EARNING YOUR STRIPES

Army Guard launches new enlisted promotion system

Pages 12-13
121st ARW based in Italy for DENY FLIGHT

Ohio's Air Guard has supported the peacekeeping efforts in Bosnia-Herzegovina since 1992. For more, see pages 16-17.
FEATURES

9 Cleveland Welcomes NGAUS
America's "North Coast" shines during the 117th NGAUS General Conference.

12 Select, Train, Promote, Assign
New enlisted promotion system ranks best qualified for promotions.

16 Bosnia Operation Escalates
Air Guard already familiar with mission.

18 Special Forces Return From Haiti
19th SFG team returns after participating in operation "MAINTAIN DEMOCRACY."

20 Engineers Build Playground
Emerald Glen project forms partnership with Guard and community.

DEPARTMENTS

4 National Briefs
5 Feedback
25 Drug Demand Reduction
26 Buckeye Briefs
28 All About People
30 Benefits

The Women’s Memorial, recognition at last. President Bill Clinton joined nearly 5,000 women veterans and others June 22 at groundbreaking ceremonies for the Women in Military Service for America Memorial at Arlington (Va.) National Cemetery near Washington. The memorial is considered a monumental tribute to service, sacrifice and achievement, and will honor all servicewomen past, present and future. In his address Clinton called the memorial, which will be completed in 1997, a long-overdue down payment to women who’ve served and continue to serve in America’s armed forces. It also illustrates the contributions women have made alone and in partnership with men in the defense of our nation. A computer register will provide specific data and photographs of each registered woman. You can register yourself or sponsor any veteran. The quickest way to register is by calling (800) 222-2294. (AFIS)

Remains of GIs returned to families. Remains of two American servicemen missing in Southeast Asia since December 1967 have been identified and returned to their families. The name of one service member is being withheld at the request of his family. The remains of Marine Corps Sgt. Frederick J. Burns of Nassau County, N.Y., were recovered last year from a prisoner of war camp cemetery located between Chu Lai and Tam Ky in Quang Nam Province, Vietnam, said a spokesperson for the Army Central Identification Laboratory, Hawaii. Burns, born June 11, 1949, was reported missing shortly after his 10-man squad moved out on a night patrol mission on Dec. 25, 1967. Documents provided by Vietnamese officials indicate Burns died Jan. 2, 1969 while in captivity. Sgt. Burns’ remains were identified by his dental records and repatriated as a result of efforts by a joint American-Vietnamese search and recovery team, officials said. To date, there are 2,206 Americans still missing in Southeast Asia. (AFIS)

Perry rates U.S. forces best in the world. Speaking before the Foreign Policy Association in New York recently, Defense Secretary William Perry claimed that U.S. force’s morale is high and troops are at the height of preparedness. “Comparing the U.S. forces with any other force in the world today, we have a superior force,” Perry said. “This is not only my judgment, it’s the judgment of most of my military and defense counterparts in other parts of the world.” To maintain the readiness and the capability of the force, Perry said the operations and maintenance account has climbed over the past few years despite a 27 percent drawdown in forces since 1990. “Whatever size force we have, it will be the most capable we can have,” he said. In assessing the force, Perry said he relies on two information sources. One is by talking directly with service members and commanders. “I think I have spent 130 days of the last year going around to bases all over the world,” he said. “Their morale is very high and the confidence in their ability is very high.” The second gauge is performance. Perry cited operations in Kuwait, Haiti and Rwanda, where he said U.S. forces came together quickly and performed difficult missions with great skill. (AFIS)

Brown pledges nation’s support for WWII vets. Jesse Brown, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, said the nation owes much to the veterans of World War II. More than 4 million Americans served in the war in the Pacific, according to Brown. Speaking at a memorial service at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii, Brown listed the sacrifices: More than 100,000 Americans died, 200,000 were wounded and 35,000 were prisoners of war. “It is clear that our citizen-soldiers gave up much,” he said. “And that’s why we as a nation must always remember them, because they stood up to the forces of evil and saved the world.” More than 7.5 million World War II veterans are still alive, Brown said. For some, the cost of war continues because they suffer from wounds to the mind, spirit and body. Veterans and their families must be cared for with dignity and respect, “for after all, their chapter of the history of war was written in blood,” he said. “And it was done by ordinary people doing extraordinary things. That is why we must always remember that the cost of war continues as long as there is one warrior remaining who needs care, comfort, or a burial with dignity.” (AFIS)
FEEDBACK FROM THE FIELD

Many thanks to my Guard Family

During my recent illness and convalescence period, my family and I received many get well cards, phone calls, well wishes, flowers, fruit baskets and remembrances from an overwhelming number of our Guard Family. Each and every one of them was welcomed and appreciated. Thank you, one and all.

Once again, the true story of the real strength of our organization, the Ohio National Guard, has been vividly brought home to me.

The people, the people, the people.

We, as the collective members of the Guard Family, are stronger together than we could be in any other setting. Thank you for thinking of me. Let's continue to take care of all our Guard Family by taking care of each other.

Brig. Gen. John S. Martin
Assistant Adjutant General, Army

Army Guard proves no dilemma for Ryan’s Dad

Dear General Martin,

After reading your column in the Fall 1995 Buckeye Guard entitled, “Retention begins day of enlistment,” I would like to take a moment and share my son’s experience with you.

Having served in the Ohio National Guard myself, I strongly encouraged my son, Ryan, to enlist in the split option program while still in high school. After having “shopped around,” Ryan joined the HHT, 2nd Squadron of the 107th Cavalry in Kettering. But unlike the soldier in your article, Ryan was blessed with good experiences as a new soldier in his first military assignment, enhancing his already positive impression of the military.

Besides undergoing meaningful training on drill weekends, the Headquarters Troop cadre have demonstrated a genuine concern for Ryan’s transition to military life. His first sergeant, 1st Sgt. Donald Cain, and troop commander, Capt. Lance Armbuster, have both shown personal interest in Ryan’s progress and well being. And unlike the first sponsor in your article, Ryan’s sponsor, Sgt. Les Dershem, exhibited a caring and positive attitude. Moreover, his supply sergeant, Staff Sgt. Michael Canty, and unit administrator, Staff Sgt. Adam Hughes, have made sure that his clothing issues, schedules and military pay have been correct and timely.

I would like to note that his experience at the MEPS in Columbus was also positive. The Army National Guard liaison NCO there, Sgt. 1st Class Jay Bentley, was extremely helpful and went out of his way to assist Ryan. The phone numbers and contacts furnished by the MEPS were also correct and useful.

In short, the Ohio National Guard has made a great initial impression on my son during his first six months of military duty because of the conscientious attitude displayed by the officers and NCOs he has thus far encountered.

I know that someone in your position must hear “bad news” in order to take the necessary corrective action as you so eloquently did in your column. But “good news” is also worth reporting and, after reading your article, I wanted to give you the other side of the story while expressing thanks to dedicated professionals who have made my son’s initial experience so positive.

Sincerely,

Ralph F. Liebhaber
Lt. Col., USAFR

Have you got what it takes to be a Ranger?

The Army National Guard has 180 training seats per year for the NGB Pre-Ranger Course conducted at Fort Benning, Ga. The 2-week prep course and the 8-week Ranger Course are funded by the National Guard Bureau.

Male commissioned and noncommissioned officers in more than 1,800 ARNG ranger-coded positions nationwide are eligible to apply. Ohio has 20 authorized ranger-coded positions. Contact your unit orderly room for specific requirements via the Army Training Resource System.

Ranger Checklist:

✓ Male Officer/NCO in ranger-coded position.
✓ Medical exam within 18 months of attendance and dental panorex.
✓ Commander certification of APFT (52 pushups, 62 situps and two-mile run in 14:54).
✓ Combat Water Survival Test (15 meter swim with BDUs/rifle/LCE; 3 meter drop with blindfold; equipment removal).
✓ Five-mile run, 8-mile foot march with 35-pound rucksack.
✓ Commander’s statement of military skills proficiency.

Force Protection ‘96 is everybody’s business

A review of current trends in accidents has compelled me to convey my appreciation and congratulations for a job well done. Over the past 12 months, we have experienced no serious ground or aviation accidents in the Ohio Army National Guard. As we move into a new training year and a new cycle of operations, I urge each of you, commander or soldier, officer or enlisted, to realize that being safe is a decision, not a coincidence. Tasks performed to standard are tasks performed safely. My challenge to each of you is that every task you perform in the future will be performed to standard, and each mission or training opportunity be assessed using management. The Safety Office stands ready to assist you with programs, briefings, evaluations or other information you might need. Contact them at (614) 889-7033. Again, keep up the good work, and “Be a Part of the Safe Guard Team, Force Protection ‘96 Operation Safe Guard.”

Brig. Gen. John S. Martin
Assistant Adjutant General, Army

Corrections

Apologies to Spc. Arthur H. Dunkley for not identifying him as the laundry and bath specialist pictured on page 9 in the Fall 1995 issue of the Buckeye Guard magazine. Dunkley is assigned to the 637th Service Company in Akron. Also, Staff Sgt. John M. Huffman, acting commander of the 122nd Army Band, was misidentified in the same issue. Huffman was shown accepting an award (page 26) from the Ohio National Guard Enlisted Association.

FAX your Letters to the Editor to DSN 273-3820 or commercial (614) 766-3820. Mail letters to AGOH-PA, ATTN: Buckeye Guard, 2825 West Dublin Granville Road, Columbus, OH 43235-2789. All submissions are subject to editing based on space and style considerations.
Command Focus


Strategic planning key to long-term success

We live in arguably the most dynamic time in history. The world is rapidly changing before our eyes. Nations long considered enemies are now allies. Borders change almost daily. Governments have formed alliances ensuring economic growth and mutual defense. Countries and corporations content with the status quo are withering on the vine. Creativity and innovation have become the primary ingredients for survival in this new world.

At the end of the Cold War, the United States was faced with its greatest challenge—restructuring its military and policies in an environment void of impending threat. With cries for a "peace dividend" heard throughout the land, we set about the business of redesigning our forces to meet multiple contingencies in various theaters around the globe. As we approach the end of a long, hard road of downsizing and "right sizing," our tendency might be to sit back and take a well-deserved rest. That's a mistake we cannot afford to make!

The military is a business, big business, and just like our counterparts in the civilian world, our longevity depends on our ability to change with the times and plan for the future. Our ability to create a vision for ourselves and transform that vision into reality will determine the course of the Ohio Air National Guard in the 21st century.

We've been fortunate to have a visionary lead the Air National Guard during these turbulent times. Air Guard Director Maj. Gen. Donald Shepperd has embarked on a five-year plan to move the Guard forward while preserving its roots as a militia organization. The plan calls for restructuring the force to assume new roles and missions; taking on new missions which take advantage of the Guard's unique capabilities; manning the force with quality people capable of performing our assigned missions; training our membership effectively and efficiently to meet mission requirements; and basing the Air National Guard in such a way that meets operational, economic, political and environmental requirements.

We have just completed the first year of the program by reorganizing our state headquarters and upgrading all of our flying organizations from groups to wings. Several other initiatives such as a new inspection system for quality are either ongoing or being implemented in each of our units.

