort and planning has gone into this,” Martin said. “Col. Tomek and the State Training Office have done a tremendous job this past year in terms of organizing the training and the units that we've drawn the experts from to be the managers and instructors. They have all done a terrific job.”

The most important aspect of getting the armor brigade on-line, Martin said, was ensuring that the soldiers occupying new positions would be adequately trained.

Many of the soldiers needed to be trained on equipment unique to the brigade. This was accomplished through New Equipment Transition Training (NETT) and Military Occupational Specialties (MOS) retraining.

Instructors were chosen from the 37th and 107th who had been school trained and were proficient in the MOSs. These instructors were sent through a Battle Focused Instructor’s Training Course at the Ohio Military Academy in Columbus.

For the MOS retraining schools, the maintenance personnel were sent to Ft. Custer, Mich. for their annual training. The infantry and armor trainees studied at weekend drills, some starting as early as October 1992, prior to annual training. Trainees completed their re-classification in Michigan at Camp Grayling and Fort Custer, as well as at Gowen Field, Idaho.

Courses were also conducted for mechanized infantry soldiers who needed the E9 TOW-Gunner Additional Skill Identifier.

The students were very pleased with the transition training.

1st Lt. Kris Poppe, a scout platoon leader in the 148th Infantry, said the course was outstanding. “It has been full, action-packed days from five a.m. to midnight and very good training. Much better than we were expecting. “A lot of the skills,” Poppe says, “are similar to what we are used to with infantry procedures but there is a different focus. For instance, we did zone reconnaissance on tracked vehicles, which is something we used to do on foot. It’s a different perspective. The cadre was very professional and did an excellent job training us. I feel ready to move on.”

Brig. Gen. Herbert B. Eagon, who commanded the 37th Infantry through its transition, agreed with the students.

“I think the training has set a standard that the units can now bring back to their home station and show what performance oriented, hands-on training is really like. The NCO leadership at these schools has
done a tremendous job," Eagon said. "The only disappointment," said Martin, "is that not all of the soldiers who were eligible to go through this training did so." But he added that MOS qualification level of the new brigade will meet expectations.

"The goal is to be over 90% MOSQ and it will take a couple of years to get there," Martin said. "We will have to spend a few years going through the crawl, walk, run process, but we put on a great training program this summer in the two AT transitions and the year leading up to this.

"This is just the first step towards pulling these two organizations together into the new armored brigade."

The unit in charge of supporting the transition training was the 371st Support Group because, as Group Commander Col. Harry H. Shaw III says, "If you want good logistics, you put the logistical people in charge."

The 371st, comprised of a support headquarters along with transportation, maintenance and service support battalions, was responsible for developing the support plan for the transition training and then providing command and control for schools and support elements for the two annual training increments at Camp Grayling.

The job wasn't easy, Shaw explains. "We had to exercise some sections in our headquarters that hadn't been utilized in this way before. We have also had to work with the 37th and 107th to utilize some of their resources that we did not have in our inventory."

Shaw says that they are better for the adversity though. "It hasn't been a detractor: it's been an enhancer. We have been able to exercise our logistical operations section to a greater degree. We took the statistics from the 37th and the 107th and came up with something totally different from what they had done in the past. I look forward to working with the 37th Armor Brigade in the future."

Before the new brigade made its first step towards the future, the 107th and 37th retired their colors with honor during inactivation and reorganization ceremonies in August.

"We turn yet another page in the long and distinguished history of the Ohio National Guard," said Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander, Ohio adjutant general.

Alexander described the lineage of the 37th and 107th while speaking to guardmembers, families, and distinguished guests at ceremonies held in Columbus and Greensburg, Ohio.

The 37th Infantry Brigade's history is tied directly into Ohio's most famous National Guard unit, the 37th Infantry Division. The "Buckeye" Division's lineage can be traced back to the 8th Ohio Infantry, which defended Cemetery Ridge at Gettysburg against "Pickett's Charge" during the Civil War.

The 107th has faithfully served Ohio and its country for over 100 years. From its early inception in 1877, as a privately financed Cavalry Troop, the 107th has a long record of dedicated service.

Both organizations have served Ohio and the country when called upon to do so. The 107th and the 37th Infantry Division served in both world wars. Members of the Buckeye Division also served proudly during the Korean conflict.

During the Vietnam era, the 107th became a rapid deployment unit in support of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The 107th and 37th have responded to disasters, floods, blizzards and civil disturbances. They have always been ready to answer the call.

Throughout the ceremonies, the 122nd Army Band played as units were presented for review, and honors were rendered as the units' colors were cased and retired.

The culmination of the ceremonies occurred with the presentation of the 37th Armor Brigade and the uncasing of its colors.

With the emergence of the new armor brigade, Alexander said that the lineage and accomplishments of the 107th and the 37th Infantry will continue on in the 37th Armor Brigade.

"We've recognized the significant history and contributions of those two organizations and the great soldiers who made them," Martin said. "It's time to salute them and drive on."

"The new armored brigade is ready to move on in."

As the commander of the new 37th Armor Brigade, how do you view the challenge facing the Ohio National Guard in these times of change?

We all share the burden of responsibility for accepting the challenge, and making this change to the best of our abilities. This change will require a renewed commitment in time and personal energy in order for the leadership and soldiers to succeed. Our personal and collective values will be tested, and we must work smarter and more efficiently if we are to achieve our goals and objectives. And we cannot lose sight of the most important challenge of all: training our soldiers to the standards, while ensuring their individual and collective safety and quality of life.

What's your vision for 37th Armor Brigade?

Simply stated, I see a total quality organization which is the benchmark in the Ohio Army National Guard for developing highly trained, quality people; achieving and maintaining a high state of overall readiness, values, and ethics; fostering the empowerment and growth of competent and confident leaders and soldiers with pride in themselves and their unit; balancing its personnel, time and dollar resources to accomplish both federal and state missions; and commitment and dedication to strong community support.

How do you plan to accomplish this vision?

Total Quality Management is the starting point. I see TQM as the basis for developing and maintaining team-oriented work ethics to allow for shared decision making, improved efficiency and greater productivity, which will, in turn, allow for continued improvement in all that we do.

What’s your advice for new soldiers of the brigade?

First, be success oriented. This will take a tremendous amount of time for proper planning and preparation, and then execution. It will also require the leadership to be humble, often. We cannot let egos get in the way. The leadership must let the soldiers win, as long as they win to the standard. Be smart, plan smart, act smart.

Second, whatever your job or duty position, handle it like it was your business, your sole source of security, and your future. Handle people with respect, be honest; preserve integrity; train soldiers right, and be considerate of their character; personality and most importantly, their many problems and family and job concerns. Take care of the equipment like it was your own.

Third, train to standard. Leaders must learn the standards, then teach them. We cannot compromise this area. We simply cannot survive and be successful with a “business as usual” attitude.

Finally, organize and train by MTOE. Know your organizational structure, mission, equipment, personnel, capabilities, limitations, and concept of operations and employment. Maintain organizational integrity at the platoon level, for this level of leadership forms the foundation for all collective actions in the organization.

What are the brigade's training priorities?

If we are to build and strengthen our training base for the future, I see the brigade focusing on some fundamental imperatives such as Individual MOS Qualification; Leader Qualification and Validation; Crew-level Gunnery Skills; Crew-level Battle Drills; Individual and Crew-level Maintenance Skills; and Safety Awareness and Risk Management.

Although it's a soldier’s responsibility to ensure his own future by achieving qualified status in his assigned MOS, it’s the role of brigade leadership to create the opportunity for soldiers to perform assigned jobs during monthly training assemblies and at annual training.

It is imperative for all M-Day and full-time leaders and supervisors to understand that our collective efforts and energies are committed to training and supporting the soldiers, primary weapons, and support systems by which the 37th Armor Brigade is organized to train and fight.

How do you plan to retain the soldiers who originally enlisted to be in non-armor units?

