

# Buckeye GUARD

SUMMER 1996



## MAINTAINING THE FORCE

Ohio Guard Recruiters, Retainers face the challenges of strength enhancement

Pages 14-17



Photo courtesy of the Marietta Times

**Lt. Gov. Nancy P. Hollister, Clarence E. Miller and MG Richard C. Alexander, cut the ribbon to officially open the new armory dedicated to former congressman Miller. For more, see page 20.**



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**ABOUT THE COVER:** Ohio Army and Air National Guard recruiters and retainers face the future of strength management armed with new philosophies, strategies and bold leadership. **PICTURED FROM LEFT:** SFC Brian Butcher, SFC Tonya Wheatley, MSgt. Wesley Smith and MSgt. Vickie White-Callender.

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SUMMER 1996, VOL. 20, No. 2

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

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

## NATIONAL NEWS

**U.S. ship named for Army hero.** The Navy has named the first of a new class of cargo ships in honor of an Army Medal of Honor recipient killed in Somalia. The USNS Shughart, a large, medium-speed roll-on/roll-off ship, was christened April 13 in honor of Army Sgt. 1st Class Randall David Shughart, cited posthumously for gallantry in Mogadishu in October 1994 while attempting to rescue a downed helicopter pilot, Army officials said. Shughart, from Lincoln, Neb., was born Aug. 13, 1958. His widow, Stephanie, christened the ship. The Shughart is the first of three commercial container ships purchased from a private shipping line to be converted to a sealift cargo ship by National Steel and Shipbuilding Company in San Diego, according to Navy officials. Two more ships are being converted by Newport News (Va.) Shipbuilding and Drydock Company. All five conversions will be named after Medal of Honor recipients, Navy officials said. (AFIS)

**Task force finds no widespread extremist activities.** A three-month Army investigation concluded there is no widespread or organized extremist activities in the Army. Still, Army officials said they are taking steps to revise current regulations that govern involvement in extremist organizations. Army Secretary Togo D. West Jr. said the Army will expand its current equal opportunity program to include training against extremism. In December, Defense Secretary William J. Perry ordered the Army to conduct the extremism study following the murders of two African-American Fayetteville, N.C., residents. Local authorities charged three soldiers at nearby Fort Bragg with the crime. Police found neo-Nazi materials and other extremist literature in a trailer the three soldiers rented near Fort Bragg. Authorities charged Pfc. James Burmeister and Pfc. Malcom Wright with murder. They charged a third soldier, Spc. Randy Meadows, with conspiracy. In its investigation, the Army task force visited 28 installations and interviewed over 7,500 soldiers in the United States, Germany and Korea. In those visits, West said, the task force found less than 1 percent reported seeing soldiers or civilian employees involved with extremist groups. (AFIS)

**Executive order creates Armed Forces Service Medal.** President Clinton signed an executive order authorizing the Armed Forces Service Medal. The new medal will go to service members participating in peaceful U.S. military operations on or after June 1, 1992. Under the guidelines, the Joint Chiefs of Staff will decide which operations are eligible for the award. Service members receiving the award must not face foreign armed opposition or imminent hostile action. All military service members, including U.S. Coast Guard personnel, may receive the award. The new medal covers operations not covered by other U.S. service medals. DoD will not give the award to service members already eligible for other awards. For example, personnel receiving the Southwest Asia Service Medal or Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for service in the Persian Gulf are not eligible for the new medal. Service members who qualify for the Humanitarian Service Medal will not receive the award either. The U.S. Army Institute of Heraldry at Fort Belvoir, Va., designed the medal. It is not yet available. (AFIS)

**Air Force releases Brown Crash Investigation Report.** A combination of mistakes caused the April 3 CT-43 jet crash in Croatia that killed Commerce Secretary Ron Brown and 34 others, according to an Air Force investigation board. Defense Secretary William J. Perry said its report shows no single cause of the crash, but that several mistakes occurred simultaneously. The board findings, announced June 7, blamed the crash on a failure of command, aircrew error and an improperly designed instrument approach procedure. President Clinton said the Air Force was thorough, prompt and brutally honest in its investigation. "The American people should feel reassured that the top leadership of the Air Force got to the bottom of this, did it in a hurry and was completely honest with no back-covering at all in its straightforward report on this accident," Clinton said. "As with any mishap, the investigation uncovered a chain of events and decisions which, if broken, would have prevented this tragedy," said Air Force Secretary Sheila Widnall during a Pentagon news conference. Prior to public release of the report, the 17th Air Force commander relieved the three top 86th Airlift Wing officers due to the investigation, according to Air Force officials. Aircrew errors also contributed to the crash, investigators report. During mission planning the crew failed to note the Dubrovnik approach required two automatic direction finders. The CT-43 had only one. An error in planning the route added 15 minutes to planned flight time and may have caused the crew to rush the approach. Weather was not found to be a substantial contributing factor in the crash, the board reported. (AFIS)



## New application process for federal employment

On Dec. 31, 1994, the SF-171 was abolished for mandatory use in applying for federal jobs.

Job announcements, published by the Human Resource Office (HRO-TN-S) have been adjusted to reflect the new procedures in applying for technician vacancies. What can you use to apply? Resumes, Optional Form 612, and even the SF-171 can still be used, however, we can't require any specific form.

Although the federal government does not require a standard application form, we do need certain information to evaluate your qualifications and determine if you meet legal requirements for federal employment. If your chosen application format does not provide all the information requested on the job announcement, your application will be considered incomplete and you may lose consideration for employment.

Applications are evaluated solely on information supplied on the application. In addition, applicants will not be contacted to determine minimum qualifications. Make sure your application contains all the information from the job announcement paragraph entitled, "HOW TO APPLY" and "APPLICATIONS MUST CONTAIN." If you have any questions, please call Capt. Gretchen Grossman at DSN 273-7049 or Commercial (614) 889-7049.

## A congressman's heartfelt thanks

Dear General Alexander:

I am honored to have the Ohio Army National Guard's facility in McConnsville, Ohio, dedicated and named in my honor. It is my feeling that the senior leadership committee that was to determine a name for the McConnsville facility was guided by you to pick my name for this project and to you I am very grateful.

As I said at the time of the dedication, there should be one hundred names on the plaque at the facility recognizing the many people who gave of their time, talent and effort to make this project a reality.

Thank you, General Alexander, for your push for this project in economically depressed southeastern Ohio. Not only because of the annual payroll at the site, but also for the many other parameters that have a positive effect on Morgan and the adjacent counties.

I am deeply concerned about the thinking of some of the people in Washington who believe we should have great cutbacks in many of our

military programs. We live in a troubled world and the only way the free world will stay free is by buying the insurance in supporting the military so that we speak from a position of strength.

I am grateful to you and all of the citizen soldiers.

Sincerely,

Clarence E. Miller  
House of Representatives

## Ohio Guardsman sends open letter from Bosnia

I thought I'd drop you a line and let you know how I'm doing. So far, this deployment has exceeded my every expectation. As you well know, I went from being with the 112th Engr. Bn. to Det. 7, HQ STARC. I mobilized on March 1, and by March 12, I was in Weisbaden, Germany, and assigned to the 302nd MI Battalion of the 205 MI Brigade.

I spent a total of two weeks in Germany, of which four days were spent at Hohenfels doing Bosnia lanes training which included mine awareness and checkpoint operations. So from the day I mobilized to the day I stepped foot in Bosnia, it only took 27 days. I'm glad they weren't in a hurry.

Traveling through Bosnia on the way to Tuzla is like driving through "Damnation Alley." Whole villages are virtual ghost towns, with burned out homes, barns and cars. You can see on the paved roads where the warring factions cut out round holes in the road to insert mines. And lining the roads are miles and miles of barbed wire fencing marked with mine signs.

A bit of trivia -- my cousin, who is Croatian, was stationed here as a Yugoslavian pilot from 1988 to 1989 and I currently live in the same barracks that he did. That is a coincidence.

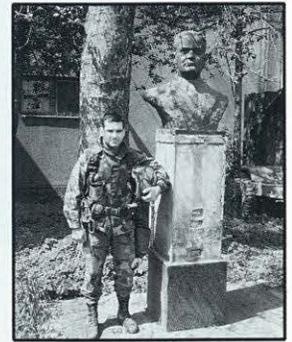
All incoming officers who were qualified linguists were interviewed by the division chief of staff. After my interview, he recommended that I be assigned to the division engineers to work at the division mine fusion center as the OIC. WOW!, Not bad for a National Guard soldier.

One of my jobs at the mine fusion center is to investigate all mine-strikes that injure or kill IFOR soldiers. To date, I've been on three IFOR mine-strikes and one civilian mine-strike. In the investigation, I retrieve mine fragments from the resulting crater to determine the type of mine, measure the size of the blast and collect any other pieces of residue. It's a strange feeling to have people watching me from a safe distance while I go out into the minefield to do the investigation -- Engineer all the way! We use a phrase that seems so obvious but needs to

be adhered to, and that is, "If you didn't put it there, then don't pick it up." We had an incident in which a civilian was injured while opening a gym bag that was booby-trapped and it exploded.

In another incident, a jacket was laying on the ground with a Coke can on top of it. When a civilian picked it up, it exploded. I've collected volumes of information and lessons learned to bring back

with me. Because even though this deployment has been an opportunity of a lifetime for me, this experience needs to be shared with others.



Courtesy photo.

**CPT John Bonca at the bust of the late Marshal Tito, former leader of the country of Yugoslavia.**

John Bonca  
Capt., Ohio ARNG

## Research help needed

Do you have a story about the Family Assistance Program during the Gulf War? The world may be ready for it. I'm writing a thesis on this topic and I need personal short stories about how the program worked during the deployment. These stories will be added to a statistical survey. Please mail stories to:

CH (MAJ) Dan Law  
1848 Lonsdale Road  
Columbus, OH 43232-2832

## Correction

The 145th Airlift Wing, out of Charlotte, N.C., was left off the "Roll Call" of units in support of Operation Southern Watch in the Spring 1996 issue of the *Buckeye Guard* magazine. The story appeared on page 20.

*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

Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander, Adjutant General

## Be part of solution, not problem

*The following editorial promoting volunteer service was written by the adjutant general for public consumption. His insights are relevant to those of us who already serve, and are intended to serve as a wake-up call for those who don't.*

All too often we read, see, and hear of the ills facing our society and those of other countries. Drugs crime, poverty, famine, deficits and downsizing are but a few of the topics we confront daily with the morning newspaper and a cup of coffee.

Pondering these problems collectively can be disheartening. More than we'd care to admit, we look for someone to blame rather than someone to help. On one hand, there are those who feel "it's not my problem." On the other, there are many who care, but don't know how they, as individuals, can help.

Well, these *are* our problems and there *is* something we can do about them. They affect us every day whether we know it or not. For those who become victims of a crime, lose a job or send a loved one off to a distant land to fight a war, they become personal.

We must realize that if we're not part of the solution, we're part of the problem. If we are to exact change, we have to accept the fact that change starts with us and no one else.

About now you're asking yourself, "What can I possibly do to rid the world of crime, poverty and drugs?" My answer: **Volunteer Service!**

Find a way to serve your community, state and

nation. The avenues to make a personal contribution are limitless. Take part in a block watch program; tutor a student who needs the help; support food and clothing drives for the needy; be a Big Brother or Big Sister to a youth on the edge; help clean up your neighborhood. **Or**, if you really want to have a global impact, think about joining the dedicated volunteers who are making a difference right now in your community, in this state and around the world...the citizen soldiers and airmen of the Ohio National Guard!

True, the National Guard is a military force charged with the protection of this country. Throughout history we've answered the call to arms when needed, as in DESERT STORM. And yes, the Guard is there when disaster strikes the state, as we were in the great Blizzard of '78; flash floods; tornadoes; and prison riots. But the Guard is more than this...much more!

As you read this today, National Guard members are performing peacekeeping missions in Bosnia. They've been to Haiti to assist in establishing democracy. They've provided humanitarian assistance to starving populations in Somalia and Africa. They've built roads, schools and hospitals in Central and South America, and are now engaged with the Eastern European states of the former Soviet Union in developing partnerships for peace.

Here at home the activity is more per-

sonal. Guard members have assisted law enforcement in removing more than \$1 billion in illegal drugs from the streets. They're in your schools, teaching your children about the dangers of drugs and alcohol and the benefits of making the right choices in life. They're tutoring students who need to pass proficiency tests and mentoring troubled youth who just need someone to look up to. They're conducting youth camps for teenagers who've run afoul of the law, showing them the importance of personal responsibility and leadership. They're providing vocational instruction to young people who, because they didn't get that early intervention, found their way to an institution by committing serious crimes.

And that's not all. The Guard is assisting medically underserved communities with free adult and childhood immunizations and health screenings. They're building playgrounds in inner cities and destroying abandoned houses used as havens for crime. They've repaired leaky roofs on shelters for the homeless and spearheaded food and clothing drives for the needy.

I could go on, but I think you get the picture. The National Guard is more than a force for peace. It's also a force for change, both here and abroad. We ask much of the young men and women who fill our ranks, and they give more than anyone could ever expect in return. Their greatest reward is the satisfaction in knowing each one of them is making a difference through volunteer service to their community, state and nation. They're doing their best to be part of the solution. You can, too! Join us today! Call toll free 1-888-OH-GUARD. ■

*"If we are to exact change, we have to accept the fact that change starts with us and no one else."*

# Mobilization insurance now protects Reservists

**W**ith the signing of the FY 96 National Defense Authorization Act on Feb. 10, 1996, members of the National Guard and Reserve gained the ability to protect their civilian income from losses accrued by federal military service.

Effective Sept. 30, 1996, the law provides that members of the Ready Reserve ordered involuntarily to active duty (other than for training) for more than 30 days are eligible to participate in an optional program of income insurance. The order must specify that the member's service is in support of war, national emergency, or to augment active forces for an operational mission.

With this new benefit, participating Ready Reservists can have peace of mind knowing that benefit payments will continue for up to one year, or a maximum of 12 months out of any 18-

month period. Thus, their military earnings can be supplemented to compensate for some of the difference between their military and civilian pay.

After the Persian Gulf War, a survey of reserve component members revealed that approximately two-thirds of the nearly 250,000 Reservists activated during Operation Desert Shield/Storm suffered economic loss as a result of their activations.

Losses were widespread across all pay grades and military occupations. Approximately two-thirds of the enlisted members and more than one-half of the officers surveyed indicated that they would buy income insurance.

DoD policy and procedures are being distributed, however, financial management guidelines are still being finalized.