As we follow Gen. Shepperd's lead in shaping the Air Guard of the future, the Ohio Air National Guard has positioned itself to take advantage of change through an aggressive strategic planning effort. Under the direction of Ohio Deputy Chief of Staff Col. (Brig. Gen. selectee) Stephen Koper, we have assembled a statewide network of dedicated individuals focused on the future of the Ohio Air Guard. This planning group considers present and possible future missions and force structure, and prepares recommendations on courses of action for the leadership.

Taking a proactive role in developing our future has already paid dividends. The Ohio Air Guard recently acquired two new missions—an Air Traffic Control Flight and a new tasking for our combat communications group. While we may not have anticipated bringing new missions into Ohio so soon, it's important to note that through our planning process we were prepared to accept and implement these missions (when maybe some other states were not).

A large part of effective strategic planning is cultivating the right people to do the job. We are intent on developing a strong management team throughout the state. Individuals selected for assignment to headquarters or command will have a complement of military and civilian management skills. We are encouraging our membership to gain valuable experience through tours at the National Guard Bureau and major air commands. Our goal is to put the very best people we have in management positions and focus on building the Ohio Air National Guard into the most advanced, mission-capable, fully manned Air Guard in the country. With our strategic planning program off and running, I've no doubt we'll get there first!
Technology enhances Guard, Reserve training

By Deborah R. Lee  
Asst. Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs

It is no secret that government—at all levels—is being challenged to do more with less and reduce its ranks. It’s part of “Reinventing Government” and it means that we are focused—big time—on reducing and balancing budgets, producing better and more streamlined services and encouraging innovation at every possible level.

The leadership of the Department of Defense recognizes that innovation and aggressive use of technology will help us revolutionize the way we fight our wars and the way we train our troops.

The Deputy Secretary of Defense, Dr. John W. White, recently said that “...innovation is critically important if we are going to have a new, flexible, and reliable organization that can respond to change.” Acknowledging that “information technology” is a critical element of innovation, he said:

Consistent with Dr. White’s view of the role that technology will play in our future, DoD’s Quality of Life Task Force made the continued development of “distance learning technology” a priority in its recent recommendations to Secretary of Defense William Perry.

“Distance learning” is structured learning that takes place without the physical presence of an instructor—through incorporating a variety of technologies such as print, videotape, computer-based training, interactive videodisc and video teletraining. In the reserve components, we have a special interest is distance learning for several reasons:

- First, it will reduce our long-term training costs. As a rough estimate, we believe that we can save 25 to 35 percent of current travel budgets if we bring more training to military personnel at their home stations rather than bringing military personnel to the classroom;

- Second, it allows us to maximize the time we have available for training. If more effective training can be delivered to reserve members in their hometown armories or via the Internet to home computers, it will reduce the need for them to attend as many military courses away from home. (More time at home means less strain on civilian employers); and,

- Third, especially for the Guard and Reserve, it will help us deliver a high quality, standardized product to a geographically dispersed population.

Through distance learning, more students can be taught where they live and, most importantly, instructors can engage them in the courseware and observe their performance easily—whether they are down the hall, across the country or even halfway around the world.

The electronic classroom has allowed the National Guard NCO Academy to dramatically increase its enrollment—from an average of 1,100 students a year to almost 3,600 a year. Similarly, an Air Force course in acquisition management, which used to enroll 300 students each year, now enrolls up to 3,000—with students connected to the classroom from more than 30 bases.

Much of the courseware DoD develops will have direct applications to reservists in their civilian jobs; however, there is no limit to the kind of courseware that can be covered with distance learning technology. For example, unit personnel, scattered over a large area, can already practice their warfighting skills together as a team on the same simulated “battlefield” without actually being together physically.

If it is done properly, I am convinced that distance learning technology will be a silver bullet for military training of the future. For members of the National Guard and Reserve, my goal—quite simply—is to bring high quality, cost effective training to each armory and reserve center across the country.

Although there are many key ingredients to readiness, military experts agree that top-notch training is the cornerstone. It is why we are ready today—and why we will stay ready both tomorrow and into the 21st century.

Col. Ronald G. Young
Ohio Military Academy

Age: 48  
Occupation: Human Resource Officer, Ohio National Guard.

Life has taught me: Time is really short. You need to appreciate and enjoy those around you while the opportunities exist. If I could have just one day all to myself, I would: Spend half of the day with nature and the other half reading a great novel.

The one film I would have liked to have starred in: A Few Good Men.

When no one’s looking I: Try to steal a few moments for deep introspection.

When I was little I wanted to be: A full-time military officer.

The worst advice I ever received was: Six years is a long time to be in the Guard.

The best advice I ever received was: Go to college and get your four-year degree.

If I could dine with anyone, past or present, I would invite: My father (who died in 1988), my mother, grandparents, my wife, kids and Dwight D. Eisenhower.

The best moment of my life happened when I: Married Renee.


My favorite movie: Forrest Gump.

If I could leave today’s guardmembers with one piece of advice it would be: Never give up! Guardmembers today must balance a multitude of competing interests but the rewards are great for those who persevere.
Citizen Spotlight

Terri Alston ensures the LLWAS (Low Level Windshear Alert System) is operating normally.

Airman’s skills paved path for civilian job

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Diane Farrow
HQ STARC (Det. 1-5)

As a high school senior, Terri Alston planned on a career in day-care. Eleven years later, instead of climbing up monkey bars after troublesome tots, the 32-year-old spends her time scaling communication towers, checking the serviceability of radio antennas.

Alston was hired by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as an electronic technician in September 1991, five months after she separated from the Air Force. Though she lost interest in staying on active duty, Alston knew she didn’t want to leave the military completely behind.

“I really enjoyed the military, so I joined the Guard. It let me stay involved with the Air Force, keep my rank and pay for college,” said Alston, a technical sergeant with the 220th Engineering Installation Squadron in Zanesville. “I went to OSU for two quarters, but after a few months of living only on Guard pay and the GI Bill, getting a full-time job sounded pretty good.”

After an informational interview at the Columbus International Airport, Alston landed a job in the highly specialized career field with ease. Her eight years as a Meteorological Navigational Aids Equipment Specialist at Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, qualified her to work on the wide array of navigation and communication equipment the FAA manages.

“I work on navigational aids equipment, which gives pilots en route and landing guidance, and communications equipment, including UHF and VHF radio equipment which air traffic controllers use to communicate with pilots.

“I installed this type of equipment for the Air Force—and still do for the Guard,” Alston explained. “For the FAA, I’m responsible for maintaining it.” She maintains six sites—three at the Columbus Airport and one each in Zanesville, Athens and Newark.

When maintenance problems do arise, Alston says she often draws on her military experience for solutions. “Since I know how to install most of the equipment I work on, it’s easier to troubleshoot when things go wrong. Knowing how things are put together from the ground up makes you familiar with the system, inside and out.”

Alston says the most challenging part of her job is keeping up with all the new equipment. “I’m constantly going to school in Oklahoma City to learn the newest technologies—anywhere from one week to several months at a time.

“But I’m not crazy about being away from home so much,” she added.

While she is one of “very, very few women” in this career field, Alston admits that she’s no stranger to breaking gender barriers.

She was the first female in her Guard unit to graduate the Team Chief Academy, where she was named “Outstanding Team Chief Nominee.” With this education and certification on the job, she was also the first female in the 220th to become an electronic installation team chief, which means she is qualified to supervise installation projects.

Even her extracurricular activities cross over into those traditionally dominated by males. Her boyfriend recently got her started riding dirt bikes, a hobby which consumes most of well-earned weekends off.

Though the career she imagined as a teenager was filled with little ones to watch after, the only “rascals” she claims responsibility for these days are the gadgets and gizmos left in her care by the FAA.

Citizen Spotlight is a new column aimed at highlighting the civilian occupations and interests of Ohio guardmembers. Please send story ideas to:

AGOH-PA
ATTN: Citizen Spotlight
2825 W. Dublin-Granville Road
Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789
Buckeye State hosts 117th NGAUS General Conference in Cleveland

Story by Master Sgt. Robert Jennings
196th Public Affairs Detachment

Until the Browns decided to shuffle off to Baltimore, Cleveland, Ohio was having a pretty good year. After all, the much heralded Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum opened its doors to huge crowds; the Indians won the American League pennant; and both events brought national attention to America’s “North Coast.”

Amidst all the hoopla of this rejuvenated city was the gathering of attendees from across the country for the 117th General Conference of the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS). Over 3,000 delegates, friends of NGAUS and defense industry representatives, converged on Cleveland and were drenched in midwestern hospitality Sept. 7-9. Although the atmosphere rang festive, attacks on Guard structure and looming budget cuts from Capital Hill shrouded Cleveland’s downtown Convention Center and had participants engaged in heated debate and frank discussions.

The conference began with the traditional pomp and special dedications to all who served in World War II. Lt. Gen. Edward Baca, chief, National Guard Bureau, noted that more than 175,000 National Guardsmen were part of its history. In his remarks to the delegation, Baca defended the role of today’s National Guard by recalling the hollow U.S. military and the state of unpreparedness of this nation when the world went to war over 50 years ago.

“Before World War II, isolationists convinced the American people that war was not imminent, and the rigors of the Great Depression focused the government on reducing spending for defense,” he said. “Some people would have us believe today that all threats have disappeared and that spending on defense should be reduced further. If we are not careful,” he continued, “we run the risk of surrendering the many gains we have made in the past years and repeating the mistakes of the past—when our soldiers were sent into combat unprepared.”

Today, deployments of National Guard units throughout the world reflect the importance of the Guard in protecting national interests and solidifies it as an integral part of the Total Force policy. The chief attributes much of the Guard’s success to its people and its equipment.

“My impression of the Guard is that it is in great shape today,” Baca said. “Our soldiers and airmen are the best trained, the most highly motivated and the best equipped I have ever seen. And let me say that we are well equipped with new tanks, artillery, fighters and bombers due to the hard work and professionalism of our contractors.”

Baca then conceded that further cuts may
RIGHT: During opening ceremonies, delegates rise for the National Anthem. BELOW: MG Alexander, sporting a Cleveland Indians ball cap, escorts his wife to the head table during the all states dinner. BELOW CENTER: MG (ret.) Francis S. Greenlief urges the crowd to support the Association and continue to fight for National Guard issues.

be necessary but called on the Association to incorporate their efforts and to “speak with one voice and let the American people know that the militia cannot be allowed to degenerate.”

Ohio Governor George V. Voinovich also addressed the NGAUS audience. Voinovich discussed the importance of maintaining a strong National Guard for defense of our nation, rapid response to state emergencies and disasters, and for the continuing conduct of programs that “add value” to America.

Maj. Alfred C. Faber, president of the Ohio National Guard Association, presented the governor with a commemorative painting of Ohio’s 37th Infantry Division. During WWII the 37th “Buckeye” Division, commanded by Maj. Gen. Robert S. Beightler, served in the Pacific Theater and was instrumental in liberating the Philippine Islands. In the initial stages of the war, the 37th’s ranks were filled entirely with Ohioans.

Through a sea of onlookers, Maj. Gen. Francis S. Greenlief, a decorated WWII hero, and fiery proponent of the National Guard, stirred the crowd to a frenzy as he called for “unity of movement to the fight.” His reference was directed at certain Department of Defense officials who spoke on the surface about supporting National Guard issues while, as he put it, using “code words” that support the elimination of Guard combat divisions and the conversion of parts of those forces into service support units.