High strength levels are a must. If we train our soldiers right, take care of them and demonstrate genuine concern for their present and their future, we can retain them. Leaders must focus on creating positive reasons for soldiers to want to attend drill. At all levels within the brigade, we will focus on drill attendance, sponsorship and extension of enlistments. I believe in cementing the relationship among the chain of command, the full-time work force, and recruiting and retention personnel to enhance strength maintenance.

Do you have any concerns that we haven't yet discussed?

Safety. Most of our soldiers in the new organization will be face-to-face with a new potential safety and risk hazard. I don't want the new troops to underestimate the potential danger and hazards of the track vehicles they will be operating, training with, firing and maintaining. I believe you cannot be too careful. Safety is an integral part of my vision and intent; there are NO expendable soldiers!

I'm also an advocate for community relations. We must remain strong in supporting our local communities, and build upon that strength. We must demonstrate our strong commitment to values and ethics, and integrate them into community affairs. It will take commitment, involvement, and desire.

Do you have any final comments?

What we accomplish as a brigade, a battalion, a company or battery, and a platoon, section, squad, crew and as individuals, will set the pace for our continued success and the success of the Ohio Army National Guard. It is in our collective best interest to perform the very best job that we are capable of performing. The future is very bright for qualified soldiers. I'm excited about our future!
Ohio Guard loses one of the most distinguished units in the state's history

by 2nd Lt. Neal E. O'Brien
State Public Affairs Office

Recent cuts in our nation's defense forces have hit Ohio particularly hard. This past fall, one of the finest units in the history of the Ohio National Guard, the 107th Armored Cavalry Regiment (ACR), was deactivated after an illustrious 115 year existence.

On August 28, 1993, the inactivation of the 107th ACR took place at the Army National Guard Flight Facility located in Greensburg, Ohio. This ceremony signaled the end of an era for "America's Red Horse," as the 107th ACR was known to its members. Col. Mark V. Ryan, the last Regimental Commander of the 107th ACR, made opening comments, placing special emphasis on the many dedicated and talented personnel that served the regiment so proudly.

Following a brief review of the history of the regiment, five color guards representing the squadrons of the regiment assembled for a final salute by past regimental commanders. As a flyover from the 4/107th took place, a bugler played "Taps" to honor fallen comrades from days gone by.

Adjudant General Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander, the featured speaker, was moved by the occasion, wanting to honor the service of the men and women "...as we close yet another chapter in the rich history of the Ohio National Guard."

The 107th's place in that history proved to have been a vital part of both our state and federal mission for over 100 years. From its early inception as a privately financed Cavalry Troop in 1877, the 107th has been an asset to our state; its formation coming in anticipation of a railroad strike. The 107th got its reputation early as a "spit and polish" unit, serving as an escort for Ohio Governors, and having the honor of escorting Presidents Garfield, Hayes, Harrison, and Cleveland. In 1908, then Troop A of the Ohio National Guard was credited with ending the Kentucky-Ohio Tobacco War, marking the beginning of many years of coming to the aid of Ohioans during their time of need. From occupying Lorain, Ohio during the early 1920's after a devastating tornado, to performing search and rescue missions during the blizzards of 1977-78, the 107th ACR had established a record of serving Ohio that is surpassed by few.

The 107th ACR also served our country when called upon to do so. The Troop was reorganized as an artillery battery and mobilized for World War I, participating in three major combat actions. Following several reorganizations, the 107th regained its cavalry mission and served with distinction during World War II, with units earning two Presidential Unit Citations and three Philippine Presidential Unit Citations. The regiment was not activated during the Korean War, however they were to become a vital piece of a new mission with a fledgling group of countries known as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, charged with defending Western Europe against a new threat, the Soviet Union.

With the Vietnam War came the division in our country between the politicians and the people. Caught in the middle of this division were the men and women of our armed forces who served...
so valiantly in the conflict. Units of the 107th on state active duty for unrest during the Teamsters Truckers Strike were called upon to help quell student demonstrations against the Vietnam War at Kent State University.

Following the burning down of the ROTC Building, units were deployed to the campus, and on May 4, 1970, four students were killed when Guardsmen fired on the crowd. Their actions and those of the students became immortalized in rock star Neil Young's ballad, "Ohio."

Following the Vietnam War, the 107th continued to receive a high level of priority and was designated as a rapid deployment unit. The regiment began to receive the most modern equipment available in order to continue its vital mission of supporting our NATO allies. The 1980s brought about new changes in the U.S. Army and the 107th became one of only five corps-level regiments in the entire Army. It would also be one of the first National Guard units to receive the new M1 Abrams Tank. During this period, the regiment would present the Ohio National Guard with some of its finest leaders, providing the state two adjutant generals, Maj. Gen. Dana L. Stewart, and Maj. Gen. Raymond R. Galloway, and current assistant adjutant general for Army, Brig. Gen. John S. Martin.

With the Cold War coming to a close, the 1980s brought great uncertainty as to the future of the regiment. During the force restructure, the 107th was targeted for deactivation. Despite the efforts of the dedicated men and women of the regiment, the communities they served, and legislators in fighting for the livelihood of the regiment, deactivation plans continued on schedule.

The force restructure affected both the state and federal missions of support. The 107th held the distinction of being able to sustain itself during combat operations due to its make-up, which included attack helicopters, armor, engineers, chemical, and other supporting elements.

"They (107th soldiers) know that no infantry or Marine force is more capable than they are," said Lt. Col. Bob Labadie at the deactivation ceremony. "They're like junk yard dogs. You don't call them unless you want them to run loose and get the job done."

The 107th was also the headquarters for Task Force Northeast as part of the Guard's support of civil authorities. With the relocation of many of the units and the loss of personnel due to the deactivation, the Guard's ability to respond to state emergencies was dramatically reduced.

Despite the deactivation of the regiment, the spirit and lineage of the 107th will survive in the reorganization of the 37th Infantry Brigade into the 37th Armor Brigade of the 28th Infantry Division. First Battalion, 107th Armor will carry the lineage of the regiment, as will the 4th of the 107th. The personnel who served in the 107th will help make up the nucleus of the armor brigade as the Ohio Guard continues to change.

In the end, the hard fought battle by the friends and members of the regiment came to a climax at the deactivation ceremony. Perhaps retired Staff Sgt. Ralph Cadwallader, a World War II veteran who enlisted into the 107th in 1936, said it best....

"This is a very moving experience," he said. "We lost our battle. We could beat everyone... but the bureaucracy."

Following the casing of the colors and their hand-off from Ryan to Alexander, the troops of the 107th ACR were dismissed for the last time.
Empathy paid off for one Ohio National Guard sergeant who was stuck with 20 raffle tickets for a trip to the Holiday Bowl because nobody in his platoon wanted to gamble a dollar.

Instead of returning the tickets to the Ohio National Guard Enlisted Association (ONGEA), Staff Sgt. Dave Leaverton, of the 299th Signal Detachment in lettering, decided to buy all the tickets himself. Although he never thought he'd win, he forked out $20 bucks for the tickets, then forgot about them.

On Sept. 25, two months after he bought the tickets, the section sergeant was reminded of his contribution. During an ONGEA briefing at drill, the Ohio Chapter president Senior Master Sgt. Dale Williams asked Leaverton to fall out of formation to escort a woman to the front. To Leaverton's surprise, the woman was his wife, Peggy.

Williams then turned his recruitment speech into an announcement that Leaverton was the lucky winner, and presented the couple with an official letter stating the Holiday Bowl vacation was theirs.

According to Williams, the raffle was part of a fund-raiser for the national Enlisted Association conference held in Columbus in August. The winning ticket, representing an all-expense paid trip, was drawn at the conference banquet.

The trip, sponsored by Thrifty Rent-a-Car in Columbus, includes round trip airfare, a free Thrifty Rent-a-Car, two tickets to the Holiday Bowl on Dec. 30, two tickets to the San Diego Zoo or Sea World, and two tickets to a tour and luncheon with the captain of the aircraft carrier USS Ranger.