## Mobilization Insurance Q&A

### **Q What is the Ready Reserve Mobilization Income Insurance Program?**

*It is an optional program of income insurance. Traditional members of the Ready Reserve and National Guard, including Coast Guard reservists, are eligible to collect payments if they are called to active military duty (other than for training) for a period of more than 30 days. Members' orders must specify that the service is involuntary and the duty is in support of forces activated during a period of war or of national emergency declared by the president or the congress. Basic coverage starts at \$1,000 per month with incremental increases up to a maximum of \$5,000 per month.*

### **Q Who is eligible to enroll?**

*All Ready Reserve personnel with the exception of those considered on active duty, i.e. AGR/TAR/full-time National Guard etc.*

### **Q How much will this insurance cost?**

*The premium rate is \$12.20 per \$1,000 in coverage.*

### **Q How can I enroll?**

*A member of the Ready Reserve as of Sept. 30, 1996, will receive written notification that program is effective as of Oct. 1, 1996. The member will have 60 days to choose between three options:*

- *Increase coverage. (It can be increased in \$500 increments to the maximum of \$5,000)*
- *Decrease desired coverage from the automatic \$1,000/month to \$500/month.*
- *Decline coverage.*

*Members will be considered as having declined coverage if they fail to complete the enrollment process within the 60 day election period.*

### **Q If I decline coverage now, can I elect to enroll at a later date or increase my coverage later?**

*Generally, no. Under current legislation, a member will be given only one opportunity to enroll and to select the level of coverage required to replace lost income, however, implementation instructions will explain the exceptions to this policy.*

### **Q How will I pay the premium?**

*Automatic deductions can be made from the same bank account your monthly drill pay is deposited or through periodic billings for members in a nonpaying status.*

### **Q How will the benefits be paid once I have been involuntarily activated?**

*Eligibility for benefits begins at the end of the first payroll month with the first payment occurring at the end of the second payroll month of covered service (subject to tax withholding).*

### **Q As a Ready Reserve member, how should I decide how much coverage to get?**

*This program is not designed to be a dollar-for-dollar replacement of lost civilian income; rather it is intended to help close the gap between civilian and military pay.*

### **Q Is this coverage retroactive to cover past activations for Bosnia or Haiti?**

*No. As prescribed by law the effective date of the insurance is after Sept. 30, 1996.*

### **Q Will benefits be protected from inflation?**

*Yes. The DoD Board of Actuaries is required by law to carry out periodic valuations of benefits and recommend changes to premiums and benefits accordingly. ■*

## Command Profile



**Col. Ralph P. Anderson**  
178th Fighter Wing

**Age:** 50

**Occupation:** 178th Fighter Wing Commander.

**Life has taught me:** To be patient and optimistic.

**If I could have just one day all to myself, I would:** Go sailing and play a round of golf.

**The one film I would like to have starred in is:** Top Gun.

**When no one's looking I:** Read.

**When I was little I wanted to be:** A P-38 pilot (they were kind of new then).

**The worst advice I ever received was:** Buy 200 shares of People Express Airlines at \$21 per share.

**The best advice I ever received was:** To marry my wife Hyacinth.

**If I could dine with anyone, past or present, I would invite:** Winston Churchill.

**The best moment of my life happened when I:** Witnessed the birth of my two daughters.

**My favorite book:** The Right Stuff.

**My favorite movie:** Patton.

**If I could leave today's guardmembers with one piece of advice it would be:** Stick with it, this is the best job you will ever have.

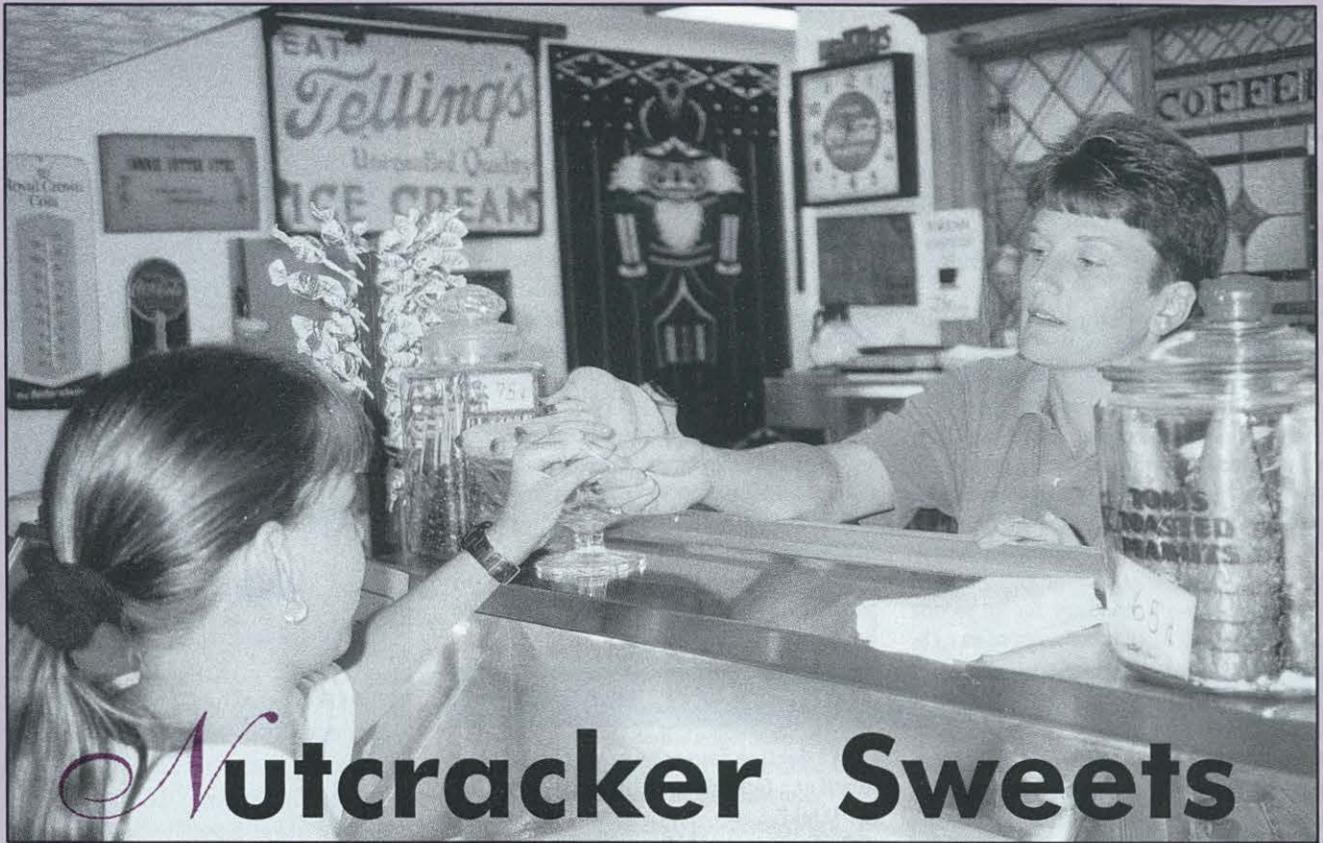


Photo by PFC Steve Toth, HQ STARC (-Det. 1-5).

## *N*utcracker Sweets

# Love of history creates sweet success for Air Guard couple

Story by Pfc. Steve Toth  
HQ STARC (-Det. 1-5)

Steve and Nancy Butcher are not just husband and wife, and they have more in common than both of them being members of the Ohio Air National Guard—they are also business partners.

Senior Master Sgt. Steve Butcher, a 20-year member of the Air Guard, is a recruiting and retention supervisor on AGR status with Headquarters, Ohio Air National Guard in Columbus. Tech. Sgt. Nancy Butcher, who has served for 12 years, is currently the historian for Headquarters, 121st Refueling Wing at Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base, drilling one weekend per month as a traditional guardsman.

Away from their military lives, the couple operates Nutcracker Sweets, an early 1900s ice cream parlor. Located in the heart of Pataskala's historic section, the shop is a visual cornucopia of confections and items from a time long past: an almost 50-year-old soda fountain produces authentic ice cream sodas and phosphates; a large oak and glass cabinet is full of chocolates and old-fashioned penny candies, a favorite among children; and a 1930s Junior Coca-Cola cooler contains 8-ounce Cokes in glass bottles with metal bottle caps.

The shop features sandwiches, hot dogs, homestyle soups, tea, coffee, cocoa and 20 flavors of hand-dipped ice cream. Nancy's homemade fudge is a very popular item year-round, but especially so when cooler temperatures abound. "Once you hit the fall, sales go

through the ceiling," Steve said.

For health-conscious individuals, the shop has sugar-free fudge, sucrose-free taffy and fat-free, sugar-free ice cream.

It may have been their love of history, especially the time period of 1890 to 1940, that moved the Butchers to open the nostalgic business. They were wed in 1992 in a ceremony straight out of the early 1900s, with members of the wedding party and guests fully costumed in period apparel. In addition, they have restored their current home, called a saltbox. Research conducted to help them restore the saltbox house led to an interest in opening an old-fashioned ice cream parlor.

"We did research on it and fell in love with this time period," Nancy said.

The Butchers purchased an old

building—previously a shoe store—in January 1994 and spent the next 18 months restoring the structure, with help from many people in the Pataskala community. Nearly everything in the shop, from the furniture to the wall decorations, was purchased at a various auctions over the next year and a half.

Deciding upon just the right name for the shop was a long process for the Butchers, but came to an end in late 1994. They had just seen "The Nutcracker," the famous ballet by Russian composer Peter Tchaikovsky which features a musical composition called "The Nutcracker Suite." Later, Nancy was purchasing Christmas decorations for the shop, including many nutcracker statues. When unpacking the car after her shopping trip, she noticed a playbill from the bal-

let performance in her car.

"It just hit us to call the shop 'Nutcracker Sweets,'" she said.

Many nutcrackers now adorn the shelves, tables, counter tops and windowsills of the shop.

Nutcracker Sweets opened in August 1995, and recently celebrated its one-year anniversary. Business in the first year has been "good, even better than we expected. We're off the beaten path, so people don't just stop by. They make a point of coming here," Steve said.

Staying true to the small-town mentality, the Butchers are not firm about their shop hours. They will tell you that in the summer, the hours are 11 a.m. to dusk during the week and 2 p.m. to dusk on Sunday, or even later, depending on the amount of business.

It's not uncommon to see someone rapping on the door at 10 a.m. wanting a pound of fresh coffee. If she's preparing the shop for opening, Nancy will beckon customers to come in and she will service their needs. "As long as they don't care if there's mop water on the floor," she said. "And



Courtesy photo.

as long as the lights are on at night, they're welcome to come in."

The Butchers acknowledge that the Air Guard has been very supportive of their business venture, accommodating them with a flexible drill schedule when the inevitable conflict arises. And as a token of their loyalty and appreciation for the military, Nutcracker Sweets offers a 10 percent discount on the entire menu

to current and retired military members and their dependents who present a valid military identification card.

The couple said they decided to enter into business for themselves as an effort to be more self-dependent. Steve said believing in themselves has given them the courage to try their best to succeed.

Steve's imminent retirement

from the military in the next couple years was another reason for the move. After retirement he will join Nancy, a former teacher, in running their business full-time. Owning the shop allows the Butchers to generate an income while remaining close to raise Nancy's two children, 7-year-old Gregory Bissett and 8-year-old Robert Bissett. Steve also has two sons from a previous marriage—25-year-old Steve Jr. and 23-year-old Brad, who are members of the Air Guard as well — and a daughter, 18-year-old Tracey.

The hard work involved in assembling the ice cream parlor piece-by-piece can probably be traced to the Butchers' zeal for whatever they do, whether a part of their military or civilian lives. But to them, the process really has never been considered work.

"I haven't been working all my life," Steve said. "Work is something you don't want to do.

"What we've been looking for was an opportunity like this." ■



Photo by PFC Steve Toth, HQ STARC (-Det. 1-5).

**OPPOSITE PAGE:** Sales of penny candy add up as Nancy Butcher hands over an old fashioned treat to an eager young customer. **THIS PAGE, TOP:** On a bright summer afternoon, the Butchers stand proudly outside their labor of love in Pataskala. **ABOVE:** Since opening the shop, Nancy has learned to balance a family, the Guard and lunch rush hour.

*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

# Ohio National Guard

Story by Capt. Trish Marek, Family Readiness Office  
Photos by Spc. Dan Beamer, 1486th Transportation Company

“C-130 rollin’ down the strip, airborne camper gonna take a little trip. Am I right or wrong? You’re Right!” sang the tiny voices from platoons nicknamed Falcons, Patriots, Hercules and Rifles. As their short legs failed to keep in step, a commanding voice barked, “Platoon halt! Drop and give me 10! You belong to me now camper!”

These commands are meant to strike fear in new recruits but the boot-camp drills only added to the excitement for the 121 spirited youngsters attending the third annual Ohio National Guard Youth Camp held at Camp Perry June 16-22.

“The mission of the weeklong camp is to foster an understanding of military life for children of guardmembers,” said activities director Tammy Vaughn. “We do this in a fun and safe environment where leadership, teamwork and communication skills can be developed.”

This year’s hectic pace tested the endurance of the youth and volunteers as two new activities were added to the camp schedule—water events and rappelling.

Also this year, a camper chain of command was instituted and rotated so that each child had the opportunity to lead a squad of 8-10 campers.