During his rousing comments, Greenlief reminded his fellow guardmembers that NGAUS has lobbyed the executive and legislative branches of government since 1879, and, because of the association’s efforts, this country now enjoys the benefits of a well trained and well equipped Army and Air National Guard. “The NGAUS is essential to the state and the nation,” Greenlief proclaimed. “We must continue to pursue our primary goals of securing federal assistance as a front-line reserve to the active Army and Air Force and retain legal status as a state military force in peacetime,” he said.

Also speaking in separate sessions were the directors of the Army and Air National Guard.

Maj. Gen. Donald W. Shepperd, director, Air, has accepted the cuts of the Air Guard and sees it entering a period of stability. “The Guard is OK,” he said. “We had a lot of force structure cuts out there, but somehow we have dealt with the tough stuff on our plates. We are downsized.” Considered a visionary, Shepperd talked about the future of the Air National Guard and how new technology will improve its readiness.

“We must continue to pursue our primary goals of securing federal assistance as a front-line reserve to the active Army and Air Force and retain legal status as a state military force in peacetime,” said Greenlief.
we are set up with a world-wide web,” Shepperd said. “We have fiber optics at all of our locations and we are set now to receive any information that anybody can jam at us in the future.”

Shepperd’s technological vision, coined “Cyberguard,” includes network simulators, video teleconferencing, plus hardware and software designed to streamline operations and provide instantaneous communication.

Maj. Gen. John D’Araujo Jr., in his last address as director, spoke to a separate gathering of Army Guard supporters and echoed the “one voice” theme. In his address, D’Araujo noted the increased reliance and expanded operations of the Army Guard in the Total Force. He cited multinational missions, joint operations and the use of simulators by Guard units as examples of prudent expenditures of defense dollars.

“The National Guard is extremely cost effective, but it isn’t free,” D’Araujo said. He then concluded that the Guard must continue to be efficient with its resources because money will continue to get tighter, especially in the areas of operations and maintenance.

The conference closed with an energized Association committed to continuing the fight for a strong National Guard. And although the Browns may be leaving Cleveland, members of NGAUS and its supporters have vowed not to abandon the citizen-soldier.

**Conference Key Issue Update**

**Guard’s combat future in hands of Ohio’s top soldier**

Much has been written, discussed and debated concerning the Pentagon’s plans to eliminate the National Guard’s eight combat divisions.

To no one’s surprise, when the 117th Annual Conference of the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) convened in Cleveland last September, the hot topic was the fate of those divisions.

Last spring the independent Commission on Roles and Missions of the Armed Forces recommended that the combat divisions be cut and converted to combat service support units.

The commission made the recommendation based on the active Army’s exclusion of Guard combat divisions in its war plans.

In the wake of the commission’s controversial decision and at the urging of Guard officials, Secretary of Defense William Perry sent a letter to Congress asking for further study of the recommendation.

The future structure of the divisions may now rest in the hands of Ohio’s adjutant general. Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander heads a general officer steering committee comprised of representatives from the active Army, Guard and Reserve. The steering committee is charged with determining what configurations best suit the needs of the Army.

Under those guidelines, the steering committee has four structural options and will have to make tough decisions and report its findings in March 1996.

About 100,000 guardsmen fill the ranks of the eight combat divisions. The following is the basic framework of the four alignment options the steering committee will consider:

- Restructure the combat divisions to make them training and mobilization entities. Under this plan the units will act as support elements for field artillery or aviation units, losing their combat maneuver capability.
- Restructure for specific missions, such as operations other than war or for facilitating the deployment of units within a theater.
- Embed dual-mission combat service and combat service support units in the divisions. Under this plan the units would stay basically the same but the support units within the division may be tasked with filling Army shortfalls or some soldiers may be trained in a secondary support specialty for which the Army has a need.
- Create combined-arms divisions. Under this plan divisions would have a standardized support package that could support any type of brigade.

**Elvis plays tribute to 117th Conference**

The conference wasn’t all business. Nearly 3,000 conferencegoers attended the many social and entertainment functions. Cleveland proved to be an ideal host with its many shopping centers, museums, restaurants, night life and sporting events. There were even tickets available to the normally sold out Jacob’s Field, letting many catch the Indian’s division championship-winning game over the Baltimore Orioles.

Governor George V. Voinovich hosted the governor’s reception held in Cleveland’s entertainment hot spot, The Flats; Maj. Gen. Alexander and his wife hosted the adjutant generals’ reception; and the colorful all-states dinner allowed for some friendly competition between states and territories.

The conference finale included a show commemorating the life of Elvis Presley. Mike Albert, a world renowned Elvis impersonator, brought the King and his music alive as attendees fought back tears to “Love Me Tender” and boogied to “Jail House Rock.” Albert’s tribute to Elvis was made memorable by his energetic stage presence and use of the King’s original backup group.

Organizers would like to recognize the hundreds of Ohio Army and Air Guard personnel who worked so diligently to showcase Ohio as the gem of the midwest. Special thanks to Brig. Gen. (ret.) Robert (Bob) Lawson for his tireless efforts and to Col. Tom Kemp for his dedication and hard work in overseeing the massive logistical requirements. In the words of the King himself, “thank you, thank you very much...”
**MAKING THE GRADE**

*Criteria (maximum points)*

- Time in grade (75)
- Time in service (75)
- Awards (75)
- Weapons qualification (75)
- APFT (75)
- Civilian Education (100)
- NCOES courses (100)
- Military resident courses (100)
- Self-development courses (100)
- Leader appraisal average score (250)

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**New Select, Train, Promote, Assign (STPA) system ends traditional promotion boards for enlisted soldiers.**

Last minute altering of Class A’s, late night cramming on leadership principles and spastic nerves taking control of all body parts will soon be mere memories for Army Guard soldiers looking to get promoted.

Starting in January 1996, promotion boards will no longer mean standing weak-kneed before a panel of experts looking for by-the-book responses to questions on the military—soldiers will now advance through the ranks based on the merits of their personnel file.

The Select, Train, Promote, Assign (STPA) system tracks existing and anticipated vacan-

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*HQ STARC 1SG Ronald N. Dues pins E-5 stripes on SGT Julie A. Tulich.*

**Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Diane Farrow**

**HQ STARC (-Det. 1-5)**

**EARNING**

Buckeye Guard
cies within the state, compiles a list of eligible candidates and, using a point system, selects the best qualified soldiers to fill those slots.

"The evaluation process at the unit level is a 1,000 point promotion system," said Sgt. Maj. Ronald C. Mohlmaster II, enlisted personnel sergeant major for the Ohio Army National Guard. "Soldiers earn up to 750 administrative points in nine areas: time in grade, time in service, awards, weapons qualification, Army Physical Fitness Test, military resident training, self development, NCOES (Noncommissioned Officer Educational System) and civilian education." But, he cautioned, it's up to the soldier to verify his or her points and to provide documentation for any changes.

Appraisal worksheets, completed by three individuals in the candidate's immediate line of supervision, account for the remaining 250 points. Soldiers are rated on their performance and their potential in several areas including leadership, initiative and communication skills.

Once the Promotion Point Worksheet is filled out, soldiers accept or decline consideration for military education and promotion, and indicate the distance they are willing to travel for a new assignment.

Units then send all paperwork to state headquarters, where the State Military Personnel Office generates a promotion list for each rank by military occupational specialty (MOS). "On each list, we draw a line at the number of soldiers we expect to promote during the life of the list, which is approximately one year," Mohlmaster said. In some MOSs, only one or two soldiers may be listed. In others, he said, there may be none or more than 20. "Everything depends on how many vacancies we anticipate."

"But keep in mind that when positions in a unit are vacated, the promotion list is the commander's third consideration, not the first," Mohlmaster asserted. "Commanders are encouraged to cross-level soldiers who are excess or overgrade. They also need to consider moving soldiers for the sake of career development—such as moving a platoon sergeant into an open staff position."

Once commanders have taken all reasonable actions within their authority, it's time to turn to the promotion list. When a slot opens, the battalion will contact the State Military Personnel Office and ask for the name that tops the list. The battalion Personnel Services NCO then contacts the individual and offers the position. The soldier can either accept or decline, but declining an assignment within 50 miles of his or her home of record means being removed from the list. Those dropped will not become eligible for promotion again until the next list is published.

Mohlmaster explained that STPA not only standardizes the promotion process, but that it sets the priority of training. "Only soldiers above the line on the promotion list will attend NCOES training."

"For the last 20 years, we trained almost every available soldier in the NCOES courses to improve present-level capabilities and to prepare them for next-level assignments and promotion," he said. "Our shrinking budgets and bankrupt training accounts have led to a major change in our approach to leader development."

"In 1993, the director of the Army National Guard charged a team to develop a system to select the best soldiers for promotion, to train them in required NCOES courses, and have them ready for current and projected vacancies," he said. "On Nov. 1, 1994, he approved STPA."

Ideally, all eligible soldiers in each rank will be considered; the best qualified for promotion will be selected; they will be listed from best to least qualified; the number of expected promotions per MOS will be determined; the highest listed soldiers will be trained in their NCOES courses; soldiers will be promoted and assigned into positions as they become vacant.

"Once a soldier accepts an assignment, he or she will be scheduled for whatever level of NCOES is required, with the promotion being effective the day after graduation," Mohlmaster said. "If the soldier has already met the training requirements, the promotion and reassignment will be cut on the same order."

Ohio's first promotion list, for E-8 to E-9, is scheduled for publication in January. For the remaining ranks, current promotion procedures will continue until the day before the first approved and published promotion list under the new program. Promotion lists will be published for E-7 to E-8 in February, E-6 to E-7 in March, E-5 to E-6 in April and E-4 to E-5 in May.

"According to State Command Sgt. Maj. Richard C. Wehling, STPA benefits today's soldiers by allowing them to become more involved in their career destiny. "They can work to obtain high marks in physical fitness and marksman-

ship, and further both their civilian and military education when possible," he said. Mohlmaster agreed, saying that this system is likely to spark the competitive nature of many soldiers. "When a list is published, soldiers can see how they fare against their peers and, because of the point system, they have a solid basis for improving their scores."

Another plus is soldiers will no longer be limited by organizational boundaries. "They will be able to compete for vacant positions anywhere in the Ohio Guard based on their MOS," Wehling said.

While Wehling feels soldiers will favor this standardized selection process over the varying board philosophies of the past, Mohlmaster noted that guardmembers should be relieved that they no longer have to apply for positions, watch for vacancy announcements or wait for someone to nominate them.

"This program is a new step in enlisted personnel management," Mohlmaster said. "It is designed to provide well-trained noncommissioned officers for assignment to positions in the Ohio Army National Guard of the future."
Left: Always on the lookout, a camouflaged MP mans a security checkpoint. Above: Keeping supply lines open and providing perimeter security was also part of MP training at Camp Grayling during AT '95.

"We controlled access to the area.... We let the local police and emergency units in and directed traffic around the area," said Kitzler.

Adaptation to a changing environment is a key ingredient to mission accomplishment. During annual training 1995, no units took this lesson to heart more than the 323rd and 135th Military Police Companies of the Ohio Army National Guard.