"He's going to be shocked. He's going to die — because today's his birthday," said Peggy prior to the surprise announcement. "We (the family) bought him suitcases for his birthday, and they are sitting at home for him to open tonight. But we bought the suitcases before we knew about the trip. He's been wanting to go on a vacation, but we didn't think this would happen in a million years. I don't think it's quite sunk in yet," she said.

Holding the official announcement in his hands, Leaverton explained how he tried to sell the tickets, but to no avail. He said he bought them to support the ONGEA, of which he is a member.

"It's a nice birthday present, and it's going to be a nice time for my wife and I to get away. I work a lot of overtime, so it'll be like a long holiday," said Leaverton, 51.

While he prepares for the big trip, Williams and Phil Hale, who attended the surprise ceremony as a representative of Thrifty, will undoubtedly be preparing for another joint venture together. The Holiday Bowl was Thrifty's second major donation to ONGEA.

"The ONGEA is very thankful and happy to have the support from people like Thrifty and Staff Sgt. Leaverton," Williams said.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Go Bucks!

Ohio hosts EANGUS conference

The Ohio National Guard Enlisted Association recently hosted the 22nd Annual Conference for the Enlisted Association of the United States. Over 1,200 members representing all states and territories gathered in downtown Columbus to conduct business in the interest of all enlisted members of the Army and Air National Guard.

National President Bobby Dempsey, Arkansas, opened the meeting with a call for new members. He stressed the need for patience and determination in coping with the drawdown of troop strength.

The objective of the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States is to pursue quality, motivated, professional non-commissioned officers, soldiers and airmen to the National Guard.

While many benefits are already in place on the national level, a committee recommends new resolutions each year in the pursuit of an even better benefit program for guardmembers. Twelve proposals on the 1993 agenda ranged from tax deductions for unreimbursed National Guard expenses and retirement benefits for guardmembers with under 20 years service to an expansion of the Montgomery GI Bill to include graduate work.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Ohio is the only state to host three of the 22 national Enlisted Association conferences.

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Go Bucks!
Germans Luftwaffe pilots called them schwarte Vogelmenschen (black birdmen) out of respect for their combat exploits. White American bomber crews called them the Red-Tailed Angels in appreciation of their unwavering protection against Nazi fighter pilots.

They called themselves the Lonely Eagles. Today, they're known as the Tuskegee Airmen, America's World War II African-American fighter pilots. Their unit — the 332nd Fighter Group — was called Red Tailed Angels by white bomber pilots because the tails of their aircraft were painted red for identification.

The history of the African-American airmen was one of surmounting obstacles. One of the first black aviators during World War II was Benjamin O. Davis Jr. He and 12 other black airmen were the first cadets in the Tuskegee program. Tuskegee instructors trained 992 African-American pilots; 450 would see combat.

These men had to fight their own government, segregation and stereotypes before they could fight the Nazis. But black fighter pilots went to war and convincingly shattered skepticism about their race's lack of smarts and guts to fly combat aircraft.

The African-American pioneers set an unparalleled record of never losing a bomber to enemy fighter aircraft while flying cover for B-17 and B-24 bombers over Germany, Austria, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Italy, Bulgaria, Greece and Poland. From bases in Italy, they also destroyed enemy airfields, railroads, highways, bridges, river traffic, troop concentrations, radar facilities, power stations, coast-watching surveillance stations and hundreds of vehicles while on air-to-ground strafing missions.
The reason for this record of success was segregation and racism, said Tuskegee Airmen Roscoe C. Brown Jr., who rose to the rank of captain. "We knew we had to be better than the white groups to make our reputation. Col. Davis insisted we not stray off to shoot down fighters when they tried to entice us. We stuck with the bombers. The white bomber pilots wanted the Red Tails to escort them because we didn't allow enemy pilots to draw us away from the bombers like the Yellow Tails, Candy Stripes and the other groups.

"Those groups had more victories in the air than we did, but they lost bombers to enemy aircraft fire - we didn't lose any," Brown said proudly.

They demonstrated this professionalism and daring during one of their most demanding escort missions — a 1,500-mile bombing raid on March 24, 1945, against the Duimler-Benz plant in Berlin. The German air force put up its newly developed jets to fight the P-51 Red Tails. The black airmen fought the pride of the Luftwaffe. Three German jets fell blazing to the ground, victims of the 332nd. The black airmen damaged others.

Brown, a flight leader on the mission, shot down the first jet. "We were escorting 17 bombers, weaving over them in P-51s at about 25,000 feet, when I saw these shiny jets out of the corner of my left eye." He broke formation, zeroed in on a jet and blew it out of the sky. Two of his wingmen followed the other jets and knocked two of them down.

The 332nd received the Presidential Unit Citation for the mission for "displaying outstanding courage, aggressiveness and combat technique."

Flying 15,533 sorties on 1,578 missions, Tuskegee Airmen shot down 111 enemy aircraft in aerial combat and damaged another 25. They also destroyed 150 aircraft on the ground and damaged another 123. They're also credited with an unusual accomplishment — sinking a German destroyer with machinegun fire alone.

Sixty-six Tuskegee Airmen were killed in aerial combat. Another 32 were shot down and captured. The men received a total of 95 Distinguished Flying Crosses, a Legion of Merit, one Silver Star, two Soldier's Medals, eight Purple Hearts, 14 Bronze Stars and 744 Air Medals and clusters.

And there were hundreds of unsung heroes - the ground support personnel, said Brown.

Although he's proud of the African-American pioneer aviators' exploits in the air war, Brown places that second in importance to their contributions toward integrating the armed forces.

"The key thing I like to remember is our struggle against discrimination and our struggle to be recognized as excellent first-class citizens," said Brown.

"The war was on two fronts," he said. "The war against discrimination in our own country, in our own service and the war against the enemy. The war against the enemy was a lot easier, because discrimination is ingrained in American society."

Segregation blanketed the nation in the 1940s, Brown said. Blacks knew to stay in officers' clubs, post exchanges, parts of the hospitals — everything," Brown said. "We were young, believed in ourselves, so we challenged it — we attempted to enter the officers' club at Selfridge Field, Mich. We were very upset when they refused us admission. So we went on leave and in protest, decided to report late."

He and several counterparts were arrested for trying to attend an "all-white" movie theater on the air base at Walterboro, S.C.

"When they threatened to court-martial us, we said, 'That's fine, the government is spending $25,000 or more to train us to fly combat missions,' " Brown recalled. "You're really going to look great to the secretary of war when you court-martial us because we insisted on our American rights on an Army base.'"

When the black airmen returned to the theater the next night, the "white only" sign and chain had been removed. "The theater was integrated," he laughed. "They would have been foolish to lock up 20 black pilots scheduled to go overseas to fly combat missions."

Before the war, conventional wisdom said blacks didn't have the smarts to fly aircraft, drive tanks, operate artillery and didn't have the guts to fight, according to historians. But the success of the Tuskegee Airmen and other all-black units disproved that myth. After African-Americans proved their mettle, President Harry S. Truman signed an executive order in 1947 eliminating segregation in the armed forces.

"The ironic thing is that there's a shortage of African-American pilots in the Air Force today," Brown said.

Officials at the Air Training Command agree. They said the Air Force wants at least 6 percent of its pilots to be African-Americans — the same percentage of African-Americans who graduate from college. As of Dec. 31, 1992, there were 9,567 pilots in the Air Force, 290, or 3 percent, were African-Americans.
Homeless vets take shelter from streets

Story by Staff Sgt. Bob Mullins
HQ STARC (Det 1-5)

It seemed like traveling back through time to many of the homeless veterans who participated in “Stand Down '93.”

Arriving by shuttle bus from Ohio and Kentucky, their first view of Avoca Park — a secluded area 11 miles from downtown Cincinnati — resembled a military encampment. Seventy-eight tents were spread out over several acres. Soldiers were going about their duties and many military vehicles were visible throughout the area.