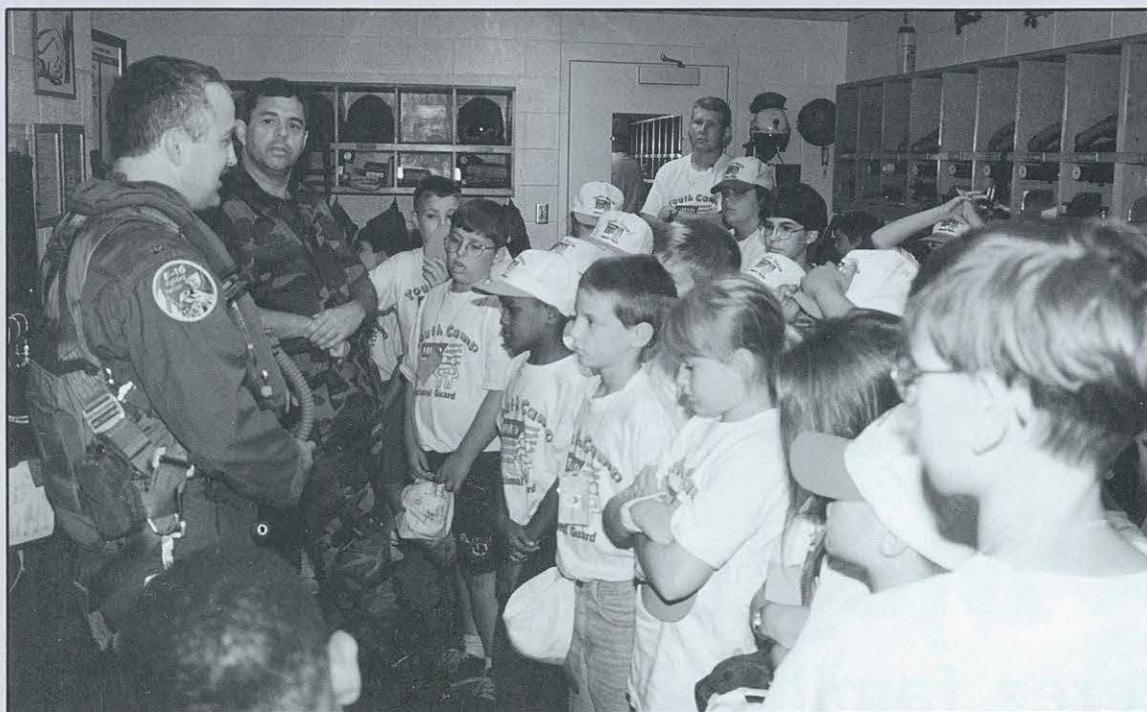
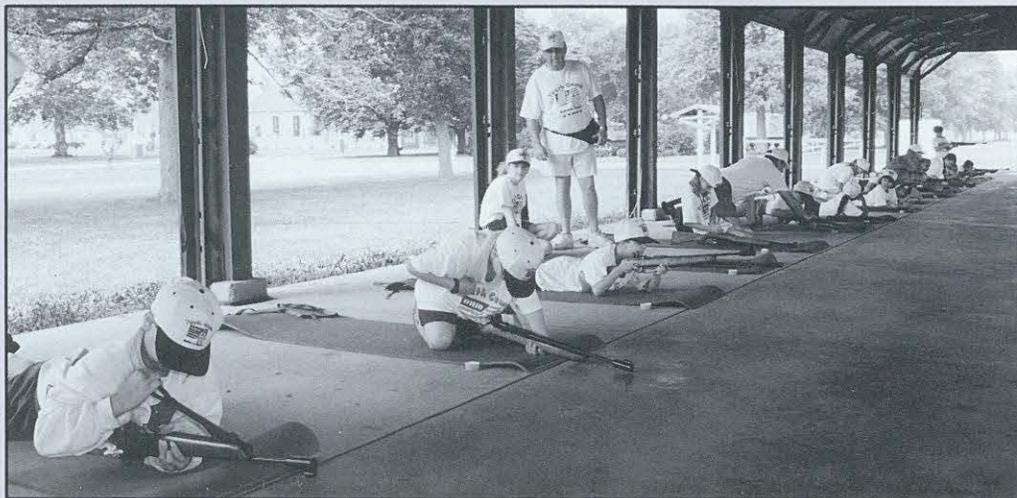
Closing ceremonies were capped by the thunder of two F-16 Fighting Falcons from the 180th Fighter Wing, Toledo, saluting the campers as they raced overhead.

Thanks go out to all the volunteers and organizations who made this year’s camp such a success. The National Guard family has been strengthened by their selfless sacrifices and genuine concern for our youth.

Now considered an annual event, planning for the 1997 camp is already under way. For more information, please contact the state Family Readiness Office at 1-800-589-9914. ■



# Youth Camp 1996



**OPPOSITE PAGE:** Kelley Garrison, captain of the 1988 U.S. Olympic women's gymnastics team, talked to campers about following their dreams. **CENTER:** MSG William Horne gives final instructions to a camper as he rappelled an eight-foot wall. **THIS PAGE TOP:** SFC George Bergholz overlooks campers who used BB guns for marksmanship training. **ABOVE:** During a camp field trip, Maj. James Diehl, a 180th Fighter Wing pilot, explained the dynamics of flight to attentive campers. **LEFT:** A youthful squad leader directs the construction of a field tent.



With husband Staff Sgt. Tony Perez by her side, a surprised Cynthia Perez accepts the Ohio Commendation Medal from CPT John Zulfer, commander of Company A, 1-107th Armor, during an awards ceremony in her honor.

# A Medal for Cynthia

## Perez family opens home, hearts to unit members

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

Cynthia Perez says she believes she was put on this earth for a reason. One could have been to marry M-1 tank commander Staff Sgt. Tony Perez. Another might be to guide troubled youth in a local Army Exploration group. Whatever the reason, Cynthia simply narrows it

down to one—to help others.

By today's standards, her mission of goodwill could be considered saintly.

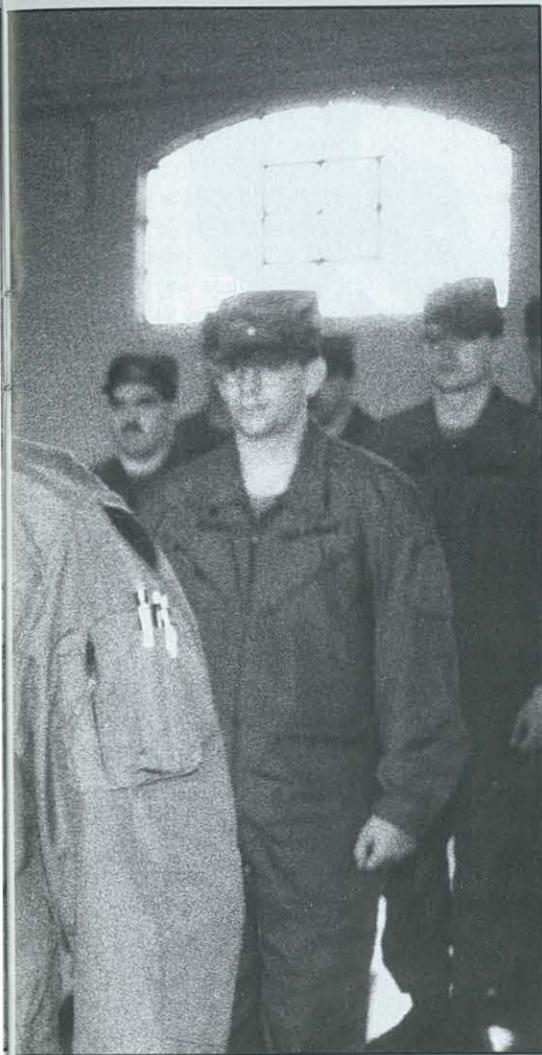
But she doesn't seem to think her acts of kindness are anything special. Others do. Which is why she's here today, on a sunny spring afternoon, lounging on a worn couch in the dayroom of Company A, 1-107 Armor in Ravenna.

She hasn't a clue why she's really

been summoned here. She's been told it's because of this interview—which is focused on her role as an Army Guard spouse who goes beyond the call of her supportive duties.

Okay. She's a little suspicious. "Is there something else going on that I don't know about?" she whispers. But this reporter feigns ignorance.

She figures that while she's here, she might as well help someone. So her sewing machine sits on a table in a window-lit corner, and she waits for soldiers who will soon come rushing in to hand her their uniforms. A button needs sewn on.



Or a patch is loose. Whatever the mending, she will stomp on her foot peddle and fix the problem.

Which makes for an excellent example of why she's really here today: She doesn't know it yet, but her husband, among others, decided it was time to honor Cynthia's contributions to the unit with a surprise appreciation award ceremony.

The justification for this award began about seven years ago, when her husband, Tony, approached her with an idea: During drill weekends, could they share their home with soldiers who were from out of town?

"He asked me what I thought. He felt bad because they had to sleep on a hard floor in the unit," Cynthia recalls.

"So that's how it started. Now their wives don't have to worry about them. And a few of the soldiers don't have a lot of money, so I feed them and, if needed, sew their clothes. I also listen to them

when they want to talk."

From the look of this place, the dayroom is certainly big enough to sleep a platoon. It has a small kitchen, a television, and furniture. But hey. The Perez's offer an alternative to hard floors and microwave cooking. And it's only five minutes away.

"I help them feel like they have a home away from home," she explains.

Platoon leader and Columbus resident 1st Lt. Vance Grover, one of at least six soldiers who'll stay at the Perez's on a typical drill weekend, is certainly grateful. For five years he's been one of the regulars and appreciates the added comfort.

He's also happy about the money he's saved since camping out at the Perez place. As a graduate student currently attending Capital Law School, every dollar counts. You can figure he saves at least \$35 every drill weekend. As the years go by, that can add up to a hefty sum of money.

"Sure it's nicer over there, and they feed me, too" Grover laughs.

Though comfort is a major benefit to staying at the Perez place, he added that another benefit goes beyond soft beds and home cooking.

"At drill, we don't necessarily get the same kind of feedback I get when there are a bunch of us staying there," Grover said. "It seems to be more informative because we actually talk, you know, shoot the breeze. I get to know the other soldiers, and that helps me to find out things which can help make the unit better. There's more input.

"We also have gotten involved in events outside of the unit, like the revolutionary war reenactment group. We've gotten Tony involved in that. And we're now working on the possibility of putting together a Color Guard, as a civilian education and recruiting tool," Grover explained.

Tony was introduced to Cynthia nine years ago. He had long hair and loved rock and roll and she was a pure country girl from Oklahoma, though both are self-proclaimed polar opposites, they fell in love.

From the very start, Cynthia accepted Tony's love of the military. When they first met, Tony was an Army veteran, his father was in the Army Guard, and his brother had recently died during a train-

ing mission in Germany while serving in the Army. Two years after they married, during Desert Storm, Tony signed up again, this time in his father's tank unit. "His whole family has been in the service. So he has his own thing and I have mine," she admitted.

But together they share the common desire to help other people.

"Who wants to sleep on an old, nasty drill floor?" Tony comments when asked about his willingness to invite fellow soldiers into their home.

"Knowing there's a place for them to stay makes me feel good. I just tell them to make themselves at home," he said.

"And I tell them, 'I'll serve you one time, and after that, you can help yourself,'" Cynthia laughs.

"The guys compensate in different, subtle ways," Tony adds. "Like they'll pitch in for pizza, or bring back souvenirs from vacation. They return the generosity just because they want to. And we do it because it has to be done. But I don't want any awards."

"Or any titles," Cynthia interjects.

But it's too late for that. The Ohio Commendation Medal has already been approved, and the title of helping others earned. In just a few minutes, Cynthia will have to



**Cynthia Perez patches a uniform for 1LT Max Hall. Perez thought she was summoned to the unit for this Buckeye Guard interview, but it was actually to receive an award.**

When recruiters combine their efforts to enlist quality soldiers into the Ohio Army National Guard, the results can create

# Triple Energy

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

When Pfc. Tonya Wheatley returned home from basic training eleven years ago, her family waited anxiously inside the airport terminal for whom her mother called lovingly “my little Private Benjamin.”

“I was excited about coming home because according to my family I was too ‘girlie’ to make it through basic,” Wheatley recalls. “When I stepped off that plane, however, I knew I looked good.”

The confidence the young private felt was due in no small part to the Army’s indoctrination of attention to detail and train to maintain philosophies. “I spent two days working on my Class A uniform for graduation,” she said. “In those days we didn’t have Sta-Brite.”

As she walked toward her family, Wheatley’s qualification badges gleamed against her perfectly adorned uniform. A tearful mom could only squeeze her little girl and except the realization that she had matured into a soldier.

“I wore that uniform everywhere when I came home,” Wheatley said. “It was a



SFC Pamela Power (center), SFC Tonya Wheatley and SSG Reginald Johnson discuss the Army Guard with a young prospect outside Fudruckers Restaurant in Columbus during the lunch rush hour.

representation of my accomplishments, true, but it also represented the United States Army and the National Guard,” she said proudly.

Wheatley never forgot how proud she was back then.

That’s why today, Sgt. First Class Wheatley is part of a recruiting force whose primary mission is to overcome the obstacles facing recruiting and “provide quality soldiers who add value to the Ohio Army National Guard.”

It is widely known that the Ohio Army National Guard has struggled to maintain its authorized strength levels following recent force structure changes. That, coupled with the Army Guard’s 25 percent attrition rate, prompted Guard officials to look at new ways to recruit and retain soldiers.

Part of that new focus is to allow recruiters to have more flexibility in the way they recruit, according to Maj. Rufus Smith, the Army’s recruiting and retention manager. “We wanted to give our recruiters the tools

to be successful, and I think we’ve done that,” Smith said.

Additional recruiting support, targeted advertising, pooling resources, flexibility in hours and uniform options (civies included) are just some of ways Guard officials have attacked the problems facing the Army Guard.

“I wanted to do my part to help Ohio,” said Wheatley, who admits she almost took another job out of state.

As part of a new team concept, Wheatley joined forces with two other recruiters who share her love for the Guard. Her teammates, Staff Sgt. Reginald Johnson and Sgt. First Class Pamela Power represent a new outlook toward recruiting and attribute their success to a cooperative effort.

“We complement each other and feed off each other’s strengths,” said Johnson, a young recruiter who has spent most of his military career in personnel administration. “It’s like having triple energy.”

**Buckeye Guard**

The team shares everything from office space to potential leads. But what may be the best part of this partnership is the excitement and enthusiasm they share. "It's an attitude adjustment everyday," said Power, the most experienced of the three. If one of us comes in with a bad attitude, the other picks her up," she said.

Power, a former "Chiefs 50" winner (awarded annually to the state's top recruiter), relishes the partnership and lends her organizational skills and vast knowledge to the team's efforts.

She admits, however, that recruiting has become tougher because of changing societal views and stricter entrance requirements.

"Recruiters have to work harder, much harder than they have in the past," Power said.

What Power and the others also acknowledge, is that they have to contend with the perceptions that recruiting is easy and the jokes about recruiters having to lie to candidates in order to get them to join.

"In reality," says Power, "we work long hours and spend lots of time behind the steering wheel. And what can we gain from lying? Unlike active duty recruiters, we see our recruits when they return from basic and work with them many times throughout their careers," she said.