The MPs are tasked with missions both in the field and in the cantonment area. The 323rd took responsibility for security patrols on post, while the 135th focused on battlefield missions such as securing supply routes. However, as the storm of '95 proved, the units must also be able to work as a team at a moment's notice.

Whether in the field or cantonment, the MPs operate from a team concept. While patrolling main post, teams of two work 8-hour shifts, responding to calls or traffic violations, said Staff Sgt. Paul Blake, of the 323rd. Before their shift begins, each team performs guard mount procedures. This includes preventive maintenance checks (PMCS) of the vehicles, assuring that uniforms and equipment are to standard, and exchange of all relevant information.

In addition to regular patrols, the MPs assure that rest and relaxation activities stay under control through such activities as sobriety checkpoints. "We want to keep the soldiers safe," said Sgt. 1st Class Jane Krueger. Safety is further enhanced through coordination with local authorities. "The first thing we do (upon arrival at Grayling) is coordinate with local authorities, open the lines of communication and establish points of contact," Krueger said.

In the field, three-person teams patrol in HMMWVs, armed with the M-16 rifle, M-60 machine gun and M-203 grenade launcher. The .50-cal. machine gun provides extra support from defensive positions on the ground.

The field mission is battlefield circulation and control, said the 135th's top NCO, 1st Sgt. James Copeland. "We are the eyes and ears of the forward elements," Copeland said. This mission includes keeping main supply routes open and preventing enemy sabotage of rear area assets. "We also pick up stragglers (soldiers lost or separated from their units) and get them where they need to be."
Long history of conflict challenges peacekeepers in former Yugoslavia

The U.S. will deploy over 30,000 American troops in support of the Dayton peace agreement (many National Guard members included). It is important that we peacekeepers understand the circumstances that have contributed to the long history of conflict in the former Yugoslavia.

Story by Jim Garamone
American Forces Information Service

The former Yugoslavia is an exception to the maxim, "Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it." In the former Yugoslavia they have learned their history quite well, and it has been their misfortune to repeat it, constantly.

Yugoslavia, which means "the union of Southern Slavs," was born as a country after World War I. The country was a monarchy until the Nazis invaded it in 1941. The king escaped and set up a government in exile in London. In Yugoslavia itself, the Communist Party, led by Josip Broz Tito and a Serbian nationalist group led resistance to the Germans.

Yugoslavia was actually the union of a dozen ethnic groups: Slavs, Bulgars, Albanians. The Nazis allowed the Croats to form a country, Croatia, in 1941. The king escaped and set up a government in exile in London. In Yugoslavia itself, the Communist Party, led by Josip Broz Tito and a Serbian nationalist group led resistance to the Germans.

Tito, an ethnic Croat, maintained control through personal magnetism, deft political maneuvers and fear. A major portion of his policy was to keep Serbs divided. As such, he broke the country into administrative groups: Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Macedonia and Serbia. In addition, he formed the autonomous provinces of Kosovo and Vojvodina out of formerly Serbian territory. These divisions were not meant to separate the country's ethnic groups, a fact that has caused some confusion since Tito's death.

Tito did not groom a successor. When he died, the presidency of the country rotated among the provinces. As long as there was a Soviet Union, Yugoslavia was able to stay together. With the demise of the Soviet Union, the restraint that kept the country together was gone.

Breakaway Republics: Slovenia declared independence in 1991. At first the Serb-dominated central government tried to contest the action, but Slovenia was prepared and won a week-long "war."

Croatia was next to declare independence. Croat leaders thought Yugoslavia would allow them to leave peacefully, but that was not the case. Before the United Nations stepped in, the Yugoslavian federal government controlled more than 30 percent of Croatia.

Macedonia was the next to leave. There are few Serbs in Macedonia, and the federal government essentially let the province go.

Bosnia-Herzegovina declared independence in 1992 and has been embroiled in war ever since. The problems of Bosnia are those of Yugoslavia in miniature. When the fighting in Bosnia started, the area was 44 percent Muslim, 33 percent Serb and 17 percent Croat. Though Islam is a religion, Muslims are regarded as an ethnic group in Bosnia.

Religious Differences: The problems in the area date to the Roman Empire and the Emperor Constantine, who divided the Roman Empire into East and West. Roman Catholicism reigned in the West. Orthodox religions were preeminent in the East. The dividing line went right through what became Yugoslavia. Croatia looked to Rome, and the Kingdom of Serbia became Serbian Orthodox. Many residents of the area converted to Islam when the whole area came under the rule of the Ottoman Empire in the 14th and 15th centuries.

While the Serbs and Croats distrusted each other, they both hated the Muslims.

All three groups are Slavic and speak Serbo-Croatian. While the groups are different socially and politically, their only obvious difference is religion: The Croats are primarily Catholic; the Serbs, Serbian Orthodox; and the Muslims are of the Sunni Muslim religion.

Hundreds of thousands of people have died since fighting broke out in Bosnia. The capital, Sarajevo, has been intermittently besieged since 1992. The first UN peacekeeping force arrived in the former Yugoslavia in 1992. Since then, 1,275 peacekeepers have been killed.
Although OPERATION JOINT ENDEAVOR, the NATO led peacekeeping mission in Bosnia-Herzegovina, will mark the first time some Guard units have deployed into the European theater, members of several units in the Ohio Air National Guard are already considered veterans to the region.

The 121st Air Refueling Wing, Rickenbacker, and the 123rd and 124th Air Control Squadrons, Cincinnati, are quite familiar with operations in and around the former Yugoslavia and have compiled a synopsis of their pre-peace agreement missions.

**121st Air Refueling Wing**

*Story by Maj. Jim Boling and Staff Sgt. Nancy Dragani 121st Air Refueling Wing*

While the peace agreement and insertion of more than 30,000 U.S. military personnel are certainly new developments in the Bosnian equation, U.S. involvement is not. The Ohio Air National Guard’s 121st Air Refueling Wing (ARW) has supported Operation DENY FLIGHT over the past two years, staging out of southern France in 1994 and Italy this past fall.

Operation DENY FLIGHT was initiated in 1992 by NATO to protect United Nations forces conducting humanitarian missions in Bosnia and to deny warring factions the use of air power in the conflict. Since its inception, only one serious attempt has been made by the Bosnians to gain tactical advantage through the air. In February 1994, six Galeb aircraft conducting bombing operations were engaged by U.S. F-16 Fighting Falcons. Four were shot down. No significant airborne threats have been encountered by NATO air forces since, although artillery fire and surface to air missiles are a constant reminder of the conflict on the ground.

DENY FLIGHT involves more than 4,500 personnel and aircraft from 12 NATO countries—Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States. More than 22,500 “no-fly” sorties and 22,000 close-air support missions have been flown over Bosnia.

During its introduction to DENY FLIGHT in 1994, the 121st ARW became the first Air National Guard unit to operate from France in more than 30 years. Ironically, the 121st also holds the distinction of being the last ANG unit to conduct missions from French soil, as the then 121st Tactical Fighter Group operated from Etain Air Base in 1961 following its call up for the Berlin crisis. The 121st ARW was also the first ANG unit to participate in DENY FLIGHT as a lead unit, relieving the active Air Force of the mission from June through August 1994.

They were asked to take the commitment again in 1995, and volunteered to head the operation from Italy in October and November.

The 121st ARW racked up some impressive statistics during DENY FLIGHT ’95. The unit flew 52 air refueling sorties totaling 260 hours over Bosnian airspace. More than 2 million pounds of fuel were expended to 316 NATO fighter aircraft enforcing the no-fly zone. The Air Guard had four KC-135s on station in Italy, augmented by two refuelers from the 154th Air Refueling Group, Hawaii. The combined units maintained a 24-hour alert commitment throughout the operation, oftentimes picking up unscheduled missions when the active Air Force refuelers in France could not launch due to weather or maintenance problems.

An alert response record was set during the
121st ARW’s watch when a Hawaii crew went “wheels-up” in less than 27 minutes from notification for launch. The crew, housed in off-base quarters, rushed to the base as 121st maintenance personnel and an aircrew that had just completed a mission prepared the alert aircraft. Receiving their briefing and changing clothes on the run, the aircrew launched a new standard for tanker alert and DENY FLIGHT. The previous record of just over 30 minutes was set by the 121st ARW in the first two weeks of the mission.

The performance of the 121st ARW throughout DENY FLIGHT has enhanced its already established reputation for excellence in providing support to USAF missions worldwide. True to its mission statement, the wing lives the creed “When called, be ready and respond with the world’s best air refueling and airlift forces...anywhere...anytime!”

123rd and 124th Air Control Squadrons

Story by Maj. David E. Corry
123rd Air Control Squadron

Since April 1993, the U.S. Air Force has maintained a joint radar facility at Mount Jacotenente, Italy. The site, which sits atop the 2,900 foot mountain on the eastern coastline off the Adriatic Sea, provides NATO commanders a complete, real-time air picture of the former Yugoslavia and the southern portion of Europe. In July and August, volunteers from Ohio’s 123rd and 124th Air Control Squadrons deployed there in support of NATO’s enforcement of the United Nations’ no-fly zone over Bosnia.

The operation reports directly to the senior air control squadron stationed at Aviano Air Base, Italy. By combining the radar picture from Aviano, Mount Jacotenente, NATO Airborne Warning and Control System Aircraft and Italian Air Defense radar, approximately 1 million square miles of airspace is monitored.

The longevity of the NATO no-fly zone operation and the drawdown of active duty U.S. Air Force personnel in Europe has challenged the manning requirements at Mount Jacotenente. The active Air Force turned to the Air National Guard in late 1994 to provide personnel to operate the site.

“Once again the men and women from Blue Ash answered the call and performed their jobs in a real-time mission,” said Lt. Col. Ronald Harmon, detachment commander.

Although the units from Blue Ash were still under conversion to the new Modular Control System radar and had deployed in late 1994 in a similar exercise for NATO in Turkey, the units were able to get volunteers needed to man, operate and perform the mission at Mount Jacotenente. “It is apparent to me that the Air Guard is willing and able to perform any mission, anytime and anywhere in the world,” Harmon said. “I was very proud of everyone from Blue Ash who jumped right in and kept the radar site running smoothly during our rotation.”

“It was very exciting controlling missions over Bosnia,” said Capt. Gene Hughes, Jr., director of operations during the deployment. Hughes recalled one mission during Blue Ash’s tenure when, in late July, NATO aircraft were flying bombing missions into Bosnia. “Our controllers worked late into the night coordinating fighters, bombers and tankers who all participated in the raids,” Hughes said. “The radio frequencies were filled with pilot briefings from the sorties going into and out of Bosnia. We had fighters low on fuel, looking for gas, tankers stacked up waiting to refuel and fighters flying combat air patrol to protect the bombers and tankers,” he said.

Though the situation seemed imperiled, Hughes proudly reports that they were able to coordinate all the missions, get everyone hooked up with the tankers and get everyone back to the bases safely.
Ohio’s elite provide key safeguards to democratic process in Haiti

Story by Spc. Steven Johnson
196th Public Affairs Detachment

To most of us, when we hear the words “special forces” we automatically envision guys like Stallone, Norris, Schwarzenegger, Segal and Wayne, blasting away at endless enemy forces without ever reloading. All in the name of truth, justice and the American way. And all wearing the green beret.