The Stand Down, which responded to all homeless individuals, received more than 1,000 homeless veterans. The three-day weekend away from the streets took place Sept. 24-26. It provided health, dental and other medical services; mental and substance abuse counseling; legal services; social services and referrals; spiritual and religious services; educational, vocational and employment services; ID cards, and veterans benefits. Lodging, food, showers, haircuts, child care, and even entertainment were available the duration of the event.

“Stand Down” is a term used to describe a brief rest from a combat area. Although this event gave the homeless a brief reprieve from the streets, organizers said that the goal of the retreat was to give each veteran a chance to move on to a healthier life-style.

Robert Van Keuren, a Vietnam veteran and formerly a homeless vet from the San Diego, Ca., area

initiated the first community Stand Down.

More than 1,000 civilian volunteers and many Veterans Administration employees participated in the operation. And Stand Down '93 is one of the first times that the National Guard has been called upon to participate.

"Providing facilities and maintenance for this operation has been a great challenge," said 383rd Medical Company 1st Sgt. John Clark. "Assets were borrowed from all over the state.

"My soldiers performed their annual training in support of this event," Clark said. "Their morale has remained very high because they are proud and excited about this type of mission."

The weather was rainy for most of the encampment but did not dampen the spirits of those seeking help. During the days, the service tents were busy pro-
viding information and care to those desiring it. More than ample food was donated from local businesses and individuals. During the evenings, many acquaintances were renewed. Stories were told and old memories were brought back to light.

The cot, hot meals, entertainment, and being attended to gave “a warm feeling” to Robert Artis, a veteran of World War II in the Pacific Theatre. “I never gave the Guard much thought, but they really cared for us,” he said.

Sgt. Genielle Schlaudeker of the 383rd Medical Company, and a social worker with the VA said, “Homeless individuals, including non-veterans, should always be shown compassion.”

Several units participated in the event, including the 383rd Medical Clearing Co., 145th MASH, 147th Infantry and elements of the 512th Engineer Battalion. The 383rd and the 147th HHC Food Service Sections combined to prepare more than 3,000 meals from donated resources.

“It was great to help our fellow veterans,” said 383rd Food Service Supervisor Staff Sgt. Marilyn Rodriguez. “They thanked us many times for our efforts to help them.”

On the last day of the encampment, chaplains led many of the homeless in spiritual song and prayer before they were bused back to areas familiar to their needs.

Keith Saylor, a non-veteran, said “It was very important for me to be here. I got many things done that I hadn’t been able to do elsewhere. Here’s thumbs up all the way, without the Guard this could not have happened.”

OPPOSITE PAGE: Army Guard soldiers provide entertainment for a few homeless veterans interested in playing a little B-ball. CENTER: Homeless vets attend STAND DOWN ’93 not only to receive VA benefits, but also to share in some camaraderie. LEFT: Veteran Al Jones gets a haircut from hair stylist Linda Stock. BELOW: Volunteers prepare much-needed hot meals. (Photos by Spc. Nicole Smith, 156th PAD)
612th Engineers set up the field training area which became fondly known as "HQ Engineer U."

612th Engineers campus bound

Though they had to trade off coed dorms for military barracks, members of Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC) of the 612th Engineers, Walbridge, spent their annual training (AT) attending classes on campus.

Rather than distinguished buildings scattered throughout a college town or clustered together on state property, this was a university campus that grew out of a grass-covered field at Camp Perry Training Site, Port Clinton, Ohio.

With a goal to raise the proficiency and survivability of its soldiers during AT-'93, HHC unit leadership opted to establish a field campus under the flag ship designation "HQ Engineer U." A "course offering" of 48 individual soldier tasks were selected, everything from arming a claymore mine to administering first aid.

According to unit commander Capt. Jim Day, the "HQ Engineer U" training concept was borrowed from a 1986 book entitled, "McDonalds, Behind the Arches," written by John F. Love. This book talks about how Ray Kroc, that company's founder, established "Hamburger University" to standardize training and improve quality throughout his ever growing empire.

Just as Ray Kroc utilized experienced managers as "Subject Matter Experts" to instruct newly commissioned store owners, HHC of the 612th Engineer Battalion selected sergeants (E-5 and above) to conduct the training during the AT period. They prepared for and conducted training following current Army doctrine, "Training the Force" (FM 25-100) and "Battle Focused Training" (FM 25-101).

The campus area consisted of five tents under camouflage netting, keyed into an adjoining wooded area. Seventeen camouflage tents, including hexes and diamonds, were erected, covering a 17,000 square foot area. The five tents became "Task Training Classrooms;" the five classrooms together made up the "HQ Engineer U" campus.

According to Staff Sgt. Mike Lijewski, acting unit training NCO, the final campus area was quite impressive. Assisted by Staff Sgt. Robert Eaton and Sgt. James Pheatt, Lijewski supervised the establishment of the field training area, which took over 30 soldiers approximately six hours to complete. 

"I had never worked on a camouflage mission of that large a scale," said Lijewski. "A lot of hard work went into that day."

Allowing soldiers to go through a "round robin" of one hour blocks of instruction, the field training area became the focal point for the AT period. It was referred to by the soldiers under a variety of pseudonyms: "The University," "Engineer Hill," "The Campus."

While the soldiers didn't go so far as to wear cut-off jeans, sunglasses and flip-flops to class, the college mentality definitely existed.

"The university concept during this AT period may be the push I needed to go back to school," said Spc. Jay Hossler, combat signaler from Fostoria, Ohio. "It made me think more about attending college. I almost gave up on the idea, but since I've been here, I've realized the importance of continuing my education."

211th commander embodies spirit of volunteerism

Story by Spc. Brian McCaw
211th Maintenance Company

As a rule, military commanders are expected to lead by example. When it comes to community involvement, Maj. Clarence D. "Davo" McCutcheon takes this philosophy to heart.

Commander of the 211th Maintenance Company in Newark, Ohio, McCutcheon is involved in the local United Way organization. He is presently a member of the Licking County United Way board of directors, the labor representative to the United Way Executive Campaign Cabinet representing GMP Local 244, and a loaned executive to the '93 Campaign representing his employer, Owens-Corning.

He is also very active with several of the local United Way supported agencies as a member of the Vietnam Veterans Chapter #55, a member of the board of directors of Spencier Halfway House, and citizen advocate for the Association for Retarded Citizens.

McCutcheon's interest in the local United Way and its agencies stems from a desire to help improve the quality of life in his community and to present a positive role model for underprivileged children.

"Having come from a very disadvantaged childhood," McCutcheon explained, "I understand the pain caused from being poor. I appreciate the fact that there were several individuals and agencies who had a tremendous impact on my life in its early stages. I want to be that same positive influence that may just change a youngster's life for the better.

"This is my way to 'pay back' what I feel I owe those folks who were there for me," he added.

McCutcheon wanted his unit to be represented when Licking County kicked off its United Way campaign on Sept. 19 with the country's largest United Way parade. As a result, the 211th
Cincinnati savors Meals, Ready-to-Eat at food fest

Story by Staff Sgt. David Risher
HHC, 1/147th Infantry

As the poignant aromas of cajun chicken, beer-battered shrimp, teriyaki steak, barbecued ribs, and mountains of Sinfully rich desserts permeate the streets of downtown Cincinnati, the Guard is there.

Their mission is to remain at their post for the duration of this situation, make contact with as many of the people as possible, serve generous helpings of MRE’s, and have a good time.

For the second year in a row, Company D of 1/147th Infantry was invited to participate in the “TASTE OF CINCINNATI.” Because of its success last year and seeing the need for additional manpower, Company D invited their Headquarters Company to assist.

The troops jumped at the opportunity!

With more than 100 local restaurants offering bite-sized portions of their most popular menu items for less than $2, it’s no wonder that this annual three-day event is so popular. Taking place during Memorial Day weekend, the event attracts an estimated 500,000 gourmands (people who are heartily interested in good food and drink) from as far away as Indianapolis, Louisville, and Cleveland.

In the middle of it all is the recruiting booth of the 1/147th. In addition to the regular display of recruiting materials and displays of equipment and vehicles, the guardsmen kept true to the event’s theme and served free samples of the ever-popular MRE (Meals, Ready-to-Eat).