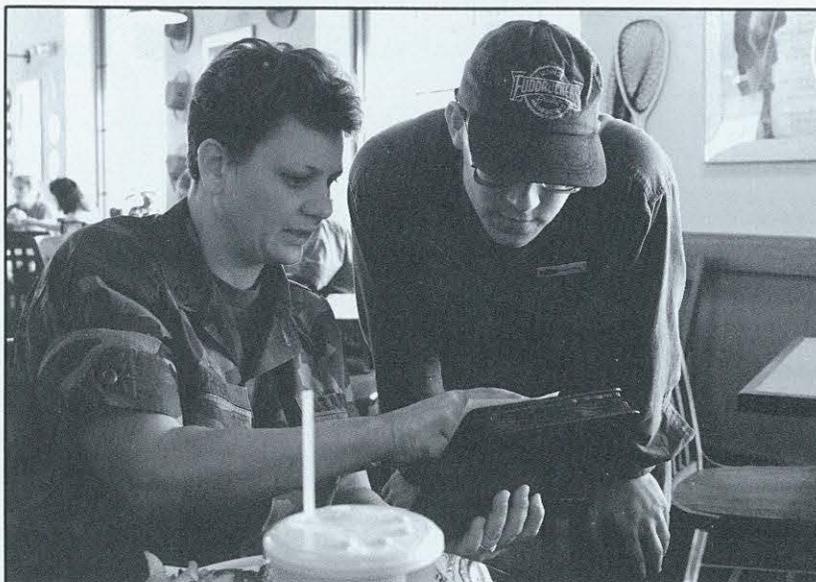
Also, qualifying candidates for entrance in today's all voluntary force is no easy task. That's because the three phase procurement process—mental, physical and moral—is tough, and failure in any one of these categories often disqualifies the applicant for service.

Mentally, prospects must pass the 2 1/2 hour Army Skills Vocation Assessment Battery (ASVAB). Then they are evaluated physically and finally, applicants must sit with an FBI agent while their packets are scrutinized. "It's amazing how much more an applicant remembers when the agent starts asking questions," Power said. "Things they forgot to tell us."

The recruiting team agrees that working with young people is the best part of their jobs. Tuition assistance and the other educational benefits seem to be the main draw for today's youth. Nevertheless, the recruiting force is confronted with a generation (Generation X) of prime candidates who feel that 39 days a year is too much of a commitment. "What can I get without giving?" is the mind-set we're faced with," Wheatley said.

"We don't feel that we have to sell them on the Guard, Power says emphatically, because the Guard's not for sale." "What we want to do is give them options for their lives." "We want to enhance their lives," Johnson added.

Whatever the formula, the numbers speak for themselves. The team consistently meets



**SFC Pamela Power mixes business with pleasure as she discusses enlistment options with her lunch server.**

their recruiting goals and give much of the credit to the new recruiting philosophies. For example, allowing them to wear civilian clothing into high schools has been a tremendous benefit. "Civies allows potential recruits to see us as people and not just salesmen," Johnson said. It also allows recruiters to work and fit in at highly visible community activities like the nationally sponsored Gus Macker 3 on 3 Basketball competition. "We are where the potential applicants are," Johnson added.

The new approach to recruiting is also helping the Guard overcome its identity crisis. It is so closely related to the active army that many ask "What's the difference?" The Guard, reserves, regular army, isn't it all the same? "We have to explain

to them who we are" Power said. "If they understand our missions (federal and state), it makes it easier for them to be patriotic. They don't have to put off their dreams if they choose us," she said.

But none of these challenges have discouraged our young recruiters from having the time of their lives. They love being the frontline representatives of the Guard to the public.

They each credit the Guard for their individual successes and scoff when others say the work is too hard and the job too stressful. Because they insist, that you create your own stress and your frame of mind is controlled by your attitude. As Wheatley put, in a form of the team's rally cry, "If you're not positive, get out of our way." ■

## RETENTION IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

Over the last several months, Command Sgt. Maj. Dave Morton was on temporary assignment with the Recruiting and Retention Management Office to gather information from units that could hopefully identify retention shortfalls.

During his visits, Morton sat down with full-timers, unit first sergeants and commanders to discuss their retention programs. What was revealed is that soldiers want to spend more time training in their Military Occupational Skill (MOS). He also found that units with solid programs in the following areas had higher rates of retention than units who did not.

**SPONSORSHIP:** Units with active sponsorship programs have commanders and first sergeants who continually monitor the program; ask questions about its status; review check lists; review the program with soldiers and insure they have quality time to talk to soldiers.

**USET:** Units that generate referrals exhibit better unit wellness and lower loss rates. If the junior enlisted and NCOs recommend their friends and associates to their unit--this is a good sign.

Some units utilize the UPAR beyond the traditional role of written communication. Some activities include: creation of an annual training video; creation of a new member photo board; and a creation of a pictorial display of unit members doing their jobs.

**FAMILY SUPPORT:** Family Support Groups (FSG) that are successful are thoroughly involved with the unit. This gives them purpose and makes families an integral part of the unit.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Morton is the CSM for the 371st Support Group in Kettering.

# First hand look at Basic Training proves educational

Story by Staff Sgt. M. Randy Dunham  
179th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Last year, more than 3,000 newly inducted airmen from across the country packed a bag, kissed mom and dad good-bye and headed off for what some call six weeks of hell, basic training.

The people responsible for sending them there, Air National Guard recruiters, tried in most cases to prepare the future guardmembers for what they were about to encounter.

The yelling. The physical conditioning. The military bearing. The mind games. The yelling. The yelling. The yelling...

Despite their best attempts to educate these young people, the recruiters' knowledge was limited to their own past experiences—the majority of which went through basic training long ago, in some cases two decades. This information gap left many airmen basic to search for third party recounts—which tend to be laden with exaggeration and half truths.

So Ohio's top recruiter did the obvious thing. He sent all 17 of his Air Guard recruiters back to basic training, this time as observers, not participants.

"Basic training goes through shifts every few years," said Senior Master Sgt. Steve Butcher, the state recruiting and retention superintendent. "There are changes in physical conditioning and the obstacle course. There are changes in acceptable standards and changes in other places."

Butcher said that unless the recruiters see firsthand what some of the new challenges are, they would be passing on their personal struggles from many years ago to the newest recruits. That information may be obsolete. "Being there gave them a whole new understanding," he said.

The group of 25 spent five days here in January as part of a "reblueing" process. Recruiters, retention NCOs, public affairs specialists and training NCOs from across Ohio participated in tours, attended a retreat, watched the arrival and shakedown of new troops, and talked with basic training experts during the visit.

The training fell in line with the new direction Ohio Air National Guard leaders are taking in building and maintaining the state's forces. The philosophy is



Photo by Staff Sgt. M. Randy Dunham, 179th AW

**Physical conditioning is one of many challenges basic trainees face while at Lackland AFB.**

that it is not only important to bring in good people, it's equally important to properly train, promote and care for those already in the ranks, Butcher said.

Chief Master Sgt. Ray Epp, the Air National Guard liaison at Lackland, encouraged Butcher to bring Ohio's force management people to Lackland.

"In Ohio, we have a young recruiting force," Butcher said. "Anytime you have new people (recruiters), you're going to have mistakes. Nothing

# GOING B LACK



'Reblueing' Ohio's Air

Ohio's young recruiting force receives a briefing from a Lackland

huge or significant, but important enough that they needed to be addressed.

"Chief Epp suggested something needed to be done," he said. "The chief said 'either I come to Ohio or you bring Ohio to me.'"

Even though Epp admitted Ohio was in good shape compared to some other states in preparing recruits for basic, the trip to Lackland still proved to be an educational experience for the recruiters.

"This creates a whole new level of awareness for us," said Tech. Sgt. Mark Wolfenden, a recruiter from the 179th Airlift Wing in Mansfield.

He and fellow recruiter Staff Sgt. Ray Butler developed a checklist from the information they learned during their "reblueing." They go through the checklist with each recruit prior to leaving for Lackland.

"We teach them the proper reporting procedure so they'll be ahead of the game," Wolfenden said. "Among other things, we also tell them how big of a suitcase to pack and what to put in it. All of these minor details added together make the first few hours there a little less stressful."

Toledo recruiting office supervisor Master Sgt. Jamie Hilborn, who is with the 180th Fighter Wing, was one of several people who visited with one of her recruits during the Lackland trip.

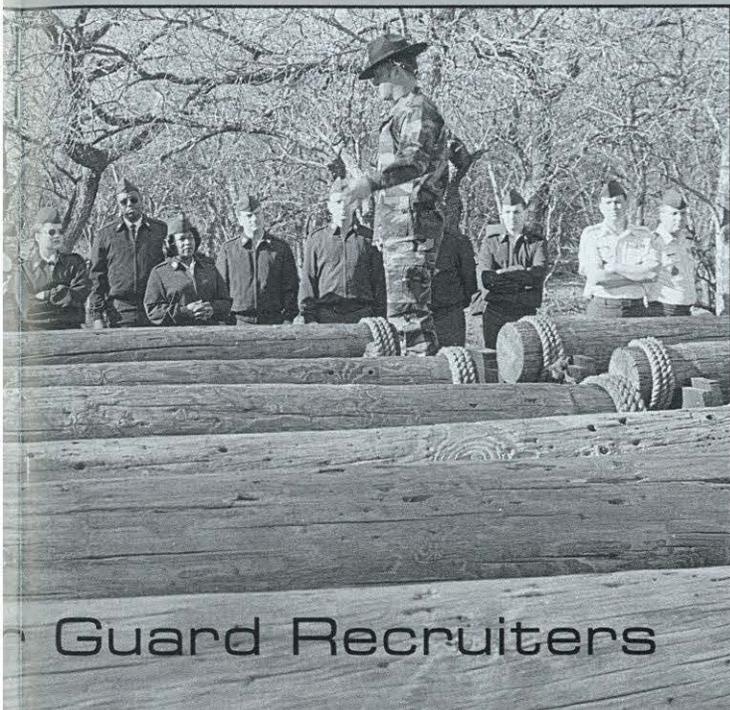
She immediately noticed a difference in Airman Casey Cole, a Swanton, Ohio native who was more than relieved to see a friendly face from back home.

"Usually, he doesn't say two words," Hilborn said. "He's so excited to see us right now he won't shut up."

Hilborn said meeting with a recruit while he was actually in training provides hidden benefits.

"We see the frame of mind they're in while down here," she said. "We

# BACK TO LAND



## Guard Recruiters

Photo by Staff Sgt. M. Randy Dunham, 179th AW

drill sergeant and an up close look at the obstacle course.

can attempt to relay that emotion, that feeling to the people we're shipping down here from Toledo. We can tell them to expect to feel homesick and probably to expect to cry a little. We can also prepare them mentally to be aware that if they're in the right frame of mind and keep a positive attitude, they can breeze right through this thing." ■



Photo by Staff Sgt. M. Randy Dunham, 179th AW

MSgt. Jamie Hilborn was able to spend some quality time with one of her recruits, Airman Basic Casey Cole, while on the Lackland visit.

Summer 1996

## Taking Care of Who We Have

Top officials of the Ohio Air National Guard say the future of recruiting rests as much with keeping the people already in the ranks as much as it does with bringing in new troops.

"Force management is the future of recruiting," said Senior Master Sgt. Steve Butcher, the state recruiting and retention superintendent. "With dramatic changes in the number of people willing to enlist in the Air Guard, coupled with downsizing, it's important now more than ever to be sure we're taking care of the people we have in the guard."

To be sure that happens, the Air Guard has developed the 360 Degree Feedback program.

Brig. Gen. Paul Sullivan, the Ohio Air Guard's new chief of staff, has made that program his priority. Sullivan said that over the last four months, a team of representatives from Ohio Air Guard units met to find solutions where problems exist.

A primary concern was that the Air Guard is losing too many people through either voluntary or involuntary separation. Simply put, the number of people coming in the front door was not keeping up with the number heading out the back.

He said the group created a document in rough draft for the adjutant general's final approval. It includes state policies on how to get recruits in the Air Guard and how to keep them.

"Now, our priority is to see that the work doesn't go in vain, and that it is a living document," Sullivan said. "It will be revised as we identify new issues and problems."

Butcher said the 360 Degree Feedback program falls in line with force management. "We want to sit down with each person at least once a year and have some open dialogue," Butcher said. "We want to talk about promotions, meaningful training, PME and if the person feels he or she is being treated fairly. We want to ask each person what they want to do with their Air Guard career and what is there we can do to help achieve that goal."

He said the information will be kept in writing in a file so the feedback sessions can be monitored and tracked. "Once we fix this way of life for each member of the Air Guard, the greater the retention will be," he said.

Sullivan said open communication is the key to the program's success.

"We have to establish the idea up and down the line that we're opening the channels for everyone," he said. "We want it to be a one-on-one talk between the senior and junior people. This will give us a clear sense of what we need and where we're going."

Butcher said there is a national goal to keep Air Guard units at 95 percent manning during fiscal 1996. Right now, he said, Ohio's units are at 96.7 percent manning.

"We attribute that to tightening some requirements for getting out, a 'stop loss program'," he said. "It used to be you could just say you wanted to separate for your own convenience. Now, you have to have a very good reason, such as being transferred out of state for your civilian job." ■



Photo by Staff Sgt. John Rohrer, 180th FW

Retention Manager MSgt. Therese Sadowski reviews a benefits package with SSgt. Ed Wagner, both are members of the 180th Fighter Wing in Toledo.

# Recruiting & Retention

The primary goal of the Ohio National Guard is to recruit and retain quality members within its ranks. Following are just some programs and incentives offered to current and potential Ohio Guardmembers and their families as enhancements to their careers.

## ROTC, National Guard: forging experienced officers

Training officers for the active and reserve components has long been the responsibility of the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC). To enhance the training of cadets, ROTC and the National Guard have teamed to create the Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP). The SMP is a voluntary officer training program leading to a commission as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army, Army National Guard or U.S. Army Reserves.

The SMP gives cadets an opportunity to serve in the role of an officer before actually being commissioned. Usually, cadets will shadow a platoon leader or platoon sergeant to learn the basics of platoon and company operations. However, commanders may employ SMP cadets in numerous other roles based upon their level of experience and the needs of the unit.

"The SMP is an excellent way for soldiers who are enrolled in college to become officers," said Maj. James H. Lawson, assistant professor of military science at Ohio State University. Lawson explained that soldiers who have completed basic training and AIT can forgo the first two years of ROTC because of their experience. National Guard soldiers can enroll in the third year of ROTC classes and enter the SMP at their unit.

As an SMP cadet, soldiers are immediately promoted to E-5 for pay purposes, receive a \$1,500 per year stipend from ROTC, continue to receive 60 percent tuition assistance, and have only two years of ROTC to complete to be commissioned a second lieutenant.

According to Lawson, soldiers who choose to stay in the National Guard after they are commissioned can do so through the Guaranteed Reserve Forces Duty (GRFD) contract. This contract guarantees assignment to the National Guard or Army Reserves.