Although flattering, that portrayal of the men who serve in the U.S. Special Forces is often long on glamour and short on reality.

Because even with all its high-tech trickery and mega star casts, Hollywood and its action heroes, can’t hold a candle to the real men who proudly wear the green beret.

With a growing number of conflicts around the globe, U.S. armed forces have been called to respond as defenders, peacekeepers and even mediators. In the past five years, the U.S. has led military operations in Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Haiti and, most recently, Bosnia. And, with the downsizing of America’s military, more and more is being asked of its soldiers.

One such group of soldiers that has answered the call to duty is Detachment 1, Headquarters, 2-19th Special Forces Group (A), Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

Ninety-five members strong (and many more trying to get in), these men epitomize the reality of Special Forces.

Recently, team members of the 19th returned home from the island nation of Haiti following their participation in the United Nations peacekeeping mission MAINTAIN DEMOCRACY.

This past summer, after undergoing hot weather training, intra and cross-cultural communications classes and Creole language courses (the creolized French language of most Haitian natives), the team was prepared for its six-month long mission.

A great deal of planning and rehearsal ensured that the team could effectively accomplish its mission with minimal risk to its soldiers or the Haitian citizens.

On May 29, 1995, the eleven-man team arrived in Port Au Prince, Haiti. The first order of business was an in-brief to explain the rules of engagement while on tour. The next day, the team moved to the town of Petit Goave, to relieve the Colorado National Guard team.

Located about two hours east of Port Au Prince, Petit Goave has a population of approximately 89,000 residents. The team was responsible for overseeing this area as well as two other counties or communes, Grand Goave and Leogane, totaling 400 square miles.

The primary mission of the team was to maintain a secure and safe environment for the Haitian elections and promote a self-sufficient democratic government. Keeping violence and disorderly conduct to a minimum was also an objective, with a goal of eventually handing that responsibility over to Haiti’s Interim Police Security Force (IPSF).

Tasked with visiting electoral sites, called the Bureau of Electoral Communes (BEC), the team covered an enormous amount of territory on a daily basis. And, with only 58 Haitian police officers and 29 UN civilian police, the 19th was frequently called on to assist in emergency situations.

The various skills and qualifications that each team’s member brought from their civilian and military occupations were a major plus for the mission and enhanced the teams capabilities to appropriately respond to any situation that arose.

When not wearing an Army uniform, Staff Sgt. Edward Gero, the team communications sergeant, is a city of Columbus police officer. “Being a police officer, I interact with people a lot. That experience has helped me work with the people down there,” said Gero, who relied heavily on his police instincts while in Haiti. “That experience helped me work with the people down there,” he said.
Night patrols and bed checks were part of the daily routine, as well as assisting the IPSF in crowd control at the BEC sites and escorting the ballots from Port Au Prince.

“There was a definite sense of relief whenever Special Forces guys were in the area,” said Master Sgt. John Belford, the team’s operations sergeant.

Although the team’s primary focus was security, many other situations called for the unique skills that the 19th team members have amassed. The team had engineers to advise the Haitians in road building projects, medics to teach proper sanitation, communications sergeants to assist in setting up telephone systems and weapons specialists to advise on security operations.

Command Sgt. Maj. Mario Gonzalez from the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Special Forces Group, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, observed the 19th while in Haiti. “There’s no distinction between the National Guard and the active Army,” Gonzalez said. “They have been at the right place at the right time. They have saved lives and their team is superb and marvelous to work with,” he continued.

“They (active army) were real happy that we were down there,” remarked Gero. “It gave them a break, while we got valuable training,” he said.

Looked upon as the Army’s catch-all, SF team members and UN police swept the grounds to ensure that the sniper was no longer in the area.

Again the expertise of the Special Forces team came into play as they assisted in processing evidence at the crime scene. With no outside police assistance for five days, the team was the primary investigative resource until proper authorities arrived. The professional expertise of the three police officers that make up part of the Special Forces team was very instrumental in conducting a proper investigation of the crime.

Although the team experienced many situations in which their collective skills were needed, the true sense of their mission’s success may not be revealed until the country stabilizes.

The United Nation’s directive was not to do things for the Haitian people, but rather to let them do things for themselves. “The big thing is not to go down there and try to Americanize them,” said Staff Sgt. Albert Smiley, team medic. “We want them to be self-sufficient.”

With more and more being asked of our soldiers, the true essence of what these men are isn’t in any action adventure you’re likely to see on the big screen, but more likely in places like Haiti, far from the homes of the men who wear the green beret.

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**SF training saves lives**

*Story by Sgt. William Blevins*

*133rd PAD, KYANG*

**PETIT GOAVE, HAITI—** Crash! Suddenly the Ohio National Guard soldiers of Detachment 1, Headquarters, 2-19th Special Forces Group would put their training to use, saving the lives many victims of a tragic bus accident. The treatment of the 20 to 30 injured people would be led by Sgt. 1st Class Don Kenny, senior medic for the 11-man special forces team.

“At first I was caught off guard,” said Kenny, a nursing student from Pittsburgh, Pa. “In the clinic, there were bodies everywhere, on the beds, on the floor, anywhere there was space. Then my instinct and training took over, and we began treating patients.”

“There was only one doctor in the clinic at Petit Goave,” Kenny said, adding that working alongside hospital personnel made the Special Forces team a force multiplier. Team members were also able to coordinate with the United Nations’ sponsored civilian police to bring in helicopters to medevac some of the patients to better facilities.

With so much confusion going on in the clinic, one seriously injured victim was overlooked during the initial assessment of those considered critical enough for medivac. Kenny recognized the severity of the man’s head injury and made sure that he would be transferred by helicopter for treatment. If not for Kenny’s secondary observation and quick reaction, the man might have died due to lack of proper medical treatment.

“Being a nursing student helped me to relax and just do my job. We are continually cross training and everyone on the team did a great job; they helped out a lot by stabilizing patients and starting I.V.’s. I didn’t doubt anyone’s ability, I knew what we were doing was right.”

All of the people that were medevaced survived. Although there were five deaths as a result of the crash, surely there would have been more if not for the quick reaction of the SF team. “Our guys were instrumental in the survival of some of the patients,” Kenny said proudly.

The very next day the unit was met by cheers from local citizens who were doing their best to stand in a military formation in their honor. The team returned from Haiti in late October armed with the knowledge and experience that will mean success for the inevitable next mission.
Kids of the Emerald Glen housing project, located on the west side of Columbus, now have their own playground compliments of HHC, 16th Engineer Brigade and other community leaders and volunteers.

Wizards of Emerald Glen

Guard engineers, volunteers support community playground project on Columbus' west side


Transform a mound of dirt into a "magical land of enchantment?" Impossible you say? Well that's exactly what members of HHC, 16th Engineer Brigade did when they dug in with civilian volunteers to build a playground for residents of the Emerald Glen housing project.

Emerald Glen, a 130-unit apartment complex located on the west side of Columbus, was built as a joint venture between the Columbus Housing Partnership (CHP) and Lutheran Social Services of Central Ohio. The complex provides affordable, quality housing priced to meet the needs of minimum wage and low income families.

"Emerald Glen is beautiful," says Bernita Gatewood, volunteer coordinator for CHP. "It has two creeks and is surrounded by trees. It's a great place to raise children."

With names like Lion Drive and Tiger and Bear Streets, one quickly makes the connection between Emerald Glen and a classical fairy tale. There's also a community area where parents and children can delight in the amusing sculptured characters from the "Wizard of Oz."

In fact, says Gatewood, "they can stroll along the yellow brick road and across swinging bridges to get to the wizard himself."

"What Emerald Glen needed was a play area and a way to build it," said Gatewood, who coordinated the playground project and made the initial call to the National Guard.

And just like Glenda—the good witch who magically appeared to
Digging drainage lines, erecting fences, laying cement and constructing small buildings was the focus of the week-long community project.

guide Dorothy—Guard engineers arrived on the scene, albeit not with a magic wand but with hammers, saws and muscle.

“Our first mission was to set up shelter tents,” said Spc. Cynthia Cannon, a telecommunications specialist with HHC and a member of the Unit Strength Enhancement Team (USET). The volunteers needed tents for everything from food to equipment to a children’s center. “The GP medium was the easy part,” remarked Cannon. “On the first day Murphy’s Law ran amuck. It rained, there was equipment missing and kids were everywhere,” she recalled.

As frenzied volunteers—eager to work but not sure where to start—scuttled about the land of Oz, a leader from the Guard unit emerged. “Let’s get it done yesterday!” snapped Staff Sgt. Jonathon Mills, as he organized the volunteers.

“I just suggested certain things to get the project rolling,” said Mills, a long time member of HHC. “When we got there, they were already behind. I just wanted to get the job done so those little kids could have a playground,” he said smiling.

Although Mills is credited for jump starting the project, he is quick to give credit and praise to all the volunteers. “We had people here from all over the United States,” he said. “There were volunteers from Washington D.C., California, Arizona and New Mexico as well as corporate sponsors like Columbia Gas and of course the National Guard,” Mills said.

Digging drainage lines, erecting fences, laying cement and constructing small buildings was the focus of the week-long community project—and is right up the alley of an engineer unit. Under the direction of Kit Clews, project architect, the engineers made a positive and lasting impression.

“This is the first time I’ve worked with the National Guard,” said Clews. “They really did a great job.”

Spc. John Danko, a communications specialist with HHC, focused on building the Bank One Playhouse. “I’ve always been interested in helping the community,” Danko said, hammering and sawing. “I’m just happy to be doing it and representing the National Guard at the same time,” he said.

Along with contributing muscle, skill and leadership, soldiers were also able to educate the community about the National Guard. “We were able to answer questions, clear up mysteries and provide a sense of inspiration and perhaps a future option for some young adults at Emerald Glen,” explained Cannon.

Six days after the project broke ground, the playground was complete. Although Vice President Al Gore was unable to attend the dedication, his wife Tipper stood in at the ceremony. “It was nice meeting all those dignitaries,” Mills said. “But my joy came from seeing the smiles on those kids’ faces in their new playground.”

RIGHT: Tipper Gore and other volunteers worked diligently to complete the Emerald Glen project which is considered a model for other communities. ABOVE: Members of the 16th Engr. Bde. work alongside other volunteers of the project.
The following editorials represent two opposing viewpoints on the future of the National Guard’s eight combat divisions. The point argument was taken from the Oct. 25, 1995, issue of Army Times and the counterpoint was written by an Ohio Army National Guard soldier.

Neither viewpoint expressed is necessarily that of the Buckeye Guard magazine or the Adjutant General’s Department.

Re-invent thyself

The firestorm continues over a recommendation by the Commission on Roles and Missions of the Armed Forces to cut 50,000 combat troops from the National Guard and move another 60,000 to support units.

On the chopping block are eight combat divisions which the Guard says it needs so that governors can respond to disasters in their states. Without them, national security is in jeopardy, it adds.

In the lead defending the need for combat divisions is Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Edward Philbin, executive director of the National Guard Association.

Responding to the clamoring of his constituency, he is playing hard ball. In a letter to Defense Secretary William Perry, Philbin wrote: “Since significant elements of the eight National Guard divisions are located in 25 states which control 363 electoral votes, the precipitous restructuring reportedly mandated...could very well affect the 1996 elections.”