“It is amazing how many folks are anxious to try the MRE,” said Pfc. Chris Johnson. “One lady even came back for a second helping.”

In addition to offering food samples, 1st Lt. Mark Loftin used his artistic ability to apply camo paint to the faces of children who waited eagerly in line. First Lt. Jimmy Todd answered many questions about the TOW Missile Launcher and the HMMWV. “I’ve never talked to so many people in my life,” Todd said. “It’s been a lot of work, but we’ve made a lot of friends and had a lot of fun!”


Unit members just hope that the recruiter got the name of the lady who was so crazy about the MREs. They can see to it that she enjoys them for two days each month. Just sign on this line!
Installation Commander Lt. Col. Charles N. McCabe explained that "range use has increased with the large number of regular and reserve units in the Ottawa area." Connaught also serves local police forces, units of the Royal Canadian mounted police, as well as hosting small arms competitions, similar to Camp Perry. McCabe added that he was pleased with the project, and the work of the Red Horsemen.

RED HORSE, an acronym for Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operations Repair Squadron, has a wartime mission of bare base development and repairing heavily damaged installations. They specialize in rapid runway repair, but they boast a varied bag of capabilities including airfield lighting, quarry operations, well drilling, and heavy earthwork. There are currently three active duty, two Air National Guard, and one Air Force Reserve RED HORSE units.

The 200th at Camp Perry and the 201st, from just outside Harrisburg, Pa., represent one of the National Guard components (the two units merge into one as their wartime configuration). During a visit to the range, Col. Kenneth King, the 200th commander, said that this exercise was a good example of how well the two units come together.

"I'm very pleased with the operation. This is an excellent training environment and working with the Canadian forces really tests our inter-operability," he said. Training and readiness are what the Air National Guard is all about.

Still, King feels that RED HORSE is not known well enough in the military community. He was quick to expound on potential uses of the highly specialized, yet broadly capable units.

"I think RED HORSE is a pearl that has not yet been discovered. I think we can assist many organizations with a number of our special capabilities" He cited the ABM, or Automatic Building Machine which transforms rolls of galvanized steel into arched, free-standing structures. The structures resemble common aircraft hangars.
Members of the 200th recently deployed to Israel where they erected one of these structures while demonstrating the machine's capabilities and instructing the Israelis on its use. The structures the ABM creates are commonly referred to as K-span buildings.

Though the horsemen did not construct any K-span structures at Connaught, they did move some heavy duty steel. With the help of a three-story crane, they assembled sections of prefabricated building panels. Much like a child's erector set, the 20-foot high sections were matched up and bolted together to frame a portion of the building.

While tailoring bolts to fit the sections, Senior Airman Dirk Frey said, "I like this type of deployment. Working with the Canadians has been a good experience. I hope we can come back."

The members also moved some heavy concrete. One of the projects during the deployment involved the unit's demolition team, a highly specialized part of RED HORSE. The team is called upon during wartime to remove large obstructions caused by bomb or heavy artillery damage with well planned and placed explosives.

In peacetime, the members of the team stay certified with an annual "test show" during which they detonate one of their favorite toys in the safety of the Marblehead Quarry near Camp Perry. However, the Connaught trip provided the team with its first opportunity to put all of their training to practical use.

The 12-man team took out seven heavily reinforced concrete storage buildings on the range that had become obsolete.

Tech. Sgt. Jerry Schatz said, "This (was) the best training and certification we've ever had." Schatz was the "Shot Boss" during the operation.

Lt. Dennis Albrecht, who set the exercise up, added that "real projects, where real work is accomplished, provide the best training environment."

The team used Ammonium Nitrate, C-4, demolition cord, and other military explosive ordnance to reduce the condemned structures to rubble, that could then be hauled away by yet another RED HORSE team.

Prior to this exercise, the Canadians did not know of RED HORSE. But they probably won't soon forget the pearl they have found.

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Set your sights on Camp Perry

A state of the art targeting system called a Remoted Equipment Targeting System (RETS) will be a major asset of the Ohio Army National Guard in the upcoming year. An August groundbreaking ceremony, conducted by Camp Perry Training Site Commander Col. James E. Caldwell, marked the beginning of construction of the 16-lane, electronically-controlled, computer-scored rifle firing system.

The system has nine targets in each firing lane. At points ranging from 25 to 300 meters, targets pop up at varied intervals and are exposed for a short, timed period. The shooter is required to engage and hit a silhouette before the computer automatically lowers the target and scores the event.

While using a modified record fire course, this technology allows units to conduct weapons qualification in a more realistic environment.

Units will no longer have to leave the state to conduct weapons qualification. This range will be available for Ohio Army National Guard use 22 weekends out of the year. It also brings the Ohio National Guard into compliance with established Army Marksmanship and Readiness Doctrine.

Col. James Caldwell and members of his staff break ground on the RETS rifle range. Caldwell has since been replaced by Col. Joseph C. Bowsher as commander of Camp Perry.

The RETS range has been targeted for completion in June 1994. A RETS combat pistol range is scheduled for approval in fiscal year 1994, with a completion date sometime in FY95.
Some of the toughest decisions in life are made during high school years. Teenagers are faced with questions dealing with drugs, alcohol, and sex. Fortunately, with help from our communities, there are programs being initiated to guide our youth in the right direction.

Bob White, Safety Director for Newark, Ohio, first realized the potential of such a program while he and Master Sgt. Steve Butcher, Air National Guard recruiter, attended the National Interagency Counter narcotics Institute (NICI), an institute designed to initiate new drug awareness programs.

"I was familiar with some of the drug awareness programs focused on younger age groups," White said, "but not enough attention was being placed on teens aged 14-17. I knew it was time to do something about it."

That was when he conceived the idea for TEAM, the Teen Education and Motivation program. TEAM is designed to assist high risk high school students in developing self-esteem and discipline while learning to make the right decisions about drugs, alcohol, and sexuality. It focuses on developing a better quality of life through education.

Behind-the-scene activities began last May, but because of so much support from the office of Newark Mayor Frank Stare, 13 Licking County boys spent a long weekend under the watchful eye of Ohio Guardsmen. (Photo by Master Sgt. Rose Moll, 121st Air Refueling Wing)
The National Guard, and funding from Newark's Neighborhood War on Drugs, what was expected to take at least a year only took a few months. Weekly meetings to discuss the upcoming TEAM program were held and volunteers came forward to help White's vision become a reality. Air guardsman Capt. John McIntosh, the education and training officer for TEAM, began developing the curriculum, which would include courses in land navigation, problem solving, and physical training. The camp also featured classes on drug and alcohol abuse, self-esteem, motivation, and leadership training, all taught by the National Guard, Licking County Alcoholism Prevention Program, and other community organizations.

The TEAM weekend was set for August 19-22, at Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base in Columbus. Butcher's role in the program was to make sure things kept moving forward so everything would be ready by that date.

"If it looked like we were headed for a roadblock, I would help find alternate routes," Butcher said.

From three Licking County high schools, Kathy McCombs, prevention coordinator for Newark City Schools, selected 16 boys who volunteered to participate in the program.

"We looked for boys who were on the borderline of being on the right or wrong side of the track," said McCombs. "These boys have the potential to become leaders but for some reason or another it isn't blossoming. We're hoping that this course will show them just what they are capable of."

While 16 boys were selected, only 13 showed up for the bus ride to Rickenbacker. Two of the boys literally ran away from home, returning after the bus left for Columbus.

"I wasn't really scared," said 16-year-old Sean Clark, a TEAM participant who became known as the push-up king. "But then again, I thought this was going to be more like a field trip. Boy, was I pleasantly surprised," he said laughing.

"I didn't want to go at first," said Rod Olinger, another participant. "I was nervous because I thought it would be something like jail or a boy's home. I really didn't know what to expect."

The boys weren't the only ones who didn't know what to expect; even some of the instructors were skeptical at first.