Two year scholarships are available for soldiers who elect to remain in

the National Guard upon receiving their commission. These scholarships pay up to \$12,000 for tuition, \$450 for books, and a \$1,500 stipend each year. The scholarships are awarded annually and are based primarily on the soldier's academic achievement and leadership potential.

Of all the advantages for being in the SMP, the most important may be the experience and mentoring that soldiers receive from the enlisted an officer members in their units. Lawson said many officers who have been SMP cadets liked the opportunity to receive valuable critiques from their platoon sergeants and section leaders. It helped mold them into better officers. "SMP cadets have a better understanding of National Guard operations, compared to their peers who have never served in the Guard," Lawson said. "This can really pay off for active duty officers when they work with National Guard units later on in their career."

The ROTC curriculum is diverse, hands on and centered on teaching cadets how to be well rounded leaders who are capable of applying their skills in any branch of the Army. There is a mix of classroom instruction and a leadership lab where cadets apply their classroom teachings.

"The leadership training that ROTC provides is highly sought after by employers in the civilian sector," Lawson said. "Many employers look specifically for people who have taken ROTC because they have graduated from college and have already learned the fundamentals of leading people."

Soldiers who are interested in SMP can contract any local university with an Army ROTC program. Whatever route officers take after their commissioning, being a soldier in the Ohio National Guard gives them invaluable experience working with and leading today's soldiers. ■

**NOTE:** For more information on the Ohio State University ROTC program contact Maj. James Lawson at (614) 292-6075.

## Education services, career development opportunities

The Ohio Army and Air National Guard offer many civilian education programs. These programs pay for college, provide education and career counseling, and evaluations of military training and experience for college credits. They also span high school, undergraduate and graduate levels of instruction.

■ **Ohio National Guard Tuition Grant Program:** A state funded program that pays 60 percent of a soldier's tuition at any state supported institution. Private institutions receive an average grant based on the state tuitions. Tuition Grant program is an Ohio Guard program.

■ **Montgomery GI Bill Chapter 1606:** This federally funded program pays up to \$198 per month for various education programs. members may use the funds for college, correspondence, apprenticeship and flight training programs (graduate or undergraduate, depending on eligibility).

■ **Montgomery GI Bill Chapter 30:** This is a federally funded program for AGR soldiers. Payments vary for the education program in which they are enrolled. Soldiers may use the funds for college, correspondence, apprenticeship and flight training programs (graduate or undergraduate, depending on eligibility).

■ **Army National Guard Tuition Assistance Program:** Army Guard program only. This program is for E-1s

### SMP cadet monthly pay and annual scholarship benefits

Drill Pay (E-5, MUTA 4) \$168 .....	OSU in state tuition . \$3,273**
Stipend .....\$150* .....	Books ..... \$ 450
GI Bill.....\$194 .....	Drill pay and stipend \$3,516
Total monthly pay .....\$494 .....	Total annual benefits \$7,239

\*Stipend is paid 10 months per year

\*\*Tuition is for a resident of Ohio attending The Ohio State University for 3 quarters.

to E-6s and O-1s to O-3s for the purpose of retraining soldiers in the Army National Guard. Reimbursements up to 75 percent will be made for undergraduate or graduate study up to 12 semester or 18 quarter hours per year.

■ **Air Guard Tuition Assistance Program:** Pays 75 percent tuition reimbursement for permanent AGR Officer and enlisted.

■ **DANTES Distance Learning Tuition Assistance Program:** Soldiers may enroll in any distance learning program offered through the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Support (DANTES) approved schools. This program is for Army National Guard soldiers and active duty soldiers. Upfront payment is reimbursed by DANTES upon successful completion up to 75 percent of the tuition up to 12 semester or 18 quarter hours per year.

■ **DANTES One-Time Post Secondary Education Credit Evaluation for Army National Guard:** This program is a credit evaluation by a college or university to determine what credits a soldier may earn from their military training and experience. The soldier pays up front and is reimbursed up to \$75 for this service. The program will provide a degree plan that matches what the college offers and if followed it will lead to a degree.

■ **Community College of the Air Force:** This program offers a two-year associates degree in applied science to enlisted Air Force personnel.

■ **DANTES Testing Program:** This program provides a comprehensive examination program with over 150 college level exams, numerous association certification exams and proficiency tests. A soldier can earn a degree by taking exams. Most of the exams are free. The types of exams available are the: ACT, SAT, GRE, GMAT, PRAXIS (NTE), CLEP's, ACT PEP's, DSST's and ASE's.

■ **Army National Guard Spousal Testing Program:** Spouses of Army National Guard soldiers may take any CLEP and DSST test free!

■ **Career Counseling (Army and Air):** Using the Meyers-Briggs, Strong Interest Inventory or the Guidance Information System the Education Services Office can assist a service member or their dependents or new enlistees in determining their career interests. This program can also identify the levels of education and where to get that education so that our soldiers can earn a degree and enter the job market successfully.

■ **Education Counseling:** Soldiers can have their military training and experience, their other college courses and civilian training and experience evaluated by the ESO. The evaluation process provides the soldier a degree map with suggested courses and/or DANTES tests to support the degree map. This counseling also involves financial aid and school selection. It may involve both traditional and non traditional education.

■ **The Army and American Council on Education Registry Transcript System (AARTS):** The AARTS documents military course completion's, experiences in the military occupational specialties, skill qualification and self development test scores, special qualification identifiers, and additional skill identifiers. They also document CLEP, DSST, SAT, ACT and ACT-PEP test scores. Colleges use them to determine what credit they may grant and employers use them to determine what skills a "citizen-soldier" has that may help on the job. This service is free and available to most soldiers of the Army Guard and Active Army only.

### Education Services Office Contacts

Education Services: Maj. Craig Hoon COM: (614) 889-7275 DSN: 273-7275 FAX #: (614) 889-7195	Education Guidance: CW2 Ken Teter COM: (614) 889-7023 DSN: 273-7023	Montgomery GI Bill: SSG Steve Upchurch COM: (614) 889-7293 DSN: 273-7293
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*NOTE: For more information on Air Guard specific programs and incentives contact your unit retention manager or career advisor.*

## Medical Opportunities

Soldiers in the National Guard and professionals in the medical field strive to reach a common goal: To improve and strengthen the community.

Guardmembers do this by providing assistance in local emergencies, national disasters, and in the defense of our country. Medical professionals attain it by improving the quality of life and ensuring a healthy existence within the community. Once in a while, we find a person who completes all the necessary steps toward reaching that common goal.

Company C, of the 237th FSB has found such a person in Maj. Terry Johnson, its new commander. "I was a fourth year medical student when I decided to join the National Guard. At that time there were no major financial incentives, I joined because I wanted to," Johnson said.

In the five years that Johnson has been in the Guard, he's had plenty of opportunities to call on his medical skills. In Lucasville, with the 216th Combat Engineers, he was the first medical person on the scene of the 1993 prison siege and then acted as a liaison with the surrounding hospitals.

Johnson is a family practitioner working in an emergency department in the Portsmouth area and lives there with his wife Jennifer and their four sons.

Johnson has enjoyed his service in the National Guard and hopes others will seek a career in a medical profession. "Hopefully the new AMMED programs will provide the financial incentives that are needed to get young professionals on the fence over to our side," Johnson said. *(Submitted by Sgt. Jodie McFee, Company C, 237th FSB.)*

### Health Professional Loan Repayment Program (HPLRP)

The Health Professional Loan Repayment Program (HPLRP) pays \$3,000 toward student loans, principle and/or interest, annually up to a total of \$20,000. Officers qualified in, or becoming qualified in one of the following specialties are eligible to participate:

#### Physicians

Neurosurgeon .....	Urologist
Orthopedic Surgeon .....	Diagnostic Radiologist
Surgeons: .....	Anesthesiologist
General .....	Primary Care
Colon/Rectal .....	Family Physician
Cardiac/Thoracic .....	Emergency Physician
Peripheral/Vascular .....	Internist

*Certain nursing and dental specialties also qualify. For more information on these programs, contact the AMEDD Recruiting office at (614) 889-7077.*

Cooperation, partnerships key to opening largest armory in Ohio and gives Morgan county...



Photo courtesy of the Marietta times

Clarence E. Miller

## Community Pride

The dedication ceremony of the Clarence E. Miller Armory in McConnelsville on May 10, culminates a commitment by the Ohio National Guard to maintain a presence in Southeastern Ohio well into the next century, according to Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander, the adjutant general.

The 800-person, 80,000 square foot armory, which currently houses the 2-174th Air Defense Artillery Battalion (HAWK), was dedicated to Miller, former U.S. representative, 10th Ohio District. Miller was instrumental in securing congressional support to fund construction of the armory which was built at a cost of approximately \$4.9 million.

Located on land donated by American Elec-

tric Power off State Route 78 East, just on the edge of the Village of McConnelsville, the structure is the largest single National Guard facility in the state.

Addressing the more than 200 dignitaries and guests, including Lt. Gov. Nancy Hollister, Alexander praised the close relationship the HAWK has with the community. "People should come to McConnelsville and see how industry works with the military, how the community works with the military, and how local officials work with military to make it one. No one appreciates this more than the soldier. We are truly one in this community and the Guard thrives on that," he concluded. ■

## 180th Fighter Wing welcomes public

The public was welcomed through the gates of the 180th Fighter Wing in Toledo during its annual open house in August.

More than 2,000 people toured the base, at the Toledo Express Airport, viewing demonstrations and displays designed to inform the public of the Air National Guard's mission, traditions and heritage.

According to Public Affairs Officer 2nd Lt. Denise Varner, F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft were on display, with pilots available to explain the cockpit, and maintenance members to answer questions about the aircraft. Demonstrations included the loading of weap-

ons on the aircraft, 180th fire crash truck demonstrations and a hush house engine run-up demonstration.

All work areas were open for public viewing, including a central staging area with tents to house field gear, chemical warfare ensembles and free blood pressure screenings. Informative displays were created to show how some jobs are accomplished, which included services specialists who demonstrated how they feed airman in the field, and munitions specialists who displayed the numerous weapons carried by the F-16.

Children were entertained by the 180th's

Stinger Bee mascot, as well as having their pictures taken in the unit's mini F-16. Safety Dog was also on hand as part of the Ohio National Guard's KIDSAFE program, which includes fingerprinting and weight checks for identification cards.

In conjunction with the open house, over 40 employers attended an employer appreciation breakfast with the guardmembers they employ. During the breakfast, sponsored by the National Committee of Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), employers learned the missions of the 180th Fighter Wing and the Air Guard. ■



Photo by 2nd Lt. Steve Agard, 180th Fighter Wing

Over 2,000 visitors enjoyed demonstrations and displays as part of the 180th Fighter Wing's open house activities

# Fully automated M-16 rifle range opens at Camp Perry



Photo by SSG Diane Farrow, HQ STARC.

With bayonet in hand, COL Joseph Bowsher, Camp Perry commander, (left) and BG John S. Martin, Assistant Adjutant General for Army, officiate the ribbon cutting ceremony for Ohio's new automated rifle range.

After a decade of planning and construction, a fully automated M-16 rifle firing range has been dedicated at the Camp Perry Training Site in Port Clinton, Ohio.

Called the Modified Record Fire Range, the outdoor facility that opened June 2 combines the newest elements in electronic and computer technology to provide soldiers with a realistic training environment.

The complex was built using National Guard soldiers doing training exercises at Camp Perry. Guardsmen began moving dirt around at the site in August 1993. The total cost of materials used in its construction was about \$450,000.

Col. Joseph Bowsher, Camp Perry commander, said the opening of the new range brings the facility in line with other military sites in the field of training and qualifying soldiers in the use of M-16 rifles.

The automated range replaces the camp's old training site that required 350 people to train 150 troops—200 monitoring safety and 150 working the pits and checking and operating targets.

The new system incorporates state-of-the-art computer technology to control and monitor nine silhouette targets that randomly spring up and down in each of the 16 firing lanes.

A computer in the range tower automatically records each hit made on the targets, which are located 25 to 300 meters away from the shooters.

Bowsher said only about a dozen people are needed to operate the new system.

"The bottom line is that we are utilizing the time of these soldiers more efficiently and capitalizing on that time by using it for training in other military skills," he said.

The firing range is intended for military purposes only and will not be open to civilians. ■ (Associated Press)

## Historical marker dedicated

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

Devoted to bringing historic recognition to the Camp Perry Training Site in Port Clinton, the "Friends of Camp Perry" unveiled a historical marker at the training site during a June 2 dedication ceremony.

Port Clinton Mayor and past President of "Friends" Tom Brown officiated the event, calling out to members of the organization to help uncover the marker.

"We felt Camp Perry deserved this kind of recognition since it's the most historic military site in the county," said Virgil Gordon, member of "Friends" since its inception on May 15, 1994. Working with Camp Perry historian Anna Bovia for the appropriate verbiage, Gordon was instrumental in coordinating the marker's approval with the Ohio Historical Society. The society has sanctioned only three other markers in Ottawa County.

Camp Perry's marker gives an overview of the training site's history, crediting Adjutant General Ammon B. Critchfield with establishing the camp in 1906 for the sake of improving marksmanship skills of Ohio soldiers. It also recognizes the historic significance of the site—holding Italian and German prisoners of war during World War II, periodically serving as an Army Reception Center and operating as a training



Photo by SSG Diane Farrow, HQ STARC.

Friends of Camp Perry unveil Ohio Historical Marker.

site for the Coast Guard in preparation for the Persian Gulf War.

The marker is located at Memorial Plaza, adjacent to other memorials such as the Gratitude Train, the Essex flagpole and both the plaque and tank dedicated to the soldiers who fought in the Battle of Baatan. ■

# Disabled American Veterans



Photo courtesy of DAV Magazine

A large crowd was on hand for the Drive Away ceremony held outside Disabled American Veterans National Headquarters in Cold Spring, Ky.

## Transportation Network makes history

Submitted by DAV Magazine

Like proud soldiers they lined up—row after row gleaming in the bright summer sunshine. Volunteers stood proudly by their side. Soon they would march off to begin a life of service in support of those who had sacrificed so much for this country.

That was the scene on the morning of July 11, at the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) National Headquarters in Cold Spring, Ky., as 141 new Ford vans awaited their christening.

The vans were the newest addition to the DAV's nationwide Transportation Network. Staffed by volunteer drivers from around the country, the vans were on their way to 35 states and Puerto Rico to transport sick and disabled veterans to and from VA medical centers for needed care.

"I would like to thank all the people who made this day...this 'Drive Away Ceremony' ... so necessary," DAV National Adjutant Arthur H. Wilson said to a huge crowd of veterans, volunteers, community and civic leaders and invited guests.