No mincing words, there.

But are those who argue that the Guard should continue to cling to the eight combat divisions really helping secure its future?

The divisions are not in the Army’s war plans. They are not key to national security.

As to the argument that they are needed at the state level, let’s look at the Guard’s response to Hurricane Opal. Numerous guardsmen are involved in the cleanup efforts. But it isn’t combatants that Florida needs to get back on its feet, it’s people who know how to purify water, fix the roads and bridges and get traffic moving.

That’s the kind of people the regular Army desperately needs more of. Moving 60,000 guardsmen from combat to combat service support would benefit both the regular Army and the states.

We suggest that Philbin follow his own advice. In the same letter to Perry, he wrote that in positions he’s held since 1981, he has “sought to persuade the Army to restructure and re-invent itself.”

What he needs to do now as its leader is to persuade the National Guard to restructure and re-invent itself. That’s what will make the Guard relevant. That’s what will secure the Guard’s future.

“[The eight combat divisions are not in the Army’s war plans. They are not key to national security]”

Guard combat divisions hedge in past, future

By 1st Lt. Neal O'Brien
State Public Affairs Office

T he editorial from the Oct. 23, 1995, Army Times entitled “Re-invent thyself” raises some interesting questions about the future of the Army National Guard’s eight combat divisions. The 37th Armored Brigade, the 2nd Squadron, 107th Cavalry and the 134th Divisional Artillery of the Ohio Army National Guard are all part of the 38th Infantry Division (Mechanized), one of the divisions in question.

Field Marshal Alfred Graf Von Schlieffen once said this about military history: “...at the bottom lies the knowledge as to how everything happened, how it had to happen and how it will happen again.” The “it” is warfare. The eight divisions are the strategic hedge against the “how it will happen again” scenario. It is important to recall history to justify the existence of the combat divisions in what General Creighton Abrams called the “total force.”

This nation’s military preparedness has long been dependent on the coexistence of active and reserve components. The founding fathers never intended for the United States to have a large standing military. The original Militia Clause called for all able-bodied males 18-45 to serve in the militia. This process served our country well through the War of 1812, however, the continuing expansion west called for the formation of a regular army. Congress, wary of the dangers of a large standing army, debated over the size of the army and who would lead it.

World War I uncovered glaring deficiencies in the regular army system. They could not deploy the troops necessary to fulfill the mission, nor deploy them on time. The first divisions to arrive were not the troops necessary to fulfill the mission, nor the regular army system. They could not deploy the second division to arrive in theater and perform. The founding General Creighton Abrams divided the troops into necessary to fulfill the mission, nor the regular army system. They could not deploy the second division to arrive in theater and perform. The founding General Creighton Abrams divided the troops into the 37th Armored Brigade, the 2nd Squadron, 107th Cavalry and the 134th Divisional Artillery of the Ohio Army National Guard are all part of the 38th Infantry Division (Mechanized), one of the divisions in question.

Field Marshal Alfred Graf Von Schlieffen once said this about military history: “...at the bottom lies the knowledge as to how everything happened, how it had to happen and how it will happen again.” The “it” is warfare. The eight divisions are the strategic hedge against the “how it will happen again” scenario. It is important to recall history to justify the existence of the combat divisions in what General Creighton Abrams called the “total force.”

This nation’s military preparedness has long been dependent on the coexistence of active and reserve components. The founding fathers never intended for the United States to have a large standing military. The original Militia Clause called for all able-bodied males 18-45 to serve in the militia. This process served our country well through the War of 1812, however, the continuing expansion west called for the formation of a regular army. Congress, wary of the dangers of a large standing army, debated over the size of the army and who would lead it.

World War I uncovered glaring deficiencies in the regular army system. They could not deploy the troops necessary to fulfill the mission, nor deploy them on time. The first divisions to arrive were not the troops necessary to fulfill the mission, nor the regular army system. They could not deploy the second division to arrive in theater and perform. The founding General Creighton Abrams divided the troops into necessary to fulfill the mission, nor the regular army system. They could not deploy the second division to arrive in theater and perform. The founding General Creighton Abrams divided the troops into

Even General “Black Jack” Pershing (who commanded National Guard troops in search of Pancho Villa), commander of the American Expeditionary Force, admitted “the Guard never received the wholehearted support of the regular army during World War I. There was always more or less prejudice against them.”

In World War II, the National Guard again came under attack from the regular army. During mobilization, Guard officers were replaced en masse by active duty officers looking for promotion opportunities and commands. Only one National Guard general officer, Maj. Gen. Beightler, commanding the 37th Infantry (Buckeye) Division, commanded throughout the war. Eighteen National Guard divisions were deployed overseas and served with distinction.

The tide changed for the Guard’s combat mission in Korea. Army planners, feeling that the war would be short and quick, did not include the Guard in its strategy. A draft was instituted and one year tours in the combat zone were the norm. Unit cohesion went out the door, along with public support. The National Guard lobbyed hard throughout the war to be activated, but only two Guard divisions reached Korea.

The same scenario repeated during Vietnam. Rather than sending National Guard divisions, the Army relied on the draft. Public support waned and the Guard spent most of the war battling protestors. Few Guard units were mobilized. The Guard and Reserve became a haven for people trying to avoid the draft and combat assignments in Vietnam.

This country paid severely for its mistakes in Korea and Vietnam. Not only in casualties, but in respect for the Guard and readiness of our military forces.

When Gen. Creighton Abrams was named Chief of Staff of the Army, he was determined never to leave the Guard out of the fight again.

“ When Gen. Creighton Abrams was named Chief of Staff of the Army, he was determined never to leave the Guard out of the fight again.”

EDITOR’S NOTE: 1st Lt. Neal O’Brien is also a platoon leader in Troop C, 2nd Squadron 107th Cavalry (DIV) 38th Infantry Division.
GUARDing the environment

Army Guard to fund tank removal, soil treatment

By Candace J. Kline
Environmental Office

Out of sight, out of mind? Not in the case of underground storage tanks (UST) belonging to the Ohio Army National Guard (OHARNG). A large amount of this year’s funding for environmental programs will be used for the upgrade and/or removal of USTs.

UST is defined as “a tank and connected pipes used to contain regulated substances with at least 10 percent of its volume underground.” These substances include gasoline, diesel fuel, JP-8, hazardous chemicals and used oil.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), there are several million UST systems in the United States which contain petroleum or hazardous chemicals. In 1984, Subtitle I was added to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, requiring the EPA to develop regulations to protect human health and the environment from leaking USTs.

One of the regulations developed was the requirement of UST owners to upgrade their systems by December 1998. The upgrades include leak detection systems, protection from corrosion and overfill/spill protection. The OHARNG has many USTs that must be upgraded, removed or replaced to comply with this law.

A leak detection system alerts the user if the tank is losing part of its contents, usually into the surrounding soil. There is a possibility that the substance could continue to travel through the soil and end up in the groundwater.

Metal tanks must be protected from corrosion or rusting. One method is cathodic protection—a small electrical current prevents the metal from rusting.

The tanks must also have overfill and spill protection. This prevents substances from spilling on the ground during the filling of the tank.

A process action team (PAT) was formed to prioritize the need for the Army Guard UST’s in the state and decide which tanks will be upgraded, removed and/or replaced. The team includes representatives from Quartermaster, Facilities Engineering, Environmental, Surface Maintenance, Command Logistics, United States Property and Fiscal Office, Camp Perry Training Site and Operations and Training.

The work on the tanks will be completed by civilian contractors. When a tank is removed, the surrounding soil and/or groundwater is tested for contamination. If it is “clean” or not contaminated, the removed soil is replaced, and the UST site is “closed.” A closure report is then sent to the Bureau of Underground Storage Tanks (BUST) which is part of the State Fire Marshall’s office.

If the soil is contaminated, it is treated to remove the contamination or disposed of in an appropriate landfill. The excavation must be filled with clean soil. Along with the closure report, a Site Assessment (SA) Report is also required in these cases. An SA defines the horizontal and vertical extent of contamination utilizing soil borings and additional soil and groundwater analysis.

Another area that uses a large amount of funding is the disposal of hazardous waste. Hazardous waste is defined as “by-products of society that can pose a substantial or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly managed. It possesses at least one of four characteristics (ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity or toxicity) or appears on special EPA lists.”

The Ohio Army National Guard produces hazardous wastes in several ways. When a fuel sample is taken from a helicopter before flight, it is disposed of in five-gallon cans on the flight line. This becomes used fuel and can be defined as a hazardous waste. When fuel is contaminated with water, it is also considered used fuel and a hazardous waste. The used fuels and other petroleum products would normally be disposed of as hazardous wastes. However, the OHARNG now recycles them through the “fuels program.” This program reuses these products by burning them as fuel.

The environmental office is working on programs to minimize hazardous waste. The use of parts’ cleaners that resulted in several thousand pounds of contaminated solvent per year were replaced with parts’ cleaners using filter systems that don’t produce contaminated solvent.

Other hazardous minimization includes substituting toxic materials with non-toxic, recycling, and purchasing in smaller quantities so that the products aren’t stored past the expiration date.

All National Guard personnel have a responsibility to insure against environmental contamination. The environmental programs will only be successful if all members are aware and vigilant when involved with substances that can be harmful.
T.E.A.M. '95

Last August, personnel from the Army and Air National Guard, along with social workers from the cities of Newark and Coshocton, conducted the Teen Education and Motivation Program, T.E.A.M.

A program fashioned after military basic training, T.E.A.M. was designed to help at-risk youth develop self-esteem, discipline and leadership skills. Juvenile offenders are given the opportunity to spend a week with National Guard personnel, men and women, who act as instructors and role models.

The Ohio Air National Guard conducted two increments of the Newark-based program, one with boys and the other with girls. Both sessions focused on education.

Issues discussed included drug use, sexually transmitted diseases, peer interaction and learning to take responsibility for their own actions. Also as part of the curriculum, the teens underwent several phases of military training, such as physical fitness, reading a compass, drill and ceremony, and proper military customs and courtesies.

With a rigorous daily schedule that included room inspections, physical training, group sessions and academic classes, the teens began to look at themselves in a different light. Never before having to be relied upon, the teens were given the chance to lead their peers, while learning to respect themselves and others.

The girl’s group had a unique opportunity to apply what they had learned at the Rickenbacker Air Show, where they worked as ushers in the VIP seating section. With minimal supervision, the girls were able to interact with the public, while providing information to key attractions at the show. That experience helped to build confidence in each girl, and hopefully sent a clear message that a little discipline can go a long way.

In Coshocton, the Army National Guard conducted its T.E.A.M. program at the local Boy Scout camp. With slightly more physical and mental intensity than the Newark program, the Army Guard used the same basic concept to get its message across.

One of the unique features of the Coshocton program was the High Ropes Course. This course consisted of a series of high and low obstacles that allowed the team members to overcome their fears, as well as enabling them to trust in their peers and instructors. Along with the ropes course, there was archery, swimming and plenty of physical exercise. There were also group sessions and self-esteem classes to keep them busy throughout the week.