"When I watched the boys first get off the bus, I could tell most of them didn't want to be there," said White. "I thought, 'What did I get myself into?'"

The teens changed into their TEAM uniforms which consisted of T-shirts, shorts, tennis shoes and hats. The flight leaders, both Air and Army members, assumed the roles of small-scale drill sergeants, and immediately began going over the rules. Anyone caught disobeying the rules would pay the price by doing push-ups.

"The civilians and the guardmembers together gave just the right amount of discipline and instruction," said White. "At first I was concerned the guardmembers were going to be too rough on the boys, but they weren't. They didn't cross the barrier." Teamwork and uniformity was stressed, and surprise inspections were common.

"We weren't there to punish them," said flight leader Sgt. 1st Class Jerry Adkins, central Ohio career counselor. "We were there to teach discipline and self-esteem.

"Our purpose was to introduce them to new things and show them an alternative ways of doing things," said Adkins. "I could really relate to them considering I also was getting into trouble at an early age. I wanted to show them that I turned my life around and they can do the same."

As the weekend progressed, positive changes were noticed. "Things just seemed to fall in line," said McCombs. "We were really seeing a difference. The boys were beginning to work together."

Hard work was rewarded with a Columbus Clippers baseball game and dinner at the Spaghetti Warehouse restaurant.

The entire four days exceeded everyone's expectations.

"Sometimes society tends to write off teenagers who have gotten into some trouble," said McCombs. "Programs like this help give teenagers a different look at life," she added.

"When I got back to school, most of the guys couldn't believe that I would volunteer for something like this," said Olinger. "They were even more surprised when I told them I would go back."

As a measure of the program's success, five of the TEAM members joined the Civil Air Patrol unit in the Newark area. ■
Family support conference strengthens military

Story and photos by Sgt. Lori King
196th Public Affairs Detachment

During Desert Storm, Bonnie Swaney sadly watched her husband board a bus, departing to Saudi Arabia for an unknown amount of time.

As Sgt. 1st Class Edward Swaney waved goodbye, he realized he was leaving his wife alone to care for their children and he feared he might not ever come back. That fear was evident on everyone's faces as the bus pulled out of the armory parking lot that fateful day.

Though it was undoubtedly one of the toughest ordeals the families of the 324th Military Police Company ever had to face, at least they weren't alone. Because of the strong family support group which developed during Desert Shield, Bonnie was able to lean and cry on the shoulders of others who were also temporarily left behind.

That unforgettable experience has made a long-lasting impression on Bonnie. Even after her husband safely returned, she vowed to remain involved in the family support system. She is currently the Region 3 representative for the Ohio Volunteer Family Assistance Council (OVFAC).

It's no secret many unit family support groups prior to Desert Storm were weak, or even non-existent. Few were well organized and ready for a mobilization. Too many groups lacked leadership and membership — until Desert Storm proved a need for family support.

Fortunately, times have changed since the pre-Desert Storm era. Not only has the term 'family support group' become the latest unit buzzword, it has also become a necessity.

This is become evident through the efforts of the State Family Support Office, which recently hosted its second Family Program University conference Sept. 25-26 at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton.

About 125 civilian and military family support volunteers, group leaders, coordinators and interested spouses attended the conference, which consisted of two general workshops and eight elective classes. The classes were centered around leadership, mobilization, stress management and Guard/community interaction.

Army Guard Capt. Jeffrey Farrell, the State Family Program coordinator, said family support groups are important because they positively affect retention, morale and readiness of a unit. He added that for the minimal amount of time a unit puts into it — they can receive back big dividends.

According to Farrell, the conference was designed to meet the growing educational demands of the FSG. The first official workshop was held in April 1991 for all mobilized units in Ohio.

That workshop led to regional conferences in the north, central and southern regions of Ohio.

The future of the conference is secure, but Farrell is considering making it more accessible to the seven family assistance regions throughout Ohio, instead of one joint conference. He said he will most likely conduct five separate workshops, with two regions combined.

"I think it's very important families share in the Guard experience because they, too, are giving a part of their lives to the military," Farrell said. "The more the family is involved, the more they know what the guardmember is doing, and the more likely that soldier will stay around. Generally, I find if a spouse knows you're doing something productive, it's easier to accept that sacrifice."

ABOVE: Mary Feucht trained many volunteers during the Family Program University conference.
LEFT: First Sgt. Dennis Taylor, B Co., 237th FSB, asks a question during one of the workshops.
Guardmembers went door-to-door encouraging families to bring their children in for free lead poisoning screenings conducted by the Columbus Board of Health.

684th medics work to...

Get the Lead Out

Story and photo by Spc. J.D. Biros
196th Public Affairs Detachment

The Ohio National Guard and the Columbus Health Department recently joined efforts to provide blood lead level screenings to children in an east Columbus neighborhood. A concerned community action group asked for help because of the presence of lead in environmental samples taken from the identified area.

During the weekend of Sept. 11-12, medics from the 684th Medical Company located in Westerville assisted the Columbus Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program administer free lead poisoning screenings to children ages 1-5 years old. The blood samplings were conducted at three sites within the area of concern — a 1,000 home community between the boundaries of Parsons Avenue, Mithoff Street, Champion and Woodrow Avenues.

The focus of the weekend activities was to identify children with elevated blood lead levels and provide them with medical treatment and other necessary services to minimize the long-term effect of lead poisoning.

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, lead poisoning is the No. 1 environmental health threat to children 6 years old and younger. Research has shown that even low levels of lead increase the risk of a child developing permanent learning disabilities, reduced attentiveness and behavior problems. Sources for lead include paints manufactured before 1978, point source discharges from factories, and soils impregnated with leaded fuel particles from vehicle exhausts almost 10 years ago.

Lead is harmful to the developing brain and nervous system for fetuses and young children. Children are more likely than adults to be exposed to lead because they have more hand-to-hand activity and they absorb more lead. The Center for Disease Control recommends testing almost all children at 12 months of age and again at 24 months. For children known to be at risk, testing should start at six months.

Flyers were distributed to neighborhood homes a week before the screenings and National Guard members went door-to-door in the community the days of the tests encouraging families to bring their children down to the sites. Guardmembers also provided administrative support at each site.

Gary Garver, director of the Columbus Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, praised the participation of the National Guard in assisting with the program's outreach. The guardmembers provided valuable support in eliciting parents to have their children tested as well as conducting surveys of the families and their community, Garver said.
178th Fighter Group hosts "Rising Above It All" balloon festival in Springfield.

**178th Fighter Group hosts balloon festival**

Colorful hot air balloons replaced the familiar sight of F-16s in the skies of Springfield during the 178th Fighter Group August Unit Training Assembly.

For the second year, the Air Guard unit hosted the charitable event "Rising Above It All," which raises money for the Springfield Community Hospital. A balloon glow launched the festivities, followed by tethered balloon rides and an aerial game of horseshoes.

This year's event raised nearly $19,000, with $7,000 profit. The money was forwarded to the surgical unit to purchase Endoscopic Video Surgery Equipment. Anne Georges, assistant vice president of Springfield Community Hospital, said that although $25,000 was raised last year, no profit was incurred because of first-year expenses.

Georges explained she first associated with the 178th due to the spacial requirements needed to house and launch the balloons. However, she said since last year's balloon festival, a working partnership has developed.

"After '94," she said, "our goal is to have Springfield recognized as the 'Balloon Capital' of Ohio."

**123rd, 124th rank in nation's top five**

The Buckeye State was recognized as the 'Balloon Capital' of Ohio.

The 123rd Air Control Squadron, headquartered in Cincinnati, and the 124th Air Control Squadron, commanded by Lt. Col. Thomas J. Belton, were recipients of the top awards. The plaques are awarded to the top rated non-flying units in the Air National Guard. Both units are Cincinnati-based.

Capt. Norman A. Polkar, chief of maintenance, accepted the 124th's award and Tech Sgt. Donald Peters accepted for the 123rd.