"The DAV's Transportation Network is a unique program that exemplifies the spirit of

selfless volunteerism...and it takes hundreds, even thousands of those very special folks to make it work," Wilson said.

The DAV's Transportation Network began in 1987 after government funding shortfalls forced the VA to withdraw transportation benefits to many veterans seeking medical care at its clinics and medical centers. Immediately, the DAV stepped in to fill the void and has continued

to shoulder the gigantic endeavor with phenomenal success, according to Secretary for Veterans Affairs Jesse Brown, who started his career with DAV.

The 141 vans represent the single largest addition to the DAV Transportation Network in the organization's history.

Since its inception, DAV has sent 415 vans, worth nearly \$6.5 million, to VA medical centers across America. The 141 new vans represented an additional \$3 million DAV investment. Last year, DAV's nationwide volunteer force drove 17.8 million miles to provide nearly half a million rides to sick and disabled veterans.

Working with Ford Motor Company, the

DAV was able to purchase the 141 needed vans, to replace aged and out of service vehicles, at the best possible price.

While ownership of the vans is transferred to the VA for insurance and maintenance purposes, the Transportation Network is managed and operated by the DAV at 172 VA medical facilities across the country and the vast majority of volunteer drivers are DAV members who were disabled in military service.

"I consider the DAV's van program to be one of the best," Brown said. "DAV shows the capacity to know when action is needed, and the ability to respond appropriately."

During the past 10 years the DAV has transported more than 2.7 million veterans to VA hospitals. Many veterans would have no other way of getting to and from VA medical facilities without the DAV Transportation Network and the army of volunteers to drive the vans.

"As a life member of this organization, I am so proud of what you do for veterans. DAV is a shining example of pride, patriotism, hard work, sacrifice, and service," Brown said in his closing remarks.

Later, the crowd watched in awe as the vans pulled out of the parking lot snaking toward the highway artery that would lead them to deserving veterans. ■

*If you are a veteran in need of this service, or know of someone who does, contact your local VA hospital or DAV service coordinator.*

**Buckeye Guard**

# RAPIDS puts soldiers, families on-line, fast

It's quite possible that the last time you updated your military identification card was two pay grades ago and your dependents have never been issued their cards. Why do we put off renewing this important document? Maybe it's because we've come to realize the hardest thing about owning a military ID card is getting one. With the myriad of things to do on drill weekends, coupled with bringing the entire family together for that annual window of opportunity—Family Day—it's easier to save that task for next month or even next year.

Well, help has arrived. The Department of Defense, along with the seven uniformed services—Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, Navy, National Guard, and Reserves—has developed a new way of issuing identification cards to its members and their families with an automated system called RAPIDS (Real-time Automated Personnel Identification System).

RAPIDS was established to reduce fraud, waste and abuse of DoD benefits to military members and their families. Ohio has made it easily accessible and schedule-friendly.

The system produces a machine-readable ID card that by design makes it more secure than the old card. Another benefit of the new system is that it links the data on the card to the central Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) database. This database contains eligibility information on all military members and their families.

"The RAPIDS machine has given us the opportunity to service soldiers and their families more efficiently," said Warrant Officer Carol Hudy, Personnel Service Branch chief. "When we issue ID cards or update the system, the DEERS database is updated immediately."

All additions, deletions, and changes to DEERS on military members and their families are done

on-line and are effective upon entry. Hudy noted, "it is reassuring to soldiers and their families to see that the information is being received, updated and accepted so quickly."

In the event a National Guard or Reserve unit or individual is mobilized, if the information in DEERS is current and both the military member and family member have the red reserve ID cards plus a copy of the military orders to active duty in excess of 30 days, then the family member is entitled to full benefits up to 180 days.

The new ID card is the size of a credit card and fits in a standard size wallet. The old paper ID card is still good until the expiration date on the card. The new card will only be issued as old cards expire, or if they are lost or stolen. The color of the cards remain the same - green for active duty, red for reserves and their family members, blue for retirees, and tan for eligible family members.

Sgt. 1st Class Richard Cosgray, NCOIC of the 237th Personnel Service Command, sees an expanded use in the future for the new system. "We hope to someday soon be able to take laptops to units throughout the state on drill weekends and link into the RAPIDS system," he said.

A RAPIDS is located at The Adjutant General's Department, 2825 W. Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789, in Room 149, East Wing hallway. It is manned by employees from various offices within Beightler Armory who share the responsibility of issuing ID cards.

The Personnel Service Branch (PSB) has overall responsibility of the system. Personnel who require an ID card can call 614-766-3800/3801 to schedule an appointment. By doing this, it should reduce your time waiting

and also that ensure someone is available to issue ID cards. Any uniformed person (retired, reserve, or active) and their family members can receive ID cards at any RAPIDS location. ■

**Currently, RAPIDS machines are located in 14 different locations throughout the state. Several of those sites are:**

## CENTRAL

The Defense Support Center Columbus (DSCC), 3990 East Broad St., Columbus, (614) 492-6784

121st Air Refueling Wing, Military Personnel Flight, Rickenbacker Airport, (614) 492-3541

## SOUTHWESTERN

Wright Patterson AFB, 2000 Allbrook Drive, Bldg. 2, Wright Patterson AFB, 513-257-2547/2548

Naval Marine Corps Reserve Center, 3190 Gilbert Ave, Cincinnati (513) 221-0138

## NORTHERN

180th Military Personnel Flight, Toledo ANG Base, 2660 S. Eber Rd, Swanton (419) 868-4016

Naval Reserve Center, 1089 E. 9th St., Cleveland, (Across from R&R Hall of Fame), (216) 771-0844

Navy/Marine Corps Reserve Center, 3893 King Graves Road, Bldg. 540, Vienna (330) 856-5040/856-3211





Photo by SPC Eddie Kirkland, HHC, 1-107 CAV

**Giving new meaning to family support, CPT Matthew O'Donnell and the youngest of the O'Donnell clan, joined other members of the 1-107th Armored Cav and their families to plant over 4,800 tree seedlings at the Ravenna Arsenal near Cleveland.**

**By Candace J. Kline, Environmental Branch, Facilities Engineering**

An Environmental Compliance Assessment System (ECAS) survey was conducted during June 1995. The purpose of ECAS is to provide a proactive approach to environmental compliance. ECAS was established to help the National Guard determine overall compliance status, provide focus for environmental planning, identify specific compliance problems, identify environmental program "weak points," form a basis for implementation plans, and identify funding and personnel needs. Although compliance deficiencies were found, there were also nine "positive findings," those which exceeded regulatory requirements.

The facility carries out programs to conserve threatened and endangered species. A Bald Eagle nest is located at Camp Perry. Upon identification of the nest by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), Camp Perry personnel took immediate action to establish a protection zone which included curtailment of training exercises in the area. Fences and road blocks were installed to restrict vehicle and public

## POSITIVE FINDINGS

### Guard facilities achieve environmental excellence through active programs

access. This is beyond the requirements of the ODNR; the state only requires posting of signs. In 1995 and again this year, two eaglets were hatched.

The facility maintains an excellent listing of all hazardous materials used at the site. Organizational Maintenance Shop 8, Brook Park, maintains a list of hazardous materials in a binder that identifies quantity and location of hazardous materials. The inventory of incoming and outgoing materials and storage location is clearly and easily determined. This goes beyond the requirement of merely having a list.

The facility operates an exemplary recycling program. Piqua Armory personnel implemented an aluminum can and office paper recycling program. Neither of these materials was required at the time to be recycled by the city.

Urbana Armory personnel implemented an aluminum can recycling program on behalf of a Shriner's hospital. The majority of the cans came from rental use of the armory. The Shriners pick up the cans and take them to be recycled.

Facility personnel participate in creative recycling projects. The USPFO Warehouse receives unusable products from OHARNG facilities throughout the state. The products include new and/or partially used aerosol paints, liquid paints, expired shelf-life items, and copier toner. Instead of immediately disposing of this material as hazardous waste, the staff attempts to locate other users within the military system.

Facility personnel have developed innovative pollution prevention technologies. Personnel at OMS 15, Eaton, developed an innovative funnel holder for the funnels used to add POLs. This funnel holder is mounted on the wall next to the used oil drain sink and its bottom is connected to the used oil drain

line, so the residual oil draining from the funnels is thus routed into the used oil underground storage tank.

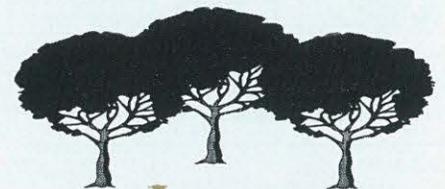
The facility tests innovative pollution prevention technologies. In an effort to reduce hazardous wastes, personnel at the Combined Support Maintenance Shop at Newark arranged for a demonstration of a parts cleaner that utilizes only heat to remove POL. The treatment equipment does not leave a residue, eliminating the generation of hazardous waste.

Facility personnel should be recognized for outstanding leadership in pollution prevention. The Operations NCO of Headquarters, 1-107th Armored Cav Battalion, managed a tree-planting program at the tank crew proficiency course at Ravenna Army Training Area. The event was planned to celebrate Arbor Day and the 25th anniversary of Earth Day in 1995. Approximately

15,000 tree seedlings were planted with the help of battalion personnel and local community groups. The trees were placed to control erosion and provide dust and sound barriers.

The ECAS manager in the environmental office managed a tree planting program as part of the 25th anniversary of Earth Day. Approximately 3,000 trees were planted at 12 locations throughout Ohio.

All Ohio Army National Guard facilities were assessed during the ECAS survey, and these positive findings were singled out as being above and beyond the requirements for environmental compliance. They show initiative and innovative thinking and the concern for environmental stewardship for which the Guard is striving. ■



**Buckeye Guard**

# 1996 PRIDE World Drug Conference claimed best ever

The 1996 PRIDE World Drug Conference, held March 27-30 at the Cincinnati Convention Center was a huge success, according to co-chairs Luceille Fleming, director of the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services (ODADAS) and Hope Taft of Ohio Parents for Drug Free Youth.

The PRIDE Conference is committed to bringing adults and youth from throughout the world together to discuss the problems of substance abuse. PRIDE accomplishes this through seminars for adults and youth as well as several energizing activities centered around the PRIDE groups, which perform musical numbers during assemblies.

The Ohio National Guard has been building its relationship with PRIDE over the past few years; the results have been mutually beneficial.

It all began with the 1993 PRIDE World Drug Conference when the Ohio Guard provided the 122nd Army Band for then Lt. Gov. Michael DeWine's reception. The Guard also provided the Adjutant General's Honor Guard, and the Patriotism 93 light/music show for the general session. This year Guard personnel volunteered to assist the PRIDE staff with various functions that included promotion of the conference and all photography support.

The 512th Engineer Battalion in Cincinnati also provide an honor guard for Secretary of State Bob Taft's reception and for the awards banquet. In addition, recruiters manned the Ohio National Guard booth in the exhibit hall.

According to Fleming, "a sure sign that we had a successful conference was that there were no youth hanging around the halls during the seminars. They were all participating." Over 7,500 people attended the conference, a 25 percent increase over the previous conference in Indianapolis, Ind. In addition, the conference brought over \$6.3 million into Cincinnati's economy. ODADAS also offered 1,500 scholarships for youth to participate.

Highlights of the Conference included performances by the National PRIDE Team, a group of individuals from across the country selected to sing and dance at assemblies; a rally in downtown Cincinnati; and appearances by Lt. Gov. Nancy Hollister and Gen. Barry

McCaffrey, (USA RET.), newly appointed director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

Currently, the Ohio Guard is one of four pilot states in the country conducting the PRIDE Parent to Parent Training Program—an initiative aimed at involving parents in the fight against drug abuse among America's youth.

The Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander, and assistant adjutant generals, Brig. Gen. John S. Martin and Brig. Gen. Gordon Campbell met with PRIDE officials to talk about the possibility of the Guard hosting state PRIDE events in the future; and the formation of a National Guard sponsored PRIDE Team.

## Drug Czar

Retired Army General Barry McCaffrey was named by President William Clinton in March, to head the Office of National Drug Control Policy. The selection was made just prior to the PRIDE Conference. McCaffrey, best known for leading Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf's "Hail Mary" around the Iraqi right flank during Operation Desert Storm in the Persian Gulf War. McCaffrey retired from his position as Commander, United States Southern Command (CINC SOCOM) to take the position. He was also in charge of active army efforts in drug interdiction at Southern Command.

Having met with McCaffrey before, Luceille Fleming, director of the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services, hailed his selection, saying "he is breathing new life into our efforts and is restoring the importance of combatting illegal drug use in this country again." McCaffrey likened the success of the military in controlling substance abuse in the armed forces following the turbulent 60s and 70s to future efforts in local communities saying "the young men and women of the armed forces are the same beautiful young people that are out there in civilian life we're trying to reach."

McCaffrey was greeted with a standing ovation at the PRIDE World Drug Conference and fielded questions from youth in the audience. When asked his thoughts by members of the media regarding today's youth and their skepticism toward government he replied "I think

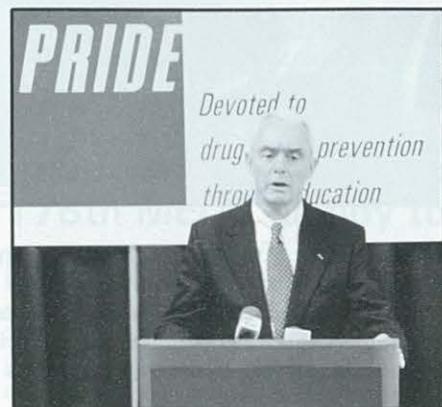


Photo by Spc. Steven Johnson, 196th PAD.

## McCaffrey

its a good sign that youth today are questioning the role of government. It shows they are willing to take an active role in the process." Clearly, the future of America's role in the problems revolving around substance abuse are in good hands.

## Resource Library

The Public Affairs Office has a number of resources available to communities and units that are actively participating in Drug Demand Reduction Activities. Among these resources are three books: **Understanding Evaluation: The Way to Better Prevention Programs** will help organizations determine the value of their prevention efforts. It can also be a valuable tool for Guard units in assessing the value of support they provide community organizations. **The Future by Design: A Community Framework for Preventing Alcohol and Other Drug Problems through a Systems Approach** offers a variety of approaches for supporting drug prevention efforts. It also outlines a framework for building community coalitions. The third, **PARENT TRAINING is Prevention: Preventing Alcohol and other Drug Problems Among Youth in the Family** is designed for communities to assist in implementing programs targeted at involving parents in drug prevention and capitalizing on their influence with youth. These resources and more are available through the Drug Demand Reduction Program by contacting the Public Affairs Office at (614)889-7000 or DSN: 273-7000. ■



Courtesy Photo.