Both programs, although slightly different, share the same goals: educating teens on the hazards of living an inappropriate lifestyle, teaching them how to make the right decisions and showing them how to improve the quality of their lives.

Newark graduated 16 of the 21 teens who attended, and Coshocton graduated 17 of its 21 participants. Although these teens completed the program, they face an even bigger challenge as they start to apply in real-life what they’ve learned from the men and women of the Ohio National Guard. Submitted by Spec. Steven Johnson, 96th Public Affairs Detachment.

GUARD AMERICA: Taking’ it to the streets

Parents: The single most effective weapon in the fight against drugs. Do you agree with the following statements:

- I understand the signs and symptoms of the disease of drug addiction well enough to deal with it.
- I am not concerned that my child will use alcohol and drugs.
- I feel equipped with specific things I can do to intervene in my child’s life the moment I see him or her buying into something negative.
- I know how to recognize the warning signs of my child’s involvement with the drug culture.
- We have established a family policy on sex, drugs and entertainment.

If you answered “no” to any of these statements, you may want to attend one of the FREE—that’s right—FREE Guard America drug awareness training workshops. This workshop is for guard members and their families.

You might ask, what exactly is Guard America? Guard America is the PRIDE Parent to Parent drug awareness and prevention training. Parent to Parent is a dynamic, video-based workshop which helps young people avoid problems associated with the drug culture by equipping their parents with the tools necessary to address these problems.

The workshop consists of eight individual segments that can be presented in various groups to comprise mini-workshops.

The first segment, “The Me Within,” provides you with an understanding of why children get involved with drugs and alcohol. This segment develops your awareness of the problems that youth face today. The second series of segments refer to the prevention phase of training built around the acronym P.A.R.E.N.T.

Put yourself in the way
Awareness is your best friend
Remember the difference
Expect and inspect
Never cry alone
Take time for yourself

The third segment is the intervention phase of Parent to Parent. No matter what the parent’s efforts, some children will still place themselves in terrible danger. “When All Else Fails” prepares you to act swiftly if necessary.

The sessions are led by a trained facilitator; there is time for discussion, questions and exchange of ideas with other parents. You will have your own workbook that highlights key concepts and audiotapes so that you can share ideas with others or reinforce your own experience.

Workshops are conducted by several facilitators throughout the state. If you are interested, please contact the Family Program Office at 1-800-589-9914 or the Public Affairs Office at (614) 889-7003 to be placed on an interest roster. As workshops are offered, you will be notified. Unit training may also be conducted.

Winter 1995/96
Reaching the underserved of northwest Ohio, LTC Michael Hablitzel, an oral surgeon with the 145th MASH, Port Clinton, examines the dental health of a migrant farm worker’s daughter.

**GuardCare continues medical outreach**

Desperately poor, foreign speaking people wait hours to receive food and medical assistance from American soldiers. Cases of anemia and decaying teeth are common due to poor diets and lack of dental treatment. While the soldiers do what they can, the physical well-being of these people remains tenuous.

The scene described seems like that from a far away place like Somalia or Haiti. Unfortunately it’s happening right here in Ohio, and the people in need are migrant farm workers.

Migrant workers travel around the country, harvesting any crop that will sustain their meager existence. Often shunned by the residents of the communities they work in, the migrants routinely face seven-day work weeks, low wages, grueling labor, poor living conditions and no insurance coverage.

Rural Opportunities Inc. (ROI), a federal agency whose mission is to assist migrant workers and other rural poor, is one of a few advocates of this socially underserved class.

The agency’s shrinking budget and growing problems prompted State Director Michael Urrutia to turn to the Ohio National Guard.

Under the GuardCare program, members of the Ohio Army and Air Guard units provided physical exams, dental, prenatal and optometry screenings along with hearing exams and immunizations at locations throughout northwestern Ohio during August drill weekends. Though this program began in the spring of 1994, major progress has been made in clearing up administrative and legal barriers that prevented the Guard from providing some services.

“There has been a huge opening of communication” between Guard and local health officials, according to Col. Rick Fair, executive officer of the 112th Medical Brigade. Legal barriers were so great that a special law had to be passed by the state legislature, preventing mission-related medical malpractice lawsuits.

“This mission has been done in foreign countries, but there is a real need for it here,” Fair said. “It’s also great hands-on medical and mobilization training. A real world mission is always more exciting.”

Kerri Fitzgerald, a health coordinator for ROI, spent two years along the Texas-Mexico border assisting the workers and is well-versed on the challenges the Guard faces. “This worked out very well. They were very thorough in addressing the needs,” Fitzgerald said.

Also impressed by the efforts of the Ohio Guard was Pam Boehm, Head Start director and a doctoral candidate at Bowling Green State University. “These are not illegal immigrants, they’re U.S. citizens, and 95 percent of them are documented workers,” said Boehm. “It’s good to see someone cares enough about them to do something like this.”


**F-16 dedicates 180th to hometown supporters**

The 180th dedicated its two-seat F-16D “Fighting Falcon” to northwest Ohio communities in ceremonies with dignitaries on Sept. 17. The dedication reinforced the 180th’s commitment to partnership with citizens who support the unit.

“We display to all who see this aircraft across the world, our dedication to the friends and neighbors who support us in our hometowns in northwest Ohio,” said Col. A.J. Feucht, commander of the 180th, as he read the dedication proclamation.

In recognition of community support, 2nd Lt. James J. Detinger pilots an F-16D that displays the unit’s dedication to northwest Ohio.
Staff Sgt. Bobby McCoy, 180th substance abuse specialist, talked to fifth-graders about the Red Ribbon Program, and how drugs can adversely affect them. He also passed out ribbons to the whole school. “The kids were very inquisitive. I could see their concern when I presented them the harmful effects of illegal drug use,” McCoy said.

Mt. Vernon was the third school CDET has visited. “One thing they all have in common is that the type of in-classroom help works well and is very much needed,” Williams said. “We’re being seen as positive role models,” she continued. “The teachers, principals and students hated to see us go. What we’re doing barely scratches the surface of what needs to be done.”

Engineers respond in fire’s aftermath

This past September, members of Detachment 1, HSC, 216th Engineer Battalion, Felicity, were assigned to help the city of Jamestown recover from a disastrous fire in the heart of the town’s historical district.

Local council members and the Green County Engineer Department also responded to the cleanup efforts in the aftermath of the fire which claimed many businesses.

National Guard engineers from the 216th cleared and transported more than 1,300 cubic yards of fire debris to a local farmer’s dump site.

“It went smoothly because we had the people and equipment at the right time,” said Spc. Greg Arthur, loader operator with Det. 1. And, he said, “The Greene County Engineer Department was great and so were the townpeople.”

Sgt. 1st Class Roger Parks agreed that the town provided outstanding citizen support. “I think we got more done than we were asked to,” said Parks, who was in charge of the detail. “We were able to remove all of the debris for future reconstruction.”

It was evident to the guardmembers that their efforts were appreciated. Near the center of town, on state Route 72, a banner hung with the inscription: “We love you National Guard.” Submitted by Spc. Michael Todd Pfeffer, Det. 1, HSC, 216th Engr. Bn.

121st ARW brings home the Concours d’Elegance...again!

The mission accepted by Tech. Sgt. Bill Martin and Staff Sgt. Rob Tyler was difficult. As the crew chief and assistant crew chief assigned to KC135R, tail number 444, they were tasked to prepare their aircraft for competition at International Air Tattoo-95. In previous years, crew chief teams, representing Ohio’s now deactivated 160th Air Refueling Group (which was consolidated into the 121st ARW), successfully met this challenge bringing home first place “Concours d’Elegance” trophies from International Air Tattoo-85 and International Air Tattoo-87.

The air show known as International Air Tattoo is the largest military air show in the world. This year’s competition was held at Royal Air Force Base Fairford in England from July 20-23, 1995. The event draws participants from all over the world; more than 400 aircraft from 50 air forces flew or staged static displays.

Thirty-five air refueling tankers took part in the competition. Each tanker was judged on overall aircraft appearance, aircraft condition and level of maintenance. Martin and Tyler certainly faced a difficult task as they, and other unit members of various maintenance shops, fought to bring the Concours d’Elegance home to the 121st ARW for the third time in as many tries.

Tattoo in the British means display. Thirty-five air refueling tankers lined up in a row competing for the trophy proved a stunning display. Each crew from these tankers entered the competition with one goal in mind—to win.

The entire crew inprocessed at Fairford RAF on Wednesday, July 19. The following day was devoted to washing, painting and polishing aircraft number 444, nicknamed the Spirit of Rickenbacker.

Friday morning, 10 inspectors from 10 different air forces spent four hours inspecting the competing aircraft. They looked, whispered among themselves and made notes on clipboards. At 12 noon the evaluators disappeared and the competition was over. The winners would be announced at a formal dinner that evening.

Following post dinner remarks, service members from around the world (attired in their individual service mess dress), waited anxiously for the results of the morning’s competition. The winner of the Sky-Tanker ’95 was the 121st Air Refueling Wing.

The first place trophy was donated by Paige International Limited, a British firm that manufactures aircraft parts. The stunning trophy, valued at $3,000 (4,500), is a futuristic design representing air refueling, with the refueling tanker portrayed as a large triangle refueling three small receivers shaped as smaller triangles.

Spirit of Rickenbacker crew chiefs Martin and Tyler accepted a difficult task and accomplished it successfully. All members of the 121st ARW should be proud of Martin, Tyler and the entire maintenance organization.

Congratulations to all who participated! Submitted by Col. Charles Underwood, vice commander, 121st Air Refueling Wing.

Top brass on-hand as Green Road reopens

The Ohio Army National Guard returned to Cleveland with much of the National Guard’s top leadership on hand. The Green Road Armory, located at 4304 Green Road, Cleveland, reopened its doors on Sept. 8, 1995 after closing in 1993 with the deactivation of the 107th Armored Cavalry Regiment.

The ceremony, which coincided with the 117th National Guard Association General Conference also being held in Cleveland, allowed for such guests as Lt. Gen. Edward Baca, chief, National Guard Bureau and Army National Guard Director Maj. Gen. John D’Aroujo.

Its new tenants, Battery F, 1st Battalion, 134th Field Artillery, rocked the afternoon skies as the big gun salutes reminded Clevelanders that the National Guard had returned to continue its service of more than 120 years to that area.
Doersam armory dedication filled with emotion, reflection

The armory in Marion, Ohio, home of A Battery, 1st Battalion, 134th Field Artillery, is now officially named the Sergeant First Class Paul C. Doersam Memorial Armory. Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander, the adjutant general of Ohio, attended the dedication ceremonies in Marion on Sunday, Oct. 22. Alexander was joined by members of the 1-134th, Marion county commissioner, Kirk Moreland, and friends and family of the late Sgt. 1st Class Paul C. Doersam (see Summer '95 issue of the Buckeye Guard).

After opening ceremonies and introductions, Alexander unveiled the plaque that will hang in the Doersam armory.

A tearful Michele Doersam-Morse spoke to the audience about the commitments and sacrifices her late husband made to the unit and the National Guard. "We spent many hours here, the entire family," said Doersam-Morse. "Paul and I would bring the children here on weekends and we would paint, clean or whatever was needed. There's a lot of Paul here in this building and me and the children (who were also in attendance) are honored and proud. I'm sure Paul would be too."