**Retiring soon?**

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: Retiree Mailing List

**122nd Army National Guard Band seeks musicians**

The 122nd Army Band has several vacancies for those interested in promoting the National Guard to the public and spirit de corps to the troops through the gift of music. Available positions include: Piano Player (02N10); Guitar Player (02T30); Saxophone Player (02L10); Clarinet Player (02K10); Oboe Player (02H30); Bassoon Player (02K30); Electric Bass Guitar Player (02U20); French Horn Player (02D10); Tuba Player (02F20); and Euphonium Player (02C30). Contact Staff Sgt. Loni Kirby at (614) 889-7191 for further information.

**Flight training offered to ROTC cadets**

The University of North Dakota is the only institution of higher learning that offers the Army aviation flight training program, Air Battle Captain. The program is looking for candidates who have achieved high academic standards in high school and are able to pass a Class 1A flight physical. The program is available to all 3- and 4-year Army ROTC scholarship recipients who qualify. Upon graduation, the cadet is commissioned as a second lieutenant, branched aviation, and placed directly into an advanced or specialty helicopter training class at Fort Rucker, Alabama. For further information call (701) 777-2791 or write: Center for Aerospace Sciences University & Tulane Grand Forks, ND 58202-9007

**Youth Camp 94 planned for Guard dependents**

The Ohio Volunteer Family Assistance Council is sponsoring a weekend youth camp for dependent children of National Guard members June 24-26, 1994. The camp, which will be held at Camp Perry, is for children 8-12 years of age. Youth Camp 94 will offer children educational and recreational activities as well as Drug Demand Reduction activities and an orientation to life in the Guard.

Anyone interested in attending Youth Camp 94 as a camper or as an adult chaperone can provide their name, address, phone number and age to the Family Program Office at:

Buckeye Guard
Medics provide monetary relief to flood victims
The victims and Army National Guard members throughout the flooded areas of the Midwest were on the minds of Ohio's 112th Medical Brigade personnel at their July drill. Collected from both officers and enlisted, the donations totaling $148 went to the Red Cross to assist the residents whose lives were devastated by flooding this summer.

Beightler Armory wins "Life Sharing" award
The American Red Cross congratulates the employees of General Beightler Armory for winning the Life Sharing award in the state government category. The American Red Cross Blood Services, Central Ohio Region recently held the 93 Life Sharing Challenge reception to honor the top blood donor groups from the life sharing challenge competition. Combined, the groups were responsible for collecting 35,000 whole blood donations and nearly 8,000 pheresis donations last year alone.

Lt. John Smith (left) lends a hand to Spc. Donald Stranathan as they inspect donations headed to the former Soviet Union.

Ohio Guard aids former Soviet Union
Recent humanitarian aid to the newly formed Independent States of the former Soviet Union has included large quantities of privately donated items. Members of the HHC 1/107th medical platoon volunteered to inspect private donations and prepare them for shipment.

During October drill, eight volunteers and two supervisors met at the A & Z International warehouse in Cleveland, Ohio, to inspect, categorize and prepare for shipment some 7,000 cubic feet of donated goods. Items ranged from clothing to medical supplies and some medical equipment for use in hospitals.

Of the 465 boxes prepared for shipment, approximately 10 percent were opened randomly to inspect for visual signs of vermin, leakage or spoilage.

"The items donated will go to very good use," said Spc. Allen Daugherty, "especially the medical equipment and supplies." This was a Department of Defense sponsored activity.

Adopt-A-School program wins Minuteman Mike
The Ohio National Guard's Adopt-A-School program won first place at the 25th annual Adjutants General Association Awards Program. Awarded in July, the Adopt-A-School program was considered outstanding among National Guard sponsored programs conducted in schools. Entries were judged on originality, number of persons involved and program effectiveness. First place winners receive the Minuteman Mike, a statue of the minuteman figure.

More than 100 schools from around the state have a formalized partnership with units and/or installations of the Ohio National Guard. Students foster better grades, attitudes and attendance through individual attention as well as benefit by exposure to positive role models who exemplify a drug-free life-style.
SMSGt. Robert Barker is honored with the National Guard Bureau’s Minuteman Award.

NGB honors Toledo guardsman
Senior Master Sgt. Robert Barker, a resident of south Toledo, has received two military honors for his “ceaseless efforts” as a Visual Information Manager and an Instructor “which resulted in major contributions to the effectiveness and success of the National Guard Bureau.”

Barker was presented the Air Force Commendation Medal for Outstanding Achievement with one oak leaf cluster and the National Guard Bureau’s prestigious Minuteman Award.

Barker, who joined the Ohio Air National Guard in 1957, serves as the manager of the audio-visual department of the 180th Fighter Group stationed at Toledo Express Airport. Barker has also served as an instructor in visual information management since 1984 at the National Guard Bureau’s Military Education Center in Knoxville, Tenn.

According to the citations, Barker’s “professionalism and unselfish devotion to duty was exceptional. His tireless efforts toward progress for the visual information mission and the genuine concern for the success of his counterparts made him an immeasurable asset as an advisor to the Air National Guard.”

Evans dubbed “hero” at fire scene
Sgt. William Evans was recently awarded the Ohio Distinguished Service Medal for his courage shown at the scene of a fire in August 1991.

Evans, a member of Company B, 216th Engineer Battalion, is a brick layer by trade and a member of the Manchester Volunteer Fire Department. On August 28, Evans arrived on the scene of a mobile home fire. Upon learning that a child was trapped inside, Evans was sure that he could make it in and out of the burning trailer to save the child.

After Fire Chief Herman Carter cautioned Evans about the danger and urged him to be extremely quick, Evans entered the trailer. Crawling on his hands and knees, he crossed the living room to the couch, grabbed the child and headed back to the door. Before he could make it out, an explosion threw them both from the trailer.

Both Evans and the child were sent to local hospitals to treat injuries sustained from the incident.

His dedication to duty and selfless valor is in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflects significant praise upon himself, the United States Army, and the Ohio Army National Guard.

Strohm competes abroad
An Ohio Air National Guard member recently contributed to an impressive win at the centennial of the Royal Army Skill-at-Arms Meeting held at Bisley, England.

Tech. Sgt. Ken Strohm of the 200th Red Horse Squadron at Camp Perry, Ohio, was a member of an eight-member team that took the Fortuna trophy from the British Territorial Army last July.

The trophy winner is determined by an aggregate of the best eight out of 10 scores from the Queen Mary rifle and Henry Whitehead pistol team matches. The All-Guard International Combat Shooting Team defeated the Territorial Army by a score of 2,478 points to 2,327.

The trophy itself is a bronze statue of the goddess “Fortuna.”

Strohm was also one of six National Guard members awarded the Queen’s Medal for placing in the top 50 individual shooters in the competition.
Last year, Strohm won the All-Army Combat Rifle Championships and was a member of the winning highpower rifle team at the Winston P. Wilson matches. He has been a member of the All-Guard highpower team for the last two years.

Greenberg earns Citizen-Soldier Award

Second Lt. Jeffery J. Greenberg of the 121st Air Refueling Wing was the winner of the prestigious Citizen Soldier Award in the Air National Guard Academy of Military Science. The award was announced during the recent graduation ceremonies at McGhee Tyson ANG Base, Knoxville, Tenn.

Greenberg was chosen for the award by his fellow officer candidates as the student who best manifested the ideals expressed in the hallowed military concept of “duty, honor, country.”

The Citizen-Soldier Award is sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Reserve Officers Association of the United States. One member of each graduating class of the Academy of Military Science, the country’s officer training academy for the Air National Guard, is selected by his peers for the award. In addition, a member of each graduating class of the Tennessee Military Academy, the Army Guard’s training school, receives a similar award.

Lt. Greenberg and the entire class were called upon to live up to the ideals of the citizen-soldier concept and to communicate to the public “the need for vigilance if America’s freedoms and free institutions are to be preserved.”

Ohio Military Reserve names new commander

Annual training for nearly 400 Ohio Military Reserve soldiers meant more than military drill, ceremony and customs familiarization; it meant hazardous materials waste emergency response training and, just as important, a change of command for the organization’s top slot.