Lt. Gov. Nancy P. Hollister presented an Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame Medallion to Congressional Medal of Honor recipient Ronald E. Rosser. Rosser accepted the medallion on behalf of Ohio's 317 Medal of Honor recipients inducted as charter members in the hall during its debut in 1992.

## Veterans Hall of Fame finds permanent home

Ohioans can take pride in the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame, now in its permanent home at the Ohio Veterans Home in Sandusky. The restored I.F. Mack Building is an ideal setting for the Hall of Fame and complements the museum full of military memorabilia collected there over the years, Gov. George Voinovich said. "We urge all Ohioans to include a visit to the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame when in Sandusky or visiting Cedar Point," he said.

The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame was created by Voinovich in 1992 to highlight the contributions of exceptional military veterans after honorable military careers. "We are pleased that the Veterans Hall of Fame enables the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services to honor not only the achievements of outstanding veterans but also calls attention to the positive contributions made by all of Ohio's veterans in the workplace and in their communities," OBES Administrator Debra R. Bowland said.

Elected state and federal officeholders, employees of OBES, County Veterans Service Offices, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, or any other veterans service organizations are NOT eligible for consideration until two years after their term of employment ends. Employees of the Governor's Office are not eligible for five years after they cease their employment.

Voinovich will induct 1996 honorees at a formal ceremony scheduled for 11 a.m. Nov. 6 at Franklin County Veterans Memorial, 300 West Broad Street, Columbus. Admission and parking is free.

## Pact means improved service for Veterans

Ohio veterans can look forward to better service and less red tape from state and county organizations because of a recent agreement signed in Columbus.

A pact calling for increased information sharing between county veteran specialists, the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services and the Governor's Office of Veterans Affairs is expected to result in better service for veterans in Ohio. It was

signed between representatives of the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services—whose field specialists number about 140—and service officers from Ohio's 88 counties.

"We are delighted to formalize this arrangement to enhance customer service by sharing information with county veterans service agencies working with veterans," said Gay Gilbert, deputy administrator of the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services.

Joseph Andry, director of the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services' Veterans Services Division, said, "This is an excellent way to do more for veterans while respecting the confidentiality and privacy our customers deserve."

## 121st ARW wins Tappan Trophy

The 121st Air Refueling Wing was chosen from among the four Ohio flying units to receive the prestigious Tappan award for 1995. The redesigned trophy, featuring an eagle in flight, was presented to the unit at its annual awards banquet in April.

Each unit was evaluated on fitness testing, unit on-the-job training effectiveness and professional military education. The units were also judged on their top three mission accomplishments, internal/quality improvements and community service actions.

The 121st's top three mission accomplishments consisted of participation in Deny Flight in support of NATO forces in Bosnia; winning the coveted "Concours D'Elegance" award at Air Tattoo; and leading the Air National Guard in higher headquarters mission support by the

KC-135 aircraft. The unit flew more sorties and hours of tanker support than any other tanker unit during Fiscal Year 95.

The unit's top three internal/quality improvements were completion of its first unit self-assessment; obtaining quality training autonomy; and establishing process action teams.

The Greater Columbus area benefited directly from the 121st's active service programs. The three top services for 1995 were the Adopt-A-School program, support for the 1995 Rickenbacker/Columbus Air Show and numerous civic leader activities.

The Tappan Memorial Trophy was created in honor of Col. Alan P. Tappan, an avid supporter of the Ohio Air National Guard. The award has been presented to an Ohio flying unit every year since 1977. (Reprinted from the *Wing Watch*, May 1996).

## 178th Fighter Wing shines in Alpena

The sun only peeked before and after the war, so the 178th Fighter Wing provided its own brightness during an Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI) from April 29 to May 3.

Nearly 800 members of the 178th deployed to dreary Alpena, Mich. for the simulated war under the watchful eye of the 9th Air Force.

The 178th encountered conventional attacks and robbers on the first day, and the war escalated to five attacks on the third day including chemicals. Chemical warfare gear was donned for nearly eight hours as snow fell to the ground. On the fourth day, the 178th declared victory.

High energy and morale levels were sustained throughout the week as members focused on accomplishing their mission. Lt. Col. Eugene Brandewie, 178th Support Group commander, was ecstatic about the efforts of his unit and had plenty of praise to go around.

"We commanders are very proud of our troops and the effort they put forth during the ORI. Attitudes and cohesiveness were excellent. We were determined to not let them beat us," Brandewie said.

Col. Robert Meyer, then commander of the 178th FW, was equally excited about the efforts of the wing and summed up his feelings in one word -- "Fantastic!" (Submitted by Tech. Sgt. Mike Myers, 178th Fighter Wing).

## NGB on the National Guard and the Militia

The National Guard Bureau has now set guidelines for distinguishing between various official



Courtesy Photo.

**Brig. Gen. John S. Martin (left), assistant adjutant general, Army, presented Organizational Maintenance Shop employees with a certificate of appreciation and an oversized check as reward for maintaining an injury-and-accident-free workplace all of last year.**

reserve military components and unorganized militias.

**The National Guard:** This is an organized militia reserved to the states by the Constitution of the United States under Article 1, Section 8. The National Guard is commanded by the governor in peacetime. When ordered to active duty for mobilization or called into federal service for emergencies, units of the National Guard are under the control of the appropriate service secretary.

The militia clause reserves to the states the appointment of officers and the authority of training the militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress. In 1903, Congress officially designated the organized militia as the National Guard. The National Guard is equipped by the federal government and trained to active duty military standards. The National Guard receives approximately 95 percent of its funding from the federal government through the Department of Defense.

**The State Defense Force (SDF):** In Ohio, the SDF is called the Ohio Military Reserves or OMR. This is a form of military militia and is authorized to the states by federal statute (32 USC 109). The OMR is organized, equipped, trained, employed and funded according to the Ohio Revised Code and is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the governor. The concept behind a state defense force is that if the National Guard is mobilized for war, the SDF can assume the state security mission of the National Guard. SDFs, including the OMR, are not entities of the federal government. The OMR falls under the

direction of the adjutant general.

**Unorganized Militia:** Federal law and state laws define the militia generally as all able-bodied males between the ages 17 and 45 (who are not members of the National Guard or Naval Militia).

**Self Proclaimed Private Militias:** In several instances, private individuals without any governmental sanction have banded together and styled themselves militias. These militias answer to no government. They have no relationship, formal or informal, with

the National Guard and are not state-recognized organizations. They are basically private organizations, some paramilitary in nature, that use the term militia in their names. (*Reprinted from the Wing Watch, June 1996.*)

### Employees rewarded for safety awareness

Safety in the work place is a major concern for all competitive businesses and the Ohio National Guard is no exception.

Recently, Brig. Gen. John S. Martin, assistant adjutant general, Army, recognized individuals who have put safety at the forefront of their operations.

The Organizational Maintenance Shops located in Lima, Eaton, Felicity, Akron/Canton, Youngstown and Shadybrook have operated for the past year with zero accidents or work loss due to on-the-job injuries.

Because of the outstanding safety records of these shops, the federal government is able to save a considerable sum of money by not having to process and file workers compensation claims. These claims cost an average of \$1,240 each.

This accomplishment is even more remarkable when one considers that these employees continuously work with extremely heavy equipment and parts. Yet due to the strict adherence to safety procedures and basic common sense displayed by the OMS employees, no accidents, injuries or loss of work time was reported.

In recognition of the Ohio Army National

Guard's safety efforts at reducing on-the-job injuries, the National Guard Bureau rebated nearly \$10,000 to the state as a portion of the saved compensation costs. The Army Safety Committee then voted to award that money to the shops which had accident-free years in 1995. The money was divided equally among the 41 employees working in the six maintenance shops.

Martin was on hand to present the checks to the shops and personally thank and congratulate the employees for their continuous efforts to run a safe and productive organization. *Submitted by Steven R. Johnson, 196th PAD.*

### 178th MEDS deploy to Honduras

The 178th Medical Squadron deployed to Soto Cono Air Base, Comayagua, Honduras from April 6-20, to support the humanitarian mission known as Joint Task Force-BRAVO. From Soto Cono Air Base, the JTF-BRAVO team deployed to the small mountain village of Gualcinse, which they used as a staging ground for daily medical missions in surrounding villages.

Designed to allow the country of Honduras to become more self-sufficient and improve their standard of health care, JTF-BRAVO involves all branches of the U.S. military. The team consists of a Guard or Reserve unit augmented by active duty personnel assigned to Soto Cono Air Base, members of the Honduran military, and Honduran health care professionals. The team visits a different village each day, where they provide basic medical and dental treatment to people living in that village and surrounding areas.

Patient education is an important aspect of JTF-BRAVO. Honduran health care professionals and U.S. military public health personnel observe local living conditions and teach villagers how they can improve their personal and public health habits. Military public health also has the opportunity for "real world" experience in epidemic investigation and is invaluable in maintaining public health surveillance of all personnel deployed.

During the 10-day deployment to Gualcinse, the JTF-BRAVO team traveled to and treated patients in the remote villages of Candelaria, San Andres, Santo Tomas, Mapulaca, Piraera, San Lorenzo, and Gualcinse. The medical staff saw over 2,000 Honduran civilians for treatment-routine illnesses and many rare tropical diseases were observed. Dental personnel saw almost 2,000 patients as well, and performed over 1,000 tooth extractions. (*Reprinted from The Thunderer, June 1996.*)

### Air Guard selects Reilly to oversee combat communications

While commanding the 251st Communication Group, Col. William R. Reilly was selected to become the director, command and control, computer and intelligence for the Ohio Air National Guard Headquarters in Columbus. He assumed his new position in May.

Reilly will provide staff oversight of all Ohio Air National Guard combat communications, air traffic control, electronic installation and all communication flights assigned to flying squadrons.

His immediate goal is to integrate Guard units with the Local Area Network (LAN) on-line computer system and to standardize and improve its effectiveness. In his civilian career as the chief technical advisor for the deputy director of information for the Defense Finance and Accounting Services (DFAS), he can continue to work on standardizing the different levels of quality for electronic media throughout Ohio Guard units.

Building a proposal to create an Information Warfare Squadron will be another challenge for Reilly. Although the logistics will be identified at a later point, he predicts it may involve restructuring existing electronics units.

Looking back over his career, Reilly feels now is the right time to change and move to state level. His career highlights, in addition to his assignments with the 269th CCS and 251st CCG, include participating in Partners for Peace with the Hungarian air force and serving as an exchange officer with the German air force.

In his final comments to the 251st Combat Communications Group personnel, Reilly praised them for their ability to meet and succeed at each of their taskings, both locally and during their many deployments.

### Jeane makes history in 220th EIS

When Theresa G. Jeane puts on her uniform and heads off to service in the Ohio Air National Guard, her squadron calls her "Major."

But her 3-year-old daughter Christina knows her as Mom.

"She thinks every time I put the blue uniform on, I'm going to be leaving her in day care," Jean said.

Not this Saturday. That's because on April 13, Christina was on hand to see her mother take over the Zanesville-based 220th Engineering Installation Squadron of the Ohio Air National

Guard. And though Christina was more interested in her cookie than on her mother's honor, all eyes of the 220th were on Jeane, who became the first female EIS commander in the Air National Guard. The ceremony was held at the 220th's base, adjacent to Zanesville Municipal Airport. Jeane took over for Lt. Col. Thomas L. Sautters, who has been reassigned.

"Any time a unit changes command, the unit takes on the character of its commander, whether it wants to or not," said Jeane, who previously was director of operations at the 251st Combat Communications Group, Springfield.

She said she sees the unit moving forward under her command, taking on new missions and responsibilities.

"My vision is to make it the best," she said. "It takes a rededication of effort. It takes everyone knowing what we're planning on doing."

Jeane believes the military offers solid advancement opportunities for women. "This appointment means there is not a glass ceiling for what women can do," she said. "It's like any civilian job, success and advancement mostly depends upon the job you do, and your commitment and drive to succeed."

Jeane seems to be taking over a good unit. Earlier this year, the 220th won its second Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. The award is given for "exceptionally meritorious service or exceptionally outstanding achievement that clearly sets the unit above and apart from similar units."

There are 19 similar units in the United States. Only about one in 10 receive the honor, according to Maj. Gen. Thomas W. Powers, then the Air Guard's chief of staff.

### Engineers proud to welcome first female

The "men only" sign no longer applies to the engineer unit at Brook Park. That's because the gender barrier was broken on February 28 when Pfc. Jackie Peris was sworn into HHC, 112th Engineer Battalion, making her the first woman ever to enlist in the battalion.

From the battle of Bull Run to the beaches of Normandy, the men of Ohio's most decorated unit have achieved many milestones since the late 1830s. Nevertheless, it took 159 years and a change to the unit's MTOE, before women would be allowed to participate in the battalion's rich heritage.

"Women have been assigned to the unit in the



Photo by SSG J.P. Oney, HHC, 112th Engr. Bn.

### Another barrier fell when PFC Jackie Peris became the first woman to join HHC, 112th Engineer (Combat) Battalion in Brook Park.

past," said Lt. Col. Stephen Stohla, the battalion's commander. "But they were attached from other units. Peris was the first female soldier who could call this her home.

"Although our headquarters units have had slots available to females in non combat roles for some time, it took a special person to break these exclusively male ranks, and we're proud to have her."

Born and raised in neighboring Berea, Peris, started realizing her leadership potential when she was elected class president at Berea High School. After graduating in 1993, she joined the Army and while on active duty served as an intelligence analyst with the 66th Military Brigade in Augsburg, Germany.

"When I left active duty, I missed the camaraderie and organization the military provided," Peris said. "That's why I joined the Guard."

The novelty of being the only female in a battalion of 500 didn't last long. Since Peris joined, other females have enlisted into its ranks. Peris, however, can take pride in knowing that she led the way for others and that the distinction of being the first, can never be taken away.

### Dorsey says good-bye to long successful career

Master Sgt. Vinton D. Dorsey, of Bellefontaine, loved the Ohio Army National Guard so much that he traded the oak leaves of a lieutenant colonel for the stripes of a staff

sergeant in order to stay in the Guard for a few more years.

Dorsey, 60, retired earlier this year with over 40 years of service to the Ohio Army National Guard. He retired as a lieutenant colonel, the highest rank he held.