The movement to dedicate the armory in memory of Doersam was born out of this commitment. "He worked and lobbied diligently for every dollar put into this armory," said Capt. Todd Barstow, then commander of Alpha Battery. "He was relentless in efforts to maintain this building. He was," according to Barstow, "the proverbial squeaky wheel, that always got the grease."

There were many emotional and heartfelt tributes to Doersam. Alexander concluded his speech by stating that Sgt. 1st Class Doersam exemplified the creed of the Non-Commissioned Officer and influenced everyone to follow his example of professionalism, dedication and caring for his family, his work and his friends.

Doersam was a gunnery sergeant and readiness NCO with Alpha Battery. He passed away at the armory Sept. 27, 1993, of a massive heart attack. He was 32. He is survived by his wife, and their three children, Katie, 8, Corey, 6, and Hunter, 2.

The Sergeant First Class Paul C. Doersam Memorial Armory is located at 2561 Harding Highway East, Marion, Ohio 43302-8532. Submitted by Spc. Marley C. Starkey, Service Battery, 1-134th Field Artillery.

Schendel retires, Green takes over 164th

Lt. Col. Donald H. Schendel retired on Aug. 18, 1995 after a distinguished 26-year career. Schendel graduated from the University of Minnesota with a degree in engineering and entered active duty in 1968 as a pilot training candidate at Webb AFB, Texas. After earning his wings, he was assigned to the C-130 Aircraft at Forbes AFB in Topeka, Kan. When Forbes closed in 1972, he was transferred to Little Rock AFB, Ark. where he served as an instructor/evaluator pilot.

In 1976, he left active duty to assist the 179th Airlift Group in Mansfield, Ohio, when that unit converted from F-100 fighter aircraft to the C-130B Hercules. During the years to follow, the colonel would serve as flight commander, chief of standardization, squadron operations officer, and most recently commander of the 164th Airlift Squadron. Lt. Col. Richard M. Green assumed command of the 164th during a brief ceremony on Aug. 9. Schendel is vice president and general manager of Grasan Equipment in Mansfield and resides in Mansfield with his wife Linda, an elementary school teacher in the Madison School District, and their children Jeffrey and Jennifer. Submitted by the 179th Airlift Group, Public Affairs office.

Senior enlisted advisor provides insight

Air National Guard senior enlisted advisor, Chief Master Sgt. Ed Brown, visited the 180th Fighter Wing, Toledo, during the unit's training assembly in December. Having just returned from the Senior Commander's Conference prior to his visit, Brown was able to give updates on changes that will affect guardmembers.

Brown stressed the importance of professional military education (PME). "PME is one of the greatest tools that we have as NCOs to make us better leaders," he said. As a result of many states' inability to provide Airman Leadership School (ALS) after course requirements grew to 32 days from 14, Brown told of a new delivery format which may soon be offered. The proposed format will entail home station "distance learning" two nights a week, three hours a night for 11 weeks, and close with 14 days of courses at the home station.

Brown encouraged enlisted members to strive beyond the technical experts that many see themselves. He said he'd like to see a "shift from technical experts to leader and managers especially in the era of doing more with less."

DeFleury medal honors engineer's leadership


The citation was in recognition of "the superb support provided the engineer regiment as it performs its primary missions of mobility, countermobility, survivability and topographic engineering." These efforts have significantly contributed to the overall combat readiness of the Army and reflect great credit upon the corps of engineers.

After serving on active duty, Rowe joined the Ohio National Guard in 1972 and has over 29 years of military service. He took command...

MVMAA names Biggs Guardsman of Year

Promotions and honors are a part of military life, but when one is honored by folks in the civilian world, it is especially rewarding.

Sgt. 1st Class Charles V. Biggs of the 1487th Transportation Company was recently recognized as Ohio Army National Guardsman of the Year. The Miami Valley Military Affairs Association (MVMAA) presented the award at the Officers’ Club on Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. The association honors soldiers like Briggs for developing community support and pride in their units.

“This came as a complete surprise to me,” Briggs commented. “I only found out when Capt. Atchley told me.” Atchley, Briggs’ commander, submitted the information on which the selection was based.

The MVMAA supports military activities and projects at Wright Patterson, the Springfield Air National Guard Base and other military installations. They also sponsor a variety of programs that benefit the public. Briggs is one of the six reservists/guardsmen receiving this honor for 1994-95. Submitted by Sgt. Scott A. Delling, 1487th Trans. Co.

Miss America soars in 178 Fighter Wing F-16

When Lt. Col. Ralph Anderson, 178th Fighter Wing, vice commander, Springfield, received the request to fly Heather Whitestone, Miss America 1995, in one of the wing’s F-16s, he believed the request could be met without any problems, pending authorization. But when Miss America’s coordinator informed him that Whitestone was profoundly deaf, Anderson realized there was a problem.

For safety reasons, regulations require passengers in an F-16 to be in constant communication with the pilot. Because of Whitestone’s hearing impairment, she could not hear the pilot and would be disqualified to fly. But Anderson soon learned that Armstrong Laboratories in Alabama had developed a special hearing enhanced helmet that had been successfully tested in June.

The use of the special helmet, which reduces background noise, was approved and so was the orientation flight.

Whitestone arrived at the Springfield ANG Base at 6 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 27 for training. “She was briefed on every detail of the mission so that she would be fully aware of what was going on during the flight,” said 1st Lt. Matt Moorman, 162nd Fighter Squadron pilot and Whitestone’s escort in the skies. Voice recognition and speech pattern tests were performed and adjustments made to her special helmet accordingly.

Hours before her flight the next day, Tech. Sgt. Greg Fisher and other members of the 178th Maintenance Squadron fitted Whitestone, sewed patches on her flight suit and created name tags. Moorman also reviewed flight control switches, hand signals as an additional safety precaution and radio procedures. Master Sgt. Scott McKenzie and Tech Sgt. Kenneth Howard, both members of the 162nd Fighter Squadron, provided ejection seat training and all-eases exiting procedures.

“She was a very aggressive individual and really enjoyed the ride,” Moorman said. “She particularly liked the barrel rolls, loops, slice backs and afterburner takeoffs and climbs.” Submitted by Capt. Robert Campbell, Jr., 178th Fighter Wing Public Affairs.

Airman first to ace maintenance blocks

Senior Airman Brian Schart, assigned to the 180th Fighter Wing, Toledo, recently became the first person to score 100 percent on all five block tests in the F-16 fighter maintenance apprentice course. The 73-day, 584 hour course taught at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, trains its students to be “mission ready” on the F-16.

Schart is no stranger to the military, his father, Lt. Col. Tom Schart, is commander of the 180th Operations Group. Schart attends the Ohio State University majoring in ceramic engineering with a minor in aviation; he plans to graduate in the fall of 1997.

Calhoon awarded for safety excellence

On May 12, Staff Sgt. Robert Calhoon, crew chief with the 180th Fighter Wing, Toledo, noticed that a bolt in a landing gear mechanism on a F-16 “didn’t look right.” Upon further investigation, he found that the bolt was partially sheared. This led to his identification of a procedural error. Had the bolt gone undetected, the landing gear may have collapsed during the next mission.

Calhoon’s dedication to quality maintenance prevented a potential mishap from occurring that could have caused injury or death to the air crew or severe aircraft damage. For his keen attention to detail, Calhoon received the Air Combat Command’s monthly Flightline Award of Distinction. Submitted by 2nd Lt. Denise Varner, 180th Fighter Wing.
A few more bucks for guardmembers in '96

Even with the budget stalemate tying Washington into knots, reservists got a few more dollars in their monthly paychecks Jan. 1 when a 2.4 percent pay raise went into effect.

In practical terms, the raise will not make anyone rich. An O-4 with 14 years of service will get $494.92 for a typical weekend of reserve duty, or $11.60 more than last year, while an E-6 with 12 years of service would get $244.32, or $5.72 more.

Unlike their active-duty counterparts, who get paid by the day, reservists get paid by the weekend or "unit training assembly." Drills are usually held 12 weekends a year, and for pay purposes, each weekend counts as four drills.

Payment for each drill is calculated as 1/30 of a month's basic pay for an active duty member, so a reservist gets four days' worth of basic pay for a two-day weekend of training.

During weekend drills, reservists are not eligible for either the basic allowance for quarters or basic allowance for subsistence. When they go on active duty for training, which usually amounts to 15 days a year, they get basic pay and allowances like any other service member.

Reservists also may be eligible for special pays such as flight pay and hazardous duty pay depending on their assignments. (Army Times)

TROA raises interest-free loans to $2,500 for college education

During the 1996-97 school year, 800 students will receive $2,500 in interest-free loans from The Retired Officers Association (TROA) Education Assistance Program. These loans, $500 more than last year and now totaling $2 million, will be awarded annually for up to five years of undergraduate study to unmarried undergraduate students, under the age of 24, who are dependent children of active, reserve and retired service personnel and their surviving spouses.

Students can obtain up to $12,500 of interest-free support for five years of undergraduate study; loan repayment is after graduation. For the 1995-96 school year, some 1,000 students competed for 225 openings. The students were selected on their scholastic ability, participation in extracurricular and community activities, as well as financial need. From 800 students receiving loans, 164 received special $500 grants in addition to the loans. All who were awarded loans were automatically considered for the grants, which range from $500 to $2,500.

TROA Educational Assistance applications for the 1996-97 school year should be requested by Feb. 15, 1996, and completed before March 1, 1996. For applications and more information, write to TROA Educational Assistance Program Administrator (09D), 201 N. Washington St., Alexandria, Va. 22314-2539 or call 1-800-245-TROA Ext. 169 or e-mail school@troa.org.

Bachelor's degree programs receive accreditation

American Military University (AMU), a distance learning institution, has received approval from the Commonwealth of Virginia to enroll students in its new bachelor's degree programs. Undergraduate classes started in January 1996. All AMU courses are approved for military tuition assistance.

This upper level undergraduate program is open to students who have completed two years or the equivalent of 60 semester hours of undergraduate work meeting the general education requirements of the Commonwealth of Virginia for a BA degree program. Provisional enrollment is granted for students who have completed 45 semester hours. AMU will offer three undergraduate majors: Military History, Military Management and Intelligence studies.

AMU's innovative combination of distance education delivery and individual, one-on-one contact with the professor has won high praise from graduate students for over two years. Now it is available for the first time to the undergraduate student. For additional information on AMU's programs contact the Director of University Relations, 9104-P Manassas Drive, Manassas Park, Va. 22111, Phone: 703-330-5398, FAX:(703)330-5109, or e-mail amuinfo@amu.edu. Ohio Guard POC is Maj. Hoon at (614) 889-7275.

IRS offers guide to free tax services

To help you claim all the credits and deductions to which you're entitled, IRS representatives are available year-round to answer questions and provide assistance. In addition, the IRS offers a variety of programs and free publications. For a description of the programs, send for the free publication, IRS Guide to Free Tax Services (item 565B). Also request a free copy of Don't Get Short-Changed: Earned Income Tax Credit (item 517B), a factsheet highlighting the EITC, which may reduce the amount of income tax you pay. To order, send your name, address and the item numbers to: S. James, Consumer Information Center, Pueblo, Colo. 81009. (Army Families)
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