The Ohio Military Reserve has a mission of providing adequately trained and organized state reserve forces which are under the exclusive control of the Governor. These forces are capable of accomplishing those state emergency responsibilities normally assigned to the National Guard when that force is federalized or otherwise not available.

OMR’s new commander began his military career as a U.S. Army private, and later received his commission as a second lieutenant in the Infantry. After serving in Korea, Haas held various assignments in the U.S. Army Reserve until he retired as lieutenant colonel.

A resident of Massillon, Ohio, Haas is the Director of Central Reserve Life Insurance Company in Strongville, Ohio. He and his wife, Bonnie, have two daughters, Elizabeth and Barbara.

State Aviation Officer retires

After 23 years of service, Col. Lynn V. Coriell may be retiring from the Ohio Guard, but his influence will stay with the Guard for years to come.

Coriell started his career in Guard aviation in 1970 as a Technician Flight Instructor. By 1980, he had advanced to the Facility Commander of the Army Aviation Support Facility #2 at Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base. His professional aspirations culminated when he was named the State Aviation Officer in 1991.

Over the years, he advanced from warrant officer to the rank of colonel while being assigned various commands. He was commander of an Attack Helicopter Company, battalion commander of the 216th Engineer Battalion, commander of the 134th Engineer Group and finally, deputy brigade commander of the 16th Engineer Brigade.

Under Coriell’s command, Ohio Aviation never suffered a pilot-induced aviation accident. His leadership was always present when Aviation supported various state emergencies. He was instrumental in the successful deployment of aviation assets to Honduras in support of Operation Fuertes Caminos.

There is an old saying that old soldiers never die, they just fade away. But Col. Lynn Coriell set an impressive standard that will endure as long as there is Army Aviation in the Ohio National Guard.
CLEP Program for spouses extended

DANTES, or Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support, recently extended the administration of the CLEP General and Subject examinations to spouses of Army National Guard (ARNG) members. The program, which was set to expire Sept. 30, 1993, is extended until Sept. 30, 1994.

These tests are evaluated for college credit at most accredited institutions and are a great way to start a college career. Army Guard spouses are the only family members eligible for this funded CLEP testing program. Spouses must present a current military spouse identification card, and be tested through the ARNG DANTES Test Center located at Beightler Armory in Columbus.

For more information, call 1st Lt. Patricia Marek at (614) 889-7275.

R&R in the Big Apple

Have you always wanted to visit New York City but couldn't afford it? Thanks to the Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Club, you can get a comfortable spot to sleep in and use of the SS&A's facilities for only $30 a night ($25 each for weekdays, and $20 each for two or more guests). In addition to complimentary continental breakfasts every weekend and holiday, the SS&A boasts a pool room, TV room and two large comfortable lounges with grand pianos and a library.

The club is located in the historic midtown Murray Hill Section of Manhattan. Five blocks from Grand Central Station in one direction and the Empire State Building in the other, the SS&A is within easy walking distance of the United Nations, Broadway theaters, several famous department stores and restaurants catering to every taste imaginable.

Take a bite out of the Big Apple without taking a bite out of your wallet. Simply call 1-800-678-TGIF for reservations. An ID card, veterans organization card or any other proof of honorable service and $30 is all you need.

Heart rendering experience

Officials from the Air Force Enlisted Men's Widows and Dependents Home Foundation sadly watch as an ailing widow is forced to leave her home, friends, and their umbrella of support to seek a life-care program which is provided at most other retirement communities.

In response, the foundation purchased 42 acres of land on which it plans to build a Home Health Care Facility with a nursing unit. It will cost approximately $1.5 million to construct the facility and require an additional investment of $3 million to ensure continued operation to support the growing needs of the residents.

Currently, the foundation facilities consist of Teresa Village in Fort Walton Beach and Bob Hope Village in Shalimar, Florida, which are located several miles apart. Widows and dependents of Air Force career enlisted personnel, including Air National Guard and Air Force Reserves, are eligible to become residents. Also, 15 percent of the facilities can be occupied by retired couples.

For more information on eligibility and the facilities, or if you would like to find out how you can help, call (904) 651-3766 or write: The Air Force Enlisted Men's Widows and Dependents Home Foundation, Inc. 92 Sunset Lane Shalimar, FL 32579

DPP available at exchanges worldwide, UCDPP increases

The Deferred Payment Plan, or DPP, is now available at Army and Air Force exchanges worldwide.

The credit program features a low, annual finance rate of 12 percent. Recent enhancements of the program include a credit limit of up to $5,000 based on the applicant's disposable income; a 36 month payoff period; and separate accounts for qualified family members with their own income.

AAFES officials also announced a $200 increase in the credit limit for purchase of uniform items under the Uniform Clothing Deferred Payment Plan. The $500 limit, no-interest credit plan has a payoff period of eight months. Accounts can be opened or increased by visiting any military clothing sales store.

Customers authorized to use DPP include all active duty soldiers, National Guard and Reserve members, military and AAFES retirees, most AAFES associates and family members with exchange privileges. For more information, contact your local exchange. (Army Families)

TROA offers educational assistance

For the 1993-94 school year, 800 students received $2,000 interest-free loans from The Retired Officers Association (TROA) Educational Assistance Program.

The students were selected on their scholastic ability, participation in extracurricular and community activities, as well as financial need. From 800 students receiving loans, 150 received special $500 grants in addition to the loans.

The loans, totaling $1.6 million this school year, are awarded to unmarried undergraduates, under the age of 24, who are dependent children of active, reserve and retired service personnel and their surviving spouses. Students can obtain up to $10,000 of interest-free support for five years of undergraduate study; loan repayment is after graduation.

TROA Educational Assistance applications for the 1994-95 school year should be requested by Feb. 15, 1994, and the completed application must be postmarked on or before March 1, 1994. For applications and more information, write: TROA Educational Assistance Program Administrator (09D), 201 N. Washington St. Alexandria, Va. 22314-2539.

Free and low-cost booklets save $$$

For almost 25 years, consumers have been writing to the Consumer Information Center for free and low-cost government booklets on everything from staying healthy and controlling your weight to managing your money and buying your home. More than 200 outstanding publications are available and described in the Consumer Information Catalog.

The Consumer Information Center of the U.S. General Services Administration revises and publishes the Catalog quarterly, so you know it's up-to-date. To get a free copy, just send your name and address to Consumer Information Catalog, Pueblo, CO 81009, or call (719) 484-4000 any time day or night. This number is only for ordering the catalog, and regular long distance rates apply. (Army Families)
To All Employees of the Adjutant General's Department

Christmas 1993

Throughout the holiday season, we embrace our families and friends with the warmth and cheer of Christmas, while reflecting on the many blessings we have received during the past year.

As employees of the Adjutant General's Department and members of the Ohio National Guard we are part of a very special family. "Our Family" consists of hundreds of exceptional individuals working together for the benefit of their state and their nation.

Once again this year, our family joined together on many occasions to provide support and humanitarian aid to others. Communities, schools, charities and other non-profit organizations count on the Guard to bring success to their programs. We also responded to numerous emergency situations throughout the state and have provided training and education to prevent or mitigate the effects of future disasters.

During a year which brought a glimmer of peace to the Mideast, we have come to realize that through dedication and sacrifice, our employees and personnel in uniform will continue to meet the challenges of the new year before us.

From the office of the Governor, Lt. Governor and the Adjutant General, sincere thanks to each and every man and woman for your contributions to our mission.

May you and your loved ones enjoy the true spirit of Christmas and may you all have a safe and enjoyable holiday season.

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

Mike DeWine  
Lt. Governor  
State of Ohio

Richard E. Alexander  
Major General  
Adjutant General
GODZILLA meets the Ohio Guard

Ohio National Guard pilots 1st Lt. John Siles (center) and 1st Lt. Greg Pasden help Children's Hospital patient Nicholas Johnson celebrate Halloween during Red Ribbon Week. (Photo by Sgt. Andy Allinson, State Public Affairs Office)