"I was often asked why I had changed from officer to enlisted. Many people did not understand," said Dorsey, when asked about how fellow soldiers reacted to his change in rank. "To me the decision was simple. If I did this I would be able to stay in the Guard. If I didn't I would have to leave. I wanted to stay," he said.

Dorsey served as an officer for 28 years from 1957 to 1985. During that time Dorsey had several commands culminating in his commanding the 166th Infantry Battalion from 1980-82.

By resigning his commission he was able to stay in for another 10 years. He started over as a staff sergeant and continued his military career. He once again distinguished himself and was promoted to first sergeant in 1991. His final assignment was with HHB, 1st Bn., 134th Field Artillery, where he performed the duties of operations sergeant.

Over the years, Dorsey has seen many changes in the Guard, but says that the changes are positive. "Many of the soldiers that I served with in the early years could not enlist in the Guard today due to the higher educational standards," Dorsey said. "With computers and high-tech weapons, there is an increased emphasis on both military and civilian education.

"Also, there is a new respect for the Guard from the active components. It is evident and I believe it has been earned," he said.

"I met and became friends with many people from all walks of life," Dorsey says, commenting on the impact the National Guard had on his personal life. "The Guard has given me many personal skills and my leadership philosophy was to set high standards, know your people, expect the best, prepare for the worst and never, never give-up. This philosophy served me well as an officer and a noncommissioned officer."

Dorsey attributes much of his longevity and success in the National Guard to the support of his wife April. "We all have a tough time occasionally when a drill weekend conflicts with something, but April always gave me tremendous support. I have seen many good soldiers leave the National Guard because they did not have the support of their family. My wife always supported my decision to continue my military career. I could not have continued for forty years without her support."

Dorsey's years with the Guard have provided many memories for him. "My Guard units have been activated many times, for many reasons,



Photo by Cpl. Marley Starkey, Battery F, 134th Field Artillery

**CSM Terry Dillon (left) presents MSG Vinton D. Dorsey with a saber, celebrating Dorsey's 40 years of service to the Ohio Army National Guard.**

natural disasters, civil unrest and prison uprisings. Each of these activation's, although often under troubling circumstances, enabled me to utilize my training and provided me with life-long memories."

Retirement from the Ohio Army National Guard does not mark the end for Dorsey, but a continuation of the drive that kept him in the Guard for forty years. He plans to continue working as long as possible in his civilian job as a group leader for RMX, a division of Ryder, Inc. Some of the retirement plans he has include traveling, expanding his Labrador breeding hobby, learning to pilot an airplane and pursuing a degree in veterinary medicine. (Submitted by Cpl. Marley Starkey, Battery F, 134th Field Artillery).

### **NGB vice chief speaks at Armed Forces Day Luncheon**

The annual Armed Forces Day Luncheon took place on May 17, at the Villa Milano Banquet Center in Columbus. The luncheon has been organized by the Military/Veterans Educational Foundation (MIL/VET) since 1988 to honor Ohio service members for their contributions to the defense of the United States.

To honor the men and women who have kept our country free since the earliest days of its existence, Armed Forces Day was proclaimed by President Harry S. Truman and first celebrated in 1950, replacing the three separate celebrations of the Air Force, Army and Navy.

Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander, the adjutant

general of Ohio, gave the welcome address and introduced this year's guest speaker, Maj. Gen. Russell C. Davis, vice chief, National Guard Bureau. Davis spoke on the theme, "America's Armed Forces: Pillars of Freedom."

Davis attended Tuskegee University from 1956 to 1958 and earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska in Omaha. His education continued at Drake University where he received a juris doctorate in 1969. He has accumulated over 4,700 flying hours in various fighter aircraft. He is probably most remembered for flying the late Gen. Daniel "Chappie" James' F-4 to Tuskegee University, where it remains as a monument dedicated to James, the first Black four-star general in the United States Air Force.

Davis stressed the sacrifices family members are making and have made in support of their loved ones in uniform. He also publicly thanked members of the 251st and 269th Communications flights for their assistance in providing communications support to U.S. troops participating in the NATO peacekeeping mission in the Balkans. Davis concluded by asking military members to take care of their people and respect differences.

Other highlights during the luncheon included a special citation award to Ohio resident and Medal of Honor recipient Cpl. Ronald E. Rosser for his valiant actions during the Korean War. Also, Master Sgt. Linda J. Coyle, Total Quality Office manager of the 121st Air Refueling Wing, was selected from among nine Outstanding Service Persons of the Year as the top recipient. (Submitted by Capt. Robert Campbell Jr., 121st Air Refueling Wing).

# Guard, Reserve retirement

Retirement point system offers long-term benefit for part-time career

As members of the Reserves and National Guard mature in their part-time military jobs, the monthly weekend drills and annual training become more than just a regular source of extra income. The reserve retirement pay you can collect at age 60 becomes an integral part of estate planning. The full commissary, health care and exchange privileges that kick in at that time also help maintain a comfortable standard of living.

## Who is eligible to receive retirement benefits

Reservists must spend 20 "qualifying years" in a Reserve or Guard unit to earn reserve retirement. You accumulate "qualifying years" by earning points. Reservists accrue retirement points every time they perform certain functions directly associated with their military service.

You must accrue a minimum of 50 retirement points in an anniversary year before it can be counted as a "qualifying year" of service. But service members cannot earn more than 365 retirement points per year or 366 during leap years.

Also, no one can earn more than 60 points per year for inactive-duty training, including the 15 points awarded each year just for membership.

Active-duty service counts toward retirement, but the last six years of service must be spent in the reserves to qualify a member for reserve retirement pay. On Oct. 1, 1996, that requirement will change to eight years, unless Congress acts to extend the six-year rule.

## Counting retirement points

Even younger members who are not thinking about retirement yet should save every leave-and-earnings statement, every copy of orders and any other piece of paper work that documents their military activities. Ohio National Guardmembers receive a roll-up of retirement points earned each retirement year ending (RYE) date on NGB Form 23A and 23A-1. Although RYE dates differ, guardmembers usually receive these forms on the member's birth month.

As retirement approaches, the papers can provide proof of service that can translate into higher retirement income.

Retirement pay is figured using one of three formulas, based on when a reservist entered the military.

■ For members who entered any military service before Sept. 8, 1980, the following formula is used. It is the most generous of the three.

Divide the total number of retirement points by 360. Multiply that figure by 2.5 percent. Then multiply that figure by basic monthly pay for the members grade at the time of retirement.

For example, consider an E-7 with 22 creditable years of service who earned a total of 4,500 retirement points before retiring at the end of the year. An E-7 with 22 years earns \$2,413.20 per month in 1996.

To calculate retirement income for the E-7, first divide 4,500 by 360 to get 12.5, the figure for points. Then multiply 12.5 by 0.025, to come up with 0.3125. Multiply that figure by the amount of monthly basic pay, \$2,413.20. Rounded down to the nearest dollar, the E-7 with 22 creditable years of service and 4,500 retirement points receives a monthly retirement check of \$754.

That check should grow each year when Congress authorizes cost-of-living raises, or COLAs.

■ For those who entered military service between Sept. 9, 1980, and July 31, 1986, the calculation begins with the average basic pay received during the 36 months when it was greatest. That yearly average is multiplied by 2.5 percent for each year of service to determine retirement pay. This formula is known as the "high three" because it is based on the three years with the highest earnings.

■ Members who entered the military after July 31, 1986, and complete 20 years of creditable service, receive 40 percent of their "high three" basic pay. For each additional year in uniform, the benefit rises by 3.5 percent of the high three.

That means 24-year retirees get 54 percent of their average basic pay; 27-year retiree draw 64 percent; and 30 year retirees receive 75 percent.

Unlike retirees covered by the first two formulas, people who retire under this plan receive cost-of-living increases set each year at one percentage point lower than inflation.

## 15-year retirement

As part of the military drawdown, some reservists could be offered the chance to retire after as little as 15 years of service.

The services have to offer early retirement. The reservist just can't sign up. Those offered a chance to participate in this program will receive a reduced benefit because they will have earned fewer retirement points than members who have served 20 creditable years.

As with 20-year retirees, the last six years of a 15-year retiree's service must be in a Reserve or Guard component. This retirement tool is offered when:

- A Reserve or Guard unit relocates or closes and placement in another unit is not possible.

- Reservists with 15 creditable years who work in overstuffed career fields may also be offered the early out.

## How to get retirement

Retired Reservist and Guard members must apply for retirement pay. It does not automatically start at age 60. When service members reach the point where they have served 20 creditable years, the personnel office will provide them with an official letter of eligibility—those who are offered 15-year retired pay do not receive letters of eligibility.

Six months before the eligible 60th birthday, eligible retirees receive an application for retirement income in the mail from their service's personnel center. Anyone who wants to draw the retired pay should complete and return the application form.

## Survivor benefits

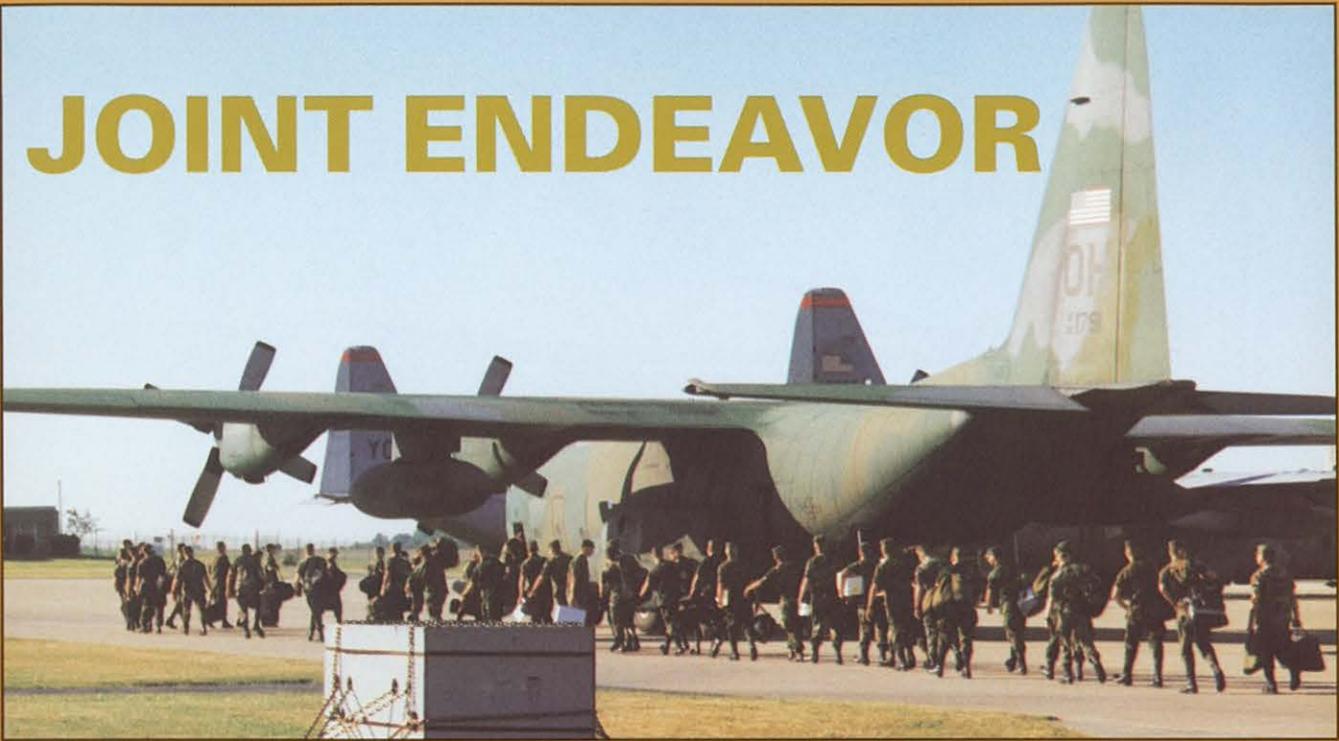
Without the survivor plan, retirement checks stop when the military retiree dies. That can leave a surviving spouse with a major economic burden. To help retirees provide for their families after their deaths, the government offers the Reserve Component Survivors Benefit Plan (SBP).

A reservist has 90 days after receiving notification of eligibility to enroll in the plan.

When retirees sign up for SBP, they select a dollar amount of their retirement pay—called the "base amount"—as the foundation of the SBP benefit. The base amount must be between \$300 and the full amount of monthly retired pay.

Example: If a retired man dies before his wife, she would receive 55 percent of whatever base amount he chose to have covered. Those payments would continue until she turned 62. So, if he covers \$1,000 a month, she would receive \$550 a month after he dies. After she turned 62 the payments would decline to 35 percent, with social security making up the difference. *For more information on the retirement system contact your unit administrator. (Reprinted from the 1996 Handbook for the Guard and Reserve).*

# JOINT ENDEAVOR



Courtesy photo

On July 11, over 125 soldiers from the 838th MP Co. deployed from the Youngstown Air Reserve Station aboard two C-130 aircraft from the 179th Airlift Wing, Mansfield. The unit headed to Germany in support of operation JOINT ENDEAVOR.

## 838th, community, officials come together for deployment ceremony

On June 13, the Youngstown community came together as Lt. Gov. Nancy P. Hollister joined federal, state and local elected officials and community leaders in a gala send-off ceremony for members of the Ohio Army National Guard's 838th Military Police Company. The 838th MP Co. received mobilization alert orders in May from the Pentagon to prepare for deployment to Germany in support of Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR.

On July 11, the unit again had a coming together of sorts when two C-130 aircraft from the Ohio Air Guard's 179th Airlift Wing in Mansfield, provided the transportation on the first leg of the units journey.

The 838th sent nearly 125 soldiers to Germany to relieve units rotating in and out of Bosnia. They are performing general law enforcement duties at U.S. installations in central Germany. Under presidential call-up authority, members of the 838th MP Co. will serve on active duty for a period not to exceed 270.

Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR is the name given the NATO peacekeeping mission in Bosnia, which includes more than 20,000 U.S. soldiers. U.S. and NATO forces are charged with upholding stipulations of the Paris Peace Agreement signed by warring Bosnian factions late last year.

In addition to its activation for Operation Desert Storm,



Courtesy photo

Amy Radinovic, a reporter with Channel 33 News in Youngstown, reports back to the station on the progress of the 838th MP Co.'s deployment.

the 838th has been called to duty for other recent significant events including the Shadyside flash flood and the Lucasville prison riot. ■

# Warfighters From Above



The Ohio Army National Guard's newest aerial warfighters pose for a picture during the activation ceremony of the 3-137th Assault Helicopter Battalion.

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